TURKEY FREE EXPRESSION TRIAL MONITORING

FINAL REPORT | MARCH 2020

KEY FINDINGS





Report by the International Press Institute (IPI) and the Media and Law Studies Association (MLSA).



This report covers 319 hearings covering 169 cases (involving 219 separate charges) between February 26, 2019 and March 6, 2020, monitored in 15 cities across Turkey.

Here's the breakdown of cities:



Tunceli 1 Van 12

Charges against journalists

60%

of cases concerning journalists were for TERRORISM RELATED OFFENCES

In 76% of these cases the defendant's **JOURNALISM** was used **AS EVIDENCE** to support terrorism charges

76%

78%

69 out of 89 **CONVICTIONS** (78%) were for **TERRORISM RELATED OFFENCES**





Convictions and sentences





CHARGES	NUMBER OF CONVICTIONS	AVERAGE SENTENCE
Membership of terror organization	13	105 months
Helping a terror organization	27	56 months
Propaganda for a terror organization	27	22 months
Publishing declarations of a terrorist organization	2	10 months
Insulting a public officer	3	1740 TL (fine)
Insulting the president	6	16 months
Denigrating the Turkish nation	7	5 months
Disclosing identity of official on anti-terrorist duty	1	10 months
Failing to publish a correction	3	41644 TL (fine)
TOT	AL 89	224 months

Right to a lawful judge



27%

In 27% of the cases at least one member of the three-person judicial panel changed.



22%

In 22% of cases it was THE PRESIDING JUDGE.

