



Resolution concerning prisoners of conscience in Turkey
Approved by the PES Council in Lisbon, 1 December 2017

The Turkish government has been using the abortive coup on 15 July 2016 as a pretext and opportunity to silence all critical voices and democratic forces in the country. Under emergency rule conditions, the government has issued several statutory decrees that has suspended the law and violated most democratic rights and freedoms. There is no separation of powers in the country; the judiciary is under direct and heavy pressure of the government. Many members of parliament of our member parties CHP and HDP, Kurdish mayors, NGO representatives, trade unionists, intellectuals and journalists have arbitrarily been detained because of their critical views regarding the government. It is clear to us that these detentions are arbitrary and politically motivated.

As a first step to restore the rule of law and improve democratic politics in Turkey, we call for the immediate release of elected Members of Parliament as listed below and all other prisoners of conscience in Turkey.

HDP MPs

Selahattin Demirtaş
Figen Yüksekdağ
Çağlar Demirel
İdris Baluken
Selma Irmak
Gülser Yıldırım
Abdullah Zeydan
Ferhat Encü
Burcu Çelik

CHP MP

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