

Mr Bekir Bozdağ
Ministry of Justice
Adalet Bakanlıđı
06659 Ankara, Turkey

Dear Minister;

I am writing this to express my grave concern on eight human rights defenders, including Amnesty International's Turkey Director İdil Eser, and two international IT trainers, who were detained by police on 5 July as they were participating in a workshop in Istanbul. I consider their detention is arbitrary and that their suspicion of "membership of an armed terrorist organisation" is baseless and ludicrous. Arbitrary detention is prohibited under international law.

So I should urge the Minister of Justice to release human rights defenders Gnal Kurşun, İdil Eser, İlknur stn, Nalan Erkem, Nejat Taştan, zlem Dalkıran, Şeyhmuz zbekli, Veli Acu and the two IT international trainers Ali Gharavi and Peter Steudtner immediately and unconditionally.

Your quick attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,