

TURKEY RIGHTS MONITOR



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As a human rights advocacy organization, we closely monitor human rights violations in Turkey. As part of this effort, we publish a weekly bulletin documenting the human rights violations that occur throughout the week. In addition, we regularly share up-to-date statistics and categorized sources related to these cases. The Turkey Rights Monitor report has been published consistently for 324 consecutive weeks and is being shared with institutions, organizations, and relevant stakeholders engaged in human rights. You can access updated information and statistics via our website: <https://turkeyrightsmonitor.com/>

ARBITRARY DETENTION AND ARREST

Throughout the week, prosecutors ordered the detention of at least 24 people over alleged links to the Gülen movement. Since 2017, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (WGAD) has issued 26 [opinions](#) concerning arbitrary detentions based on alleged membership in the Gülen movement, in which it has expressed grave concern that the widespread or systematic imprisonment of individuals linked 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.

1 September: Turkish police [detained](#) 10 people over alleged Gülen movement links based on unspecified Signal-related activity, raising concerns about privacy and the criminalization of ordinary encrypted communication.

2 September: Professor Johan Vande Lanotte's report [documented](#) 4,386 detentions in 342 operations in 2025 and found that Turkey's Gülen-linked crackdown increasingly targets social contacts, financial assistance, employment and other lawful activities.

ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

No news has emerged of [Yusuf Bilge Tunc](#), 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 EXPRESSION AND MEDIA

3 September: Three ETHA journalists [face](#) terrorism charges after seven months in pretrial detention, with prosecutors citing their reporting activities as evidence, raising serious concerns about press freedom in Turkey.

3 September: Turkish prosecutors [opened](#) an investigation into former prime minister Ahmet Davutoğlu under Article 299 over resurfaced 2021 remarks alleging illicit enrichment and government favoritism, although he did not name Erdoğan.

4 September: Turkish police [detained](#) journalist Oya Lale Arslan and seized her digital materials in an investigation into unspecified social media posts and YouTube broadcasts on allegations of disseminating misleading information and terrorist propaganda.

4 September: Turkish prosecutors [indicted](#) jailed comedian Deniz Göktaş on three charges over remarks in his viral stand-up show, seeking a prison sentence reportedly ranging up to 11 years.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

2 September: Turkish advocates Taner Kılıç and Pırl Erçoban, alongside Giorgos Tsarbopoulos, [received](#) Pro Asyl's 2026 Human Rights Award for defending refugees, documenting abuses and promoting the rule of law.

JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE & RULE OF LAW

2 September: Turkish Bar Association President Erinc Sağkan [said](#) compliance with Constitutional Court and ECtHR judgments is legally mandatory, while criticizing punitive pretrial detention, restrictions on expression and perceived political influence over the judiciary.

3 September: Turkish police [detained](#) 12 İstanbul municipal officials in a bid-rigging investigation linked to the broader corruption case against jailed opposition mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu.

4 September: Retired judge Önder Tekin [applied](#) to the ECtHR, alleging that TurkStat's understated inflation figures reduced public-sector wages and pensions after Turkish courts rejected his case without ordering an expert assessment.

KURDISH MINORITY

3 September: Construction worker Süleyman Konat and his nephew were reportedly [subjected](#) to a racist attack by about 15 people in Bayburt for wearing Amedspor jerseys, leaving Konat with five nasal fractures.

PRISON CONDITIONS

1 September: Lawmakers Ceylan Akça Cupolo and Sezgin Tanrıkulu [sought](#) an investigation into allegations that some of Diyarbakır Open Prison's roughly 800 inmates sleep on floors, shower only monthly and face inadequate healthcare, hygiene and fire protection.