

# Think, think...



## Freedom of Expression Weekly Newsletter (Issue 23/22 - June 10, 2022)

### What happened last week?

- The "Draft Bill on the Amendment of the Law on Judges and Prosecutors and Some Laws" proposed by the joint signatures of Justice and Development Party (AKP) and Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) MPs passed the Parliamentary Justice Committee. If the proposal becomes law, it will be a new practice and "assistant judges and prosecutors" will be required to be successful in the interview, as well as the written exam, during the promotion process to positions as Judge and Prosecutor.
- Evaluations regarding the outlook of the Turkish economy became "tragicomic". The Minister of Treasury and Finance said that *"everyone is in good spirits except the low-income."* Erdoğan continues his positive messages about the future; but the food inflation continues to break record after record. Exchange rates continue to accompany these records, and wage earners continue to be impoverished.
- After the cabinet meeting, President Erdoğan stated, *"We will not raise interest rates... On the contrary, we will continue to decrease interest rates"*. This statement increased the fever of the exchange rates again. The US Dollar exceeded 17 TL, the exchange rate shock levels experienced in December were reached again.
- According to official data, 88,713 people became millionaires in the last five months, when the inflation figure reached its peak in 24 years. The total wealth of millionaires increased by 20% to 3.9 trillion TL.
- Arguing that the country is not technically in an inflation problem, but in a de facto cost of living problem, Erdoğan identified himself with Turkey; *"Those who attack this brother of yours and the People's Alliance are in fact hostile to Turkey itself,"* he said.
- The Erdoğan administration, whose public support continues to dwindle, once again started playing the drums of war. Shipments continue to the border line for a possible operation towards northern Syria (Rojava); and Erdoğan lashed out at Greece during the Ephesus Exercise: *"On this occasion, we once again invite Greece to stop arming the islands with non-military status and to act in accordance with international agreements. I'm not joking, I'm talking seriously,"* he said.
- Republican People's Party (CHP) Deputy Chairman Onursal Adıgüzel announced that the Information Technologies and Communications Authority (BTK) requests the "subscriber pattern and log records" of all users from internet providers. Adıgüzel explained that the President of BTK requested log records and subscriber pattern structure from 313 internet provider companies in a 'confidential' letter, and this request was rejected by some providers. Both records are used to determine "which websites users visit and how long they stay".
- Despite the Constitutional Court decree, the Council of Judges and Prosecutors (HSK) has decided that it will not take action against the judges who did not decide on the release of academician and writer Mehmet Altan, causing him to spend an extra 4

months in prison. Judge Akın Gürlek, who did not implement the Constitutional Court decision last week, was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Justice. What happened revealed that the non-implementation of Constitutional Court decrees has no consequences, despite the Constitution itself.

- Erdoğan says, "*Some people come out and say 'we are hungry', there is no one who is hungry!*" However, the data of the United Nations World Food Program revealed that 14.8 million citizens in Turkey could not consume enough food. According to the same data, 1.7% of children under the age of five experience acute malnutrition and 6% suffer from chronic malnutrition in Turkey.
- 23 international freedom of expression and journalism organizations asked the Justice and Development Party (AKP) and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) to withdraw the "Disinformation Law" in the Parliament. "*Disinformation needs to be tackled, but not at the expense of curtailing the rights of journalists and the public's freedom of expression,*" the joint statement said. It was further emphasized that the regulation should include sufficient guarantees for free speech and independent journalism, which can prevent arbitrary censorship by governments. [Please click here](#) for details.
- Hearings of 15 of nearly 200 lawsuits filed for the annulment of the decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention were held at the Council of State. The Prosecutor of the Council of State repeated his request for the cancellation of the annulment decision. The tribunal announced that the decree would be announced later, and the women who defended the Istanbul Convention stated that 495 women were killed after the decision to withdraw from the convention, saying, "*It is a decision between the right to life of 42 million people and death. It will be a decision between the right of women to live and the decision of one man.*"
- The European Parliament adopted the "2021 Turkey Report", in which it was emphasized that Turkey was "persistently moving away from the values and standards of the European Union (EU)" and that the decline in democratic standards was "intentional". European Parliament's Permanent Rapporteur for Turkey Sánchez Amor said, "*I hope this clear message to the Turkish government will not be ignored.*" Ankara, on the other hand, made their usual statement, saying, "*we reject biased and unrealistic evaluations*".



***The 13th "Istanbul Gathering for Freedom of Expression", organized biennially by the Initiative for Freedom of Expression since 1997, took place online on June 4-5.***

***On the first day of the 13th Istanbul Gathering, the discussion was on the world with 43 witnesses and participants, including IFEX, HRW, International PEN International, CPJ, Professor Noam Chomsky;***

*On the second day, we discussed issues of freedom of expression in Turkey and the developments together with the Human Rights Association (IHD), Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV), Mazlumder, Rights Initiative, Turkish Publishers Union, TESEV, Turkish Journalists Association, Turkish Journalists' Union, bianet, Media and Law Studies Association (MLSA), Punto24 and media ombudsman Faruk Bildirici.*

*The panels held throughout the event were hosted by PEN International President Burhan Sönmez, Prof. Dr. Turgut Tarhanlı and Prof. Dr. Yaman Akdeniz, while 24 participants from Turkey and abroad contributed to the discussions as witnesses of the violations.*

You may find the live broadcasts from the links below:

Day 1 - [June 4](#)

Day 2 - [June 5](#)

[Summary](#) of the 13th Gathering



### 21 journalists detained in Diyarbakır

As part of the operation launched by the Diyarbakır Chief Public Prosecutor's Office, 21 journalists, including Dicle Fırat Journalists Association (DFG) Co-Chair Serdar Altan and JinNews Director Safiye Alagaş, were detained. The journalists were detained in a house raid in the morning. In the meantime, a

simultaneous police raid was carried out against JinNews' office in Yenişehir district of Diyarbakır. Computers and hard drives in the agency's office, as well as some books and magazines were confiscated. The file has been restricted.



### Judicial fine against Emine Şenyaşar

Emine Şenyaşar, whose husband and two sons were murdered by Justice and Development Party (AKP) Urfa MP İbrahim Halil Yıldız's bodyguard and relatives and who had been demanding "justice" in front of the Urfa Courthouse since March 9, 2021, said in her statement on June 2, 2021, the 86th day of the

vigil, "Degenerate people killed my children." Urfa 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance then fined her 7,040 TL because of this statement for allegedly "insulting" Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu and İbrahim Halil Yıldız.



### 9 people penalised over supporting detained Boğaziçi University students

In the lawsuit filed against 9 people, who were detained in front of the Istanbul Courthouse after they came there to show solidarity with the students detained due to the protests against

the trustee rector at Boğaziçi University in February 2021, the Istanbul 22nd Criminal Court of First Instance sentenced the defendants to 5 months in prison on charges of "resisting the police", and one of the defendants was sentenced to an additional 5 months in prison on the allegation that "they may have bitten the finger of a police officer." This penalty was converted into a judicial fine of 3,000 TL.



### **Lawsuit against journalist Zübeyde Sarı**

A lawsuit was filed against journalist Zübeyde Sarı on the charge of "public incitement to hatred and enmity" based on her social media posts. In the indictment, which was accepted by the Istanbul Bakırköy 24th Criminal Court of First Instance, it was claimed that the journalist's posts such as "Kobani", "Dersim

massacre" and "I am Zaza and I am quite Kurd" as well as news posts about rights violations contained criminal elements. The first hearing of the case will be held on June 16.



### **Journalists' studio sealed over criticising municipality**

The Isparta Municipality sealed the studio and office of local journalists, who criticized the cancellation of the Melek Mosso concert. The offices of journalists Enver Taha Aydın, Muhammed Uslu and Lokman Kumcu, who criticized the municipality's cancellation of the

concert in their program called 'Labyrinth' broadcast on social media, were sealed by the police teams of the Isparta Municipality, and it was claimed that the process was carried out upon the order of Mayor Şükrü Başdeğirmen.



### **Access block against 66 websites upon Emine Erdoğan's request**

Access blocks were imposed on the news regarding the granting of tender authority for the lugs and buoys to be installed on the shores to be given to the Environment Agency, which was established under the auspices of President Erdoğan's wife Emine Erdoğan, in the "Environmental Law Proposal" submitted to

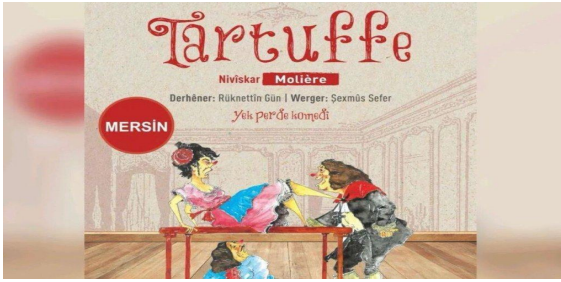
the Parliament in May. Upon the request of Emine Erdoğan, the Istanbul Anatolian 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace decided to block access to 66 websites containing the news of the press conference held by Republican People's Party (CHP) Deputy Chairman Veli Ağbaba.



## Lawsuit against Alparslan Kuytul on “targeting prosecutors and judges”

A lawsuit was filed against Furkan Foundation founder Alparslan Kuytul due to his statement in November 2020 regarding the investigations and lawsuits against him. Kuytul is charged with "targeting public officials who took part in the fight against terrorism" in the indictment

accepted by the Adana 11th Assize Court, facing up to 9 years in prison.



## Theater play banned in Adana and Mersin

Moliere's play "Tartuffe", which was adapted into Kurdish by the Amed City Theater, was banned by the Governorates of Adana and Mersin on the grounds of "public safety". The actors said that the Republican People's Party (CHP) municipalities insistently directed them to the Governorate, even though a permission

of the Governorate is not required, and said, "The municipality did not allow us to stage this play."



## METU rectorate bans Pride Parade

The Middle East Technical University (METU) rectorate announced that it has banned the Pride Parade, which was planned to be held on the campus on June 10. In the statement, it was argued that "a certain group sees the campus as an unauthorized marching center", and it was

claimed that the march was "an effort to damage the institutional integrity and image of the university".



## Journalist Barış Pehlivan threatened

Cumhuriyet Daily columnist Barış Pehlivan announced that he was threatened because of his article describing the release process of Ali Osman Akat, who was imprisoned for narcotic drug trade, on condition of judicial measures.



## 5 women detained over protesting ban against female artists

Five women from the Campus Witches community, who protested the banning and targeting of female artists' concerts with a press

statement in front of the Istanbul Governorate, were detained.



### **Protest ban in Bursa**

Before the "Gemlik March", which the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) plans to hold on June 12, a protest ban was declared throughout the city. The Bursa Governorate banned all protests and demonstrations for 7 days between June 9 and 15.



### **Imprisonment sentence against social media post over "insulting Erdoğan"**

People's Liberation Party (HKP) member Hacer Ankut Efe, who was charged with "insulting the President" through a social media post, was sentenced to 1 year, 2 months and 17 days in prison in the lawsuit filed against her at the Istanbul Bakırköy 10th Criminal Court of First Instance.



### **Police attack against statement by prisoner relatives**

The police attacked the statement that the prisoner relatives wanted to make at the Istanbul Çağlayan Courthouse in order to draw attention to rights violations in prisons. 5 people, including the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) District Co-Chair, were beaten

and detained.



### **LGBTQI+s detained after statement for Pride Month**

The police attacked the LGBTQI+s, who wanted to make a press statement for Pride Month in Kadıköy district of Istanbul. 11 people who were subjected to physical and verbal violence by the police, who claimed that the action in progress was not "legal", were beaten and detained.



### **Access block against Etkin News Agency's website**

Access to the website of Etkin News Agency (ETHA) was blocked by the Diyarbakır 5th Criminal Court of Peace on the grounds of

"protection of national security and public security".



### Access block against news on Ayıcı and Gürlek

Access to the news about Turkish Airlines Executive Board Chairman İlker Ayıcı was blocked by the Istanbul Anatolian 6th Criminal Judicature of Peace, and the news about Akın Gürlek, who was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Justice, was blocked by the Manisa 2nd Criminal Judicature of Peace on the grounds that his "personal rights were

violated".



### Censorship against news on corruption

The Istanbul Anatolian 6th Criminal Court of Peace ruled that many news and columns made during the corruption and bribery investigations in 2013, known as the "December 17-25 Operation" and in which 4 ministers of the time were among the suspects, to be deleted on the grounds of "violation of personal rights".



### Prevention against Furkan Foundation members' statement

Furkan Foundation members, who wanted to make a press statement in the Patnos district of Ağrı for arrested Furkan Foundation founder Alparслан Kuytul, were prevented by the police. Semra Kuytul, who made a statement on Twitter, wrote, "They are trying to narrow the country down on us! We are looking for an

*inch of land in the country to be able to speak!"*



### United Public-Labour members detained in front of TURKSTAT

The police intervened against the members of the United Public-Labour Confederation, who wanted to make a press statement in front of the Turkish Statistical Institute on the grounds that they disclosed incorrect data, saying, "There is no permission from the Governorate."

Union members, including United

Public-Labour Chairman Mehmet Balık, were detained.



## Decree in “insulting Erdoğan” Case: “Those who like praise must tolerate criticism”

Volkan Kesanbilici, who lost one eye due to a rubber bullet hitting his head during the Gezi protests, stood trial for allegedly “insulting President Erdoğan” by calling him a “murderer and thief” through his social media posts. The trial resulted in his acquittal. In the justification of the decree, the Istanbul Bakırköy 15th Criminal Court of First Instance reminded that the Presidency has become an institution that has a direct impact on the life of the country after the Constitutional amendment, stating that

the posts were “vulgar” criticism. *“There is no incitement to crime or hate theme in the discourse. There is no imminent danger to the President. The more politicians enjoy being praised, the more they must be tolerant of criticism,”* the court stated.



## Free Web Turkey 2021 Report: Another year with an increase in censorship and monitoring

The annual report of the Free Web Turkey Platform covering the period of January - December 2021 has been launched. According to the data in the report, at least 11050 URLs, domain names or social media posts were blocked during this period. 1593 of the blocked

URLs were news stories, and a total of 49 news sites were blocked in the same period, some of them more than once. It has been determined that 53% of the blocked news stories were directly related to President Erdoğan, his family, mayors or administrators of his party. The report also reveals the tendency of decision makers to impose access blocks against news aimed at protecting perpetrators of crimes against women and children. [Please click here](#) for details.



## TIHV: 1374 human rights defenders exposed to judicial harassment

According to the data of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TIHV), 1,374 human rights defenders were subjected to judicial harassment in the first four months of 2022, and criminal proceedings were carried out against 998 of them. 23 people were sentenced

to prison for their activities in the field of human rights. The sum of the penalties was 1 aggravated life sentence and 211 years, 4 months, 10 days in prison. In the same period, criminal investigations were launched against 367 people on the grounds of their human rights activities, 305 people were detained for their work in the field of human rights, and 16 people were arrested. [Please click here](#) for details.





## Lawsuit against GÖÇİZDER's activities and books

As part of the investigation carried out by the Istanbul Chief Public Prosecutor's Office, 22 members and directors of the Migration Monitoring Association (GÖÇİZDER), who were detained on June 3 on the charge of "funding a terrorist organization", were transferred to the courthouse 8 days later, and

the details of the investigation emerged. The association's books on forced migration and the reports they prepared on refugees became the grounds for the charges. A decision was made to have the books confiscated on the grounds that the association made "propaganda for a terrorist organization" through the books about the experiences of the displaced. At the time of the publication of the newsletter, the testimonies of 22 people were ongoing at the courthouse.



## Reasoned decree announced in Gezi Park Case

The Istanbul 13th Assize Court announced its reasoned decree after sentencing Osman Kavala to aggravated life imprisonment for attempting to overthrow the government; Mücella Yapıcı, Çiğdem Mater, Hakan Altınay, Mine Özerden, Can Atalay, Tayfun Kahraman and Yiğit Ali Ekmekçi to 18 years each in

prison for aiding his crime in the Gezi Park Case. In the reasoned decree, letters written, calls for the protest, press statements and the expression 'youth full of life' about the activists were considered a crime. Some of the crimes produced by the court are as follows: Kavala's meeting with journalists, Ekmekçi and Altınay being friends, Mater's unfinished documentary, Özerden's preparation of a press statement, the statements made by Yapıcı, Atalay and Kahraman's statements and [many more](#)...



Izel Sezer  
@izelsezer

Bu haberim sebebiyle yapılan şikayet sonrası hakkımda soruşturma başlatılmış

**İleri Haber** @ilerihaber · 29 Mar  
Bakımevinde otizmli yurttaşın işkencenin yargıya taşınması sonrası Aile ve Sosyal Hizmetler Bakanlığı'nda iki yönetici görevden alındı  
ilerihaber.org/icerik/bakimev... | @izelsezer'in haberi



## Investigation against journalist Izel Sezer

An investigation has been launched against journalist Izel Sezer for the article titled "Dismissals after torture in the nursing home", published on ilerihaber.org on March 29 about the beating of autistic Sinan Gündoğdu at the Pendik Life Care and Rehabilitation Center affiliated to the Ministry of Family and Social Services.



### Compensation sentence against Kılıçdaroğlu

Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, who claimed that President Erdoğan and his relatives evaded taxes through trades with the Isle of Man, and shared bank receipts at his party's group meeting on November 28, 2017, was sentenced to pay compensation. Ankara 30th Civil Court of First Instance ruled that CHP leader Kılıçdaroğlu to

pay 60i000 TL for non-pecuniary damages in the lawsuit filed against him by Erdoğan. The same court also denied the lawsuit for non-pecuniary damage of 5 kuruş, which Kılıçdaroğlu filed against Erdoğan for the statements he used in his speeches on September 28 and October 3, 2020.



### DFG May Report

Dicle Fırat Journalists Association (DFG) has launched its "Report on Rights Violations Against Journalists for May 2022". According to the data of the association, 11 journalists were detained in a 1-month period, new investigations were launched against 4 journalists and new lawsuits were filed against 5 journalists. 4 prosecuted journalists were

convicted. [Please click here](#) for details.



### DFG Co-Chair detained

Dicle Fırat Journalists Association (DFG) Co-Chair and Mesopotamia Agency (MA) Editor Dicle Müftüoğlu was detained on charges of sending money to an arrested colleague. Müftüoğlu was released after a 4-day detentionment period.



### Aygül Doku prevented by security guard after asking "Where is Gülistan?"

Gülistan Doku has been missing since January 2020. Her sister Aygül Doku took the stage during the 2021-2022 graduation ceremony of the university, wanting to draw attention to the situation of her sister, and she was prevented by the security guards. The students reacted against the incident and chanted slogans,

"Where is Gülistan?" and music was played from the sound system of the stage in the meantime.



## TRIALS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Cihan Ölmez Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Cihan Ölmez on the charge of “making propaganda for a terrorist organization” for sharing the speeches he gave to various press institutions on social media, as he was there in the province during the curfew in Cizre in 2015...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Diyarbakır 5th Assize Court <b>Verdict:</b> The next hearing was scheduled for November 22.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against News on Tender</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Cumhuriyet Daily executives Serkan Ozan, Olcay Büyüктаş Akça, Ozan Yurtoğlu and reporter Hazal Ocak on the charge of “insult” due to the news stories published in the newspaper with the headlines, “Bilal Erdoğan’s lucky friend” and “tender-rich friend”...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance <b>Verdict:</b> The next hearing was scheduled for November 8.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against Protest on Istanbul Convention</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 7 people, who were beaten and detained due to hanging the banner that said, “Enough Now, Women Want Life Protection” on the Istanbul Family and Social Services Provincial Directorate building in July 2020 in order to defend the Istanbul Convention, on charges of “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911,” “resisting to prevent duty”, “preventing activities of public institutes” and “damaging public property”...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Istanbul 23rd Criminal Court of First Instance <b>Verdict:</b> The next hearing was scheduled for October 25.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>“Ciao Bella” Case</u></b></p> <p>The retrial of People’s Democratic Party (CHP) former Provincial Chair Banu Özdemir after the appeal court decree following her acquittal in the lawsuit filed against her on the charge of “public incitement to hatred and enmity” due to sharing on social media the music broadcast of “Ciao Bella” from certain mosques in Izmir...</p> <p><b>Court:</b> Izmir 50th Criminal Court of First Instance <b>Verdict:</b> The court decided to accept the prosecutor’s request for time to prepare an opinion on the basis and adjourned the hearing to June 28.</p>

## HEARINGS NEXT WEEK

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Case Against Chamber Executive</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against the Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects (TMMOB) Diyarbakır Provincial coordination Council Secretary Doğan Hatun on the charge of “denigrating the state” in accordance with Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Court due to a press statement organized regarding the plans to open the highway land for rent...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Elif Tirenc İpek Ulaş Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Rosa Women’s Association’s founding Chair and lawyer Elif Tirenc İpek Ulaş on the charge of “terrorist organisation membership” based on her association activities...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 14, Tuesday at Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court</b></p>
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<p><b>June 13, Monday at Diyarbakır 8th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	
<p><b><u>Ferhat Tunç Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against artist Ferhat Tunç on the charge of “public incitement to hatred and hostility” due to his social media posts...</p> <p><b>June 14, Tuesday at Büyükçekmece 14th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p><b><u>M. Şirin Tunç Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Kurdish politician Mehmet Şirin Tunç within the investigation against the Democratic Society Congress (DTK)...</p> <p><b>June 14, Tuesday at Diyarbakır 8th Assize Court</b></p>
<p><b><u>Rüstem Batum Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Rüstem Batum on the charge of “insulting the President” and “public incitement towards resentment and hostility” due to 20 Twitter posts he made in 2016 and 2018...</p> <p><b>June 14, Tuesday at İstanbul 5th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p><b><u>Özgür Gündem Substitute Editors-In-Chief Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Özgür Gündem Substitute Editors-In-Chief Şebnem Korur Fincancı, Erol Önderoğlu and Ahmet Nesin, whose acquittal decrees were overturned at the appeal court...</p> <p><b>June 14, Tuesday at İstanbul 13th Assize Court</b></p>
<p><b><u>Özgürlükçü Demokrasi Case</u></b></p> <p>The retrial of journalists İhsan Yaşar, İshak Yasul, Mehmet Ali Çelebi, Mizgin Fendik, Pınar Tarlak, Reyhan Hacıoğlu and Hicran Urun within the “Özgürlükçü Demokrasi Case”...</p> <p><b>June 14, Tuesday at İstanbul 23rd Assize Court</b></p>	<p><b><u>"Unpermitted" Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against street artist with alias “Unpermitted” on charges of “public denigration of the Turkish flag” and “insulting the President” through their Twitter posts drawings...</p> <p><b>June 15, Wednesday at İstanbul 20th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>
<p><b><u>İsmail Saymaz Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Ismail Saymaz on the charge of “insult” due to an article he wrote regarding the abuse in a sect...</p> <p><b>June 15, Wednesday at İstanbul 35th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p><b><u>Sadiye Eser Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 34 people, including journalist Sadiye Eser, on charges of “terrorist organisation membership” and “making propaganda for a terrorist organisation”...</p> <p><b>June 15, Wednesday at İstanbul 6th Assize Court</b></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Ankara Gezi Park Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 26 people, that has been ongoing since 2016 regarding the Gezi Park protests in Ankara...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 16, Thursday at Ankara 14th Assize Court</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Cengiz Candar Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Cengiz Candar on the charge of “praising the crime and the criminal” based on a Twitter post he made from his personal account on May 30, 2017...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 16, Thursday at Istanbul 30th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Özgür Gündem Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down Özgür Gündem Daily’s Editors-In-Chief Hüseyin Aykol, Zana Kaya, Managing Editor İnan Kızılkaya and Kurdish politician Hatip Dicle...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 16, Thursday at Istanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Zübeyde Sarı Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Zübeyde Sarı on the charge of “public incitement towards resentment and hostility” due to her social media posts...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 16, Thursday at Istanbul Bakırköy 24th Criminal Court of First Instance</b></p>
<p><b><u>DIAYDER Case</u></b></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Religious Scholars Solidarity Association (DIAYDER) members and executives on charges of “terrorist organisation membership” and “aiding a terrorist organization”, which was made a basis for Interior Minister Soylu to start a “special inspection” against Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality workers...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 17, Friday at Istanbul 14th Assize Court</b></p>	