

Think, think...



Freedom of Expression Weekly Newsletter (Issue 25/22 - June 24, 2022)

What happened last week?

- The Council of Judges and Prosecutors (HSK) summer decree has been published; the places of duty of 5,075 judicial and 351 administrative judges and prosecutors were changed. The Bismil Prosecutor, who arrested 16 journalists within the scope of GÖÇİZ-DER investigation, was appointed to Diyarbakır Anti-Terror Prosecutor's office; the Istanbul 12 Assize Court Chief Judge Nimet Demir, who wrote a "dissenting opinion" against the transfer of the Jamal Khashoggi case to Saudi Arabia, was appointed as a judge in Kahramanmaraş. The judge who had annotated the conviction decree in the Gezi Park Case, was exiled to Tokat Turhal.
- Economists and international financial institutions argue that Turkey's economic outlook will continue to deteriorate and three-digit annual inflation figures may be seen in the summer months. President Erdoğan, on the other hand, is "determined not to show humility": Erdoğan asked for a 40.4% increase in his salary. The supplementary budget proposal, signed by President Erdoğan, was recently submitted to the Parliament. Within the scope of the additional budget, it is foreseen that 880.5 billion liras (\$50.8 billion) will be spent until the end of the year.
- A verdict has been issued in the lawsuit filed against Cemal Metin Avcı and his relatives, the man who murdered 27-year-old university student Pınar Gültekin. Avcı's relatives who helped him murder Gültekin were acquitted, and the court applied a "sentence reduction due to unjust provocation" for Avcı, sentencing the murderer to only 23 years in prison. The murderer will be released after 14 years. The decree drew great public reaction, and the damage caused by the consequences of Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention has reached alarming proportions. Father Gültekin announced that he would start a "justice watch" in front of the Ministry of Justice.
- Discussions on the "censorship law", which were expected to be on the agenda of the General Assembly of the Turkish Grand National Assembly during the week, were postponed. Strong opposition from the public and civil society against the proposal is thought to have been effective. With the proposal, news websites are included in the "periodicals" category. News websites are required to publish disclaimers. The crime of "publicly disseminating misleading information to the public" is established and those who commit the crime are predicted to be sentenced to prison. Social media platforms are required to share user information with judicial authorities within 24 hours under certain conditions, otherwise it is stated that different sanctions will be applied, from access blocks to band reduction.
- While the "Disinformation Law" was on the agenda, Orhan Sarıkaya, who previously worked for pro-government newspapers, the Ümraniye Municipality and said that he was an "Aktroll", talked about what the Aktrolls have done, how they were financed, and the instructions came to them from the headquarters. Sarıkaya said that there are 3 trolling groups; giving the names of Berat Albayrak, Süleyman Soylu and Metin

Külünk. Regarding how the campaigns were delivered to them, Sarıkaya said, "The tail of this business was Fahrettin Altun."

- Activities intended to be held as part of the 30th LGBTQI+ Pride Week have been banned across the country. The reasons for the bans, that have no legal basis, are “providing peace and well-being”, “protecting general morality”(!)
 - The sign that was hung during the opening ceremony of the Saab Restaurant, which belonged to a Turkish citizen of Somali origin, in the Çankaya district of Ankara, was intervened by the police, as a Turkish name was not given to the restaurant. During the intervention, a police officer on duty insulted and threatened Democracy and Progress (DEVA) Party Istanbul MP Mustafa Yeneroğlu, who was there for the opening. The General Directorate of Security, on the other hand, targeted the MP, claiming that "the Turkish Police Organization has been systematically attacked for a long time".
 - 11 more immunity files belonging to 10 Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MPs were sent to the Parliament.
 - The Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) abolished its Diyarbakır Provincial Directorate. No statement was made regarding the decision, and the next day, MHP Diyarbakır Provincial Chairman Cihan Kayaalp was arrested on the charge of "sexual abuse of a child". The Ministry of Interior has apparently informed the MHP administration before the arrest...
 - The latest hearing of the lawsuit regarding the murder of Kurdish intellectual, journalist and writer Musa Anter, who was killed in 1992, has been adjourned to September 15. With the expiration of the statute of limitations 15 days after the determined date of hearing, the file will conclude with impunity...
 - Special operations forces who came to detain a citizen in a hamlet in Başkale district of Van opened fire in the air for minutes and battered the villagers. The Governorate, on the other hand, defended the events and stated, "the arrest of a person is reflected differently on social media". The images, which looked nothing different from the 90s, revealed the clear truth...
 - The European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) did not accept the objection made on the conviction of Turkey in the lawsuits filed by journalists Deniz Yücel and Nazlı Ilıcak. Thus, the decrees were upheld.
 - Turkey is experiencing one of the u-turns in foreign policy with Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman came to Ankara for the first time after the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was killed in the Saudi Arabian Consulate General in Istanbul on October 2, 2018, and was hosted by President Erdoğan.
 - Following the reversal decision of the Court of Cassation, 71 military school students who were detained within the scope of the "Sultanbeyli Case", one of the July 15 Coup Attempt cases, were released.
 - The motion to extend the permission period for sending soldiers to Libya by 18 months was accepted at the General Assembly of the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
 - The regulation announced by the government as the "6th Judicial Package" passed the General Assembly of the Turkish Grand National Assembly. The Checks and Balances Network (DDA) drew attention to the risks by evaluating the regulation, which is problematic in terms of “judicial independence and impartiality”, on the basis of criteria regarding checks and balances.
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Istanbul LGBTQI+ Pride Week events banned

Organized for the 30th time this year, the Istanbul Pride Week events were banned by the Beyoğlu and Kadıköy District Governorates. All kinds of outdoor and indoor events were banned by the administration. A group, which defines itself as the Defense of Islam Movement and targeted and attempted to lynch

LGBTQI+s in Çanakkale, Antep and Istanbul University, made a call for lynching on June 26, Sunday at Taksim, when the Istanbul LGBTQI+ Pride Parade was planned to be held. The public authority did not take any steps against this hatred. Istanbul LGBTQI+ Pride Week Committee made a statement after the ban decree, and said, “We do not give up, we are not afraid! We will continue our activities in safe places and online.” In their joint statement, LGBTQI+ associations said, “We invite all institutions and the public that support the law, democracy and human rights to speak up with the same determination and to expand solidarity with LGBTQI+s in every field they are in.”



“We stand together with LGBTQI+s and their organizations against discriminating policies”

Human Rights Defenders Solidarity Network, which our initiative is also a part of, made a joint statement, titled, "We stand with LGBTQI+s and LGBTQI+ organizations against discriminatory policies". In the statement, it was said, "The ban decrees made by the authorities encourage hate speech and threats, and provoke the aggressors on the

grounds that violence against LGBTQI+s will go unpunished. These ban decrees, including discriminatory practices specific to LGBTQI+s, are a clear violation of the freedom of peaceful meeting and are against the international conventions as well as the Turkish Constitution. State authorities have a duty to protect LGBTQI+s, their freedom of peaceful meeting, and their right to personal liberty and security. We stand by LGBTQI+s and LGBTQI+ organizations against all discriminatory policies aimed at isolating, criminalizing and making LGBTQI+s the target of violence.”



Journalist’s office raided to “reveal news source”

The house and office of Ordu-based monthly Yön Newspaper owner Osman Şahin was raided by the police after a denouncement was made due to an article published on the website of the newspaper. The journalist, who published the petition submitted to the chief

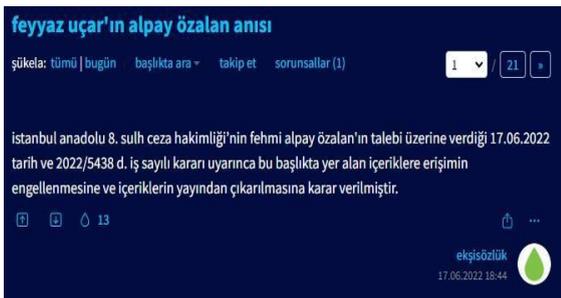
physician claiming that a doctor working at Ordu State Hospital prescribed drugs against procedure and requested to work in the pandemic service to get overpaid, stated that he was pressured to give the name of the person who submitted the petition to him as well as his news source. Three computers and mobile phones of the journalist, who testified at the Security Branch Directorate on the charge of "unlawfully seizing and disseminating personal data" were confiscated.



Court of Cassation overturns Pinar Selek's acquittal

The General Criminal Council of the Court of Cassation overturned the acquittal of sociologist Pinar Selek and Abdülmecit Öztürk in the case of the explosion in the Spice Bazaar in 1998, which killed 7 people and injured 127 people. Selek will be tried again with a claim for aggravated life imprisonment. Selek faced

prosecution based on the testimony of someone, who said under torture, "we did it together" but later rejected his claim during the prosecution and despite the many scientific reports in the file that the explosion was due to gas leakage. Selek stated, "As this person was acquitted and his acquittal was finalized, the fact that only my acquittal was appealed is not only wrong and irrational, but also inhumane."



Access blocks

Rize Criminal Judicature of Peace blocked access against the news article reported by Contemporary Journalists Association (ÇGD) Rize Branch President and journalist Genççağa Karafazlı regarding Justice and Development Party (AKP) President of the Rize Provincial General Assembly İbrahim Türt, with the

headline, "Türüt pretends state investments are his own success - is he dreaming of Parliament membership?" Alpay Özalan is the former teammate of Beşiktaş's one of famous soccer players Feyyaz Uçar and now is a Justice and Development Party (AKP) Parliament member. The interview Uçar gave years ago in a soccer program was on the agenda of Ekşi Sözlük website with the thread title, "Feyyaz Uçar's memory of Alpay Özalan", and the posts under the thread were blocked from access by the Istanbul Anatolian 8th Criminal Judicature of Peace. Commenting on the "most"s in the interview in question, Uçar has answered the question, "Who is the player that lies the most?" as "Alpay Özalan".



LGBTQI+s detained instead of threateners

The vegan picnic event to be organized by the Istanbul University Equality Group as part of the 30th Pride Week events was banned. The event was cancelled due to the threats of lynching and assault of a group that gathered in front of the school by uttering takbirs and shouting slogans targeting LGBTQI+s. No

action was taken against the group threatening LGBTQI+s, whereas 26 LGBTQI+ activists were detained.



Eskişehir Governorate targets LGBTQI+s, declares protest ban

The Eskişehir Governorate targeted the Pride Parade to be organized by the LGBTQI+ associations and banned all press statements, marches, sit-in protests, handouts, hanging posters/placards, protests, festivals, etc. to be organized throughout the city for 15 days. The

reason for the Governorate ban, which claimed that the said events "contain some attitudes and behaviors against public morality"(!) and are "open to provocations", was "to ensure the continuation of public well-being and public order, protecting general health and morality"(!).



Governor targets Pride Week

Gaziantep Governor Davut Gül targeted the 1st Gaziantep Pride Week, which was going to be organized by Gaziantep LGBTQI+ Solidarity and Community - Antep Queer between June 23 and 26, and announced that the activities will not be permitted. Antep Pride Week Committee stated that the attacks and threats increased exponentially after the governor's statement, calling it a "perverted event" and that the statement created an unsafe ground for

LGBTQI+s.



Police prevention against movie screening in Datça

The police banned the screening of the movie for the World Refugee Day in the Life House as part of the Pride Month events in Datça on the grounds that "there was no prior permission". The police also attacked the press statement

that was intended to be made on the street to protest this unlawfulness. The screening of the movie "My Child" ["Benim Çocuğum"], which was planned to be held on June 21 as part of Datça Pride Week, was also banned by the District Governorate upon the application of the District Security Directorate.



April 24 investigation against Diyarbakır Bar Association

The Ministry of Justice gave permission to investigate Diyarbakır Bar Association Chairman Nahit Eren and the members of the

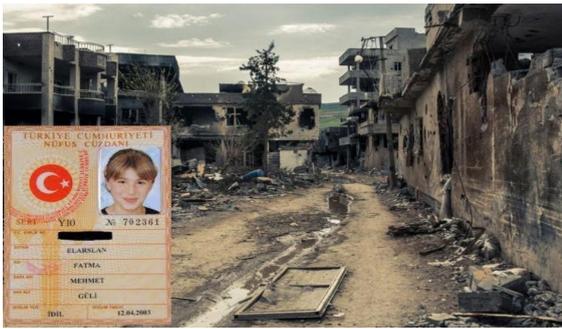
Board of Directors due to the statement they made on April 24. Eren and the Board of Directors will be tried for "insulting the state" (in accordance with Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Code). Due to the April 24 statements and reports made by the Diyarbakır Bar Association in 2016 and 2018, a lawsuit was filed against the President of the Bar Association and the Board of Directors in accordance with Article 301 of the Turkish Criminal Code. The court decided that saying "Armenian genocide" and "Kurdistan" do not constitute a crime, according to the law.



Sırrı Süreyya Önder sentenced over insulting President

The lawsuit filed against former Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Parliament member Sırrı Süreyya Önder was held on the charge of "insulting the President" due to the expressions he used as he was testifying at the Diyarbakır Chief Public Prosecutor's Office as part of an

investigation in 2016. The court decided that Önder had committed the crime he was charged with and sentenced him to 10 months in prison, deferring the announcement of the verdict.



Prosecutor finds killing of 13-year-old "lawful" after calling him "terrorist organisation member"

A verdict of non-prosecution was issued in the lawsuit filed on the death of 13-year-old Fatma Elarслан, who disappeared during the curfew declared on February 16, 2016 in Idil district of Şırnak and whose lifeless body was found on March 7, 2016. The Şırnak Public Prosecutor's

Office claimed that the 13-year-old boy "participated in clashes with the security forces, engaged in armed activities against the security forces and was killed "during the clashes". The Prosecutor's Office further claimed that the police "followed a lawful order" and denied the objections to the decision on the same grounds.



Another investigation against Suruç Families

A new investigation has been launched due to the statements of the families of those who lost their lives and those injured in the Suruç attack at the hearings. The words "we want a fair trial" expressed by Sultan Yıldız, Mehmet Özkan and Yasemin Boyraz during the hearing

were made subject to the charge of "insult". Previously, investigations were launched against five people due to their statements during the 21st hearing.



HDP assembly member arrested

The Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Assembly (PM) member Selahattin Yılmaz, who participated in the Ordinary Congress of the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Kocaeli Provincial Organization held on June 19, was arrested due to "making propaganda for a terrorist organisation" during his speech at the

congress as well as his speech at the Newroz event held in Gebze on March 19, 2022.

Case against journalists abated



The lawsuit filed against journalists including the Turkish Journalists Association Hakkari Representative Erkan Çapraz, which was tried at the Yüksekova 2nd Assize Court on the charge of "insulting a public official because of his duty" due to a report published by Yüksekova Haber Daily in 2010, has been

abated due to the statute of limitations.



2 Boğaziçi University protest participants sentenced to imprisonment

The Workers' Party of Turkey (TIP) member Kaan Ünal and university student Doğukan Akkaya, who were tried at the Istanbul 55th Criminal Court of First Instance on the charge of "attending unlawful meetings and demonstrations and not dispersing spontaneously despite a warning" for their participation in the Boğaziçi University protests, were each sentenced to 5 months in

prison.



First hearing held in lawsuit against Chamber of Architects executives

The lawsuit filed against Chamber of Architects Ankara Branch Chair Tezcan Karakuş candan and 6 Executive Board members of the time started at the Ankara 25th Assize Court on the charge of "making propaganda for a terrorist organisation" for giving an award to Jin TV. The next hearing

was scheduled for September 15.



Deniz Poyraz's father Abdulillah Poyraz acquitted

Deniz Poyraz was murdered in the attack against the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Izmir Provincial Building. Her father, Abdulillah Poyraz, was acquitted in the lawsuit filed against him on the charge of "making propaganda for a terrorist organisation" due to the interview he gave to the Mesopotamia

Agency after his daughter was killed.



YouTuber Porçay imprisoned over parody video

The appeal application of YouTuber Ö.A., nicknamed "Porçay", who was sentenced to 4 years and 2 months in prison for a parody video about rapper Ezhel, was denied. The YouTuber, who surrendered by going to Çağlayan Courthouse after the appeal court decree, was

sent to Metris Closed Prison.



MP battered over support statement for prisoner relatives

Relatives of the prisoners, who wanted to hold a Justice Watch in front of the Istanbul Çağlayan Courthouse to draw attention to the usurpation of rights in prisons, were detained with torture this week as well. The police blocked the way of Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) Parliament member Musa Piroğlu, who

said, "I will make the statement they were not allowed to do," and intervened against him, claiming that he had acted against the law. Piroğlu was pushed from his wheelchair.



Investigation against physician over call for protest

Cerrahpaşa Medical Faculty Dean's Office launched a disciplinary investigation against Istanbul Medical Chamber Assistant and Young Specialist Physician Branch Representative Dr. Tahsin Çınar, who left his job at the call of the Turkish Medical Association (TTB) to draw attention to the violence against healthcare

workers. The Dean's Office claimed that Çınar's social media posts for the act of quitting were "aimed to create chaos and outrage".



Appeal court upholds 10 police officers' acquittal in HDP rally attack case

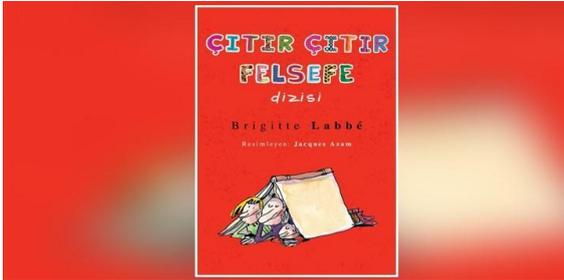
Diyarbakir Regional Court of Justice denied the objection to the acquittal of 10 police officers who were tried for "neglect of duty" in the attack of ISIS against the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) election rally in Diyarbakir on June 5, 2015, in which 5 people were killed and 210 people were injured. The local court had previously stated that the policemen could not

be held responsible for the incident, that "the police could not be blamed" and laid the responsibility for the massacre on the municipality on the grounds that they did not collect the garbage in the area.



Censorship against Hippocrates Oath

At the graduation ceremony of Istanbul University Çapa Faculty of Medicine, the Hippocratic Oath was changed by the school administration, and the section "No sexual orientation discrimination to be made" was removed from the oath.



7 children's books declared "obscene publications"

The Ministry of Family and Social Policies Board of Protection of Children from Obscene Publications, declared 7 books published by Günışığı Kitaplığı Publishing from the series "Çıtır Çıtır Felsefe" ["Crunchy Philosophy"] as "obscene". The sale of children's books to

persons under the age of 18 is prohibited. The works, which are among the reference books of parents and educators in more than 25 countries, were targeted on social media and pro-government news websites.



Local court does not comply with Court of Cassation decree on Isle of Man

The Istanbul Anatolian 20th Civil Court of First Instance, which sentenced Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu to compensation for his statements regarding the "Isle of Man documents", did not comply with the Court of Cassation's reversal decree. In his speech at the

group meeting of his party in November 2017, Kılıçdaroğlu has disclosed with documents the

money Erdoğan and his relatives sent to the offshore company in the Isle of Man, which is described as a tax haven.



Police officer acquitted after shooting Recep Hantaş dead

The police officer, who was on trial for the death of 20-year-old waste worker Recep Hantaş, who died as a result of the fire opened by the police while sitting in a park in Diyarbakır in 2019, was acquitted. Lawyers of the Hantaş family said that "the only fault of our client was that he was there that day" and

drew attention to the policy of impunity in the trial of public officials. The Diyarbakır 4th Assize Court "couldn't find any evidence"(!) on the crime committed by accused police officer K.B. on the charge of "homicide with eventual intent."



TRIALS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

<p><u>Beritan Canözer Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against JinNews reporter Beritan Canözer on the charge of "making terrorist organization propaganda" on social media due to social media posts including those made from accounts that did not belong to Canözer...</p> <p>Court: Diyarbakır 4th Assize Court Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for October 13.</p>	<p><u>Evrım Kepenek Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Bianet editor Evrim Kepenek on the charge of "insult" due to the news she covered on Refik Y., who was initially arrested for abusing his 6-year-old child and was later released on the condition of judicial measures...</p> <p>Court: Izmir Selçuk Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 1.</p>
<p><u>Case Against Boğaziçi Protests</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 4 Boğaziçi University students, who were detained due to "carrying a rainbow flag" as they were protesting for their arrested friends as well as 8 other students, who were detained as they were protesting the situation...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 24th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for September 20.</p>	<p><u>Hazal Ocak Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit of compensation filed against journalist Hazal Ocak by President Erdoğan's son-in-law Berat Albayrak due to the news article, entitled, "The son-in-law knows the job"...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 8th Civil Court of First Instance Verdict: The judge held the hearing, to which Albayrak's lawyers attended through the e-hearing method, without notifying the lawyer of the journalist. After the lawyer's reaction, the</p>

	judge also didn't hand him the hearing summary, stating that the hearing was over.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Adalet Kaya Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Rosa Women's Association Chair Adalet Kaya on the allegation of Democratic Society Congress (DTK) delegation, her participation in a statement made by the association she was the chair of, as well as her social media posts...</p> <p>Court: Diyarbakır 11th Assize Court Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 9.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Case Against Ankara Bar Association</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against the Ankara Bar Association administration on the charge of "insulting a public official because of their duty" after they criticized Director of Religious Affairs Ali Erbaş, who targeted LGBTQI+s and related contagious diseases with homosexuality during a Friday sermon...</p> <p>Court: Ankara 16th Assize Court Verdict: The Prosecutor announced their opinion on the basis two days before the hearing and requested the penalisation of 11 lawyers on the charge of "insult." The court adjourned the hearing to November 9 for the defense statements against the opinion to be prepared.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>"Gülen Community Media Case"</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Ahmet Memiş, Ali Akkuş, Cemal Azmi Kalyoncu, Gökçe Fırat Çulhağolu, Ünal Tanık, Yakup Çetin, Yetkin Yıldız on charges of "insulting the President," "aiding a terrorist organization" and "denigrating state organizations and institutions"...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 25th Assize Court Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for November 29.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>KOÜ Solidarity Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 14 students and 3 rights advocates from the Kocaeli Student Solidarity, who wanted to make a support statement for the Boğaziçi University protests, on charges of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911" and "resisting to prevent duty"...</p> <p>Court: Kocaeli 5th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The next hearing was scheduled for October 17.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Case Against Boğaziçi Protests</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against six of those detained during the protest organized in Izmir on February 3, 2021 against the trustee rector appointed to Boğaziçi University on charges of "violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911," "insult" and "resisting to prevent duty"...</p> <p>Court: Izmir 49th Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: In the reply to the court after the court requested camera recordings from the security directorate, it was stated that the building cameras were not working and that there was no camera in the detainment vehicle. The hearing was adjourned to November 4.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rüstem Batum Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Rüstem Batum on the charge of "public denigration of the military and security organization of the state" due to his statements during the show, "Agenda Debate with Ayşegül Doğan" on IMC TV on September 10, 2015...</p> <p>Court: Istanbul 43rd Criminal Court of First Instance Verdict: The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrant issued against Batum, who resides abroad, and adjourned the hearing to November 4.</p>

Metin Cihan Case

The lawsuit filed against journalist Metin Cihan and his news source on the charge of “illegally obtaining and spreading personal information” due to his social media posts, in which he disclosed documents revealing various corruption by TÜGVA Foundation, which were leaked...

Court: Istanbul 22nd Criminal Court of First Instance

Verdict: The court decided to wait for the execution of the warrant issued against the journalist, who resides abroad, and for the travel ban against the news source to remain. The hearing was adjourned to October 19.

HEARINGS NEXT WEEK

<p><u>Case Against Call for May 1</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 41 people, who were detained during the press statement they organized to make a call for May 1 in Kadıköy and Beşiktaş districts of Istanbul in 2021, including union and political party executives, on the charge of “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations”...</p> <p>June 27, Monday at Istanbul Anatolian 53rd Criminal Court of First Instance</p>	<p><u>Lawsuit against IHD Co-Chair</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Human Rights Association (IHD) Co-Chair Öztürk Türkdoğan on the charge of “insulting a public official” due to the statement with the title, “Obligatory Statement Regarding Interior Minister Süleyman Soylu” that was published on the website of the IHD on June 29, 2018...</p> <p>June 27, Monday at Ankara 60th Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p><u>Case Against Montreux Statement</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 103 retired colonels on the charge of “agreeing to commit a crime against the Constitutional order” due to the statement they made, drawing attention to the importance of the Montreux Convention...</p> <p>June 27, Monday at Ankara 20th Assize Court</p>	<p><u>Gökhan Yavuzel Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against writer Gökhan Yavuzel on the charge of “public incitement towards resentment and hostility” due to a social media post...</p> <p>June 28, Tuesday at Ankara 7th Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p><u>Case Against Protest on Hunger Strikes</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalists İrfan Tunççelik, Ümit Turhan Coşkun and 11 Peace Mothers Initiative members on charges of “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations” and “committing a crime on behalf of a terrorist organization” due to a protest organized in front of the Bakırköy Women’s Closed Prison regarding the hunger strikes in prison, that started in 2018...</p> <p>June 28, Tuesday at Istanbul 23rd Assize Court</p>	<p><u>Case Against Hasankeyf Protest</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 31 people, including Jıyan News Editor-In-Chief Sonya Bayık, who were detained during the press statement organized by the Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Youth Assembly members on June 12, 2019 with the demand that the water procedures of the Ilısu Dam, which left Hasankeyf underwater, be stopped, on the charge of “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations”...</p> <p>June 28, Tuesday at Batman 1st Criminal Court of First Instance</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ismail Saymaz Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Ismail Saymaz on the charge of “illegally obtaining personal data” due to an article he wrote on a Prosecutor raiding a hospital in Kayseri...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 28, Tuesday at Niğde 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Yetkin Yıldız Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against previously shut-down aktifhaber.com’s online Editor-In-Chief Yetkin Yıldız on charges of “insulting” and “slandering” Efkan Ala...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 28, Tuesday at Istanbul Bakırköy 31st Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Zaman Daily Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Mümtazer Türköne, Şahin Alpay, Ali Bulaç, Ahmet Turan Alkan and Mehmet Özdemir after the verdicts issued for them in the Zaman Daily Case were overturned by the Court of Cassation...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 28, Tuesday at Istanbul 13th Assize Court</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Çağlar Demirel Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against former Peoples’ Democratic Party (HDP) Parliamentary Group Deputy Chair Çağlar Demirel on the charge of “insulting Erdoğan” after she said during a speech she gave in a rally organized in Diyarbakır in 2016, referring to Erdoğan’s words targeting her party, “We return everything he said exactly back to him”...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 28, Tuesday at Diyarbakır 5th Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hayri Demir Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Hayri Demir on charges of “terrorist organisation membership” and “making propaganda for a terrorist organization” due to his journalistic activities in northern Syria...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 29, Wednesday at Ankara 15th Assize Court</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Abdurrahman Gök Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against Mesopotamia Agency editor Abdurrahman Gök on charges of “terrorist organization membership” and “making propaganda for a terrorist organization” due to his phone calls with news sources, social media posts and the news he reported...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 30, Thursday at Diyarbakır 5th Assize Court</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Newspaper Distributors Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against newspaper distributors Mikail Tunçdemir and Ferhat Duman on charges of “wilfully aiding and abetting a terrorist organization” and “making propaganda for a terrorist organization”...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 30, Thursday at Van 5th Assize Court</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Case Against Picnic Organized During Pride Week</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against one person, who participated in the picnic organized in Maçka Park within the 2021 Istanbul LGBTQI+ Pride Week, on the charge of “insulting a public official”...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 30, Thursday at Istanbul 44th Criminal Court of First Instance</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Vedat Öruc Case</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against journalist Vedat Öruc, who was detained as he was following a protest</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Case on Metin Lokumcu’s Murder</u></p> <p>The lawsuit filed against 13 police officers, including the then-Provincial Security</p>

on February 8, 2020, on charges of “violating the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations No. 2911” and “insulting a public official”...

July 1, Friday at Istanbul 18th Criminal Court of First Instance

Directorate, on the death of retired teacher Metin Lokumcu as a result of the tear gas used by the police during the protest organized before the rally of then-Prime Minister Erdoğan in Hopa district of Artvin in 2011...

July 1, Friday at Trabzon 2nd Assize Court