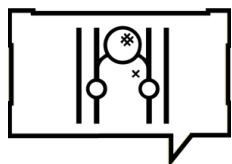


# PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / JULY - AUGUST 2023

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

#Free  
Turkey  
Journalists



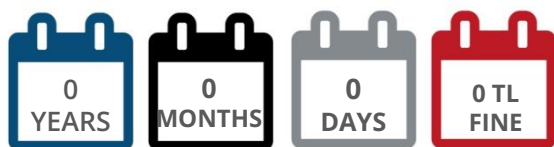
## 21 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

- 15 SENTENCED
- 6 ONGOING TRIAL



### TRIALS CALENDAR

In July, **17** journalist trials were held.  
2 journalists were acquitted:



In August, **no journalist trials** will be held due to judicial recess. See the calendar [here →](#)



### OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- On July 11, IPI [monitored](#) the first hearing of 17 Kurdish journalists and 1 media worker in Diyarbakır after a year in detention.
- Main opposition party CHP, announced unilateral termination of all official ties with broadcaster Halk TV. IPI Executive Board Vice-Chair & Turkey National Committee Chair Emre Kızılkaya [commented](#) on the development.



## MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN JULY 2023

### PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS IN TURKEY

- IPI and 37 other media organizations condemned the detention of journalists in Ankara, Diyarbakır, İstanbul and İzmir on house raids.

Joint statement [here →](#)

- IPI continues to publish weekly media crackdown threads on Twitter. Our July list:

July 1 - 7 [here →](#)

July 8 - 14 [here →](#)

July 15 - 21 [here →](#)

July 22 - 28 [here →](#)

- Read more [here →](#)

## IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

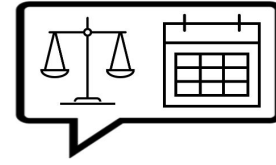


- IPI Freedom Dialogues:** Listen to the [last episode](#) of the Freedom Dialogues podcast series with lawyer Resul Temur on alternative media and legal harassment of Kurdish journalists, hosted by Cansu Çamlıbel (in Turkish).
- IPI - Medyascope Programme "The Journalist":** Watch the [29th episode](#) with Agos newspaper Editor in Chief Yetvart Danzikyan on challenges faced by minority press in Turkey, hosted by İpek Yezdani. All episodes [available here](#).
- IPI Turkey Dispatches:** Read the [article](#) by Sevilay Nur Saraçlar based on her impressions from IPI's Master Class on "Spatial Investigations with The New York Times Graphics Team", hosted by Gülsin Harman (in Turkish).



# TRIALS CALENDAR

## JOURNALIST TRIALS IN JULY



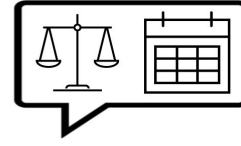
DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)	VERDICTS
04.07.2023	ZEYNEP KURAL	İSTANBUL 39. CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
04.07.2023	OSMAN AKIN, VEYSİ SARISÖZEN	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
05.07.2023	DİREN YURTSEVER, BERİVAN ALTAN, CEYLAN ŞAHİNLİ, DENİZ NAZLIM, EMRULLAH ACAR, HAKAN YALÇIN, SELMAN GÜZELYÜZ, ZEMO AĞGÖZ, MEHMET GÜNHAN, HABİBE EREN, ÖZNUR DEĞER	ANKARA 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
05.07.2023	HAYRİ DEMİR (RE-TRIAL)	ANKARA 15. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
07.07.2023	BARANSEL AĞCA	ELAZIĞ 8. CRIMINAL COURT	OBTAINING OR SPREADING PERSONAL DATA UNLAWFULLY	ACQUITTAL
07.07.2023	YAĞMUR KAYA	İSTANBUL 17. CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
07.07.2023	HAZAL OCAK, OLCAY BÜYÜKTAŞ, İPEK ÖZBEY, VEDAT ARIK	İSTANBUL 26. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	REVEALING THE ID.S OF STATE OFFICIALS PARTICIPATED ANTI-TERROR OPERATIONS AND/OR IDENTIFYING THEM AS TARGETS, VIOLATION OF PRIVACY OF PERSONAL LIFE	ACQUITTAL
07.07.2023	RÜSTEM BATUM	İSTANBUL 43. CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY DENIGRATING THE STATE'S SECURITY AND MILITARY FORCES	ADJOURNED
10.07.2023	ÖZNUR DEĞER	ANKARA 18. CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
11.07.2023	İSMAİL ARI	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
11.07.2023	ROZERİN GÜLTEKİN	BURSA 18. CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
11.07.2023	17 KURDISH JOURNALISTS + 1 MEDIA WORKER	DİYARBAKIR 4. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
13.07.2023	NAGİHAN YILKIN, MUSTAFA BÜYÜKSİPAHİ	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
18.07.2023	MERDAN YANARDAĞ	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
18.07.2023	FURKAN KARABAY	İSTANBUL 1. CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE PERSONAL RIGHTS	ADJOURNED
18.07.2023	CANAN KAYA	İSTANBUL 39. CRIMINAL COURT	DEFAMATION	ADJOURNED
19.07.2023	RUŞEN TAKVA	HAKKARİ CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY DISSEMINATING MISLEADING INFORMATION (NEW DISINFORMATION LAW)	ADJOURNED



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

# TRIALS CALENDAR

## A SELECTIVE LIST OF JOURNALIST TRIALS FOR REST OF 2023



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)
07.09.2023	MANSUR ÇELİK	ANKARA 22. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
11.09.2023	CEM BAHTİYAR	BALIKESİR 3. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
21.09.2023	TAYLAN ÖZTAŞ, TUNAHAN TURHAN, VEDAT ÖRÜÇ	ANADOLU 13. CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS; RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY
22.09.2023	PAKRAT ESTUKYAN, RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, CİHAN DOĞAN, MEHMET NİMET SEVİM	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
26.09.2023	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ	ANKARA 37. CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING POLICE OFFICERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM PERFORMING THEIR DUTY
12.10.2023	EROL ÖNDEROĞLU, ŞEBNEM KORUR FİNCANCI, AHMET NESİN	İSTANBUL 2. CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; PUBLICLY ABETTING CRIME; PRAISING A CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL
25.10.2023	CAN DÜNDAR (MİT TRUCKS)	İSTANBUL 14. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	AIDING AND ABETTING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHILST NOT BEING A MEMBER; OBTAINING SECRET DOCUMENTS FOR ESPIONAGE
26.10.2023	İNAN KIZILKAYA, CAN DÜNDAR (ÖZGÜR GÜNDEM)	İSTANBUL 14. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLISHING STATEMENTS ON BEHALF OF TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS
26.10.2023	ERTUĞRUL MAVİOĞLU, ÇAYAN DEMİREL (RE-TRIAL)	BATMAN 2. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
01.11.2023	İHSAN YAŞAR, İSHAK 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
09.11.2023	İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN	İSTANBUL 27. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
13.11.2023	MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YASEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OPÇİN (RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13. HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	FOUNDING AND LEADING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; MAKING PROPAGANDA FOR A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; REVEALING INFORMATION THAT IS TO BE KEPT SECRET FOR THE SECURITY AND POLITICAL BENEFITS OF THE STATE; OBTAINING SECRET DOCUMENTS CONCERNING NATIONAL SECURITY
07.12.2023	JULIN SERIGNAC, GERARD BIARD, LAURENT SOURISSEAU, ALICE PETIT (CHARLIE HEBDO)	ANKARA 2. CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT



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

## ○ 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: International and local groups condemn detention of journalists in Ankara, Diyarbakır, İstanbul and İzmir

July 26, 2023

IPI and 37 other media organizations condemned the detention of T24 editor Sibel Yüklér, Mezopotamya Agency (MA) reporters Delal Akyüz and Fırat Can Arslan, bianet editor Evrim Kepenek and freelance journalist Evrim Deniz in Turkey on July 25.

[Read more](#)



### ○ Turkey Trial Blog: Court releases 15 journalists detained for over a year in Diyarbakır

July 12, 2023

IPI monitored the first hearing of a case in which 17 Kurdish journalists and 1 media worker – 15 of whom are currently in pre-trial detention are charged with “membership in a terrorist organization”.

[Read more](#)



### ○ How do journalists cope with their traumas and biases while covering topics with personal relevance?

July 10, 2023

The ways journalists cope with their traumas and biases while covering topics with personal relevance, written by Sevilay Nur Saraçlar - journalist and member of IPI's Turkey National Committee.

[Read more](#)

