



*Permanent Representation
of Turkey
to the Council of Europe*

Strasbourg, 19 October 2015

Dear Director,

Concerning the alerts issued by the Council of Europe's "Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists" on the list enclosed herewith, submitted by the European Federation of Journalists, the International Federation of Journalists, the Association of European Journalist and the Reporters Without Borders, I am transmitting at annex the responses of the Turkish Government concerning 15 submissions.

Yours sincerely,

Erdoğan İşcan
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Encl.:

- List of alerts
- Information Notes (15)

Mr. Matjaž Gruden
Director
Directorate of Policy Planning
The Council of Europe

2 Apr 2015 - Form concerning Erdal Süsem submitted by EFJ/IFJ under “Art and Literature Journalist Erdal Süsem Serving Life Sentence in Turkey”

Information provided by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Turkey

Erdal Süsem was sentenced to life imprisonment on the grounds of being a member of an illegal organization, the TKP (ML) TİKKO and collecting money on behalf of the organization by use of threat, injury and carrying out armed acts by the decision of the 12th Chamber of the Istanbul High Criminal Court on 20 April 2009. This decision became final upon the upholding judgment of the 9th Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation on 15 February 2011. In addition, he was further sentenced to 4 months’ imprisonment for the offence of damaging public property with the decision of the 2nd Chamber of the Tekirdağ Criminal Court of First Instance. The trial was conducted on the following grounds:

- Engaging in terrorist activities in attempt to change the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey by force of arms,
- Conducting a bomb attack on a Coffeehouse in Maltepe on 28 May 1999,
- Conducting a bomb attack on the Sinop Culture and Mutual Aid Society on 28 May 1999,
- Collecting money by threatening through force of arms on behalf of the organization, causing bodily injury by firearms and damaging property,
- Threatening an individual,
- Murder.