**POLICE INTEGRITY IN THE TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS: NARCOTICS AND ANTİ-TRAFFICKING DEPARTMENT’S POLICE OFFICERS PERCEPTION**

 **Osman KAYABAŞI[[1]](#footnote-1)\***

**Abstract**

 Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) is a small country located at the north of Cyprus, which is the third largest island with a geopolitical and geostrategical significance in the Mediterranean Sea. Narcotics and Anti-Trafficking Department, which is one of the 12 police departments in police organization, is combating drugs in the TRNC. This article discusses the results of the survey of police officers in TRNC, using the international police integrity questionnaire developed by Klockars and colleagues.

 The survey was customized for TRNC and then administered to police officers which employed in Narcotics and Anti-Trafficking Department of TRNC Police Organization. Overall, the respondents understood the serious nature of different types of ethical violations and expressed willingness to report. Their willingness to report was correlated with perceived seriousness. Respondents perceived that their colleagues would have less the integrity than the respondents themselves. Seriousness ratings and willingness to report tended to increase with rank, which led us to the main policy implication: that the ethical perspectives adopted by more senior police need to be transmitted more widely across police ranks. At the end of the research, we discuss police training for enhancing police integrity in TRNC.

**Keywords:** Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Narcotics and Anti-Trafficking Department, combatting drugs, discipline, police integrity, survey

1. **\***Studing at Turkish National Police Academy, İnstitute of Security Sciences, Strategies and Management phd programme, and Near East University, Institude of Social Sciences, Public Law phd programme, Chief Inspector/TRNC Police Organization. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)