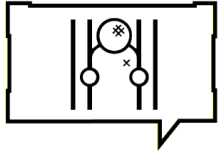


# PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / MAY - JUNE

[www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media](http://www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media)



## 93 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

In May, **1** journalist was arrested  
**3** new cases identified  
**1** journalist was released

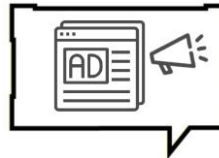
- **67** SENTENCED
- **26** ONGOING TRIAL



## TRIALS CALENDAR

In June:

- The suspension on all judicial proceedings to end on June 15
- At least **15 journalists trials** will take place. See the calendar [here](#) →



## PUBLIC AD & BROADCASTING BANS

In May:

- **Public Advertising Agency (BİK)** issued **35-day** ban to Cumhuriyet & **5-day** ban to Evrensel for critical reporting
- **Radio and Television High Council (RTÜK)** fined **Halk TV, TELE 1, FOX TV, Habertürk** w/ broadcast bans after critical views and interviews with opposition politicians

## MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN MAY

### PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- Turkey's Communications Director Fahrettin Altun targets journalists in court for reporting on suspicious land dealings. IPI interview [here](#) →
- Journalist Rojhat Doğru was arrested for membership charges, Hakan Aygün was released on May 6 after first hearing.

Read more [here](#) →

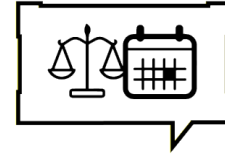


## IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

- Latest on **TURKEY DISPATCHES**: Ruşen Çakır, Editor-in-Chief of Medyascope – "[Pandemic heralds tough days ahead for Turkey's journalists](#)"
- Latest **IPI STATEMENT**: Turkey bans Halk TV after interview with opposition politician – [Read here](#).
- **IPI #WPF WEBINAR**: The importance of independent media in beating the pandemic - [Watch it on YouTube](#)
- IPI press freedom statements, articles published in three languages

# TRIALS CALENDAR

## UPCOMING TRIALS IN JUNE



DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
16.06.2020		ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM - REYHAN ÇAPAN, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, HASAN BAŞAK	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PRAISING THE CRIME AND CRIMINAL, TERRORIST PROPAGANDA, OVERTLY INCITING TO COMMIT A CRIME
16.06.2020	10:30	ADİL DEMİRCİ	İSTANBUL 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORG, SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
17.06.2020	14:05	HAZAL OCAK, ALEV COŞKUN	ANADOLU 14. CIVIL COURT	DEFAMATION (MEHMET CENGİZ)
17.06.2020		BERİTAN CANÖZER	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
18.06.2020		ROJHAT DOĞRU	DİYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISRUPTING THE UNITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE STATE, WILLFUL AND MALICIOUS INJURY
18.06.2020		HAZAL OCAK	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICER (BERAT ALBAYRAK)
19.06.2020	10:45	ONUR EMRE YAĞAN	İSTANBUL 33. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
23.06.2020		RIFAT DOĞAN	ÇORLU 4. CRIMINAL COURT	RECORDING OR TRANSMITTING AUDIO OR VIDEO DURING PROSECUTION
24.06.2020	11:55	DENİZ YÜCEL	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA, INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED AND ENMITY
24.06.2020		MEHMET FERHAT ÇELİK, AYDIN KESER, BARIŞ TERKOĞLU, BARIŞ PEHLIVAN, HÜLYA KILINÇ, MURAT AĞİREL, ERK ACARER	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICES
25.06.2020		SABİHA TEMİZKAN	İSTANBUL 35. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
25.06.2020		SİBEL HÜRTAŞ, HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED AND ENMITY
25.06.2020	09:00	HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORG, SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
25.06.2020	10:30	REDHACK TRIAL (TUNCA ÖĞRETEN, MAHIR KANAAT, ÖMER ÇELİK, METİN YOKSU, DERYA OKATAN, ERAY SARGIN)	İSTANBUL 29. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; COMMITTING A CRIME ON BEHALF OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHILST NOT BEING A MEMBER; INTERCEPTING WITH THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS; REMOVING DATA
30.06.2020	11:15	BİRGÜN TRIAL (BARIŞ İNCE, BÜLENT YILMAZ, CANSEVER UĞUR, İBRAHİM AYDIN)	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHILST NOT BEING A MEMBER



# ○ FREE TURKEY JOURNALISTS NEWSROOM

The International Press Institute (IPI), closely follows the developments on press freedom and journalists' rights in the country. Here are some of our most recent contents on Turkey.



## ○ Turkey's presidential communications director targets journalists in court

May 28, 2020

The countless criminal complaints and lawsuits against Turkish journalists stand as a testament to the absurdity of the press freedom situation in the country. Since its establishment in July 2018, the Presidential Communications Directorate has stood out as one of the most determined pursuers of journalism in court, targeting reports critical of President Erdoğan and the directorate's head, Fahrettin Altun.



[Read more](#)

## ○ IPI renews call on Turkey to release journalists amid pandemic

May 22, 2020

Since late March, all judicial proceedings, including journalists' trials, were suspended in Turkey due to COVID-19 pandemic. This has been extended via presidential decree until June 15. Meanwhile, journalists in Turkey continue to be targeted and detained for their reporting and continue to face violations of their rights in court. On Saturday May 2, the criminal court of peace, which is responsible for the investigation phase, conducted an ex officio hearing for six journalists who were arrested for reporting on the funeral of an intelligence officer who died in Libya.



[Read more](#)

## ○ Turkey bans Halk TV after interview with opposition politician

May 8, 2020

The International Press Institute (IPI) today condemned the temporary broadcast ban on Halk TV imposed by the Turkish Radio and Television High Council (RTÜK) over the station's critical coverage and called for an end to the harassment of media in Turkey.



[Read more](#)



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