

Think, think...



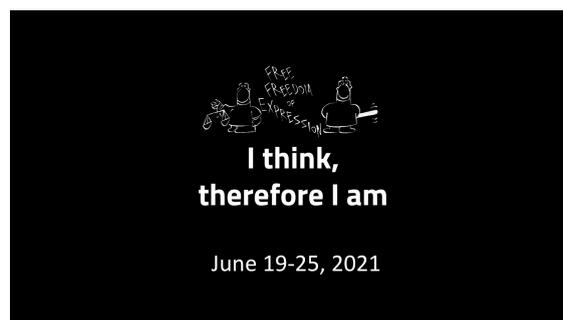
Freedom of Expression Weekly Newsletter (Issue 25/21 - July 25, 2021)

What happened last week?

- Completing the first evaluation of the file in the lawsuit filed on the closure of the People's Democratic Party (HDP), the Constitutional Court decided to accept the indictment. The meetings held by the People's Democratic Party (HDP) executives with KCK executives in Qandil upon government permission during the "Resolution Process" between 2012 and 2015 entered the case file. [How will the process continue?](#)
- The ruling party's little partner Nationalist Movement Party's leader Devlet Bahçeli declared Deniz Poyraz, who was killed in the attack, a "terrorist." He supported the killing of Poyraz and targeted the Poyraz family. Bahçeli further admitted that the attack was "organised." The Poyraz Family and the People's Democratic Party (HDP) continue to express their demand for further investigation on the attack, which was reprimanded by Erdoğan two days after it happened.
- In case the Council of State decides against it, Turkey will have withdrawn from the Istanbul Convention by July 1. Turkish Women's Associations Federation President Canan Güllü announced that she will not attend the GNAT Committee to Research Violence Against Women meeting. After Güllü, the Republican People's Party (CHP) and IYI Party withdrew from the committee as well.
- The Presidential cabinet gathered with the agenda of bans due to the pandemic. After the meeting, it was announced that all restrictions will be revoked by July 1st, whereas music performances were banned every day after 12 a.m., indefinitely. The irrelevance of the decree with the pandemic was declared by Erdoğan himself, as he was announcing the decree. Erdoğan said, *"Sorry, but no one has the right to disturb another in the middle of the night."* Communications Director Fahrettin Altun described the criticisms against the decree by saying they are *"those who can't give up on the habits of the former Turkey."* Many people reacted against the arbitrary ban on social media with a hashtag campaign. The hashtag went beyond the artistic community and turned into reactions against many issues on the policies of the ruling power.
- Vaccination processes are speeding up in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Turkey's number of daily vaccinations are currently above a million. The minimum age in first dose vaccination was decreased to 25. Russia's travel ban against Turkey ended. Turkish Medical Association expresses that the research on mutated viruses is little and they increase risk of infection during travels, especially during the tourist season. Debates of Turkey's transparency in outbreak management continue as well. Health Minister Fahrettin Koca admitted that besides the 50 thousand deaths announced by the ministry, more deaths have occurred due to delayed health services.
- After the United States demanded the fugitive businessman Sezgin Baran Korkmaz to be returned from Austria due to "laundering more than 133 million dollars", Turkey

demanded Korkmaz's return as well! Korkmaz has allegedly bribed security officers, journalists and politicians with thousands of dollars with the laundered money.

- The Turkish Statistical Institute decided to postpone the announcements on the statistics of death and causes of death for 2020, which was going to illuminate the real numbers on the deaths in Turkey due to the Coronavirus. The reason for the postponement was shown as the "incomplete studies on the statistics being produced from administrative records." On the other hand, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca stated that 50 thousand people have died due to the COVID-19 in accordance with the World Health Organisation criteria, whereas he further announced that at least that many people have died due to "indirect reasons related to the COVID-19."
- The Constitutional Court revoked the Presidential decree, which allowed faculty members to take positions on the Central Bank's Money Market Council. Three members, including İrfan Fidan, put annotations against the decree. Receipts on multiple salaries being received by many Parliament members and bureaucrats of the ruling power continue to be brought to the Parliament agenda.
- The General Assembly of the Constitutional Court will evaluate the individual application of arrested Parliament member Ömer Faruk Gergerlioğlu on the prosecution that became a basis for his conviction and for his loss of seat at the Parliament being a "violation of his right to freedom of expression and his right to conduct political activities."
- One of the first targets of Sedat Peker's disclosures, Süleyman Özışık, announced that he asked Süleyman Soylu for the re-employment of some people, who were dismissed with Statutory Decrees issued within the State of Emergency after the coup attempt on July 15, and that his requests from Soylu were fulfilled. On the other hand, there are thousands of people who were dismissed from public service with Statutory Decrees issued within the State of Emergency without a court decree and their applications at the State of Emergency Applications Monitoring Committee of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey are either being kept waiting or are being denied without further explanation. Access bans were issued against Sedat Peker's YouTube and Twitter accounts as well, whereas the service providers have not yet executed the decree, even though they have representatives in Turkey now.



Our weekly video programme, "[COGITO ERGO SUM](#)," in which we track Turkey's freedom of expression and thought agenda, is on our [YouTube channel](#) every Friday...

[Please click here](#) for all video newsletters...

Türkiye İNSAN HAKLARI Raporu

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TIHV launches 2020 Turkey Human Rights Report

The Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) launched the 2020 Turkey Human Rights Report. According to the report, at least 404 people faced torture and other mistreatment in 140 separate incidents in 2020 and at least 86 people were injured. 22 of the 139 identified incidents occurred during house

raids, 86 during open air events and 31 at official detainment centers. 2014 people were detained through physical violence, at least 65 people were injured and 9 people, including one child, were arrested during protests and demonstrations. 100 people were released on the condition of judicial measures and 77 people with travel bans against them. 506 people were prosecuted due to participating in various meetings and demonstrations. 137 people were sentenced to a total of 253 years of imprisonment. At least 335 people were sentenced to at least 790,490 Turkish Liras of penalty fine in total due to “violating the measures taken against the COVID-19 pandemic.” At least 616 people were detained, 11 people were arrested and 16 people were released on the condition of judicial measures and one with a travel ban against him due to social media posts. Investigations were started against at least 147 people due to their social media posts. In 12 lawsuits filed due to social media posts, 5 people were sentenced to a total of 20 years and 4 days of imprisonment; three people were acquitted. At least 24 people were detained in 2020 due to “insulting the President” and two people were arrested. At least 72 press workers and one writer were detained in 2020. At least 25 journalists were arrested and 17 journalists were released on the condition of judicial measures in 2020. At least 239 journalists and press workers were prosecuted in 129 lawsuits filed against them. In concluded prosecutions, 41 journalists were sentenced to a total of 173 years, 11 months and 7 days of imprisonment as well as 34,160 Turkish Liras of judicial fine in total. Access bans were issued against at least 1079 news articles, 97 websites, 635 URLs, 10 social media accounts (including the account of French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo) and 301 online content. Furthermore, a book that was yet to be published and a newspaper issue were withdrawn from shelves with court decrees. [Please click here](#) for the full report.



15 rights organisations call for measures against Turkey before Council of Europe meeting

15 international rights organisations, including the International Press Institute (IPI) and IFEX, launched a joint letter before the Council of Europe meeting on July 24-25 and made calls for Council of Europe’s President Charles Michel and the European Committee President Ursula von der Leyen. The signatories of the letter pointed out the worsening scene of

human rights in Turkey after the Council’s March meeting as well as their visit in the country. The letter further pointed out to the closure case against the People’s Democratic Party (HDP) as well as the armed attack against the People’s Democratic Party (HDP) Izmir Provincial Organisation, expressing their expectations under [three main categories](#).



At least 320 peaceful demonstrations intervened in five months

Monitoring for the Equal Rights Association announced that at least 320 peaceful meetings and demonstrations were intervened and at least 2,123 people were detained in Turkey in the first five months of 2021. According to the data shared by the association, a total of 132

local administration decrees restricted the right to peaceful meeting and demonstration, with 107 general and 25 specific decrees. Furthermore, 99 percent of all such decrees issued by the local administrations were based on the pandemic. [Please click here](#) for the full report.



Investigation against Eren Keskin and two other journalists on 'Musa Çitil'

An investigation was started against Human Rights Association (IHD) Co-Chair Eren Keskin and journalists Yağmur Kaya and Ahmet Kanbal due to “targeting those taking part in the fight against terrorism” following the complaint of Gendarmerie General Command's Deputy Commander Musa Çitil.

The investigation was started due to a statement Eren Keskin made following the statement of Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu, in which he targeted People's Democratic Party (HDP) members. Soylu's statement was on Special Sergeant Musa Orhan raping İpek Er and causing her death in Gercüş district of Batma. Keskin was charged due to her social media post, in which she wrote, “Years before Musa Orhan, there was Musa Çitil. He was a commander in Mardin in the 1990s. He was prosecuted due to sexually harassing Ş.R. and was acquitted. Years later, he was a commander in 'Sur' district of Diyarbakır.” Journalist Kanbal was charged due to his social media post as well. Journalist Kaya, on the other hand, was charged due to an interview she made with Keskin.



Rapper Ağačkakan and 6 others detained

Rapper Ağačkakan and six others gathered at Mehmet Ayvalıtış Park in Kadıköy at 12 a.m. in order to protest the government decree on the ban against music performances after 12 a.m. The artist and six others were detained. After the last cabinet meeting, it has been announced that social restrictions based on the pandemic will be revoked completely on July

1st, whereas music performances will be banned after 12 a.m. As Erdoğan was announcing the decree, he said, “sorry but no one has the right to disturb another at night.”



Yeşilçam character analogy becomes crime evidence

In the lawsuit filed against journalist Oktay Candemir due to “illegal organisation membership” and “making illegal organisation propaganda”, a social media post made by the journalist was added to the indictment as crime evidence. In the related social media post, Candemir has likened the policies of the Justice

and Development Party (AKP) to famous Yeşilçam character Maho Ağa. The post of the journalist, dated September 4, 2020 and was made subject of his accusation, stated, “Like the trickster Mahu in Banker Bilo, the Justice and Development Party put Turkey in a truck and left it in the middle of Middle East, making the promise of taking it to the EU.” The first hearing of the lawsuit was held last week on June 17 at Van 5th Assize Court and the prosecution will continue on September 23, 2021.



Mustafa Sönmez acquitted of “insulting Erdoğan”

Journalist and economist Mustafa Sönmez, who was charged with “insulting President Erdoğan” through a social media post on the arrest of Reza Zarrab in the United States, was acquitted in the lawsuit filed against him at Istanbul Anatolian 26th Criminal Court of First Instance. Sönmez has been charged due to his

social media post on the prosecution of Zarrab, who was arrested in 2016 facing charges related to breaking the U.S. embargo against Iran. In the related social media post, Sönmez has written, “Mr Reza will not be prosecuted alone. Halkbank, the Erdoğan government and all others who allowed him the opportunity to commit this fraud will also be prosecuted. Mr Reza will certainly say that he was not alone in this.”



Preventions against Pride Week events

The Human Rights Foundation of Turkey made a statement on the Pride Week. In the statement, an end of discrimination as well as all attitudes of hate and violence against the LGBTQ+s was demanded. On the other hand, restrictions continue against the 2021 Pride March events. The march organised by

LGBTQ activists in Izmir was prevented by the police. Events organised in Heybeliada were prevented through police threats against event venues despite the lack of any ban decree against events. Şişli District Governorate in Istanbul announced a 30-day protest and demonstration ban across the district, banning the picnic organised in Maçka Park as well. The police intervened against those picnicking at the park and many were detained. Activists carrying flags, headbands and bags with rainbow patterns and colours were not allowed inside demonstration areas in many provinces. The Istanbul Governorate banned the 19th

Istanbul LGBTQ+ Pride March organised at Maltepe Rally Area on June 26. The ban was based on the same reason as in previous years: The protection of general morality and provocation...



Human Rights Association executive Hatice Onaran detained

Human Rights Association (IHD) Istanbul Executive Board member Hatice Onaran was detained with a house raid organised at her house within an investigation conducted by the Edirne Prosecutor's Office, dated 2019. In the statement made by the Human Rights Association, it was indicated that Onaran was

detained due to her activities of rights advocacy. The association stated, "We demand an end of the judicial pressure against rights advocates and for our colleague to be released immediately."



Students lose loans and scholarships over supporting protests at Boğaziçi University

At least 100 students, who participated in the protests organised against Melih Bulu, the appointed rector at Boğaziçi University, lost their scholarship by the Credits and Dormitories Institute (KYK). In the letter sent to the students by the Youth and Sports

Provincial Directorate of the Istanbul Governorate, it was indicated that their loans and scholarships were cut in accordance with a letter sent by Istanbul Security Directorate. The students were asked to start paying their student loan, starting in July 2023.



Attacks against journalists

Journalist İbrahim Akkuş reported the deficiencies as well as the construction failures of a public hospital in Samsun, which cost 15 million Turkish Liras. Afterwards, Akkuş was attacked by the construction company workers inside the municipality building. Akkuş was previously threatened by the company workers.

Ihlas News Agency (IHA) reporter Mustafa Uslu recorded the visuals of destruction of the farm in Dilova district of Kocaeli, which belonged to İyi Party Group Deputy Chairman Lütfü Türkkan. Afterwards, Uslu was attacked by four people, who were allegedly farm workers.



HDP member arrested over participating in protest for Deniz Poyraz

Two people were detained in the demonstration organised in Şişhane district of Istanbul to protest the armed attack against the People's Democratic Party (HDP) Izmir Provincial Organisation as well as the killing of People's Democratic Party (HDP) employee Deniz Poyraz. Of those two people, People's member Salih Karatay was arrested due to

Democratic Party (HDP) Youth Assembly "resisting the police".



Police intervention against women over performing sit-in protest for Deniz Poyraz

The police established a barricade in front of the women, who set up a sign at Hürriyet Boulevard, where the People's Democratic Party (HDP) Provincial building was located, and wanted to make a statement in front of the sign for the killing of Deniz Poyraz during the armed attack against the People's Democratic Party (HDP) Izmir Provincial organisation. The

police used tear gas against the women, who were performing a sit-in protest.



Six women detained in rally for Istanbul Convention

Six women were beaten and detained after the end of the rally organised in Maltepe district of Istanbul with the call of Equality for Women Platform (ESIK) with the title, "We Do Not Give Up On the Istanbul Convention". The women were released after testifying at the police station.



Investigation against social media post on '128 billion dollars'

An investigation was opened against a citizen in Mersin due to "insulting the President" through a social media post made on what happened to the 128 billion dollars.



Detainment against protesters for Deniz Poyraz

People's Democratic Party (HDP) members were detained over participating in the protest organised in Esenyurt district of Istanbul on the killing of Deniz Poyraz. 10 people, including People's Democratic Party (HDP) Esenyurt district executives and Free Women's

Movement activists, were detained through operations conducted against their houses.



Protest bans

Protests and demonstrations were banned in Muş and Ağrı for 15 days each. The ban in Ağrı will last until July 3 and in Muş until July 4.



Police prevents press statement by women in front of State Council

The press statement organised by the units of the Women for Equality Platform (ESİK) was prevented by the police after they gathered in front of the State Council building to submit an additional letter to the council for their application to be prioritized. Their application was on the annulment of the Presidential

Decree on Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention.



Police threaten journalist over following Şenyaşar Family

Emine Şenyaşar has been performing a "justice watch" in front of Urfa Courthouse for the killing of her two children and her husband by the guards and relatives of Justice and Development Party (AKP) Parliament Member İbrahim Halil Yıldız, as well as for her arrested son. Mesopotamia Agency (MA) reporter Emrullah Acar, who wanted to report the news

of Emine Şenyaşar's fight, was threatened by the police. On the 106th day of the justice watch, a police officer came in front of the Şenyaşar family residence and threatened Acar, who was waiting right outside the residence's garden.

Peşini bırakmıyoruz
Yeşiller Partisi'nin
Önünden Çekilin !

"Vatandaşlar, siyasi parti
kurma ve usulüne göre
partilere girme ve partilerden
ayrılma hakkına sahiptir"



Petition campaign by Greens Party after prevention of establishment

The Greens Party started a petition campaign on change.org after nine months of prevention against their establishment. The petition campaign is entitled, "[Step Aside the Way of the Greens Party](#)" and is supported by 334 people, including writers, academics, politicians, activists, artists and journalists. The campaign text stated, "The Interior Ministry is

not fulfilling its duty, which is not an optional duty in accordance with the Constitution and the law. Yet the Ministry is attempting to design the political field in accordance with its own preferences. We call the Interior Ministry to give up on its prevention against the establishment of the Greens Party and hand the party its license as soon as possible."



TRIALS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Deniz Gedizlioğlu Case

The lawsuit filed against media writer and critic Deniz Gedizlioğlu due to "insulting" actor Talat Bulut in the article she wrote on the incident of sexual harassment that allegedly happened in the backstage of a TV series...

Court: Istanbul Anatolian 1st Criminal Court of First Instance

Verdict: The Prosecutor claimed the acquittal of Gedizlioğlu, stating that the related article carries the quality of "news." The final hearing of the lawsuit will be held on June 29.

KCK Press Case

The lawsuit filed against 46 journalists and media workers in 2012 due to "illegal organisation membership"...

Court: Istanbul 3rd Assize Court

Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 23.

Özgür Gündem Case

The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Özgür Gündem Daily's Co-Editors-In-Chief Hüseyin Aykol and Eren Keskin, as well as Managing Editor Reyhan Çapan due to "insulting the President" and "making terrorist organisation propaganda" through the news published in the newspaper's September 8, 2015 issue with the headline, "Palace Gone Crazy"...

Court: Istanbul 13th Assize Court

Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 3.

Ayşe Gökkan Case

The lawsuit filed against former TJA spokesperson Ayşe Gökkan due to "illegal organisation membership and managing an illegal organisation" based on her activities within the Democratic Society Congress, the protests and demonstrations she participated in, secret witness statements against her, her Rosa Women's Association membership and her high-level activities inside the TJA...

Court: Diyarbakır 9th Assize Court

Verdict: The Prosecutor presented his opinion on the basis to the court and claimed for Gökkan to be sentenced to imprisonment twice separately due to “illegal organisation membership” as well as to an additional imprisonment sentence for up to 35 years due to “making illegal organisation propaganda”. The court decided for Gökkan to remain under arrest and scheduled the next hearing for September 13.

Beyza Kural Case

The lawsuit filed against police officers K.A., N.D. and Y.Ş. due to “violating the freedom of work” in accordance with Articles 117/1 and 119/1-e of the Turkish Criminal Code after they prevented journalist Beyza Kural from performing her profession...

Court: Istanbul 3rd Criminal Court of First Instance

Verdict: The claim of Kural to be involved in the case was accepted. The next hearing was scheduled for September 24.

Can Dündar Özgür Gündem Substitute-Editing-In-Chief Case

The lawsuit filed against Can Dündar due to “printing or publishing terrorist organisation statements” through his participation in the Substitute-Editing-In-Chief on Duty campaign for Özgür Gündem in 2016...

Court: Istanbul 22nd Assize Court

Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for December 23.

Kibriye Evren Case

The lawsuit filed against Jinnews reporter Kibriye Evren due to “illegal organisation membership” and “making illegal organisation propaganda” with a claim of imprisonment for up to 20 years...

Court: Diyarbakır 5th Assize Court

Verdict: Approval was requested from Mersin 2nd Assize Court for the case to be merged with another case opened against the journalist in Mersin. The next hearing was scheduled for November 11.

Mehmet Özer Case

The lawsuit filed against photography artist and poet Mehmet Özer due to “making illegal organisation propaganda” through six Facebook posts he made between the years 2012 and 2015...

Court: Ankara 2nd Assize Court

Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for October 8.

Case Against News on Illegal Construction at Bosphorus

The lawsuit filed against Cumhuriyet Daily reporter Hazal Ocak, Managing Editors Olcay Büyüktaş and İpek Özbey, as well as photo reporter Vedat Arık due to “targeting those taking part in the fight against terrorism” and “violating privacy” following the complaint of Presidential Communications Director Fahrettin Altun...

Court: Istanbul 25th Assize Court

Verdict: The Prosecutor announced his opinion on the basis and claimed for the penalisation of the four journalists. The next hearing was scheduled for December 1.

Serife Oruç Case

The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency (DIHA) reporter Şerife Oruç due to “illegal organisation membership”...

Court: Batman 2nd Assize Court

Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 11.

Case Against Diyarbakır Bar Association

The lawsuit filed against 11 former Diyarbakır Bar Association Executive Board members due to “public incitement towards resentment and hostility” in accordance with Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Code through their statements published for the commemorations on April 24 in 2017 and 2018...

Court: Diyarbakır 13th Assize Court

Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 17 due to the change of the chief judge.

HEARINGS NEXT WEEK

Dargeçit Jitem Case

The lawsuit filed against the disappearance of Special Sergeant Bilal Batır, who allegedly gave information to families as well as eight people, including three children, in Dargeçit district of Mardin between the dates October 29, 1995 and March 8, 1996...

June 28, Monday at Adıyaman 1st Assize Court

Case Against Boğaziçi University Students

The lawsuit filed against 4 students, who were detained due to “carrying rainbow flags” as they were protesting for their arrested friends, as well as eight other students who were detained as they were protesting the situation...

June 28, Monday at İstanbul 24th Criminal Court of First Instance

Hatice Şahin Case

The lawsuit filed against Yeni Yaşam Daily reporter Hatice Şahin, who was detained in the operation conducted in Diyarbakır on October 9, 2018 and was released, due to “illegal organisation membership” through the phone calls she made with news resources and her journalist colleagues, secret witness statements against her, her plane tickets between Diyarbakır and İstanbul as well as her participation in Democratic Society Congress (DTK) activities...

June 28, Monday at Diyarbakır 9th Assize Court

Case Against Women Protesting Femicide

Lawsuit filed against 12 women, who were detained in the protest organised in İzmir to protest the killing of Pınar Gültekin, due to “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911”...

June 28, Monday at İzmir 47th Criminal Court of First Instance

Metin Lokumcu Case

The lawsuit filed on the death of Metin Lokumcu, who died due to the tear gas bomb used by the police in Hopa on May 31, 2011 during the protests occurred as former Prime Minister Erdoğan was visiting the region...

June 28, Monday at Trabzon 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance

Engin Eren Case

The lawsuit filed against Dicle NewsAgency Batman reporter Engin Eren, who was following the “human shield protest” organised in Kelhasan Village of Sason district in Batman on September 18, 2015 for an end of clashes in the region, as well as 75 others, due to “illegal organisation membership,” “aiding an illegal organisation,” “participating in illegal meetings and demonstrations,” “violating the Law on Forbidden and Security Zones” as well as “using force or threat to prevent a public officer from performing their duty”...

June 29, Tuesday at Batman 2nd Assize Court

Hakkı Boltan Case

The lawsuit filed against journalist Hakkı Boltan due to “insulting the President” and “insulting a public officer because of his duty” through a statement he made in 2016 on journalist Rohat Aktaş, who was killed during the curfews...

June 29, Tuesday at Diyarbakır 12th Criminal Court of First Instance

Ground Tables Case

The lawsuit filed against theologian-writer İhsan Eliaçık and eight others due to “resisting the police” and “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations” through the “Ground Tables” attempted to be set in front of Galatasaray High School in Taksim on the first day of the Ramadan in 2019...

June 29, Tuesday at Istanbul 47th Criminal Court of First Instance

Hayri Demir Case

The lawsuit filed against journalist Hayri Demir due to “terrorist organisation membership” and “making terrorist organisation propaganda” through the news he reported in northern Syria in 2016...

June 30, Wednesday at Ankara 15th Assize Court

Abdullah Kaya Case

The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Dicle News Agency (DIHA) Ağrı reporter Abdullah Kaya due to “illegal organisation membership” and “making illegal organisation propaganda” through his journalistic activities and social media posts...

July 1, Thursday at Ağrı 2nd Assize Court

Caner Taşpınar Case

The lawsuit filed against OdaTV editor Caner Taşpınar due to “insulting” former GNAT Chairman İsmail Kahraman and Justice and Development Party (AKP) Parliament member Ali İhsan Arslan through his book, “The Son-In-Law: AKP Father-In-Laws of Fethullah Supporters”...

July 1, Thursday at Istanbul 11th Criminal Court of First Instance

Deniz Yücel Case

The lawsuit filed against Die Welt Daily reporter Deniz Yücel due to “insulting the President” and “public denigration of the Turkish government”...

July 1, Thursday at Istanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance

Özgür Gündem Case

The lawsuit filed against 22 people, including 17 journalists, who were beaten and detained during the police raid organised at Özgür Gündem Daily building after it was shut down on August 16, 2016, due to “insulting a public officer” and “preventing a public officer from performing their duty”...

July 1, Thursday at Istanbul 5th Criminal Court of First Instance

Case Against News on Torture

The lawsuit filed against journalists Adnan Bilen, Cemil Uğur, Şehriban Abi and Nazan Sala, who were arrested after reporting the news on one person being heavily injured and one dying as a result of torture in Van and were later released in the first hearing held in April, as well as against journalist Zeynep Durgut due to “illegal organisation membership” and “making illegal organisaiton propaganda”...

July 2, Friday at Van 5th Assize Court