

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 325 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 31 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.

10 September: Thirty-six people, mostly university students, [remain](#) in pretrial detention three months after an İzmir-based operation over alleged Gülen movement links, with prosecutors yet to file an indictment.

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

10 September: Turkish prosecutors [indicted](#) seven journalists on terrorism charges over alleged Gülen links,

citing journalistic work, professional payments and use of messaging apps as evidence.

11 September: Turkish cartoonist Nuri Kurtcebe, 78, [faces](#) more than two years in prison after his conviction for insulting President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan over five Facebook posts became final.

11 September: Turkish prosecutors [launched](#) an investigation into exiled news outlet TR724 under Turkey's "disinformation law" over its coverage of the crackdown on the Süleymanlılar religious community.

12 September: Turkish journalist Ahmet Polad was [jailed](#) pending trial in İstanbul after Syrian authorities transferred him to Turkey following nearly eight months in Syrian custody, during which he says he was tortured.

JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE & RULE OF LAW

8 September: Turkey's ruling AKP [regained](#) control of İstanbul's Üsküdar Municipality through a city council vote after elected mayor Sinem Dedetaş was jailed and suspended.

11 September: A Turkish court [sentenced](#) jailed İstanbul Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu to more than two years in prison for insulting former Tuzla mayor Şadi Yazıcı and imposed a potential political ban, pending appeal.

11 September: A Turkish court [sentenced](#) two pastry shop operators to eight years in prison and ordered their conditional release over the collapse of an apartment building that killed 35 people in the 2023 earthquakes.

12 September: Handwritten court records [revealed](#) that senior Justice Ministry officials began mapping and grouping judges in 2013, months before the December corruption investigations, laying groundwork for a government-backed bloc to gain control of Turkey's judicial governing board.

KURDISH MINORITY

8 September: Nine Kurdish seasonal farmworkers were [injured](#) in an attack in Bursa that they said was triggered by their wearing Amedspor jerseys.

8 September: Former Diyarbakır co-mayor Selçuk Mızraklı [was released](#) after nearly seven years in prison and called for the release of jailed Kurdish politician Selahattin Demirtaş.

10 September: A Turkish police officer was [given](#) a suspended 18-month sentence for killing 16-year-old Kurdish teenager Mazlum Turan in 2015.

TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT

8 September: The Human Rights Association's 2025 report [documented](#) at least 1,842 cases of torture or ill-treatment and 6,719 arbitrary detentions in Turkey.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

10 September: Twenty-two women were [killed](#) by men in Turkey in August, while 33 others died under suspicious circumstances, according to the We Will Stop Femicide Platform.

GENDER RIGHTS

13 September: Turkish police [detained](#) dozens of people in raids targeting LGBTI+ organizations and venues in İstanbul and Ankara, while authorities blocked access to websites and social media accounts of 73 groups and activists.