



July 5, 2024

To the Turkish government and the Turkish court in charge

Official Declaration and Request

Your honours,

The foundation for the international day of the endangered lawyer would like to draw the attention of your government and your court on the following:

Our international foundation DEL is existing since 2010 and focusing every year on persecuted colleagues /lawyers of a country.

On January 24th of 2025 we will focus on the very difficult situation of the persecuted lawyers in Belarus.

Some years ago, we have also paid attention to the difficult situation of the human rights lawyers, working in Turkey.

On this special moment we want to ask your attention on the case against the 6 (!) Lawyers of Adnan Oktar.

In our opinion the Turkish State and the Turkish Court should have to pay serious attention to the UN - principles on the role of Lawyers.

Lawyers, who actively and professionally support their clients in court, cannot be identified with their clients or their clients' causes.

Lawyers have to be able to perform their difficult work without harassment and persecution.

We also ask your special attention to the letter which was sent by the Council of Bars and Law societies of Europe - [CCBE](#).



This very important organisation includes all the European lawyers and CCBE has asked that the six Turkish Oktar - lawyers:

- Arzu Gül
- Burak Temiz
- Sinem Mollahasanoğlu
- Tuğba Bal
- Ayşe Toprak
- Pelin Durmuş

are no longer criminalised and that the charges against them had to be dropped.

We kindly ask your honours to react positively on the request of CCBE which was supported by IBAHRI- The International Bar Association Human Rights Institute.

Unfortunately, we are not able to attend the trial, but we urgently request again to drop the charges and we also urge your government that the lawyers have to fulfil their professional duties and defense their clients to safeguard fair trial.

With kind regards,

Symone Gaasbeek wielinga

President of the Foundation International Day of the Endangered Lawyer
Haarlem the Netherlands