

REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Criteria for the Review of Textbooks and Other Educational Materials of International Private Educational Institutions and Private Schools Established by Foreigners

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The use of these criteria in the review processes of textbooks and other educational materials belonging to international private education institutions and private schools established by foreigners was approved by the Board of Education with the official decision dated 30.10.2024 and numbered 118279810.

1. National Security

- **1.1.** The content must not contain elements that undermine the national unity and integrity of the Republic of Türkiye.
- **1.2.** The content must not contain any written / visual expression, message or implication that legitimizes or supports threats to the territorial integrity of the Republic of Türkiye.
- 1.3. If the Turkish flag is included in the content, the flag image must comply with the Turkish Flag Law.
- 1.4. The content must not contain any written/visual statements, messages, or implications that could damage the international reputation of the Republic of Türkiye, harm its national interests or strategic objectives, contradict its foreign policy goals, undermine respect for state institutions, or put the country in a difficult situation internationally.
- **1.5.** The content must not include any written/visual expressions, messages, or implications related to terrorist organizations or any structures, formations, or groups deemed by the National Security Council to be acting against the national security of the country.
- **1.6.** The content must not contradict the Republic of Türkiye's international relations, its contributions to global issues, and the country's significance in the international arena.

2. Equality and Inclusivity

- **2.1.** The content must adopt an approach that supports fundamental human rights and freedoms, taking into account the principle of equality as stipulated in the Constitution and the Basic Law on National Education.
- **2.2.** The content must be based on the principle that human rights apply to everyone without distinction of race, colour, language, religion, political opinion, ethnic origin, property or any other distinction.
- **2.3.** The content must not include elements that could disrupt social harmony or create divisions within society.
- **2.4.** The content must not include negative generalisations based on different cultural and ethnic structures, regional differences, religious and sectarian characteristics and behaviours.
- **2.5.** The content must be sensitive to the cultures, beliefs and traditions of different countries.
- **2.6.** The content must uphold freedom of religion and conscience, freedom of thought and expression, justice, social peace, and human rights; any written or visual expression, message, or implication that undermines this understanding must not be included.
- **2.7.** The content must not include elements that may demean the thoughts, beliefs and political views of different social groups.
- **2.8.** The content must not contain any expression or implication that belittle individual, social, professional identities and personalities.
- **2.9.** The content must not contain any expression, message or implication that would humiliate or glorify the individual according to his/her income level, disability, if any, or social position.

3. National Culture and Values

- **3.1.** The content must respect the national and spiritual values of the Turkish nation, and the freedom of religion and conscience must be upheld.
- **3.2.** The content must not include elements that may harm or contradict the culture and national consciousness of the Turkish nation.
- **3.3.** The content must be based on neutral, accurate, and scientific information related to Turkish history; it must not contain misleading or distorting information about historical facts

4. Safe, Ethical and Eco-Friendly Content

- **4.1.** The content must not contain any elements that would contravene the Law on the Protection of Personal Data.
- **4.2.** The elements used in the content must not include any advertisements or commercial preference and guidance that are either favorable or unfavorable and must not imply any associations.
- **4.3.** The content must not contain any written or visual elements that violate children's rights.
- **4.4.** The content must not contain any elements, either explicitly or implicitly, that are addictive, obscene, or that could negatively impact students' spirituality and personal development.
- **4.5.** The content must not contain any messages or implications that include fear, violence, insults, or humiliation, which could negatively impact students' emotional and cognitive development.
- **4.6.** The content must not include any written or visual elements, such as role models, products, symbols, or images, that are inappropriate for the age and developmental level of students.
- **4.7.** The content must not include elements that negatively affect students' physical development and body health.
- **4.8.** The content must not contain any written or visual elements that violate animal rights.
- **4.9.** The content must not contain any elements that are contrary to environmental awareness and environmental sustainability.