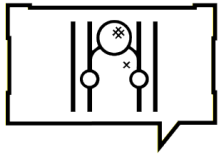


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / FEBRUARY - MARCH 2022

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media



37 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

1 journalist learned to be released.

- 34 SENTENCED
- 3 ONGOING TRIAL

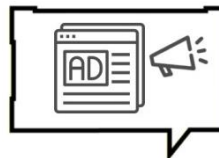


TRIALS CALENDAR

In February, **40** journalist trials were held. 4 journalists were sentenced to:



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



OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In February:

- Broadcast regulator RTÜK [ordered](#) intl broadcasters DW, VoA, Euronews to apply for license, news outlets face access block if deny application.
- Appeals court [upheld](#) sentences against five Turkey journalists for reporting on MIT intelligence officer's funeral in Libya.
- Journalists Zeynep Durgut, Nurcan Yalçın briefly [detained](#) as part of separate investigations

MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN FEBRUARY

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- IPI strongly condemned the murder of Güngör Arslan, the owner and managing editor of the local Ses Kocaeli. IPI Statement [here](#) →
- IPI condemned the masked group's attack on Turkish columnist Memduh Bayraktaroğlu's house in apparent retaliation for a tweet about the far-right MHP leader. IPI statement [here](#) →

Read more [here](#) →

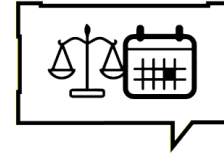
IPI'S WORK IN TURKEY



- **IPI Webinar:** IPI Turkey National Committee, in partnership with the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul (CGC), held a webinar on Feb 8 on hate speech and discrimination in the Turkish media. View the recording [here](#).
- **IPI Call:** IPI joined its partners in the Media Freedom Rapid Response (MFRR) for swift and thorough investigation into murder of Güngör Arslan. [See the full statement](#).
- **IPI Podcast:** New episode at IPI Freedom Dialogues Turkey w/ investigative journalist Çiğdem Toker on reporting on economy and public tenders. [Listen here \(TUR\)](#).

TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN FEBRUARY



DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
01.02.2022	EREN TUTEL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
01.02.2022	EROL ÖNDEROĞLU, ŞEBNEM KORUR FİNCANCI, AHMET NESİN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM RETRIAL	ADJOURNED
01.02.2022	ÇİĞDEM TOKER	KÜÇÜKÇEKMECE 3. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFAMATION	ADJOURNED
01.02.2022	İSMAİL SAYMAZ	İSTANBUL 35. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ADJOURNED
02.02.2022	AHMET KANBAL	AYDIN 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
02.02.2022	OSMAN AKIN, VEYSİ SARISÖZEN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	-
03.02.2022	BUSE SÖĞÜTLÜ	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS	ACQUITTED
03.02.2022	MEHMET ŞAHİN	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
03.02.2022	SELMAN KELEŞ (TRIAL 2)	VAN 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
03.02.2022	HAYKO BAĞDAT (TRIAL 3)	İSTANBUL 51. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
08.02.2022	SELDA MANDUZ	KARS 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 6 MONTHS
08.02.2022	İDRİS YAYLA, +27 OTHERS	BATMAN 1. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
08.02.2022	CENGİZ ÇANDAR	İSTANBUL 30. CRIMINAL COURT	PRAISING CRIME AND CRIMINALS	ADJOURNED
08.02.2022	HAZAL OCAK	İSTANBUL 8. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
08.02.2022	HAZAL OCAK, SERKAN OZAN, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ AKÇA, OZAN YURTOĞLU	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT, DEFAMATION	ADJOURNED
08.02.2022	DENİZ YÜCEL (TRIAL 2)	İSTANBUL 24. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	SENTENCED TO 7080 TL
09.02.2022	RUKEN DEMİR	İZMİR 19. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ACQUITTED
10.02.2022	MEHMET ŞAHİN	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	SENTENCED TO 6 YEARS 3 MONTHS
10.02.2022	ASLI ERDOĞAN (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM MAIN RETRIAL)	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ACQUITTED
10.02.2022	ALİ SÖNMEZ KAYAR	İSTANBUL 32. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
10.02.2022	SONYA BAYIK	BATMAN 1. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
15.02.2022	CANER TAŞPINAR	İSTANBUL 11. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ACQUITTED
15.02.2022	EYLEM SONBAHAR, SEMA KARAKURT, +15 OTHERS	ANTALYA 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS PREVENTING FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY; INSULT	ACQUITTED

TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN FEBRUARY



DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
15.02.2022	İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
16.02.2022	HAYKO BAĞDAT (TRIAL 1)	İSTANBUL 50. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
17.02.2022	KCK İSTANBUL MAIN TRIAL (RAGIP ZARAKOLU AND OTHERS)	İSTANBUL 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	-
17.02.2022	BARIŞ BARIŞTIRAN (RETRIAL)	DİYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
17.02.2022	AHMET MEMİŞ, ALİ AKKUŞ, ATILLA TAŞ, CEMAL AZMI KALYONCU, GÖKÇE FIRAT ÇULHAOĞLU, ÜNAL TANIK, YAKUP ÇETİN, YETKİN YILDIZ	İSTANBUL 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; AIDING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	TAŞ'S FILE SEPARATED, TRIAL ADJOURNED
17.02.2022	ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
17.02.2022	GÖKHAN BİÇİCİ	İSTANBUL 8. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ACQUITTED
17.02.2022	ÖZGÜRLÜKÇÜ DEMOKRASİ	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLISHING ON BEHALF OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PRAISING CRIME AND CRIMINALS; INCITING PUBLIC HATRED AND ENMITY	ADJOURNED
21.02.2022	CAN DÜNDAR, OSMAN KAVALA, MEHMET ALİ ALABORA, AYŞE MÜCELLA YAPICI, +OTHERS (GEZİ TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT AND/OR PREVENT IT FROM FULFILLING ITS DUTY	IPI MONITORED, TRIAL ADJOURNED
21.02.2022	DURKET SÜREN	DİYARBAKIR 11. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 6 MONTHS 22 DAYS
22.02.2022	YETKİN YILDIZ	BAKIRKÖY 31. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT, DEFAMATION	ADJOURNED
22.02.2022	KCK PRESS TRIAL	İSTANBUL 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
22.02.2022	KERİM KARAKAYA, FERCAN YALINKILIÇ, MUSTAFA SÖNMEZ, SEDEF KABAŞ, MERDAN YANARDAĞ, ORHAN AYDIN, +32 OTHERS	İSTANBUL 3. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON CAPITAL MARKET	IPI MONITORED, TRIAL ADJOURNED
23.02.2022	EREN KESKİN, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, REYHAN ÇAPAN, İSLAM TÜNER, LÜTFİ YAVUZASLAN, METHİ KAYA, HASAN BAŞAK AND KEMAL YAKUT (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PRAISING CRIME AND CRIMINALS	IPI MONITORED, TRIAL ADJOURNED
24.02.2022	KİBRİYE EVREN	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	COURT CHANGED, TRIAL ADJOURNED
24.02.2022	JAKE HANRAHAN, PHILIP JOHN PENDLEBURY	DİYARBAKIR 8. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
25.02.2022	SADİYE ESER, +33 OTHERS	İSTANBUL 6. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	-

TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING TRIALS IN MARCH



DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
01.03.2022	11:10	CİHAN ÖLMEZ	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
01.03.2022	15:15	CEM BAHTİYAR	BALIKESİR 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
02.03.2022	14:30	AHMET KANBAL	AYDIN 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL
03.03.2022	10:45	ZANA BILIR KAYA, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, İNAN KIZILKAYA	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)
04.03.2022	10:30	RÜSTEM BATUM (TRIAL 3)	İSTANBUL 43. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)
04.03.2022	11:40	NAMİK KOÇAK	İSTANBUL 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
04.03.2022	10:00	MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YASEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OPÇİN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED ORGANIZATION; MAKING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; OBTAINING AND REVEALING SECRET DOCUMENTS CONCERNING NATIONAL SECURITY
08.03.2022	10:05	TAYLAN ÖZTAŞ, TUNAHAN TURHAN, +36 OTHERS	ANADOLU 13. CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS PREVENTING FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY; DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS
09.03.2022		AZİZ ORUÇ, DİCLE MÜFTÜOĞLU	AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
10.03.2022	09:00	SEMİHA ŞAHİN, PINAR GAYIP	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
10.03.2022	13:30	DOĞAN ERGÜN, İZEL SEZER	İSTANBUL 33. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT, DEFAMATION
11.03.2022		SEDEF KABAŞ	İSTANBUL 36. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
16.03.2022	09:40	REYHAN ÇAPAN (MASS TRIAL ON 18 INDICTMENTS)	İSTANBUL 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS; PRINTING AND PUBLISHING STATEMENTS OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
21.03.2022		CAN DÜNDAR, OSMAN KAVALA, MEHMET ALİ ALABORA, AYŞE MÜCELLA YAPICI, +12 OTHERS (GEZİ TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT AND/OR PREVENT IT FROM FULFILLING ITS DUTY
24.03.2022	10:15	İNAN KIZILKAYA, CAN DÜNDAR	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL
24.03.2022		AZİZ ORUÇ, ERSİN ÇAKSU	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)
24.03.2022		ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
29.03.2022		İSMAİL SAYMAZ	NİĞDE 2. CRIMINAL COURT	OBTAINING PERSONAL DATA AND INFORMATION
29.03.2022		RÜSTEM BATUM (TRIAL 1)	İSTANBUL 5. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT, INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED AND ENMITY
31.03.2022		ABDURRAHMAN GÖK	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS
				REVEALING THE IDENTITIES OF PUBLIC

○ 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 journalist's house attacked after Twitter threats

February 25, 2022

IPI condemns the attack on February 23 on Turkish columnist Memduh Bayraktaroğlu in apparent retaliation for a tweet about the chairman of the far-right Nationalist Movement Party, Devlet Bahçeli.

[Read more](#)



○ IPI calls for swift and thorough investigation into murder of Güngör Arslan

February 21, 2022

IPI joined its partners in the Media Freedom Rapid Response (MFRR) in strongly condemning the murder of Güngör Arslan, the owner and managing editor of the local Ses Kocaeli newspaper in Turkey.

[Read more](#)



○ Turkey: Regulator must not use license powers to pressure international media

February 9, 2022

The decision by Turkey's Radio and Television High Council (RTÜK) requesting several international news outlets to file a broadcast license application must not lead to further harassment of media, the International Press Institute (IPI) said.

[Read more](#)



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