

PEACE AND DEMOCRACY PARTY

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INDEX

1- Constitutional Approach of BDP

2- Psycho-Political Analysis of the international news about Kurds in Turkey

3- Statistics: Realities of Turkey

CONSTITUTIONAL APPROACH OF BDP

All people in Turkey have come to expect a new constitution, in order to lay the foundation for a democratic peaceful, pluralistic, egalitarian and libertarian system of justice.

Despite the tens of changes that have been made in the near and distant past, the patches that have been applied to the junta constitution as so-called improvements are not working. The biggest obstacle is the basic philosophy of the anti-democratic Constitution that is in force, with its provisos of numerous articles. This Constitution, developed from a coup, ignores the peaceful democracy and plural structure of the country's ethnic-cultural-religious-political landscape.

Since 2007 and throughout the 2010 referendum and the 2012 elections, there have been calls to get rid of the anti-democratic provisions of the Constitution that was born out of the September 12 coup and the guardianship of junta regime. The claim for native language and identity rights, freedom of conscience and religion, women's and labour rights, and the peaceful and democratic solution of the Kurdish question, have occupied the political debate for the whole of society.

However, the discourse around the new constitution has gone no farther than using this process as political currency, realising that sections of society view a new constitution as a vital need. The amends that the government made to the Constitution in the 2012 referendum did not provide any fundamental solution to the country's principle problems, specifically to the right of Kurdish people to live with equality and in honorable peace. In fact, the anti-democratic Constitution which ignores the rights and freedoms of a pluralistic society has only been strengthened.

The success of the Peace and Democracy Party (BDP) and the democratic block candidates in the 2011 elections, although imperfect, has created legitimacy for the process of constructing a new Constitution. The BDP represents the demands of those people who are oppressed and suffer discrimination, whose language and identity are denied, workers and women. Despite its imprisoned MPs, mayors, officials and thousands of party members, it has still participated, with three members, in the parliamentary constitutional commission for reconciliation, without any prerequisite.

It has become clear that it is not possible to conduct the Constitution-development process while conflict continues. For this reason, based on the experiences of countries that have gone through similar processes in the past, the BDP has proposed a series of confidence-building measures, to be taken simultaneously with the process of constitution development and construction.

This package of measures contains:

- The removal of the ten percent threshold that prevents a fair representation
- Suspension of military operations
- Restarting of the dialogue
- The creation of conditions for Mr. Abdullah Ocalan to participate in the peace and negotiation process in most effective and efficient way
- the termination of the KCK operations

PACKAGE OF URGENT LEGAL MEASURES

The BDP, through its confidence-building measures, considers the wide participation of all sections of society, freely and without fear, a prerequisite to a democratic constitution. It has also proposed a way to democratize the Constitution-making process.

1. In order to conduct a transparent process of constitutional construction that has wide participation, barriers limiting freedom of thought, expression and the media should be removed. In order to even partially guarantee these freedoms, the Anti-Terrorism Act, which punishes all forms of democratic opposition, should be removed.
2. The Turkish Penal Code (TCK) eliminates the principles of a fair trial and impartiality by regulating the proportionality between crime and punishment. TCK's Penal Codes 220/6, 220/8, 220/7 and 314/3 paragraphs, that have led to the prosecution and heavy penalties of tens of thousands of people for expressing their opinion and exercising their democratic right to organize demonstrations, should be removed.
3. Special Heavy Penal Courts violate the principle of an unbiased independent judiciary, and its judges practice law according to the conditions of an extraordinary period in violation of the right to a fair trial. These courts should be eliminated and the right to a fair trial and unity in the judicial process should be implemented.
4. As defined in the 100th article of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CCP), the list of offences of the penal code includes the participation in democratic demonstrations, press releases and speech crimes and by allowing direct arrests, detention becomes a de facto punishment. Although the law requires evidence for the strong suspicion of crime, in practice, the arrest for those offences in relation to the Penal Code articles of 220/6 and 314/2 are becoming commonplace. As an exceptional measure, arrests must be reduced and detention times be shortened.
5. TCK's 301. article that eliminates the freedom of thought must be removed.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Participation in the preparation of a new constitution should be open to all political parties, civil society organizations, trade unions, universities, professional organizations and all citizens, without seeking the condition of representation in the Parliament. Individual and/or organized participation of citizens is essential. An advisory council, formed on the basis of equal gender representation and proportional social representation, will play a role of mitigating the political burden undertaken by the constitutional reconciliation commission. It will consist of representatives from bar associations, civil society organizations, constitutional platforms, public, administrative, financial and economic scholars.

However, these suggestions have not been accepted by the parliamentary committee ~~for~~ as a constitutional compromise. The process of constitutional development and drafting continues under undemocratic conditions, while legislation is changed on most fundamental and vital issues through multiple bills and decrees. The most important issue reveals the need for a new constitution. Although there exists a democratic peaceful solution to the Kurdish problem, war and conditions of isolation continue, while the political operations aimed at the exclusion of the BDP and the opposition of virtually all sectors of society to the constitutional process does not end.

These proposals will generate a peaceful democratic constitution at the end of a sustained struggle by an organized and determined social opposition both inside and outside the parliament at all levels.

PRINCIPLES OF A DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION

The new Constitution will ensure Kurdish people a dignified honorable status, along with the right to use native language and the right to self-governance that should preserve the basic rights of all different identities and cultures, based on universal criteria of individual, social and cultural rights. It should recognize collective, social, economic, political rights and freedoms, and must respect the rights of other living things and nature according to the principle of local democracy and decentralization. The new Constitution should also ensure a gender-equal, pluralistic, participatory, liberal social life and public order without any discrimination.

CONSTITUTION OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

Everyone has the right to live a life with freedom, worthy of human dignity. The new Constitution should be drafted based on the principle of inseparable political, economic, social and cultural rights and individual freedoms, with a collective understanding that the whole State should be organized with efficient and functional use of rights and freedoms and an obligation to recognize expanding the rights and freedoms of individuals.

Rights and freedoms should not be confined to ambiguous expressions such as "morality" or "public order" which could have different interpretations. The fundamental responsibility of the State is to protect and extend equal rights and freedoms. It is the State's obligation to protect individual's private life, family life, home inviolability, freedom of communication, and the confidentiality of communications. The powers of the institutions in charge of ensuring public safety must be limited with universal democratic criteria and the right to life should be guaranteed. The task of providing security, should not be used for altering or overriding these rights.

Everyone qualifies for free health healthcare, education and housing. The obligations of the State to ensure access to these rights should be clearly stated. All economic activities, together with the protection of public interest and nature and the health and safety of the workplace must be organized with consideration for employment with human dignity.

The right to work must be protected by the Constitution along with all workers, public employees, the right to political and solidarity strikes, collective bargaining and trade union rights. Obstacles preventing unionisation must be removed for workers at home, pensioners and the unemployed. While organizing the working conditions, the provisions of the International Labour Organization (ILO), should be applied unreservedly and without exception.

EQUAL CITIZENSHIP

The definition of citizenship in the Constitution should be non-ethnic in nature. The Constitution must accept that individuals who have willingly decided to live together as the people of Turkey,—under the same definitions of land and identity, have equal rights and freedoms as a statutory corporation constituted on a system of values.

Everyone regardless of language, race, ethnic origin, color, sexual orientation, gender, political opinion, nationality, national or social origin or affiliation, religious beliefs, property, birth, age, marital status, physical or mental disability or other status is equal before the law. The responsibility of the State to prevent racism, sexism, hate crimes and other similar situations, must be clearly defined in the Constitution.

The Constitution should hold the State responsible to its obligations in all legal, administrative and institutional measures, for the development of different identities according to universal values. However, these measures should refrain from assimilation or the creation of a single identity to be transformed into a oppressive tool.

To ensure de facto equality, the understanding of positive discrimination for women, people with disabilities and children should be strengthened. The obligation of the State on this issue must be clearly defined in the Constitution.

LEARNING AND EDUCATION IN NATIVE LANGUAGE

The opportunity of learning and education in mother tongue and in all native languages spoken in Turkey should be given. With Turkish as the official language, there should be recognition of regional languages other than Turkish. The use of these languages in educational instruction and in public life should be protected by the Constitution.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND CONSCIENCE

Secularism means that religion should not be involved in the organization of society, education, etc.. The State should not attempt to define and reshape religions, denominations, faith groups and non-believers. It should be neutral to the life styles and religious beliefs of its citizens.

The Directorate of Religious Affairs should be abolished and the organization of religious communities and the freedom and autonomy in education of religious clerics should be guaranteed constitutionally.

Compulsory religious education that teaches only Islamic faith should be abolished. Religious educators and the State should respect the right of parents to educate their children based on their own religious and philosophical convictions.

The right to conscientious objection should be protected by the Constitution.

POLITICAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

Everyone should be entitled to participate in political life without any discrimination, prevention or compromising of their native language, and should have the right to form free associations, trade unions and political parties. The liberty of participation of the community in political life through political parties, trade unions, associations should be encouraged rather than banned.

The banning of political parties should end. In exceptional cases such as racism, the spreading of hatred and inciting war, penalties of temporary removal from state assistance or a ban from entering elections should be preferred for the political party in question.

Filling all elected and appointed public positions should be based on the equal representation of women. Necessary precautions should be taken, including a quota for the participation of young people in politics. The age for the right to be elected should be reduced to eighteen, and the equal right of people with disabilities to participate in political life should be guaranteed.

PEACE AND ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

Opposing climate change, pollution, the destruction of nature and habitat and war is a fundamental right. In cases of war and peace, all living beings are entitled to protection from the threat and destruction of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. All war or security related operations that have the potential of disrupting the ecological balance should be avoided.

Everyone has the right to access to clean water free of charge. Water resources should not be privatized, and water, which is the source of all living organisms, should not be a source

of commercial gain. Access to information about matters that are an important and integral part of people's life must be recognized and protected by the new constitution, as should the individual's and community's right of participation in decision making; the right to access to a timely and accurate information and the right to appeal to an unjust and undemocratic treatment. Seas, forests and rivers can not be privatized, the use of renewable energy should be promoted and encouraged, and the protection of all living beings against torture and cruel and inhumane treatment should be guaranteed by the Constitution.

DEMOCRATIC CIVIL PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION –DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY

The task of the State in the Constitution should be defined as to maintain the peace; protect democracy, rights and freedoms; protect and preserve different languages and cultures and make the legal and administrative arrangements to protect nature and the rights of other living things, archaeological heritage and urban-culture.

Nationalist/militarist expressions should not be included in the Constitution. The use of force should be practiced in exceptional cases, only when necessary. Guardianship over democratically elected bodies should be avoided and the responsibility of the armed forces and orders for operations should be entrusted to elected officials.

The National Security Agency and the Supreme Military Council should to be removed from the list of constitutional organizations. All military expenditures should be under the oversight of the Supreme Judicial body, and all this information must be open to public review and scrutiny.

The Military Court of Cassation and the Supreme Military Administrative Court should be abolished. Military courts should only try small disciplinary offences. Civilians and soldiers should be prosecuted in these courts. Trial privileges given to many professional groups in public administration should be restricted or abolished.

Undemocratic institutions such as the Atatürk Language and History High Agency, the State Council of Higher Education Institution, and the State Supervisory Board must be removed. Tuition fees should be removed so that academic education at state universities is free of charge and of high quality. Academic freedom and autonomy in the administration of higher educational institutions should be protected by the Constitution.

As part of the rule of law, impartiality and the independence of the judiciary, the principle of natural justice (duty to act fairly), judicial assurance, the constitutional autonomy of the judiciary and the unity of judiciary should be guaranteed. The Legislative and Executive branches of the State and all State agencies must be overseen by an effective judicial review for appropriateness in all actions and transactions. While it is objectionable for the judiciary to act for the administrative branch of the government; the unlimited and unreviewed use of power by the administrative branch is also wrong. The Constitution should provide balance and mutual control between the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government to function efficiently.

Decisions of executive bodies of government should be open to public and to judicial review; the duties of the President shall not exceed the level consistent with powers permitted by a parliamentary regime. In the election of members of the Supreme Court, higher judicial councils and other public bodies should be based on transparency, democratic legitimacy, pluralism and gender equality.

DEMOCRATIC AUTONOMY – REGIONAL DEMOCRACY

A society that allows pluralistic representation with a transparent, accessible, auditable and participatory political and administrative model should be built. This entails profound reform and the restructuring of Turkey's political-administrative system, the strengthening of local democracy, free access to information, and other fundamental rights such as taking part in decision-making and participating in political life.

Regional governments should be formed by merging some provinces with consideration of sociological-cultural characteristics and the geographical distribution of the population.

Decisions related to local government units should be left to the authority of democratically elected regional parliaments. Duties of the public administration should be specified in the new Constitution, and based on the principle of central and local governance, the duties and jurisdiction of regional governments must also be specified.

The financial autonomy of regional governments must be guaranteed in the Constitution. Regional councils, based on their development levels and population, should benefit from a share of local revenues, or new taxes along with federal funding. Fiscal and tax system should be revised accordingly.

Each autonomous region should be allowed to use colours, motifs, and symbols that reflect the region's cultural values and represent its democratically elected local government, alongside the national colours, motifs and symbols.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION WITH THE PAST

Since the founding of the Republic, Turkey has witnessed serious human rights violations, been the setting for numerous massacres and atrocities and has inherited the heavy human burden and responsibility resulting from the destruction that took place on this land before its foundation. Following the 'September 12' military coup and throughout the nineties, it can be said that the most serious human rights violations have taken place in the country's history, with approximately twenty thousand people losing their life through extrajudicial killings. The conscience of society cannot rest and there will be no social peace until these human rights violations are investigated without impunity and criminals are brought to justice. Crimes against humanity do not have statutes of limitations. For the establishment of social peace and justice, the carnage and massacres that have been left in the dark should be illuminated, criminals should be prosecuted and justice should be served. This would open the way for compensatory damages and apologies and the application of constitutional safeguards and truth commissions to be established.

PSYCHO-POLITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS ABOUT KURDS IN TURKEY

One of the most important reasons that today's world is named a modern world, is that there are major advances in information sharing. Both the technical advances in the field of social media and printed media are simplifying our lives on the one hand and on the other hand, may lead to major difficulties in distinguishing the difference between the illusion of real knowledge and perception of disinformation. In the context of political-psychology, especially concentrations of power, media coverage is often used as part of a psychological war. This article offers a psycho-political analysis of international news on the Kurds in Turkey, which in some ways is a kind of psychological warfare.

The international press reflects general viewpoints from the governments' perspectives about Kurds in Turkey, not the people. In this context, the purpose of the examination of recent news on the Kurds is to present a more understandable perspective by giving concrete examples. Thus, the recent news in the international press regarding the Kurds in Turkey will be balanced with examples from a Kurdish point of view.

Recently one of the most popular stories about Kurds in the international press has been a report on the "Roboski Massacre" in which 34 Kurdish civilians, including 19 children, were killed in a bombing by Turkish F-16 jets in Sirnak, near the Iraqi border, on the 28th December, 2011 (<http://www.ihd.org.tr/english/>; http://www.tihv.org.tr/index.php?oba_20120103; *The Economist*, June 9th 2012). At first, some reports stated that "34 people on the Iraqi border who were smuggling are claimed to be killed by the Turkish F-16 Jets" (*Sabah* newspaper, on 29 December 2011). When the reporters realized that this claim was true, they wrote that "34 smugglers were killed because of a mistake which occurred as a result of intelligence failure" (*Milliyet* newspaper, on the 29 December 2011). In the international media, one report (*The Independent Newspaper*, 17 May 2012) interpreted the event as follows: "Generally, military operations against PKK harm civilians". But in reality, the Roboski Massacre is an important part of the military and political genocide operations conducted against the Kurdish people in Turkey. The people who are responsible for this massacre have still not been revealed. When the "Roboski Massacre" happened, the Turkish media first tried to hide the story but was unsuccessful (*Sabah* newspaper, on 29 December 2011). Then, 16 hours after the massacre happened, the Turkish media tried to give incorrect information about it (*Aksam* newspaper, on 30 December 2011). Consequently, the international news reported the story about the "Roboski Massacre" in the same manner as the Turkish media (*TIME World*, on 4 June 2011; *The Guardian*, 29 December 2011). Thus, the reality that this event was a massacre done by the Turkish government was hidden both in the Turkish national media and international media. Real information has been hidden by the process of disinformation to create the illusion of perception. Although almost 6 months have passed since the massacre, the national Turkish media and international press still report that "smugglers were mistaken for PKK" or that "there was false intelligence" concerning the event. Because domestic law in Turkey does not give any concrete results, our Party (Peace and Democracy Party), applied to the International Criminal Court to judge those who are responsible for this massacre.

The international press uses the word, Kurdish, when the conflict or clashes occur between the PKK and the Turkish government (*The Washington Post*, August 19, 2011; BBC News Europe, 22 March 2012). In these news reports, on the one hand give statistical information about those who lost their lives as a result of conflicts, and on the other hand, state that "the PKK is considered a terrorist organization led by rebel guerrillas by the United States and the European Union". However, these news reports ignore the fact that the vast majority of Kurds perceive the PKK as an independent organization which is fighting for basic rights and freedoms of Kurds. Thus, this disinformation process that began in the Turkish national media spread to the

international media, leading to the criminalization of both the PKK and the Kurdish sympathizers. As a result, the true information about Kurds in Turkey is distorted, and not only is the Turkish society but also in the minds of the international community blurred.

In the foreign press, the news about Kurds in Turkey is often that the Turkish state has started political trials for many MPs on the basis of various accusations (News Europe, 22 March 2012). Usually, the Peace and Democracy Party Parliament members are prosecuted, for instance, Aysel Tugluk (Sabah newspaper, 12 June 2012) and Leyla Zana (News Europe, 22 March 2012) were sentenced because they were accused of making propaganda for the PKK and the PKK leader Mr. Abdullah Ocalan. But the international media does not speak for the 3.5 million Turkey Kurds who have signed a petition which states that "As I am Kurd, in Kurdistan, I accept Mr. Abdullah Ocalan, as my political will." These petitions were sent to the Presidency, the Parliament Chairman, the Prime Ministry in Turkey, to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the United Nations in 2007. These petitions are still in Turkish Parliament and in other places that are sent. Unfortunately no answer has been received.

In some international press such as *Reuters* (18 March 2012) there has been some news about rallies or demonstrations carried out by Kurds in Turkey. Such reports are very superficial. Usually these news reports claim that in these demonstrations, certain groups were exposed to the Turkish police violence which is often the cause of civilian deaths. However, according to the Human Rights Associations (Turkey) it is very clear that these are crimes against civilians which the Turkish government is responsible for (İHD, Human Rights Associations, Turkey). Generally these crimes are organized by the Turkish security forces. According to the Human Rights Associations in Turkey, in 21 March of 2012, during the Newroz celebrations in Turkey, two Kurds were killed by the Turkish security forces and 178 Kurds were injured. In 2006 14 Kurds (including 6 children) were murdered by the Turkish state in Amed (Diyarbakir), 200 Kurdish people were injured and 600 Kurdish people were detained. And in Amara walking (Urfa, Turkey) on 4 April of 2009, Mahsun Karaoglan, a University student in Amed (Diyarbakir) was killed by Turkish Soldiers according to the Diyarbakir Branch of the Human Rights Association (İHD, Diyarbakir). In May 2010, Serzan Kurt, a University Student in Mugla, was killed by civilian fascist people along with Turkish policemen interfering by gas bombing and using firearms according to the Human Rights Associations (İHD, Turkey). Other students have been reported killed by Turkish Policemen according to İHD (Human Rights Associations). For instance, on the 6 December 2011, Aydin Erdem, a university student in Amed (Diyarbakir), on the 20 April 2011, Halil İbrahim Oruc, and on the 3 December 2011, 21-year-old college student Murat Eliboz were killed by the Turkish security forces (<http://www.ihd.org.tr/english/>).

In the last four years, political genocide operations against the Kurds have been carried out by the Turkish government and in these political genocide operations approximately 9000 people (almost all of them were Kurds) were arrested. Within the framework of these operations, six of our party's MPs (Mehmet Hatip Dicle, Gülser Yildirim, Selma Irmak, Faysal Sariyildiz, İbrahim Ayhan, Kemal Aktas,) are still in prisons although they represent the will of the Kurdish people in the parliament. In the Turkish national media, these political genocide operations which are continuing by the state are being shown as operations against the PKK. The news, which is a disinformation process in the Turkish media, is also a disinformation process in the international process. After the Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan met with Turkey's main stream media in the Dolmabahce Palace on October 20, 2011, to discuss how to give the news about Kurds or PKK the distortion of real news about Kurds, it has become more systematic to cause an illusion of perception in public opinion both in Turkey and other countries. Because it is aimed to hide the crimes against Kurds.

Thus, Kurds in Turkey face a criminalization process in both the national and international media. This cumbersome solution to the Kurdish problem can cause a break between the Kurds and Turks. This issue of the Kurdish problem in Turkey is not a problem between Kurdish and Turkish people. This problem is between the Turkish state and Kurds. Kurds want their basic

rights such as education in their mother tongue, democratic autonomy and a constitutional guarantee for their basic rights. This point is not reflected both in the international press and Turkish Press. For instance the international media was very sensitive toward Libya, Egypt, Iraq and now Syria. When there are any events in these countries the international media pushes the world community to see the reality in these countries but when it is in Turkey-Kurdistan, the media doesn't reflect reality. For this reason the world does not know the reality what is happening in Turkey-Kurdistan.

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- 10- BBC News Europe, "Turkey give Kurdish MP Leyla Zana 10-year sentence", 24 May 2012
- 11- Sabah Newspaper, "Aysel Tugluk'a 14 yıl hapis", 12 June 2012
- 12- www.ihd.org.tr
- 13- Reuters, "Turkish Police fight Kurdish protesters, one dead", 18 March 2012.

STATISTICS: REALITIES OF TURKEY

DISINFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA IN TURKEY

It is very well known that, Turkey's basic political questions such as Kurdish Issue, religious rights and democratization have not been solved because of the security and monism oriented mentality in Turkey. Democratic demands faced with state violence and imprisonments. More than 700 university students have been prisons due to participating democratic meetings such as demonstrations for free education.

AKP Government informs international public opinion about the respect to diversities. Contrarily, multilingual services of BDP municipalities became reason of mittimus by the ministry of interior. Besides, municipalities' multilingual activities or projects are perceived as "terrorist activity" by Turkish prosecutors. Actually there are many examples about AKP Government's totalitarian regime.

Statistics which prepared by international organizations are kind of mirror of Turkey;

1- Imprisonments:

According to Associated Press, a total of 119,044 people were arrested worldwide since 9/11 2001; 35,117 of whom were convicted of terror crimes.

Turkey takes the lead with 12,089 convicts for terror offences which make up more than a third of all terror convictions around the world. There is still a significant gap to China as the second country on the list with about 7,000 convictions. Hence, the number of people convicted on terror charges in Turkey and China together sum up to more than half of all terror convictions worldwide.

AP referred to the conflict with the Kurds in Turkey that has been going on for a long time. The American news agency pointed to Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's statement that Kurds were being treated in a balanced manner and claimed that "One side sees [a person] as a fighter for freedom and the other side sees him as a terrorist".

The research also highlights that the number of convicts of terror offences in Turkey has rocketed after amendments of the Anti-Terror Law from 273 in 2005 to 6,345 in 2009.

AP also gave a few examples of experiences in Turkey. "Nacide Tokova, mother of two children, was sentenced to seven years in prison because she carried a banner during a demonstration reading 'Free leadership and free identity or resistance and revenge until the end'. However, Tokova is illiterate and did not even know what was written on the banner".

The existing Anti-Terror Law of Turkey caused a deep political chaos. Intellectuals, academics, journalists, advocates, NGO members, trade unionists and many other civilians and politicians who are not a part of violence have been prisons for years without any evidences. Specially authorized courts allow prosecutors and judges can arrest anybody that perceived as "potential threat". Arrestment process should continue up to 10 years. New judicial reform package is not covering any amendment on anti-democratic mentality of the Anti Terror Law.

2- Freedom of Press:

According to Reporters Without Borders (RSF) only 6 journalists are imprisoned. Unfortunately, international public opinion has not knowledge about the reality. AKP Government or other state mechanisms creates a kind of curtain to hiding the totalitarian implementations such as oppression against the press. The following list is prepared by the Platform of Solidarity with the Arrested Journalists in 25 June 2012.

LIST OF IMPRISONED JOURNALISTS (Updated on 25 June 2012)

- 1-Abdulcebbar Karabeğ, Mersin Representative of Azadiya Welat Newspaper in Kurdish Language, in Hatay Prison
- 2-Abdullah Çetin, Dicle News Agency (DÎHA) Reporter, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 3-Abdulmenaf Düzeci, "Yüksekova Gündem Haber" Website owner, Van F Type Prison
- 4-Ahmet Akyol, (DÎHA) Reporter, Ceyhan M Type Prison in Adana
- 5-Ahmet Birsin, Gün TV broadcasting coordinator, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 6-Ali Buluş, (DÎHA) Reporter, Karaman-Ermenek M Type Prison
- 7-Ali Çat, Azadiya Welat Newspaper. Reporter, İskenderun E Type Prison
- 8-Ali Konar, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Elazığ Representative, Malatya E Type Prison
- 9-Aydın Yıldız, (DÎHA) Reporter, Gaziantep H Type Prison
- 10- Ayşe Oyman, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Editor, Bakırköy Women L Type Prison
- 11- Aziz Tekin, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Mardin Representative, Mardin E Type Prison
- 12- Barış Pehlivan, Odatv Website, Executive Editor, Silivri 1. L Type Prison
- 13- Barış Terkoğlu, Odatv Website News Director, Silivri 1. L Type Prison
- 14- Bayram Namaz, Atılım Newspaper, Columnist, Edirne 1. F Type Prison
- 15- Bayram Parlak, Gündem Newspaper, Mersin Representative, Ermenek M Type Prison
- 16- Bedri Adanır, Aram Publish, Owner and executive editor, Kurdish Hawar Newspaper, Editor in Chief, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 17- Cengiz Kapmaz, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Columnist, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 18- Cihan Deniz Zarakolu, Belge Publishing House, Editor and Translator, Kocaeli 2. F Type Prison
- 19- Cihan Gün, Yürüyüş Journal, Reporter, Sincan 1. F Type Prison in Ankara
- 20- Çağdaş Kaplan, (DÎHA) Reporter, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 21- Çağdaş Ulus, Vatan Newspaper, Reporter, Kandıra F Type Prison
- 22- Davut Uçar, Etik Ajans, Director, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 23- Deniz Kılıç, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Batman Representative, Batman M Type Prison
- 24- Dilşah Ercan, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Reporter Karataş Women Closed Prison in Adana
- 25- Dilek Demiral, journalist, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Former Editor, Bakırköy L Type Women Prison
- 26- Erdal Süsem, Eylül Journal, Editor, Edirne F Type Prison
- 27- Erol Zavar, Odak Journal, Owner and Executive Editor, Poet, Sincan 1. F Type Prison in Ankara
- 28- Ertuş Bozkurt, (DÎHA), Editor, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 29- Eser Sevgül, Halkın Günlüğü Newspaper, Reporter, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 30- F. Özgür Aydın, Artı İvme Journal, Owner and Executive Editor, Tekirdağ 1. F Type Prison
- 31- Fatma Koçak, (DÎHA) Chief Editor, Bakırköy L Type Women Prison
- 32- Faysal Tunç, (DÎHA) Reporter, Kalkandere L Type Prison

- 33- Ferhat Çiftçi, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Gaziantep Representative, Gaziantep H Type Prison
- 34- Feyyaz Deniz, (DİHA) Reporter, Bolu F Type Prison
- 35- Füsun Erdoğan, Özgür Radio, Former coordinator, Kandıra 2. T Type Prison in Kocaeli
- 36- Gülnaz Yıldız, Mücadele Birliği Journal, Editor in Chief, Bakırköy L Type Women Prison
- 37- Gülsen Aslan, Dicle (DİHA) Reporter, Batman M Type Prison
- 38- Hakan Soytemiz, Red ve Enternasyonal Journals, Author, Tekirdağ 1. Prison
- 39- Halit Güdenoğlu, Yürüyüş Journal, Executive Editor, Sincan F Type Prison in Ankara
- 40- Hamit Dilbahar, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Columnist, Erzurum E Type Prison
- 41- Hasan Özgüneş, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Columnist, Kandıra 1. Prison
- 42- Hatice Duman, Atılım Newspaper, Owner and Executive Director, Gebze M Type Prison
- 43- Hüseyin Deniz, Evrensel Newspaper, Reporter, Kandıra 1. Prison
- 44- İhsan Sinmiş, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Adana F Type Prison
- 45- İsmail Yıldız, Dersim Newspaper, Executive Editor, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 46- Kaan Ünsal, Yürüyüş Journal, Reporter, Sincan 1. F Type Prison in Ankara
- 47- Kazım Şeker, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Editor, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 48- Kenan Karavil, Radio Dünya, Production Director, Adana Kürkcüler F Type Prison
- 49- Kenan Kırkaya, (DİHA) Ankara Representative, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 50- Mazlum Özdemir, (DİHA) Regional Editor, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 51- Mazlum Sezer, (DİHA) Reporter, Adana Kürkcüler F Type Prison
- 52- M. Emin Yıldırım, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Executive Director, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 53- Mehmet Güneş, Türkiye Gerçeği Journal, Author, Tekirdağ 2. F Type Prison
- 54- Mehmet Karaaslan, (DİHA) Reporter, Birecik Prison
- 55- Mehmet Yeşiltepe, Devrimci Hareket Journal, Author, Tekirdağ 1. F Type Prison
- 56- Murat Aydın, (DİHA) Reporter, Bayburt M Type Prison
- 57- Murat İlhan, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Reporter, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 58- Musa Kurt, Kamu Emekçileri Cephesi Journal, Editor in Chief, Sincan 1. F Type Prison
- 59- Mustafa Gök, Ekmek ve Adalet Journal, Ankara Representative, Sincan 1. F Type Prison
- 60- Naciye Yavuz, Yürüyüş Journal, Reporter, Ankara Women Closed Prison
- 61- Nahide Ermiş, Demokratik Modernite Journal, Member of Editorial Board, Bakırköy L Type Women Prison
- 62- Nevin Erdemir, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Editor, Bakırköy L Type Women Prison
- 63- Nilgün Yıldız, (DİHA) Reporter, Bakırköy L Type Women Prison
- 64- Nurettin Fırat, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Columnist, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 65- Nuri Yeşil, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Dersim Representative, Elbistan E Type Prison
- 66- Oktay Candemir, Journalist, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 67- Ozan Kılınç, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Former Publisher and Editor in Chief, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 68- Ömer Çelik, (DİHA) Reporter, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison

- 69- Ömer Çiftçi, Demokratik Modernite Journal, Publisher, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 70- Ö. Faruk Çalışkan, Özgür Halk Journal, Editor in Chief, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 71- Özlem Ağuş, (DİHA) Reporter, Karataş Women Closed Prison
- 72- Pervin Yerlikaya, (DİHA) Repoter, Bakırköy L Type Women Closed Prison
- 73- Ramazan Pekgöz, (DİHA) Editor in Diyarbakir Representation, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 74- Ruken Ergün, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Former Publisher and Executive Editor, Karataş Women Closed Prison in Adana
- 75- Sadık Topaloğlu, (DİHA) Reporter, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 76- Sebahattin Sumeli, Özgür Halk Kournal, Editor, Tekirdağ 1. F Type Prison
- 77- Sedat Şenoğlu, Atılım Newspaper, Executive Editor and Journalist/Aurthor, Edirne 1. F Type Prison
- 78- Selahattin Aslan, Demokratik Modernite Journal, Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 79- Semiha Alankuş, (DİHA) Editor in Diyarbakir Representation, Bakırköy L Type Women Closed Prison
- 80- Serdar Engin, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Editor, Silivri Prison
- 81- Sevcan Atak, Özgür Halk Journal, Editor, Karataş Women Prison in Adana
- 82- Seyithan Akyüz, Azadiya Welat Newspaper Adana Representative, İskenderun M Type Prison
- 83- Sibel Güler, Gazeteci, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Former Editor, Bakırköy L Tipi Women Closed Prison
- 84- Sinan Aygül, (DİHA) Reporter, Muş E Type Prison
- 85- Soner Yalçın, Odatv Website, Publisher, Journalist and Author, Silivri 1. L Type Prison
- 86- Sultan Şaman, Hevîya Jinê Journal, Editor, Batman M Type Closed Prison
- 87- Şahabettin Demir, (DİHA) Reporter, Bitlis E Type Prison
- 88- Şükrü Sak, Akıncı Yol ve Baran Journal, Executive Editor, Sivas E Type Closed Prison
- 89- Tayyip Temel, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Former Executive Editor and columnist, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 90- Turabi Kişin, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Editor, Kandıra 1. F Type Prison
- 91- Turhan Özlü, Ulusal Channel, Executive Editor, Silivri 2. L Type Prison
- 92- Vedat Kurşun, Azadiya Welat Newspaper, Former Editor in Chief, Diyarbakır D Type Prison
- 93- Yalçın Küçük, Journalist and Author, Silivri 2. L Type Prison
- 94- Yüksel Genç, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Columnist, Bakırköy L Type Women Closed Prison
- 95- Zeynep Kuray, Birgün Newspaper, Reporter, Bakırköy L Type Women Closed Prison
- 96- Ziya Çiçekçi, Özgür Gündem Newspaper, Publisher and managing Editor , Kandıra 2. F Type Prison
- 97- Zuhale Tekiner, (DİHA), Publisher, Bakırköy L Type Women Closed Prison

3- Syndication:

According to OECD 2011 statistical researches, Turkey's syndication rate is %5,9. This rate is the worst among the 34 countries. The syndication rate was %10 in 2001. It is clear that AKP Government oppressed syndication as %40.

By the recent operations against KESK (Confederal Trade Union for Public Workers), 76 trade unionists are imprisoned due to the "Anti-terror Law".

4- Human Development Index:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has released Human Development Report in 2011. Turkey is at 92nd among 187 countries. This report is not covering only economic data, but also taking into consideration health, education and income distribution. The same report in 2002; Turkey was 85th.

5- Law System and the ECHR

Turkey was the country with the highest number of violations of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) in 2011, the third year in a row.

European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) head Nicolas Bratza said at a press briefing on Thursday that Turkey topped the list of countries that violated the ECHR with 159 cases. Russia followed Turkey with 121 cases and Ukraine with 105. According to Bratza, Greece (69), Romania (58) and Poland (54) had all violated at least one article of the convention.

Council of Europe Secretary-General Thorbjorn Jagland recently said during a meeting that there are currently 16,000 ongoing cases against Turkey, making it the country against which the second-highest number of cases have been filed.

The Turkish government claims it has made substantial progress in improving the human rights situation in the country. Justice Minister Sedat Ergin recently said in a conference that a series of reforms had been adopted to prevent human rights violations in the past few years, adding that similar legal amendments will continue to improve the situation.

The most important breakthrough in judicial reform was achieved last year with a landslide approval in a public referendum of amending a number of constitutional articles -- many related to judicial changes. For the first time, it introduced the individual right to petition the Constitutional Court for alleged violations of fundamental human rights. It also established the Ombudsman Office for grievances regarding the misconduct of government employees and agencies.

In its 2010 report, the Strasbourg-based court again listed Turkey as the country most often found to be in violation of the convention. The highest number of judgments finding at least one violation of the ECHR concern cases from Turkey (228), followed by Russia (204), Romania (135), Ukraine (107) and Poland (87). In 2009, Turkey also topped the list in terms of violations of ECHR articles.

36 advocates are imprisoned in Turkey because of their activities for defending the Mr. Öcalan and KCK trials' defenders.