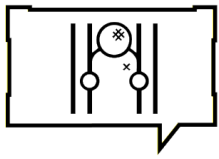


# PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / JANUARY - FEBRUARY

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



## 70 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

In January, 1 journalist was **arrested**

- 53 SENTENCED
- 17 ONGOING TRIAL

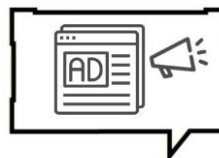


## TRIALS CALENDAR

In January, **25** journalist trials were held.  
3 journalists were sentenced to:



In February, **26** journalist trials will take place.  
See the calendar [here](#) →



## OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In January:

- **5 journalists** were [physically assaulted](#), **3 journalists** of Karar were openly [targeted](#) by ultra-nationalist MHP leader Bahçeli, **two female journalists** verbally [attacked](#), [insulted](#) by Bahçeli's press advisor Yıldırım Çiçek.
- Radio and Television High Council (**RTÜK**) [imposed](#) fines on Halk TV and TELE1 TV. Press Advertising Agency (**BIK**) imposed 3-day ad bans each on [BirGün](#) and [Evrensel](#) over their critical coverage.

## MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN JANUARY

### PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- Yeniçağ Ankara correspondent Orhan Uğuroğlu was physically attacked by ultra-nationalist group after critical coverage of MHP.  
IPI Statement [here](#) →

- Ministry of Trade issued a monetary fine of 20,953 Turkish Lira against Evrensel over 25th anniversary ad aired on TELE 1.  
IPI Statement [here](#) →

Read more [here](#) →

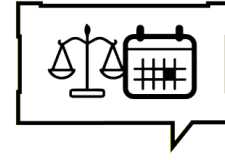
## IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

- **IPI Turkey Dispatches:** "[How we came together to protect Turkey's journalists](#)" - by Ahmet Hilmi Hacaloğlu
- **IPI Participated:** IPI representatives participated in the M4D 2020 Media Conference organized by Ankara Journalists Association (AGC). Watch the full session [here](#).
- **IPI Protests:** The advertising bans issued on Twitter, Periscope and others for declining to comply with the social media law. IPI [renewed its call](#) to withdraw the law and penalties on social media companies.
- IPI press freedom statements, articles published in three languages



# TRIALS CALENDAR

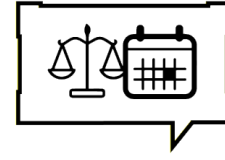
## JOURNALIST TRIALS IN JANUARY



DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
05.01.2021	YUSUF TOPALOĞLU	ADIYAMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ACQUITTED
06.01.2021	MÜYESSER YILDIZ, İSMAİL DÜKEL	ANKARA 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	POSSESSING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS REGARDING NATIONAL SECURITY	ADJOURNED
07.01.2021	AYTEN AKGÜN	İSTANBUL ANADOLU 6. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	SENTENCED TO 11 MONTHS 20 DAYS (Suspended)
08.01.2021	SEFER SELVİ	İSTANBUL 18. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ACQUITTED
12.01.2021	ALİCAN ULUDAĞ, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ AKÇA	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING THE IDENTITIES OF THOSE WHO REPORTED ON THE CRIMINALS	ADJOURNED
12.01.2021	ARAFAT DAYAN	İSTANBUL 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
12.01.2021	ÖZGÜR BOĞATEKİN	ADIYAMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 6 MONTHS 22 DAYS
12.01.2021	ERK ACARER, HAKAN DİRİK	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)	ADJOURNED
12.01.2021	ALİ ORHAN, CİHAT ÜNAL, HASAN YAVAŞLAR, KENAN BAŞ, OLGUN MATUR, ÖMER ÖZDEMİR, OSMAN YAKUT, ÖZKAN MAYDA, SERHAT ŞEFTALİ, TUNCER ÇETINKAYA	ANTALYA 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
13.01.2021	CAN ATAĞLI	İSTANBUL 22. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING A SECTION OF THE PEOPLE ON THE BASIS OF THEIR SOCIAL CLASS, RACE, RELIGION, SECT, GENDER OR REGIONAL DIFFERENCE	ADJOURNED
14.01.2021	CAN DÜNDAR, MEMET ALI ALABORA, AYŞE PINAR ALABORA, GÖKÇE YILMAZ, HANDAN MELTEM ARIKAN, HANZADE HİKMET GERMIYANOĞLU, İNANÇ EKMEKÇİ (GEZİ TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 30. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT AND/OR PREVENT IT FROM FULFILLING ITS DUTY	ADJOURNED
14.01.2021	ROJHAT DOĞRU	DİYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISRUPTING THE UNITY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE STATE, ATTEMPTED MURDER	ADJOURNED
14.01.2021	RUKEN DEMİR	İZMİR 19. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
15.01.2021	ENGİN KORKMAZ	ANTALYA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
18.01.2021	İDRİS YILMAZ	VAN ERCİŞ 1. CRIMINAL COURT	INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED AND ENMITY	ACQUITTED
19.01.2021	HAKAN AYGÜN	BODRUM 3. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF SOCIETY	ADJOURNED
19.01.2021	CEM ŞİMŞEK	BAKIRKÖY 27. CRIMINAL COURT, İSTANBUL	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
19.01.2021	ERK ACARER	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
20.01.2021	HAZAL OCAK, ALEV COŞKUN (CUMHURİYET)	ANADOLU 14. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)	ADJOURNED
25.01.2021	DURKET SÜREN	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TERRORIST PROPAGANDA, AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
26.01.2021	HAZAL OCAK, ALEV COŞKUN (CUMHURİYET)	ANADOLU 14. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION (DAMAGES)	CASE DISMISSED
26.01.2021	KEMAL DEMİR, KEMAL KARAGÖZ	İSTANBUL 28. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
26.01.2021	DERYA OKATAN	İSTANBUL 39. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ADJOURNED
27.01.2021	İDRİS SAYILĞAN, NACİ KAYA	EDİRNE 8. CRIMINAL COURT	CROSSPASSING MILITARY ZONE WITHOUT PERMISSION	ADJOURNED
29.01.2021	VAN TV TRIAL	VAN 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	4 REPORTERS ACQUITTED, 1 REPORTER SENTENCED TO

# TRIALS CALENDAR

## UPCOMING TRIALS IN FEBRUARY



DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
01.02.2021		İDRİS SAYILĞAN	MUŞ 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
02.02.2021		BATUHAN ÇOLAK, CANAN KAYA	BAKIRKÖY 6. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION
03.02.2021		CEREN SÖZERİ	İSTANBUL 2. COMMERCIAL COURT	COMPENSATION
03.02.2021		ALİCAN ULUDAĞ	ANKARA 18. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING THE IDENTITIES OF STATE OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTY
03.02.2021	10:00	HAYKO BAĞDAT	İSTANBUL 50. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
03.02.2021		EROL ÖNDEROĞLU, ŞEBNEM KORUR FİNCANCI, AHMET NESİN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
05.02.2021	09:30	MÜYESSER YILDIZ, İSMAİL DÜKEL	ANKARA 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	POSSESSING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS REGARDING NATIONAL SECURITY
09.02.2021		DİNDAR KARATAŞ	ERZURUM HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF ARMED ORGANIZATION
09.02.2021		SELMAN KELEŞ	VAN 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
11.02.2021		MEŞALE TOLU, AND OTHERS	İSTANBUL 29. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
11.02.2021		SEMİNA ŞAHİN, PINAR GAYIP	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
15.02.2021		ZANA BİLİR KAYA, İNAN KIZILKAYA, KEMAL SANCILI, EREN KESKİN (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
16.02.2021		İSMAİL ÇOBAN	DIYARBAKIR 7. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
16.02.2021		BARIŞ BARIŞTAN	DIYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
16.02.2021		ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM RAID TRIAL (22 DEFENDANTS)	İSTANBUL 5. CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING A PUBLIC OFFICER TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICER
16.02.2021		ALİ SÖNMEZ KAYAR	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
17.02.2021		KENAN KIRKAYA	ANKARA 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
18.02.2021		İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
18.02.2021		ÇİĞDEM TOKER	KÜÇÜKÇEKMECE 3. CIVIL COURT	COMPENSATION
18.02.2021		AHMET ALTAN	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICER
23.02.2021		ABDURRAHMAN GÖK	DIYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS
23.02.2021		RUKEN DEMİR	İZMİR 19. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
23.02.2021		CANAN COŞKUN, CAN UĞUR, ALİ AÇAR	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING THE IDENTITIES OF STATE OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTY
24.02.2021		EREN KESKİN, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, REYHAN ÇAPAN, +5 OTHERS (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PRAISING A CRIME AND CRIMINALS; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; OVERTLY INCITING TO COMMIT A CRIME
25.02.2021		RÜSTEM BATUM	İSTANBUL 5. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT; INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED, HOSTILITY
26.02.2021		KERİM KARAKAYA, FERCAN YALÇINKILIÇ, MUSTAFA SÖNMEZ, SEDEF KABAŞ, MERDAN YANARDAĞ, ORHAN AYDIN (BLOOMBERG TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 3. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON CAPITAL MARKET

# ○ 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.



## ○ “Turkish Tragedy Continues”: After 28 years, still no justice for murder of Uğur Mumcu

Jan 26, 2021

IPI commemorates deeply respected Turkish investigative journalist Uğur Mumcu who was assassinated 28 years ago. “IPI Report”, IPI’s monthly bulletin published between 1952 and the early 2000s, reported the murder from the front page of its January 1993 issue with the title “Turkish Tragedy Continues”.

[Read more](#)



## ○ IPI condemns physical attack on Yeniçağ correspondent, calls for thorough investigation

Jan 15, 2021

IPI condemned the assault on Orhan Uğuroğlu, a Turkish TV commentator and Ankara correspondent of the conservative Yeniçağ newspaper and Yeniçağ TV. Yeniçağ reported that according to Uğuroğlu’s initial statement at the police station, the assailants warned Uğuroğlu to stop criticizing the Nationalist Movement Party.

[Read more](#)



## ○ IPI urges Turkey to withdraw fine against critical newspaper over anniversary ad

Jan 6, 2021

IPI called on Turkey’s Ministry of Trade to withdraw a fine against critical newspaper Evrensel over a television advertisement marking the newspaper’s 25th anniversary. Evrensel reported on Monday that the Ministry of Trade’s Directorate General of Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance had issued a monetary fine of 20,953 Turkish Lira against the newspaper over the ad, which aired on television broadcaster TELE 1 in June 2020.

[Read more](#)

