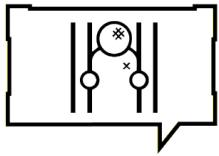


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media



79 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

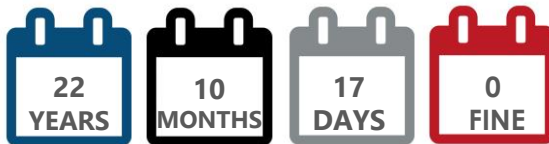
In November, **2** journalists were **arrested**
2 journalists were **released**

- 56 SENTENCED
- 23 ONGOING TRIAL



TRIALS CALENDAR

In November, **23** journalist trials were held.
6 journalists were sentenced to:

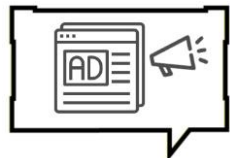


In December, **20** journalist trials will take place.
See the calendar [here](#) →

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In November:

- Turkey [announced](#) sanctions (10 Million TL) on social media companies incl. **Facebook, Twitter, Youtube** for declining to comply with social media law.
- [ECtHR ruled on](#) ten former **Cumhuriyet** journalists' application, found violation of Article 5 § 1 and of Article 10.



MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN NOVEMBER

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- IPI called on Turkish authorities to halt the continued crackdown on the pro-Kurdish Mezopotamya News Agency (MA) after two reporters were detained in one week. IPI statement [here](#) →
- IPI joined international call for Ahmet Altan's release after four years in jail on arbitrary charges. Joint statement [here](#) →

Read more [here](#) →

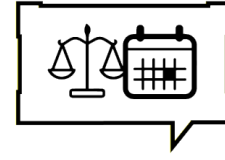
IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

- **IPI Freedom Dialogues TURKEY:** 3 new episodes in November (Tur: [w/ Cüneyt Özdemir](#) & [w/ İsmail Saymaz](#)) (Eng: [w/ Barbara Trionfi](#))
- **IPI Video Interview Series:** IPI launched new video series "Journalism under the Shadow of Pandemic: Turkey" with leading journalists and media experts. The project is being carried out by IPI Turkey National Committee. [All interviews available here.](#)
- **IPI Turkey Dispatches:** "[The promise of collaborative journalism in Turkey](#)" - by Canan Coşkun
- IPI press freedom statements, articles published in three languages



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN NOVEMBER



DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
04.11.2020	HAZAL OCAK, ALEV COŞKUN	ANADOLU 14. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)	ADJOURNED
04.11.2020	AHMET MEMİŞ, ALİ AKKUŞ, ATILLA TAŞ, CEMAL AZMİ KALYONCU, GÖKÇE FIRAT ÇULHAOĞLU, ÜNAL TANIK, YAKUP ÇETİN, YETKİN YILDIZ (RETRIAL)	İSTANBUL 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
05.11.2020	ONUR EMRE YAĞAN	İSTANBUL 53. CRIMINAL COURT	CONSECUTIVELY INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 2 MONTHS 17 DAYS
05.11.2020	ALİ SÖNMEZ KAYAR	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
05.11.2020	FATİH PORTAKAL	İSTANBUL 46. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON BANKING; INSULTING PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
06.11.2020	ALİ ERGİN DEMİRHAN	İSTANBUL 22. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING PRESIDENT	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 2 MONTHS 17 DAYS
09.11.2020	RUKEN DEMİR	İZMİR 19. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
09.11.2020	MÜYESSER YILDIZ, İSMAİL DÜKEL	ANKARA 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	POSSESSING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS IN RELATION TO NATIONAL SECURITY	ADJOURNED, YILDIZ RELEASED
09.11.2020	AZİZ ORUÇ	AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED, ORUÇ RELEASED
10.11.2020	CANAN COŞKUN, CAN UĞUR, ALİ AÇAR	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS	ADJOURNED
11.11.2020	ADİL DEMİRCİ, +22 OTHERS	İSTANBUL 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
13.11.2020	MEMHET BARANSU, MURAT ŞEVKİ ÇOBAN	ANADOLU 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	POSSESSING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS IN RELATION TO NATIONAL SECURITY	ADJOURNED
17.11.2020	UĞUR GÜÇ	ANADOLU 29. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFAMATION	ACQUITTED
17.11.2020	OKTAY CANDEMİR	VAN 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PREVENTING A POLICE OFFICER FROM PERFORMING THE DUTY	ADJOURNED
19.11.2020	UĞUR KOÇ, İBRAHİM AYDIN, MUSTAFA KÖMÜŞ (BİRGÜN TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ACQUITTED
19.11.2020	ALİ ERGİN DEMİRHAN	İSTANBUL 24. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PREVENTING A PUBLIC OFFICER FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY	ADJOURNED
23.11.2020	MEMHET BARANSU, MURAT ŞEVKİ ÇOBAN	ANADOLU 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	POSSESSING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS IN RELATION TO NATIONAL SECURITY	BARANSU SENTENCED TO 16 YEARS 13 MONTHS, ÇOBAN ACQUITTED
24.11.2020	KENAN KIRKAYA	ANKARA 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
24.11.2020	SELMAN KELEŞ	VAN 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
24.11.2020	JAMAL KHASHOGGI MURDER TRIAL	İSTANBUL 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MURDER	ADJOURNED
25.11.2020	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ, HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	INCITING THE PUBLIC TO ENMITY AND HATRED	ADJOURNED
25.11.2020	HAZAL OCAK	GAZİANTEP 6. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)	ADJOURNED
26.11.2020	KİBRİYE EVREN	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED

TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING TRIALS IN DECEMBER



DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
01.12.2020	10:45	HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
01.12.2020	09:50	KCK PRESS TRIAL	İSTANBUL 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
02.12.2020	09:30	İDRİS SAYILĞAN	MUŞ 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
02.12.2020		ENDER İMREK	BAKIRKÖY 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT (EMİNE ERDOĞAN)
03.12.2020	10:30	AHMET SEVER	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING PRESIDENT
03.12.2020		ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM: EREN KESKİN, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, REYHAN ÇAPAN, HASAN BAŞAK, +4 others	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PRAISING THE CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL; INCITING PUBLIC TO COMMIT A CRIME
04.12.2020		MEHMET DURSUN	VAN 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
04.12.2020		CAN DÜNDAR	İSTANBUL 14. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WITHOUT BEING A PART OF HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE; OBTAINING SECRET DOCUMENTS FOR ESPIONAGE
07.12.2020		FERHAT PARLAK	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
07.12.2020		AYŞEGÜL DOĞAN	DİYARBAKIR 9. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
08.12.2020		RIFAT DOĞAN	ÇORLU 4. CRIMINAL COURT	RECORDING AUDIO AND IMAGES WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION DURING AN INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION
09.12.2020		MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YAŞEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OPÇİN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING A TERRORIST ORG; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; OBTAINING AND REVEALING INFORMATION CONCERNING NATIONAL SECURITY
15.12.2020	10:00	TUNCA ÖĞRETEN, MAHİR KANAAT, ÖMER ÇELİK, METİN YOKSU, DERYA OKATAN, ERAY SARGIN (REDHACK TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 29. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORG; COMMITTING A CRIME ON BEHALF OF A TERRORIST ORG WHILST NOT BEING A MEMBER; INTERCEPTING WITH THE INFORMATION SYSTEMS
15.12.2020		İNAN KIZILKAYA, ZANA BİLİR KAYA, HÜSEYİN AYKOL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY INSULTING THE GOVERNMENT, JUDICIARY, AND SECURITY FORCES; PUBLICLY INSULTING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH REPUBLIC AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
22.12.2020		SEMİHA ŞAHİN, PINAR GAYIP	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
22.12.2020		PELİN ÜNKER, ORHAN ERİNÇ	İSTANBUL 21. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)
24.12.2020		CAN DÜNDAR	İSTANBUL 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM SOLIDARITY TRIAL
24.12.2020		ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM: ZANA BİLİR KAYA, İNAN KIZILKAYA, KEMAL SANCILI, EREN KESKİN	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORG; DISRUPTING THE UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE STATE
30.12.2020	09:45	BUSE SÖĞÜTLÜ	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS
31.12.2020		OKTAY CANDEMİR	VAN 4. CRIMINAL COURT	PREVENTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY

○ FREE TURKEY JOURNALISTS NEWSROOM

The International Press Institute ([IPI](#)) closely follows developments on press freedom and journalists' rights in the country. Here is some of our most recent content on Turkey.



○ Turkey must stop harassment of Mezopotamya Agency reporters

Nov 27, 2020

The International Press Institute (IPI) today called on Turkish authorities to halt the continued crackdown on the pro-Kurdish Mezopotamya News Agency (MA). Dindar Karataş, an MA reporter, was arrested November 26 on charges of "membership of a terrorist organization". On November 27, MA reporter Hakan Yalçın was taken into custody during a police raid at his home in Ankara, according to local news reports.

[Read more](#)



○ Fighting to report freely amid pandemic: Access to information as government's leverage

Nov 26, 2020

The third video interview in IPI's new video reporting series "Journalism under the Shadow of the Pandemic: Turkey" is with Ali Topuz, the founder and editor-in-chief of the independent news outlet Gazete Duvar. Topuz said although the remote working conditions were not a problem, reporters on the ground faced various challenges finding stories and covering news, which Topuz described as "the backbone of journalism".

[Read more](#)



○ IPI urges Turkey to withdraw the sanctions on tech companies under new social media law

Nov 5, 2020

Turkish authorities should withdraw newly announced sanctions on social media companies for declining to comply with the terms of a draconian social media law passed this summer, the International Press Institute (IPI) said today.

[Read more](#)



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