

March 2026
Violations of Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Association
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Hello,

Briefly, what happened in Turkey in March 2026?

ATTENTION: All of this data is "AT LEAST". Because what can be reflected in the media is only the tip of the iceberg.

POLICE INTERVENTIONS

- Detention: 746
- Administrative/police intervention: 19
- Home raids: 5
- Injuries: 7
- Provincial general ban decisions: 1

INVESTIGATION - PROSECUTION

- Detention: 746
- Arrests: 173
- Judicial control / house arrest / ban on leaving the country: 83
- Newly opened investigations: 58
- Newly opened / indicted cases: 41
- Prison sentences: 12

OTHER PRACTICERS

- Access block / content removal: 7

The pressures on CHP municipalities have not decreased, they have increased. The information provided by secret witnesses and those who want to benefit from "Effective Repentance" does not match, but corruption investigations and mass detentions continue.

In such cases, the normal way is to open an investigation on a "*strong suspicion*" and to collect evidence and testimonies by the prosecutor's office in favor of the defendant as well as a lawsuit or non-prosecution, but the wheel works in reverse. First, an investigation is opened, and many related or unrelated people are detained. These people are threatened and forced to benefit from "*Effective Remorse*" and to testify against CHP Municipalities in order to achieve this. In other words, evidence and witnesses **are "manufactured"**.

The CHP's well-attended and enthusiastic meetings, which are held in a different province every weekend and in a district of Istanbul every Wednesday, continued this month as well. The 101st rally was held in Çanakkale.

The work of the "National Solidarity, Brotherhood and Democracy Commission", *which started with the initiative of Devlet Bahçeli*, ended and a joint report was published. The discussion in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey will be held after the holiday.

1- Prohibitions, Police Interventions

- 03: Diyarbakir** The gendarmerie intervened against the villagers who opposed the SPP project to be built on the pasture area in the Arzoxli District of Sur district. While tear gas, rubber bullets and pressurized water were used in the intervention, 16 people were detained and 4 injured.
- 07: Istanbul** Silivri District Governorate banned all actions and activities around Marmara Penal Execution Institution between March 1 and 31, 2026, before Ekrem İmamoğlu's trial. Your case will be heard on March 9.
- 08: Istanbul** Organized for March 8, International Women's Day, the 24. Before the Feminist Night March, Taksim and its surroundings were closed with police barriers. With the decision of the governorship, Taksim station on the M2 Yenikapı-Haciosman line and Istiklal Street exits of Şişhane were closed, and the Beyoğlu District Governorate declared a ban on demonstrations in the region for one day. Despite the bans, women gathered on Sıraselviler Street, marched with slogans and ended the protest on Cihangir Street. 6 people were detained.
- 08: Istanbul** Women and LGBTI+s came together at the Great Women's Meeting organized by the March 8 Women's Platform in Kadıköy. Participants walking from the Bull Statue to Iskele Square made a press statement in the area. In the statement, an activist who criticized the oppression against LGBTI+s was followed and detained by the police. It was also reported that the banner of the Women's Defense Network was not allowed in the area on the grounds that it carried rainbow colors.
- 14: Ankara** İrem Akbulut, a trans woman living in Çankaya district, announced that the police battered her on Libya Street on the night of March 7 to take her phone. Akbulut said that the argument that started during the identity check escalated and the police physically intervened in him to prevent him from photographing the license plate of the vehicle. Akbulut stated that two police officers tried to take his phone by twisting his arm, dragged him to the ground and hit his head on the police vehicle. Akbulut was taken to the police station and prevented from communicating for four hours by confiscating his phone. The forensic examination report noted that there were signs of beating on Akbulut's body. The prosecutor's office launched an investigation into the incident and Akbulut "*Resistance to prevent the execution of duty*" A judicial control order was issued on the charge.
- 15: Mersin** The Chief Prosecutor's Office carried out a lawsuit against the municipality "*bid rigging, bribery, forgery of official documents and fraud*" investigation, the police carried out a new operation. On the morning of March 15, 20 people, including municipal employees, were detained. Thus, the number of detentions in the investigation increased to 27. The police had previously searched the homes and municipality building of some suspects in an operation on March 11 and seized 21 immovable properties, 3 vehicles and 1 sea vehicle. It is claimed that 16 million liras of public damage occurred with the payments made from the municipality to the companies.

- 16: Malatya** The SOL Party Provincial Organization wanted to organize a march to the Kürecik Radar Base in the Akçadağ district of Malatya. Party members gathered in Kürecik District to protest the attacks of the USA and Israel against Iran. The gendarmerie set up a barricade on the way to the base and prevented the march, citing that the area was a military area. SOL Party members made a press statement in front of the barricade and shouted various slogans. Party Spokesperson Önder İşleyen announced that they will continue their actions against the NATO and US military presence in Turkey.
- 21: Kocaeli** The police intervened in the Newroz celebration held in Darica district and detained at least 8 people. It was stated that DEM Party Gebze District Co-Chair Ömer Yıldız was also battered
- 24: Istanbul** The police arrested at least 38 people including children during house raids on the grounds of participating in Newroz. *propaganda for a terrorist organization*" He was detained on the charge. Special operations police officers participating in the raids pointed guns at some houses, scattered belongings and threatened the people of the house. It is reported that N.E., who was under the age of 18, was detained and released by the prosecutor.
- 25: Ankara** METU and Ankara University students wanted to march from Yüksel Street to Güvenpark. The police prevented the march by setting up barricades and detained 31 students.
- 25: Diyarbakir** Kurdish political parties and movements protested Iran's attacks on the Kurdistan Region. During the press statement, the police demanded that the flags of Kurdistan be taken down. Activists opposed this demand and had brief tensions with the police.
- 26: Ankara** Under the coordination of the Ministry of Interior, the General Directorate of Security and the Chief Public Prosecutor's Offices, a nationwide operation was carried out against those who shared posts praising criminal organizations on social media. 358 people were detained in simultaneous operations. It was stated that the suspects shared posts praising the crime and the criminal, threatening, insulting and propaganda for the organization, and also aimed to announce the activities of the organization and recruit new members.
- 27: Istanbul** The prosecutor's office carried out an operation on the allegations of Newroz celebrations and "terrorist propaganda", and at least 26 people were detained in house raids.
- 27: Sirnak** At least 20 people were detained in house raids.
- 29: Istanbul** Journalists gathered in Kadıköy and wanted to march for their imprisoned colleagues. The police prevented the march with a barricade in front of Moda Primary School.
- 29: Konya** A farmer in Çumra district wanted to meet with the Minister of Interior Mustafa Çiftçi. The farmer said that he could not meet the expenses of diesel, fertilizer and electricity and that his debts reached 3.5 million liras. The minister's bodyguards intervened and removed the farmer from the area.
- 30: Tokat** The gendarmerie intervened against the members of the Revolutionary Youth Associations who wanted to go to the Kızılderem commemoration. The gendarmerie attacked the marching group with pepper spray and batons. At least 78 people were

detained.

2- Investigations and Trials

- 01: Adana** The Chief Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation due to the broadcast made around Incirlik Air Base. 3 people were detained and a detention order was issued for ANKA News Agency Editor-in-Chief Kenan Şener. The prosecutor's office stated that sharing images of military facilities poses a risk to national security.
- 01: Istanbul** The Chief Prosecutor's Office announced that CHP Chairman Özgür Özel was arrested in Burdur. "*The Nation Protects Its Will*" used in the rally "*scoundrels*" Because of the expression "*Publicly insulting a public official because of his duty*" He launched an investigation on the charge. He used this expression at the private rally by criticizing a lawsuit filed against Ekrem İmamoğlu.
- 01: Istanbul** Metropolitan Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu for allegedly using his own company's vehicle as an office vehicle during his term as Mayor of Beylikdüzü "*Abuse of Office*" A lawsuit was filed for the crime. In the indictment prepared by the Büyükçekmece Chief Prosecutor's Office, a prison sentence of up to 2 years is demanded for İmamoğlu and 11 people.
- 01: Istanbul** The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office filed a lawsuit against singer Ece Ronay for a video she shared on social media "*insulting the military organization of the state*". In the video, Ronay made statements about giving zakat to the Turkish Armed Forces Foundation.
- 02: Adana** ANKA Editor-in-Chief Kenan Şener and four other people who were detained due to a live broadcast from around Incirlik Air Base were released under judicial control with a ban on leaving the country and on the condition of signing once a week. The prosecutor's office launched an investigation under Law No. 2565 on Military Forbidden Zones and Security Zones on the grounds that the broadcast contained images of military facilities.
- 02: Bolu** Bolu Mayor Tanju Özcan and Deputy Mayor Süleyman Can were arrested on charges of "extortion" as part of an investigation opened on February 28, 2026. The investigation is based on the allegation that the municipality forced some chain markets to make an advertising contract with a company affiliated with the municipality. One of the 13 people detained in the file was placed under house arrest and 10 people were given judicial control orders.
- 02: Istanbul** The objection to the detention of journalist Alican Uludağ was rejected.
- 02: K. Maraş** Upon the complaint of the expert committee that prepared a report on the buildings destroyed in the earthquake, an investigation was launched against the earthquake victims and journalists Timur Soykan and İsmail Arı.
- 03: Ankara** The Ministry of Interior suspended Bolu Mayor Tanju Özcan, who was arrested on charges of "extortion", on March 3, 2026. In the statement of the Ministry, it was stated that the decision was taken as a temporary measure in accordance with Article 127 of the Constitution and Article 47 of the Municipal Law. Tanju Özcan and Deputy Mayor Süleyman Can were transferred to Ankara Sincan Prison. Özcan's lawyer Uğur

Poyraz said that sending his client to another province instead of the prison in Bolu was a blow to his right to defense.

- 03: Ankara** Within the scope of the investigation carried out by the Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor's Office on the "intimate services" structure of FETÖ, a detention order was issued for 22 people. 15 people were detained in the operation carried out in 9 provinces based in Ankara, and some of the other suspects were reported to be abroad.
- 03: Batman** The trial of journalist Sonya Bayık with 31 other people for covering a press statement in Hasankeyf. Batman 9. It continues in the Criminal Court of First Instance. The court adjourned the hearing to June 9 to eliminate the deficiencies in the file.
- 03: Istanbul** The Media and Law Studies Association applied to the Constitutional Court regarding the police intervention of journalist Ömer Sönmez during his coverage at the Çağlayan Courthouse in 2024. In the application, it was claimed that the prohibition of ill-treatment and freedom of expression and press were violated.
- 04: Ankara** Within the scope of the FETÖ/PDY investigation carried out by the Chief Prosecutor's Office, a detention order was issued for 3 people in three provinces. It is reported that proceedings were initiated against the suspects for allegedly using ByLock.
- 05: Ankara** The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office filed a lawsuit against 11 METU students for participating in the protests held after Ekrem İmamoğlu's detention on March 19, 2025. Students "*Participating in unlawful meetings and marches and not dispersing despite warnings*" He will be tried on the charge.
- 05: Ankara** The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office launched simultaneous operations in three provinces within the scope of its investigation into the "private structure" of the FETÖ/PDY in public institutions, and three people were detained. The investigation focuses especially on the allegations of structuring in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Health.
- 06: Istanbul** The Chief Prosecutor's Office announced that the "*NATO-supporting youth is incubating*" launched an investigation against journalist Ercan Küçük due to the news titled. Upon the criminal complaint of the Turkish Atlantic Council and its president Mustafa Veysel Güldoğan, the prosecutor's office summoned Küçük to testify, and his mobile phone and SIM card were confiscated. In his statement, Küçük said that the news was a journalistic activity and that the information was based on open sources.
- 06: Istanbul** The 40th High Criminal Court decided to continue the detention of Ekrem İmamoğlu and 104 people within the scope of the investigation against the Metropolitan Municipality. The indictment prepared by the Chief Prosecutor's Office includes 402 people along with İmamoğlu and demands up to 2,352 years in prison for İmamoğlu on 142 different charges.
- 06: Istanbul** TÜSİAD High Advisory Council Chairman Ömer Aras and former TÜSİAD Chairman Orhan Turan "*Publicly disseminating misleading information*" He was sentenced to 1 year, 3 months and 18 days in prison for each crime. The court deferred the announcement of the verdict. Aras and Turan "*Attempt to influence a fair trial*" He was acquitted of the charge.
- 06: Diyarbakir** Some of the victims, who stated that they were harmed in the events that took place

in Lice in 1993, about their lawyers Hasip Kaplan and Ayşe Bingöl Demir "*Abuse of Office*" He filed a criminal complaint on the charge. The victims claimed that the lawyers gave them misleading information about the compensation cases and caused the loss of rights by not objecting to the decisions of the Damage Assessment Commission. Batman 1. The Heavy Penal Court decided to open an investigation against the lawyers. The case will be heard at Diyarbakır Heavy Penal Court.

06: Van An investigation was launched against Mezopotamya News Agency reporter Zeynep Durgut for reporting on the allegations that trees were cut down for the construction of a police station in Kiwex, the Êzidî village of İdil district of Şırnak. HUDA-PAR went to Durgut police station and gave a statement within the scope of the investigation opened upon the complaint of the Midyat district administration. He stated that the news belonged to him and said that he was engaged in journalistic activities.

07: Muğla The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation against singer Hande Yener for the words she said and the slogans shouted during a concert. In the investigation initiated upon the application made by a person to CIMER, Yener was charged with "*targeting the constitutional order*", "*insulting the president*" and "*Encouragement to overthrow the government*" accusations are being made

07: Mus The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office filed a lawsuit against journalist Ceylan Şahinli on the grounds of the incidents that took place while she was covering an event related to the January 9 commemoration, while she was trying to hang a banner on the overpass during the commemoration event. "*making propaganda for an organization*" launched an investigation with the allegation. Şahinli said that as a journalist, he only follows the news.

07: Sirnak The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office prepared an indictment against Nedim Oruç, a reporter for Ajansa Welat, who was beaten and detained and arrested while covering the news in Cizre on January 14. The prosecutor's office said that Oruç "*making propaganda for a terrorist organization*", "*possession of dangerous substances without permission*", "*covering one's face*" and "*not performing one's duty*". Şırnak 1. The High Criminal Court accepted the indictment, the first hearing is on April 24.

09: Istanbul The first hearing of the IMM case, in which 402 people, including Metropolitan Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu, municipal bureaucrats, mayors and journalists, were tried, was held in Silivri. While a prison sentence of 828 to 2,352 years is demanded for İmamoğlu, 105 people are being tried in pre-trial detention within the scope of the case. During the hearing, there were debates about the right to speak and the request of İmamoğlu's lawyers for recusal was rejected by the court panel. The court announced that it ended the hearing early on the grounds of Ramadan and adjourned the case to the next day.

09: Istanbul The Bakırköy Chief Public Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation against CHP Chairman Özgür Özel for allegedly publicly insulting the court committee in his statement regarding the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality case. In his statement after the hearing, Özel reacted to the trial process by criticizing the court panel.

10: Antalya An operation was carried out against the municipality within the scope of the investigation carried out regarding the period of former mayor Şükrü Sözen in

Manavgat district. "*Establishing a criminal organization*", "*embezzlement*", "*extortion*", "*bribery*", "*bid rigging*" and "*laundering assets arising from crime*" 36 people, including municipal administrators, employees, contractors and hotel owners, were detained in the investigation carried out with the allegations. Within the scope of the same investigation, 6 people, including Şükrü Sözen and his brother Fatih Sözen, were previously arrested.

- 10: Diyarbakir** On the Armenian Genocide "*The Birth of Aurora*" The case against filmmaker Rojhilat Aksoy is held under Article 301 of the Turkish Penal Code under Article 22. A lawsuit was filed at the Criminal Court of First Instance. The Diyarbakir Chief Public Prosecutor's Office stated that some of the statements in the film "*He publicly humiliated the Turkish nation and the organs of the state*" He prepared an indictment with the allegation. In the lawsuit filed due to the screening of the film at the Sezai Karakoç Cultural Center on December 17, 2024, Aksoy denied the accusations, stating that the narration was within the scope of freedom of expression. The next hearing is on April 6.
- 10: Istanbul** The Bakırköy Chief Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation after the images taken at the hearing of the case in which Metropolitan Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu was also tried were shared on social media. The prosecutor's office stated that it is a crime to record and share audio or video without authorization during the hearings during the prosecution phase. Within the scope of the investigation initiated within the scope of Article 286 of the Turkish Penal Code, the Anti-Cyber Crimes Branch Directorate was instructed to identify the perpetrators.
- 10: Istanbul** An operation was carried out against the suspects, who were found to be carrying out activities related to ISIS and making propaganda for the organization on social media. 13 people were detained in the operation carried out by the Anti-Terrorism and Intelligence Branch teams under the coordination of the Chief Prosecutor's Office. During the searches carried out at the addresses, a large number of digital materials, including mobile phones, computers and USB sticks, were confiscated. It was stated that the investigation was carried out in connection with the clash in Yalova in which three police officers lost their lives.
- 10: Tunceli** Women from the DEM Party were called to testify on the grounds of the placards carried at the event organized as part of March 8, International Women's Day.
- 11: Istanbul** The trial of 36 people who were detained during the 11th Istanbul Trans Pride March held in Acıbadem on June 22, 2025, is held at Anadolu 12th High Criminal Court. 18 people appeared before the judge in the case filed at the Cez, and the trial of the other 18 people will be held on March 12. While the lawyers' requests for a larger hall and SEGBİS recording were rejected, some defendants were brought by force and the ban on leaving the country was lifted for three people. The next hearing is on March 12.
- 12: Aydın** CHP District Youth Branch Chairman Mustafa Kemal Koç and three party members were arrested for posters allegedly targeting President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Aydın Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Özlem Çerçioğlu in Nazilli district. "*Insulting the President*" and "*Insulting a Public Official*" He was detained on allegations.
- 12: Diyarbakir** Due to health problems, he previously wrote "*cannot stay in prison*" Fikri Toğluk, who

was released upon the report, was arrested again. After the new report prepared by the Forensic Medicine Institute on March 2 evaluated that "he can stay in prison", Toğluk was sent to prison on the grounds of execution of his remaining sentence.

- 12: Diyarbakir** The statements of the citizens who opposed the Solar Power Plant project, which is planned to be built on the pasture area in the Arzoxli District of the Sûr district, were taken. On March 3, 4 people were injured, 15 people were detained and later released as a result of the gendarmerie intervention in the brawl between the neighborhood and the company. Within the scope of the investigation initiated upon the complaint of the company, 9 neighborhood residents gave statements to the gendarmerie; Citizens stated that they did not insult the company and that they complained about the company.
- 12: Istanbul** Küçükçekmece 30. The Criminal Court of First Instance sentenced journalist Enver Aysever "*inciting the public to hatred and hostility*" He sentenced him to 10 months in prison for the crime and decided to release him. The lawsuit was filed due to Aysever's evaluations of Ekrem İmamoğlu's father, Hasan İmamoğlu, in a live broadcast.
- 12: Istanbul** People's Liberation Party Chairman Nurullah Efe, "*Insulting the President*" He was sentenced to house arrest in the case filed on the charge. Efe, who was detained at night after the hearing held at the Çağlayan Courthouse on March 10, was kept in police custody for about 10 hours and then referred to the prosecutor's office and asked to be arrested.
- 12: Istanbul** On the fourth day of the trial of 401 defendants, including Istanbul Metropolitan Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu, the presiding judge wanted to change the location of the journalists. After the journalists reacted to the verdict and did not get up from their seats, the presiding judge stated that the order of the hearing could not be maintained and adjourned the session to Monday. Some defendants' lawyers are in prison at the hearing "*They were pressured to confess*" He also brought up his claims.
- 12: Istanbul** 26. Heavy Penalty in the retrial of journalists Ahmet Altan and Nazlı Ilıcak after the Supreme Court's reversal decision "*Aiding an armed terrorist organization*" Altan was sentenced to 4 years and 6 months in prison and Ilıcak to 3 years and 9 months in prison.
- 12: Yalova** Recep Adıgüzel and Berkant Fitoz, who reported that AKP MP Meliha Akyol parked her car in a place where parking was prohibited, were charged with recording the conversations of the police officers in a live broadcast on social media during the incident. "*Unlawfully obtaining and disseminating personal data*" He was sentenced to 2 years and 1 month in prison for the crime. The appeal upheld the decision and the sentence became final.
- 13: Ankara** The Constitutional Court found inadmissible the individual application regarding Sürmi İnce, who was killed by fire from an armored vehicle in the Yüksekova district of Hakkari in 2016. The court decided that the applicants' status as victims was eliminated due to the conviction of a soldier in the criminal proceedings and the award of compensation in the administrative judiciary. İnce's family announced that they would appeal the decision to the European Court of Human Rights.
- 13: Antalya** For Manavgat Municipality "*Bribery, embezzlement and bid rigging*" The number of

detentions in the investigation increased to 40. In the investigation carried out under the coordination of the Chief Prosecutor's Office, 12 of the suspects who were referred to the courthouse were arrested. While 13 people were released under judicial control, 13 people were released after statement procedures. Former Mayor Şükrü Sözen and his brother Fatih Sözen were previously arrested.

- 13: Aydın** 6 people, including Kuşadası Mayor Ömer Günel, "*Bribery*" and "*Extortion*" He was detained on charges. The Istanbul Chief Prosecutor's Office announced that Günel, municipal administrators and some business people were detained in simultaneous operations in Izmir and Antalya.
- 13: Istanbul** "*We Defend Secularism Together*" Artist and former MP Sabahat Akkiraz testified within the scope of the investigation opened against the names who signed the statement. Minister of National Education Yusuf Tekin filed a criminal complaint for the declaration signed by 168 writers, academics, artists and journalists.
- 13: Istanbul** Küçükçekmece 5. The Criminal Court of First Instance decided to continue the detention of social media phenomenon Murat Övüç. Övüç, due to the video she shared wearing a headscarf, said, "*openly inciting the public to hatred and hostility*" He is on trial on the charge.
- 13: Izmir** The Bar Association stated that Michael Adufu, a Ghanaian citizen who lost his life, could not receive the necessary health care from hospital to detention, from courthouse to prison, and said that the incident was a violation of the right to life. President Sefa Yılmaz criticized the decision of non-prosecution and called for an effective investigation against those responsible.
- 13: Sirnak** At the 15th hearing of the case regarding the murder of 12-year-old Nihat Kazanhan in Cizre district in 2015, it was announced that special operations police officer M.N.G., who was wanted with a red notice, was found to be abroad. Cizre 1. At the hearing held in Ağır, the Kazanhan family demanded the arrest and detention of the defendant. The next hearing is on June 13.
- 13: Van** Eğitim Sen Branch submitted a petition to the Van Governor's Office requesting an administrative investigation and investigation against İpekyolu District Director of National Education Hakan Yeşilova. The union stated that some administrative practices raise serious questions in terms of the principles of adherence to the law, impartiality and equality. The petition also drew attention to the allegations that an administrative investigation targeting 85 teachers was initiated at Mehmet Akif Ersoy Anatolian High School over a document that was not based on concrete evidence.
- 14: Bolu** The investigation carried out against Mayor Tanju Özcan "*threats and blackmail*" An indictment was prepared in the investigation. Özcan, on the other hand, filed a complaint in February 2026, alleging that Mehmet Eren Akgüney blackmailed him. The police detained Akgüney on February 28; on the same day, the prosecutor's office also sentenced Özcan to "*extortion by way of extortion*" and the court arrested Özcan and sent him to Sincan Prison. According to the indictment, it was stated that Özcan sent sexual messages to Öznur Ç., a municipality employee, and that these messages were received by Öznur Ç.'s ex-boyfriend Akgüney, and that Akgüney demanded 20 million TL from Özcan, a car and a car wash facility. The prosecutor's office evaluated Özcan's

words towards Öznur Ç. within the scope of "blackmail" and demanded up to 3 years in prison for Özcan. The prosecutor's office also sentenced Akgüney to up to 13 years; He also demanded up to 3 years in prison for E.B. and H.E.S. for allegedly mediating blackmail.

- 14: Istanbul** The 9th Administrative Court rejected the request for the annulment of the decision to suspend Esenyurt Mayor Ahmet Özer and appoint a trustee in his place. The court ruled that there was no illegality in the procedure regarding the appointment of Istanbul Deputy Governor Can Aksoy as a trustee to Esenyurt Municipality. On October 30, 2024, the Istanbul Chief Public Prosecutor's Office detained Özer as part of its "urban reconciliation" investigation and the court arrested Özer. The Ministry of Interior later suspended Özer and appointed Can Aksoy as a trustee in his place. The court also ruled at the Istanbul 14th High Criminal Court. He reminded in its decision that the High Criminal Court sentenced Özer to 6 years and 3 months in prison on January 23, 2026, on the charge of "membership in a terrorist organization".
- 15: Burdur** Judicial proceedings were initiated against writer Gamze Gökçe due to her statements about worship on social media. In the video he published, Gökçe made statements targeting prayer, fasting and sacrifice worship, and these posts drew reactions on social media. After the reactions, the police units detained Gökçe in Burdur. Burdur Criminal Court of Peace sentenced Gökçe to "*inciting the public to hatred and hostility or humiliation*" and sent him to prison.
- 16: Ankara** The Council of Judges and Prosecutors launched an investigation against Antalya Deputy Chief Public Prosecutor Mehmet Akif Katırcı. Katırcı attended the iftar program organized by Antalya Metropolitan Municipality on March 11 and accompanied the "freedom" prayer for imprisoned Mayor Muhittin Böcek .
- 16: Gaziantep** BİRTEK-SEN Chairman Mehmet Türkmen was arrested for his speech at the protest of Sirma Carpet workers. Prosecutor's Office about Türkmen "*inciting the public to hatred and hostility*" and his electronic belongings were confiscated during a search of his house. Sirma Carpet workers continue their protests against late payment of wages and working conditions in Başpınar.
- 16: Istanbul** At the hearing of the case regarding the Metropolitan Municipality, it restricted the entrance to the hall. In the case with 407 defendants, including Ekrem İmamoğlu, the court requested that only the defendants, lawyers and complainants be taken to the regular conduct of the trial, and took journalists to the back of the hall and with limited visibility. After 8 minutes, the hearing was adjourned and adjourned when the committee did not return. Illustrator Tarık Tolunay shared the hall sketch and showed how the press was prevented from following the hearing.
- 16: Istanbul** Kuşadası Mayor Ömer Günel, who was detained on March 13 on charges of bribery and extortion, was arrested. The Ministry of Interior suspended Günel from duty on the same day as part of a temporary measure. In the investigation carried out by the Istanbul Chief Prosecutor's Office, some municipal officials and business people were arrested along with Günel.
- 17: Bolu** The indictment prepared against Mayor Tanju Özcan was accepted. Özcan was charged with "blackmail" against municipality employee Öznur Ç. 6. He will be tried in

the Criminal Court of First Instance with a request of up to 3 years in prison. The investigation started with mutual complaints, and the parties accused each other of threats and blackmail.

- 17: Istanbul** Three people, including Testo Taylan, were detained for allegedly sharing obscene content about women on social media. The Chief Prosecutor's Office claimed that the posts contained insulting and obscene expressions against women. Suspects "*inciting the public to hatred and hostility or humiliation*" and with "*obscenity*" is accused.
- 18: Antalya** The court decided to continue the detention of Muhittin Böcek and his son Mustafa Gökhan Böcek. Some other defendants were released on judicial control conditions. The case was adjourned to May 4.
- 18: Aydın** With a social media post in Kuşadası "*publicly disseminating misleading information*Journalist Latif Censor, who was detained on the allegation, was released after procedures at the police station. The journalist stated that his reporting was based on documents and did not target any person.
- 18: Istanbul** On the seventh day of the IMM case, including Ekrem İmamoğlu, arguments broke out due to restrictions on entry to the courtroom. The court rejected the request for detention evaluation and decided to continue the defenses after the holiday.
- 18: Istanbul** Journalist Alican Uludağ announced that on the 26th day of his detention, it was decided to continue his detention without taking his defense. He stated that the decision was made without a promise at the hearing, which he connected to via SEGBİS. Uludağ said that this situation is against the right to a fair trial.
- 18: Istanbul** 35 people were detained after the protest held on the anniversary of Ekrem İmamoğlu's detention in Saraçhane. 31 people were released from the police station, 4 people were referred to the courthouse. The court decided to arrest 2 people and judicial control for 2 people. To those arrested "*Insulting the President*" and "*Resistance to prevent the execution of duty*" accusations were made.
- 19: Ankara** About Dr. Ayşe Uğurlu "*insulting the president*" The hearing of the case was held. Uğurlu stated that the text in question was a political criticism of women's rights and demanded her acquittal. The next hearing is on April 15.
- 20: Ankara** According to the statement of the Ministry of Interior, 77 people were detained in FETÖ operations carried out in 27 provinces. 47 of the suspects were arrested, and judicial control orders were issued for 23 of them. It was stated that the operations were based on the use of ByLock and organizational communication detections.
- 21: Tokat** BirGün reporter İsmail Arı was detained in Turhal district and taken to Ankara. To the Bee "*publicly disseminating misleading information*" was charged.
- 22: Istanbul** İsmail Arı, a reporter for BirGün newspaper, was detained on March 22, 2026, during a holiday visit in the Turhal district of Tokat. Arı, who was taken to Ankara as part of the investigation carried out by the Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor's Office on the charge of "*publicly disseminating misleading information*", was arrested by the court. Arı denied the accusations, stating that he was detained because of a video he had made three months ago, and said that the file had been expanded. Many press professional organizations organized protests in Ankara and Istanbul and demanded Arı's release.

- 22: Kocaeli** DEM Party Gebze District Co-Chair Ömer Yıldız was forcibly taken to the police station by the police while he was being treated in the emergency department of Darıca Farabi Training and Research Hospital. Deputy Ömer Faruk Gergerliođlu announced that Yıldız had a head injury and was taken out of the hospital by police intervention before the doctor's report was completed. The doctor on duty in the emergency room tried to prevent the police from intervening. It was stated that the incident was related to the post-Newroz detention process.
- 23: İstanbul** The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office demanded a prison sentence of up to 35 years for Beyođlu Mayor İnan Güney. The prosecutor's office accused Güney of aiding the organization and fraud to the detriment of the public. In the same file, similar sentences were requested for some people in Güney's close circle. Güney, who has been in pre-trial detention since August 19, 2025, has pleaded not guilty to all charges. The prosecutor's office requested that the file be merged with the İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality case.
- 23: Manisa** R.A., a philosophy teacher working at İnci Üzmez Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School in Turgutlu district, was arrested within the scope of Law No. 5816. R.A. was detained upon the complaint of the students due to the statements he allegedly made about Mustafa Kemal while discussing the subject of art and philosophy in the lesson, and was arrested by the Criminal Judgeship of Peace and sent to prison. The official authorities regarding the incident did not make a clear statement about the teacher's words.
- 24: Adana** In Seyhan, social media content producer İ.T. was detained after sharing a street interview that turned out to be fictional. In the interview, one person was using threatening expressions. The court released İ.T. on judicial control condition.
- 24: Ankara** On March 24, 2026, the Ministry of Health terminated trans doctor Larin Kayataş's public service for the second time, despite a court order. The Ministry also filed a criminal complaint against Kayataş and a criminal case was opened. Kayataş stated that the reason for his dismissal from the civil service was shown as "disgraceful acts" and that the practice was systematic exclusion, his private life was examined and a comprehensive report was prepared.
- 24: Ankara** The General Directorate of Security detained a total of 170 people in 12 provinces after the Nevruz celebrations. Between March 17-22, 72 people were killed, and on March 24, 98 people were killed in the "*terrorist propaganda*" and "*Opposition to the Law on Meetings and Demonstrations*" He was detained on charges. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said in a statement after the detentions that they intervened against provocations.
- 24: Ankara** Journalist Altan Sancar said, "*dissemination of misleading information*" 27. He is being tried at the Criminal Court of First Instance. Ankara Sancar said that the posts belonged to him, but that he conveyed hearsay within the scope of his journalistic activities. The next hearing is on April 9.
- 24: Antalya** In Kaş, land registry technician D.A. was detained by the gendarmerie on the grounds that he improperly questioned the land registry records of Minister of Justice Akın Gürlek. Within the scope of the investigation, two land registry managers working in Çorum Boğazkale and Afyonkarahisar Çobanlar were also detained for the same reason.
- 24: İstanbul** Lemn magazine cartoonist Dođan Pehlevan's trial in 36. Asliye Ceza "*Insulting the President*" The trial was postponed to July 14.
- 24: İstanbul** The 26th Criminal Court of First Instance increased the prison sentence of 3 months and 22 days given to Ali Ergin Demirhan to 5 months due to the Charlie Hebdo news published by Sendika.Org in 2015. The court ruled despite the Constitutional Court's decision on violation of freedom of expression. Demirhan's lawyer announced that they would appeal the decision.

- 25: Ankara** Three land registry officers working in Afyonkarahisar, Çorum and Antalya were arrested for allegedly improperly questioning the land registry records of Minister of Justice Akin Gürlek. "*Unlawful acquisition of personal data*" and He was referred to the court on charges of "*abuse of office*". The General Directorate of Land Registry and Cadastre also suspended the suspects.
- 25: Bitlis** 25 people were detained by violence in house raids in Tatvan and Ahlat districts. The prosecutor's office investigated the "*Propaganda of a terrorist organization*" and cited participation in Newroz celebrations as the reason.
- 25: Istanbul** 9 of the 38 people who were detained after the Newroz celebrations were arrested on the allegations of "making propaganda for a terrorist organization". The court released 26 people on judicial control conditions.
- 25: Istanbul** The Bakırköy Chief Public Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation against people who recorded images and shared them on social media during the hearings of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality case. The prosecutor's office stated that the images taken in the courtroom in Marmara Prison were disseminated without permission and instructed the Istanbul Police Cyber Crimes Unit to identify the act and perpetrator within the scope of TCK 286.
- 25: Istanbul** The 41st High Criminal Court rejected the objection to the request of the defendant's lawyers for recusal in the IMM case. The committee handling the case will continue its duty.
- 26: Ankara** 209 people were detained and 32 people were arrested in operations carried out in 18 provinces on the grounds of Newroz celebrations. Two women and two children were arrested in Izmir. DEM Party member Meral Daniş Beştaş announced that Mizgin Duyas, who has a 45 percent disability report and has a one-year-old baby, was among those arrested.
- 26: Antalya** Ayşegül E.K., who was detained in Kaş district for allegedly questioning the land registry records of Minister of Justice Akin Gürlek, was arrested. Three other people were previously arrested as part of the same investigation. The suspects are charged with unlawful acquisition of personal data and abuse of office.
- 26: Antalya** Journalist Murat Kemaneci wrote about the news that Mayor Necati Topaloğlu and a prosecutor met at the hotel. "*violation of privacy*" He was detained on the charge. The court arrested the journalist.
- 26: Diyarbakir** The 9th High Criminal Court decided to continue the detention of Ayşe Gökkan, who has been detained for about 6 years, despite her request for release and the prosecutor's opinion in favor of release, and adjourned the hearing to June 19
- 26: Istanbul** 24. Heavy Penalty for rights defender Nimet Tanrikulu "*membership in a terrorist organization*" He sent the file to Diyarbakir by giving a decision of lack of jurisdiction, lifted the signature obligation for Tanrikulu, but continued the ban on leaving the country.
- 26: Istanbul** EngelliWeb, the Freedom of Expression Association, announced that Grok's responses about Recep Tayyip Erdoğan University Faculty of Pharmacy were blocked on the grounds of national security and public order. Previously, news reports about the closure of the faculty without a building and students and the allegations that a faculty secretary was paid a salary for three years were also blocked by court decisions on

March 16 and 23, 2026.

- 26: Istanbul** The Freedom of Expression Association announced that access to journalist Mahmut Bozarslan's X account has been blocked. No official statement was made as to the reason for the block.
- 26: Istanbul** At the hearing of the Metropolitan Municipality case on March 25, 2026, E.Y.T., who was determined to have entered the hall with a fake press card, taken and shared images, was arrested. The prosecutor's office "*Forgery of official documents*" and "*Violating the privacy of private life*" He referred him to the court with charges.
- 26: Kocaeli** A history teacher working in Gebze district, T.Ç., for his social media posts in which he reacted to the removal of Atatürk boards he prepared in the classroom. "*Insulting the President*" An investigation was opened and he was removed from the school where he worked.
- 26: Sirnak** A lawsuit was filed against 28 people, including journalists, who were covering a protest organized by Peace Mothers in Silopi district in 2024. The police and the military prevented the protest and detained 28 people by beating them. About people, including three journalists "*Participation in an unlawful meeting*" and "*Resistance to prevent the execution of duty*" The indictment prepared with the charges was accepted at the Criminal Court of First Instance. The second hearing is on May 13.
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- 27: Ankara** The 20th Administrative Court found the annulment lawsuit filed by İzzet Talip Akarsu and Serhat Gündar, who were dismissed from the Turkish Armed Forces on the grounds that they shouted slogans at the graduation ceremony of the Turkish Military Academy, in accordance with the law and rejected the dismissal decision. The lieutenants' lawyer announced that they will appeal against the decision.
- 27: Istanbul** The Chief Prosecutor's Office carried out an operation against Uşak and Marmaris municipalities with allegations of bribery and irregularities. The police detained a total of 24 people, including Uşak Mayor Özkan Yalım and municipal administrators.
- 27: Istanbul** Police detained at least 26 people during house raids. There are 8 children between the ages of 14-17 among those detained. The prosecutor's office cited Newroz celebrations and social media posts as the reason. The court sentenced 3 of the children to "*Propaganda of a terrorist organization*" He arrested him on the allegation.
- 29: Diyarbakir** The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office objected to the decision of non-prosecution against Nimet Tanrıkulu on the grounds that she participated in the Newroz celebration in 2012. The Criminal Court of Peace lifted the decision on November 17, 2025. The Chief Prosecutor's Office prepared a new indictment on the same charges and 8. The High Criminal Court accepted the case.
- 30: Ankara** The Chief Prosecutor's Office filed a lawsuit against CHP Chairman Özgür Özel in his speech in Kuşadası "*Insulting the President*" He launched an investigation on the charge.
- 30: Bolu** The 2nd Criminal Court of Peace decided to continue the detention of Mayor Tanju Özcan and his deputy Süleyman Can, who were accused of extortion.
- 30: Istanbul** In the indictment prepared by the Chief Prosecutor's Office against journalist Alican Uludağ, "*Insult*", "*Dissemination of Misleading Information*" and "*Humiliation of state*

- institutions"* He asked for a prison sentence of up to 19 years and 8 months.
- 30: Istanbul** The Bakırköy Chief Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation against Ekrem İmamoğlu due to his statements in the expert case. İmamoğlu for his words against members of the judiciary "*insult and threat*" accusations are being leveled.
- 31: Bursa** In simultaneous raids in 5 provinces by the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office, 55 people were arrested together with Metropolitan Mayor Mustafa Bozbey. "*Establishing an organization*", "*bribery*" and "*Money Laundering*" He was detained on charges.
- 31: Mugla** Activist Esra Işık, who was detained during the expert discovery against the hasty expropriation process around the Akbelen Forest in Milas district on March 30, was arrested by the court.

3- Other Practices

- 02: Izmir** The investigation into the death of Kadir Coşkun, a 71 percent hearing impaired and COPD patient in Ödemiş Kaymakçı T Type Open Prison, shortly after his release from prison continues. His family stated that health services were not provided in the prison and the necessary referrals were not made and demanded that those responsible be prosecuted. Although a year has passed since the incident, the indictment has not yet been prepared.
- 03: Istanbul** The incident in which a high school student killed a teacher and injured a teacher and a student in Çekmeköy was attended by Anadolu 3rd High Criminal Court. A publication ban was imposed by the decision of the Criminal Judgeship of Peace.
- 03: Istanbul** Ahead of the March 9 hearing of the case in which Ekrem İmamoğlu faces up to 2,352 years in prison, the court imposed restrictions on the press and defense. It was reported that only 25 journalists will be admitted to the hearing, and each defendant will be represented by a maximum of 3 lawyers.
- 04: Ankara** They are at Hacı Bayram Veli University "*Idealist*" It was claimed that a group of people who defined themselves as forced students to participate in activities and threatened them. In the WhatsApp correspondence that emerged, it was stated that messages were shared that those who did not attend the meetings would be "punished".
- 04: Ankara** DEM Party deputies brought the problems experienced in the access of sick prisoners to health services in prisons in Erzincan to the agenda of the Parliament. The report included allegations regarding handcuffed examinations, delayed hospital referrals and execution extensions.
- 04: Istanbul** Journalist Özlem Gürses announced that she was targeted after a news story she presented was taken out of context and then received death threats. Gürses announced that he filed a criminal complaint due to the threats and requested protection from the prosecutor's office.
- 05: Istanbul** An 18-year-old young man who was detained on drug charges in Kadıköy claimed that he was beaten and tortured by the police at the police station. The Anatolian Chief Public Prosecutor's Office, whose Forensic Medicine report contains findings supporting the allegations, launched an investigation into the incident.
- 06: Ankara** Within the scope of the work carried out under the coordination of the Presidency's Directorate of Communications, access to 41 social media accounts allegedly spreading disinformation was blocked. Director of Communications Burhanettin

Duran stated that after the attacks on Iran, some accounts shared posts with unverified content aimed at creating panic in the society. It was announced that 75 contents were removed and legal action was taken against some accounts in the process carried out by the police, BTK and prosecutor's offices.

- 11: Istanbul** The Chief Prosecutor's Office shared the statements of the imprisoned Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu. "*Presidential Candidate Office*" About the X account named "*Insulting the President*" and "*Publicly disseminating misleading information*" He launched an investigation on the charges. It was stated that İmamoğlu, who has been detained since March 19, 2025, had his previous social media accounts closed and that he had recently shared his posts on his @CAOİletisim account.
- 12: Butler** Murat Kocakaya, the principal of Muzaffer Mert Primary School, was dismissed after he attempted to launch an investigation against four female teachers who did not respond to the March 8 International Women's Day message he shared in the WhatsApp group with emojis or likes. After the incident was revealed, the Provincial Directorate of National Education launched an investigation against the principal and decided to suspend him.
- 16: Ankara** After the attacks on Iran, an investigation was launched into social media accounts that shared manipulative content about Turkey. In the study carried out under the coordination of the Presidency's Directorate of Communications, the Police and the prosecutor's offices, it was claimed that 21 accounts were carrying out disinformation and psychological operations, access to these accounts was blocked, and a judicial investigation was launched against the users. Since February 28, the number of bans imposed on similar grounds has exceeded 400.
- 16: Ankara** Disaster expert Dr. Kubilay Kaptan's X account was blocked on the grounds of protecting national security and public order. The account was made invisible from Turkey by X.
- 16: Antalya** Democratic mass organizations announced in front of the Döşemaltı Prison campus that Devrim Ayık, a 76 percent disabled and seriously ill prisoner in S Type Prison, was beaten by the gendarmerie on March 12 while he was being transferred to the hospital. The gendarmerie kept Ayık handcuffed during the examination and physically intervened when he objected. Ayık was taken to areas where there were no cameras and subjected to violence.
- 16: Karaman** On March 12, the first two stanzas of the National Anthem were read in Arabic in the commemoration program organized by the Directorate of National Education. After the reactions, the Karaman Governor's Office launched an investigation against the school administrators and those responsible for the program.
- 17: Army** At the EIA meeting held for the bentonite mining project in Fatsa district, company representatives marched on the people of the region. A dispute broke out between the citizens who opposed the project and ORBEL's subcontractors. After the argument, some people were taken out by security forces. Previously, the "EIA is not required" decision for the same project was annulled by the court.
- 18: Karabük** The release of Adem Oktay, who is held in T Type Prison, was postponed for the 8th

time on the grounds that he did not accept the imposition of "remorse". Oktay, who was entitled to conditional release in 2023, was prevented from being released for another 9 months this time. DEM Party deputy Newroz Uysal Aslan brought the situation to the Parliamentary Human Rights Investigation Commission. In the application, it was stated that the practice was arbitrary and exceeded legal limits.

19: Antalya It is claimed that Devrim Ayık, who is held in S Type Prison, was subjected to ill-treatment during his transfer to the hospital. İHD and ÖHD demanded an independent and effective investigation into the incident.

23: Istanbul On February 27, 2026, 16 students at Silivri Selimpaşa Primary School were kept in the garden without coats for three breaks by teacher Hülya Çora. After the students chanted "rights-law-justice", the teacher continued the punishment and allegedly insulted some students. Parents applied to CIMER and filed a complaint. It was claimed that the school administration reacted to the parents. The Ministry of National Education launched an investigation into the incident.

23: Istanbul The program of the 45th Istanbul Film Festival, organized by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts, has been announced. The fact that the "Where Are You, My Love?" section, which is reserved for queer films in the festival program, was not included this year, created a censorship debate. Filmmakers and culture and arts workers reacted by stating that the decision was an exclusion of LGBTI+ representation. The festival management had previously announced that it would re-schedule the episode. Before the festival, which will start on April 9, some filmmakers reiterated their call for a boycott.

25: Ankara The General Assembly of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey rejected the motion of the DEM Party to investigate the obstacles to freedom of the press with the votes of the AKP and MHP.

25: Ankara DEM Party Ağrı Deputy Heval Bozdağ brought to the agenda of the Parliament that prisoners in Patnos L Type Prison are prevented from accessing clean water and health services. Bozdağ stated that prisoners were given unhygienic water and their daily right to clean water was not implemented. He also stated that infirmary services were not working and hospital referrals were not made, and he gave a parliamentary question.

25: Kastamonu Artist İlkay Akkaya's concert on April 3, 2026, was canceled following targeting posts on social media. The organization company took the cancellation decision after increasing pressure and calls. Akkaya evaluated the decision as a violation of freedom of expression and announced that he would initiate legal proceedings.

26: Ankara Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against female prisoners at Sincan Women's Closed Penitentiary Institution on the grounds of the Newroz celebration on March 21, 2026. The prison administration cited singing, dancing halay and lighting fires as justifications.

27: Ankara The Amateur Football Disciplinary Committee of the Turkish Football Federation fined Manisa 1965 Nurlupınar Gençlergücü Spor for playing a Kurdish song at the stadium during the match played in Manisa on February 15, 2026. The board registered the match that the club won 1-0 as a 3-0 forfeit, deleted 3 points and imposed a penalty of playing without an audience for 5 matches. In addition, 6 executives were deprived of rights for 90 days and fined 15 thousand TL each.

- 27: Ankara** Security guards at the Faculty of Language, History and Geography forcibly took the newspaper from the student carrying the BirGün newspaper and tore it up. Eğitim Sen announced that the practice is against freedom of thought and constitutes a usurpation of authority.
- 27: Istanbul** Journalist Pinar Gayıp said in a statement from Bakırköy Women's Prison that access to health services was prevented and prisoners were mistreated. Gayıp said that they could not access treatment due to the imposition of examination in handcuffs, and that sick prisoners were sent back without being examined. He stated that the guards used violence against prisoners who objected to the transfer and that hygiene conditions were inadequate.
- 29: Ankara** The Information and Communication Technologies Authority blocked access to the X accounts of Welat, JINNEWS and Med Gündem. The X platform also blocked access to many journalist accounts on the instructions of BTK.
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- 30: Istanbul** blocked access to three social media accounts belonging to businessman Öncü Sönmez. The decisions were taken on the grounds of national security and public order.
- 30: Van** The Directorate of National Education fined the ARSİSA Language, Culture and Art Research Association, which carries out Kurdish education activities, 400 thousand 50 TL on the grounds of "unauthorized educational activities". The association and language activists stated that the decision was aimed at preventing the learning of Kurdish and reacted to the practice.
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4- Other Reports

- 03: Strasbourg** The 2025 European Press Freedom Report, published by the Council of Europe's Platform for the Safety of Journalists, stated that press freedom in Europe has reached a "tipping point" due to systematic repression and political interventions. In the report, Turkey was evaluated as one of the most challenging environments in Europe for independent journalism.
- 05: Ankara** DEM Party Van Deputy Gülderem Varlı presented the report prepared on the rights violations suffered by children detained in Van and surrounding provinces to the Parliament. The report included allegations of beatings, ill-treatment and violations during prison transfers during the detention process.
- 06: Diyarbakir** In its February 2026 report, the Mesopotamia Women Journalists Association stated that rights violations against journalists have increased, with 4 journalists' homes

raided, 5 journalists detained, and 4 journalists arrested in February. MKGD also reported that 8 websites and 7 media accounts were blocked and journalists were beaten, blocked and ill-treated in the field.

12: Antalya The Antalya Branch of the Human Rights Association published its observation report on the March 8 Women's Day march. The report stated that before the march, some participants were subjected to intense identity checks, banners and placards were interfered with, and human rights observers were removed from the area. Banners with braid symbol "*Terrorist organization propaganda*" It was stated that it was not allowed to enter the area on the grounds that it was not allowed to enter the area. İHD stated that these practices violate the right to assembly and demonstration marches and freedom of expression.

12: Istanbul According to the report published by the Media and Law Studies Association, journalists, reporters or media workers are on trial in more than 72 of the cases filed under Article 217/A of the Turkish Penal Code. The report emphasized that long trial processes, detention and arrest risks have a serious deterrent effect on freedom of expression and that in most cases, the judicial process itself operates like a punishment mechanism.

16: Ankara The CHP's February 2026 Freedom of Expression Report emphasized that interventions against freedom of expression and the press continue systematically in Turkey; access blocks, interventions in protests, RTÜK sanctions, disinformation law and "*inciting the public to hatred and hostility*" It was stated that the accusations were used as a means of pressure.

16: Istanbul The report published by the Media and Law Research Association MLSA revealed that Article 217/A of the Turkish Penal Code targeted journalists the most between 2024 and 2026. The association examined 21 cases and 39 hearings, stating that many cases ended in acquittal, but the long trial, the risk of detention and legal pressure turned into de facto punishment.

30: Diyarbakir Human Rights Association for Freedom (ÖHD) announced that 255 people were detained and 41 people were arrested across Turkey as part of Newroz celebrations. According to the statement, at least 7 children were arrested and house arrest was issued for 2 children. There are allegations of torture against some children.