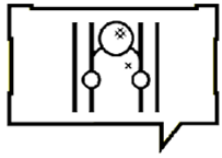


# PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / JUNE - JULY 2022

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



**45** JOURNALISTS  
CURRENTLY IN JAIL  
15 journalists arrested.

- 28 SENTENCED
- 17 ONGOING TRIAL



## TRIALS CALENDAR

In June, 39 journalist trials were held.  
5 journalists were sentenced to:



In July, at least 2 journalist trials will take place.

## OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In June:

- RTÜK [fined](#) Halk TV and KRT for critical coverage of mob leader Sedat Peker allegations.
- Access to DW and VoA Turkish news sites [blocked](#) after not complying with RTÜK's licensing requirements.
- [New lawsuit](#) opened against Journalist Uğur Dündar for "praising crime and the criminal" following Minister Soylu's complaint.



## MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN JUNE

### PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS THIS MONTH IN TURKEY

- IPI condemned the arrest of 15 journalists and a media worker in Diyarbakır on June 16 over terrorism-related charges  
IPI Statement [here](#) →
- IPI concerned by the police violence and detention of journalists covering the Pride march.  
IPI Statement [here](#) →
- Read more [here](#) →

## IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

- **IPI Freedom Dialogues:** [New episode](#) w/ lawyer Veysel Ok about the disinformation law and its impacts on press freedom.
- **Turkey Dispatches:** Journalist Arzu Geybulla [wrote on](#) why anti-harassment measures on platforms still lacking.
- **IPI Programme "The Journalist":** IPI's video programme in collaboration w/ Medyascope on the future of journalism in Turkey. All episodes available [here](#).
- **IPI at RightsCon:** IPI hosted a panel w/ experts discussing the responsibilities different stakeholders in the process of democratizing algorithms. [Watch here](#).
- **IPI Master Classes:** Watch the [first Master Class](#) w/ Director of News Catalyst Aron Pilhofer hosted by journalist Gülsin Harman.



# TRIALS CALENDAR

## JOURNALIST TRIALS IN JUNE



#Free  
Turkey  
Journalists

| DATE       | DEFENDANTS  | COURT                             | CHARGES  | VERDICTS             |
|------------|---|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| 01.06.2022 | UĞUR DÜNDAR   | KÜÇÜKÇEKMECE 2. CRIMINAL COURT    | INSULTING A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL  | FINED WITH 10.500 TL |
| 01.06.2022 | HAYKO BAĞDAT  | İSTANBUL 50. CRIMINAL COURT       | INSULTING THE PRESIDENT  | ADJOURNED            |
| 01.06.2022 | CHARLIE HEBDO TRIAL   | ANKARA 2. CRIMINAL COURT          | INSULTING THE PRESIDENT  | ADJOURNED            |
| 02.06.2022 | CEM BAHTİYAR  | BALIKESİR 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT  | SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA   | ADJOURNED            |
| 02.06.2022 | İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN                                 | İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT  | SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA   | ADJOURNED            |
| 02.06.2022 | İDRİS YAYLA, +27 OTHERS                                     | BATMAN 1. CRIMINAL COURT          | OPPOSITION TO THE LAW ON MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES                                   | ADJOURNED            |
| 03.06.2022 | ENGİN EREN  | BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT     | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION   | ADJOURNED            |
| 03.06.2022 | DEVİRİM AYIK  | İZMİR 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT      | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; KNOWINGLY HELPING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION | ADJOURNED            |
| 03.06.2022 | AZİZ ORUÇ   | AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT       | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA             | ADJOURNED            |
| 07.06.2022 | HAZAL OCAK, SERKAN OZAN, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ AKÇA, OZAN YURTOĞLU | İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT        | INSULT, LIBEL  | ADJOURNED            |
| 07.06.2022 | CİHAN ÖLMEZ   | DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT | SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA   | ADJOURNED            |
| 09.06.2022 | KCK PRESS TRIAL   | İSTANBUL 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT   | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION   | ADJOURNED            |
| 09.06.2022 | ÖZGÜRLÜKÇÜ DEMOKRASİ RE-TRIAL                               | İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT  | PUBLISHING FOR A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | ADJOURNED            |
| 14.06.2022 | RÜSTEM BATUM  | İSTANBUL 5. CRIMINAL COURT        | INSULTING THE PRESIDENT  | ADJOURNED            |
| 14.06.2022 | EROL ÖNDEROĞLU, ŞEBNEM KORUR FİNCANCI, AHMET NESİN          | İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT  | TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PUBLICLY ABETTING CRIME; PRAISING A CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL   | ADJOURNED            |
| 14.06.2022 | SADIYE ESER (TOTAL 34 DEFENDANTS)                           | İSTANBUL 6. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT   | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA             | -                    |
| 15.06.2022 | İSMAİL SAYMAZ   | İSTANBUL 35. CRIMINAL COURT       | INSULT   | FINED WITH 3480 TL   |
| 15.06.2022 | CENGİZ ÇANDAR   | İSTANBUL 30. CRIMINAL COURT       | PRAISING A CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL  | ADJOURNED            |
| 16.06.2022 | ZÜBEYDE SARI  | BAKIRKÖY 24. CRIMINAL COURT       | PUBLICLY INCITING THE PUBLIC TO HATRED AND HOSTILITY                               | ADJOURNED            |
| 16.06.2022 | EREN KESKİN, REYHAN ÇAPAN                                   | İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT        | DEFYING THE PRESS LAW NO. 5187   | ADJOURNED            |
| 16.06.2022 | ZANA BİLİR KAYA, HÜSEYİN AYKOL, İNAN KIZILKAYA              | İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT        | DENIGRATING THE TURKISH NATION, THE TURKISH STATE, AND ITS ORGANS                  | ADJOURNED            |

# TRIALS CALENDAR

## JOURNALIST TRIALS IN JUNE



#Free  
Turkey  
Journalists

| DATE       | DEFENDANTS   | COURT   | CHARGES   | VERDICTS                               |
|------------|--|---|---|--|
| 16.06.2022 | MEHMET ARSLAN  | ERZURUM 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT                | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR, 9 MONTHS          |
| 17.06.2022 | DEVİRİM AYIK   | İZMİR 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT                  | SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA, HELPING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS                  |
| 21.06.2022 | BERİTAN CANÖZER  | DİYARBAKIR 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT             | SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA THROUGH THE MEDIA OR PRESS   | ADJOURNED                              |
| 21.06.2022 | HAZAL OCAK   | İSTANBUL 8. CRIMINAL COURT                    | INSULTING A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL   | ADJOURNED                              |
| 22.06.2022 | AHMET MEMİŞ, ALİ AKKUŞ, CEMAL AZMİ KALYONCU, GÖKÇE FIRAT ÇULHAOĞLU, ÜNAL TANIK, YAKUP ÇETİN, YETKİN YILDIZ | İSTANBUL 25. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT              | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 23.06.2022 | ŞERİFE ORUÇ  | BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT                 | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | -                                      |
| 23.06.2022 | CAN DÜNDAR (MİT TRUCKS)  | İSTANBUL 14. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT              | OBTAINING AND DISCLOSING INFORMATION THAT SHOULD REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL FOR POLITICAL OR MILITARY ESPIONAGE  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 24.06.2022 | RÜSTEM BATUM   | İSTANBUL 43. CRIMINAL COURT                   | DENIGRATING THE TURKISH NATION, THE TURKISH STATE, AND ITS ORGANS   | ADJOURNED                              |
| 24.06.2022 | METİN CİHAN  | İSTANBUL 22. CRIMINAL COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE | ILLEGALLY OBTAINING OR GIVING DATA  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 28.06.2022 | YETKİN YILDIZ  | BAKIRKÖY 31. CRIMINAL COURT                   | INSULT, DEFAMATION  | -                                      |
| 28.06.2022 | ZEKİNE TÜRKERİ, +19 OTHERS   | İSTANBUL 49. CRIMINAL COURT                   | VIOLATING THE LAW ON MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 28.06.2022 | İRFAN TUNÇÇELİK, ÜMİT TURHAN COŞKUN  | İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT              | HELPING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WITHOUT BEING A MEMBER, VIOLATING THE LAW ON MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES   | ADJOURNED                              |
| 28.06.2022 | ZAMAN NEWSPAPER RETRIAL  | İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT              | ATTEMPT TO REMOVE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER; RUNNING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; HELPING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WITHOUT BEING A MEMBER | ADJOURNED                              |
| 28.06.2022 | SONYA BAYIK  | BATMAN 1. CRIMINAL COURT                      | VIOLATING THE LAW ON MEETINGS AND ASSEMBLIES  | -                                      |
| 28.06.2022 | ÇAĞRI SARI, ARİF KOŞAR   | İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT                    | DENIGRATING THE TURKISH NATION, THE TURKISH STATE, AND ITS ORGANS   | ADJOURNED                              |
| 28.06.2022 | İSMAIL SAYMAZ  | NİĞDE 2. CRIMINAL COURT                       | ILLEGALLY OBTAINING OR GIVING DATA  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 29.06.2022 | HAYRİ DEMİR  | ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT                | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 29.06.2022 | HAYKO BAĞDAT   | İSTANBUL 51. CRIMINAL COURT                   | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | ADJOURNED                              |
| 30.06.2022 | ABDURRAHMAN GÖK  | DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT             | MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, SPREADING PROPAGANDA OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION  | SENTENCED TO 1 YEAR, 6 MONTHS, 22 DAYS |

# 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: Photojournalist detained, reporters assaulted while covering Istanbul Pride march *June 29, 2022*

IP condemned the obstruction of journalistic work conducted in the public interest and call on authorities to meet their obligations to protect freedom of the press.

[Read more](#)



## Turkey: IPI in solidarity with local journalism groups against 'disinformation' bill *June 24, 2022*

IPI issued a statement highlighting the many ways in which the proposed law threatens to usher in new censorship

[Read more](#)



## Turkey: IPI renews call for release of 15 Kurdish journalists in Turkey's southeast *June 28, 2022*

IPI called for the immediate release of 15 Kurdish journalists and one media worker arrested on June 16 on terrorism-related charges in the southeastern city of Diyarbakır.

[Read more](#)

