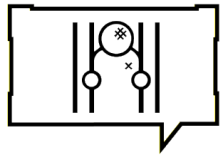


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / MARCH - APRIL 2022

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media



35 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL
1 journalist released.

- 32 SENTENCED
- 3 ONGOING TRIAL

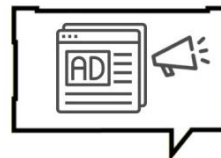


TRIALS CALENDAR

In March, **32** journalist trials were held.
10 journalists were sentenced to:



In April, at least **23** journalist trials will take place. See the calendar [here](#) →



OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In March:

- Journalist Hayri Tunç was briefly [detained](#) over his protests coverage, social media posts
- Journalists Ertuğ Bozkurt, Mikail Barut [detained](#) in Diyarbakır at house raids on Mar 20 following anonymous reports ahead of Newroz celebrations.

MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN MARCH

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- IPI condemned new bill proposed by the Turkish government that could criminalize reporting on corruption and other public interest stories.
IPI Statement [here](#) →
- IPI raised serious concerns about the investigation of the murder of Güngör Arslan, the owner and managing editor of the local Ses Kocaeli, after his family's requests for case details and suspect statements repeatedly denied.
IPI reaction [here](#) →
- Read more [here](#) →

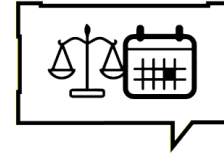
IPI'S WORK IN TURKEY



- **IPI Webinar:** IPI Turkey National Committee, in partnership with the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul (CGC), held a [webinar on March 9](#) on online harassment of female journalists, measures by newsrooms.
- **IPI Programme:** IPI launched a new video programme in collaboration w/ Medyascope about the future of journalism in Turkey. First episode w/ journalist Özlem Gürses. [Watch the broadcast.](#)
- **IPI Turkey Dispatches:** KAOS GL editor-in-chief Yıldız Tar [wrote for IPI](#) on the serious lack of coverage and reporting on the LGBTI+ community in Turkey.
- **IPI Freedom Dialogues:** [New episode](#) w/ academician, activist Turgut Tarhanlı.

TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN MARCH



DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
01.03.2022	CİHAN ÖLMEZ	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
01.03.2022	CEM BAHTİYAR	BALIKESİR 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
02.03.2022	AHMET KANBAL	AYDIN 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	TARGETING PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 3 MONTHS
03.03.2022	ZANA BILIR KAYA, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, İNAN KIZILKAYA	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)	ADJOURNED
03.03.2022	NAMIK KOÇAK	İSTANBBUL 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ACQUITTED
04.03.2022	RÜSTEM BATUM (TRIAL 3)	İSTANBUL 43. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)	ADJOURNED
04.03.2022	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	BARANSU SENTENCED TO 13 YEARS, ALTAN, ÇONGAR, OĞUR SENTENCED TO 3 YEAR 4 MONTHS EACH
08.03.2022	TAYLAN ÖZTAŞ, TUNAHAH TURHAN, +36 OTHERS	ANADOLU 13. CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS PREVENTING FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY; DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
09.03.2022	AZİZ ORUÇ, DİCLE MÜFTÜOĞLU	AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
10.03.2022	SEMİHA ŞAHİN, PINAR GAYIP	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
10.03.2022	DOĞAN ERGÜN, İZEL SEZER	İSTANBUL 33. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT, DEFAMATION	-
10.03.2022	AHMET KANBAL	MARDİN 1. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)	ACQUITTED
11.03.2022	SEDEF KABAŞ	İSTANBUL 36. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS 4 MONTHS
11.03.2022	SULTAN EYLEM KELEŞ	İZMİR 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 2 MONTHS 17 DAYS
15.03.2022	ZEKİNE TÜRKERİ	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 6 MONTHS 22 DAYS
16.03.2022	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	-
17.03.2022	OLAF KOENS, PEPIJN NAGTZAAM	EDİRNE 5. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON MILITARY FORBIDDEN ZONES AND SECURITY ZONES (NO. 2565)	ADJOURNED

TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN MARCH

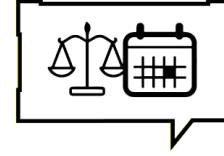


#Free
Turkey
Journalists

DATE	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES	VERDICTS
17.03.2022	MEHMET EMİN KURNAZ (BİRGÜN)	İSTANBUL	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
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	ADJOURNED
24.03.2022	İNAN KIZILKAYA, CAN DÜNDAR	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
24.03.2022	AZİZ ORUÇ, ERSİN ÇAKSU	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)	ADJOURNED
24.03.2022	SEMIHA ŞAHİN, PINAR GAYIP	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
24.03.2022	ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
24.03.2022	RÜSTEM BATUM (TRIAL 4)	İSTANBUL 12. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	-
29.03.2022	İSMAİL SAYMAZ	NİĞDE 2. CRIMINAL COURT	OBTAINING PERSONAL DATA AND INFORMATION	ADJOURNED
29.03.2022	RÜSTEM BATUM (TRIAL 1)	İSTANBUL 5. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT, INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED AND ENMITY	ADJOURNED
29.03.2022	EYLEM SONBAHAR, SEMA KARAKURT, METİN CİHAN (TOTAL 17 DEFENDANTS)	ANTALYA 25. CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING THE POLICE TO PREVENT FROM FULFILLING THEIR DUTY; INSULT	ADJOURNED
30.03.2022	ÇETİN YILMAZ	MANİSA 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR 6 MONTHS 22 DAYS
31.03.2022	ABDURRAHMAN GÖK	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING CONSECUTIVE TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS	ADJOURNED
31.03.2022	HAZAL OCAK, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ, İPEK ÖZBEY, VEDAT ARIK (F. ALTUN'S COMPLAINT)	İSTANBUL 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	REVEALING THE IDENTITIES OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED ANTI- TERROR OPERATIONS AND/OR IDENTIFYING THEM AS TARGETS; VIOLATION OF PRIVACY	-
31.03.2022	ÇİĞDEM TOKER	KÜÇÜKÇEKMECE 3. CRIMINAL COURT	DAMAGE ON PERSONAL RIGHTS	SENTENCED TO 30.000 TL FINE
31.03.2022	BERİTAN CANÖZER	DİYARBAKIR 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA VIA THE PRESS	ADJOURNED

TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING TRIALS IN APRIL



DATE	TIME	DEFENDANTS	COURT	CHARGES
01.04.2022		ENGİN EREN	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
05.04.2022	11:00	METİN CİHAN	İSTANBUL 22. CRIMINAL COURT	OBTAINING AND REVEALING PERSONAL DATA AND INFORMATION
05.04.2022	11:10	RÜSTEM BATUM (TRIAL 2)	İSTANBUL 41. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
07.04.2022	9:30	ÖZGÜRLÜKÇÜ DEMOKRASİ RETRIAL: İHSAN YAŞAR, İSHAK YASUL, MEHMET ALI ÇELEBİ, MIZGIN FENDİK, PINAR TARLAK, REYHAN HACIOĞLU AND HICRAN URUN	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PUBLISHING MATERIALS ON BEHALF OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; PRAISING A CRIME AND CRIMINALS; INCITING PUBLIC TO HATRED AND ENMITY
07.04.2022	13:30	ZAMAN NEWSPAPER RETRIAL: AHMET TURAN ALKAN, ALİ BULAÇ, İBRAHİM KARAYEĞEN, İHSAN DAĞI, LALE SARIİBRAHİMOĞLU, MEHMET ÖZDEMİR, MUSTAFA ÜNAL, MÜMTAZER TÜRKÖNE, NURİYE AKMAN, ORHAN KEMAL CENGİZ, ŞAHİN ALPAY	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	ATTEMPT TO OVERTHROW CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER; LEADING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHILST NOT BEING A MEMBER
08.04.2022		DEVİRİM AYIK	İZMİR 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
08.04.2022	10:00	ADİL DEMİRCİ	İSTANBUL 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
12.04.2022		HASAN CEMAL	İSTANBUL 41. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
12.04.2022	11:50	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ	ANKARA 37. CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING THE POLICE TO PREVENT FROM FULFILLING THEIR DUTY
12.04.2022		DENİZ YÜCEL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT; DENIGRATING TURKISH NATION, TURKISH STATE AND ITS ORGANS (TCK 301)
13.04.2022		CEREN SÖZERİ	İSTANBUL 2. TRADE COURT	DEFAMATION
18.04.2022		HATİCE ŞAHİN	DİYARBAKIR 9. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
19.04.2022		AHMET SEVER	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL
19.04.2022		ABDULLAH KAYA	AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
19.04.2022	9:35	AHMET ALTAN	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL
19.04.2022		HAYRİ DEMİR	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
19.04.2022	9:45	CENGİZ ÇANDAR	İSTANBUL 30. CRIMINAL COURT	PRAISING A CRIME AND CRIMINALS;
21.04.2022		DERYA OKATAN (TRIAL 2)	ANKARA 4. CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
21.04.2022		ROJDA OĞUZ	VAN 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
22.04.2022	10:00	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
27.04.2022	10:00	KERİM KARAKAYA, FERCAN YALINKILIÇ, MUSTAFA SÖNMEZ, SEDEF KABAŞ, MERDAN YANARDAĞ, ORHAN AYDIN, +32 OTHERS	İSTANBUL 3. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON CAPITAL MARKET
28.04.2022		BUSE SÖĞÜTLÜ	İSTANBUL 58. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

○ 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: Ruling party eyes criminal penalties for reporting on financial sector

March 30, 2022

IPI strongly condemned new measures proposed by the Turkish government that could criminalize reporting on corruption and other public interest stories, and further restrict the work of the country's independent media.

[Read more](#)

○ Turkey Trial Blog: Journalists trials based on arbitrary charges continued in February

March 17, 2022

During the week of February 21, 2022, International Press Institute (IPI) representatives attended and monitored several trials against journalists in Istanbul facing various charges.

[Read more](#)

○ Unless I write, no one will: Reporting on Turkey's LGBTi+ community

March 3, 2022

Kaos GL editor-in-chief Yıldız Tar wrote on the serious lack of coverage and reporting on the LGBTi+ community in Turkey

[Read more](#)

