

Open Letter

Honoured President Recip Tayyip Erdogan, Mustafa Şentop (Speaker of the Turkish Parliament), Abdülhamit Gül (Turkish Minister of Justice), Süleyman Soylu (Turkish Minister of the Interior), Josep Borrell (tGerman Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the High Representative of the European Union) and the Court of Justice of the European Union in Luxembourg

We are artists from all over the world and we draw portraits of murdered and imprisoned journalists to commemorate them.

We display our portraits in an online exhibition and throughout the world in a traveling exhibition.

www.wahrheitskaempfer.de

We are supported by people who also want freedom of expression and **freedom of the press** be safeguarded. Journalist must be able to exercise their profession unhindered.

Currently, there are about **39 journalists** that we are worried about.



They are imprisoned in the Turkish **Silivri Prison**. The **Corona virus** has spread widely there. According to official sources, 82 inmates have already contracted the virus; one has died as a result. (As of May 22, 2020) While violent criminals were released due to a Corona-amnesty, journalists remain imprisoned.

The journalist Ahmet Altan writes from his cell in Silivri:

“I am 70 years old and I am in prison. I know better than most of you how it is to sit at the bottom of the sea targeted by death. (...) I am writing this waiting in prison cell for a virus that kills people my age. I am not optimistic when it comes to me, but I am optimistic for humanity of which I am a part.”

We therefore ask you to immediately release the following journalists so that they are no longer defencelessly exposed to the virus.

**Mustafa Erkan Acar - Faruk Akkan - Tuncay Akkoyun - Ahmet Altan
Hüseyin Aydın - Mehmet Baransu - Osman Çalık - Gökçe Fırat Çulhaoğlu
- Yakup Çetin - Mutlu Çölgeçen - Habip Güler - Nuh Gönültaş Mahmut
Gülecan - Ercan Gün - Serkan Sedat Güray - Yılmaz Kahraman Cemal
Azmi Kalyoncu - Hidayet Karaca - Bayram Kaya - Abdullah Kilic Seyid
Kilic - Muhammed Sait Kuloğlu - Ali Kuş, - Ahmet Memiş
Ali Özparun - Erdal Şen - Ahmet Metin Sekizkardeş - Emre Soncan
Yakup Şimşek - Ufuk Şanlı - Ünal Tanık - Mümtazer Türköne
Mustafa Ünal - Oğuz Usluer - Cuma Ulus - Fevzi Yazıcı - Aykut Yıldır
Hüdaverdi Yıldırım - Yetkin Yıldız**

We would like to know your opinion on this. This issue is of utmost importance to us and we would hope for your support in this matter.

Sincerely yours