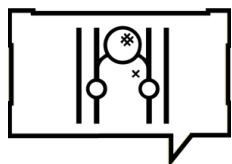


PRESS FREEDOM IN TURKEY

MONTHLY BRIEFING / NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2023

www.freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media

#Free
Turkey
Journalists



15 JOURNALISTS CURRENTLY IN JAIL

- 11 SENTENCED
- 4 ONGOING TRIAL



TRIALS CALENDAR

In November, **33** journalist trials were held. **5** journalists were acquitted, **1** journalist was sentenced:



In December, at least **28** journalist trials will be held. See the calendar [here](#) →

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Co-organized by IPI Turkey National Committee and Galatasaray University, IPI's third annual Turkey Media Symposium entitled "[AI and Media: Navigating the Revolution](#)" took place in Istanbul on Nov 24, 2023.
- IPI Turkey, in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers in Istanbul, is organizing a [a series of master classes](#) on the art of pitching story ideas. First 3 sessions were held on [Nov 1](#), [Nov 8](#) and [Nov 15](#). The final session is due on Dec 5.



MEDIA CRACKDOWN IN NOVEMBER 2023

PRESS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS IN TURKEY

- IPI and 17 other media freedom organizations condemned the arrest of T24 columnist Tolga Şardan under "disinformation law" for reporting corruption in the justice system.

Joint statement [here](#) →

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

November 1 - 5 [here](#) →

November 6 - 12 [here](#) →

November 13 - 19 [here](#) →

November 20 - 26 [here](#) →

- Read more [here](#) →

IPI's WORK IN TURKEY

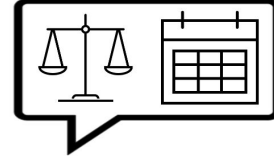


- IPI - Medyascope Programme "The Journalist"**: Watch the [33rd episode](#) with Can Ertuna, journalist and academician, on conflict journalism and killed journalists during Israel-Palestine war, hosted by İpek Yezdani. All episodes [available here](#).
- IPI Turkey Dispatches**: Read the [article](#) by Uraz Kaspar on podcast journalism in Turkey and explore the reasons for its lack of recognition as a specialized field.
- IPI Freedom Dialogues**: Listen to the [latest episode](#) of our podcast series, Freedom Dialogues, hosted by journalist Cansu Çamlıbel, featuring senior war correspondent & photojournalist Coşkun Aral, discussing reporting in war zones & the role of media outlets during wartime (in Turkish).



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN NOVEMBER



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)	VERDICTS
01.11.2023	İHSAN YAŞAR, İSHAK YASUL, MEHMET ALİ ÇELEBİ, MİZGİN FENDİK, PINAR TARLAK, REYHAN HACIOĞLU, HİCRAN UZUN (ÖZGÜRLÜKÇÜ DEMOKRASİ RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 23rd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLISHING ON BEHALF OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; PRAISING AN OFFENSE OR AN OFFENDER; INCITING PEOPLE TO HATRED ENMITY	ADJOURNED
02.11.2023	ABDULLAH KAYA	AĞRI 2nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
02.11.2023	AHMET SEVER	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY	ADJOURNED
02.11.2023	BARIŞ TERKOĞLU, NEVZAT ÇİÇEK, CAN BURSALI	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY	ADJOURNED
06.11.2023	RABİA ÇETİN	İSTANBUL 23rd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY; IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ACQUITTAL
06.11.2023	SEMRA ÇELEBİ	İSTANBUL 10th CRIMINAL COURT	DENIGRATING THE TURKISH NATION, STATE OF TURKISH REPUBLIC, THE ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE STATE	ACQUITTAL
07.11.2023	MUSTAFA BÜYÜKSİPAHİ, MUSTAFA BİROL GÜGER	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY	ADJOURNED
07.11.2023	FURKAN KARABAY, FARUK EREN	ANKARA 22nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
09.11.2023	AZİZ ORUÇ, ELİF ÜNGÜR, İBRAHİM KOYUNCU, LEZGİN AKDENİZ, MAZLUM GÜLER, MEHMET ŞAHİN, MEHMET ALİ ERTAŞ, NEŞE TOPRAK, ÖMER ÇELİK, RAMAZAN GECİKEN, REMZİYE TEMEL, SERDAR ALTAN, SUAT DOĞUHAN, ZEYNEL ABİDİN BULUT, ABDURRAHMAN ÖNCÜ, ESMER TUNÇ, İBRAHİM BAYRAM, MEHMET YALÇIN	DİYARBAKIR 4th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
09.11.2023	İSMİNAZ TEMEL, HAVVA CUŞTAN	İSTANBUL 27th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
09.11.2023	BARIŞ PEHLİVAN	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
09.11.2023	SAFİYE ALAĞAŞ	DİYARBAKIR 5th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
09.11.2023	BARIŞ TERKOĞLU	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY	ADJOURNED
09.11.2023	CANAN KAYA	İSTANBUL 39th CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING COMMERCIAL STANDING; VIOLATING PERSONAL RIGHTS	DISMISSED

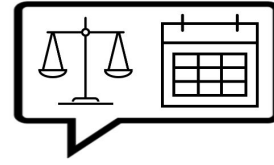


For up-to-date list of trials: <https://freeturkeyjournalists.ipi.media/trials-calendar/>



TRIALS CALENDAR

JOURNALIST TRIALS IN NOVEMBER



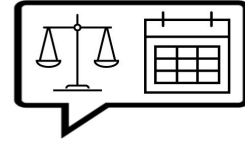
DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)	VERDICTS
09.11.2023	MANSUR ÇELİK	ANKARA 22nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
10.11.2023	PERİHAN KAYA	DİYARBAKIR 10th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA	ADJOURNED
13.11.2023	MEHMET BARANSU, AHMET ALTAN, YASEMİN ÇONGAR, YILDIRAY OĞUR, TUNCAY OPÇİN (RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 13rd 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 BENEFIT OF THE STATE; OBTAINING SECRET DOCUMENTS CONCERNING NATIONAL SECURITY	ADJOURNED
14.11.2023	JAKE HANRAHAN, PHILIP JOHN PENDLEBURY	DİYARBAKIR 8th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	HELPING AN ARMED TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
14.11.2023	MERDAN YANARDAĞ	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
14.11.2023	ŞEHRİBAN ALKIŞ +6 OTHERS	İSTANBUL 23rd CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO OBSTRUCT THEM FROM DUTY	VERDICT (5.000 TL)
16.11.2023	BARIŞ PEHLİVAN, OZAN ALPER YURTOĞLU	İSTANBUL 15th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT; INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL	ADJOURNED
16.11.2023	FURKAN KARABAY	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY	ADJOURNED
16.11.2023	PINAR GAYIP	ESKİŞEHİR 2nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION	ADJOURNED
16.11.2023	BARIŞ PEHLİVAN	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	DISMISSED
16.11.2023	SEDEF KABAŞ	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
21.11.2023	RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, HAYDAR ERGÜL	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
22.11.2023	AYÇA SÖYLEMEZ	İSTANBUL 29th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
23.11.2023	BARANSEL AĞCA	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT	ADJOURNED
23.11.2023	CANAN COŞKUN (RE-TRIAL)	İSTANBUL 14th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS	ADJOURNED
23.11.2023	RÜSTEM BATUM (CASE 1)	İSTANBUL 5th CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT; INCITING PEOPLE TO HATRED ENMITY	ADJOURNED
24.11.2023	OZAN KAPLANOĞLU, HAĞİCE NUR DERYA, BURHAN KÜPELİ	BURSA 8th CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS	ADJOURNED
28.11.2023	İSMAİL ARI	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY	ACQUITTAL
29.11.2023	ZAFER ARAPKİRLİ	İSTANBUL 32nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT	ACQUITTAL



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TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING JOURNALIST TRIALS IN DECEMBER



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)
01.12.2023	PAKRAT ESTUKYAN, RAMAZAN YURTTAPAN, CİHAN DOĞAN, MEHMET NİMET SEVİM	İSTANBUL 27th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
05.12.2023	ABDURRAHMAN GÖK	DİYARBAKIR 5th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA; MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
05.12.2023	SİBEL TEKİN	ANKARA 26th CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
05.12.2023	OSMAN AKIN, VEYSİ SARISÖZEN	İSTANBUL 13th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
05.12.2023	İSMAİL SAYMAZ	İSTANBUL 24th CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
05.12.2023	NAGİHAN YILKIN, MUSTAFA BÜYÜKSİPAHİ	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	OPENLY INSULTING A PUBLIC OFFICIAL BECAUSE OF HIS DUTY
06.12.2023	NEBİYE ARI, YAĞMUR KAYA, HİLAL IŞIK	ANKARA 15th CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS
07.12.2023	JULIAN SERIGNAC, GERARD BIARD, LAURENT SOURISSEAU, ALICE PETIT (CHARLIE HEBDO)	ANKARA 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
07.12.2023	YETKİN YILDIZ	BAKIRKÖY 31st CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT; CALUMNY
07.12.2023	DİCLE MÜFTÜOĞLU	DİYARBAKIR 5th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; FOUNDING AND LEADING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
08.12.2023	BERİTAN CANÖZER	DİYARBAKIR 10th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
11.12.2023	ÖZNUR DEĞER +23 OTHERS	ANKARA 18th CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS
12.12.2023	FIRAT BULUT	ELBİSTAN 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY DISSEMINATING MISLEADING INFORMATION
12.12.2023	METİN CİHAN	ANKARA 22nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	INSULT
12.12.2023	SİBEL HÜRTAŞ	ANKARA 37th CRIMINAL COURT	RESISTING PUBLIC OFFICIALS TO OBSTRUCT THEM FROM DUTY
12.12.2023	HASAN SİVRİ	ANKARA 1st CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY DISSEMINATING MISLEADING INFORMATION
12.12.2023	SONYA BAYIK	BATMAN 1st CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS
13.12.2023	AHMET KANBAL	MARDİN 1st CRIMINAL COURT	PUBLICLY DISSEMINATING MISLEADING INFORMATION



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TRIALS CALENDAR

UPCOMING JOURNALIST TRIALS IN DECEMBER



DATE	DEFENDANT(S)	COURT	CHARGE(S)
14.12.2023	ERTUĞRUL MAVİOĞLU, ÇAYAN DEMİREL	BATMAN 2nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
14.12.2023	PINAR GAYIP	ESKİŞEHİR 2nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
14.12.2023	HAZAL OCAK	İSTANBUL 33rd CRIMINAL COURT	COMPENSATION
14.12.2023	ŞERİFE ORUÇ	BATMAN 2nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
14.12.2023	SEDAT YILMAZ	DİYARBAKIR 4th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; FOUNDING AND LEADING A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
19.12.2023	ABDULLAH KAYA	AĞRI 2nd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	MEMBERSHIP OF A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION; SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA
19.12.2023	RÜSTEM BATUM	İSTANBUL 43rd HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	IDENTIFYING OFFICIALS ON ANTI-TERROR DUTIES AS TARGETS
21.12.2023	SUAT TOKTAŞ	İSTANBUL 2nd CRIMINAL COURT	INSULTING THE PRESIDENT
22.12.2023	OZAN KAPLANOĞLU, HATİCE NUR DERYA, BURHAN KÜPELİ	BURSA 8th CRIMINAL COURT	VIOLATING THE LAW ON ASSEMBLIES AND DEMONSTRATIONS
26.12.2023	MEHMET GÖCEKLİ	İSTANBUL 27th HIGH CRIMINAL COURT	SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA



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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.



○ **Online violence targeting women journalists and responses from the news organizations: Current methods and needs**

November 20, 2023

The role of news organizations in protecting women journalists from online harassment and its impact on journalists' in Turkey's increasingly diverse and dispersed media environment featuring interviews with journalists, news directors and press organizations.

[Read more](#)



○ **Turkey: Repeal the “disinformation offence” and overreaching legal amendments**

November 8, 2023

IPI and four Media Freedom Rapid Response (MFRR) partner organisations reiterated their call for the annulment of Article 217/A, the offence of “publicly disseminating misleading information” known as the “disinformation offence”, passed in October 2022 that undermine international standards on the right to freedom of expression and of the press.

[Read more](#)



○ **Turkey: International groups condemn arrest of journalist Tolga Şardan**

November 2, 2023

IPI and 17 other media freedom organizations strongly condemned the arrest of seasoned journalist Tolga Şardan for his column discussing a report on corruption in the justice system.

[Read more](#)

