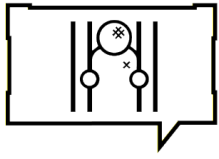


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / MAY – JUNE 2021

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media



55 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

In May, 1 journalist was **released**.

- 48 SENTENCED
- 7 ONGOING TRIAL

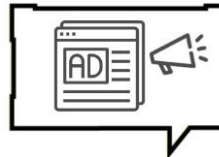


TRIALS CALENDAR

In May, 9 journalist trials were held.

Other trials were **postponed** due to the national lockdown between April 29 and May 17.

In June, at least **22 journalist trials** will take place. See the calendar [here](#) →



OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Turkey marked **#WPF** with numerous press freedom violations. IPI [recorded](#) 9 different incidents of attacks, harassment, or restrictions on the press during the week of May 3.
- Opposition [CHP report](#) showed systematic rise in **Radio & Television High Council's (RTÜK)** fines on critical media.
- Jewish **Şalom newspaper** in Turkey cyberattacked, its columnist Karel Valansi [targeted](#) w/ smear campaign.

MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN MAY

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- IPI called on Turkey to investigate new allegations regarding murders of journalists Uğur Mumcu, Kutlu Adalı. IPI Statement [here](#) →
- IPI condemned the police directive preventing audio-visual reporting on protests, a clear attempt to prevent news reporting. IPI Statement [here](#) →

Read more [here](#) →

IPI'S WORK IN TURKEY

- **IPI Freedom Dialogues Turkey:** New episode w/ BirGün's Berkant Gültekin on free media's alternative ways to fight suppression via [digital subscription campaigns](#).
- **IPI Podcasts:** IPI's The Press Freedom Files featured BirGün's latest subscription campaign on defeating the financial pressure. Available [here](#).
- **IPI Trial Monitoring:** IPI member İpek Yezdani monitored journalist Melis Alphan's trial. Read [the trial blog](#).
- **IPI #WPF Event:** IPI and Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul marked May 3 World Press Freedom Day with an event. [Watch the event recording](#).



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN MAY

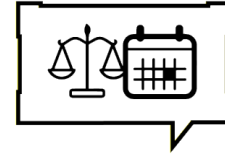


#Free
Turkey
Journalists

DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
06.05.2021	EROL ÖNDEROĞLU, ŞEBNEM KORUR FİNCANCI, AHMET NESİN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM RETRIAL	ADJOURNED
20.05.2021	JAKE HANRAHAN, PHILIP JOHN PENDLEBURY (VICE NEWS)	DİYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
21.05.2021	MELİS ALPHAN	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ACQUITTED
21.05.2021	CAN DÜNDAR, MEMET ALI ALABORA, AYŞE PINAR ALABORA, GÖKÇE YILMAZ, HANDAN MELTEM ARIKAN, HANZADE HIKMET GERMIYANOĞLU, İNANÇ EKMEKÇİ (GEZİ TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 30. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT AND/OR PREVENT IT FROM FULFILLING ITS DUTY	ADJOURNED
21.05.2021	KENAN KIRKAYA	ANKARA 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
25.05.2021	SELMAN KELEŞ	VAN 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
25.05.2021	İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
25.05.2021	RAMAZAN AKOĞUL	DİYARBAKIR 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
26.05.2021	MEHMET ASLAN	İSTANBUL 24. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED, ASLAN WAS RELEASED
27.05.2021	DİNDAR KARATAŞ	ERZURUM 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED

TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING TRIALS IN JUNE



DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
02.06.2021		MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YASEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OPÇİN	ISTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	OBTAINING AND REVEALING DOCUMENTS RE. NATIONAL SECURITY, FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
02.06.2021	10:35	OSMAN AKIN, VEYSİ SARISÖZEN	ISTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
02.06.2021		ALİ SÖNMEZ KAYAR	ISTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
03.06.2021	9:40	REYHAN ÇAPAN	ISTANBUL 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS, PUBLISHING THE STATEMENTS OF A TERROR ORGANIZATION
03.06.2021		ABDURRAHMAN GÖK	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, SPREADING CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS
04.06.2021		KERİM KARAKAYA, FERCAN YALINKILIÇ, MUSTAFA SÖNMEZ, SEDEF KABAŞ, MERDAN YANARDAĞ, ORHAN AYDIN, +32 OTHERS (BLOOMBERG TRIAL)	ISTANBUL 3. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON CAPITAL
08.06.2021	10:10	AHMET ALTAN	ISTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL
08.06.2021	10:00	RUKEN DEMİR	İZMİR 19. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
08.06.2021		RÜSTEM BATUM	İSTANBUL 41. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
08.06.2021	10:15	SADIYE ESER, SADIK TOPALOĞLU	İSTANBUL 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
08.06.2021		CANAN COŞKUN, CAN UĞUR, ALİ AÇAR	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	REVEALING THE IDENTITIES OF STATE OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED ON ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS
08.06.2021	11:30	MELİKE AYDIN	İZMİR 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF AN ARMED ORGANIZATION
11.06.2021	11:25	ENGİN KORKMAZ	ANTALYA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
15.06.2021	13:30	ALİCAN ULUDAĞ, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ AKÇA	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	DISCLOSING THE IDENTITIES OF THOSE WHO DENOUNCE THE CRIME AND CRIMINALS
22.06.2021	10:30	KCK BASIN DAVASI	İSTANBUL 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
22.06.2021	11:30	EREN KESKİN, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, REYHAN ÇAPAN, +5 OTHERS (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PRAISING THE CRIME AND CRIMINAL; TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; OVERTLY INCITING TO COMMIT A CRIME
24.06.2021		KİBRİYE EVREN	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
24.06.2021	10:10	CAN DÜNDAR (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM)	İSTANBUL 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLISHING ON BEHALF OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
24.06.2021	15:00	HAZAL OCAK, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ, İPEK ÖZBEY, VEDAT ARIK (CUMHURİYET)	İSTANBUL 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	REVEALING THE IDENTITIES OF STATE OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED ON ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS, VIOLATION OF THE PRIVATE LIFE
26.06.2021		ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
28.06.2021		HATİCE ŞAHİN	DİYARBAKIR 9. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
30.06.2021	09:15	HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA

○ 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.



○ **Peker videos: Turkey must investigate allegations regarding murders of journalists Uğur Mumcu, Kutlu Adalı**

May 28, 2021

Turkey should investigate new allegations regarding the unsolved murders of two prominent investigative journalists, Uğur Mumcu and Kutlu Adalı, in Turkey and Northern Cyprus in the 1990s, IPI said today.

[Read more](#)



○ **Charges against Melis Alphan in Turkey must be dropped ahead of second hearing**

May 20, 2021

As the world commemorated May 3 as World Press Freedom Day, Turkey marked the occasion with continuing press freedom violations, attacks against journalists and further limitations on social media platforms, the last bastion of freedom of expression and the press in the country. IPI recorded nine different incidents of attacks, harassment, or restrictions on the press in Turkey during the week of May 3, underscoring the continued dire situation for press freedom.

[Read more](#)



○ **IPI condemns police directive preventing audio-visual reporting on protests**

May 1, 2021

IPI condemned a directive sent on Tuesday by Turkey's Security General Directorate to all police departments in the country requesting officers to prevent audio and visual recordings of protests and public demonstrations. The note circulated is seen as a clear move to prevent citizens and journalists from reporting on human rights violations.

[Read more](#)

