

Think, think...



Freedom of Expression Weekly Newsletter (Issue 24/22 - June 17, 2022)

What happened last week?

- The 40-article bill of the Justice and Development Party (AKP) and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP), which suggested new sanctions against the press and social media and caused reactions within the scope of freedom of press and expression, passed the Parliamentary Justice Committee. Press freedom and freedom of expression will be further threatened with the amendments suggested and regulations made with ambiguous expressions in the proposal, which is expected to be submitted to the General Assembly and to enact as law with the utmost speed.
- The ruling party's draft law imposes a prison sentence of up to 3 years for 'disseminating misleading information to the public'. In the meantime, Erdoğan leaped in the lies of Gezi Park, which used to be "they drank alcohol at the mosque during Gezi" and last week he said, "they set fire to a mosque." He also claimed that Van Yüzüncü Yıl University, which was founded in 1982, was founded by themselves. Erdoğan further claimed that the age to vote and be elected before them was 30 and that they had lowered it to 25 and then to 18 under their ruling.
- "The issue of whether or not court decisions will be implemented cannot be a matter of discussion in a state of law. It is unthinkable that it will even be on the agenda. For a state of law is the name of a state in which court decrees are effectively implemented and violations of rights are eliminated," said Constitutional Court Chairman Zühtü Arslan. With these words, Arslan indirectly stated that Turkey is not a state of law. Arslan further stated that the 110 thousand files at the Constitutional Court are blocking the way of individual applications and that the problem cannot be resolved unless the proceedings are completed in a reasonable time and the administration complies with the court decrees.
- The Ministry of Justice made a statement after the reactions from Ankara and Izmir Bar Associations regarding the opening of a summer Quran course in Ankara Courthouse, and targeted the bar associations with the words, "February 28 mentality".
- The World Organization Against Torture (OMCT), which issued a briefing on Turkey, said that Turkey used the Anti-Terror Law to "restrict rights and freedoms and silence human rights defenders". [Please click here](#) for details.
- Three members of the Şenyaşar Family, who were murdered by the bodyguard and relatives of Justice and Development Party (AKP) member İbrahim Halil Yıldız in Suruç, were commemorated at their graves for the first time in 4 years. The justice watch in front of the Urfa Courthouse held by Emine Şenyaşar, who lost her husband and two sons in the attack, and her son Ferit Şenyaşar, who survived the attacks with injuries, left behind 440 days.
- Kocaeli Chief Public Prosecutor's Office filed a lawsuit against 14 suspects, 10 of whom were arrested, regarding the murder of Ses Kocaeli Daily Owner Güngör

Arslan. In the indictment, it was stated that the journalist wrote articles against the former Gray Wolves Provincial President Ersin Kurt, who won a tender from Kocaeli Municipality, and was killed "to be silenced".

- At the General Assembly held in Izmir with the participation of more than 100 journalists from different European countries, the new president of the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) became Maja Sever from Croatia, and the vice president became Turkish Journalists Union Chairman Mustafa Kuleli.
 - The advertisement embargo of the Press Advertisement Institute against Evrensel Daily has reached its 1000th day.
 - 17 of the nearly 200 lawsuits filed at the Council of State for the annulment of the decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention were tried. The Prosecutor of the Council of State once again said, "The decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention should be canceled." The decision is expected to be announced after the final hearing on June 23.
 - The We Will Stop Femicides Platform, which has been following the cases of women who have been subjected to various forms of violence since 2010, has published the 'Sexism in the Judiciary Report'. The platform, which has followed nearly 1000 lawsuits to date, shared its findings and observations on discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation in the judiciary.
 - After a child died in a traffic accident in Istanbul Ataşehir Yenisahra Neighborhood, waste paper workers were attacked and paper warehouses were set on fire after refugees were targeted. Recycling Workers Association President Ali Mendillioğlu said, *"We did not create this problem [the immigrant problem]. We are also aware that this problem will not be solved by producing easy discourses as if immigrants are the cause of the growing poverty. The events in Yenisahra are a vivid example of how such discourses can lead to serious consequences. The solution to any problem cannot and should not be to be hostile against someone and target them."*
 - The 5th hearing of the trial in which 4 people, including 3 police officers, were tried regarding the murder of Diyarbakır Bar Association President Tahir Elçi, was held. The lawyers, who made a statement after the hearing, which was adjourned to November, stated that the court continues to not reveal the material truth and said, *"No one will get in the way of the truth. Justice will be served, sooner or later."*
 - The General Directorate of Security, in violation of the Constitution and the Code of Criminal Procedure, sent a circular to 81 provincial police directorates and ordered the written testimonies of suspects to not contain defendant lawyer statements. The circular seeks to weaken and eliminate the assistance of a lawyer in investigations.
 - Amnesty International has declared seven Gezi detainees, Osman Kavala, Mücella Yapıcı, Çiğdem Mater, Hakan Altınay, Mine Özerden, Can Atalay and Tayfun Kahraman, as prisoners of conscience. Sending a video message to the meeting, Agnès Callamard, Secretary General of Amnesty International, said, "What has happened shows that the judicial system in Turkey has turned into a pressure tool to silence the opposition." [Please click here](#) for details.
 - The Media and Law Studies Association shared its report on 41 journalism and freedom of expression cases they followed in May. A total of 174 people, including 79 activists, 37 journalists and 20 students, stood trial in the related cases; news and articles in 26 cases, and social media posts in 17 cases were among the evidence shown in the accusations.
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16 journalists arrested

The houses of 22 people, 20 of them being journalists including Jinnews Director Safiye Alagaş and Dicle Fırat Journalists Association Co-Chairman Serdar Altan, were raided as part of the investigation carried out by the Diyarbakır Chief Public Prosecutor's Office on June 8. 16 of those detained were arrested on the charge of "terrorist organization membership" by the court they were taken to, 8 days later. 4 of them were released on the condition of judicial measures.

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16 arrests in Migration Monitoring Association operation

16 of 22 people, including Migration Monitoring Association (GÖÇİZDER) co-chairs Kamile Kandal and Mehmet Boğatekin, who were detained on June 3 as part of the investigation conducted by the Istanbul Chief Public Prosecutor's Office, were arrested on charges of "terrorist organization membership" after an 8-day period of

detainment. 6 people were released on the condition of judicial measures.



Government's wedding gift: 10 arrests

At the wedding held in Istanbul Esenyurt on June 12, the groom, who was wearing a yellow-red-green shawl, and 9 guests were detained on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization". The songs sung at the neighborhood wedding were made reasons for the detainment and the 10 people were arrested by the court they were later taken to.



Numbers in insulting Erdoğan

According to the 2021 judicial statistics of the Ministry of Justice, investigations were opened against 48,000 people in a year on charges of "insulting the President" (in accordance with Article 299 of Turkish Criminal Code - TCK) and "insulting the state" (in accordance with Article 301 of Turkish Criminal Code - TCK). A total of 12,670 people, including 407

children, were prosecuted; 4,582 people were convicted. In addition, the sentences given in 4,465 files were deferred. Within the scope of Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No.

2911, which is another of the biggest obstacles against freedom of expression in criminal laws, investigations were launched against 7,704 citizens in 1 year. As a result of these investigations, 5,155 citizens were put on trial in 3,575 lawsuits. 1,674 convictions were given, and the sentences issued in 829 cases were deferred.



HDP's "Gemlik March" prevented

The Gemlik march, which was organized by many non-governmental organizations, but especially the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) and the Democratic Regions Party (DBP), in order to "draw attention to the solitary confinement of Abdullah Öcalan", was intervened in different provinces. In Kadıköy district of Istanbul, the police detained 70 people, including political party leaders, with torture. Among those detained, the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Kadıköy District Co-chairs Koray Türkay and İsmail Temel were arrested. 19 people were detained in Bursa, where the Governorate declared a one-week ban on protests and events. Mesopotamia News Agency reporter Ergin Çağlar and Jinnews reporter Rozerin Gültekin were also detained. In a statement on his social media account, Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu defended the "intervention against the demonstration" and once again declared the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Parliament members, as well as regulatory institutions and organizations, as "terrorists".



Canan Kaftancıoğlu loses political party membership

The political party membership of the Republican People's Party (CHP) Istanbul Provincial Chair Canan Kaftancıoğlu was revoked. After the Court of Cassation upheld her sentence of 4 years, 11 months and 20 days for her social media posts, Kaftancıoğlu was sent to Silivri Prison, and she was released within probation the same day. Although there was no decree regarding Kaftancıoğlu that specified a political ban, she was prevented from doing politics during the finalized sentence. In this context, Kaftancıoğlu's political party membership was revoked by the Court of Cassation's Chief Public Prosecutor's Office.



Child and mother detained over wearing Demirtaş t-shirt

In Van, the police detained one mother and her child due to a t-shirt with the photo of former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Chair Selahattin Demirtaş. Six citizens who were passing by the incident reacted to the police and they were also detained.



Lawsuit against journalist Hayri Tunç

Journalist Hayri Tunç was charged with "public incitement to hatred and enmity" because of the video he shared on Twitter, which included a short part of an interview with the mother of Hasan Yüzüak, who lost his life in the Maraş Massacre.



Turgut Öker detained

Founding Chairman of the Confederation of European Alevi Unions and former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Istanbul MP Turgut Öker was detained in Ankara on the charge of "armed terrorist organization membership" because of a speech he gave during the Newroz festival in Adıyaman.



Lawsuit against journalist Nebiye Arı

A lawsuit was filed against journalist Nebiye Arı, who was detained as she was covering the protest of the people coming from different cities to draw attention to the inadequacy of dormitories and increased rents, which was banned by the Governorate on December 12 in Ankara, on the grounds of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911".



Investigation against news of BirGün Daily

An investigation has been launched against Birgün Daily editor Gökay Başcan, due to the news published in the newspaper regarding the regulation that will pave the way for the authorization of the tender for eyebolts and buoys to be established in the bays to the Environment Agency, which was established under the auspices of Emine Erdoğan. The

news in question was censored by the Istanbul Anatolian 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace on the grounds that it "damaged Emine Erdoğan's reputation".



Journalist İnci Hekimoğlu detained

Journalist İnci Hekimoğlu of Artı Gerçek, was detained by the İzmir Police Anti-Terror teams, who came to her home at around 06:00 in the morning, on the grounds of her "social media

posts". Hekimoğlu was released after testifying. Within the scope of the investigation, she is charged with "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" due to four of her tweets in the years 2014 and 2015.



Human Rights Association (IHD) executive detained

Human Rights Association (IHD) Ankara Branch manager Adile Erkan was detained in a police raid against her home as part of an investigation launched by the Balıkesir Chief Public Prosecutor's Office.



Police attack against METU Pride Parade

The police attacked the Pride Parade, which was organized for the 10th time by the students at the Middle East Technical University (METU), with tear gas and rubber bullets, and 36 people were detained with reverse handcuffs and torture.



Students detained over commemorating Ali İsmail Korkmaz

During the graduation ceremony of Anadolu University in Eskişehir, two students were detained after wanting to open a banner with the text, "We did not forget Ali İsmail" for Ali İsmail Korkmaz, who was killed during the Gezi Park Resistance.



Furkan Foundation volunteers arrested

7 of the 22 Furkan foundation volunteers, who were detained in the press statement made in Konya to show solidarity with the 8 imprisoned members of the Furkan Foundation and the Foundation's President Alparslan Kuytul, were arrested on charges of "unauthorized demonstration"(!) and resisting the police. 15 people were released on the condition of judicial measures. On the other hand, after the

arrest warrant, foundation volunteers held protests in many cities. 6 people were detained in the protest in Bursa and 4 people were detained in the protest in Ankara.



Writer Cafer Solgun summoned to testify

Writer Cafer Solgun criticized on social media the administrative fines issued against the Düzgün Baba Cemevi for different reasons and the Nazimiye district governor Uğur Tutkan's photo taken in front of the cemevi in the presence of armed law enforcement. Afterwards, he was called upon to testify

following the district governor's complaint.



EnerjiSA workers detained again

The police intervened once again in the statement that EnerjiSA workers, who have been protesting for about 3 months after their unlawful dismissal, wanted to make in front of Sabancı Holding in Istanbul; The Confederation of Revolutionary Trade Unions of Turkey (DİSK) Energy Unions Chairman

Süleyman Keskin, Founding Chairman Kamil Kartal and 4 workers were detained.



2 city defenders detained

Two of the citizens, who stood guard in front of the construction site for 7 days to protest the Çekmeköy Municipality's opening of the park, which is the second largest disaster assembly area in the region, were detained because they did not allow the construction equipment to enter the park.



Another access block against ETHA

Diyarbakır 4th Criminal Judicature of Peace has blocked the website of Etkin News Agency (ETHA) from access on the grounds of "national security". The agency's website was censored for the second time in the last 10 days, 42 times in total.



Student suspended over protesting Rectorate's rental luxury car

A Yıldız Technical University student parked a model car they designed in front of the rectorate building as a reaction against the luxury car rented by the rectorate for 1.5

million Turkish Liras, was suspended on the grounds of “an act harming honor and dignity.”



Artist sentenced over “insulting Erdoğan”

A street artist with the alias “Unpermitted” was sentenced to 1 year, 2 months and 27 days in prison for "insulting the President" in the lawsuit filed against him for his drawings and Twitter posts. The Istanbul 20th Criminal Court of First Instance issued a verdict of acquittal on the charge of "openly insulting the signs of the state's sovereignty". The artist had been arrested for his work on a billboard in Kabataş

in 2020, which was about suicides due to financial difficulties, and a lawsuit had been filed against him on the charge of "insulting the signs of the state's sovereignty". Then, the graffiti he shared on social media were added to the case file on the charge of "insulting the President".



Gezi Park Case in Adana concluded after 9 years

The lawsuit filed against 12 citizens at the Adana 3rd Assize Court due to the protests held in Adana during the Gezi Park protests was concluded after 9 years. All activists were acquitted of "terrorist organization membership" and "making propaganda for a

terrorist organisation" charges, 7 people were sentenced to 2 years and 5 months in prison on the charge of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911".



CHP executives prosecuted in Çorum over distributing leaflets

The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against the Republican People's Party Çorum Provincial Chairman Mehmet Tahtasız, Central District Chairman Ulaş Tokgöz and Provincial Women's Branch Chair Kamile Anar was held at the Çorum 1st Criminal Court of First Instance on charges related to distributing

leaflets prepared by the party. Charged with “insulting the President,” the trial of the Republican People’s Party (CHP) executives will continue on November 29.



Lawsuit against journalist İnci Aydın

The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against journalist İnci Aydın on the charge of "targeting those who took part in the fight against terrorism" upon the complaint of Deputy Commander of the Gendarmerie General

Command and Lieutenant General Musa Çitil was held at the Aydın 2nd Assize Court. The journalist is charged due to the article, titled, "We have no note to the government, but we have a word: We will send you away, together with your injustices!" and the trial will continue on October 6.



HDP members acquitted of charges related to distributing leaflets

The lawsuit filed against 7 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) members and a journalist on charges related to distributing a statement prepared by Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) last December regarding the budget negotiations in the Parliament, which drew attention to the poverty brought on by the

economic crisis in Manisa, resulted in acquittal in the second hearing. Manisa Turgutlu 4th Criminal Court of First Instance decided that the persons charged with "violating the Law No. 2911 on Meetings and Demonstrations" were acquitted separately on the grounds that "the elements of crime were not constituted".



Protest bans in Van approaching 6th year

The Van Governorate once again extended the protest and demonstration ban that had been declared during the State of Emergency and has been ongoing since 2016, for 15 days. Protests and demonstrations were banned between June 13-27 due to the reason of "national security and public order", the requirement of "permission by public administration" was

introduced for the distribution of leaflets, brochures and flyers in the city. On the other hand, in Bitlis, the Governorate has bound all kinds of protests and demonstrations to permission by the civil administration for 15 days.



Lawsuit against journalist Metin Yokus

A lawsuit was filed against journalist Metin Yokus on the charge of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" at the Istanbul 23rd Assize Court, on the grounds of his social media posts. The journalist's sharing of the photo he took at the funeral of those who lost their lives in the Suruç massacre with the caption "Kurdistan" and his Instagram posts were the subject of the lawsuit. The first hearing will be held on October 26.



Investigation against academic over announcing inflation data

Yeditepe University launched a disciplinary investigation against the Prof. Dr. Veysel Ulusoy, founder of the Inflation Research Group (ENAG), which often announces alternative data to the data of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK) since its reliability is often debated and shares it with the public.



9 detained during justice watch

The police attacked the 13th of the "Justice Watches" held every week in front of the Çağlayan Courthouse in order to draw attention to the issues experienced in prisons by the relatives of the prisoners; 9 people were beaten and detained. The Lawyers for Freedom Association announced in a statement that the relatives of the prisoners were "threatened with

death" in the detention vehicle.



1-year 6-month imprisonment against journalist Mehmet Arslan

Previously shut-down Dicle News Agency reporter Mehmet Arslan was sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison in the lawsuit filed against him at the Erzurum 3rd Assize Court on the charge of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization". The announcement of

the verdict was deferred.



Journalist İsmail Saymaz convicted

Journalist İsmail Saymaz, who brought up allegations of abuse in a cult, was sentenced to a judicial fine of 3,480 Turkish liras in the lawsuit filed against him at the Istanbul 35th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "insulting".



13 Furkan Foundation volunteers acquitted in Adana

13 Furkan Foundation volunteers, who were prosecuted on charges of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations" for participating

in a prayer event at Adana Central Mosque, were acquitted on the grounds that "one shall not be penalised for an act that is not considered a crime by law, and no security measures shall be applied".



Sentence against social media posts made by account on behalf of Medeni Yıldırım

Medeni Yıldırım had lost his life as a result of the gunfire opened by soldiers during the police station protest in Lice district of Diyarbakır at the time of the Gezi Park protests. His brother, Mehmet Yıldırım, was convicted of "insulting the President" because of the posts made by a social media account that was opened with the

name of Medeni Yıldırım. Although there is no evidence that Mehmet Yıldırım was indeed the user of the account in question, the case file claimed that the social media account was used by Mehmet Yıldırım. Diyarbakır 4th Criminal Court of First Instance sentenced Yıldırım to 1 year, 2 months and 17 days in prison and deferred the announcement of the verdict.



Chamber executive acquitted of charges related to press statement

The lawsuit filed against Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects (TMMOB) Diyarbakır Provincial Coordination Board Secretary Doğan Hatun at the Diyarbakır 8th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "insulting the state" in accordance with Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Code (TCK) through the press statement made in

2020 regarding the plans to open the land of Highways in Diyarbakır city center for rent, was concluded with acquittal.



1.5-year imprisonment claim against post depicting alcohol on Night of Qadr

After sharing a photo from the drinking table with the words, "*The night of Qadr is special, may God accept it*" on his social media account during the Night of Qadr, Pegasus employee O.T. was fired from his job because of this post. An indictment was issued against him, demanding a prison sentence of up to 1 year

and 6 months. In the indictment, it was claimed that the suspect made a post that was "conducive to disrupting social peace".



Lawsuit against journalist Can Ataklı

The lawsuit filed against journalist Can Ataklı began at the Istanbul 16th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "publicly denigrating a part of society". The journalist is accused of commenting on the incidents taking place during IYI Party leader Meral Akşener's visits to Rize, on the TV show "The Day Begins" broadcast on TELE 1 channel on May 21, 2021. The second hearing of the case will be held on October 20.



Attack against journalists

During the protest organised upon the call of Adana Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Zeydan Karalar to prevent the "closure of Şakirpaşa Airport", journalist Kerem Demiral and his son Mehmet Demiral were attacked as they were covering a discussion between Karalar and a citizen. Çukurova Journalists' Association condemned the attack; Zeydan

Karalar called the journalist and offered his apologies.



Prosecutor objects to Yılmaz Odabaşı's acquittal

The Prosecutor's Office appealed against the acquittal of poet and writer Yılmaz Odabaşı, who was charged with "public incitement to hatred and hostility" and "openly insulting the public" due to a social media post, in which he criticised the issues in the healthcare system and the influence of sects in the healthcare

system. Odabaşı had been acquitted in the judgment hearing held at the Antalya Alanya 6th Criminal Court of First Instance in May.



Erdoğan's lawyer objects to Genco Erkal's acquittal

President Erdoğan's lawyer objected to the acquittal of theater actor Genco Erkal. In the appeal, it was argued that it was an insult for Erkal to ask Erdogan for a diploma. "Let's put out the diploma before the world gets involved in whether or not to give birth to a child. Erkal, who was on trial for statements such as "Show us your diploma, even if it's from a rector

friend of yours, even if it's fake - instead of meddling with people's business on whether they

should have kids or not" and "The presidential system is not enough, let there be a Turkish style shepherd system", was acquitted in the judgment hearing held at the Istanbul 16th Criminal Court of First Instance on May 3.



12-year imprisonment sentence against arrested and heavily ill journalist Devrim Ayık

Arrested and seriously ill journalist Devrim Ayık was sentenced to 12 years in prison in the lawsuit filed against him on the charge of "terrorist organization membership". The court, which did not reduce the sentence, decided to

continue the arrest of Ayık.



Students detained over 'Alternative University Festival'

The police intervened against the university students, who wanted to organize an "Alternative University Festival" against the banned festivals in Kadıköy. At least 20 university students were detained.



Çanakkale Governorate bans Pride Week events

Çanakkale Governorate banned Pride Parade and Pride Week events.



TRIALS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Elif Tirenc İpek Ulaş Case

The lawsuit filed against Rosa Women's Association's founding Chair and lawyer Elif Tirenc İpek Ulaş on the charge of "terrorist organisation membership" based on her association activities...

Court: Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court

Verdict: The court decided to write a letter to the Diyarbakır Chief Public Prosecutor's Office regarding another investigation file against Ulaş,

Özgür Gündem Substitute Editors-In-Chief Case

The lawsuit filed against Özgür Gündem Substitute Editors-In-Chief Şebnem Korur Fincancı, Erol Önderoğlu and Ahmet Nesin, whose acquittal decrees were overturned at the appeal court...

Court: Istanbul 13th Assize Court

<p>that resulted in non-prosecution, to imply the revocation of the verdict of non-prosecution. The hearing was adjourned to September 22.</p>	<p>Verdict: The court decided to wait for a reply to the letter of rogatory sent abroad for Nesin, adjourning the hearing to October 19.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hüda Kaya Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Istanbul MP Hüda Kaya on the charge of “terrorist organisation membership” due to her social media posts, protests and events she participated in...</p> <p>Court: Diyarbakır 4th Assize Court Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 1.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Özgürlükçü Demokrasi Case</u></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>Court: Istanbul 23rd Assize Court Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for September 15.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ferhat Tunç Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against artist Ferhat Tunç on the charge of “public incitement to hatred and hostility” due to his social media posts...</p> <p>Court: Büyükçekmece 14th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrant issued against the artist, who resides abroad, and to execute procedures to take his defense statement, adjourning the hearing to January 10.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rüstem Batum Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Rüstem Batum on the charge of “insulting the President” and “public incitement towards resentment and hostility” due to 20 Twitter posts he made in 2016 and 2018...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 5th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrant issued against the journalist, who resides abroad, adjourning the hearing to November 10.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Özgür Gündem Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Özgür Gündem Daily’s Editors-In-Chief Hüseyin Aykol, Zana Kaya, Managing Editor İnan Kızılkaya and Kurdish politician Hatip Dicle...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrant issued against politician Hatip Dicle, adjourning the hearing to November 22.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Case Against HDP MPs</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against former Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Chair Figen Yüksekdağ, Group Deputy Chairs Idris Baluken and Çağlar Demirel as well as MPs Altan Tan, Ahmet Yıldırım, Ertuğrul Kürkçü, Mehmet Ali Aslan and Saadet Becerikli on charges of “resisting to prevent duty”, “insulting a public official” and “insulting the President” due to their visit to Silvan district of Diyarbakır following the curfew declared in 2015...</p> <p>Court: Diyarbakır Silvan Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for September 29.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>M. Şirin Tunç Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Kurdish politician Mehmet Şirin Tunç within the investigation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Cengiz Çandar Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Cengiz Çandar on the charge of “praising the crime and</p>

<p>against the Democratic Society Congress (DTK)...</p> <p>Court: Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court Verdict: The Syrian citizen witness of the case, who allegedly testified that Tunç was a “terrorist organisation member,” stated that they did not know Tunç and that they did not give such a statement. The hearing was adjourned to September 20.</p>	<p>the criminal” based on a Twitter post he made from his personal account on May 30, 2017...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 30th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The court decided to wait for a reply to the letter sent to receive the defense statement of Çandar, who resides abroad, adjourning the hearing to September 29.</p>
<p><u>Sadiye Eser Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 34 people, including journalist Sadiye Eser, on charges of “terrorist organisation membership” and “making propaganda for a terrorist organisation”...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 6th Assize Court Verdict: The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrants issued against the defendants, adjourning the hearing to October 5.</p>	<p><u>Zübeyde Sarı Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Zübeyde Sarı on the charge of “public incitement towards resentment and hostility” due to her social media posts...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul Bakırköy 24th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The court allowed time for the Prosecutor to prepare an opinion on the basis, adjourning the hearing to September 29.</p>
<p><u>Ankara Gezi Park Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 26 people, that has been ongoing since 2016 regarding the Gezi Park protests in Ankara...</p> <p>Court: Ankara 14th Assize Court Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for October 12.</p>	<p><u>BULGBTQI+ Club Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against two students on the charge of “public incitement of the Turkish National Anthem” after they have changed the words of the anthem with queer words in the email they sent to club members...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 18th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The hearing was adjourned to November 23.</p>
<p><u>DIAYDER Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Religious Scholars Solidarity Association (DIAYDER) members and executives on charges of “terrorist organisation membership” and “aiding a terrorist organization”, which was made a basis for Interior Minister Soylu to start a “special inspection” against Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality workers...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 14th Assize Court Verdict: The tribunal issued a verdict of release for three of the four arrested defendants and adjourned the hearing to July 26.</p>	

HEARINGS NEXT WEEK

<p><u>Beritan Canözer Case</u></p>	<p><u>Adalet Kaya Case</u></p>
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<p>The lawsuit filed against JinNews reporter Beritan Canözer on the charge of “making terrorist organization propaganda” on social media due to social media posts including those made from accounts that did not belong to Canözer...</p> <p>June 21, Tuesday at Diyarbakır 4th Assize Court</p>	<p>The lawsuit filed against Rosa Women’s Association Chair Adalet Kaya on the allegation of Democratic Society Congress (DTK) delegation, her participation in a statement made by the association she was the chair of, as well as her social media posts...</p> <p>June 22, Wednesday at Diyarbakır 11th Assize Court</p>
<p><u>Case Against Ankara Bar Association</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against the Ankara Bar Association administration on the charge of “insulting a public official because of their duty” after they criticized Director of Religious Affairs Ali Erbaş, who targeted LGBTQI+s and related contagious diseases with homosexuality during a Friday sermon...</p> <p>June 22, Wednesday at Ankara 16th Assize Court</p>	<p><u>KOÜ Solidarity Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 14 students and 3 rights advocates from the Kocaeli Student Solidarity, who wanted to make a support statement for the Boğaziçi University protests, on charges of “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911” and “resisting to prevent duty”...</p> <p>June 23, Thursday at Kocaeli 5th Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p><u>Abdülilah Poyraz Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Abdülillah Poyraz, the father of Deniz Poyraz, who was killed in the attack against the Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Izmir Provincial Building, on the charge of “making propaganda for a terrorist organization” due to an interview he gave to the Mesopotamia Agency...</p> <p>June 23, Thursday at Izmir 15th Assize Court</p>	<p><u>Case Against Chamber of Architects Executives</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Chamber of Architects Ankara Branch Chair Tezcan Karakuş Candan and six former Executive Board members on the charge of “making propaganda for a terrorist organisation” for awarding Jin TV in 2021...</p> <p>June 23, Thursday at Ankara 25th Assize Court</p>
<p><u>Şerife Oruç Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency (DIHA) reporter Şerife Oruç on the charge of “terrorist organisation membership”...</p> <p>June 23, Thursday at Batman 2nd Assize Court</p>	<p><u>“Gülen Community Media Case”</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Ahmet Memiş, Ali Akkuş, Cemal Azmi Kalyoncu, Gökçe Fırat Çulhağolu, Ünal Tanık, Yakup Çetin, Yetkin Yıldız on charges of “insulting the President,” “aiding a terrorist organization” and “denigrating state organizations and institutions”...</p> <p>June 23, Thursday at İstanbul 25th Assize Court</p>
<p><u>MIT Trucks Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Cumhuriyet Daily’s former Editor-In-Chief Can Dündar on the charge of “obtaining and disclosing confidential information regarding the state with the purpose</p>	<p><u>Case Against Boğaziçi Protests</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against six of those detained during the protest organized in Izmir on February 3, 2021 against the trustee rector appointed to Boğaziçi University on charges of</p>

<p>of espionage” due to the publication of visuals belonging to the Turkish Intelligence Agency (MIT) trucks heading to Syria...</p> <p>June 23, Thursday at Istanbul 14th Assize Court</p>	<p>“violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911,” “insult” and “resisting to prevent duty”...</p> <p>June 24, Friday at Izmir 49th Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p><u>Rüstem Batum Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Rüstem Batum on the charge of “public denigration of the military and security organization of the state” due to his statements during the show, “Agenda Debate with Ayşegül Doğan” on IMC TV on September 10, 2015...</p> <p>June 24, Friday at Istanbul 43rd Criminal Court of First Instance</p>	<p><u>Metin Cihan Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Metin Cihan and his news source on the charge of “illegally obtaining and spreading personal information” due to his social media posts, in which he disclosed documents revealing various corruption by TÜGVA Foundation, which were leaked...</p> <p>June 24, Friday at Istanbul 22nd Criminal Court of First Instance</p>