

TURKEY RIGHTS MONITOR



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June 7: The European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET) released a [report](#), which highlighted the continued deterioration of the human rights situation in Turkey.

ARBITRARY DETENTION AND ARREST

Throughout the week, prosecutors ordered the detention of at least 190 people over alleged links to the Gülen movement. In October 2020, a UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) [opinion](#) said that widespread or systematic imprisonment of individuals with alleged links to the group may amount to crimes against humanity. Solidarity with OTHERS has compiled a detailed [database](#) to monitor the Gülen-linked mass detentions since a failed coup in July 2016.

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

No news has emerged of [Yusuf Bilge Tunç](#), a former public sector worker who was sacked from his job by a decree-law during the 2016-2018 state of emergency and who was reported missing as of August 6, 2019 in what appears to be one of the latest cases in a string of suspected [enforced disappearance](#) of government critics since 2016.

FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

June 6: Governors of Adana and Mersin [banned](#) the Kurdish-language staging of Tartuffe without a justification.

June 7: The rectorate of a university in Ankara [announced](#) that it will block an LGBT pride march.

June 8: The police in İstanbul briefly [detained](#) five people staging a protest in front of a courthouse to support prisoners on hunger strike.

June 9: The police in Ankara [detained](#) five labor union members who were staging a protest in front of the official statistical agency.

June 9: The police in İstanbul [detained](#) 16 people staging demonstrations in front of courthouses.

June 9: The Bursa Governor's Office [issued](#) a ban on all outdoor gatherings for a period of seven days.

June 10: An Adana court [handed down](#) prison sentences to seven people over their participation in protests in 2013.

June 10: The police in Ankara [detained](#) 38 university students staging an LGBT pride march.

June 11: The police in Eskişehir [detained](#) two university students over a demonstration.

June 11: The police in Diyarbakır [detained](#) 12 pro-Kurdish politicians and activists who staged a demonstration.

June 11: The police in İstanbul [detained](#) 20 university students holding a march.

June 11: The Çanakkale Governor's Office [issued](#) a ban on all outdoor gatherings for a period of four days.

June 12: The Van Governor's Office [issued](#) a ban on all outdoor gatherings for a period of 15 days.

June 12: The İzmir Governor's Office [issued](#) a ban on all outdoor gatherings for a period of two days.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND MEDIA

June 6: A Şanlıurfa court [ordered](#) activist Emine Şenyaşar to pay damages for allegedly insulting government officials.

June 6: The Dicle Fırat Journalists' Association (DFG) [reported](#) that Turkish authorities detained 11 journalists and mistreated 11 others in May.

June 6: A Diyarbakır court [ruled](#) to block access to a web address used by the pro-Kurdish Etkin news agency (ETHA).

June 6: The authorities [released](#) journalist Dicle Müftüoğlu, who was detained last week.

June 7: An İstanbul court [sentenced](#) left-wing politician Hacer Ankut Efe to one year, two months and 17 days in prison on charges of insulting the president on social media.

June 8: The police in Diyarbakır [conducted](#) house raids to detain 21 Kurdish journalists. The police also raided offices of pro-Kurdish media outlets, confiscating computers, drives and printed material.

June 9: An İstanbul prosecutor [demanded](#) a prison sentence of up to three years for former army chief İlker Başbuğ over his public remarks about a military coup in 1960.

June 9: Journalist Barış Pehlivan [announced](#) that he received threats after publishing a column about the interior minister.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

June 6: The Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (TİHV) [reported](#) that in the first four months of 2022 a total of 1,415 human rights activists faced harassment by the authorities.

JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE & RULE OF LAW

June 9: A new [report](#) by the Arrested Lawyers Initiative detailed the Turkish government's policy of promoting high judiciary members based on their crackdown on government critics.

June 12: Şanlıurfa prosecutors [decided](#) for non-prosecution in the case of prison guards accused of torturing inmates.

KURDISH MINORITY

June 6: The Adana Governor's Office [banned](#) the Kurdish-language staging of Tartuffe without a justification.

June 6: A Diyarbakır court [ruled](#) to block access to a web address used by the pro-Kurdish Etkin news agency (ETHA).

June 8: The police in Diyarbakır [conducted](#) house raids to detain 21 Kurdish journalists. The police also raided offices of pro-Kurdish media outlets, confiscating computers, drives and printed material.

June 8: The police in Tekirdağ [detained](#) eight Kurdish politicians on terrorism charges.

June 8: A Kurdish construction worker in Bursa was [subjected](#) to a racist attack by his coworkers and injured as a result. The worker was also fired after the incident.

June 11: The police in Diyarbakır [detained](#) 12 pro-Kurdish politicians and activists who staged a demonstration.

OTHER MINORITIES

June 6: A mob in Mardin [attacked](#) the house of an Assyrian family.

June 7: A trans woman [announced](#) that she was tortured by the İstanbul police in custody.

June 10: The police in Ankara [detained](#) 38 university students staging an LGBT pride march.

PRISON CONDITIONS

June 7: A Batman prison [denied](#) medical treatment to inmate Önder Poyraz.

June 7: A prison administration in Şanlıurfa [denied](#) hospitalization to inmates.

June 9: A Kayseri prison [denied](#) necessary dental care to an inmate.

REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

June 6: Former Greek finance minister Yanis Varoufakis in an interview [condemned](#) the pushbacks of migrants at the Turkish-Greek border.

June 7: [Sherifi El Ahmed](#), a 22-year-old Syrian refugee, was shot dead in İstanbul in what appears to be a racist attack.

TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT

June 6: [Mehmet Ali Aykal](#), an inmate held in a Diyarbakır prison, was physically assaulted by soldiers during a hospital visit.

June 7: A trans woman [announced](#) that she was tortured by the İstanbul police in custody.

June 7: The guards in a Şanlıurfa prison verbally [threatened](#) inmate Cesim Karataş.

June 7: The guards in a Hatay prison [mistreated](#) four inmates.

June 8: Plainclothes police officers in İstanbul physically [mistreated](#) a person who refused to show them identification.

June 10: The guards in a Düzce prison verbally [assaulted](#) inmates during a ward search.

June 12: The guards in a Batman prison physically [assaulted](#) two inmates who resisted a head count.

June 12: Şanlıurfa prosecutors [decided](#) for non-prosecution in the case of prison guards accused of torturing inmates.

TRANSNATIONAL REPRESSION

June 7: Freedom House [reported](#) that Turkey saw 56 incidents of transnational repression between 2014 and 2021.

June 8: A German intelligence [report](#) named Turkey as one of four main countries engaged in espionage in Germany in 2021, including spying on government critics.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

June 8: A Council of State prosecutor once again [demanded](#) the annulment of a presidential decree that withdrew Turkey from the İstanbul Convention.