

January 2022 Report

1. Administrative bans, police interventions

- 01: Hakkari** The Governorate declared 11 regions as military security zones between January 1 - January 14.
- 01: Van** The Governorate banned demonstration marches and open-air meetings throughout the province for 15 days as of January 1. With this decree, the protest ban implemented in the province since November 21, 2016, has been extended to 1879 days without interruption.
- 02: Istanbul** The police detained 10 people during the press statement made in Şirinevler Square to protest the attack against the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Istanbul Bahçelievler district building.
- 03: Şırnak** The Governorate declared 11 regions in Cizre and Silopi districts as military security zones until December 31.
- 03: Tunceli** The Governorate declared 4 regions in Ovacık and Hozat districts as military security zones from December 29, 2021 to December 31, 2022.
- 04: Ankara** After attending the HDP group meeting to draw attention to the violations of rights and ill prisoners, the police intervened in the relatives of the prisoners who wanted to march from the Grand National Assembly of Turkey to the Ministry of Justice. HDP Iğdır MP Habip Eksik was also exposed to violence.
- 04: Hakkari** The Governorate banned all kinds of demonstrations and meetings for 15 days. With this decree, the bans implemented since June 5, 2020 have been extended to 592 days without interruption.
- 04: Manisa** Within the scope of an operation based in Bitlis, 8 people were detained on the grounds that they were members of a terrorist organization, their smartphones and sim cards were confiscated.
- 04: Istanbul** The police used tear gas and rubber bullets to prevent the protest of the shopkeepers who opposed the change of the market place in Gaziosmanpaşa district.
- 04: Istanbul** Mesopotamia News Agency Editor-In-Chief Ferhat Çelik was detained for allegedly "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" in an article shared on his YouTube page.
- 05: Siirt** The Governorate declared 3 regions of Pervari, Eruh and Baykan districts as military security zones from December 29, 2021 to December 31, 2022.
- 06: Ankara** The police intervened in the re-employment demonstration by Şişli Municipality workers in front of the Republican People's Party (CHP) headquarters, detaining 3 people.
- 06: Diyarbakır** Labor Party member Yusuf Akın was threatened on January 1, 2022 by people who introduced themselves as intelligence officers.
- 06: Istanbul** The police prevented the press statement made in front of Çağlayan Courthouse demanding the release of Contemporary Lawyers Association (ÇHD) member Selçuk Kozağaçlı and the lawyers, detaining 1 person.

06: Istanbul	The police prevented the press statement in front of Çağlayan Courthouse demanding the release of sick prisoner Ali Osman Köse, detaining 1 person.
07: Ankara	The police prevented the press statement made in front of the Human Rights Monument on Yüksel Street as part of the re-employment protests.
09: Şanlıurfa	A person named Fırat Eken was injured in the foot by the fire opened by the police searching his body.
09: Tunceli	The Governorate banned all kinds of meetings and demonstrations for 15 days.
10: Ankara	Academician Fatih Yaşlı was detained at Ankara Intercity Bus Terminal on the grounds of his social media posts.
12: Van	The Governorate banned all kinds of demonstrations and open-air meetings for 15 days. With this decree, the bans implemented in Van since November 21, 2016 were extended to 1894 days without interruption.
14: Istanbul	The police intervened in the press release that was intended to be made in the Beyoğlu district regarding the suicide of university student Enes Kara, and detained 83 people, including 2 journalists, with ill-treatment. The police also prevented journalists from taking pictures.
15: Eskişehir	The banner that was hung on the Community House building, that said, "We can't make a living, withdraw price increases" was taken down with a Governorate decree.
15: Van	On January 11, a person named Murat E. was detained in Van, and was subjected to ill-treatment by the police.
16: Adana	The police intervened in the press release organised for the release of the arrested Furkan Foundation members with rubber bullets and tear gas.
17: Ankara	The police intervened in the press release regarding the suicide of university student Enes Kara and detained 11 people.
17: Şırnak	2 people detained on January 9 and 10 were handcuffed backwards and were exposed to naked search.
18: Ankara	The police intervened against the Campus Witches and Purple Solidarity Association members, who wanted to march to the Turkish Grand National Assembly, demanding that menstrual products be free, detaining 9 people.
18: Istanbul	BirGün Daily writer and journalist Can Uğur was detained at the airport on charges of "insulting the President".
22: Manisa	The Gendarmerie detained 1 person in Kırkağaç district on the allegation that he was a PKK member.
22: Istanbul	Journalist Sedef Kabaş was detained from her home and arrested on charges of "insulting the President" because of the words she used in a television show she participated in.
23: Zonguldak	Yerel Pusula Daily reporter A. Ö. was detained in a police raid against his house on the grounds that he shared the news of a traffic accident by a prosecutor in the city on his social media account.
24: Mersin	The police prevented the press statement organised by Lawyers for Freedom (ÖHD), Democrat Lawyers Group and Contemporary Lawyers Association (ÇHD) members due to the Day of Lawyers in Danger.

24: Şırnak	A person named Abdulgaffar Dayan (23) was injured after being hit by an armored vehicle in Cizre district.
25: Antalya	Tüm-Bel-Sen Branch President İ. K. was detained because of their statements during the press release organized before the hearing of 48 KESK members.
26: Şırnak	Abdulgaffar Dayan (23), who was injured after being hit by an armored vehicle in Cizre on January 24, lost his life.
26: İstanbul	3 women were detained in a raid against their house, although there was no detention order for them, due to the investigation opened against 28 women who participated in the march in Taksim on the charge of "insulting the President" on November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence.
27: Mardin	It has been learned that the vehicle that killed Hazna Su, who was crossing the street in Kızıltepe district on January 11, was registered in the Turkish Armed Forces (TSK) inventory. The sergeant who drove the vehicle (and whose name has not been released) was arrested.
28: Batman	The Governorate did not allow the booth intended to be opened by the Kurdish Language Platform, citing the COVID-19 outbreak.
28: Van	The Governorate banned all kinds of protests and demonstrations for 15 days. With this decree, the ban implemented in Van since November 21, 2016 was extended to 1909 days without interruption.
29: Ankara	The police intervened in the group that carried out the act of leaving coffins in front of the Ministry of Justice to draw attention to the situation of sick prisoners, detaining 3 people.
31: Kocaeli	200 workers, who were fired from the Farplas factory in Gebze on the grounds that they were union members and protested in front of the factory, were detained with the drone intervention of the police.

2. Investigations and Prosecutions

02: Manisa	Unidentified persons wrote 'Down with HDP, PKK', 'CHP is not Atatürk's party' and 'Racism keeps people alive' on the Republican People's Party (CHP) provincial building in Konak district. Provincial President Deniz Yücel announced that an investigation has been launched.
02: İstanbul	A lawsuit was filed regarding a video shared by actor İlyas Salman on social media.
05: İstanbul	The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Contemporary Lawyers Association (ÇHD) Chairman Atty. Selçuk Kozağaçlı, Atty. Barkın Timtik and 22 others was held at the Silivri 18th Assize Court. The court decided for the two lawyers to remain arrested and adjourned the hearing to March 23.
06: Antep	The lawsuit filed at the 2nd Assize Court against Adnan Erol and Ahmet Hartavi, members of the Lawyers' Association for Freedom (ÖHD), resulted in acquittal.
06: Diyarbakır	Journalist Rojhat Doğru was sentenced to life imprisonment for "destroying the unity of the state and the integrity of the country", 10 years and 10

months in prison for "willful homicide", with an additional 1 year and 3 months in prison for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" by the 8th Assize Court.

06: Diyarbakır The 5th Assize Court persisted in its 8 years, 1 month and 15 days' prison sentence for former HDP MP Abdullah Zeydan, which was overturned by the Supreme Court, but released Zeydan.

06: Van The 5th Assize Court acquitted Mesopotamia Agency reporters Adnan Bilen and Cemil Uğur, Zeynep Durgut, Jinnews reporter Şehriban Abi of "terrorist organization membership", and sentenced journalist Nalan Sala to 1 year and 3 months of imprisonment for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization".

06: Kocaeli An investigation has been launched against HDP Kocaeli MP Ömer Faruk Gergerlioğlu for the press statement he made to draw attention to the health condition of Aysel Tuğluk, who is imprisoned in Kandıra Prison.

07: Erzurum Within the scope of an investigation carried out, 14 people were detained in operations in 9 provinces.

07: Hakkari Police officer B. T. was sentenced S.T. to 5 years in prison for 'qualified injury' for wounding 14-year-old S.T. by hitting his head with a long-barreled gun in 2009, but was not arrested.

08: Şırnak Cizre HDP district manager Botan, who was detained on the grounds that he was looking at a convoy of vehicles, including the car of the trustee appointed to the municipality, was detained.

09: Şırnak In house raids in İdil and Cizre districts and Siirt, 14 people were detained and meetings with their lawyers were restricted for 24 hours.

10: Adıyaman The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against 8 people, including 3 children, who were detained in Dargeçit district between 29 October 1995 and 8 March 1996, and 18 people with the allegation of "premeditated killing" regarding the disappearance of Expert Sergeant Bilal Batır, who is alleged to have given information to their families, continued at the 1st Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to April 4.

10: Şırnak The number of people detained in Beytüşşebap, İdil and Cizre districts and Siirt as part of an investigation rose to 24. 3 people were released, 21 people are still under detainment.

10: İstanbul The lawsuit filed against 97 people detained at Boğaziçi University was heard at the 32nd Criminal Court of First Instance. The court adjourned the hearing to June 1 by deciding to summon the 5 people, who did not attend the hearing, by force.

10: İstanbul The lawsuit filed against journalist Sadık Topaloğlu and Sadiye Eser continued at the 22nd Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to May 12.

11: Antalya The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against 15 people, including journalists E. S. and S. K., who were detained while following a protest, was held at the 7th Criminal Court of First Instance. The case was adjourned to February 15.

11: Antep United Textile Weaving and Leather Workers Union Chairman Mehmet Türkmen, who was detained on the grounds of his social media posts, was released after testifying.

- 11: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against HDP Batman Deputy Feleknas Uca with the allegation of "terrorist organization membership" based on the statements she made between 2015-2016 continued at the 5th Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to April 26.
- 11: Diyarbakır** After the 2nd Criminal Chamber of the Regional Court of Justice reversed the acquittal decree of the 8th Assize Court on the allegation of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization", the prosecution process started again. The hearing was adjourned to February 17.
- 11: Şırnak** The lawsuit filed against HDP Provincial Co-Chair Sabuha Akdağ on the charge of "public incitement to resentment and hostility" began at Silopi 1st Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned until 14 June.
- 11: Şırnak** 2 of the 24 people detained in Beytüşşebap, İdil and Cizre districts and Siirt were arrested. 3 people were released on condition of judicial measures. 16 people are still in custody.
- 11: Van** HDP Municipal Council members Cemal Aslan and a person named Mustafa Kuşman in Gürpınar district were detained.
- 11: İstanbul** The 54th Criminal Court of First Instance acquitted 2 Leftist Party executives of "publicly insulting the President".
- 12: Adıyaman** Two people were detained in house raids and they were restricted from meeting with a lawyer for 24 hours.
- 12: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against the police officers regarding the murder of Diyarbakır Bar Association President Tahir Elçi continued at the 10th Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned until June 15.
- 12: Diyarbakır** The compensation decree of 256 thousand TL in the lawsuit filed against the Interior Ministry in the 3rd Administrative Court regarding the death of Kemal Kurkut as a result of the fire opened by the police during the Newroz celebrations in 2017 was overturned by the Antep Regional Administrative Court.
- 12: Şırnak** 2 of the 24 people detained in Beytüşşebap, İdil and Cizre districts and Siirt were arrested. 4 people were released on condition of judicial measures.
- 13: Diyarbakır** The 5th Assize Court released former HDP Provincial Chairman Herdam Acar, the case continues.
- 13: İstanbul** The lawsuit filed against Nuriye Gülmen, Rıdvan Akbaş and Yasemin Karadağ, who were among the participants of the re-employment protests, was heard at the 28th Assize Court. The court decided for the 3 people to remain in custody and adjourned the case to April 7.
- 13: İstanbul** The lawsuit filed against journalist Ziya Çiçek for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" due to his social media posts continued at the 33rd Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for May 11.
- 14: Ankara** An investigation was launched by the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office against the Deputy Chairman of the Future Party, Selçuk Özdağ, on the grounds of his statements about the members of the Supreme Electoral Council (YSK).
- 14: Şırnak** Five of the 24 people detained in Beytüşşebap, İdil and Cizre districts and Siirt on January 9 and 10, as part of an investigation based in Şırnak, were arrested by the court to which they were referred. 5 people were released on condition

of judicial measures. The number of those detained and arrested within the scope of the same investigation was 9, and the number of those released was 15.

- 17: Adıyaman** One of the 2 people detained on January 12 was arrested on charges of "aiding and abetting a terrorist organization". One person was released on condition of judicial measures.
- 17: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against the former Co-Chair of the Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Mehmet Arslan within the scope of the investigation against the Rosa Women's Association continued at the 11th Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for April 22.
- 17: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against Kulp Co-Mayors Mehmet Fatih Taş and Fatma Ay, HDP District Co-Chair Mehmet Abidin Karaman, Kulp Municipality Science Affairs Director Şener Aktaş, Mehmet Emin Ay, whose HDP mayoral candidacy was rejected by the Supreme Electoral Council, Kulp Municipal Council member Yücel Çete and Ümit Fidan continued at the 9th Assize Court on charges of "premeditated killing", "destroying the unity and integrity of the state" and "homicide using fire, flooding, destruction, immersion, bombing or nuclear, biological, chemical weapons". The next hearing was scheduled for March 16.
- 17: Diyarbakır** The 4th Assize Court sentenced Yıldız Damla, a member of the Aid, Solidarity, Unity and Culture Association with Families Who Lost Their Relatives in the Cradle of Civilizations (MEBYA-DER), to 6 years and 3 months in prison for being a member of a terrorist organization.
- 17: Şanlıurfa** The 7th Assize Court acquitted underage H. Ç. of the charge of "propagandizing for a terrorist organization" on the grounds of a social media post, in which he said, "How happy is the one who says I am a Kurd," whereas sentenced him to 8 months in prison for throwing the flag on the ground, deferring the announcement of the verdict.
- 17: Şırnak** 3 people were detained during the raid against their houses in Silopi district.
- 17: Van** HDP Provincial Chairman, Legal Commission Spokesperson and lawyer Sedat Düşünmez was detained.
- 17: Van** The 7th Assize Court acquitted HDP Municipal Council member of the Tusba district Berken Kızılkarakoğlu, Star Women's Association Chair Serap Güvenç, HDP Provincial Co-Chair Handan Karakoyun and 6 activists of Teverga Jinên Azad (TJA).
- 17: İstanbul** The 29th Assize Court acquitted ETHA reporter Meşale Tolu of the charge of "terrorist organization membership".
- 18: Siirt** In the house raids carried out by the gendarmerie in Sirvan and Tilo districts, 5 people were detained.
- 18: İstanbul** The lawsuit filed against 12 people on the grounds that they participated in the protest demonstrations against the rector appointed to Boğaziçi University continues at the 24th Criminal Court of First Instance. The next hearing was scheduled for March 24.
- 19: Diyarbakır** 9 people detained in Silopi district on January 17 were released on condition of judicial measures.

19: Hakkari	Mesopotamia News Agency's former Editor-In-Chief Elif Çetiner was sentenced to 1 year, 8 months and 4 days in prison by the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance.
19: İzmir	Dokuz Eylül University administration condemned Rozana Urkun, a member of the Campus Witches, who wore the "Istanbul Agreement Keeps People Alive" mask and raised a Bi+ flag during the Dokuz Eylül University Graduation Ceremony.
20: Ağrı	The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency reporter Abdullah Kaya continued at the Ağrı 2nd Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for April 19.
20: Ankara	In the lawsuit filed against CHP Group Deputy Chairman and Sakarya MP Engin Özkoç at the 35th Criminal Court of First Instance with the allegation of "insulting the President", Özkoç was sentenced to pay 50 thousand TL of compensation.
20: Ankara	Three separate lawsuits were filed against Human Rights Association (IHD) Co-Chair Öztürk Türkdoğan for "terrorist organisation membership," "insulting a public official" and "denigrating the Turkish Nation" due to his association activities. The first hearings of the cases will be held on February 18 and 22.
20: Diyarbakır	The lawsuit against journalist Abdurrahman Gök, who photographed the murder of Kemal Kurkut by the police during the Newroz celebrations held in Diyarbakır in 2017, continued at the 5th Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for March 31.
20: Diyarbakır	The lawsuit filed against former HDP Provincial Co-Chairs Zeyyat Ceyhan and Hülya Alökmen Uyanık continued at the 5th Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for March 31.
20: Diyarbakır	The lawsuit filed against HDP Silvan Co-Mayor Naşide Toprak, who was replaced by a trustee, continued at the 8th Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for May 17.
20: İstanbul	The lawsuit filed against Berkin Elvan's mother Gülsüm and father Sami Elvan on the charge of "insulting the President" continued at the 43rd Criminal Court of First Instance. The next hearing was scheduled for April 22.
21: Diyarbakır	In the lawsuit filed against Egitim-Sen Headquarters Supervisory Board member Arzu Koç at the 10th Assize Court, the defendant was released. The next hearing was scheduled for March 30.
21: Hakkari	In the lawsuit filed against expert sergeant M. T. regarding the death of Sertip Şen on May 2, 2019 as a result of gunfire from the military zone in Yüksekova district, the court denied the request for the arrest of the accused and adjourned the hearing to February 18.
21: Şırnak	Nurullah Çetin, who was detained in Silopi on January 17, was arrested on charges of "terrorist organization membership".
21: Tunceli	The 1st Assize Court sentenced Munzur Environment Association Tunceli Representative Özkan Arslan to 6 years and 3 months in prison, citing the environmental protests he participated in as well as his social media posts.
22: Şırnak	Nusret Babat, who was detained in Uludere district on January 18, was arrested on charges of "terrorist organization membership".

22: Istanbul	The People's Liberation Party Chairman Nurullah Ankut Efe testified within the investigation opened against him on the allegation that he "insulted the President".
24: Mersin	The 14th Criminal Court of First Instance sentenced former HDP Co-Chair Selahattin Demirtaş to 11 months and 20 days in prison for allegedly insulting then-Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu.
24: Mersin	The lawsuit filed against former HDP Co-Chair Selahattin Demirtaş at the 14th Criminal Court of First Instance on the allegation that he "insulted the President" in his speeches between 2014 and 2016 continued. The next hearing was scheduled for February 18.
25: Diyarbakır	After the decree of the 4th Assize Court against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency (DİHA) reporter Ramazan Akoğul, the judgment was overturned by the Regional Court of Justice, and the trial continued. The hearing was adjourned to May 10.
25: Hatay	The 2nd Assize Court sentenced HDP İskenderun District Co-Chair A. Ş. to 2 years and 1 month in prison for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" in a speech he made in 2014.
26: Ankara	The lawsuit filed against Journalist D. O. continued at the 4th Assize Court, based on the social media posts of the agency during the period when he was the Editor-in-Chief of Aktif News Agency regarding the military operation carried out by the Turkish Armed Forces in the Afrin region of Syria. The next hearing was scheduled for April 21.
26: Artvin	Hopa 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance acquitted 4 members of the Leftist Party in the lawsuit filed with the allegation of "insulting the President".
26: Diyarbakır	The Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Provincial building was raided by the police. Flags, some books, magazines and newspapers, and digital materials were confiscated.
26: Diyarbakır	Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Provincial Co-Chair Seval Gülmez was detained with a police raid against her house.
26: Diyarbakır	The lawsuit filed against Figen Aras, a member of the Women's Academy, within the scope of an investigation against the Rosa Women's Association, continued at the 10th Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for May 11.
26: Diyarbakır	The lawsuit filed against police officer H. A. on the grounds that he caused the death of Cihan Can continued at the 11 Criminal Court of First Instance. The next hearing was scheduled for May 18.
26: Diyarbakır	The lawsuit filed against Yeni Yaşam Daily reporter Hatice Şahin continued at the 9th Assize Court. The next hearing was scheduled for April 18.
26: Mardin	7 people were detained with house raids in Kızıltepe district.
26: Şanlıurfa	The case regarding the death of the boy named Ahmet Çetin Genç (17) started at the 1st Assize Court against the police officer F. S. and the driver of the motorcycle, M.K, that Ahmet Çetin Genç was on. The next hearing was scheduled for June 1.
27: Izmir	In October 2021, an investigation was launched against 33 university students who participated in the "We cannot find shelter or survive, we are on the

	street" protests and were detained, and against 7 students for "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations" and "damaging public property".
27: Mardin	In the lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Azadiya Welat Daily employee Çetin Kurşun, the 3-year prison sentence issued against him for the crime of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" was overturned by the Antep Regional Court of Justice, and the retrial started at the 2nd Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to May 12.
27: Şanlıurfa	After the Supreme Court overturned the sentences issued in the lawsuit filed against Halfeti Municipality Co-Mayor Mustafa Bayram, who was replaced by a trustee, and former HDP Provincial Co-Chair Leyla Akça, former HDP executives Mehmet Binici and Avni Gürbüz at the 6th Assize Court, the retrial has started. The court issued the release of 4 people.
27: Van	The lawsuit filed against a specialist sergeant named T. K. on the allegation that he sexually assaulted 2 children started at the 5th Assize Court.
27: İstanbul	The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Özgür Gündem Daily's Co-Editor-in-Chief Eren Keskin and Editor-in-Chief Reyhan Çapan, due to the newspaper's news about Berkin Elvan, was held at the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance. Despite the court judge's COVID-19 test turning out positive, the hearing was held. The case was adjourned to May 24.
27: İstanbul	The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Gazete Yolculuk reporter Buse Söğütlü with the allegation of "targeting those who took part in the Fight Against Terrorism" was held at the 23rd Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to February 3.
27: İstanbul	The 14th hearing of the lawsuit filed against artist Ferhat Tunç on the charge of "insulting the President" was held at the 14th Criminal Court of First Instance in Büyükçekmece. The hearing was adjourned to June 14.
28: Diyarbakır	15 people, including HDP Youth Council members, were detained with house raids in 4 provinces.
29: Şırnak	4 people were detained with house raids in Cizre district of Şırnak.
31: Diyarbakır	17 people, including HDP Youth Assembly members, who were detained as part of an investigation on January 28, were released by the court on condition of judicial measures.
31: Diyarbakır	Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Provincial Co-Chair Seval Gülmez was detained after the police raided her house on January 29. Seval Gülmez was released after her COVID-19 test came out positive.
31: İzmir	The investigation file launched against HDP Co-Chair Pervin Buldan, due to her words and attitude towards the court during the first hearing of the case against the HDP Provincial Presidency in which Deniz Poyraz lost his life, has been sent to the Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor's Office.

3. Other violations

- 03: Ankara** 40 summaries prepared for the lifting of Parliamentary immunity against 25 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP), Republican People's Party (CHP), Turkish Workers' Party (TIP) and a total of 28 independent deputies were sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 04: Ankara** Access to the International Radio Platform website was banned by the application of the Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK) and a decree issued by the 2nd Criminal Judicature of Peace on the grounds that it did not obtain a broadcasting license.
- 04: Şırnak** It was learned that Kasım Yiğit was kept in the Type-T Closed Prison for 20 days, and was put in the ward, and that the Quran and clothes sent by his family were not given to him.
- 06: Diyarbakır** Access to the website of Etkin News Agency was banned on the grounds of national security and protection of public order.
- 06: Diyarbakır** Provincial Chairman of the Provincial Workers' Party of Turkey (TİP), Salih Sargın, was attacked with a knife by 2 unidentified people in front of his house.
- 06: Şanlıurfa** It has been learned that in Siverek No. 1 T Type Closed Prison, the heating was never turned on, the books of the prisoners were collected during ward searches and investigations were launched, and that the weekly phone call times were reduced from 20 minutes to 10 minutes.
- 08: Konya** Access to news and content on the Yeniçağ Daily, Milliyet and Ekşi Sözlük websites about the Mayor of Yunak was banned on the grounds of violation of personal rights.
- 10: Ankara** 10 summaries prepared for the lifting of immunity against 1 Democratic Regions Party (DBP), 1 Turkish Workers' Party (TİP), and 7 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) members, a total of 9 MPs, were sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 10: Diyarbakır** It was learned that the prisoners in the Women's Prison were subjected to the imposition of a detailed search in front of the camera before and after meetings, and the prisoners who did not accept this could not meet visitors.
- 10: Kocaeli** 14 prisoners, who protested the suspicious death of prisoner Garibe Gezer in Kandıra Prison, were penalized with "deprivation of information and communication tools" and a disciplinary investigation was initiated against them.
- 11: Diyarbakır** It was learned that 2 prisoners, Velat Aydın and Süleyman Alikan, who were held in Type-F Prison, were exposed to violence by prison guards, 1 prisoner was injured and taken to the hospital.
- 11: Elâzığ** It was learned that Democratic Society Congress (DTK) Co-Chair Leyla Güven, who was held in the Women's Closed Prison, was threatened by a prison guard.
- 11: Iğdır** It was learned that prisoner Hogir Batu, who was held in Iğdır Type-S Closed Prison and was on a hunger strike demanding an end to the violations of rights, was subjected to physical violence by the prison guards.

- 11: Istanbul** The letter Selda Karataş, who is imprisoned in Gebze Women's Prison, wrote to a journalist about her case was censored on the grounds that she mentioned a judge's name.
- 12: Ankara** The summary prepared for the lifting of immunity for a HDP MP was sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 13: Ankara** 8 summaries prepared for the lifting of immunity for 8 MPs in total, 7 of whom are members of Turkish Workers' Party (TIP) and 7 of the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP), were sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 13: Diyarbakır** It was learned that the relatives of the prisoners who came to the Type-T Prison No. 4 for open viewing were searched naked.
- 13: Hatay** Access to the news about the suicide of university student Enes Kara on BirGün, Cumhuriyet, Halk Tv, Tele1, Sol Haber, T24 and Sözcü websites was banned on the grounds of violation of personal rights.
- 13: Van** Murat E., who was arrested on January 12 and was taken to Van Type-M Prison, died suspiciously in the solitary cell he was held in. A confidentiality order was issued on the investigation file opened on the matter.
- 14: Istanbul** Access to the websites of diken.com.tr and birgün.net were banned on the grounds of "violation of personal rights" due to the news about the application of foreclosure on the accounts of the Metropolitan Municipality and the posts on their social media accounts.
- 14: Istanbul** Due to the news about Esenyurt District Municipality, access to haber.sol, Cumhuriyet Daily and krttv websites was banned on the grounds of "violation of personal rights".
- 18: Diyarbakır** Previously shut-down Ivy Association President Mehmet Şerif Çamcı was sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison on the charge of "terrorist organization membership" at the 4th Assize Court.
- 18: Istanbul** A student named S.K, who protested the termination of their KYK loan for participating in the Boğaziçi University protests, was fined 13 thousand 237 TL on the charge of hanging a banner on the Galata Bridge in accordance with Article 42 of the Law of Misdemeanor.
- 18: Istanbul** Boğaziçi University student Ayşe Beliz Ince was suspended from school for a semester on the charge that she threw eggs in a protest against the trustee rector.
- 18: Van** It was learned that Fikret Diyar Orhan was subjected to physical violence by the prison guards in Type-T Prison.
- 18: Van** The Court of Execution decided for the meetings of Nedim Türfent, who is held in the High Security Prison, with his lawyers to be recorded with audio or video for three months on the grounds that "they would endanger the security of the prison", an officer to be present at the meetings, issued for the notes, files and documents given by both parties to each other during the meetings to be confiscated and to limit the meetings to one day and one hour per week, during working hours.
- 19: Ağrı** It was learned that in Patnos Type-L and Type-T Prisons, purchases of the prisoners from the cafeteria were confiscated and they were subjected to ill-treatment by the prison guards.

- 19: Diyarbakır** It was learned that a boy named H. Y. (17) was forced into a vehicle by people who introduced themselves as the police while he was going to his house in Bağlar district on January 4, and that he was threatened and forced into espionage.
- 19: Diyarbakır** It was learned that the petitions of the prisoners held in the Women's Closed Prison were not answered, their right to open communication with their lawyers was prevented, Kurdish publications were not given to them, and Kurdish letters were delivered with a delay. In addition, it was reported that the meals given to the prisoners were sometimes spoiled and contained foreign substances, and that water was cut off frequently in the prison.
- 21: Van** The prisoner Ramazan Turan (70) died on January 21 in a solitary confinement cell, where he was held for 22 days in the High Security Prison. It was claimed that Ramazan Turan's cause of death was a heart attack. Turan's autopsy was carried out without his family's lawyers.
- 21: Istanbul** President Erdoğan targeted famous artist Sezen Aksu due to a song lyric written by her in 2017, threatening to “pull out her tongue” at a mosque.
- 24: Ankara** The summary prepared for the lifting of immunity for a Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) MP was sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 24: Ankara** The Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK) issued a broadcast ban and administrative fine against FOX TV due to the comments of the primetime newscaster Selçuk Tepe, and against TELE 1 channel five times for the “Democracy Arena” program where journalist Sedef Kabaş, who was arrested for insulting the President, was a guest.
- 24: Diyarbakır** An access ban was issued on the website of Etkin News Agency on the grounds of “protection of national security and public order”.
- 25: Ankara** 12 summaries against a total of 10 MPs, including 1 Democratic Regions Party (DBP) and 9 Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) MPs, were sent to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey with a request for the lifting of their immunity.
- 25: Şırnak** It was learned that in the wards of the Type-T Prison, the heating systems were turned on at inhumanely low temperatures and irregularly, hot water was provided to the prisoners for only 2 days a week, and the cafeteria shopping, which should be allowed once a week, was allowed once in 15 days.
- 27: Samsun** Access to the news on Birgün, Cumhuriyet and Samsun Etik Haber websites about a judge working in the city was banned on the grounds of violation of personal rights.
- 28: Ankara** Access to the Kurdish-language websites of Xwebun, Alinteri 2, Yeni Yaşam 2, Özgür Gelecek 30, Mücadele Birliği Magazine, Özgür Genç, New Democracy 20, Kızıl Bayrak 60 and Umut Daily 38 has been banned on the grounds of "protection of national security and public order".
- 29: Ankara** “Presidential Circular No. 2022/1 on Press and Publishing Activities” was published in the Official Gazette. In the circular, it was stated that “the sanctions set by the Constitution, law and other relevant legislation will be fulfilled against overt and covert activities that aim to wear down our national

- and moral values as well as to undermine our family and social structure through the media”.
- 30: Izmir** The Bar Association opposed the practices that paved the way for censorship in the media with the Presidential Circular 2022/1 on “Press and Publication Activities” dated January 28, 2022.
- 30: Malatya** It was learned that during the ward search in Akçadağ Type-T Prison, the prisoners were kept in the ventilation despite the air temperature being -8 degrees Celcius.

4. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

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

According to the findings of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) Documentation Center, at least 324 people were detained after being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment practices, and 2 people were injured as a result of police interventions against at least 46 peaceful meetings and demonstrations in January.

Members and executives of political parties, students, market shopkeepers, relatives of prisoners, workers and labourers, women, LGBTQI+s, and human rights defenders were exposed to such interventions.

One of these incidents is quite interesting. The police intervened each time in the vigils of the workers who were dismissed while working in Şişli Municipality, both in front of the municipality in question and in front of the headquarters of the Republican People's Party (CHP) in Ankara, and they drove the protesters away from the building by using physical violence. As a result of these interventions, which almost turned into a game, no one was detained.

The incident that took place in Eskişehir on January 15, 2022 in terms of violations of freedom of expression and association is also very worrying. The banner that was hung in the Community Center building, which stated, "We can't make a living, withdraw the price increases" was taken down with a decree issued by the Eskişehir Governorate. In accordance with the “Law of Misdemeanor”, Eskişehir Community Center was fined a very high amount of 18,000 TL.

In January 2022, as in previous months, journalists were detained and arrested again. At least 5 journalists were detained from their homes, intercity bus terminal and airport, and 1 was

arrested (Sedef Kabaş). I would like to share the story of a journalist's detainment as it shows the extent of the pressure on freedom of expression and press freedom. Aytaç Öztürk, a reporter for the daily Compass in Zonguldak, was detained with a police raid against his house on the grounds that he shared the news about a traffic accident by a prosecutor in the city on social media.

The lawsuits and investigations opened in January continued with the same intensity.

In the lawsuits filed against journalists, 1 journalist was sentenced to 1 year and 3 months, and 1 journalist was sentenced to aggravated life imprisonment and 12 years and 1 month in prison. An investigation was opened against 1 MP.

In particular, 3 lawsuits filed against Öztürk Türkdoğan, Co-Chair of the Human Rights Association (IHD), Turkey's most rooted and massive human rights organization with international prestige, who is also a member of the Founding Board of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) are a clear statement how the law has been turned into a means of oppression. In fact, this is an effort to suppress the entire human rights movement and advocacy activities through Öztürk Türkdoğan and the IHD.

CHP Group Deputy Chairman Engin Özkoç was sentenced to pay 50,000 TL compensation for insulting the President. Former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Chair Selahattin Demirtaş was sentenced to 11 months and 20 days in prison for insulting the then-Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu.

The Ministry of Justice issued a permission for famous actor İlyas Salman to be tried in accordance with Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Code (TCK), regarding a video he shared on social media.

In January, access to 13 websites and at least 42 news articles from 11 media outlets was banned with court decrees or by the Information Technologies and Communications Authority (BTK).

The Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK) imposed administrative fines against 1 TV channel (FOX TV), and suspended broadcasts and administrative fines against 1 TV channel (TELE 1) 5 times.

Protest and demonstration bans issued by Governorates persisted in January 2022. With the ban decrees in January, the protest and demonstration implemented in Van since November 21, 2016 was extended to 1909 days without interruption.

In January, there were attacks and raids against political parties and various obstacles. The Workers' Party of Turkey (TIP) Diyarbakır Provincial Chairman Salih Sargın, who was attacked with knives by 2 unidentified people in front of his house, was wounded in the leg. Again in Diyarbakır, the Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Provincial building was raided by the police. After the search, party flags, some books, magazines and newspapers, and digital materials found in the building were confiscated. Oğuzhan Turan, Deputy Mayor of Aydın's Kuşadası district from the Republican People's Party, was attacked with guns as he got out of his vehicle.

"Presidential Circular No. 2022/1 on Press and Publishing Activities" published in the Official Gazette on January 29, 2022, in the last days of the month, clearly shows how and to what extent the freedoms of expression, assembly and association, which form the basis of a democratic society, will be violated in the coming period. It is stated in the circular: *"The sanctions set by the Constitution, law and other relevant legislation will be fulfilled against overt and covert activities aimed at undermining our national and moral values as well as undermining our family and social structure through the media"*.

What can we say, let it be easy for all of us...

Osman İşçi (Human Rights Association Headquarters)

Various and numerous human rights violations need to be reported and documented, while advocacy and lobbying activities need to be carried out on the basis of these reports.

Ahmet Çiçek (Human Rights Association Izmir)

Fundamental rights and freedoms such as freedom of thought and expression, freedom of the press, and the right of the public to receive information, which are protected by the Constitution and international conventions, cannot be limited through circulars.

In the first month of this year in Izmir, civilians who sometimes introduced themselves to be working at the Anti-Terror Unit, sometimes at the Turkish National Intelligence and sometimes by saying, "We are the state", threatened students because of the protests and organizations they participated in, and forced them into espionage.

Devran Yıldız (Human Rights Association Batman)

Since protest bans and violations of rights regarding prosecutions continue, reporting, documentation and advocacy activities need to be carried out in a coordinated manner.

Since the violations of rights in prisons have increased so much, it is necessary to carry out comprehensive reports and studies for the prisons, especially in order to end the rights violations there.

While the conflict process continues, it is necessary to express the word "peace" more and to spread the awareness of peace in the society.

While the state's policy of impunity continues, rights defenders need to work in a coordinated and effective manner for effective advocacy.

Leman Yurtsever (Human Rights Association Istanbul)

The government authorities continue to create a climate of fear in the society by giving the message "Stay silent, do not speak, do not write, do not express your opinion, pay allegiance".