

# Think, think...



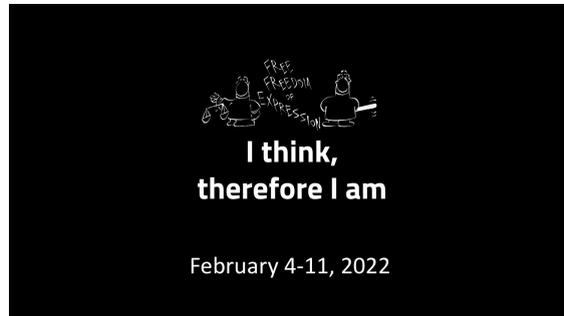
## Freedom of Expression Weekly Newsletter (Issue 6/22 - February 11, 2022)

### What happened last week?

- At the start of the new year, an outrage started when the utility bills reflecting the increase in electricity and natural gas prices reached the consumers. As electricity bills approached rental prices, reactions from all segments of the society continued to rise. Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, the leader of the main opposition party, declared that he "will not pay the electricity bill until the price increases are withdrawn". A citizen lost his life by freezing to death in the electricity cut that lasted for 4 days in Isparta. It was noted that the problem, which victimized thousands of people in severe winter conditions, occurred because the distribution company did not make "maintenance and infrastructure investments", posing a threat across the country.
- Cypriot casino operator Halil Falyalı was killed with an attack in Girne after his name came to the forefront again with the statements of criminal organization leader Sedat Peker, who said "He has secret tapes of politicians". It is commented that a serious settling of accounts has begun in the criminal world, both in Turkey and in Cyprus, with the successive killings of other names associated with criminal organizations. After Falyalı's death, Turkey-backed President of Northern Cyprus Ersin Tatar said, "He was a valuable brother of ours...". Parliament members, ministers and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus' Prime Minister also attended his funeral.
- Ankara Bar Association Human Rights Center President Rıza Türmen resigned following other lawyers working at the center. The bar association administration's announcement of the Center's report, in which it shared the findings that "those detained within the scope of the Gülen Community investigation, were tortured at the Ankara Police Department" [caused reactions](#).
- According to the data of the Turkish Statistical Institute, 2,000 more people were left unemployed in December. According to official figures, the number of unemployed people over the age of 15 has reached 3 million 794 thousand people. According to the report of DISK-AR, the number of broadly defined unemployed in December 2021 [increased by](#) 314 thousand people compared to the previous month and reached 8 million 365 thousand.
- Minister of Treasury and Finance Nurettin Nebati said at the meeting, where he met with investors in England, "inflation is increasing in Turkey for cultural reasons that you cannot understand." This statement, which is the product of economic ignorance, confirmed by many different sources, was rejected by ministry sources. The absence of any Turkish Central Bank official during Nebati's visit was evaluated as a consequence of his words, "We would downplay the Central Bank, the political interest rate...".
- Yakup Tilki, who insulted Alevi-Bektashi citizens on the "Social Media" channel, was arrested. Even though the government and the opposition continued to deny any

discrimination against the groups, the electricity bills arriving at the Cemevis, which the state considers as "trade houses", were the most recent example of the state discrimination against Alevi-Bektashis. While hundreds of Cemevis announced that they would not pay their electricity bills, they [reiterated](#) their demand for Cemevis to be given the status of "places of worship".

- Despite the ECtHR decree for his release, Osman Kavala's monthly arrest evaluation has been made by Istanbul 13th Assize Court. Kavala has been under arrest for 1564 days. The court decided for the arrest of Kavala to continue.
- 37 national and international non-governmental organizations, including our initiative, came together at the call of the Women's Coalition in Journalism (CFWIJ) and journalists issued a joint statement demanding the immediate release of journalist Sedef Kabaş, who was arrested on charges of "insulting Erdoğan". [Please click here](#) for details.
- According to the "2021 Media Monitoring Report", in which Kaos GL Association analyzed 4 thousand 11 texts on LGBTQI+s in the print media throughout the year; LGBTQI+s were represented with a discriminatory language in 2,161 news articles, interviews and columns. While hate speech was detected in 1,249 texts, hate crimes were committed in 1,148 texts by targeting LGBTQI+ persons or associations, institutions and organizations. [Please click here](#) for details.
- The condition of ill prisoners continues to deteriorate. In just one week, 8 prisoners have died in prisons.
- According to bianet's male violence records, men killed at least 23 women, inflicted violence on at least 57 women and killed at least 3 children in January. [Please click here](#) for details.



*Our weekly video program, "[COGITO ERGO SUM](#)," in which we track Turkey's freedom of expression and thought agenda, is on our [YouTube channel](#) every Friday...*

*[Please click here](#) for all video newsletters...*



### **Lawsuit against actress Ezgi Mola over 'insulting' rape defendant**

Actress Ezgi Mola, who was prosecuted for her Twitter post about expert sergeant Musa Orhan, the case suspect for raping İpek Er in Batman and causing her suicide, stood trial at the Ankara 31st Criminal Court of First Instance.

The Prosecutor's Office claimed for a prison sentence against the actress for up to 2 years and 4 months, due to "insulting" the rape suspect. The next hearing in the case will be held on May 24.



### **Lawsuit against protest on Istanbul Convention**

The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against 18 of the women, who were beaten and detained in the police attack while protesting Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention with a Presidential decree on August 5, 2021, in Alsancak, Izmir, was held at the Izmir 44th

Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations". The case will continue on May 13.



### **License imposition by RTUK against three international news outlets**

The Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK) allowed time for Voice of America, Deutsche Welle and Euronews 72 hours to obtain licenses. Within the scope of the regulation, which stipulates that platforms broadcasting on the Internet must obtain a

broadcasting license from the Radio and Television Supreme Council and entered into force on August 1, 2019, for the first time, access to news websites that have not received a license within the given period will be blocked.



### **Lawsuit filed against father losing his son over 'insulting Prosecutor and judge'**

A lawsuit was filed against the father, Menderes Gündüz, who reacted to the penalty issued against the murderer of his son, who died as a result of being hit by an alcoholic driver in Ankara. The suffering father was charged with "insulting a public official" within

the scope of the trial, whose first hearing will be held on May 10 at the Ankara 65th Criminal Court of First Instance.



### **Lawsuit against three people over singing in Kurdish**

A lawsuit was filed against Mesopotamia Culture and Art Association members Abdullah Ayav, Vesile Yüksel and Ruken Aslan for 'making propaganda for a terrorist organization'

for singing in Kurdish at a children's festival held in Nusaybin. The first hearing of the case will be held on March 18 at the Mardin 3rd Assize Court.



### Lawsuit against banner protesting massacre

A lawsuit was filed against the banner hung on the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Van İpekyolu district building to condemn the murder of 7 members of the same family in the racist attack in Konya. As part of the case, whose first hearing will be held at the Van 4th Criminal Court of First Instance on May 10, 4

Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) members, including Van Provincial Co-Chair and İpekyolu District Co-Chair, are charged with "public incitement towards resentment and hostility".



### Two separate investigations against ETHA editor Gayıp

Two separate investigations were launched against Aktif News Agency editor Pınar Gayıp due to her news and social media posts on her colleague Bülent Kılıç, who followed the Pride Parade, was tortured by the police, her interview about the Suruç massacre and the posts commemorating those who lost their lives

in the massacre, her posts about the wildfires and the suspect being protected by the police and the judiciary in the death of Aleyna Çakır.



### New indictment against Leyla Güven

The second hearing of the lawsuit filed against imprisoned Democratic Society Congress Co-Chair and former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Hakkari MP Leyla Güven was held at the Diyarbakır 19th Assize Court on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" due to the speeches she made at

the protests and events she attended. It was decided that the new indictment prepared by the Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor's Office with the same accusation to be consolidated with the existing case file. The next hearing will be held on April 11.



### Lawsuit against Taylan Kulaçoğlu in accordance with TCK 301

A lawsuit was filed against Taylan Kulaçoğlu on the charge of "publicly denigrating the military or the police organization of the state" for his social media posts about the incident of

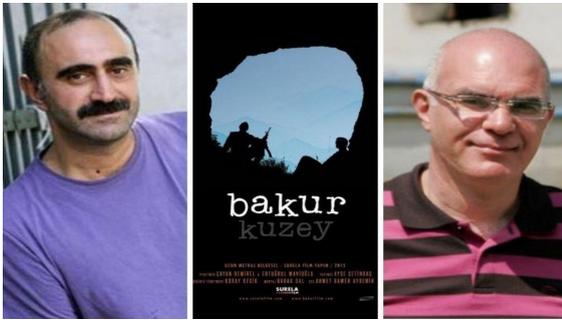
Justice and Development Party (AKP) Parliament Member Zeynep Gül Yılmaz, who insulted the police officers on duty after her car was stopped in Mersin. In sharing the subject of the case, Kulaçoğlu said, "... *the more you continue with this mindset, the more you beat the opponents for these, the more you will experience these, you just keep going...*".



### **Detainments for insulting Erdoğan**

After President Erdoğan announced that his COVID-19 test was positive, an investigation was launched by the Chief Public Prosecutor's Offices of 12 provinces against 64 social media posts on the subject in 4 days. 32 people were detained on charges of insulting Erdoğan. Judicial measures were imposed against 6

people and 26 people were released.



### **Appeal court reverses sentence against 'Bakur' directors**

The court decree against the directors of the movie "Bakur", Çayan Demirel and Ertuğrul Mavioglu, who were sentenced to 4 years and 6 months each in prison on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization", was overturned by the Court of Appeals. The case

will be heard again at the Batman 2nd Assize Court.



### **Investigation against journalist Oktay Candemir**

An investigation has been launched against journalist Oktay Candemir for his news about Van Tusba Municipality, with the title, "They are selling public lands to finish the municipal service building". Within the scope of the file, the journalist is accused of "insult", "slander"

and "public incitement towards resentment and hostility".



### **Lawsuit against journalist Deniz Yücel**

Die Welt reporter Deniz Yücel, who was accused of "openly insulting a public official" based on a tweet he shared on February 20, 2019 regarding the "Gezi Park indictment", was sentenced to a judicial fine of 7080 TL corresponding to 354 days in prison by the Istanbul 24th Criminal Court of First Instance.



### **Acquitted journalist convicted after appeal court decree**

Journalist Selda Manduz, who was tried and acquitted on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" due to the news and photos she shared on social media, was sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison in the case where she was tried again at the Kars 2nd Assize Court after the appeal court's reversal decree. The court deferred the announcement of the verdict.



### **Police attack against health workers**

Within the scope of the "White Strike" action of health professional organizations, the police attacked the health workers who wanted to make a statement in Van, citing the Governorate ban against protests; 8 people, including Van-Hakkari Medical Chamber President Hüseyin Yavic, Turkish Medical Association Secretary General Ayfer Horasan,

and Health Workers' Union (SES) Van Branch Co-Chair Figen Çolakoğlu, were detained.



### **Workers detained over protesting for rights**

The police entered the warehouse of the Migros in Istanbul Esenyurt, where Storage, Port, Shipyard and Marine Workers' Union (DGD-Sen) member Migros workers, held a strike against the employer's offer of an 8 percent increase. Entering the warehouse with anti-riot and detainment vehicles, the police detained more than 150 workers, including union leaders.



### **Investigation against union member**

A new investigation was launched against the Izmir Branch President of the United Transport Workers' Union (BTS), Erdal Akyol, who was subject to an administrative investigation and received a condemnation for making a statement to journalist İsmail Saymaz about

corruption and irregularities in the State Railways.



### **Imprisonment sentence against journalist Mehmet Şahin**

Diyarbakır 5th Assize Court sentenced Kurdish linguist, journalist and Xwebun Daily writer Mehmet Şahin to 6 years and 3 months in prison, who was accused of "establishing and managing a terrorist organization" due to his Democratic Society Congress activities and the

press statements he participated in.



### **Police intervention against citizens protesting price increases**

In Kızıltepe district of Mardin, the police intervened against the citizens, who took to the streets to protest the price increases, especially in the electricity utility bills. After the protest, 41 people were detained in house raids organized by the police.



### **Poster on price increases removed due to 'insulting Erdoğan'**

The poster, stating, "Neither electricity cuts, nor a concern for bills... The palace community is in good spirits" hung on the Republican People's Party (CHP) Balıkesir provincial building, was removed by the police upon the order of the Prosecutor's office, which claimed

that the poster "insulted the President".



### **Access ban against news on rector**

Access to the news about corruption and irregularities in Malatya Turgut Özal University, titled "Malatya Turgut Özal University has become such a place! There are Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) members, Turkish Communist Party (TKP) members.." published on malatyahaber.com on January 21,

was banned by the Malatya 3rd Criminal Judicature of Peace upon the request of rector Aysun Bay Karabulut and her husband.



### **Kurdish director Abdülsemam Kılıgı detained**

Kurdish movie director Abdülsemam Kılıgı was detained at İzmir Airport, where he arrived from Germany. While it was learned that the Istanbul 7th Criminal Court of Peace issued an arrest warrant for the artist in December and that he was detained on the allegation of "terrorist organization membership", a confidentiality order was brought to the investigation file.



### **Journalist's appeal application denied**

2nd Criminal Chamber of the Diyarbakır Regional Court of Justice rejected the appeal application of journalist Mazlum Dolan, who was sentenced to 7 years and 6 months in prison for "terrorist organization membership". Dolan, who was a reporter for the previously shut-down Dicle News Agency, was stuck in

Sur district of Diyarbakır due to the curfew declared, after he went there to follow news information, and was subsequently arrested. Dolan was convicted within the scope of the file he was imprisoned for 15 months, on the grounds that he "provided publications against the state with the news he sent and the visuals he recorded".



### **Constitutional Court rules violation in application of journalist Uğur**

The Constitutional Court ruled that the "right to personal liberty and security" of one of the journalists, Cemil Uğur, who was arrested after they reported on the death of two citizens as a result of torture and the death of one of them in Van, was violated and ruled for a compensation to be paid to the journalist.



### **Investigation against Iz Daily Editor-In-Chief**

Iz Daily Editor-In-Chief Yağız Barut was summoned to testify because of the news that Izmir 10th Assize Court Judge Hacım Çiftçi, who was on trial for inflicting violence on his wife and child, did not comply with the restraining order issued by the court and to hand in his weapon.



### **Investigation against Mesopotamia Agency Editor-In-Chief**

Mesopotamia Agency Editor-in-Chief Ferhat Çelik was summoned to testify because of the news, titled, "The footage of the vehicle subjected to open fire by the police has emerged" published by the Mezopotamya Agency about the police shooting of the vehicle

in which 6 people, including 3 children, were found in the Kızıltepe district of Mardin.



### **NoI-pros for Gergerlioğlu**

Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Kocaeli MP Ömer Faruk Gergerlioğlu was given a decree of non-prosecution in the investigation opened under Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Code (TCK) due to the statement he made in front of the Kandıra Prison to draw attention to the health status of Aysel Tuğluk, who was

diagnosed with dementia.



### **Trans women fined over participating in March 8 rally**

After the March 8 rally held in Istanbul Kadıköy, 5 Kurdish trans women from LGBTQI+ activists who were followed by the police after being taken down from their taxi and detained under torture, were fined 3,500 TL within the scope of the "Public Health Law

No. 1593".



### **News websites blocked**

The website of Etkin News Agency has been blocked for the 4th time in the last month. Seyahat news website was also blocked from access by court order.



## TRIALS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

<p><b><u>Case Against News on Tender</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Cumhuriyet Daily executives Serkan Ozan, Olcay Büyüktaş Akça, Ozan Yurtoğlu and reporter Hazal Ocak on the charge of "insulting" because of the news about the tenders won by Bilal Erdoğan's friend...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The Prosecutor's Office claimed that the expression, "My friend," depreciated Erdoğan's prestige and that it was offensive, claiming that the journalists be penalised. The next hearing will be held on June 7.</p>	<p><b><u>Idris Yayla Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 28 people, including JiyanHaber Owner İdris Yayla, who followed the press statement made in Batman against trustee operations in 2016, on charges of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations"...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Batman 1st Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court decided for the camera recordings to be examined and an expert report to be issued, adjourning the hearing to June 2.</p>
<p><b><u>Case Against 2021 Istanbul Pride Parade</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 8 activists from LGBTIQ+ Assemblies, who were detained during the 2021 Istanbul LGBTI+ Pride Parade, on the charge of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations"...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 16th Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court issued the acquittal of the 8 activists.</p>	<p><b><u>Ömer Ağın Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist and writer Ömer Ağın on the charge of "armed terrorist organisation membership"...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Diyarbakır 5th Assize Court</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court issued the acquittal of Ağın.</p>
<p><b><u>Cengiz Çandar Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Cengiz Çandar, together with Kemal Işıktaş, on the charge of "praising the crime and the criminal" for his social media posts...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 30th Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The hearing was adjourned to April 19.</p>	<p><b><u>Ruken Demir Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Mesopotamia Agency reporter Ruken Demir on the charge of "terrorist organization membership" on the grounds that "he was trying to create a perception that there is no rule of law in Turkey" with his news...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Izmir 9th Assize Court</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court issued the acquittal of the journalist.</p>
<p><b><u>Case Against Boğaziçi Protests</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 7 students with the allegation of "public incitement to hatred and enmity" on the grounds of the Kaaba image and</p>	<p><b><u>Case Against CHP Assembly members</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Republican People's Party (CHP) Party Assembly members on the charge of "insulting the President" due to the</p>

<p>LGBTQ+ flags exhibited in an exhibition held within the scope of the protests against Melih Bulu, who was appointed as the rector of Boğaziçi University...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 21st Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The hearing was adjourned to March 30.</p>	<p>declaration they launched following the July 15 Coup Attempt...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Ankara 12th Assize Court</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The hearing was adjourned to June 8.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Özgür Gündem Daily Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Aslı Erdoğan, a columnist for Özgür Gündem Daily and a member of the Editorial Advisory Board, on the charge of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" after the appeal court decree...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 23rd Assize Court</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court issued the acquittal of Erdoğan.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Ali Sönmez Kayar Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Etkin News Agency (ETHA) reporter Ali Sönmez Kayar on the charge of "terrorist organisation membership"...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 32nd Assize Court</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court decided for the judicial measures against Kayar to continue and adjourned the hearing to May 17.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against Hasankeyf Protest</u></b></p> <p>31 people, including Jiyan News Editor-in-Chief Sonya Bayık, were detained during the press statement that the People's Democratic Party (HDP) Youth Assembly members wanted to make on June 12, 2019, demanding that the water containment of the Ilısu Dam, which flooded Hasankeyf, be stopped. The lawsuit filed against the 31 people on the charge of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations"...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Batman 1st Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrants issued against certain defendants, adjourning the hearing to June 28.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against Trustee Protest</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 25 lawyers and journalist Oktay İnce, who were detained during the press statement organised at Izmir Courthouse to protest the trustee operations against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) municipalities, on the charge of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations"...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Izmir 8nd Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p><b>Verdict:</b> The case concluded with acquittal.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against Families Demanding Justice</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against the families of those who lost their lives in the Çorlu train massacre because of the press statement they wanted to make in front of the Constitutional Court on June 12, 2019 for the prosecution of those responsible, in which they were attacked by the police...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Court:</b> Ankara 50th Criminal Court of First Instance</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Verdict:</b> The case concluded with acquittal.</p>	

## HEARINGS NEXT WEEK

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>May 1 Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 15 trade union members, including DISK Chairman Arzu Çerkezoğlu, who were detained during the police intervention in the march to Taksim Square on May 1, 2020, on charges of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 15, Tuesday at Istanbul 20th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against G20 Protesters</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 15 people, including journalists Sema Karakurt and Eylem Yavaş, on the charge of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations" due to the protests at the G20 Antalya Summit in 2015...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 15, Tuesday at Antalya 25th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Caner Taşpınar Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against OdaTV editor Caner Taşpınar for "insulting" former Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey İsmail Kahraman and Justice and Development Party (AKP) MP Ali İhsan Arslan with his book, "The Bridegroom: Fethullahists' Father-in-laws from AKP"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 15, Tuesday at Istanbul 11th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>İsminaz Temel and Havva Cuştan Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 23 people, including ETHA reporters Adınaz Temel and Havva Cuştan, and the Legal Bureau of the Oppressed lawyers Sezin Uçar and Özlem Gümüştas, on charges of "armed terrorist organization membership" and "making propaganda for a terrorist organization"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 15, Tuesday at Istanbul 27th Assize Court</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Elif Tirenc İpek Ulaş Case</u></b></p> <p>Lawyer Elif Tirenc İpek Ulaş, who is also a founding member of the Rosa Women's Association, filed a lawsuit against her on the charge of "terrorist organization membership", as the activities of the association were deemed a crime...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 15, Tuesday at Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Hayko Bağdat Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Hayko Bağdat on charges of "insulting the President" and "openly inciting the people to hatred and enmity"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 16, Wednesday at Istanbul 50th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Gökhan Biçici Case</u></b></p> <p>The trial of Dokuz8HABER Editor-in-Chief Gökhan Biçici, who was accused of "insulting the President" because of the news titled "Reaction to Erdoğan by Berkin Elvan from the hacker group Anonymous" published on June 1, 2020...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 17, Thursday at Istanbul 8th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Media-"FETÖ" Membership Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Ahmet Memiş, Ali Akkuş, Atilla Taş, Cemal Azmi Kalyoncu, Gökçe Fırat Çulhaoğlu, Ünal Tanık, Yakup Çetin, Yetkin Yıldız on charges of "aiding a terrorist organization", "insulting the President", "insulting the institutions and organs of the state"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 17, Thursday at Istanbul 25th Assize Court</b></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Barış Barıştıran Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Barış Barıştıran, an employee of the closed Özgür Gün TV, who was previously tried and acquitted on the charge of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" for broadcasting live from the 2016 General Assembly of the Democratic Society Congress (DTK), was tried again after the reversal decree of the appeal court...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 17, Thursday at Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Özgürlükçü Demokrasi Case</u></b></p> <p>The retrial of journalists İhsan Yaşar, İshak Yasul, Mehmet Ali Çelebi, Mizgin Fendik, Pınar Tarlak, Reyhan Hacıoğlu and Hicran Urun within the "Özgürlükçü Demokrasi Case"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 17, Thursday at Istanbul 23rd Assize Court</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Journalist Şerife Oruç Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency (DİHA) reporter Şerife Oruç on the charge of "terrorist organization membership"...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 17, Thursday at Batman 2nd Assize Court</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Öztürk Türkođan Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Human Rights Association (IHD) Chairman Öztürk Türkođan, who was accused of "insult" due to the statement titled "Mandatory Statement Regarding Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu" published in 2018...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 18, Friday at Ankara 60th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Selahattin Demirtaş Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Chair Selahattin Demirtaş for "insulting the President" based on the speeches he made in Ankara, Diyarbakır, Mardin and Mersin between 2014 and 2016...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 18, Friday at Mersin 14th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>DIAYDER Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against the members and administrators of the Religious Scholars Assistance and Solidarity Association (DIAYDER) on charges of "terrorist organization membership" and "aiding a terrorist organization", which the Interior Minister Soylu used as a basis for launching a "special inspection" against the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İBB) employees...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 18, Friday at Istanbul 14th Assize Court</b></p>