

November 2021 Report

1. Administrative Bans, Police Interventions

- 02: Mardin** Governorate banned all kinds of meetings and demonstrations for 15 days.
- 02: Mersin** In the house raids carried out in Tarsus, 4 people were detained on charges of "terrorist organization membership".
- 02: Şırnak** 2 people were detained during house raids. On November 5, both were arrested on charges of "aiding a terrorist organization".
- 02: Tunceli** Governorate banned all kinds of meetings and demonstrations for 15 days.
- 03: Bitlis** One person taken into custody was arrested on the charge of "aiding a terrorist organization".
- 04: Adana** The press release organized for the 5th anniversary of the arrest of People's Democratic Party (HDP) MPs was prevented by the police.
- 04: Ağrı** 9 people, including People's Democratic Party (HDP) Provincial Co-Chairs Semra Özden and Erol Berke, were detained with physical violence in the intervention against a press statement.
- 04: Ankara** The press statement of Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MPs on the 5th anniversary of their arrest was prevented by the police.
- 04: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against Elif Tirenç İpek Ulaş, a member of the Board of Directors of the Diyarbakır Rosa Women's Association, continues at the 8th Assize Court.
- 04: Mardin** The lawsuit filed against People's Democratic Party (HDP) Kızıltepe and Savur Co-Mayors Nilüfer Elik Yılmaz and Gülistan Öncü continue at the 2nd Assize Court.
- 04: Şanlıurfa** The police prevented Emine Şenyaşar's justice vigil in front of the courthouse.
- 04: Şanlıurfa** Two people detained in Suruç district were arrested on November 6 on the allegation of "terrorist organization membership".
- 04: Van** The police detained Edibe Babur, the director of the Association for Assistance with Families of the Detained and Convicted, and Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Party Assembly member Musa İtah by preventing their press statements.
- 05: Elâzığ** Hifzullah Kutum, a research assistant at Fırat University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Finance, was arrested due to the social media post "Şoreşa İlonê hemû Kurdan piroz be, Bijî Kurdistan" (Happy September Revolution to all Kurds. Long live Kurdistan)" on the charge of 'making propaganda for a terrorist organization'. Kutum was dismissed.
- 06: Ankara** During an identity check, 2 members of the Free Student Initiative were detained.
- 06: Batman** The police did not allow the protest "Find the Disappeared, Prosecute the Perpetrators!" organised by the Human Rights Association (İHD) Batman Branch and the Relatives of the Missing, due to the Governorate ban against meetings and demonstrations.
- 06: İstanbul** Due to the establishment anniversary of the Council of Higher Education, 18 people were detained during police interventions against 5 different protests in Kadıköy, Çağlayan Courthouse, Üsküdar and Fatih districts.
- 06: Manisa** The police detained 9 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) member due to making propaganda for a terrorist organisation.
- 07: Diyarbakır** One person, who had been detained on charges of 'financing a terrorist organisation organization' at the Karaz checkpoint in Lice district, was released by the court he was sent to on the same day.
- 07: Mardin** A person named Abdurrahman Dinler was subjected to torture and other ill-treatment by soldiers during a house raid in the rural neighborhood of Yardere in Ömerli district.

08: Diyarbakır In the operations carried out in 4 provinces, 18 people were detained, including leaders of political parties, unions and associations, and Peace Mothers. A 24-hour restriction was imposed against the detainees against meeting with their lawyers.

09: Siirt Co-Chair of Association for Assistance with Families of Detainees Haydar Çağlı, Siirt Municipality Council Member Musa Kurhan, former provincial administrators of the Peoples' Democratic Party of Siirt Zeki Çalapkolu and Halil Akın, and Fırat Çakar were detained during house raids on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" and were released on the same day.

12: Gaziantep The lawsuit filed against 90 people, including Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) and Democratic Regions Party (DBP) members and administrators, continued at Antep 2nd Assize Court.

12: İstanbul Three students, who protested the appointed rector of Boğaziçi University taking advantage of the Law No. 6284 to issue an injunction against the students with red paint, were detained with house raids.

12: Malatya Three of 20 people on trial at the 5th Assize Court on charges of being delegates of the Democratic Society Congress were sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison for the crime of "terrorist organisation membership"; 17 others were acquitted.

13: Antalya During a house raid in Alanya, People's Democratic Party (HDP) district co-chair İ. I. was detained for allegedly making propaganda for a terrorist organisation through their social media posts.

13: Batman The press statement organised in front of the Human Rights Monument by the relatives of the disappeared and human rights defenders was not permitted.

13: Hakkâri Governorate banned all kinds of meetings and demonstrations for 15 days. The protest and demonstration ban has been extended to 540 days without interruption.

13: İstanbul The police intervened against the community center members, who wanted to protest the depreciation of the Turkish Lira in Beyoğlu, detaining 6 people.

14: Mersin Gendarmerie and private security units intervened against the protests of the workers at Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant, which was organised on the grounds that their salaries were not paid.

14: Van A shopkeeper named Abdullah Onar, who protested the price hikes with the vehicle he sold, was released the same day after being detained as a result of a police intervention.

15: Diyarbakır 14 of the 19 people, including political party, union members and executives, and Peace Mothers, who were detained as part of a Diyarbakır-based investigation on November 8, were arrested on November 15. PSK Deputy Chairman Bayram Bozyel was released on the same day after the objection was accepted.

15: İstanbul The police intervened against the press release in Beyoğlu, which was organised to draw attention to the ill prisoners, and detained 2 people.

15: Mardin 3 out of 5 people detained in Nusaybin district were subjected to torture and other ill-treatment. 3 people were released on condition of judicial measures.

15: Mersin The police raided the house of journalist B. Ş. The journalist, who was not at home at the time, was detained for a certain period of time, although there was no warrant against him.

15: Tekirdağ The person named H.B, who was detained on charges of "insulting the President" in Muratlı district, was arrested by the court he was brought to the same day.

15: Tunceli Governorate did not allow the commemoration program that the Labor and Democracy Platform wanted to hold on the anniversary of Seyit Rıza's execution.

16: Batman Governorate banned all kinds of meetings and demonstrations to be organised in the province for 15 days.

17: İstanbul Socialist Youth Associations Federation Central Executive Board (MYK) member Berfin Polat was arrested in Kıraç police station, where she went to testify within another investigation, on the grounds of her social media posts.

17: Şanlıurfa Syrian artist Omar Souleyman was detained on charges of 'terrorist organization membership'.

17: Tekirdağ Tekirdağ Provincial Co-Chair Cahit Direk and Çerkezköy district Co-Chair Kasım Güzel were detained during the house raids carried out within the scope of the investigation launched against the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) rally on November 7.

18: Bitlis Governorate declared a curfew in 13 villages of the Merkez (central) district as of 17.00 on November 18, until further notice.

18: Şanlıurfa Syrian artist Omar Souleyman, who was detained on charges of "terrorist organization membership", was released. Although there was no court order against Omar Souleyman, he was taken to a refugee camp in Harran through a Governorate decree, where his passport was restricted and to be deported "on the grounds that he endangered public safety".

18: Tunceli The application made by Yenigün Women's Solidarity Association to open a booth in 3 different parts of the city within the scope of the November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, was rejected by the governorate.

18: Van The police raided the house, where Jinnews reporter Hikmet Tunç was staying, on the grounds that there was a report that there were guns and bombs in the house.

20: Diyarbakır A person in Sur district was subjected to torture and other ill-treatment by being forced to lie facedown on the ground by the police on the street and handcuffed. The detained person was arrested on charges of 'resisting the police'.

21: Şırnak Two of the 35 people detained in Şırnak on November 17 were arrested on November 19 on charges of 'providing financial support to a terrorist organization'; one person was released on the condition of judicial measures. 32 people are still under detainment.

22: Diyarbakır The police intervened in the press statement made by the Confederation of Public Workers' Unions (KESK) Women's Platform as part of the November 25, Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

22: Şanlıurfa The gendarmerie intervened against the march of Uğur Tekstil workers in the 2nd Organized Industrial Zone, who were reported to have been dismissed on the grounds that they were union members, and detained 2 people. The two detainees were released on the same day.

23: Diyarbakır A visit to the cemetery in the village of Sise in Lice district within the scope of the events organised for November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, was prevented by the police and gendarmerie. The police intervened against journalists Derya Ren and Eylem Akdağ with physical violence and confiscated the equipment they were using for the shooting.

23: İstanbul The police intervened in the demonstration organised in Sancaktepe district to protest the government's economic policies, and detained 3 people.

23: İzmir The police wanted to prevent the march to be held in Şirinyer with the theme, "Enough is enough".

23: Kocaeli The police intervened in the press release organised in Derince District due to the depreciation of the Turkish Lira, and detained 6 people, including Evrensel Daily representative Gözde Meydan, who was following the news.

23: Şırnak 8 of the 35 people detained on November 17 on charges of "providing financial support to the organization" were arrested, 4 people were released on condition of judicial measures. 23 people were still in custody. Among the 35 people, Fahrettin Adıgüzel, İsa Yılmaz and Levent Ercan, stated that they were subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in custody.

24: Ankara 3 different protests organised in Ankara against the increase in the exchange rate, the economic crisis and the economic policies of the government, were prevented by the police.

24: Çanakkale The police intervened in the press statement made in the Piriñçiler Square to protest the economic policies of the government due to the depreciation of the Turkish lira, and detained 15 people.

24: İstanbul The press statement organised in Avcılar district to protest the economic crisis and the government's economic policies, was not permitted.

24: Izmir The police detained 12 people through house raids with the allegation that they made PKK/KCK-PYD/YPG propaganda on social media, as well as 3 others on the allegation that they were members of a terrorist organization.

24: Malatya Mezopotamya Agency reporter Emrullah Acar, who was detained in Urfa as part of a Malatya-based investigation on November 19 and taken to Malatya, was released by the court on the condition of judicial measures. Hivda Sarılmaz, who was detained in Bingöl within the scope of the same investigation, was also released on the condition of judicial measures.

24: Malatya 6 people were detained in connection with the coup attempt.

24: Mersin The protest organised in Mersin to protest the increase in the exchange rate, the economic crisis and the economic policies of the government, was prevented by the police and 3 people were detained.

24: Şırnak 10 of the 35 people who were detained on charges of "providing financial support to the organization" were arrested on November 17, 17 people were released on the condition of judicial measures. 8 people are still in custody.

24: Van During Turkey Change Party (TDP) Chairman Mustafa Sarıgül's visit to the shopkeepers in İpekyolu district, Hacı Tunç told Sarıgül, "A friend of ours in Siirt said 'This is Kurdistan'. A thousand, two thousand years ago, this was Kurdistan. It will still be Kurdistan. Let's not object to this." Hacı Tunç was detained, the police raided Tunç's house and searched for illegal possessions.

24. Istanbul The police intervened in the protest against the economic policies of the government due to the depreciation of the Turkish Lira, detaining 10 people in Beylikdüzü, 55 people in Kadıköy and 1 person in Bakırköy.

25: Adana The march organised by Adana Women's Platform from the January 5 Square to İnönü Park was prevented by the police.

25: Diyarbakır 14 people were detained during the police raids in Kayapınar and Silvan districts.

25: Istanbul On the International Day for the Elimination of Women, the police intervened against the women marching in Taksim by using tear gas and rubber bullets against them.

25: Van In the Bostaniçi police station, where Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Youth Assembly member Çetin Temel went to submit a signature as per the judicial control procedure, he was subjected to torture and ill-treatment because he did not accept the police's request to talk to him under the name of "chat". Afterwards, he was detained with a Prosecutor's Office verdict on the allegation that he did not fulfill the conditions of judicial control, did not give his address information and made propaganda for a terrorist organization.

25: Van During Turkey Change Party (TDP) Chairman Mustafa Sarıgül's visit to the shopkeepers in İpekyolu district, Hacı Tunç told Sarıgül, "A friend of ours in Siirt said 'This is Kurdistan'. A thousand, two thousand years ago, this was Kurdistan. It will still be Kurdistan. Let's not object to this." Hacı Tunç was detained, the police raided Tunç's house and searched for illegal possessions. Hacı Tunç was released.

26: Adana 17 people were detained during house raids on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization through their social media posts".

26: Batman 6 people, including the Free Women's Movement, Batman City Council Member, People's Democratic Party Batman provincial director and members, were detained during house raids.

26: Kars People's Democratic Party (HDP) Provincial Co-Chair Ayhan Gezici, Onur Mengüloğlu and Osman Ayağ were detained in house raids.

26: Kocaeli 11 people, including People's Democratic Party (HDP) members and executives, were detained during house raids in Kocaeli and Istanbul as part of an investigation.

26: Şırnak 16 of the 35 people, who were detained on 17 November on charges of "providing financial support to a terrorist organization," were arrested, and 19 were released on the condition of judicial measures.

26: Van Çetin Temel, who was detained on November 25 after being subjected to torture and ill-treatment at the Bostaniçi police station after he went there to submit a signature as per the judicial control procedure, was released on the condition of judicial measures, once again.

27: Ağrı Workers working in TOKİ construction in Fırat Neighborhood were subjected to physical violence by Justice and Development Party (AKP) Ağrı Mayor's Prosecutor Sayan and his bodyguards. 1 worker was injured.

27: Batman During the police raid on the house of journalist Dilbirin Turgut, 6 people, including 4 children, were subjected to torture and ill-treatment by the police. It was learned that the people in the house were forced to lie facedown on the ground by the police, handcuffed and that the police put a gun to their heads, saying "you are all traitors, terrorists".

27: Mardin 20 of the 45 people detained, including members and administrators of associations, unions and political parties, as well as members of the Peace Mothers Council, were released after their detainment during house raids in Mardin's districts. 20 people are still in custody.

27: Şırnak The gendarmerie intervened against the protesters of Dicle Electric Distribution Inc. in Bafê village of Idil district by using tear gas against them. The gendarmerie also opened fire in the air and detained 1 person.

28: Ankara The police intervened in the protest organised in front of Çankaya Municipality by the Labor and Democracy Forces in Ankara on November 28 against the economic crisis and the economic policies of the government, and 22 people were detained with torture and ill-treatment.

28: Diyarbakır 9 people detained during police raids in Silvan district on November 25 were released.

28: Hakkâri Governorate banned all kinds of meetings and demonstrations for 15 days. The ban against meetings and demonstrations has been extended to 570 days without interruption.

29: Şırnak 3 of the 18 people detained in Cizre district were arrested by the court to which they were referred, on the allegation of "terrorist organization membership". 15 people were released.

29: Van Governorate banned all demonstration marches and open-air meetings to be organised throughout the province for 15 days as of November 30. The protest and demonstration ban was thus extended to 1849 days without interruption.

2. Investigations and Prosecutions

01: Edirne After People's Democratic Party (HDP) Central Executive Board Member Sevim Akdağ was detained, she was arrested by the Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court on the grounds that she violated the "judicial control" requirement.

01: İstanbul An indictment was prepared against 9 lawyers, including Eren Keskin and Kemal Aytaç, who protested the appointment of trustees to Diyarbakır, Mardin and Van Metropolitan municipalities with a press statement in front of the Courthouse.

01: İzmir Kocaeli Prosecutor's Office opened an investigation against 3 people, including a member of our association's women's commission and our board of directors, based on the statement and protest organised by the Strong Women Together at Konak Pier on March 27.

02: Ağrı The trial of previously shut-down Dicle News Agency reporter Abdullah Kaya continued at the 2nd Assize Court. It was claimed that Kaya be penalised for the crimes of "knowingly and willingly aiding a terrorist organisation without membership" and "successively making propaganda for a terrorist organization".

02: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against publisher Azad Zal within the investigation against the Democratic Society Congress continues at the 8th Assize Court on the charge of terrorist organisation membership.

02: İstanbul The lawsuit filed against 8 people was heard at the 16th Criminal Court of First Instance due to participating in the Pride Parade. After defense statements, the case was adjourned to December 10, 2021.

02: İstanbul The lawsuit filed against Can Dündar and İnan Kızılkaya continued at the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance for participating in the Campaign for the Editor-in-Chief on Duty of Özgür Gündem Daily. The court decided to wait for the execution of the arrest warrant for Can Dündar. The hearing was adjourned to March 24, 2022.

03: Ankara An investigation was launched against 30 people in Turkey due to their social media posts about the health status of the President. In addition, a criminal complaint was filed by the State about these posts.

03: Ankara The hearing of the case filed against People's Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Chair Pervin Buldan at the Ankara 18th Assize Court was held on the grounds of the speeches she made at the events she attended. The court delegation adjourned the case February 16, 2022.

03: Diyarbakır The trial against Fatma Gültekin, a member of the Rosa Association, continued at the 10th Assize Court with the allegation of "terrorist organisation membership."

03: İstanbul In the final hearing of the case at the 23rd Assize Court against 15 people, including People's Democratic Party (HDP) HDP Bursa MP Asiye Kolçak; Memduhe Biçerman was sentenced to 1 year and 8 months in prison for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization", 14 people were acquitted.

03: İstanbul The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Özgür Gündem Daily Co-Editors-In-Chief Eren Keskin and Hüseyin Aykol, Managing Editor Reyhan Çapan and journalist Hasan Başak was held at the 13th Assize Court.

03: İstanbul The lawsuit filed against 14 employees of the Freedom Journalism Newspaper, which was shut down with a statutory decree, was heard at the 23rd Assize Court. The court rejected the request of the journalists to lift the travel ban and adjourned the hearing to February 17, 2022.

03: Yalova The final hearing of the lawsuit filed against writer Yılmaz Odabaşı with the allegation of "insulting the President" was held at the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance. The court sentenced Odabaşı to 11 months and 20 days in prison and did not defer the sentence.

04: İstanbul The lawsuit filed against 205 people, including BDP members and executives, was heard at the 3rd Assize Court. The case was adjourned to February 17, 2022.

04: İstanbul Trainee Atty. Sinan Bin was sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison by the 28th Assize Court on the charge of "terrorist organization membership".

04: İstanbul Former director of Pir Sultan (PSAKD) and writer Erdal Yıldırım was sentenced to 1 year, 6 months and 22 days in prison by the 14th Assize Court due to his social media posts.

05: İzmir In the lawsuit filed against those attending the funeral of Dilan Kortak, including Deniz Poyraz, Bayraklı 2nd Assize Court sentenced one person to 10 months in prison, alleging that they were "propagandizing for a terrorist organization". Dilan Kortak was killed in a house raid in 2015.

08: Ankara The trial against 108 People's Democratic Party (HDP) members and executives, 21 of whom were imprisoned, including former HDP Co-Chairs, continued at the 22nd Assize Court. The case was adjourned to November 29, 2021.

08: İstanbul As a result of the objection to the verdict of non-prosecution issued by the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office about the criminal complaint made about the writer Orhan Pamuk in his book titled "Plague Nights" on the grounds that "insulting Atatürk and the flag of the Republic of Turkey", the Prosecutor's Office decided to launch an indictment against Pamuk.

09: Ankara The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against journalist Sibel Hürtaş at the 37th Criminal Court of First Instance on the allegation of "resisting the police" after she was detained with torture and ill-treatment by the police as she was following the protests against the law regulations for Multiple Bar Associations, was held upon the complaint of the police officers. The case was adjourned to April 12, 2022.

09: Diyarbakır The trial of the Peace Mother Makbule Özbek (72), filed at the 8th Assize Court as part of an investigation against the Democratic Society Congress, continued.

09: Diyarbakır A verdict of acquittal was issued in the case where journalist Ayşe Kara was tried on the allegation of "terrorist organization membership" based on the news she reported.

09: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against police officer K. B. continued at the 7th Assize Court regarding the murder of Recep Hantaş, who collected papers on April 14, as a result of gunfire. Journalists who wanted to follow the hearing were not allowed into the hall.

09: Diyarbakır Şahin Öner died in Diyarbakır on February 10, 2013, when he was hit by an armored police vehicle during the protests held in connection with the anniversary of the arrival of PKK leader Abdullah Öcalan in Turkey. The lawsuit filed against police officer S. K. and the driver of the armored vehicle continued with the allegation of "deliberate killing" at the 1st Assize Court.

09: Hatay The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against lawyer H. M. at the Iskenderun 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance was held on the allegation that he "insulted the President" in his social media post regarding the 15 July Coup Attempt.

09: Istanbul The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed at the 23rd Assize Court against 4 people, including ETHA editor Semiha Şahin and reporter Pınar Gayip, was held. The case was adjourned to March 10, 2022.

09: Istanbul A lawsuit was filed against 3 police officers at the 11th Assize Court due to the naked search that Mücella Yapıcı and Cansu Yapıcı, who were detained during the Gezi protests, were subjected to. The court decided to issue an arrest warrant against 1 police officer and the case was adjourned to February 10, 2022.

09: Istanbul The lawsuit filed against Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu on the grounds that he insulted the members of the High Electoral Council (YSK) was heard at the Anatolian 7th Criminal Court of First Instance. The court adjourned the case to January 2022.

09: Istanbul The lawsuit filed against 34 people, including journalist Sadiye Eser, was heard at the 6th Assize Court. The case was adjourned to February 25, 2022.

10: Ankara The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against People's Democratic Party (HDP) Mersin Deputy Fatma Kurtulan was held at the 21st Assize Court with the allegation of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization". The court delegation decided for a stay of trial.

10: Elâzığ Hifzullah Kutum, a research assistant at the Finance Department of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences of Elazığ Fırat University, who was arrested on November 6 on the grounds of his social media posts, was released after the objection made by his lawyer.

10: Istanbul Artist Mehmet Basut was arrested on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" and "insulting the President."

11: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against journalist Kibriye Evren continued at the 5th Assize Court on charges of "terrorist organization membership" and "making propaganda for a terrorist organization".

11: Istanbul Artist Levent Üzümcü testified due to the investigation opened against him on the allegation that his words during a street performance "incited the public to hatred and hostility".

11: Istanbul The final hearing of the lawsuit filed against artist Veysi Ermiş for using the expression "Kurdistan" in his songs was held at the 27th Assize Court. The court sentenced him to 1 year, 6 months and 20 days in prison and deferred the sentence.

12: Hatay The final hearing of the lawsuit filed against 28 people, including journalist Ali Arslan Daduk, was held on the grounds of the event held in Samandağ on July 21, 2015 to commemorate those who lost their lives in the Suruç Massacre. The delegation ruled on various penalties against 20 people.

15: Denizli One person was arrested for allegedly making PKK/KCK propaganda on social media.

16: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against Sevim Akdağ, a member of the Central Executive Board of the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) and Co-Spokesperson of the Youth Assembly, continued at the 8th Assize Court.

16: İzmir Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Party Assembly member Hacay Yılmaz was sentenced to 16 months and 2 others to 10 months in prison in the lawsuit filed against 3 people protesting the ISIS attacks on Kobanê in 2014.

16: Mersin The final hearing of the lawsuit filed against 17 members of Mersin Anti-Nuclear Platform at the Gülnar Criminal Court of First Instance was held on the grounds of the press statement they wanted to make in front of the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant on March 11, 2021. The court acquitted 17 people.

17: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against 11 former Executive Board member lawyers of the Diyarbakır Bar Association (Ahmet Özmen, Mahsum Bati, Nuşin Uysal Ekinci, Cihan Ülsen, Sertaç Buluttekin, Muhammet Neşet Girasun, Serhat Eren, İmran Gökdere, Velat Alan, Ahmet Dağ ve Nahit Eren) continued at the 13th Assize Court.

The indictment stated that the lawyers used the term "Armenian Genocide" in a statement made by the Bar Association on April 24, 2017, they used the term "Kurdistan" in another statement, and "openly incited the public to hatred and enmity" on the grounds of the report prepared on the death of a civilian person in Hakkari's Oğul village. The indictment further claimed for the defendants to be penalised for the crimes of 'insulting the Turkish Nation, the State of the Republic of Turkey, the institutions and bodies of the state'.

17: Erzurum In the case filed against Mezopotamya News Agency reporter Dindar Karataş at the 3rd Assize Court, he was acquitted of the charge of "terrorist organization membership".

17: İstanbul The lawsuit, known as the "Exhibition Case", filed against 7 students, including 6 students from Boğaziçi University, continued at the 21st Assize Court on charges of "public incitement to hatred and hostility".

18: Ankara The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against French Charlie Hebdo magazine's Editor-in-Chief Julin Serignac, Editor-in-Chief Gerard Biard, Editor-in-Chief Laurent Sourisseau and cartoonist Alice Petit was held at the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance over a cartoon about President Tayyip Erdoğan on the cover of the magazine. The court adjourned the case to June 1, 2022.

18: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against Beycan Taşkiran, Co-Chair of the Socialist Party of the Oppressed, continued at the 5th Assize Court on the charge of terrorist organisation membership.

18: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against People's Democratic Party (HDP) Diyarbakır MP İmam Taşçier as well as former HDP MPs İdris Baluken and Çağlar Demirel continued at the 12th Criminal Court of First Instance with the allegation that they "insulted the President" in their speeches.

18: İstanbul The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against journalists Sadiye Eser and Sadık Topaloğlu was held at the 22nd Assize Court. The court adjourned the case to January 11, 2022, deciding to summon one person who could not present at the hearing by force, and for the travel ban against the defendants to remain.

18: Osmaniye The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Provincial Co-chairs Kadriye Tören and Ali Coşkun, continued at the 2nd Assize Court on the allegation of terrorist organisation membership. The court acquitted the two defendants.

18: Şırnak The lawsuit filed against People's Democratic Party (HDP) Hakkari MP and Democratic Society Congress Co-Chair Leyla Güven continued at Şırnak Criminal Court of First Instance because of her expression, "Mr Öcalan" that she used during a speech.

18: Tunceli An investigation was launched by the Tunceli Chief Public Prosecutor's Office on the allegation of 'praising the crime and the criminal' about a leaflet distributed by the Labor and Democracy Platform on the anniversary of Seyit Rıza's execution. As part of the investigation, Akpazar Co-Mayor Orhan Çelebi, who was replaced by a trustee, testified.

18: Van A verdict of acquittal was issued in the lawsuit filed against journalist Oktay Candemir on the allegation of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization through his social media posts" at the 5th Assize Court.

19: Diyarbakır In the case filed against Turkish Medical Association High Honorary Board member and Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (HRFT) volunteer Dr Şeyhmus Gökalg at the 10th Assize Court, Gökalg was acquitted of the charge of "terrorist organization membership".

19: Mardin In the lawsuit filed against Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Party Assembly member Nazım Kök at the Nusaybin 1st Criminal Court of First Instance with the allegation that he had "insulted the President" in his social media posts, the court sentenced him to 11 months and 20 days in prison.

21: Şanlıurfa Mesopotamia News Agency reporter Emrullah Acar was detained in Urfa as part of a Malatya-based investigation on November 19. A confidentiality order was issued regarding the investigation file. As part of the same investigation, one person was detained in Bingöl.

22: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against US-based Vice News reporter Jacob Philip John Gingell Hanrahan, cameraman Philip John Pendlebury and translator Mohamed İsmail Rasool, who worked with them, as well as driver Abdurrahman Direkçi continued at Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court.

22: Tekirdağ Yakup Önal, the Editor-In-Chief of the newspaper Şarköy's Voice, was acquitted in the final hearing of the case filed at the Criminal Court of First Instance because of his news coverage about the deputy mayor.

23: Diyarbakır Şahin Öner died in Diyarbakır on February 10, 2013, when he was struck by an armored police vehicle during the protests held in connection with the anniversary of the arrival of PKK leader Abdullah Öcalan in Turkey. Diyarbakır 1st Assize Court sentenced the defendant police officer to 4 years, 5 months and 10 days in prison for the crime of 'causing death by conscious negligence' against police officer S. K., the driver of the armored vehicle. The court denied the request for the arrest of the defendant police officer.

23: Hatay The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) İskenderun District Co-Chair Abdurrahim Şahin was held at the 2nd Assize Court on the allegation that he made propaganda for a terrorist organization during a speech in 2014. The court adjourned the case to December 14, 2021.

23: İstanbul The latest hearing of the lawsuit, publicly known as the "KCK Press Case", filed against 46 journalists was heard at the 3rd Assize Court. The case was adjourned to February 22.

23: İstanbul The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against 22 journalists, who were detained during the raid against Özgür Gündem Daily in August 2016, was held at the 5th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "resisting to prevent duty".

23: Van The lawsuit filed against Tusba Co-Mayor Ayşe Minaz, who was replaced by a trustee, Muradiye Co-Mayor Leyla Balkan, and 7 others, including HDP executives, started at the Van 5th Assize Court due to their social media posts regarding the march to be held on the Istanbul Convention.

24: Diyarbakır The lawsuit filed against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Diyarbakır MP Musa Farisoğulları, who lost his seat at the Parliament after the sentence against him was finalized, continued on charges of 'terrorist organization membership', 'making propaganda for a terrorist organization', 'public incitement to illegal meetings and demonstrations', 'participating in illegal meetings and demonstrations unarmed, and not dispersing despite warning.' Farisoğulları faces a total prison sentence of up to 26 years.

24: Diyarbakır In the lawsuit filed against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) former Hakkari MP Abdullah Zeydan at the Diyarbakır 5th Assize Court, a retrial started after the Supreme

Court overturned the 8 years, 1 month and 15 days prison sentence given for the crimes of "aiding a terrorist organization" and "making propaganda for a terrorist organization".

24: Istanbul The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against 46 people regarding the 700th Week of Saturday Mothers was held at the 21st Criminal Court of First Instance. The court adjourned the case to March 23, 2022 by issuing an arrest warrant for 2 people, and for 10 people to be summoned by force.

24: Şanlıurfa The 5th Assize Court acquitted a person in the trial on the grounds of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" and "praising the crime and the criminal" due to posting a photo of PKK leader Abdullah Öcalan on his social media account in 2015.

25: Ankara The final hearing of the lawsuit filed against Fatih Gönül, a former employee of the previously shut-down Dicle News Agency, was held at the 25th Assize Court on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization". The court acquitted Fatih Gönül.

25: Istanbul The lawsuit filed against 52 people, 2 of whom were detained by Boğaziçi students, was heard at the 49th Criminal Court of First Instance. The court decided to lift the judicial measures against 22 people and adjourned the case to November 29, 2021.

25: Istanbul The lawsuit filed against Dokuz8Haber Editor-in-Chief Gökhan Biçici on the charge of "insulting the President" at the 8th Criminal Court of First Instance was adjourned to February 17, 2022, with the President's request to get involved in the case.

25: Istanbul The latest hearing of the case lawsuit filed against theater artist Genco Erkal with the charge of "insulting the President" based on his social media posts was held at the 16th Criminal Court of First Instance. The case was adjourned to March 11, 2022.

26: Ankara The lawsuit filed against 33 people, filed at the 28th Criminal Court of First Instance on August 12, 2020, continued on the grounds that they participated in the protest regarding the Istanbul Convention organised in Çankaya district. The court adjourned the case to March 23, 2022.

26: Hakkari The lawsuit filed against TJA activist Seyhan Başak continued with the allegation of "terrorist organization membership" at the Hakkari 2nd Assize Court. When she wanted to make a defense in Kurdish, the chief judge of the court said, "You know Turkish, but you speak Kurdish in order to make a defense in your mother tongue. There is a fee for this, you have to pay it." The court decided to release Seyhan Başak on the condition of judicial measures.

26: Istanbul The latest hearing of the combined Gezi and Çarşı cases involving detained businessman Osman Kavala was held at the 13th Assize Court. The court decided for Kavala to remain under arrest and adjourned the case to January 17, 2022.

26: Şırnak In the lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency reporters Ferzen Çatak and Dilgeç Ruvanas as well as previously shut-down Azadiya Welat Daily reporter Kadri Esen on the charge of "making illegal organisation propaganda", "illegal organisation membership" and "targeting public officials", the 1st Assize Court decided for the acquittal of Kadri Esen and Dilgeç Ruvanas and to separate the file against Ferzen Çatak.

26: Şırnak The lawsuit filed against People's Democratic Party (HDP) Hakkari MP and Democratic Society Congress (DTK) Co-Chair Leyla Güven continued at Şırnak Criminal Court of First Instance because of her expression, "Mr Öcalan" that she used during a speech. The case was merged with another case against her at Hakkari 2nd Assize Court; and the court sentenced Güven to 5 years of imprisonment for "making propaganda for a terrorist organisation through press/media."

27: Balıkesir The police detained 2 people on the allegation that they made propaganda for PKK/KCK-PYD/YPG on social media.

29: Ankara In the lawsuit filed against the People's Democratic Party (HDP) at the Constitutional Court (AYM), the Chief Prosecutor of the Court of Cassation submitted his opinion on the merits to the court.

29: Denizli Judicial authorities took action against 4 people on the grounds of "incitement to commit a crime" through their social media accounts.

29: Mardin Mehmet Emin Gezer, brother of Bilal Gezer, who lost his life in the Dargeçit district of Mardin during the Kobanê protests in 2013, was injured as a result of the fire opened by the police at the Dargeçit Police Station, where he went to inquire about his brother's condition. The 4 defendant police officers were acquitted by the 1st Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation, which ruled on the objection against the decree of non-prosecution in the case filed with the allegation of "attempt of deliberate homicide" at the Midyat Assize Court regarding the injury of Mehmet Emin Gezer. In the justification of the decree, it was reported that the 1st Criminal Chamber of the Supreme Court stated that "(...) they had lived in the region, they had witnessed, they lost their friends in clashes and bombings, and that they had made the inevitable mistake that legitimate defense conditions were created in order to ward off the attacks against them due to the events experienced".

29: Van The lawsuit filed against Mariye Bildirici, who was the lawyer of 3 children after they were subjected to torture and other ill-treatment at the police station they were taken to in the İpekyolu district of Van in 2019, continued at the Van 7th Assize Court on the grounds that she said "You are a torturer" to the police.

30: Hatay In the lawsuit filed against lawyer H. M. with the allegation that he "insulted the President" in his social media post regarding the July 15 Coup Attempt, the court sentenced the defendant to 1 year, 2 months and 17 days of imprisonment.

30: Izmir The 1st Criminal Court of First Instance sentenced journalist Oktay İnce to 1 year, 2 months and 17 days in prison for his social media posts.

30: Kayseri The final hearing of the lawsuit filed against a person at the 12th Criminal Court of First Instance was held on the allegation that he insulted the President through his social media posts. The court sentenced the defendant to 1 year and 2 months in prison and deferred the announcement of the verdict.

3. Other violations

01: Izmir Remziye Polat (25), who has been imprisoned for 9 years in Şakran Women's Closed Prison due to a 12-year and 6-month prison sentence given by the local court for "terrorist organization membership", was not released, even though she completed her execution period.

02: Izmir Prisoners in Kırıklar Type-F Prison No.1 stated that almost every day of the week, the administration forced them to watch programs with religious content, especially sermons, on the administration's television channel, and that they were told that there would be a juz reading course against their will. On the other hand, 10 people stated that they demanded the right to chat for 10 hours a week, but it was not allowed due to the pandemic.

06: Gaziantep It was learned that the clothes, books and letters sent to the Type-H Prison were not given to the prisoners.

08: Diyarbakır An unidentified person or persons attacked Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) district building in Kayapınar district with Molotov cocktails. No one was killed or injured.

09: Istanbul The performance of the play "Death Was Asleep" at Emir Ali Cultural Center in Fatih District was banned by the District Governorate on the grounds of public safety.

10: Diyarbakır Political prisoner Mehmet Işıktaş, who was transferred from Type-D Prison to Konya Ereğli Type-T Prison, started a hunger strike on November 6, against his being forced to stay in the same ward with judicial prisoners by the prison administration.

11: Diyarbakır Posters hung by the Labor and Democracy Platform for the anniversary of Seyit Rıza's execution were removed with a Prosecutor's Office verdict.

11: Diyarbakır It has been reported that more than capacity is kept in the wards of the Women's Prison.

12: Ankara 19 reports were prepared against 16 MPs, including 1 Democratic Regions Party (DBP) and 15 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) members, and sent to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, demanding that their Parliamentary immunities be lifted.

14: Van Espionage was imposed against Yüzüncü Yıl University student B.H. at a police station.

15: Şanlıurfa A disciplinary investigation was launched against 20 prisoners, who were subjected to torture and other ill-treatment by the prison guards during a ward search in Urfa Type-T Prison No.2 on October 7, alleging "word or behavior that may cause fear, anxiety or panic in the institution".

15: Şanlıurfa Unidentified person or persons put a cross sign on the door of Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Urfa provincial building, and additional racist figures were drawn. The images taken by the security cameras in the vicinity of the attack were not given to Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) executives on the grounds of lack of permission from the Prosecutor's Office.

15: Van 7 people were transferred to other prisons against their will.

16: Ağrı Ill prisoner Rıdvan Yusufuğlu, who is held in Patnos Type-L Prison, is not given the medicine he regularly needs to use.

17: Ankara Summaries were prepared against 5 MPs, including 3 Republican People's Party (CHP) and 3 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) members, and sent to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, demanding that their Parliamentary immunities be lifted.

17: Tekirdağ Publications and digital materials were confiscated in the police raid against the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Çerkezköy district building.

21: Şanlıurfa Petitions written by prisoners, who were subjected to torture and other ill-treatment in Type-T Prison No. 2, are not processed. During the ward searches, the guards said, "We will destroy you. All of you are terrorists."

22: Diyarbakır 9th Assize Court sentenced journalist Nurcan Yalçın to a total of 3 years, 7 months and 27 days in prison on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" and "aiding a terrorist organization" as part of an investigation against the Rosa Women's Association.

22: Tunceli Attorney Zafer Çellik was tried at the 1st Assize Court on the charge of "terrorist organization membership". The defendant was released.

23: Malatya It was learned that social and cultural rights of the prisoners were restricted in Akçadağ Type-T Prison and that they were threatened with the expressions; "This is a military prison, we are the state, do not look elsewhere, you will kneel. You will obey military discipline". In addition, prisoners Selahattin Korkmaz and İslam İverendi were subjected to torture and ill-treatment because they did not accept the imposition of a naked search.

24: Ankara General Directorate of Security announced that legal action had been initiated against 271 social media accounts, citing the economic crisis and their social media posts about the government's economic policies.

24: Ankara Kafa Radyo was fined by the Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK) for the radio programmer Nihat Sırdar's expressions in his program, who said, "It is not clear where the aid collected with IBANs goes".

25: Batman It was learned that prisoner Gülgeş Tatlı, who was held in Type-M Prison, was forced to naked search, forced to stand up even though she was injured, the single room she was held in was raided by male prison guards and her personal belongings were confiscated, she was forced to do espionage and was threatened. Furthermore, Tatlı, who is injured, had no access to medical treatment. Tatlı was transferred to Kayseri Women's Closed Prison against her will, 2 days later.

25: Diyarbakır It has been learned that the number of books that prisoners can keep with them in the Women's Closed Prison is limited to 10 and that the prison administration asks for a translation fee for the Kurdish letters written by the prisoners.

28: Ankara A group of 50 people, allegedly members of the Grey Wolves, attacked and attempted to prevent the commemoration organized by the Alparslan Türkeş Foundation for

the 104th birthday of the founding chairman of the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), Alparslan Türkeş, in the hall of Yenimahalle Municipality.

4. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Coşkun Üsterci (Secretary General, Human Rights Foundation of Turkey - TIHV)

We will celebrate "Human Rights Day" on December 10, the day of adoption of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. As the Human Rights Association (IHD) and the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV), we will try to make an inventory of the human rights violations that took place in the country for a year, with the statements we will make on this occasion, as every year. Therefore, I will share the data on freedom of expression, assembly and association prepared by the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) Documentation Center.

The protection and effective use of freedoms of expression, assembly and association are the lifeblood of a democratic society. Those who watch our programs regularly will notice that these vessels have been clogged for a long time. When the violations experienced in this context in the first 11 months of the year are considered collectively, the situation can be seen with all its clarity.

Let's take a quick look at November: At least 31 peaceful meetings and demonstrations were intervened against during the month, 5 events were banned. At least 183 people were detained.

If we evaluate these interventions and obstructions in terms of their content:

The protests held in the first week of November on the anniversary of the arrest of Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MPs, whose immunities were lifted on November 4, 2016, drew attention.

Then there were the peaceful meetings and demonstrations of the students for the anniversary of the establishment of the Council of Higher Education on November 6 and against the appointment of the rector to Boğaziçi University. There were also meetings and demonstrations by the relatives of the disappeared and human rights defenders.

In the second half of November, we see that peaceful meetings and demonstrations to protest the economic crisis and the economic policies of the government come to the fore. By the way, let me state that the political power is not disturbed only by the meetings and demonstrations held to protest the economic crisis. Drawings, writings and social media posts on this subject are also disturbing the government. As a matter of fact, the General Directorate of Security (EGM), with its statement on November 24, 2021, announced that legal actions had been initiated against 271 social media accounts, citing their posts about the economic crisis and the government's economic policies.

In the last week of November, peaceful meetings and demonstrations held on the occasion of the 'November 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women' were subjected to interventions and preventions by law enforcement officers.

In November, lawsuits continued to be filed and new investigations were launched against many scientists, artists, actors and authors on charges of 'insulting the President', 'insulting Atatürk and the Turkish flag', 'making propaganda for a terrorist organization', 'inciting the people to hatred and hostility, praising the crime and the criminal'. Some of these lawsuits resulted in convictions.

The lawsuit filed against mathematician Dr Ali Nesin with the allegation of "insulting the President" resulted in his acquittal. Writer Yılmaz Odabaşı was not as lucky. Odabaşı was sentenced to 11 months and 20 days in prison for 'insulting the President' and the sentence was not deferred.

The criminal complaint about the famous literary writer Orhan Pamuk on the grounds of "insulting Atatürk and the Turkish flag" in his book called "Plague Nights" resulted in non-prosecution. As a result of the objection made against this decision, the court decided to launch another investigation against Orhan Pamuk and issue an indictment.

Voice artist Mehmet Ali Basut was arrested on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" and "insulting the President". Voice artist Veysi Ermiş was sentenced to 1 year, 6 months and 20 days in prison for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" because of the expression "Kurdistan" in the songs he sang. Fortunately, his sentence was deferred.

Theater actor Levent Üzümcü testified within the scope of the investigation launched against him on the grounds that he incited the public to hatred and hostility because of the words he used during a street performance.

Despite the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) decree on the release of peace and human rights defender Osman Kavala and the calls made by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe for the immediate implementation of this decree, the local court issued for Kavala to remain under arrest.

An interesting event that took place in November was the launch of an investigation by the Tunceli Chief Public Prosecutor's Office on the charge of '**praising the crime and the criminal**', about the leaflet distributed by the Dersim Labor and Democracy Platform on the anniversary of Seyit Rıza's execution. It is not clear what kind of mentality it is to still consider an event that happened 80-something years ago a "crime", even though the statute of limitations is 20 years, even in violations that result in death.

As for a general evaluation of the year, according to the findings of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) Documentation Center, some of the violations against the freedoms of expression, assembly and association between January 1 and November 30, 2021 are as follows:

- At least 45 journalists were detained, 2 journalists were arrested. 2 journalists were released on the condition of judicial control and 1 journalist under house arrest, 1 foreign national journalist was deported.
- Access to at least 945 internet news, 133 content, 53 websites belonging to 7 different media outlets, at least 41 social media posts and 5 social media accounts were banned from access with court decrees.
- 1 book was restricted, 1 book and 1 journal were taken off shelves.
- All protests and demonstrations were banned 101 times, the shortest 5 days and the longest 30 days, in 24 provinces and 6 districts by Governorates and District Governorates. According to the latest Governorate decree, meetings and demonstrations in Van have been banned for 1849 consecutive days since November 21, 2016, and for 570 days without interruption in Hakkari since June 5, 2020.
- At least 291 peaceful meetings and demonstrations were intervened against, and 88 events were prevented. 3540 people, including 28 children, were detained with torture and ill-treatment practices, and at least 45 people were injured.
- The police intervened for a total of 79 times against posters hung on billboards by political parties in 5 provinces and 1 district, banners hung on political parties' buildings in 11 provinces and 61 districts, and banners hung on 1 union branch.
- At least 248 people, who were members and managers of different associations, foundations, unions, professional organizations, initiatives and platforms, were detained, 69 people were arrested, 65 people were released under judicial measures and 10 people were released under house arrest.
- 31 people elected to local governments, including 4 co-mayors, 2 former co-mayors, 21 city council members, 2 provincial council members, 1 municipal council member and 1 headman, were detained. 8 people, including 1 co-mayor, 1 former co-mayor, and 6 city council members, were arrested. 5 people were released on condition of judicial measures.

Osman İŇçi (Human Rights Association - IHD, Ankara)

Violations continue in the areas that are the subject of our work. We must maintain documentation and reporting activities.

(Human Rights Association - IHD, Batman)

It is necessary to carry out the reporting, documenting and advocacy activities for violations of rights in trials and on protest and demonstration bans in a coordinated manner, to increase reporting and legal support regarding the increasing number of violations in prisons, and to persistently resist the state's impunity policy.

Ahmet Çiçek (Human Rights Association - IHD, Izmir)

A police officer was dismissed when he faced intense public reaction regarding the disproportionate violence inflicted on the family due to a police honking. Recently, law enforcement considers itself untouchable and resorts to violence against any objection.