

Think, think...



Freedom of Expression Weekly Newsletter (Issue 29/24, August 9, 2024)

What happened last week?

- The Information Technology Authority's Instagram ban continues. The meeting of state officials with META representatives during the week did not yield any results. Access blocking decisions continue at full speed. An access ban was also imposed on the online game platform Roblox, which is popular among children. Minister of Justice Yılmaz Tunç said that the decision was taken due to "harbouring content that could lead to the abuse of children".
- Hüseyin Yayman, Chairman of the TBMM Commission on Digital Media and AKP Hatay Deputy Hüseyin Yayman said, "The TikTok issue is a national security issue for Turkey. The posts made are so strange, so detached from reality that it is not possible to approve them. As a commission, we do not have a stance on the closure of TikTok and blocking access, this is the attitude of the Information Technologies Authority (BTK). But if you ask me as the chairman of the commission, politics is done together with the nation. Our nation wants TikTok to be shut down," he said.
- Erdoğan: "Social media companies have become almost militant. They consider it their duty to censor even a simple sentence criticising Israel. We are facing a digital fascism that markets this as freedom. We have not yet established the desired co-operation."
- Following the enactment of the bill allowing the slaughter of stray dogs, images and information about the slaughter of living creatures came first from Niğde and then from Altındağ district of Ankara.
- According to Expression Interrupted's 10th Expression and Press Freedom Agenda report, 192 journalists were tried in 101 separate cases in the second quarter of 2024. In 24 finalised cases, 17 journalists were acquitted and 12 journalists were penalised. Journalists were charged in 7 new cases, 20 journalists were detained and 5 journalists were arrested.
- According to the news compiled by Bianet from local and national newspapers, news websites and agencies, men killed at least 25 women and 4 children in July. At least 28 women's deaths were reported as "suspicious" in the press in July.





Another halay arrest

Hivda Kahraman, who was among five people detained for dancing the halay to a Kurdish song at a wedding in Osmaniye, was arrested on charges of "making illegal organization propaganda" for waving yellow, red and green handkerchiefs while dancing the halay.



TRIALS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

No cases will be heard due to the judicial holiday.

All news of the week is available at dusun-think.net;
You can also access the pdf format of the bulletin at dusun-think.net/bultenler.