

I am writing this to express grave concern on Mr. Ali Fikri Işık who will appear in front of Çorlu Military court, facing three separate charges of 'desertion' that could carry a prison sentence of around two-and-a-half years. Should he be imprisoned, he will be a prisoner of conscience and should be released immediately and unconditionally.

I therefore call on you and the authorities to drop the charges against him for exercising his right to freedom of conscience, as outlined in international law.

I would remind you of recognizing the right to conscientious objection in Turkey as a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights they are obliged to do so.

You would be asked to implement the European Court of Human Rights rulings that recognized the right to conscientious objection as a human right protected under Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Your attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,