

REPORT

«ACADEMICS FOR PEACE»

Bilge Selçuk

Koç University, Istanbul, bselcuk@ku.edu.tr

EFPA PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEETING

ISTANBUL, MAY 27 2016

The **Kurdish–Turkish conflict** is an armed conflict between the Republic of Turkey and various Kurdish insurgent groups
1978: PKK (Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê - Kurdistan Workers' Party)

Turkish general elections June 7, 2015:

- The Justice and Development Party (AKP), which had governed Turkey since 2002, lost its parliamentary majority, with 40.9% of the vote.
- Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) fared better than expectations: it won 13.1% of the vote.

A heavy ceasefire broke between the Turkish Government and Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in July 2015

Violence escalated as curfews on Kurdish towns and cities extended over the months with bombings and gun fights breaking out routinely.

Report of Human Rights Foundation of Turkey

August 16-October 21:

- 29 women
- 39 children
- 27 people older than 60
- At least 198 civilians in total
- 27 people in their own homes
- Curfew for 2 months

16 June - 25 December 2015

- 362.012 students who were registered in 1556 schools could not go to school
- 14,000 students could not go to school in Sur, Nusaybin, Dargeçit, Cizre and Silopi

- Soldiers, officers, and policemen lost their lives
 - Hospitals closed
 - Children could not walk or play outside
 - They lived in fear
-
- PTSD
 - Anxiety and mood disorders
 - Elimination problems (bedwetting) in children
 - Sleep disturbance

Rights activists, artists, former politicians, academicians and NGOs united around a protest of violence in any form.





The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948

The UN [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) of 1989
(Turkey signed on September 14, 1990)

January 11, 2016:

“We won’t be a party to this crime”

The petition of “Academics for Peace” initiation was signed by 1128 academics and read out at a press conference:

“As academics and researchers of this country, we will not be a party to this crime.

as Turkish citizens, the Turkish Government is our legal address.”



January 12, 2016

Turkey rounds up academics who signed petition denouncing attacks on Kurds

Ankara accused of violating academic freedom by detaining 27 signatories of petition calling for end to 'massacre' of Kurdish people



- accused signatories of spreading and supporting Kurdish terrorist propaganda.
- “I call upon all our institutions: Everyone who benefits from this state but is now an enemy of the state must be punished without further delay”.

January 13, 2016

“The So-Called Intellectuals,
The Bells Will Toll for You First”

Sedat Peker
a convicted Turkish criminal leader
threatened Academics of Peace:

“We will let your blood in streams
and we will take a shower in your
blood”

Notorious criminal threatens academics calling for peace in Turkey's southeast

ANKARA

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Warrants and threats

- Some of the academics who signed the petition were the subject of a backlash by nationalist students.



January 15, 2016

- Police arrested 27 academics (later released)
- All signatories started waiting for the police
- The Turkish Higher Education Board (YÖK) and state prosecutors launched investigations against academics who signed the petition.
- Several universities launched their own investigations into signatories at their institutions
- Some have asked the academics to resign.

By January 15, 2016

- 1,000 Turkish academics signed the petition.
- In total 2200 academics from 90 universities
- 700 western scientists and intellectuals, including Noam Chomsky and Judith Butler, have also publicly supported the petition and academic.

30 1st signatories

| | |
|---|--|
| Asistant Prof. Dr. Öznur Öncül (official investigation, suspended) | Bülent Ecevit University oznuroncul@gmail.com |
| Associate Prof. Dr. Canan Kaygusuz (official investigation) | On Dokuz Mayıs University cananikaygusuz@hotmail.com |
| Asistant Prof. Dr. Eda Erdener (official investigation) | Bingöl University edaerdener@hotmail.com |
| Professor Dr. Melek Göregenli (official investigation) | Ege University melekgor@gmail.com |
| Asistant Prof. Dr. Olga Selin Hünler (official investigation) | İzmir Ekonomi University olgashunler@gmail.com |
| Research asis. Düzgün Uğur (official investigation) | Dicle University duzgunugur@gmail.com |
| Zeynep Güney (to be fired) | Fatih Sultan Mehmet University zeynep_guney@hotmail.com |
| Lecturer, M.A Umut Şah | Arel University umutsah@gmail.com |
| Assist. Prof. Murat Pakar | Bilgi University Murat.pakar@bilgi.edu.tr |
| Alper Açık | Ozyeğin University alper.acik_81@gmail.com |
| Lecturer, Dr. Yasemin Acar | Ozyeğin University yasemindidar@gmail.com |
| Tuğçe Çetin | Bilgi University tugce.cetin@bilgi.edu.tr |
| Demet İslambay | Middle East Technical University islambay@metu.edu.tr |
| Prof. Hale Bolak | Bilgi University Hale.bolak@bilgi.edu.tr |
| | Bilgi University elifsandal@gmail.com |
| Phd student Pinar Önen | Okan University pinaronen@gmail.com |
| Associate professor Dr. Ayten Zara | Bilgi University ayten.zara@bilgi.edu.tr |
| Prof. Serdar Değirmencioglu (to be fired) | Doğuş Üniversitesi |
| Berrak Karahoda | Bilgi University berrak.karahoda@gmail.com |
| Ayşe Dayı (to be fired) | İstanbul 29 Mayıs University daviayse0@gmail.com |
| Asistant prof. Dr. Esra Mungan (arrested, in jail) | Boğaziçi University esra.mungan@boun.edu.tr |
| Associate prof. Dr. İlyas Göz | Acıbadem University ilyas.goz@acibadem.edu.tr |
| | |
| Research asis. Aslı Aydemir | İstanbul University aydemir.asli@hotmail.com |
| Research asis. Ogeday Çoker | İstanbul University ogecoker@gmail.com |
| Asistant prof. Dr. Gözde Özdikmenli Demir (official investigation, suspended) | Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University gozdeoz2004@yahoo.com |
| Associate prof. Dr. Bilge Selçuk | Koç University bselcuk@ku.edu.tr |
| Asistant Prof. Dr. Elif Yasimi Duman | Boğaziçi University elif.duman@boun.edu.tr |
| Reserach asis. Merve Fidan (official investigation) | Ankara University fidanmv@gmail.com |
| Research asis. Ercan Şen (official investigation)) | Ankara University ercansenn@gmail.com |

19 2nd signatories

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Res. Asis. Orhan Kaya | Abant İzzet Baysal University orhankaya21@gmail.com |
| Asistant prof. Dr. Bahar Tanyaş | Okan University bahar.tanyas@okan.edu.tr |
| Buket Kılıçer | Artvin Çoruh University buketkilicer@gmail.com |
| Zeynep Çatay | Bilgi University zeynep.catay@bilgi.edu.tr |
| Ayten Deniz Tepeli | Mimar Sinan university aytendeniztepedi@gmail.com |
| Banu Yılmaz (official investigation) | Ankara University bnylmz@gmail.com |
| Associate prof. Dr. Mert Teközel | Ege University i.mert.tekozel@ege.edu.tr |
| Mübeccel Yeniada | Hacettepe University mubyeniada@gmail.com |
| Lecturer Neşe Hatiboğlu | Işık University nesehatiboglu@yahoo.com |
| Yudit Namer | Independent clinical psychologist yuditnamer@gmail.com |
| Dr. Ekrem Düzen (to be fired) | İzmir University ekremduzen@gmail.com |
| Hivren Özkol | hivren@gmail.com |
| Melis Uluğ | Jacobs University o.ulug@jacobs-university.de |
| | İstanbul University cagatayco@gmail.com |
| | İstanbul University elifesakin@hotmail.com |
| | İstanbul University aydinbayad@gmail.com |
| | |
| | |
| | Marmara University esersandikci@gmail.com |
| | Ege University mkarasu89@gmail.com |

Turkish scientists rocked by accusations of supporting terrorism

Peace petition leads to arrests and university investigations.

Quirin Schiermeier

18 January 2016

Rights & Permissions



January 20, 2016:

Attacks of the president continued:

Erdoğan said referring to academics
“lumpen”
“half-portion intellectual”
“crappy so-called”

AUGUST 16, 2015 - MARCH 18, 2016

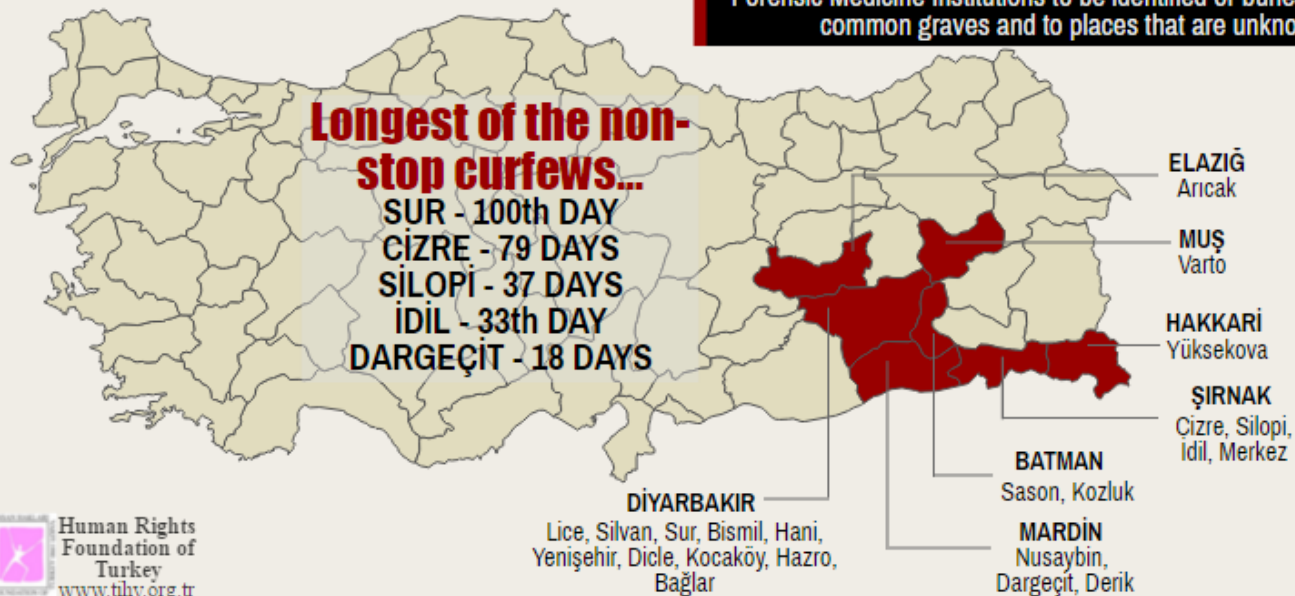
**ALL-DAY
LONG**

CURFEWS in TURKEY

In 22 districts of 7 cities, 1 million 642 thousand people are affected by 63 times declared curfews!

At least 310 civilians lost their lives during curfews...
72 CHILDREN, 62 WOMEN, 29 OVER THE AGE 60...

Other than these, at least 79 bodies are whether waiting in Forensic Medicine Institutions to be identified or buried to common graves and to places that are unknown.



Turkish academics jailed for 'making terrorism propaganda'

Arrests could be the first of many after peace petition led to 30 academics being fired.

[Alison Abbott](#)

16 March 2016

[Rights & Permissions](#)



March 10, 2016

Four academics held a contact meeting as to incidents taking place since the release of the petition.

Psychologist Esra Mungan -Boğaziçi University

Mathematician Kıvanç Ersoy - Mimar Sinan University

Political scientist Muzaffer Kaya - Nişantaşı University

March 15, 2016

Jailed

Meral Camcı -Yeniyüzyıl University
English translation and interpretation
(arrested on **April 1**)



Support from 120 Academic Psychologists for 3 Arrested Academics

Academic psychologists have protected freedom of thought and expression, objected against arrest of their colleagues.

İstanbul - BIA News Desk

28 March 2016, Monday 12:39



March 28, 2016

The content of the declaration/petition must be assessed within the limits of freedom of expression and thought, regardless of agreeing or disagreeing with it.

Asking for immediate release of colleagues



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

The Hon. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
President of Turkey
Cumhurbaşkanlığı Külliyesi 0

Your Excellency

I greet you on behalf of the sc

You will recall that I met you i
state visit in 2004; I was wi
Durban-Westville of which I w
his President personally with

I have since followed your tre
have ushered in. I identify
repressive conditions in your
the same Robben Island cell-

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Political Psychologists Express Concern Regarding the Persecution of Academics in Turkey

Friday March 25 2016

As leading scholars in the international field of political psychology, we affirm the importance of open and free exchange regarding the relationship between psychological and political phenomena. For a truly transnational community of scholarship to flourish and for political psychology to contribute insights that advance the wellbeing of our political societies, it is imperative that scholars around the world enjoy complete academic freedom.

Many of us were delighted to attend the Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology in Istanbul in July 2011 where we shared papers on cooperation and human societies. Bringing the academic world of political psychology to Istanbul enhanced our friendships with Turkish academics and initiated many excellent collaborations.

We note with alarm and dismay the recent threats and actions taken against political scientists and other colleagues in Turkey for publicly expressing their views, including unjust job terminations, arrests and public harassment. We are deeply concerned not only for the wellbeing of the individuals involved, but also for the continued development of political psychology in Turkey. Without basic civic freedoms and legal rights we believe that academic freedom is badly compromised.

We call upon the Turkish government to ensure that the fundamental democratic freedoms of conscience, expression, and assembly are respected and that any rights that have been removed are restored. We call upon the Turkish government to respect our Turkish colleagues so that they may enjoy the full academic freedom required to carry out their important work on behalf of the global community of scholarship in political psychology.

Dear Col

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Times: "I
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ADA de

Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu
Office of the Prime Minister
Başbakanlık 06573
Ankara, Turkey

Dear Prime Minister:

As the Steering Committee of Psy

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Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu

Office of the Prime Minister
Başbakanlık
06573 Ankara

Turkey

Brussels, March 18, 2016

detaining of academics for expressing freely

ofessional and scientific communities about
your country.

ologists' Associations - EFPA that represents
intries. One of the missions of EFPA is to
d to a democratic and prosperous society.

nts peacefully without incurring in sanctions,
and expression of scientists. We value these
ind peaceful solutions for the problems that

s part of the European and international
d as contributions for the attempts to solve
s should be able to contribute without fear
s. We have been informed that a Turkish
together with other academics while doing
you to free her and all others that are only
in finding nonviolent solutions.

ment with the scientists and academics, as a

rd ready to give our contribution.

105/39 - 1000 Brussels - Belgium - www.efpa.eu
'ovilakis (LT), Christoph Steinebach (DE)
'i Karayannis (CY) Bruna Zani (IT)



DER VORSTAND

AnschRf: Berufsverband
Deutscher
Psychologinnen
und Psychologen
Am Köllnischen Park 2
10179 Berlin

Telefon + 49 30 -209 166 - 612
Telefax + 49 30 -209 166 - 680
E-Mail info@bdp-verband.de

24.03.2016

rr Botschafter,

alen Medien gibt es zunehmend Berichte über die Behinderung von Wissen-
si auszudrücken und in friedlicher Absicht Ansichten zu politischen Themen
ntlich vorzutragen.

en in der internationalen Fach- und Wissenschaftsgemeinde zu Sorgen da-
Themen von den Behörden in Ihrem Land behandelt werden.

in im Namen des Berufsverbands Deutscher Psychologinnen und Psycholo-
praktisch tätigen Psychologen aus Deutschland vertritt. Eine der Aufgaben
r deutschen Psychologen besteht darin, zur Lebensqualität der Menschen
okratischen und prosperierenden Gesellschaft beizutragen.

ützt ebenso wie unser europäischer Dachverband European Federation of
sociations (www.efpa.eu) die friedliche Wahrnehmung des Grundrechts auf
ferung auch im Falle unterschiedlicher Ansichten ohne, dass dies eine Ver-
ktionen zur Folge hat.

dem Prinzip des Grundrechts des freien Austauschs, des Grundrechts auf
iheit und des Rechts der freien Meinungsäußerung zwischen Wissenschaft-
n innerhalb der Wissenschaftsgemeinschaft.

Prinzipien als Beitrag zur Entwicklung friedlicher Lösungen für die Probleme,
ischaffen belasten.

uf die Mitwirkung von unseren türkischen Kollegen als Teil der europäischen
tionalen Wissenschaftsgemeinde.

Meinungsäußerungen sollten nach unserer Auffassung als Beitrag und An-
ehen werden, um diejenigen Probleme zu lösen, denen Gesellschaften ge-
Unsere türkischen Kolleginnen und Kollegen sollte es ohne Angst vor Ver-

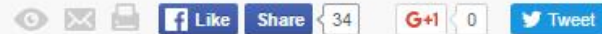


Erdoğan Brings Deprivation of Citizenship to Agenda

President Erdoğan has said he doesn't agree with academics to be tried without arrest, "terror" organization supporters might be deprived of citizenship as a precaution.

Istanbul - BIA News Desk

05 April 2016, Tuesday 17:42



April 5, 2016:

“We have to be determined to take all precautions including depriving the terror supporters of citizenship.

They cannot be our citizens”
implying the academics as well.

April 22, 2016

- Four Turkish academics jailed on charges of spreading terrorist propaganda were released, pending trial



Psychologist Esra Mungan
Boğaziçi University

Rights violations against "Academics for Peace" as of May 23, 2016.

| | Public | Private | Total |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|-------|
| Suspended | 29 | 2 | 31 |
| Disciplinary Investigation | 449 | 64 | 513 |
| Resignation | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Forced Retirement | | 1 | 1 |
| Dismissal* | 11 | 26 | 37 |
| Legal investigation | 270 | 148 | 418 |
| Detention | 35 | 3 | 38 |
| Arrest** | 2 | 2 | 4 |

* Does not include 14 academics whose disciplinary investigations resulted in dismissal decisions pending YÖK/HEC approval.

** 3 academics had to stay in pre-trial detention for 40 days and 1 for 22 days until they were released after the first court hearing.

Dismissed psychologists:

Zeynep Güven

Ayşe Dayı

Serdar Değirmencioğlu

Ekrem Düzen



Doğuş Üniversitesi, İmzacı Profesörü de İşten Attı

Doğuş Üniversitesi, "Bu suça ortak olmayacağız" bildirisini imzacısı Yrd. Doç. Dr. Aslı Vatanserver ile Prof. Dr. Serdar M. Değirmencioğlu'nun da sözleşmesini feshetti.

Beyza Kural

Istanbul - BIA Haber Merkezi

03 Mayıs 2016, Salı 16:07

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11 Additional Regions in Dersim Declared Special Security Zone

Governorship has announced that in addition to the previous 11 regions, 11 more regions have been declared special security zone in Dersim.

İstanbul - BIA News Desk

26 May 2016, Thursday 16:42

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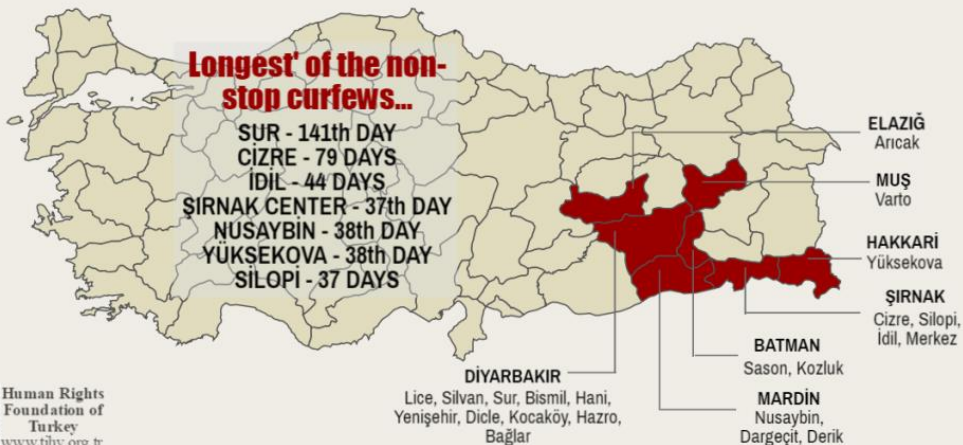
AUGUST 16, 2015 - APRIL 20, 2016

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78 CHILDREN, 69 FEMALE, 30 OVER THE AGE 60...

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1 million 642 thousand
people are affected by
65 times declared
curfews!**



49 Countries but not Host Turkey Sign Declaration of Protecting Civilians in Conflict

Turkey hosting the World Humanitarian Summit hasn't signed the joint declaration as to enforcing the international human rights law, and protecting security of the civilians.

İstanbul - BIA News Desk

26 May 2016, Thursday 14:23

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March 25, 2016

- The Justice and Development Party (AK Party) has been working on a new, omnibus law package
- Participating in or supporting ideological or political activities, and participating in strikes will be punished with dismissal from professions and civil service.
- The president of the Council of Higher Education will be able to directly instigate investigations. The punishment will be decided upon by the Disciplinary Council of the Council of Higher Education .



Academics for Peace Granted Aachen Peace Prize

Academics for Peace has been granted Aachen Peace Prize this year. The award is being given since 1988 to individuals and institutions contributing to develop understanding between peace and peoples.

Aachen - BIA News Desk

10 May 2016, Tuesday 10:13

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| Legal investigation | 270 | 148 | 418 |
| Detention | 35 | 3 | 38 |
| Arrest** | 2 | 2 | 4 |

* Does not include 14 academics whose disciplinary investigations resulted in dismissal decisions pending YÖK/HEC approval.

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