

Dear Minister;

I am writing to express my grave concern on Taner Kılıç, Chair of Amnesty International Turkey, was detained on 6 June, wrongly accused of membership of the “Fethullahist Terrorist Organization”. On 9 June he has been remanded in pre-trial detention. The charges against him must be dropped and he must be released immediately and unconditionally.

The prosecutor claims that ByLock, a secure mobile messaging application that the authorities say was used by members of the “Fethullahist Terrorist Organization” has been discovered on Taner Kılıç's phone. This so far unsubstantiated allegation is the sole piece of information provided to substantiate the charge.

Taner Kılıç denies that he downloaded or used ByLock, or being a member of the “Fethullahist Terrorist Organization”. On the contrary, Taner Kılıç has been critical of the role of Fethullah Gülen's movement in Turkey.

I am calling on the Minister of Justice to drop the charges against Taner Kılıç. He should be immediately and unconditionally released from pre-trial detention.

Your attention on this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,