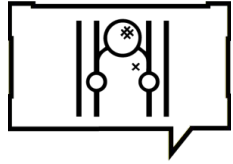


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / MAY - JUNE 2023

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media

#Free
Turkey
Journalists



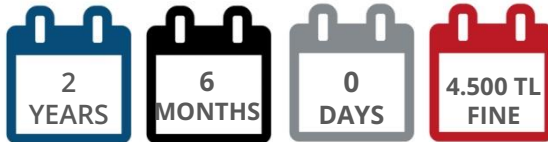
40 JOURNALISTS
CURRENTLY IN JAIL

- 19 SENTENCED
- 21 ONGOING TRIAL



TRIALS CALENDAR

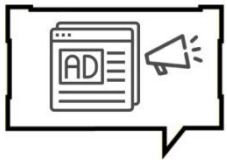
In May, **23** journalist trials were held.
3 journalists were sentenced to:



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

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- On May 3, on the 30th anniversary of the World Press Freedom Day, IPI published an [international press freedom mission report](#) ahead of 2023 Turkish general and presidential elections.
- During IPI World Congress 2023, IPI members adopted a [resolution](#) calling on the eventual winner of Turkey's presidential election to respect press freedom as essential element of democracy.



MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN MAY 2023

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS IN TURKEY

- IPI issued a statement condemning the intimidation and violence against journalists before the general and presidential elections held on May 14, 2023 in Turkey.

IPI statement [here](#) →

- IPI condemned the attacks and hindrances against journalists in several parts of the country during the second round of presidential election held on May 28, 2023.

IPI statement [here](#) →

- Read more [here](#) →

IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

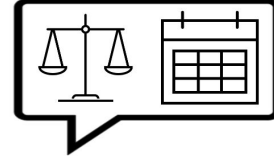


- IPI Freedom Dialogues:** Listen to the [last episode](#) of the Freedom Dialogues podcast series w/ opposition-nominated RTÜK member İlhan Taşçı on change of RTÜK into a propaganda tool of the government, hosted by journalist Cansu Çamlıbel.
- IPI - Medyascope Programme "The Journalist":** Watch the [26th episode](#) w/ journalist Yıldız Yazıcıoğlu on election rallies and [27th episode](#) w/ communications law expert Yaman Akdeniz on Twitter's censorship ahead of the elections in Turkey, hosted by journalist İpek Yezdani. All episodes [available here](#).



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN MAY



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)	VERDICTS
02.05.2023	CİHAN ÖLMEZ	DİYARBAKIR 5. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
02.05.2023	HÜSEYİN AYKOL, REYHAN ÇAPAN (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PRAISING AN OFFENSE OR AN OFFENDER	ADJOURNED
02.05.2023	EVİRİM KEPENEK	SELÇUK CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ADJOURNED
03.05.2023	ZAFER ARAPKİRLİ	İSTANBUL 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ADJOURNED
03.05.2023	ABDULLAH KAYA	AĞRI 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
04.05.2023	FERHAT ÇELİK, İDRİS YAYLA	VAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	VERDICT (1 year and 3 months prison sentence)
08.05.2023	METİN YOKSU	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	VERDICT (1 year and 3 months prison sentence)
08.05.2023	METİN CİHAN - 2 (B.ALBAYRAK)	İSTANBUL 36. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ADJOURNED
09.05.2023	İDRİS YAYLA	BATMAN 1. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFYING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
09.05.2023	CANAN COŞKUN, BARIŞ PEHLİVAN	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
11.05.2023	BARIŞ TERKOĞLU, ÇAN BURSALI, NEVZAT ÇİÇEK	İSTANBUL 11. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY	ADJOURNED
16.05.2023	CENGİZ ÇANDAR	İSTANBUL 30. CRIMINAL COURT	PRAISING AN OFFENSE OR AN OFFENDER	VERDICT (4.500 TL fine)

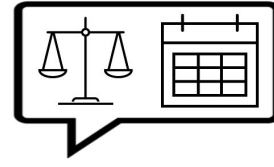


For up-to-date list of trials: <https://freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media/trials-calendar/>



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN MAY



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)	VERDICTS
16.05.2023	PERİHAN KAYA	DİYARBAKIR 10. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
16.05.2023	DİREN YURTSEVER, BERİVAN ALTAN, CEYLAN ŞAHİNLİ, DENİZ NAZLIM, EMRULLAH ACAR, HAKAN YALÇIN, SELMAN GÜZELYÜZ, ZEMO AĞGÖZ, MEHMET GÜNHAN, HABİBE EREN, ÖZNUR DEĞER (29 OCTOBER ARRESTS)	ANKARA 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
17.05.2023	ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
18.05.2023	DENİZ YÜCEL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING THE TURKISH NATION, THE STATE OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC, THE ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE STATE; INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
19.05.2023	DOĞAN AKIN (RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL DUE TO HIS OR HER DUTY	ACQUITTAL
22.05.2023	BARIŞ PEHLİVAN, MUSTAFA BÜYÜKSİPAHİ	ANKARA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL DUE TO HIS OR HER DUTY	ADJOURNED
22.05.2023	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ	ANKARA 19. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL DUE TO HIS OR HER DUTY	ADJOURNED
23.05.2023	SULTAN EYLEM KELEŞ	İSTANBUL 56. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL DUE TO HIS OR HER DUTY; RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY	ADJOURNED
25.05.2023	EROL ÖNDEROĞLU, ŞEBNEM KORUR FİNCANCI	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PUBLICLY ABETTING CRIME; PRAISING AN OFFENSE OR AN OFFENDER	ADJOURNED
25.05.2023	DİLAN BABAT, FIRAT CAN ARSLAN	KONYA 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
31.05.2023	MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YASEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OPÇİN (RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; REVEALING INFORMATION THAT IS TO BE KEPT SECRET FOR THE SECURITY AND POLITICAL BENEFITS OF THE STATE; OBTAINING SECRET DOCUMENTS CONCERNING NATIONAL SECURITY	ADJOURNED

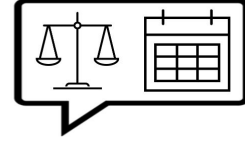


For up-to-date list of trials: <https://freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media/trials-calendar/>



TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING JOURNALIST TRIALS IN JUNE



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)
01.06.2023	YAĞMUR KAYA	AYDIN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
06.06.2023	MANSUR ÇELİK	ANKARA 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
06.06.2023	EVİRİM KEPENEK	SELÇUK CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT
07.06.2023	PAKRAT ESTUKYAN, RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, CİHAN DOĞAN, MEHMET NİMET SEVİM	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
08.06.2023	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; HELPING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
08.06.2023	SİBEL TEKİN	ANKARA 26. CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
10.06.2023	İHSAN YAŞAR, İŞHAK YASUL, MEHMET ALİ ÇELEBİ, MİZGİN FENDİK, PINAR TARLAK, REYHAN HACIOĞLU, HİCRAN UZUN (RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 23. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLISHING STATEMENTS ON BEHALF OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; OPENLY INCITING THE PUBLIC TO HATRED AND HOSTILITY; PRAISING A CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL
12.06.2023	CEYLAN ŞAHİNLİ	ANKARA 20. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
13.06.2023	BARANSEL AĞCA	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
13.06.2023	JULIN SERIGNAC, GERARD BIARD, LAURENT SOURISSEAU, ALICE PETIT (CHARLIE HEBDO TRIAL)	ANKARA 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
13.06.2023	YETKİN YILDIZ	BAKIRKÖY 31. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY
13.06.2023	İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
13.06.2023	CANAN COŞKUN, BARIŞ PEHLİVAN	İSTANBUL 34. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
15.06.2023	EREN TUTEL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL DUE TO HIS OR HER DUTY
20.06.2023	ERTUĞRUL MAVİOĞLU, ÇAYAN DEMİREL (RE-TRIAL)	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
20.06.2023	RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, HAYDAR ERGÜL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
20.06.2023	KCK PRESS TRIAL	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
20.06.2023	DOĞAN ERGÜN, İZEL SEZER	İSTANBUL 33. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY
21.06.2023	CEREN SÖZERİ	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL TRADE COURT	INSULT
22.06.2023	MEHMET GÖCEKLİ	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
22.06.2023	EYLÜL DENİZ YAŞAR	ANKARA 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
22.06.2023	SEZGİN KARTAL	İSTANBUL 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION



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○ 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: Journalists attacked and hindered on presidential election day

May 30, 2023

IPI condemned the violence and hindrances against journalists across the several regions of Turkey during the second round of presidential elections on May 28, 2023.

[Read more](#)

○ IPI General Assembly Resolution: Turkey must respect press freedom as essential element of democracy

May 25, 2023

Meeting at their 72nd annual General Assembly during the IPI World Congress on May 25, 2023 in Vienna, Austria, IPI members adopted by unanimous vote a resolution calling on the eventual winner of Turkey's presidential election to cease media crackdown on independent journalism and respect press freedom.

[Read more](#)

○ Turkey Trial Blog: Journalists' case launched upon the complaint of President Erdoğan's former lawyer combined with three other cases

May 11, 2023

IPI monitored the sixth hearing in the trial of journalists Can Bursalı, Barış Terkoğlu, Barış Pehlivan and Nevzat Çiçek facing charges of "insult" and "calumny" held at the Istanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance.

[Read more](#)



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