

## June 2022 Report

### 1. Administrative Fines, Police Interventions

- 01: Ankara** The police intervened in the press statement made in front of the Human Rights Monument on Yüksel Street during the protest for re-employment and evacuated the area.
- 01: Ankara** The police intervened in the commemoration event on the anniversary of the Gezi protests and detained 46 people using physical violence.
- 01: Ankara** The police prevented the vigil in front of the Republican People's Party (CHP) Headquarters of the workers who were dismissed from their jobs in Şişli Municipality.
- 01: Şırnak** 5 people were detained in the press statement of the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP).
- 02: Istanbul** The police intervened in the justice protest held in front of Çağlayan Courthouse to draw attention to ill prisoners, 6 people were detained.
- 02: Izmir** Provincial Gendarmerie Command teams detained 7 people with simultaneous operations in 6 districts on the grounds of making PKK/KCK-YPG/PYD propaganda over social media.
- 03: Istanbul** 22 people were detained within the scope of the investigation carried out in 5 provinces against the Migration Monitoring Association. 16 of them were arrested, 6 of them were released on condition of judicial measures.
- 03: Istanbul** Migration Monitoring Association's Bahçelievler building was raided by the police, computers were confiscated.
- 03: Istanbul** The police intervened in the press statement made by the Campus Witches in front of the Istanbul Governorate against the obstacles and bans against women artists. 5 people were detained.
- 03: Tekirdağ** In the operation carried out against the People's Democratic Congress (HDK) within the scope of a Tekirdağ-based investigation, 38 people, including former and new Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) members and administrators, were detained, 29 were arrested, and 9 were released under judicial measures.
- 05: Istanbul** The police intervened in the press statement organized within the LGBTQI+ Pride Month in Kadıköy, 11 people were detained with physical violence and reverse handcuffs.
- 06: Adana** Moliere's play *Tartuffe*, which was planned to be staged in Kurdish at the Metropolitan Municipality Theater Hall, was banned by the Governorate, due to it "not being deemed appropriate".
- 07: Ankara** The Pride Parade to be held within the scope of LGBTQI+ Pride Month on the campus of Middle East Technical University was banned by the Rectorate.
- 07: Bursa** The Governorate banned all kinds of protests and demonstrations to be organized throughout the province for 7 days, citing the Gemlik march that was intended to be held for Öcalan on the 12th.
- 08: Istanbul** The police intervened in the press statement made in front of Çağlayan Courthouse to draw attention to the situation of Sibel Balaç and Gökhan Yıldırım, who were on a hunger strike. 5 people were detained.

- 08: Van** The justice watch that was intended to be held in front of the Forensic Medicine Institute regarding ill prisoners was not permitted on the grounds of the Governorate ban against protests and demonstrations.
- 09: Ankara** Security forces intervened in the press release of the United Public-Labour Union, made in front of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK) building regarding the announced inflation rates. United Public-Labour Union Chairman Mehmet Balık, Secretary General Mücahit Dede, Chairman of the Supervisory Board Suat Sadiş and the heads of Ankara Branch No. 3 and Denizli Branch were detained.
- 09: Istanbul** The police intervened in the justice watch that was organized in front of Çağlayan Courthouse to draw attention to ill prisoners. 4 people were detained.
- 10: Ankara** As part of LGBTQI+ Pride Month, the security forces intervened in the march organized at the Middle East Technical University campus with tear gas and rubber bullets, detaining 38 people.
- 11: Çanakkale** With a statement, the Governorate banned all kinds of activities, meetings and marches to be held between June 13-17 within the scope of Pride Month.
- 11: Diyarbakır** After the press statement about the "Gemlik March", 12 people who marched were detained.
- 11: Eskişehir** During the Anadolu University graduation ceremony, 2 people were detained after they held a banner with the inscription "We Haven't Forgotten Ali İsmail" about Ali İsmail Korkmaz, who lost his life during the Gezi protests in 2013.
- 11: Istanbul** The police intervened in the "Alternative University Festival" march that was wanted to be held by students in Kadıköy. There were 20 detentions.
- 11: Izmir** With the call of the People's Democratic Party (HDP) on "We Defend Freedom Against the Politics of Isolation", the movement of the mass gathered in Bayraklı to Gemlik was prevented by the security branch teams.
- 11: Izmir** The Governorate imposed a 3-day ban against protests and demonstrations.
- 11: Urfa** The vehicles of those who set out to join the "Gemlik March" were blocked and they were not allowed to leave the city.
- 12: Konya** The security forces intervened in the march organized by the Furkan Foundation members, detaining 22 people. 7 people were arrested and 15 were released with judicial measures.
- 12: Van** The Governorate banned all kinds of protests and demonstrations to be organized throughout the province for 15 days as of June 13. With this decree, the protest and demonstration ban, which has been implemented since November 21, 2016, has been extended to 2044 days without interruption.
- 13: Bursa** The police intervened in those who gathered to join the Gemlik March. 22 people were detained.
- 13: Istanbul** The police intervened against those who wanted to join the Gemlik March in Kadıköy, demanding the end of the solitary confinement imposed upon Öcalan. 70 people were detained with physical violence.
- 14: Istanbul** 10 people were detained at Kıraç Police Station, where they were summoned, on the grounds that they wore yellow, red and green shawls at a wedding in Esenyurt, and were arrested on charges of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization".
- 14: Istanbul** The police intervened in the press statement that EnerjiSa workers wanted to make in front of Sabancı Center in Beşiktaş, 6 people were detained.
- 14: Istanbul** Three people were detained as part of an investigation launched against the Federation of Socialist Assemblies due to a banner hung to commemorate İbrahim Kaypakkaya.

- 16: Istanbul** The police intervened in the justice watch organized in front of Çağlayan Courthouse that was intended to draw attention to ill prisoners, 9 people were detained.
- 16: Istanbul** 12 people were detained in house raids in Kadıköy on the grounds of the Gemlik march that was organized on June 12.
- 17: Ankara** The panel titled “Climate Crisis, Social Gender, Sexual Health, Queer Ecology, Eco Feminism” to be organized by the Environmental Society at METU was banned by the rectorate, saying that *“the guest speakers and the associations they represent are not appropriate because they have nothing to do with the topic of the event and the purpose of the community”*.
- 17: Ankara** During the police intervention on the sign of the restaurant belonging to a Somali-born Turkish citizen in Çankaya, a police officer verbally threatened DEVA Party Istanbul MP Mustafa Yeneroğlu, who was there for the opening.
- 17: Istanbul** The picnic that LGBTQI+s wanted to have in the garden of the Faculty of Communication within the scope of Pride Month was canceled due to threats from phobic groups, but 26 people on campus were detained.
- 20: Istanbul** The police went to the venues where Pride Week events were held in Beyoğlu, and reported that the events were banned with a District Governorate decree.
- 20: Istanbul** Kadıköy District Governorate banned protests and demonstrations across the district for 7 days, citing LGBTQI+ Pride Week activities as the reason.
- 20: Van** A person named K. A. was detained during a house raid in Sersul hamlet of Başkale district. Those who reacted to the shooting by the police in the air for minutes during the raid and the treatment that K. A. was subjected to were also subjected to physical violence.
- 21: Istanbul** Private security intervened against the women, who gathered in front of Çağlayan Courthouse with the call of the Campus Witches to protest the decree in the case of Pınar Gültekin, who was murdered in 2020. 4 people were detained.
- 23: Eskişehir** With a statement made by the Governorate, all kinds of protests and demonstrations to be organized by LGBTQI+ associations, similar formations and groups, and “all kinds of protests and demonstrations to be carried out in order to support or protest such actions taken by these groups” were banned for 15 days.
- 23: Mersin** A shopkeeper named O.A., who hung a banner with the inscription *“Hunger and unemployment everywhere”* in his shop, was detained and sent to the court for his arrest on the charge of “insulting the President”. O. A. was released on the condition of judicial measures.
- 25: Istanbul** The police intervened in the press statement that was intended to be made in Galatasaray on the 900th Week of the Saturday Mothers. 17 people were detained.
- 25: Mardin** Three people, including 2 children, were subjected to ill-treatment, who were caught by the soldiers at the border for allegedly trying to enter Turkey illegally.
- 26: Hakkari** 20 people, who were detained during house raids in the villages of Yüksekova district, were subjected to torture.
- 26: Istanbul** The police intervened in the Pride Parade in Beyoğlu, detaining 373 people with physical violence.
- 26: Izmir** The police intervened in the crowd that gathered for the Pride Parade in front of the ÖSYM building on Cyprus Martyrs Street in Alsancak. 12 people were detained with reverse handcuffs.
- 26: Izmir** The Governorate banned all kinds of protests and demonstrations for 3 days for the 2nd time this month.

- 27: Hakkari** 2 lawyers who went to the District Gendarmerie Station to meet with 20 people detained in Yüksekova district were removed from the police station with physical violence by the gendarmerie.
- 27: Osmaniye** The police intervened against Furkan Foundation members, who held a sit-in protest in front of a house to protest the sealing of the house, where it was reported that people were taught the Qur'an, and detained 30 people using physical violence.
- 29: Ankara** 16 people were detained in house raids on the grounds that they participated in the Revolution March held at the Middle East Technical University.
- 30: Hatay** The police intervened in the sit-in protest held for the acceptance of the demands of Sibel Balaç and Gökhan Yıldırım, who are on hunger strike in prison, and detained 2 people.

## **2. Investigations and Prosecutions**

- 01: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed against lawyer Selçuk Kozağaçlı and Barkın Timtik regarding the Court of Cassation's reversal decree was heard again at the 18th Assize Court. The court decided for the arrests to continue and adjourned the hearing to September 7.
- 01: Istanbul** The hearing held in the lawsuit filed against Metropolitan Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu at the Anatolian 7th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "openly insulting public officials" with the words he used against the High Electoral Council members during the 2015 elections, was adjourned to September 21.
- 01: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed with the allegation that journalist Uğur Dündar insulted Binali Yıldırım was heard in Küçükçekmece 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance. The court commuted the prison sentence of 11 months and 20 days into a judicial fine of 10,500 TL.
- 01: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed against the We Will Stop Femicides Association with a request for closure was heard at the 13th Criminal Court of First Instance. The hearing was adjourned to October 5.
- 01: Urfa** The lawsuit filed at the 5th Assize Court regarding the bomb attack in the Suruç district of Urfa on July 20, 2015, in which 33 people lost their lives, was adjourned to December 5.
- 02: Ankara** In the lawsuit filed against academic N. Ş. at the 11th Criminal Court of First Instance with the allegation of insulting the former Chairman of the Higher Electoral Council (YSK) on social media, the defendant was acquitted.
- 02: Ankara** An investigation was launched against Mezopotamya Agency Ankara correspondent B. Altan for a news article he wrote.
- 02: Istanbul** The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against 23 people, including 4 lawyers, 2 journalists, and ESP members and administrators, was heard at the 27th Assize Court. The court denied the request for judicial measures and adjourned the hearing to November 8.
- 02: Istanbul** The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against 205 people, including members and administrators of the Peace and Democracy Party, was heard at the 3rd Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to October 25.

- 02: Istanbul** Republican People's Party (CHP) Provincial Chairperson Canan Kaftancıoğlu was acquitted in the lawsuit filed against her at the 35th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of insulting the President in a social media post.
- 03: Ağrı** The lawsuit filed in the 2nd Assize Court against 5 people, including journalist Aziz Oruç and Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Doğubayazıt District Co-Chair Abdullah Ekelek, has been adjourned to September 28.
- 03: Batman** 3 out of 19 women detained during house raids were arrested.
- 03: Bingöl** Former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Provincial Co-Chair Saadet Fırat was detained in a house raid.
- 03: Diyarbakır** The house of Dicle Fırat Journalists Association Co-Chair and one of the editors of the Mesopotamia Agency Dicle Müftüoğlu was raided by the police. Müftüoğlu, who was not at home at the time, was detained at the police station, where she went to testify.
- 03: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed at the 10th Assize Court against Bahar Karakaş Uluğ, Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Municipal Council member of Eğil district, has been adjourned to October 25.
- 03: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed at the 4th Assize Court against 27 people, including Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MP Pero Dünder, has been adjourned to October 13.
- 03: Malatya** The lawsuit filed against Gülten Kışanak and Sebahat Tuncel at the 5th Assize Court was adjourned to September 9.
- 03: Mardin** In house raids, 6 people were detained on charges of "terrorist organization membership".
- 03: Van** The lawsuit filed against First Lieutenant Y. E. at the 5th Assize Court regarding the death of Erhan Görür by gunfire on the Iranian border on June 14, 2020 has been adjourned to September 15.
- 03: Van** 13 people, including Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) and Democratic Regions Party (DBP) executives, were detained during house raids.
- 06: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed at the 9th Assize Court against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Hakkari MP and Democratic Society Congress (DTK) Co-Chair Leyla Güven, who lost her seat at the Parliament, has been adjourned to July 4.
- 06: Şanlıurfa** Emine Şenyaşar was sentenced to pay compensation of 6,040 TL in total in the lawsuit filed against her at the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance, on the allegation that she insulted the Minister of Interior and Yıldız family members in her statements during the justice watch protest. The announcement of the verdict was deferred.
- 06: Van** 9 out of 17 people detained during house raids on June 3 were arrested on charges of "terrorist organization membership".
- 07: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MP Nursel Aydoğan at the 4th Assize Court has been adjourned to December 6.
- 07: Istanbul** Hacer Ankut Efe, a member of the People's Liberation Party, was sentenced to 1 year, 2 months and 17 days in prison in the lawsuit filed against her on the charge of insulting the President on social media.
- 07: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed against Serkan Ozan, Olcay Büyüktaş Akça, Ozan Yurtoğlu and Hazal Ocağ from Cumhuriyet Daily due to the news titled "*Bilal Erdoğan's lucky friend*" was adjourned to November 8.
- 08: Ankara** Republican People's Party (CHP) Chairman Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu was sentenced to pay the President 30 thousand TL in non-pecuniary damages in the lawsuit filed at the 31st Civil Court of First Instance due to his party's statements at the group meetings on March 23 and 30, 2021. Again, in the lawsuit filed against Kılıçdaroğlu at the 9th

- Criminal Court of First Instance, with a claim of compensation of 1 million TL upon the President's complaint, the court denied the request for compensation.
- 08: Diyarbakır** Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Mayor of Çınar district, Necla Tamriş, was acquitted in the lawsuit filed against her at the 10th Assize Court.
- 08: Diyarbakır** Computers, digital materials and some books and magazines were seized in the raid against the Jinnews news agency. The officials of the news agency were not informed of the search during the raid.
- 08: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed at the 10th Assize Court against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Diyarbakır MP Musa Farisoğulları, who lost his seat at the Parliament, was adjourned to November 2.
- 08: Diyarbakır** 22 people, including 21 journalists, were detained in house raids.
- 08: Şırnak** 13 people were detained in house raids.
- 09: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against the Socialist Party of the Oppressed (ESP) Co-Chair Beycan Taşkıran at the 5th Assize Court was adjourned to November 10.
- 09: İstanbul** The lawsuit filed against 46 journalists in the KCK Press trial was held at the 3rd Assize Court, the hearing was adjourned to November 1.
- 09: Van** The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Democratic Local Administrations Board member and former Edremit Mayor, Sevil Rojbin Çetin, at the 2nd Assize Court, has been adjourned to September 8.
- 10: Adana** In the lawsuit filed at the 3rd Assize Court against 12 people regarding the Gezi Protests held in the city in 2013, all of the defendants were charged with 'terrorist organization membership' and "making propaganda for a terrorist organization", and 7 were charged with "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations", being sentenced to 2 years and 6 months in prison each.
- 12: Şanlıurfa** The Office of the Chief Public Prosecutor has decided that there is no basis for prosecution in criminal complaints regarding torture and other ill-treatment of prisoners at the Type-T Prison No.2.
- 13: Denizli** Two people were detained in a house raid on the grounds that they were terrorist organization members.
- 13: Denizli** One person was caught on the grounds that he made propaganda for a terrorist organization (PKK/KCK) through his social media account.
- 13: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against the Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Co-Chair at the 8th Assize Court was adjourned to September 20.
- 13: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed at the 9th Assize Court against the Co-Mayors of Kulp District and Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) District Co-Chair, Kulp Municipality Director of Science Affairs, Mehmet Emin Ay, whose candidacy for mayorship from the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) was rejected by the High Electoral Council, and members of Kulp Municipality Council, was adjourned to September 26.
- 13: Mardin** The lawsuit filed at the 2nd Assize Court against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Mayors in Kızıltepe and Savur districts, who were replaced with trustees, was adjourned to October 10.
- 14: Ankara** The Founding President of the Confederation of European Alevi Unions (AABK), Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Peoples and Beliefs Commission member and former Parliament Member Turgut Öker was detained on the grounds that there was an arrest warrant against him. He was released after testifying.
- 14: Batman** Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Council member Seyhan Başak was detained after the police raid against her house.

- 14: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Istanbul MP Hüda Kaya at the 4th Assize Court has been adjourned to November 1.
- 14: Diyarbakır** MEBYA-DER member Mehmet Hafız Şık was sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison on the charge of "terrorist organization membership" in the decision hearing of the lawsuit filed against him at the 5th Assize Court.
- 14: Istanbul** After the acquittal verdicts of Erol Önderoğlu, Ahmet Nesin and Şebnem Korur Fincancı in the Özgür Gündem trial were overturned, the case was heard again at the 13th Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to October 18.
- 14: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed against 7 Özgür Gündem was heard at the 23rd Assize Court. The hearing was adjourned to September 12.
- 15: Ankara** Human Rights Association (IHD) Ankara Branch manager Adile Erkan was detained after the police raided her house as part of an investigation based in Balıkesir.
- 15: Diyarbakır** 22 people, including 21 journalists, who were detained on June 8, were sent to the court. 16 people were arrested, 6 people were released on condition of judicial measure.
- 15: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed at the 10th Assize Court against the police officers regarding the murder of Diyarbakır Bar Association President Tahir Elçi on November 28, 2015 in Diyarbakır was adjourned to November 13.
- 15: Istanbul** İsmail Saymaz was sentenced to 3,480 TL in the lawsuit filed against him at the 35th Criminal Court of First Instance because of his words during a TV show.
- 15: Istanbul** A street artist with the pseudonym "Unpermitted" was sentenced to 1 year, 2 months and 27 days in prison for insulting the President in the 20th Criminal Court of First Instance, where he was on trial on charges of "publicly insulting the Turkish flag" and "insulting the President" in a drawing.
- 15: Van** 2 people, including 1 child, were detained on the grounds that they were wearing a t-shirt with the picture of former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Co-Chair Selahattin Demirtaş. 6 more people who reacted against this were detained as well.
- 16: Ankara** The lawsuit filed against 26 people in connection with the Gezi Park protests in 2013 continued at the 14th Assize Court. After the defenses, the court adjourned the hearing to October 12.
- 16: Ankara** Republican People's Party (CHP) Malatya MP Veli Ağbaba was sentenced to pay 15 thousand TL in non-pecuniary damage in a lawsuit filed at the 4th Civil Court of First Instance for allegedly insulting the President in one of his speeches.
- 16: Diyarbakır** Mehmet Yıldırım, brother of Medeni Yıldırım, who lost his life in the police station protest in Lice, was sentenced to 1 year, 2 months and 17 days in prison for "insulting the President" in the lawsuit filed against him at the 4th Criminal Court of First Instance due to the posts on his social media accounts.
- 16: Erzurum** Mehmet Arslan was sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" in the lawsuit filed against him at the 3rd Assize Court.
- 16: Istanbul** The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed at the 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance against Eren Keskin and Reyhan Çapan, who were on trial in the Özgür Gündem Case, was adjourned to November 22.
- 16: Istanbul** The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against Hüseyin Aykol, İnan Kızılkaya and Hatip Dicle within the Özgür Gündem Case, was held at the 22nd Criminal Court of First Instance. The court decided to continue the arrest warrant of Hatip Dicle and adjourned the hearing to November 22.

- 16: Tunceli** Two reports were prepared for Democratic Regions Party (DBP) Co-Chair Saliha Aydeniz and Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MP Alican Önlü requesting that their Parliamentary immunity be lifted.
- 17: Elazığ** The defendant was sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison in the lawsuit filed against B. T. at the 3rd Assize Court regarding the injury of 14-year-old S. T. in Hakkari as a result of being hit on the head with a buttstock.
- 17: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed against 51 people, who were detained during the previous protests of the United Struggle Forces, for violating the "Law on Meetings and Demonstrations" was heard at the 35th Criminal Court of First Instance. The hearing was adjourned to December 1.
- 17: Istanbul** The indictment against journalist Metin Yoksü, based on his social media posts, was accepted at the 23rd Assize Court. The hearing will be held on October 26.
- 17: Izmir** While Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Center youth worker Serhat İrlan was detained and arrested as he was sitting with his friend in a cafe in Konak due to a denouncement against him for terrorist organization (PKK) membership; Cengiz Adsız was detained and arrested with a house raid in Turgutlu, where he went for a Democratic Regions Party (DBP) assignment, due to another file opened previously against him.
- 19: Şırnak** Antep Administrative Court did not accept the objection to the refusal decision made in the compensation case filed at the Mardin 1st Administrative Court regarding the death of Fatma Eraslan (13) in İdil district.
- 21: Izmir** 8 young people testified due to the protest march held by the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) İzmir Youth Assembly on May 20 against the detainments of the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Youth Assemblies.
- 21: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against journalist Beritan Canözer at the 4th Criminal Court of First Instance due to posts made by a social media account that did not belong to her, was adjourned to October 13.
- 21: Diyarbakır** Former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Ankara MP Sırrı Süreyya Önder was sentenced to 10 months in prison for "insulting the President" in the lawsuit filed against him at the 12th Criminal Court of First Instance.
- 21: Diyarbakır** Police officer K. B. was acquitted in the lawsuit filed against him at the 7th Assize Court regarding the murder of Recep Hantaş, who collected papers on April 14, 2019, with a gunfire of the police.
- 21: Istanbul** The lawsuit filed against 12 people at Boğaziçi University on the grounds that they were carrying rainbow flags was heard at the 24th Criminal Court of First Instance. The hearing was adjourned to June 21.
- 21: Izmir** In the districts of Buca and Torbalı, 2 people were detained on the grounds of being PKK/KCK-YPG/PYD members.
- 22: Ankara** The latest hearing of the lawsuit filed against the President of the Union of Turkish Bar Associations (TBB) and the former Ankara Bar Association President Erinç Sağkan and the Ankara Bar Association President Kemal Koranel as well as the members of the board of directors, was held at the 16th Assize Court on the press statement they held regarding the discriminatory statements of the President of Religious Affairs Ali Erbaş, on the charge of 'insulting the religious values adopted by a section of the public'. The court adjourned the hearing to November 9.
- 22: Istanbul** 2 Boğaziçi University students were sentenced to 5 months in prison for violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations in the lawsuit filed against them at the 55th Criminal Court of First Instance.

- 23: Ankara** The first hearing of the lawsuit filed against Chamber of Architects Ankara Branch President Tezcan Karakuş Candan and the members of the board of directors was held at the 25th Assize Court on the allegation that a “terrorist organization propaganda” was made with the awarding of a Jin TV reporter in the branch of International Television Journalism. After the defense statements, the court adjourned the hearing to September 15.
- 23: Mardin** Specialist sergeant B.D. was sentenced to 1 year and 8 months in prison in the lawsuit filed against him at the Kızıltepe 3rd Criminal Court of First Instance on the allegation that he had struck a person named Hazna Sü by car, causing her death, on January 11 in the district of Kızıltepe.
- 24: Diyarbakır** An investigation was opened against the members of the Board of Directors of the Bar Association, based on the statements they made about the April 24, 1915 Armenian Genocide.
- 26: İzmir** The police detained journalist İnci Hekimoğlu in her house raid at 6 am, citing her past social media posts.
- 27: Ankara** In the lawsuit filed against Human Rights Association (IHD) Co-Chair Öztürk Türkoğan at the 60th Criminal Court of First Instance with the allegation of 'insult' in the article titled “*Mandatory Statement Regarding Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu*” published on the website of the IHD on 29 June 2018, the court acquitted Öztürk Türkoğan because the elements of the alleged crime were not constituted.
- 27: Ankara** In the lawsuit filed against 103 retired Turkish Naval Forces officers on the grounds that they published a joint statement on the Montreux Straits Convention, 103 people are sought to be punished for the crime of “*agreeing to commit a crime against the security of the state or the Constitutional order*”, the court decided to send the case file to the Prosecutor's Office to prepare an opinion on the merits and adjourned the hearing to September 19.
- 27: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against Cihan Yıldız at the 6th Assize Court regarding the murder of Democracy Party (DEP) Batman MP Mehmet Sincar was adjourned to December 12.
- 27: Diyarbakır** Computers, digital materials, some books and pictures in the building were confiscated after a search carried out in the Dicle Culture and Art Center as part of an investigation based in Adana.
- 27: Van** Two TJA activists were detained after the press statement they participated in.
- 28: Ankara** The lawsuit filed at the 6th Assize Court on the allegation of “terrorist organization membership” against 72 trade unionists, including Confederation of Public Workers' Unions (KESK) Co-Chair Mehmet Bozgeyik, and former and current managers of unions affiliated with KESK, has been adjourned to November 15.
- 28: Diyarbakır** The lawsuit filed against former Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Diyarbakır MP Çağlar Demirel at the 5th Criminal Court of First Instance was adjourned to December 20.
- 28: Hatay** The 3rd Assize Court sentenced Menci Orman to 10 months in prison for “making propaganda for a terrorist organization” on the grounds that he was wearing a yellow, red and green shawl at the Newroz celebration held in Dörtöyl district and deferred the announcement of the verdict.
- 28: İstanbul** A person named Nazife Başkan was sentenced to 1 year, 6 months and 22 days in prison by the 14th Assize Court on the grounds that she made “terrorist organization propaganda” in her social media posts.

- 29: Ankara** The lawsuit filed against journalist Hayri Demir continued at the 15th Assize Court on charges of "terrorist organization membership" and "making propaganda for a terrorist organization". The court adjourned the hearing to September 28.
- 29: Van** The lawsuit filed at the 5th Assize Court against Mikail Tunçdemir and Ferhat Duman, who were detained in 2018 while distributing Özgürlükçü Demokrasi and Azadiya Welat newspapers, was adjourned to September 27.
- 30: Diyarbakır** Journalist Abdurrahman Gök, who photographed the murder of Kemal Kurkut during the Newroz celebrations held in 2017, was sentenced to 1 year in prison for "making propaganda for a terrorist organization" in the lawsuit filed against him at the 5th Assize Court.
- 30: Izmir** Provincial Gendarmerie Command Anti-Terrorism Branch teams detained 2 people in simultaneous raids in Buca and Torbalı districts on the grounds of PKK/KCK membership.

### **3. Other Violations**

- 01: Erzurum** It was found out that the TV broadcasting of the Parliament in Type-H Prison was banned by the prison administrations.
- 03: Istanbul** The Anatolian 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace blocked access to the Birgün, Yeniçağ and airport websites due to news about the Chairman of the THY Board of Directors.
- 03: Istanbul** The Anatolian 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace blocked access to the website of Cumhuriyet Daily due to two columns written by journalist Hasan Cemal.
- 03: Istanbul** The 3rd Criminal Court of Peace imposed a sales ban against 3 books and 1 data compilation Media Monitoring Report prepared by Göçiz-Der, issued a verdict to pull them off shelves and banned their printing and distribution.
- 03: Istanbul** The Peoples' Democratic Congress (HDK) Headquarters in Beyoğlu was raided by the police; digital materials, pennants and flags were seized.
- 03: Manisa** Workers at the Telateks factory located in the Organized Industrial Zone reacted to the fact that they could not receive the bank promotions added to the new term contract due to the bank change. 8 workers were fired.
- 06: Mardin** The house belonging to the Assyrian Yılmaz family living in Işıklar village of Kızıltepe district was attacked with stones and guns by another family while those who attended the mass in the village were inside the house. The field belonging to the Assyrian family was set on fire as well.
- 07: Şanlıurfa** It was learned that the ill prisoners held in Type-T Prison No. 1 were not transferred to the hospital.
- 10: Ankara** Access to the content of 257 websites related to the dismissal of 5 prosecutors from the profession with a decree issued by the Council of Judges and Prosecutors (HSK), was blocked with a decree issued by the Ankara West 2nd Criminal Judicature of Peace on the grounds of violation of personal rights.
- 14: Diyarbakır** With a decree issued by the 4th Criminal Judicature of Peace, the website of the Etkin News Agency was blocked on the grounds of "*protection of national security and public order*".

- 15: Ağrı** It was found out that a prisoner named Kadir Karadeniz, held in Patnos Type-L Open Prison, lost his life. Regarding Kadir Karadeniz's death, it was stated that his family was told that he "*committed suicide by drinking bleach and pills*".
- 16: Ankara** 2 reports prepared for the lifting of Parliamentary immunities of 2 Parliament members, 1 from the Peace and Democracy Party (BDP) and 1 from the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP), were sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 21: Ankara** 11 reports prepared for the lifting of the Parliamentary immunities of 10 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MPs and 1 independent MP in total were sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 24: Ankara** The Ministry of Family and Social Services Board for the Protection of Minors from Harmful Publications decided that 7 books published within the "Crispy Philosophy" ["Çıtır Çıtır Felsefe"] series published by Günışığı Kitaplığı be subject to restrictions predicted in Article 4 of the Law No. 1117 on the grounds that "they have a harmful effect on the spirituality of those under the age of 18".
- 28: Adana** With a decree issued by the 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace, access to the news on the diken, Odatv4 and Cumhuriyet Daily websites about the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Keskin Holding was blocked on the grounds of "violation of personal rights".
- 28: Konya** Çumra Criminal Judicature of Peace blocked access to the news published in the websites of odatv4, evrensel, abcgazetesi regarding Prof. Bedri Gencer, who attributed the recent disasters to "lawful adultery" and "prohibition of child marriages", on the grounds of "violation of personal rights".
- 29: Ağrı** It was found out that the prisoner named Zülküf Kaya, who was reported to have been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment by the prison guards in Patnos Type-L Prison, was transferred to Erzincan Type-T Prison against his will.
- 29: Ankara** 16 reports prepared for the lifting of Parliamentary immunities of 11 MPs, including 1 from the Republican People's Party (CHP), 1 from the Democratic Regions Party (DBP), 8 from the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) and 1 from the Workers' Party of Turkey (TİP) members, were sent to the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
- 29: Ankara** Journalists of Evrensel, Gazete Duvar, Mezopotamya Agency, TELE 1 TV and Halk TV were not admitted to the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, where they came to follow the negotiations of the Minimum Wage Determination Commission, on the grounds that they did not have the "turquoise press card" issued by the Presidential Directorate of Communications.
- 29: Ankara** The Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK) issued administrative fines against Halk TV channel due to the shows "Kadraj" and "Mesele", against KRT TV channel due to the show "Olağan İşler", against TELE 1 TV channel due to the show "18 Dakika", against Radio Sputnik due to the show "Seyir Hali with Ali Çağatay" and against TGRT channel due to not complying with the media blackout.
- 29: Istanbul** The 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace blocked access to the website of "deceme.org" due to the news about the President's lawyer, on the grounds of "violation of personal rights".
- 30: Ankara** Access to the websites of Voice of America and Deutsche Welle (DW) based in Germany was blocked with a decree issued by the 1st Criminal Judicature of Peace upon the application of the Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTÜK).

## **4. Comments & Suggestions**

### **Coşkun Üsterci (Secretary General - Human Rights Foundation of Turkey)**

There has been an alarming increase in violations of freedom of expression, meeting and association in Turkey recently. We can say that each month we evaluate makes one miss the previous one. Such a severe violation of the rights and freedoms in question, which is the basis for citizens' participation in the public sphere in a democratic society, points out that we have lost our ability to be citizens through the destruction of the opportunity to demand and negotiate.

According to the findings of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) Documentation Center, at least 27 interventions and 36 obstructions were carried out by police officers against peaceful meetings across the country in June. As a result, at least 788 people, including 35 children, were detained after being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment practices. At least 10 people were arrested, 15 people were released under judicial measures, and at least 2 people were injured. These interventions and preventions were generally aimed at peaceful meetings such as:

Police officers have been using physical violence to drive away the former public employees, who were dismissed from their service with Statutory Decrees, from the Human Rights Monument on Ankara' Yüksel Street, where they have been trying to make a press statement at regular intervals for a long time, demanding their re-employment. Such press statements were organized 17 times in June, and each time the police officers intervened against the press statements with physical violence.

A similar event was held by workers who were dismissed while working at Şişli Municipality. Workers have been trying to hold a vigil in front of the Republican People's Party (CHP) Headquarters in Ankara for a while, demanding their re-employment. However, they always faced police intervention. The police forces use physical violence to drive the workers away from the Republican People's Party (CHP) building. Police officers intervened in 15 press statements organized in June.

In June, an important part of police interventions were the vigils, press statements, events etc., held in different provinces to draw attention to the situation of ill prisoners, which has now become a chronic problem in prisons.

However, when we look at the multiple violations in the context of freedom of expression, assembly and association during the protests and demonstrations organized within the "Pride Month", we can see a general picture of the country. In this context:

- 2 individual events were banned, all events related to the Pride Month in 3 districts and 3 provinces were banned, with the shortest for 3 and the longest for 30 days.
- Events in 1 province were canceled due to phobic threats and discriminatory statements by the governor.
- As a result of police interventions, 456 people, including 34 children, were detained and subjected to torture and other ill-treatment practices.

During the "Pride Parades", which were organized but banned by the civil authorities, 373 people were detained in Istanbul alone. These people were kept in detention vehicles for hours in the heat of June, in reverse handcuffs, without food and water, and their bathroom needs being prevented. They were

exposed to insults and threats, discriminatory and hateful speech. Unfortunately, all this happened on 'June 26, United Nations (UN) International Day in Support of Victims of Torture', that is, while human rights defenders around the world reminded states and societies of the absolute prohibition of torture. The day before, that was, on June 25, 2022, for the 900th week meeting of the Saturday Mothers/People, police officers intervened against the Saturday Mothers/People who wanted to go to Galatasaray Square, which has now become a place of memory and justice not only for Turkey but also for the international community. 16 people were detained with physical violence and reverse handcuffs, including Human Rights Association (IHD) Co-Chairs and lawyers.

As part of the violations of freedom of organization in June, there were house raids, detainments and arrests of human rights defenders and journalists. 22 members and managers of the Migration Monitoring Association (GÖÇİZDER), including Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) Istanbul Representative worker and Social Services Expert (SHU) Bilal Yıldız and Human Rights Association (IHD) Istanbul Branch Manager Ali Koçyiğit, were detained with raids against their houses. Again, the building of the association in Istanbul was raided by the police. Various materials found in the building were confiscated, and a confiscation order was issued for some books and reports published by the association. The detainees did not even know what they were accused of. In the meantime, news appeared in various newspapers that targeted the association and its activities. After the 24-hour restriction on the file and the extended detention period to 8 days, 16 people, including the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV) Istanbul Representative worker and Social Services Expert (SHU) Bilal Yıldız, were arrested. Similarly, 22 journalists, including Dicle Firat Journalists Association (DFG) Co-Chairs, were detained in Diyarbakır with house raids. Again, there was a restriction on the file and the detention periods were extended. 16 journalists were arrested by the court to which they were sent. Of course, this is really worrying not only in terms of freedom of organization, but also in terms of pressures on press freedom and freedom of expression.

These concerns deepened further with the adoption of the "Draft Law on Amendments to the Press Law and Some Laws" in the Parliamentary Justice Committee on June 15, 2022. This proposal indeed contains regulations that will completely abolish press freedom. Those who "disseminate false information in a manner suitable to disrupt public peace" are to be sentenced to imprisonment from one year to three years. In addition, the law proposal includes the inclusion of online websites within the scope of periodicals; submission of the declarations for the media blackout decrees to the Press Advertisement Institute (BIK) instead of the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office. It further predicts the cancellation of official advertisements and the press card rights of the employees of the websites in question, in case an application is made to the court by the BIK about the websites that do not comply with the publication ban provision, "to determine that they do not qualify as a news website" and the application is accepted. In addition, in the aforementioned amendment, the press cards are predicted to be issued by a committee of 9 members, 2 of whom represent the Presidential Directorate of Communications, in five categories (duty-based, time-limited, temporary, free and permanent press card) with the condition that the applicant has never been convicted of "crimes against public peace, crimes against the constitutional order and its functioning, crimes against national defense, crimes against state secrets, espionage crimes and terrorism crimes". The introduction of these conditions means that no press card will be issued to the opposition press in any way. Because these "crimes", which are open to arbitrary and flexible interpretations and become reasons for the prosecutions of thousands of people every year, constitute the biggest obstacle to freedom of expression in Turkey.

An interesting and unexpected development took place in June in terms of the uninterrupted protest and demonstration bans that have been going on for about 5.5 years in Van, which we have mentioned in every session. With a statement made on June 12, 2022, the Van Governorate banned protests, demonstration marches and open-air meetings for another 15 days as of June 13, 2022. It is interesting that after this ban decree, which ended on June 28, 2022, no new decree was issued. Thus, the continuous protest and demonstration ban in Van, which has been implemented since November 21, 2016, finally came to an end. One would like to believe this development in astonishment. Still, it's good to be cautious about the possibility of surprises.