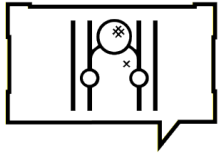


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / DECEMBER – JANUARY 2021

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media



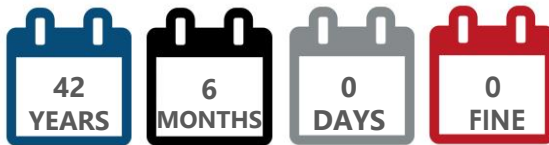
79 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

- 56 SENTENCED
- 23 ONGOING TRIAL

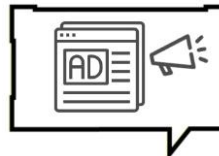


TRIALS CALENDAR

In December, **28** journalist trials were held.
4 journalists were sentenced to:



In January, **10** journalist trials will take place.
See the calendar [here](#) →



OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In December:

- Turkey [announced](#) a second sanction (30 Million TL) on network providers for declining to comply with social media law. **Google** announced to appoint a local representative.
- Radio and Television High Council (RTÜK) issued a total of 54 sanctions on broadcasters **Halk TV, TELE 1, FOX TV, HaberTürk, KRT TV, RTÜK member reports.**

MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN DECEMBER

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- Journalist Can Dündar was sentenced to 27 years and 6 months on terrorism and espionage charges over his critical coverage.
More info [here](#) →
- Pro-Kurdish Mezopotamya News Agency (MA) & JinNews reporters Zeynep Durgut, Gülistan Azak were briefly detained.
More info [here](#) →

Read more [here](#) →

IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

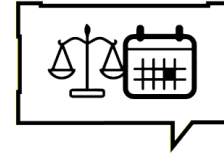


- **IPI Freedom Dialogues TURKEY:** 3 new episodes in December w/ journalists [Aysegül Doğan](#), [Murat Yetkin](#) and HRW Turkey Director [Emma Sinclair-Webb](#). All episodes available [here](#).
- **IPI Video Interview Series:** 2 new interviews at IPI's video series "Journalism under the Shadow of Pandemic: Turkey" w/ leading journalists and editors [Ruşen Çakır](#) and [Merdan Yanardağ](#). The project is being carried out by IPI Turkey National Committee. [All interviews available here.](#)
- **IPI Turkey Dispatches:** "[Corruption, truth and the basic problem](#)" - by Çiğdem Toker
- IPI press freedom statements, articles published in three languages



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN DECEMBER

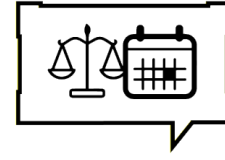


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Journalists

DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
01.12.2020	HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
01.12.2020	KCK PRESS TRIAL	İSTANBUL 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
02.12.2020	İDRİS SAYILĞAN	MUŞ 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
02.12.2020	ENDER İMREK	BAKIRKÖY 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT (EMİNE ERDOĞAN)	ACQUITTED
02.12.2020	DİCLE MÜFTÜOĞLU	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	SENTENCED TO 1 YEARS 3 MONTHS
02.12.2020	ALİCAN ULUDAĞ	ANKARA 18. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING IDENTITIES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS	ADJOURNED
03.12.2020	AHMET SEVER	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
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	ADJOURNED
04.12.2020	MEHMET DURSUN	VAN 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ACQUITTED
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	ADJOURNED
07.12.2020	FERHAT PARLAK	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	CASE DISMISSED
07.12.2020	AYŞEGÜL DOĞAN	DİYARBAKIR 9. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	SENTENCED TO 6 YEARS 3 MONTHS
08.12.2020	RIFAT DOĞAN	ÇORLU 4. CRIMINAL COURT	RECORDING AUDIO AND IMAGES WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION DURING AN INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION	ACQUITTED
09.12.2020	MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YASEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OĞÇİN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING A TERRORIST ORG; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; OBTAINING AND REVEALING INFORMATION CONCERNING NATIONAL SECURITY	ADJOURNED
15.12.2020	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	ADJOURNED

TRIALS CALENDAR

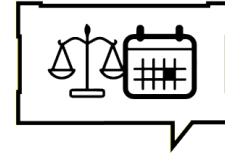
JOURNALIST TRIALS IN DECEMBER



DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
15.12.2020	İNAN KIZILKAYA, CAN DÜNDAR (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM – CASE 1)	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
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	ADJOURNED
15.12.2020	ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
16.12.2020	HAZAL OCAK, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ, İPEK ÖZBEY, VEDAT ARIK (CUMHURİYET)	İSTANBUL 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING IDENTITIES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS; VIOLATION OF PRIVACY	ADJOURNED
22.12.2020	SEMİHA ŞAHİN, PINAR GAYIP	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ACQUITTED
22.12.2020	PELİN ÜNKER, ORHAN ERİNÇ	İSTANBUL 21. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)	CASE DISMISSED
24.12.2020	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	SENTENCED TO 27 YEARS 6 MONTHS
24.12.2020	CAN DÜNDAR, İNAN KIZILKAYA (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM – CASE 2)	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLISHING ON BEHALF OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
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	ADJOURNED
29.12.2020	MAZLUM DOLAN	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS 6 MONTHS
30.12.2020	BUSE SÖĞÜTLÜ	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS	ADJOURNED
30.12.2020	MEHMET ÇAKMAKÇI	DİYARBAKIR 10. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT		ACQUITTED
31.12.2020	OKTAY CANDEMİR	VAN 4. CRIMINAL COURT	PREVENTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY	-

TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING TRIALS IN JANUARY



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Journalists

DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
06.01.2021		MÜYESSER YILDIZ, İSMAİL DÜKEL	ANKARA 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	POSSESSING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS REGARDING NATIONAL SECURITY
12.01.2021		ALİCAN ULUDAĞ, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ AKÇA	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING IDENTITIES OF THOSE WHO REPORTED CRIMINALS
13.01.2021		CAN ATAĞLI	İSTANBUL 22. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGATING A SECTION OF THE PEOPLE ON THE BASIS OF THEIR SOCIAL CLASS, RACE, RELIGION, SECT, GENDER OR REGIONAL DIFFERENCE
14.01.2021		CAN DÜNDAR, MEMET ALI ALABORA, AYŞE PINAR ALABORA, GÖKÇE YILMAZ, HANDAN MELTEM ARIKAN, HANZADE HİKMET GERMIYANOĞLU, İNANÇ EKMEKÇİ (GEZİ TRIAL - 7 DEFENDANTS)	İSTANBUL 30. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT AND/OR PREVENT IT FROM FULFILLING ITS DUTY
14.01.2021		ROJHAT DOĞRU	DİYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; DISRUPTING THE UNITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE STATE; WILLFUL AND MALICIOUS INJURY
15.01.2021		ENGİN KORKMAZ	ANTALYA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING PRESIDENT
19.01.2021		HAKAN AYGÜN	BODRUM 3. CRIMINAL COURT	INCITING THE PUBLIC TO ENMITY AND HATRED; INSULTING THE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF SOCIETY
20.01.2021		HAZAL OCAK, ALEV COŞKUN (CUMHURİYET)	ANADOLU 14. CIVIL COURT	DEFAMATION (MEHMET CENGİZ'S COMPLAINT)
25.01.2021		DURKET SÜREN	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
26.01.2021		KEMAL DEMİR, KEMAL KARAGÖZ	İSTANBUL 28. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; AIDING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

○ 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.



○ Corruption, truth and the basic problem

Dec 22, 2020

If in a country, its citizens' both human and civil rights have been regularly and immensely violated in all areas, this stems from the mindset behind an antidemocratic administration. This mindset does not only encourage impunity and the lack of investigation in rights violations but also promotes corruption at all levels of the state.

[Read more](#)



○ IPI marks Human Rights Day with a campaign: Let Turkey's Journalists Report Freely

Dec 10, 2020

As the world marks Human Rights Day on December 10, the International Press Institute (IPI) is running a new campaign calling on Turkey and the international community to protect press freedom and let journalists report freely. Newspaper ads in Turkey and Europe this week will highlight the importance of press freedom as a human right.

[Read more](#)



○ 2020 International Mission Report on Turkey published in 3 different languages

Dec 1, 2020

The International Press Institute (IPI) published the Report "Turkey's Journalists on the Ropes" the result of the joint International Press Freedom Mission to Turkey October 6-9, revealing the extent of the crackdown on media freedom and calling for concerted action by the international community to tackle Turkey's media freedom crisis.

[Read more](#)



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