



**ÇAĞDAŞ GAZETECİLER DERNEĞİ
ANKARA ŞUBESİ**

**MEDIA REPORT
2016
JANUARY-MARCH**

**ÇAĞDAŞ GAZETECİLER DERNEĞİ
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PROGRESSIVE JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION OF TURKEY

MEDIA REPORT JANUARY-MARCH 2016 PERIOD

1-) CENSORSHIP AND PRESSURE (detention/arrests, assaults, investigations, chargess, barriers to accreditation)

- Police threaten JINHA reporter

After the curfew was lifted on December 30, 2015, it was reported that JINHA reporter Duygu Erol, who went to Gazi Street in Sur, Diyarbakır, was threatened by the police, who said, "If it were up to me I'd execute her." (January 2nd, 2016)

- Daily Sözcü headline investigated for insulting the president

The Küçükçekmece Chief Public Prosecutor's Office launched an investigation into Sözcü daily allegedly insulting President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, incitement to commit crime and assault due to its puzzle-themed news story "Your fortune in 2016," in which the words "DIE" and "RECEP" were used side by side. (January 2, 2016)

-Court bans distribution and sale of 3 books

The Gaziantep 1st Criminal Judgeship of Peace banned the sale and distribution of three books – journalists Hasan Cemal's "Delila / Mountain Chronicles of a Young Female Guerilla" and "Kurdistan Logs in the Resolution Process" and Tuğçe Tatari's "Grandma, in Fact I Wasn't in Diyarbakır." (January 4, 2016)

-Kürtsat correspondent Ok released

Kürtsat News cameraman Baran Ok, who was taken into custody while videotaping police intervention in a Kurdish-focused Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) group walking to the town of Sur, Diyarbakır, was released by the court on bail. (January 4, 2016)

- Treatment of a killer to the journalist

Journalist Hakan Dirik was called to testify because of the news he made at Cumhuriyet daily on October 28, 2015 based on the explanation of the lawyer Arif Ali Cangı as to the fact that the mines belonging to Koza Altın within the structure of Koza İpek Holding for which an administrator was appointed will be transferred to Albayrak Group owned by Berat Albayrak, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's son-in-law. The police unit calling Dirik to testify, however, was the homicide bureau where the homicide criminals testified. In the explanation he made after the testimony he gave in the homicide bureau, Dirik said, "There's no victim around, but there is an attempted murder, and that is, an attempted murder against journalism. What I did was just a journalistic activity, and I explained that in my statement." (January 4-5, 2016)

-Detention of DİHA correspondent Oruç

DİHA correspondent Nedim Oruç was forced out of his home, beaten, and detained in the town of Silopi, Şırnak, an area under curfew. (January 05, 2016)

- JINHA correspondent detained in Van

In an early morning police raid of Van students dormitories belonging to the Credit and Dormitories Institution (KYK), many university students were detained, including JINHA correspondent Rojda Oğuz, who was also a student at Van Yüzüncü Yıl University. (January 5, 2016)

- Solitary confinement of journalists Dündar and Gül ends after 40 days

The solitary confinement of Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-Chief Can Dündar and Ankara bureau chief Erdem Gül, arrested for their reporting of the intelligence trucks weapons smuggling scandal, ended after 40 days. (January 5, 2016)

- Dink family protests decision not to prosecute

The family of slain Agos daily Editor-in-Chief Hrant Dink objected in a suit to the failure to prosecute several suspects in his murder. (January 5, 2016)

- British journalists' Iraqi translator released

After being in custody in Adana, Mohammed İsmail Rasool, the Iraqi translator of British journalists Jacob Hanrahan and Philip Pendlebury, who were arrested on suspicion of supporting ISIL and the PKK in Diyarbakır and later released, was also released. (January 5, 2016)

-DİHA correspondent Oruç arrested

Dicle News Agency (DİHA) correspondent Nedim Oruç, who was taken into custody in the town of Silopi of Şırnak on January 5, 2015 and given no explanation for hours, was charged with aiding and abetting the terrorist PKK. (January 6, 2016)

-Journalists Dumanlı and Özdemir face 4 years in prison

After the Dağlıca attack, ATV-A Haber's evaluation of the current status of Turkey "If a political party got the number that would be able to win 400 Parliament seats, or make a [new] Constitution, the situation would be very different today," tweeting over Zaman daily's official Twitter account saying "Erdoğan evaluated the treacherous attack at Dağlıca: if 400 parliamentarians had been won, this wouldn't have happened," Zaman daily former Editor-in-Chief Ekrem Dumanlı and Managing Editor Mehmet Özdemir were charged with insulting the president, and face 4 years in prison if convicted. A second indictment was filed against Dumanlı over the same issue. (January 6, 2016)

- DİHA correspondent assaulted

In the court case of Yasin Börü at the Ankara 2nd High Criminal Court, DİHA correspondent Fatih Gönül, who tried to film a quarrel between supporters of Yasin Börü, was detained by the police. (January 7, 2016)

-Zaman's Kaya gives testimony on MIT trucks scandal

Zaman daily Ankara correspondent Bayram Kaya gave a testimony to Istanbul Deputy Attorney General İrfan Fidan in the MIT trucks scandal probe in which journalists Can Dündar and Erdem Gül were also charged (January 7, 2016)

-JİNHA correspondent Rojda Oğuz arrested

JİNHA correspondent Rojda Oğuz was taken into custody on January 5, 2016 in Van allegedly for being a member of the PKK. (January 9, 2016)

- İMC TV correspondent and cameraman detained

IMC TV correspondent Bekir Güneş and cameraman Mehmet Dursun, seeking to report on 13 people (1 a police officer) losing their lives in Van, was taken into custody, and later released. (January 10, 2016)

- Gag order after ISIL attack in Sultanahmet

58 minutes after an ISIL suicide bomb attack in which 10 foreign tourists died in Sultanahmet, Istanbul, a temporary publication ban was imposed by RTÜK on broadcasting from the crime scene, especially showing corpses, at the request of the Prime Ministry. (January 12, 2016)

- DİHA correspondent Aydın taken into custody in Muş Varto

DİHA correspondent Murat Aydın, who videotaped people taken into custody after an attack on a DBP township building in the town of Varto in the province of Muş, was also taken into custody without any justification by the police. (January 13, 2016)

-When Erdoğan didn't like the headline!

After multiple ISIL bombings and hundreds of people losing their lives, President Erdogan reacted to Cumhuriyet daily reporting on the attack in Istanbul, Sultanahmet to its readers as "the Land of Carnage." Erdoğan, saying how Cumhuriyet headlined "France is weeping over its Children" after the attack in France, said, "A newspaper in my country reported the Paris attack with the headline France is Weeping over its Children'. But it presenting the event in Sultanahmet as the Land of Carnage did not surprise us." (January 14, 2016)

- Bozdağ targets Cumhuriyet and Zaman

After President Erdogan, Justice Minister Bekir Bozdağ reacted to Cumhuriyet and Zaman dailies over the way they reported ISIL's suicide bomb attack in Sultanahmet, Istanbul, in headlines saying "No way." (January 16, 2016)

- Two journalists given over 4 years in prison

Local journalist Aytakin Gezici was sentenced to nearly 3 years in prison and Cihan News Agency correspondent Abdullah Özyurt was sentenced to 1 year and 3 months in prison after being convicted for taking photos of policemen while videotaping them in an event in Adana. The court decided to adjourn announcement of the verdict. (January 16, 2016)

- DİHA correspondent detained

DİHA correspondent Yasin Kobulan was taken into custody when he went to report in Diyarbakır, and released the same day. (January 16, 2016)

- Website author Akyol acquitted

Mehmet Akyol, the owner and author of the website "baskentlilerhaber.com," was acquitted from charges over his article claiming Ankara Mayor Melih Gökçek "manipulated the tendency surveys made at AKP during the June 7 election process." Ankara 35th Criminal Judge Aydoğan Levent Gedik criticized the attorney generalship in his acquittal, which he based on the ECHR and ECtHR, and said, "it should be acknowledged that the public's right to be informed about some opinions cannot be restricted by using the criminal law as a means of pressure on the media." (January 16, 2016)

-Student punished over poster

3 students from Ege University prepared a poster to protest the imprisonment of Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can DüNDAR and the newspaper's Ankara Representative Erdem Gül. Emine Akbaba, a student of the Department of Leather Engineering, mounted a poster on the notice board of the Faculty of Communication and Media Studies, Ege University, was suspended from school for one month. (January 19, 2016)

- Charges against Columnist Çalışkan for insulting the President

Because of a tweet saying “the man who led his country to war to save himself is not called an animal, because it’s a shame. He is not called a demon, because it’s sin. He is called a murderer, and he deserves it,” columnist Koray Çalışkan was charged with insulting the president, with a possible prison term of 2-8 years. Testifying during the investigation, Çalışkan said that he meant Bashar Assad. (January 19, 2016)

Journalist Altan investigated for insulting the president

The İstanbul Chief Public Prosecutor opened an investigation into Ahmet Altan of www.haberdar.com over his November 2015 column “Two Men” in which he criticized President Erdoğan by drawing attention to the negative consequences of Turkey downing a Russian warplane. (January 19, 2016)

-İMC TV cameraman Tekin wounded

In the Cudi District of Cizre, in which the curfew continues, 10 people were wounded, including İMC TV cameraman Refik Tekin, due to police opening fire on those who went to take the dead and wounded. As a result of persistent efforts, Tekin was sent to Mardin State Hospital and medical treatment was given to him. (January 20, 2016)

-Nuh Köklü murder case continues in court

The third hearing was held in the case of journalist Nuh Köklü, who was stabbed to death while playing snowballs in the District of Kadikoy in Istanbul. Köklü's murder suspect Serkan Azizoğlu will be held in custody for three weeks and it will be determined whether or not he is guilty by reason of insanity. The trial is to continue on March 18. (January 20, 2016)

-Complaint about Baransu’s solitary confinement rejected

Taraf daily’s former columnist Mehmet Baransu stated that he had been exposed to torture and ill-treatment in solitary in Silivri Prison, and had been isolated, and made an individual application to the Constitutional Court. The court rejected the application with the justification that ‘the ways of application have not been exhausted.’ (January 20, 2016)

- Charlie Hebdo case against Cumhuriyet columnists

Newspaper columnists Hikmet Çetinkaya and Ceyda Karan, on trial for reprinting the cover of Charlie Hebdo magazine after the deadly attack, testified in the İstanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance. In his testimony, Çetinkaya stated that terrorism is a crime against humanity, and said, “My conscience caused me to place that drawing in my column.” Karan, however, said, “An article or drawing that does not contain incitement to attack, insult, murder or violence in it cannot be the matter of dispute in a criminal trial.” (January 21, 2016)

-DİHA correspondent Yılmaz released

Dicle News Agency (DİHA) correspondent İdris Yılmaz, who was taken into custody while reporting in the town of Erciş of Van in which there were conflicts, and arrested on the grounds of spreading terrorist propaganda and insulting the president on November 14, 2015, was released. (January 21, 2016)

-AA calls journalist a “terrorist”

The state-run Anatolia News Agency (AA) wrote about İMC TV cameraman Refik Tekin, who was shot by the police in Cizre and whose treatment is ongoing in Mardin State hospital, "A fight broke out between security forces and terrorists in Cizre town of Şırnak. In the conflict, 3 terrorists were neutralized, and 9 terrorists were wounded... Among the wounded, it is stated that there is a person alleged to be a cameraman in a television channel." In the letter it sent to Mardin Police Department TEM Branch, the Şırnak Police Department also claimed that Tekin is a "a member of a terrorist organization". (January 21, 2016)

-RTÜK will close 150 television channels

RTÜK initiated the process to close 150 platforms and their managers on the grounds of making unauthorized publication (obscene, misleading marketing, and pirate broadcasts) according to the law and regulations. It decided to make a criminal complaint against the executives and owners of the channels. (January 24, 2016)

-'Funeral accreditation" once again

Having been applied for the first time at the funeral of Public Prosecutor Mehmet Selim Kiraz, who was killed in Istanbul Hall of Justice in Istanbul, accreditation was required at the funeral of First Lieutenant Uğur Taşçı, who was killed in Cizre, attended by President Erdoğan and Prime Minister Davutoğlu. Some media organs were excluded from the funeral. (January 24, 2016)

- Charges over "Last Supper" Picture with photo of Erdoğan

Bakırköy Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Kadir Yılmaz filed charges against Hürriyet daily Digital Publications Content Manager Şermin Terzi and Kelebek supplement website editor Aynur Kabayel for insulting the president in news photoshopping President Erdoğan's photograph into Da Vinci's "Last Supper." (January 25, 2016)

- Charges over "Dictator on trial"

An investigation started into CNN Türk when it announced the action for compensation commenced by President Erdoğan against CHP leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu on the grounds of the statement "scrap dictator" which he said for him, with the headline "Dictator on trial". (January 25, 2016)

- "Terror" accusation to journalist Tekin; custody decision

Custody decision was made on İMC TV cameraman Refik Tekin, who was shot in the leg while serving in Cizre, in which there was a curfew. In the mandate sent by Cizre Prosecutor's Office to the Police Department, the statement "a member of the terrorist organization PKK/KCK" was used for the cameraman Tekin. (January 25, 2016)

-DİHA correspondent Seçkin taken into custody

In police raids of houses in Kars, 6 people among whom was also DİHA correspondent Bilal Seçkin were taken into custody. (January 28, 2016)

-Hrant Dink case at terror and organized crime criminal court

The Court of Appeals 5th Criminal Division, which united the main case tried in the 5th Istanbul High Criminal Court regarding the 2007 AGOS daily Editor-in-chief Hrant Dink's murder and the case commenced against the public officials on the grounds that there was a personal, legal and

actual connection between them, has decided that the jurisdiction is in the 14th Istanbul High Criminal Court commissioned to judge the terrorism and organized crimes. (January 26, 2016)

- Special "Palace" issue from Leman

Humor magazine Leman, frequently targeted by the (Presidential) Palace and the media close to AKP, protested the pressure on it in its January 27, 2016 by not including any cartoons on its cover, but with just the inscription "Palace Special Edition". (January 27, 2016)

- Journalists Dündar and Gül face life sentence

The indictment of Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dündar and Ankara Representative Erdem Gül, targeted by President Erdoğan personally because of their news on the MIT weapons trucks scandal, was sent to 14th Heavy Criminal Court. In the 473-page indictment covering the accusations of "Obtaining the State's information that should remain confidential for the purpose of political and military spying," "Disclosing the information regarding the security of the state that should remain confidential for the purpose of spying," "Attempting to eliminate the government of the Republic of Turkey or hindering it doing its duties in part by using force and violence" and "Willfully helping the armed terrorist organization without being a member of it," four aggravated life sentences in prison, one life in prison, and up to 30 years in prison were requested despite the fact that there is no evidence of the crime. Dündar and Gül's articles and news being included in the indictment of the Public Prosecutor Fidan became an indication of the fact that journalism was targeted. (January 27, 2016)

- Only suspected detainee in Ahmet Hakan attack freed

The first hearing was made on the case in which 7 people were tried 1 of whom was arrestee regarding the attack on Hürriyet daily journalist Ahmet Hakan in front of his house. The court decided that Ahmet Şengüler, the only suspect who was arrested, was released at the first hearing. The judicial control condition about the other defendants was revoked. (January 27, 2016)

-Investigation of cartoonist Kart under Article 301

An Article 301 investigation was initiated over Cumhuriyet daily cartoonist Musa Kart over his December 8, 2015 cartoon. On the investigation of him, Kart said, "In my cartoon, I claim that some part of the judiciary is directed by the Palace like some part of the media. If you don't want to be called a "dictator", you shouldn't meet every claim with the threat of punishment. In a democracy, a claim is responded to with a claim. This cartoon was drawn for the purpose of solidarity with my dear brothers Can and Erdem. If what is wanted to do is to intimidate those who display solidarity, I'm showing efforts in vain!" (January 28, 2016)

- Three news websites blocked

The Telecommunications Communication Presidency (TİB) imposed a ban on accessing sendika.org, Democrat News and Yüksekova News. Therefore, the tenth address of sendika.org, whose access had previously been blocked for 9 times has also been blocked with the decision of TİB. Access to Yüksekova news, to which accessibility barrier was imposed by TİB on July 25, 2015, and removed on October 20, 2015, was blocked one again. (January 28, 2016)

-'Member-supporter" campaign from BirGün

BirGün daily, whose administrators, authors and reporters have faced many charges because of the news it published and which is battling financial difficulties, started a “member-supporter” campaign on its front page. (February 1, 2016)

-Journalist Ayşe Yıldırım gives testimony

Cumhuriyet daily News Coordinator Ayşe Yıldırım Başlangıç gave testimony as part of an investigation under Turkish Penal Code Article 301 due to her October 2015 column "Never forget what happened at the polls." (February 1, 2016)

- Cartoonist Kart testifies

Cumhuriyet daily cartoonist Musa Kart, who testified under the investigation commenced from TCK Article 301 against him over a cartoon he drew, said, “What I have drawn has not been understood, maybe my words will be understood.” (February 1, 2016)

- Barrier to journalists from Yayladağı District Governorship

Journalists seeking to travel together with AFAD officials in order to report on Turkmen who immigrated to Turkey through Yayladağı on the Syrian border were prevented at the last minute. Approval was not given by the Yayladağı District Governorship to go to the border. (February 1, 2016)

-Özgür Mumcu appears before judge

Özgür Mumcu appeared before the İstanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance on charges of insulting the president in his March 2015 Cumhuriyet column "Cruel and cowardly". Mumcu, who faces a sentence of nearly 5 years in prison, said that he did not insult President Erdogan, but was just exercising his right to criticism. (January 2, 2016)

- Baransu case dropped

The case tried with up to 12 years in prison over "Contradiction to the Law on State intelligence services and National Organization" about Mehmet Baransu, formerly of Taraf daily, who was in custody in prison due to another crime, was dropped upon determination of the fact that it was not opened in time. (February 2, 2016)

-Journalists on News Patrol

Journalists initiated a News Patrol for solidarity with their colleagues serving in difficult conditions in the provinces where there is a curfew. (February 3, 2016)

- Constitutional Court petition on banned books

Journalists Cemal and Tatari made an individual application to the Constitutional Court for the books of Hasan Cemal's “Delila / Mountain Chronicles of a Young Female Guerilla” and “Kurdistan Logs in the Resolution Process”and Tuğçe Tatari's “Grandma, in fact I wasn't in Diyarbakir,” banned because they were found in the houses of those who were taken into custody in the YPG operation in Gaziantep. (January 4, 2015)

- Indictment of journalists Dündar and Gül accepted

An indictment seeking four aggravated life terms in prison, once life sentence, and up to 30 years in prison was requested for Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dündar and Ankara Representative Erdem Gül, which received intense criticisms in terms of its legal nature and the

fact that the columns were shown as evidence, was accepted by Istanbul 2nd High Criminal Court. Public Prosecutor İrfan Fidan's request for a private hearing and his request to merge with the case of Selam Tevhid will be determined on March 25. (February 5, 2016)

-Davutoğlu meets with media bosses

In a period when operations ongoing within Turkey and the developments on the Syrian Border have intensified, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu held a meeting with media bosses at Dolmabahçe Prime Ministry Working Office. The fact that the meeting to which Ciner Group President Turgay Ciner, Ciner Media Group Chairman, Kenan Tekdağ, Kanal 7 (Channel 7) Chairman, Zekeriya Karaman, Kanal 7 (Channel 7) Executive Editor, Zahit Akman, İhlas Holding Chairman, Ahmet Mücahit Ören, İhlas Media Ankara Group Chairman, Nuri Elibol, Doğan Holding Chairman, Arzuhan Doğan Yalçındağ, Doğan Press Holding Vice Chairman, Mehmet Ali Yalçındağ, Doğan Online Chairman Hanzade Doğan Boyner, Esmedy Chairwoman, Ethem Sancak, Star Medya Chairman, Murat Sancak, Dünya Veb Ofset Chairman, Didem Demirkent and Demirören Holding Chairman, Erdoğan Demirören participated was held right after the works declared by Davutoğlu in Mardin with the title "Action Plan to Combat Terrorism" attracted attention. (February 7, 2016)

- Norwegian journalist Kampesaeter claims she was deported

Silje Rønning Kampesaeter, reporter for one of the biggest newspapers in Norway, Aftenposten, was allegedly deported. The daily's Editor-in-Chief Espen Egil Hansen protested the deportation. (February 9, 2016)

-Confidentiality decision in investigation of killing 12 HPG members

The Van Chief Public Prosecutor's Office imposed a "confidentiality" decision on the investigation file carried out on killing 12 HPG members in the special operations teams on a 2-story house in Van on January 10. (February 10, 2016)

- "Operation" setting from Davutoğlu to newspapers close to the government

After a meeting he held in Istanbul on February 7, 2016, with some managers of national media organs, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu met with managers of press organs close to the government, including TRT and Anadolu Agency managers, at the Çankaya Palace. It was stated that it was decided in the meeting to make the announcement of the pieces of information related to the operations carried out mainly in the Southeast Anatolian region settlements "with one voice". (February 10, 2016)

- Attack on offices of Yeni Şafak and Yeni Akit

The offices of Yeni Şafak newspaper in Bayrampaşa and Yeni Akit newspaper in Küçükçekmece were simultaneously attacked around 04:45 in the morning. Molotov cocktails were thrown into the newspaper buildings and gun shots fired. The fires that broke out were put out by security guards. (February 11, 2016)

-DİHA correspondent İmrak taken into custody

DİHA correspondent Feyyaz İmrak was taken into custody under an operation held in Antalya. (February 11, 2016)

-2 journalists taken into custody

Free Journalists Association Co-Chair Nevin Erdemir and Diyarbakır's Özgür Gün Radio reporter Ahmet Gülmez were taken into custody while traveling to Mardin from Diyarbakır. (February 14, 2016)

-DİHA correspondent İmrak arrested

DİHA correspondent Feyyaz İmrak, who was taken into custody in a February 11 operation in Antalya, was arrested by the court for PKK membership together with 17 people. Together with İmrak, the number of the journalists arrested in Turkey went up to 34. (February 15, 2016)

- Defamation case over columnist Alphan

Hürriyet daily columnist Melis Alphan faces charges over a 2013 interview with Kezban Hatemi's son Ali Hatemi, who was referred to the court and a charges was initiated about Alphan with a request for up to 2 years in prison. (February 16, 2016)

- We lost journalist Gülşen Yıldız in the attack in Ankara

In the attack in Ankara on a military convoy, 28 people, including Tarım TV correspondent Gülşen Yıldız, lost their lives. (February 17, 2016)

-Publication ban over second bomb attack in Ankara

One hour after the attack in Ankara near the buildings of the Parliament, General Staff, Prime Minister's Office, Force Commands and Interior Ministry and in which 28 people lost their lives and dozens of people were wounded, access to Facebook and Twitter was interrupted. RTÜK made a lightning-fast decision of publication ban related to the explosion. The ban was announced in a wider scope than the first attack in Ankara and the attack in Suruç. (February 17, 2016)

- Threat to two press organs from AKP parliamentarian

After the terrorist attack in Ankara, AKP Ankara Deputy Aydın Ünal, President Tayyip Erdoğan's former adviser and speechwriter, said, "Immunity of these viper's nests such as T24 news, which do not perform journalism and operate on behalf of the terrorist organizations, these terrorist organization publications should definitely be removed. I am making a denunciation to our public prosecutors and judges from here." (February 17, 2016)

- Journalists in Diyarbakır blocked

While Cumhuriyet daily journalist Ceyda Karan, included in the 3rd News Patrol team in Diyarbakır, were interviewing people in front of the Ulu (Great) Mosque in Sur along with two DİHA correspondents, they were blocked, and were told, "There is a denunciation, you cannot take pictures." (February 18, 2016)

-Can Dünder appears before judge over his December 17-25 columns

Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dünder, arrested because of his news of MIT weapons trucks scandal, was brought to İstanbul Çağlayan Court Hall on charges over his columns and a series of articles related to the December 17-25 corruption scandal. (February 19, 2016)

-DİHA correspondent Dolan arrested

While reporting in Sur, DİHA correspondent Mazlum Dolan, who took shelter in a basement where there were also some civilians due to the operations, was arrested by the court he was

taken to on the grounds of being a member of the PKK after being taken out of the place they were besieged. (February 19, 2016)

-AA correspondents kidnapped by the PKK

Correspondent Rauf Maltaş, photo correspondent Onur Çoban, and cameraman Kenan Yeşilyurt, who were reporting on behalf of Anadolu Agency in the town of Nusaybin of Mardin, were kidnapped by PKK members. (February 19, 2016)

- 2 foreign correspondents taken into custody

French Le Monde daily correspondent Anna Kawa and another correspondent whose name could not be identified who were reporting in the town of Nusaybin of Mardin and their translator Bayram Kara who accompanied them were taken into custody. The 2 journalists and their translator who were taken into custody by the special operation teams who checked for identification in the neighborhood of German Bridge and taken to the Nusaybin Police Department, were released after a few hours due to having work permit in the area. (February 20, 2016)

-AA correspondents released

Anadolu Agency correspondent Rauf Maltaş, photo correspondent Onur Çoban, and cameraman Kenan Yeşilyurt who were kidnapped on February 19, 2016 while reporting in the town of Nusaybin of Mardin, were released after 48 hours. The three journalists were brought to the district governorate by HDP Mardin Deputy Ali Atalan. (February 21, 2016)

- 4 journalists in Silopi taken into custody

In the Silopi town of Şırnak, DİHA correspondent Ahmet Kanbal, JİNHA correspondent Handan Tufan, Pel Production cameraman Eylem Baykuş and Servet Yigen were taken into custody together with M. Ali Yılmaz, the owner of the house where they were guests in the district of Cuddi. The journalists were later released. (February 21, 2016)

- “Selfie case” to Nokta Magazine

Charges were filed against Nokta Magazine Editor-in-chief Cevheri Güven and Managing Editor Murat Çapan who were detained for a while because of the cover “Monday, November 2nd, the beginning of the civil war in Turkey” for spreading terrorist organization propaganda and insulting the president because of the covers in which President Erdoğan was depicted taking a selfie in front of the funeral of a soldier. They could face over 12 years in prison. On the cover in question, Erdoğan said, “Those who made that cover are dishonorable, and they will pay for it.” (February 24, 2016)

- Terror investigation of journalists Cemal and Tatari

Journalists Hasan Cemal and Tuğçe Tatari are being investigated, after a decision was made to pull their books from the shelves and ban their sales on the grounds of spreading terrorist propaganda, provoking the public to hatred and hostility, and praising crime and criminals. (February 24, 2016)

-Newspaper with the logo of Erdoğan

Bursa City newspaper, one of Bursa's local newspapers, used President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's photograph under the Turkish flag in its new logo, with the motto, "Muslims are brothers." (February 25, 2016)

- Evrensel's Twitter account blocked

The Diyarbakır Judgeship of 1st Criminal Court of Peace banned access to 120 Twitter accounts, including the account (@evrenselgzt) of Evrensel newspaper. Evrensel Editor-in-chief Fatih Polat said that they would object to the verdict and said, "This decision is a new crime recorded in the censorship record of the government." (February 25, 2016)

- Columnist Şahiner fined for calling Bilal Erdoğan "Superiorly intelligent"

Because she called Bilal Erdoğan "Superiorly intelligent" in her column "This place used to be full of all straight high school students" published on August 7, 2015, BirGün author Seray Şahiner was fined 2,610 TL. (February 25, 2016)

-Journalists Dündar and Gül released after 92 days

Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dündar and Ankara Representative Erdem Gül, who were arrested on November 26, 2015 over reporting on the MIT weapons trucks scandal, and who face four aggravated life terms in prison, on life term in prison, and up to 30 years in prison, ruled in favor by the Constitutional Court (CC), saying that the two journalists suffered "violation of right'. After the CC ruling, the local court released Dündar and Gül. (February 26 2016)

- İMC channel censored

The Ankara Public Prosecutor's Office removed TÜRKSAT, İMC and TV from the publishing platform on the grounds that they spread PKK and KCK propaganda. The channel's main news presenter Banu Güven called the decision a blow to press freedom. (February 26, 2016)

- Columnist Çandar charged

Charges were filed by the Bakırköy Office of the Chief Public Prosecutor against Cengiz Çandar of radikal.com.tr over his column "Excuses: the fight against terrorism; The goal: June 7 revenge" published on July 26, 2015 and allegedly insulting the president in 6 of his columns that July and August. Çandar will appear before the Bakırköy 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance on April 7, 2016. (February 26, 2016)

- Erdoğan declaration against freedom of the press

Before his visit to Africa, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan spoke on the Constitutional Court (CC) ruling releasing Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dündar and Ankara Representative Erdem Gül, making statements against freedom of the press. Erdoğan, slamming the ruling with his words, "I neither comply with it, nor respect it," said, "This incident has nothing to do with freedom of expression, this is a spying case. In my view, the media cannot have unlimited freedom." (February 28, 2016)

- 3 journalists taken into custody

In a police raid of the house where HDP Şırnak Deputy Ferhat Encü stays in the town of İdil of Şırnak where operations are ongoing, DİHA correspondents Ferzan Çatak, Mahmut Ravuna and Azediya Welat correspondent Kadri Esen who went to the scene were taken into custody. (February 28, 2016)

- İpek Media press organs closed

Due to the ongoing power struggle between President Erdoğan and the Fethullah Gülen community, İpek Media Group, to which an administrator was appointed on October 26, 2015, including Kanaltürk, Bugün TV, Bugün daily, Millet daily and Kanaltürk Radio, was completely closed on the grounds of providing financial support to "Fethullah Terrorist Organization" (FETO). (29 Şubat 2016)

- Prosecutor seeks acquittal of journalists Güven and Çapan

A prosecutor asked for the acquittal of Nokta magazine Editor-in-chief Cevheri Güven and Managing Editor Murat Çapan on charges of incitation to armed insurrection due to a Nokta cover showing Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, saying there was no incitement. (March 1, 2016)

-Columnist Ahmet Altan testifies

Haberdar.com columnist Ahmet Altan testified in İstanbul Çağlayan Court Hall under the investigation against him on charges of "insulting the president", "calumniation" and "insulting the Turkish nation" with his column "Two Men" dated November 25, 2015. (March 2, 2016)

-Investigation of Ekrem Dumanlı

Bakırköy Deputy Attorney General Kadir Yılmaz initiated an investigation of Zaman daily former Editor-in-chief Ekrem Dumanlı on the grounds of insulting the president upon the complaint of a person called İzzet Koyuncu saying, "I heard Dumanlı insulting the president when he was at the airport" in the CIP Hall of Atatürk Airport on June 3, 2015. (March 3, 2016)

-CNN Turk cancels 2 shows

CNN Turk cancelled "Everything with Mirgün Cabas," presented by journalist Mirgün Cabas, frequently targeted by AKP partisan media for his news and columns. CNN Turk's "History on My Right and on Left" presented by journalists Altan Öymen and Taha Akyol and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Ö. Alkan, was also cancelled. Cancelling these critical shows after Erdoğan Aktaş was brought to CNN drew attention. (March 4, 2016)

-Zaman also gets administrator

A process similar to that of İpek Media Group was also applied to Zaman daily. An administrator was appointed to Feza Journalistlik A.Ş. which covers Zaman daily in its structure on the grounds that it broadcasts in a way to support the structures of the "Fethullah Terrorist Organization (FETÖ) and Parallel State Structuring (PDY). (March 4, 2016)

-Administrator on the go in Zaman!

Editor-in-chief Abdülhamit Bilici was dismissed from Zaman daily after an administrator was appointed. Access was blocked to the daily's website and Twitter account. (March 5, 2016)

-Cost of the tweet to journalist Aşkın: Fired

Sabah daily foreign news correspondent Enise Aşkın, who tweeted reaction to AKP operations in the Southeastern Anatolia region and pressure on the press, was dismissed. (March 6, 2016)

-Administrator also appointed to CİHAN

After Zaman daily, an administrator was appointed to CİHAN News Agency as well. The İstanbul 9th Criminal Judgeship of Peace decided to appoint an administrator to Cihan Medya Dağıtım A.Ş., Irmak Radyo TV Hizmetleri A.Ş. and Dünya Dağıtım A.Ş. as it allegedly has an editorial policy linked to Fethullah Terrorist Organization / Parallel State Structure (FETÖ/PDY). (March 7, 2016)

-49 years in prison to Fighting Union Magazine Editor-in-chief Tunca

27-year-old Fighting Union Magazine Editor-in-chief Sami Tunca, facing 54-185 years on charges of being a member of the Turkish Communist Labor Party/ Leninist (TKEP/L) and participating in Taksim Gezi Park actions under the banner of Fighting Union and was arrested on September 17, 2013, was sentenced to 49 years in prison. (March 8, 2016)

-21 months in prison for journalist İnce

BirGün daily publishing consultant and author Barış İnce was sentenced to 21 months in prison on charges of insulting President Erdogan through a coded message spelling out “Thief Tayyip” in an article on the December 17-25 corruption investigation. (March 8, 2016)

-‘Freedom for News’ campaign from journalist organizations

The Turkish journalists Association (TGC), Turkish journalists Union (TGS), Contemporary journalists Association (ÇGD), DİSK Basın İş, Haber Sen (Disk press labor, News Union) and Press Institute Association have initiated a campaign for the release of arrested journalists. (March 9, 2016)

- Charlie Hebdo case continues

There was another hearing in the case of Cumhuriyet daily authors Hikmet Çetinkaya and Ceyda Karan, who republished cartoons from French humor magazine Charlie Hebdo depicting the Prophet Muhammed and face over 4 years in prison. At the hearing, one person whose participation request was rejected called out to the judge “If we cannot search for our rights here, shall we search for it as one to one?”; This person was taken out from the hall. (March 9, 2016)

-Dündar and Gül decision from CC: They did not spy, they did journalism

In the justification of its decision for the release of Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dündar and Ankara bureau chief Erdem Gül, the Constitutional Court said the two journalists’ “personal liberty and security right,” “freedom of expression” and “freedom of the press” was violated. In its decision, the court said the journalists had been reporting, not spying. (March 9, 2016)

-Publication bans, access barriers after also attack in Ankara, Kızılay

After the bomb attack in Kızılay, Ankara, a publication ban was imposed by RTÜK on including crime scene footage, “exaggerated descriptions,” and declarations other than the declarations of the official authorities.

The Ankara 1st Criminal Judgeship of Peace imposed a wider publication ban, under which all kinds of news, interviews, reviews and similar publications were banned in the media operating in the written, visual and social media and the Internet until the investigation is completed.

Another ban was brought to the social media. The Gölbaşı Criminal Court of Peace imposed a ban on access to social media due to the sharing of images of the explosion. (March 13, 2016)

-Erdoğan targets press again after Ankara attack

In his first words to cameras after the Kizilay attack, where 37 people died, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan targeted the press. Maintaining that the definitions of “terror” and “terrorist” should be made again and placed in the Penal Code, Erdoğan said, “There is no difference between the terrorist who has a weapon in his hand and those who use their title and pen to support terrorism. This is not freedom of thought, freedom of expression, or freedom of the press.” (March 14, 2016)

-Charges against author Yılmaz Odabaşı

Charges were filed against poet/author Yılmaz Odabaşı at the Büyükçekmece 12th Criminal Court of First Instance of insulting the president in his column “The Two Inmates in the Conscience of Time” published in Meydan daily on September 3, 2015. (14 Mart 2016)

- Özgür Gündem taken off the shelves

The Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office initiated a “terror” investigation of Özgür Gündem daily. While stating that the investigation was opened because of the news “the footsteps of Newroz” on the front page of the daily following the Kızılay bomb attack, the Ankara 1st Criminal Judgeship of Peace took Özgür Gündem daily’s March 14, 2016 off the shelves at the application of the Chief Public Prosecutor. (March 14, 2016)

-Publication ban in the child rape case at Ensar Foundation

The Karaman Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office imposed a publication ban on news related to the claims of child rape in the house of the Ensar Foundation in Karaman. (March 15, 2016)

- Press cards of journalists at Özgür Gündem were revoked

The Prime Ministry, General Directorate of Press and Information revoked the press cards of journalists employed at Özgür Gündem daily. The journalists learned of the decision with an SMS sent to their mobile phones. (March 15, 2016)

-Accreditation of Spiegel correspondent not renewed

In spite of the application he made three months ago, German news magazine Spiegel’s İstanbul correspondent Hasnain Kazım was withdrawn from Turkey by the magazine as his work permit was not extended by the Prime Ministry General Directorate of Press and Information. (March 17,2016)

-Ertuğrul Özkök appears before judge

On the grounds that he “insulted the president by means of the press” in his column “Shame on you, great man” dated September 3, 2015, Hürriyet daily author Ertuğrul Özkök made his defense by joining the first trial of the case initiated against him with a request of over 5 years in prison. He stated that the person he meant while saying “the dictator who thinks the country is his father’s farm” in his article was Bashar Assad. (March 17, 2016)

-News presenter who said, “Silence is not kept in a rape” dismissed

Halk TV news presenter Ece Zereycan was dismissed because she said, “Silence is not kept while children are being raped.” Zereycan stated on Twitter that she was dismissed by Halk TV General Manager Şaban Sevinç. (March 17, 2016)

- Accessibility barrier on DİHA

An accessibility barrier was imposed by Telecommunications Communication Presidency on DİHA for the 33rd time. (March 17, 2016)

- Postponement of Nuh Köklü case

The trial of tradesman Serkan Azizoglu for allegedly killing journalist Nuh Köklü over a snowball that hit his shop window glass in Kadıköy with a possible life sentence was postponed to May 13, 2016. An expert report is expected on whether or the defendant is not guilty by reason of insanity. (March 18, 2016)

- Roza magazine pulled from shelves

Monthly women's magazine Roza issued jointly by the Ankara University Faculty of Language, History and Geography students and prisoners in prison was pulled from the shelves on the grounds that it spreads terrorist propaganda. (March 18, 2016)

- Publication ban from RTÜK after suicide bomber attack on İstiklal Caddesi

RTÜK imposed a temporary publication ban after the suicide bomber attack on İstiklal Caddesi. The ban was lifted in the evening. (March 19, 2016)

- He said, “Erdoğan and Davutoğlu will be judged” and the broadcast was cut off

After Communist Party Central Committee member Aydemir Güler said on the “New Outlooks” show on Habertürk TV that President Erdoğan and Prime Minister Davutoğlu will be judged due to their 'war crimes', the show's host Nevzat Çiçek cut off the program by going to commercials. (March 21, 2016)

- Expert report in “Odatv Case’: Intervention in the two computers from outside

In the Odatv case in which journalists Nedim Şener, Ahmet Şık and Soner Yalçın were tried, a report by an expert committee from Boğaziçi University Faculty of Engineering stressed that “somebody other than the user of that computer intervened in the hard disk.” (March 21, 2016)

- Imprisonment sought for Aydın Doğan

An indictment with a request for prison time prepared on charges of fuel smuggling through Petrol Ofisi (Petroleum Office) (POAŞ) by Doğan Media Group Chair Emeritus Aydın Doğan, who also owns Hürriyet, Posta and CNN Türk, was accepted by the İstanbul 1st Heavy Criminal Court. (March 22, 2016)

- Arrest requested for Keskin, Editor-in-chief of Özgür Gündem

Arrest was requested for Eren Keskin, Editor-in-chief of Özgür Gündem daily, who testified in İstanbul Çağlayan Court Hall on the grounds that he spread terrorist propaganda under the investigation commenced on the daily. (March 22, 2016)

- Israeli journalist detained on suspicion of spying

Assaf Gibor, who did an interview with the Free Syrian Army militia on the Turkish/Syria border on behalf of Makor Rishon newspaper daily, was taken into custody by Turkish soldiers and interrogated. (March 22, 2016)

-Diplomatic boom to humorous Erdoğan program on German channel

In the humor program "extra 3" on North Germany Radio and Television Organization (NDR), because of the program broadcast on March 17, 2016 which mocked antidemocratic practices in Turkey and made President Erdoğan an issue, Germany's Ambassador to Ankara, Martin Erdmann was summoned to the Foreign Ministry.

The development was criticized in Germany; German Journalists Association Chair Frank Überall said, "By calling the German ambassador to the Foreign Ministry, Erdoğan made himself a mockery in the social media", and NDR Editor-in-chief, Andreas Cichowicz said, "The Turkish government's referring to diplomatic paths because of a video broadcast in extra 3 does not comply with our understanding of freedom of press and freedom of thought."

Spiegel Magazine reported that the Turkish government interferes in publications in Germany more than the public knows, and stated that Erdmann was called to the Foreign Ministry three times this year over different publications. (March 22, 2016)

- Administrator stops distribution of 5 newspapers

The new management of Cihan Medya Dağıtım A.Ş., which was appointed as an administrator by the İstanbul 9th Criminal Judgeship of Peace, made a decision to stop the subscriber distribution of Meydan, Yarına Bakış, Yeni Asya, Özgür Düşünce and Taraf newspapers. (March 23, 2016)

-radikal.com.tr also closes

Doğan Media Group's Radikal, which started publication in 1996 and went web-only on June 21, 2014, also discontinued www.radikal.com.tr, citing economic factors. (March 23, 2016)

- Terror investigation of Cumhuriyet and BirGün

The İstanbul Chief Public Prosecutor's Office initiated an investigation of Cumhuriyet and BirGün newspapers on the grounds that a police officer was targeted in news related to Berkin Elvan's death by being hit on the head by the gas capsule shot by the police in Gezi Park. The journalists responsible for publishing the news at Cumhuriyet and BirGün face an investigation over "Target showing of public officials on duty for struggle against terror." (March 24, 2016)

- First hearing of "MIT weapons trucks scandal" case of journalists Dündar and Gül

The first hearing of the case of Cumhuriyet daily Editor-in-chief Can Dündar and Ankara Representative Erdem Gül, facing multiple life terms on charges of "Obtaining the State's information that should remain confidential for the purpose of political and military spying," "Disclosing the information regarding the security of the State that should remain confidential for the purpose of spying," "Attempting to eliminate the Government of the Republic of Turkey or hindering it doing its duties in part by using force and violence" and "Willfully helping the armed terrorist organization without being a member of it" over their reporting on the MIT weapons trucks scandal, was heard in İstanbul 14th Heavy Criminal Court. Both journalists said that their news was not a crime, it was journalism. In its interim decision, the Court Board decided the case hearings would be closed, and the request of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Undersecretary of the MIT for participation were accepted, and Dündar and Gül were released by the court pending trial and the next hearing on April 1. (March 25, 2016)

- TRT charged for insulting Atatürk

The Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor's Office initiated charges against TRT Auditor İlyas Aksoy for greenlighting a documentary in which a speech made by Osman Yüksel Serdengeçti insulting Mustafa Kemal Atatürk was included. In the indictment, it was requested that Aksoy would be

punished with 1-3 years in prison under the Law on Crimes Committed Against Atatürk. (March 25, 2016)

-JİNHA correspondent Rojda Oğuz released

JİNHA correspondent Rojda Oğuz, who was taken into custody in a raid of a students dormitory of to the Credit and Dormitories Institution on January 5, 2016 and later arrested on charges of “being a member of the terrorist organization’ was released with the interim decision of the court as a result of her lawyers to her detention. (March 28, 2016)

-Punishment to Cumhuriyet to cut off ads for 18 days

Press Ad Agency punished Cumhuriyet daily to cut off ads for 18 days because of photographs of prosecutor Savcı Selim Kiraz who was killed, Charlie Hebdo, and a column dated February 28, 2013, of Cüneyt Arcayürek, the daily’s writer who died in June 2015. (March 28, 2016)

-JİNHA correspondent Canözer released

The first trial of JİNHA correspondent Beritan Canözer, arrested on December 19, 2015, on the grounds of reasonable doubt while following the demonstration made on December 16, 2015 in order to protest the curfew in the town of Sur of Diyarbakır, was tried in Diyarbakır 4th Heavy Criminal Court. Canözer was released at the end of the trial. (March 29, 2016)

-Journalist Uludağ acquitted

Cumhuriyet daily judicial correspondent Alican Uludağ was acquitted on charges over his reporting on the taking down of banners hanging on the CHP Aydın Provincial Directorate saying “Let December 17-25 Week be the Week of Thieves and let it be celebrated in the AKP General Center” and “Take your dirty hands off this public” with pictures of President Erdoğan and his son Bilal Erdoğan on the first anniversary of the December 17-25 government corruption probe. At the İstanbul 2nd Criminal Court of First Instance, Uludağ’s attorney Abbas Yalçın said, “It is not possible to report this news without writing the content of the banner. The reason for taking the banner down made the news. There is no element of insult here.” (March 29, 2016)

-Olay TV Ankara Office shut down

Olay TV’s Ankara bureau, open for more than 10 years ,was shut down with a sudden decision. (March 30, 2016)

- Journalists also wounded in bomb attack on armored vehicle

There was a bomb attack on an armored vehicle belonging to security forces during operations against the PKK in the town of Nusaybin of Mardin. In the armored vehicle, it was reported that there were also some journalists who wanted to get some news and take pictures related to the operations. Clear information as to which journalists were in the armored vehicle and which of these journalists were wounded has not been shared with the public. (March 31, 2016)

- Press blocked, beaten on Erdoğan’s US Visit

Before President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan’s speech at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, Erdoğan's bodyguards prevented and beat several press members among whom were also the former Bugün daily Washington correspondent Adem Yavuz and columnist Amberin Zaman; their entering the hall was prevented, and those who entered were taken out. Some of them were prevented from shooting footage.

At the meeting, which took questions to be asked beforehand, asked about arrested journalists in Turkey, Erdoğan said, "52 persons claimed to be arrested journalists are persons whose punishment was finalized by also completing the stages of appeal due to many crimes especially terror crimes being in the lead. There are only 7 persons claimed to be arrested journalists. Only 2 of them have yellow press cards. And let them not fool us. 4 of the 7 persons are ongoing to be tried for being a member of the PKK terror organization 3 of them, however, for being a member of the FETÖ terror organization." (March 31, 2016)

2-) POWER FIGHTS and MANIPULATIONS OVER THE PRESS

- Lie of condolences statement by "Upright Posture"

In Yeni Akit daily, a news report called "Condolences from General Staff to Akit" said, "The Press and public relations Department of the General Staff, Brigadier General Ertuğrul Gazi Özkürkçü has conveyed condolences over the death of our Executive Coordinator Hasan Karakaya. Özkürkçü underlined the fact that Karakaya did not give any concessions from his upright posture in his most difficult times." However, later, it was revealed that General Staff did not use the statement "did not give any concessions from his upright posture" regarding Karakaya, the newspaper said this statement was written "inadvertently." (January 3, 2016)

- Güneş targets Zaman over mosque lie

Güneş daily's story, "Scandal from Zaman daily: Adopted the Vandals," said, "In ODTÜ, while the studded, bat attack to the students coming out of the small mosque keeps its heat, FETÖ's daily Zaman put forward the fact that the event was not an act of violence. It claimed that the attack in which the students were hospitalized was exaggerated." (January 4, 2016)

- Akit: Shut down İMC

On its front page Yeni Akit daily urged that İMC TV be shut down under the headline "shut off the terror channel", saying, "İMC TV, which makes Istanbul-centered national broadcasting over Türksat 3 A satellite, is almost a spokesman for the terror organization PKK and Armenia. Kurds disturbed by the broadcasts want the channel to be taken out of the satellite." (January 8, 2016)

- So-called "Trump" response from Bugün to Doğan

In "That's enough, Mr. Aydın," Bugün daily said, "Protest Donald Trump, who had a headscarf-wearing Muslim woman removed from the hall after insulting Islam"; he wanted Trump's name to be erased from the famous towers in Istanbul owned by Aydın Doğan. (January 10, 2016)

Bugün attacks Beyaz show

Newspaper Bugün, in its front page news, "PKK adds on Doğan Group television channel," stated, "PKK sympathy of Doğan Yayın Group continues," saying the Doğan Group-owned Kanal D TV show Beyaz Show spread PKK propaganda. Speaking on the show by phone, Ayşe Çelik criticized the government for the situation in Diyarbakır. And Beyaz made the audience applaud her." (10 January 2016)

- "Partner Aydın Doğan" Headline

Güneş daily printed the headline, "They met at Hendek," showing CHP head Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu, HDP head Selahattin Demirtaş, Fethullah Gülen, and Doğan Medya Media Group owner Aydın Doğan and saying "Recent operations did huge destructions to terrorists and they want help from their supporters. While the HDP, who took action, transferred living shields to the cities in east, the woman who did Hendek propaganda on Beyaz show turned out to be a supporter of FETÖ " (11 January 2016)

- Bugün targets Kabaş

Newspaper Bugün, after the ISIL attack in Sultanahmet, printed a story "You can be happy now Sedef Kabaş", saying, "Old reporter Sedef Kabaş posted a flagrant tweet after the explosion. Kabaş used the words 'Turkey will not awake unless İstanbul is bombed'. There were lots of responses to Kabaş in social media. She, by the way, did not shut up, but continue to post provocation messages" (13 January 2016)

- Bugün openly makes Cumhuriyet a target

Bugün printed the story "Out of clear necessity we also state it: Cumhuriyet captured by PKK". Saying, "When Can Dündar has the management of Cumhuriyet, in which terrorists called as guerrillas, terror group called as "Pekeke" like the members of the group, a shift in the axis of this newspaper started to be seen by everyone. (16 January 2016)

- Pazarcı attacks METU

Akşam daily's Emin Pazarcı wrote, "Be Ashamed, Ahmet Hakan" saying, "He also talked much about four academic persons in his "Now it is turn for METU" yesterday. He portrayed METU in such a way, you cannot believe it. Do you know what it is? METU is a place in which students with any ethnicity can act freely. It supports labor. University had not been closed by a single violent act. They are not true at all. Since its foundation, there were groups who wanted METU to be home for terrorists rather than science. If he called himself 'reporter' then he must know this. You are marketing METU in a way as you marketed Salahattin Demirtaş. You must be ashamed, what kind of a journalist are you, Ahmet Hakan? (21 January 2015)

- Cem Küçük threatened again

Star daily's Cem Küçük, in his article "Nothing changed in Doğan Side" stated that "Aydın Doğan slyly opposed our President Erdoğan and Turks and continues to support the PKK. However on the other hand he continues to develop close friendships with some bureaucrats for building rentier folds. You can both be enemies with our president, government, support the PKK and can benefit from the lands of our country ha? Within capital letter you underestimate the "GOVERNMENT" Aydın Doğan. Right now I must mention that bureaucrats on Aydın Doğan's side are literally committing suicide.'(27 January 2016)

- From Takvim: "Hürriyet Tattled the person that Russia was looking for "

Daily Takvim in its front page "Tattler Hürriyet" again targeted Hürriyet, saying, "Russia claimed that the pilot of the plane which was brought down was killed by Alparslan Çelik. It is stated he will be killed wherever he will be found. However Hürriyet took his photo which was taken during the funeral in İstanbul on the front page showed him as a target."(29 January 2016)

- Takvim again targeted

Takvim wrote, "Do you like what you did, Hürriyet? 19 snipers in İstanbul," saying, "Russia claimed that the pilot of the plane which was brought down was killed by Alparslan Çelik. Hürriyet showed his place; Putin send a sniper team." (1 February 2016)

- From Küçük to Aydın Doğan: We can see the end of the road

Daily Star's Cem Küçük, in his article, "End of the road is seen," stated, "You underestimate the government of the Turkish Republic, Aydın Doğan. Bureaucrats that you scare with the media power in your hands, you thought they are government. You thought some supporter journalists are men. These scared birds will pay what they did. There are people in Turkish government who you cannot buy with your money, fully support their nation. These people swore for attachment to this government. In these people there are Atatürk supporters and also idealists. They have different political views but they all are Turkish sons who love their country. All of them can give their lives for the independence of Turkey. You do not have moral values like being related to this country. You cannot understand honorable people who could live for a

month with your daily breakfast money. Listen to the famous song by Musa Eroğlu. The end of the road is seen (6 February 2016)

- Attack on Sancak is also FETO'S job!

Güneş daily's "Attack on Sancak is also FETÖ's job", wrote about an assassination attempt related to Sancak's gambling debts. The article stated that Ethem Sancak, the owner of Akşam Group, said that this attack was done a group related to FETÖ (9 February 2016)

- Young politician who ran by the angry crowd!

In his column "Windows of Hürriyet," Star daily columnist Ersoy Dede wrote, "Terrorists attacked Yeni Şafak and Akit Medya Groups. First of all I want to say get better soon. Upon this event I remembered that there was a case where Hürriyet's windows were broken. So, what happened to that case? Only for not getting a huge tension, was your strength only enough for a young politician who were there for calming the angry crowd? Each day you lynched Abdürrahim Boynukalın in your papers. At every opportunity you showed him as a person who broke he windows, shut the free-media." (12 February 2016)

- Küçük: Özkök wrote the book of racist vileness

Star daily's Cem Küçük, in his "Lies and Betrayals," stated, "Aydın Doğan's sniper Özkök is a racist and orientalist man who could even say swamp to the people who live in the Middle East. The man who wrote the book of vileness calls the Middle East vile. (20 February 2016)

- Return to the News with Ahmet Hakan from Takvim

Takvim branded Hurriyet writer Ahmet Hakan "Unreliable" saying, the scenes of HDP head Selahattin Demirtaş playing saz on Ahmet Hakan's programs were given with the statement "Good boy fell out with the writer from Nişantaşı. The penfigher of Hürriyet, Ahment Hakan knocked out Selahattin Demirtaş who he invited to his program and made him play saz (26 February 2016)

- Güneş didn't like CC ruling for Dündar and Gül

Güneş daily called the CC ruling for Can Dündar and Erdem Gül a "violation of rights", with the "Spying plus freedom" headline. The story said that "after this understandable decision of CC Dündar and Gül were vacated." (26 February 2016)

- Dündar is Assange; the same things will happen to him

Star daily's Cem Küçük in his column "Can Dündar is Julian Assange!" said, "Can Dündar was released by the CC. What Dündar did is a crime around the world and a violation of national security. Can Dündar, who produced news saying "Here, That Guns," reached the red lines of Turkish government. People on the top of government were really angry, who I talked yesterday. They underlined that such a betrayal will not be forgotten by the Turkish people. A person can criticize foreign policy. This is his natural right. Might criticize Syrian policy of Turkey. But, he cannot reveal anything even if the Turkish government sends atom bombs to Assad. When you reveal them you violate national security. The things the US and Britain did to Julian Assange and Bradley Manning can be seen by anyone. Assange lives in a 12-meter square place in Britain's Ecuador Embassy where the worst fame for media has. The moment he gets out he will be arrested. Manning on the other hand was both tortured and imprisoned for 35 years. In the Iran-Contra scandal, Gary Webb, who questioned the role of CIA, was forced to commit suicide in 2004. Can Dündar is the Turkish Assange. He will get the same as Assange" (27 February 2016)

- Akit targets CC judges

In "Visa from CC to the spying suspects," Yeni Akit wrote, "Can Dündar and Erdem Gül, who were arrested on spying accusations, were supported by the CC, and a scandalous ruling was done, spying crimes were accepted" A member of the Council of State, Mustafa Yücel Özbilgin, was

killed 3 months ago and Akit, which showed Council of State members who made a ruling about headscarves as a target, similarly showed CC members who made this decision on Dündar and Gül. Each members' photo and name, and the year they started to work, was given and it was speculated that former Presidents Ahmet Necdet Sezer and Ahmet Gül made the people to work here. (27 February 2016)

- Fantastical Definition to CC Decisions from Star: February 26 Higher Jurisdiction Reform

Star daily reported on the CC decision for Can Dündar and Erdem Gül's release with the headline "Today this issue will end". CC members with their photos and names were targeted in this news, former President Abdullah Gül's advisor Ahmet Sever's photo was shown. CC head Arslan talked tough, saying "Today this issue will end" to the member who said, "Even the trial did not start. We cannot show ourselves as jury, we must postpone it". (28 February 2016)

- Another threat from Küçük

In his column "Can Dündar must be arrested again because he is a betrayer," Star daily's Cem Küçük wrote, "Can Dündar is a FETÖ agent, all layman will see it, and curse Can Dündar. Can Dündar and Akin Atalay's huge amount of money that they get from FETÖ are found and will be found too. Again, related jury will transfer an administrator to the terrorist media group which is called Feza Journalism and FETÖ media will be released. (29 February 2016)

- Star hits below the belt

Star daily in the case of Can Dündar, accused because of the MIT trailer truck news, after the first article it did about the release of Can Dündar by CC decisions, hit below the belt. Star printed a photo speculating that he kissed an Iranian woman with the headline, "FETÖ bird sings with the cassette". In the news how Can Dündar, who made the betrayal for a villa, fell into FETÖ's trap is lightened by Star. Dündar was taken with the phone and cassette records as this group did to many of them. Yeni Şafak daily gave similar news with the "Decided Release" headline. Two papers made Dündar and CC news for three days (1 March 2016)

- Star: Who did you fall into, Zühtü?

Sabah and Akşam dailies, in the news on the CC Dündar and Gül decision, used similar headlines again: "Even accusation did not read", but Star was more creative and chose "Who did you fall into, Zühtü?" (3 March 2016)

- Kekeç: You must be kidding me dishonored!

Star writer Ahmet Keke in his column, "You must be kidding, me dishonored" stated, "Can Dündar is not a journalist to me. I said it many times. Can Dündar is a liar. He is a filthy liar. He must be barred from journalism as soon as possible. This part is for the man who questioned the honor' of his colleagues; you both call a liar a journalist and talked about the journalists who criticize the release decision as 'some dishonored men have problems with the release decision.' During this period we have to repeat the statement within the 'You must be kidding; me dishonored!'" (3 March 2016)

- Akit targeted for second time; he said, "resign"

Yeni Akit daily again targeted the CC members who greenlighted Dündar and Gül's release. CC head Zühtü Arslan and other members' photos who joined the decision were shared by the journal with the headline, "You violate your oath, resign." (4 March 2016)

- A creative from Güneş: Just for him to run away?

Güneş Gazetesi, with the headline "For him to run away?" again made Can Dündar a target. The article said Can Dündar sold his villa for a high price. He earned lots of money, and soon after he was arrested. However, with the scandalous CC decision he was released. The question is this: Were the villa sale and CC's decision for Dündar's escape to foreign countries? (5 March 2016)

- Again a CC Headline from Yeni Şafak

Yeni Şafak printed the headline “Reason Shift” saying, “The CC who released Can Dündar is in a great panic right now. CC who were accused of violation, did a weekend shift to write the appropriate reason.” (6 March 2016)

- Star: Zaman-PKK partnership

Star daily’s headline story “Zaman had a partnership with PKK,” said, “The investigation which resulted with an Administrator transfer to Feza Gaztecilik A. Ş. showed the relationship between the parallel structure and the terrorist PKK.” (6 March 2016)

- Dede: Also Cumhuriyet will not be freed

Star daily’s Ersoy Dede’s column “Administrator decision is wrong, it must be seized” stated, “Look, Ekrem Dumanlı who was released by court pending a trial, was gone Was his paper freed? Cumhuriyet will not be freed either. You cannot make terror propaganda by looking into our eyes.”(6 March 2016)

- Küçük, he knows who will have an administrator or who will not!

Star daily author Cem Küçük said in his column “Read this text well, [US Ambassador] John Bass...,” “...No administrator will be appointed to any newspaper or television other than FETÖ.” (March 7, 2016)

- Akşam’s Headline is Zaman

Akşam daily, with the headline, “Invisible line in Zaman,” wrote, “In the news with “‘Not daily but a hutment’ headline, it was stated that “Orders of Peninsula were transferred to Zaman’s center in New Bosna, then with the Client machine, which stops followability to the imams was found’.” (8 March 2016)

- “Pool” all together

After the CC ruling for Dündar and Gül, this news was given with the headline “CC covered up the evidence” in Akşam, “They hardly explain the reason” in Sabah, “Reason according to the reaction” in Yeni Şafak, “you cannot fool Zühtü” in Star,” Its reason is worse than the decision” in Güneş, and “12 Fault choked 3 truths” in Yeni Akit. (10 March 2016)

- “It is a matter of honor for the Turkish government that Dündar must spend most of his years in jail”

Star daily columnist Cem Küçük wrote “There is no mercy for supporting terrorism” showed General Editor of Cumhuriyet Can Dündar as a target and said the longer he is kept in jail the better for the Turkish government, saying, “Can Dündar must be arrested immediately and never released. His longer years spend in jail is a matter of honor for the Turkish government from now on. If Can Dündar is not arrested, the fight with terror means nothing”. (16 March 2016)

- “Reza” sensitivity from Akşam

Akşam, after the arrest of Reza Zarrab in Miami, accused in the Dec. 17-25 corruption probe, used a “Deep Operation” headline. Akşam used US state attorney Preet Bharara’s picture and stated, “The arrest of Reza Zarrab turned into a perception operation against Turkey. Doğan Group were make the place ready for authorities” statements from US. (24 March 2016)

- Awkward Comparison by Akşam

Akşam did an interesting news on its front page “Which country is more democratic?” In the news, Aydın Doğan and Reza Zarrab’s photos were used and under Doğan’s photo of Turkey. Crime: Financial not arrested, under Zarrab’s photo “America: Financial Arrest” was written. (26 March 2016)

- Crusader Alliance imitation by Star

Star said on its front page “Hürriyet gave all his hopes to the White House Reform that will be done for Reza Zarrab. Same newspaper, about some foreign consuls who watched Dündar and Gül’s hearing, made an article “Crusader Alliance in Truck Betrayal’. In the article it was stated that 11 countries consuls tried to affect the judiciary in the case of Can Dündar (26 March 2016)

- Interesting “Lawyer who supports DHKP-C AND FETÖ” news by Sabah

Sabah, reporting news about Can and Gül’s MIT trailer trucks first case, used a “Dündar Alliance” headline. The article said “Lawyers who support FETÖ and DHKP-C both defend Dündar and Gül during MIT trailer trucks case.” (26 March 2016)

3-) FIRINGS, RESIGNATIONS, VIOLATED RIGHTS and CLOSED MEDIA ORGANS

-Journalist Köse fired

Longtime Cumhuriyet correspondent Türey Köse was fired (6 January 2016)

-Journalist Çakır fired

Journalist-author Ruşen Çakır was fired from his job at Habertürk. On social media he said, “We have already expected this decision, have we not? (26 January 2016)

- Habertürk firings

Habertürk TV and newspaper decided to unite and after Veyis Ateş became the general head there were discharges at Habertürk TV. Initially, news readers Duygu Canbaş, Belkıs Kılıçkaya and Serap Belet Douillet were fired; after a while Habertürk correspondents Ahmet Örsöğlü, Gökçen Kandemir, Leyla Ünal and Onur Aksoy were also fired (13-19 February 2016)

-500 media workers unemployed

İpek Media group, after the 26 October 2015 Administrator transfers where 71 journalists were unemployed, which has Kanaltürk, Bugün TV, Bugün daily, Millet Gazetesi and Kanaltürk Radio under its roof, decided to close and media workers were violated. A total of 500 people were unemployed after the decision to close the media groups and parts. (29 February 2016)

- 360 fired from Star, Akşam, Güneş dailies, Kanal 24, and 360

Ethem Sancak who supports AKP, and owns Star, Akşam and Güneş dailies and Kanal 24 and 360, fired 260 people from these media organs. (27-29 February 2016)

- Zaman Editor Fired

Zaman Editor-in-Chief Abdülhamit Bilici was fired from Zaman to which an administrator was appointed. (5 March 2016)

- Sabah firing

Foreign news correspondent Enise Aşkın, who wrote tweets that criticize AKP pressure on media and operations that continues in southeastern Anatolian, was fired. (6 March 2016)

- Sabah firings continue

Three experienced journalists that worked in the Istanbul Office of Sabah was fired: Mustafa Akbaş, Veli Sarıboğa and Deniz Derin. (15 March 2016)

- Discharges from NTV Sport

NTV sports channel, on the air since 2008, fired 20 workers. (25 March 2016)

-Olay TV Ankara office closed; 5 workers fired

The Ankara office of Olay TV, on the air more than 10 years, closed for economic reasons. Six workers, 5 of them journalists, were unemployed: Mehmet Çatakçı (Ankara Representative), Umut Albayrak (Parliament correspondent), Esra Koçak Mayda (Parliamentary correspondent), Murat Karabulut (cameraman), and Muzaffer Adıgüzel (cameraman). (30 March 2016)

4) OTHER ISSUES AND INTERNATIONAL DETECTIONS

- Support for Cumhuriyet from EU Consuls

İstanbul consuls from 11 EU member states visited the İstanbul Office of Cumhuriyet and heard about Can's and Erdem Gül's arrest; they stated that they will watch the case and support the journalists during the case. (6 January 2016)

-EC asks about violence on Bianet correspondent

The European Commission asked the Turkish government about Bianet correspondent Beyza Kural, who at a YOK protest in İstanbul last November was arrested with her hands cuffed behind her back. EC Turkey representative Erdoğan İşcan signed the answer, he stated the protest was illegal and Kural was between protestors and released right after she showed her press-card (11 January 2016)

- Dündar given freedom of speech award

PEN gave its annual Freedom of speech award to journalists who face pressure to Cumhuriyet Editor-in Chief Can Dündar who is in jail. (15 January 2016)

- ECtHR ruling on Nokta magazine

The European Human Rights Court (EHRC) ruled on Nokta Magazine, which was closed in 2007 for releasing secret documents. The decision said closing the magazine was against human rights and the public's right to information and violated media and speech freedom. (19 January 2016)

- "Media freedom is a must for transparency in politics "

International Transparent Institution's "Finance for Politics and Transparency Topic" report stressed media freedom for making politicians responsible and transparent in their acts. It said that in order to make politics responsible and transparent firstly media must be free and objective. Information and news free flow's blockage and blockages for media only makes things easier for media groups that support the government. (25 January 2016)

- Freedom House: Turkey is under pressure

US-based human rights group Freedom House's "World Freedom Report" underlined that the Turkish media is under pressure from President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (27 January 2016)

- **Strasbourg support for Dündar**

Cumhuriyet Editor-in-Chief Can Dündar's poster with the headline "Being a journalist is not a crime" was put on a building in Strasbourg, French "Club de la Presse Strasbourg-Europe" (3 February 2016)

-**Turkey requests more Twitter censorship than any other country**

According to a transparency report Twitter publishes every 6 months, Turkey is in the first place for censorship requests. 2,211 out of 4,617 requests were from Turkey in July-December 2015, nearly 48% percent (20 February 2016)

- **Amnesty International: Freedom of Speech was violated**

Amnesty International's "2015 Right Violations Report" stated that unique steps were taken in Turkey in order to keep the media quiet. (24 February 2016))

- **Administrator warning from the UN**

During the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein decried "Turkish authorities" applications against Zaman in the current and most horrible progress against media and speech freedom within the country. (10 March 2016)

- **German parliamentarians' letter to Erdogan**

German parliamentarians, in a letter to President Tayyip Erdoğan, stated their worries about speech and press freedom within Turkey. It urged that the punishment of Cumhuriyet's Gül and Dündar be stopped. (17 March 2016)

-**Detectios for the freedom of Press in Turkey by IPI**

At the International Press Institute held in Doha, Qatar, it was mentioned that although Turkey gave the warrant for fit the articles on speech freedom and press freedom stated in related international law rules which Turkey is responsible, the AKP government acted completely against it. The arrest of the Cumhuriyet journalists and appointing an administrator to Zaman and CİHAN New Agencies were called unacceptable. (21 Mart 2016)

- **EU reaction to decision about MIT trucks case**

EU Commissioner for Enlargement Negotiations Johannes Hahn said of the trial of Dunder and Gul, "This case is a test for press freedom and the rule of law in Turkey. Responsive, free journalism is not a crime but a baseis for democracy. Candidate countries must protect freedom of speech." (25 March 2016)