



THE END OF DEMOCRACY IN TURKEY AND THE NEW DICTATORSHIP

INFORMATION FILE ON ARRESTED MPs OF PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY – HDP



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Press Release

On the day of November 4, 2016, the Kurdish people in Turkey faced a coup d'état against its political will. The detainment of 12 members of the parliament from HDP, including the co-chairs of the party, which is the 3rd major party in Turkey, was a political massacre when police forces forced entrance to their homes.

Once again, the official statement "The Sovereignty belongs without exception to the people", which is written in capital in the Turkish parliament was once again tread on. In today's Turkey, sovereignty does by no means belong to the people but is seized by the Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the AKP administration and their fascistic policies. The HDP is the only real political obstacle toward a single-voiced, single-minded and single-led Turkey and for this it is neglected by brutal force and repression.

The AKP administration has benefited from the failed coup d'état of July 15 and has turned it into a campaign against the Kurdish political movement and all oppositional voices. The Turkey following July 15 is no longer run by the rule of law, which simply is trashed, but instead is run by Kanun Hükmünde Kararnameler (KHK), that is simply "the Erdogan Constitution". The set of laws prepared with direct orders from Erdogan possess characteristics, which go far beyond what was seen in Germany, when Hitler on February 28, 1933 completely ignored the German civil rights with the passing of Decree of the Reich President for the Protection of the People and the State (Reichstag Fire Decree).

Turkey is in the midst of negotiating its membership of the EU, however the totalitarian and suppressive politics of the government is placing Turkey in a fierce pathway toward civil war and disasters. Parliamentarians and mayors representing the will of the electorate are taken as hostages, governmental administrators are replacing elected mayors, oppositional media, which is the voice and ear of society, are shut down, journalists are arrested and thousands of academicians and officials are expelled overnight.

When members of the Kurdish political movement in 1994 were arrested, the chaos and fights that followed caused the lives of thousands of people, while millions were displaced from their homes. Now, 22 years later, once again the political harassment against the party of the Kurdish political movement and other democratic forces, the HDP, will not serve anything but deepening the war. As a consequence of the Turkish state policies of elimination and denial towards the Kurdish people in 1994, thousands of Kurds had to turn their eyes toward Europe and ended up as refugees. This is a warning! The European Union member countries are rendered silent due to its refugee deal with Turkey. However, the current campaign of repression and arresting of Kurds can cause a wave of millions of Kurdish and Turkish refugees heading for Europe.

For this reason:

- We call the Council of Europe and United Nations, of which both Turkey is a member, to take action that can end this political coup in Turkey;
- We call on EU member states to depart from the simple statements of "being worried and observing" and to take more decisive and efficient actions;
- We call on the European Union to put its negotiation process with Turkey on hold till the totalitarian regime of Erdogan is ended, to cut its aids that fuel the administration economically, to take political and administrative means in action, and to withdraw their embassy staff from Turkey as a way of showing no political support for the regime.

Summary about the latest situation



HDP co-chair Demirtas brought to prison

On the 3rd of November, the purge of President Erdogan against our party has reached another peak: our Co-Chairs **Selahattin Demirtas** and **Figen Yüksekdag**, along with ten further Members of Parliament (MP) of our party, namely **Nursel Aydogan**, **Idris Baluken**, **Leyla Birlik**, **Ferhat Encü**, **Selma Irmak**, **Sirri Süreyya Önder**, **Ziya Pir**, **Imam Tascier**, **Gülser Yildirim** and **Abdullah Zeydan** have been detained across Turkey. **Demirtas**, **Yüksekdag**, **Aydogan**, **Baluken**, **Birlik**, **Encü**, **Irmak**, **Zeydan**, **Nihat Akdogan** and **Yildirim** have been arrested by court order and sent to prison. **Pir**,

Önder and **Tascier** have been released on probation. More arrests are to be expected. Within the scope of the operation, police also raided the HDP headquarters in Turkish capital Ankara and attacked the HDP deputies and members inside. Police later blocked all the roads leading to the building with barricades. Even the party members and deputies are not allowed access to the building amid intense measures and mobilization by police forces in large numbers.

The goal of these measures is to shut down the third largest party in parliament. This is a dark day not only for our party but for all of Turkey and the region as it means the end of democracy in Turkey.

Ever since our party reached a **historic victory** during the national elections of June 7, 2015, when we succeeded to enter parliament despite the undemocratic 10% threshold, President Erdogan has singled out our party as the main target of his authoritarian policies. The reason is our principled opposition against his goal to introduce a presidential system in Turkey. Our seats in parliament are the biggest obstacles to the necessary constitutional changes. Thus, he simply ordered new elections in November 2015. Despite a series of violent assaults by “unknown perpetrators” on our party members and infrastructure, we managed once again to surpass the threshold on November 5, 2015 and won 59 seats in Parliament. Since he could not re-order elections another time, President Erdogan initiated the lifting of the immunity of our MPs in May 2016. **As he could not prevent us from entering Parliament, he now orders us into prison.**



DBP co-chair and former MP Sebahat Tuncel arrested with violent force

Thousands of members, executives, elected mayors and city council members affiliated with the HDP and/or our sister party DBP have already been sent to prison on groundless charges since our electoral victory in June 2015. The co-chair and former MP Sebahat Tuncel are amongst the arrested. Yet the coup attempt on July 15, 2016 and the subsequent declaration of a state of emergency has been the welcome opportunity for President Erdogan to eliminate all opposition. **There is no freedom of expression and no freedom of press, no academic freedom, and no fair and independent judicial system any more.** With government decrees gaining the power of law, over 170 media outlets critical of Erdogan have been banned. More than 130 journalists are in prison, including world-renowned authors and intellectuals. Most recently, two Kurdish news agencies and several Kurdish dailies were closed down and the chief-editor, columnists and journalists of the daily

Cumhuriyet have been detained. More than 80,000 people have been detained since July 15, and about half of them are in prison now.



Co-mayors of Diyarbakir Mr. Firat Anli and former MP Ms. Gulden Kisanak

On October 30, Ms. **Gülten Kisanak** and Mr. **Firat Anli**, elected co-mayors of Diyarbakir from our party, were arrested and sent to prison. A district governor from Ankara was appointed to run the municipality. With this, the number of Kurdish municipalities run by bureaucrats appointed by the central government increased to 28. **About 30 democratically elected Kurdish mayors are now in prison, and about 70 of them were dismissed by the central government.**

We strongly condemn the arrests of our Co-Chairs Selahattin Demirtas, Figen Yüksekdag as well as our MPs and demand their immediate release. The manufactured charges against them and all other party members must be dropped. **History has shown over and over again that any power based on brute force is outlived by the struggle for justice and freedom.** We will not surrender to these dictatorial policies and call upon our friends around the world to stand in solidarity in our struggle to prevent Erdogan to steer the country into a civil war and further despotism.

Joint Defense Statement of Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) MPs

The Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) that I represent received over six million votes in 7 June 2015 general elections, passing the 10% election threshold and winning 80 seats in the Parliament. Our democratic ballot box victory ended the single-party rule of Justice and Development Party (AKP), and prevented it from drafting a new Constitution on its own. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, who aims to establish his "one-man rule" in the country and who have not hesitated to resort to all kinds of illegalities to fulfil this aim, did not respect this election result. He prevented the formation of any coalition government and called for a snap election. Meanwhile, Mr Erdoğan also ended the almost three-year-long peace process (with the Kurdish movement), having seen it not fitting to serve his interests and to enlarge his electoral base, and dragged the country into an enflamed conflict process.

This conflict environment created among our citizen's due concerns about security. Amidst this climate of shock and fear, snap elections were held under conditions that were far from being fair and free. The AKP won the elections on 1 November 2015 and formed a single-party government again.

After hearing the June 7 election results, Mr Erdoğan staged in great panic and haste a political coup in the country by superseding the Parliament and the Government, by taking the judiciary under control to a great extent and by monopolizing the media. He went so far as to publicly announce having seized the state by declaring himself not being bound by the Constitution, by declaring the *de facto* change of the regime, and by declaring that he did not recognize the decisions of the Constitutional Court.

Mr Erdoğan himself faces serious allegations of being involved in numerous criminal activities while holding the Office of the Prime Ministry, including bribery, theft, money laundering, conducting the gold trade with Iran in contravention of international embargo, and supplying terrorist operatives in Syria with arms. He has so far been successful in obstructing investigation of these allegations with the pressure and control that he established over the judiciary.

Mr Erdoğan is aware that the only way to effectively cover-up his crimes is to monopolize all powers in his hands. It is evident that he will not refrain from doing anything short of crazy to this end. He has soaked the country in blood, and has succeeded in inflaming nationalist and chauvinist feelings and racial hate discourse in public by sending coffins to all four corners of the country. Mr Erdoğan is getting closer to his personal goals step by step with the support of popular masses whom he had lured into loyalty to serve him with the lie, “the homeland is under the threat of partition.”

HDP is the only obstacle before Mr Erdoğan to attain his goal; that is, to establish a dictatorship under the guise of a presidential system. Our party’s passing the election threshold for a second time in the general elections of 1 November and entering the parliament by winning 59 seats prevented Mr Erdoğan from gaining the majority necessary to change the Constitution relying on the AKP legislators alone. That is why he has been endeavoring for another possible snap or interim election that might secure parliamentary majority composed of at least 367 AKP MPs loyal to him. ¹

Our party HDP brings together representatives of all different ethno-linguistic and religious groups that make up Turkey’s multicultural, multilingual, multi-religious societal fabric. We represent Turks, Kurds, Arabs, Armenians, Turkmen, Assyrians, Ezidis, and many other ethnic groups, who believe that it is possible to live together in equality and justice. We believe that the only way to sustain this co-existence is a pluralist democracy backed by strong local democracy and autonomy.

Our party HDP fully embraces women’s struggle for freedom and liberty. Guaranteeing women’s equal participation in politics, our party has so far achieved the highest representation of female MPs in Turkey’s parliamentary politics. The lifting of immunities of all of our party’s female MPs is a threat for all women in Turkey and an assault on their struggle.

We oppose all forms of violence and believe in the power of dialogue and negotiation in solving all problems. Mr Erdoğan, who aims to consolidate a fascist rule of one man, one language, and one sect, perceives this stance of the HDP also as an ideological “threat.”

It is for these reasons that Mr Erdoğan has targeted the HDP ever since it entered politics. After repeatedly failing to prevent our party’s electoral success despite all sorts of tricks, injustices, attacks, and bombings, Mr Erdoğan forced the lifting our parliamentary immunities by sidestepping the constitution and the parliamentary bylaws. As someone whose own independence and impartiality are heavily debated in public, he is now trying to persecute us in so-called trials.

The AKP Government that lifted our immunities has bestowed an immunity shield upon the military without losing any time, in an attempt to elude imminent judicial processes concerning the crimes committed by the army in Kurdish cities especially during the last one year. The Army that was provided with the immunity shield on 14 July 2016 made a Coup Attempt on 15 July 2016. Since the 7th of June 2015, the AKP Government with its push for a policy of conflict escalation and its exclusion of democratic politics by putting in effect policies of war since has strengthened the hand of the coupists who went so wild as to bombard the Parliament. Even though the failed coup attempt presented an opportunity to achieve over-arching social peace through a settlement on the basis of democratic principles, Erdoğan and the AKP Government decided to move into a state of emergency regime and

¹ A parliamentary majority of 367 votes is needed to make any amendments in the Constitution.

began to govern the whole country through Decrees with Power of Law issued by the Cabinet. Whereas it was necessary to utilize this failed coup attempt in favor of democracy, it was used to move into the process of another coup. Appointment of trustees to elected municipalities and the suspension of thousands of teachers are the most concrete indicators of the construction of a new coup regime by means of these Decrees with Power of Law. Erdoğan and AKP whose war policies put into action before 7 June elections laid the groundwork for a coup, have created the conditions for the process that led all the way to the 15 July coup attempt. The policies that have been implemented after 15 July and the anti-democratic concept which appears to have been put into action keep consolidating the grounds for a civil war. Even though the only way out of this chaos is to strengthen democratic politics and put an end to military/civilian regimes of political tutelage, practices that will take the country back tens of years in time show us painfully that this is not the path chosen.

We are the elected representatives of people. We do not represent ourselves, but the people who elected us. Right now, I am standing before you as a member of the parliament entitled to legislative immunity. I cannot allow disrespect be done to the electoral will of my people and this identity that I represent.

I have no qualms about accounting for my deeds before a fair and impartial tribunal. I did nothing that I cannot account for. Yet I shall never accept being the subject of a political prosecution which seeks to stand at attention before Power at this time when the credibility of the judiciary in our country has sunk to the bottom. I carry no suspicion and disrespect for you as a person. Yet I refuse to be a puppet in this mocked prosecution which takes place only because Erdoğan, who himself has a heavily blotted political history, has ordered it.

I shall not answer any questions that you would ask me. I do not believe that you will conduct a fair trial by any means. It is already against the law that I am brought to here. A politician's counterparts in the political arena are other politicians, and not members of the judiciary. As members of the judiciary, you yourselves should refuse to be a party in political games or plots. You are bound with universal and democratic principles of law as well as the international conventions that Turkey has signed and integrated into its Constitution.

We shall resolutely continue our political struggle until a pluralist democratic regime is established and peace and serenity is achieved in our country. We shall continue defending living together in equality against societal polarization and antagonism. We shall continue defending democratic political struggle against violence. We shall continue standing against monism by advocating pluralism, and against fascism by advocating democracy. We shall continue opposing sectarian and racist politics by defending freedom of religion and conscience. We shall continue opposing discrimination and hate speech by advocating equality. And of course we shall continue in our defense of equality and of all the rights that Kurdish people are entitled to because they are a people. We shall continue advocating for the Alevi community's demand for equal citizenship rights, and for freedom of belief for all religious minorities. We shall continue our struggle for women's equal participation in social, political and economic life. We shall continue our struggle to protect the environment and ecology against capitalist destruction. We shall continue defending labor from the greed of capital for more profits, and advocating for workers' rights. Irrespective of whether we are in prison or in parliament, you will not be able to prevent us from struggling for these ideals.

We have no doubt that we will get rid of this fascist order that has been imposed on us and on our country for the sake of a presidential system. Sooner or later, our democratic struggle will prevail. This dilapidated regime of Mr Erdoğan is but going to change.

I have no demand or expectation from you. ***It is only my people who have elected me can question my political activities.***

HDP Central Executive Committee decisions on halting all its legislative activities

As we begin, we condemn the bomb attack in Diyarbakır on November 4, offer our condolences to the relatives of the victims, and wish those that have been injured a speedy recovery. We salute our Co-Presidents, parliamentarians, administrators and elected Co-Mayors with respect. We support their honorable stance and uncompromising approach. With their stance against oppression, cruelty, denial and fascism, they have been of great moral support to the peoples of Turkey, primarily Kurdish people, and strengthen the determination of our struggle.

1. Today, the Erdoğan-AKP government aiming to seize all democratic and political gains and eliminate all of our institutions with their heavy attacks on democratic politics and opposition. What is targeted is not only the political will of more than 6 million people that have voted for the HDP but also democracy, freedom, equality, labor rights, women's liberation and the millions of conscious and democrat peoples' struggle for justice.

The Erdoğan-AKP government first lifted the immunities of parliamentarians, then used the July 15 coup attempt as an opportunity to rule the country with the state of emergency and emergency decrees, carried out their own coup, rendered the parliament dysfunctional and transformed Turkey into a 'Republic of Appointed Trustees.' Lastly, they have shown their utter disrespect for the choices and will of the people as they arrested 9 of our parliamentarians including our Co-Presidents. The siege on our headquarters in Ankara and the prevention of our administrators and members from entering the headquarters illustrates their approach to democratic politics.

2. After a detailed discussion, our Parliament Group and Central Executive Council decided to suspend all of their activities in the parliament and reunite with our peoples against the most comprehensive and shady attacks in our history of democratic politics. In future days, we will go from house to house, from neighborhood to neighborhood, from village to village, from district to district, and from city to city in order to listen to the complaints and proposals of our people. With all of our constituents, allies, institutions, forces of democracy, peace and labor, non-governmental organizations, unions, faith groups, women, youth, and environmental and ecological movements, we will debate and hear proposals. After all of these inquiries, we will evaluate the proposals and share the results with the public. We will take the steps necessary for creating a future that surpass the appointed trustees. We will enhance the struggle for a 'Democratic Republic' against the 'Republic of Appointed Trustees.

3. With all of its institutions, allies, constituents, Co-Presidents, parliamentarians, members and organizations, the HDP is the insurance of the democratic politics and opposition in Turkey. The imprisonment of our friends, who struggle for peace, solution, democracy, freedom, justice and equality, and have been taken as hostages, will not change our principles and stance. These attacks will not backtrack our struggle in democratic politics.

The path to the equal co-existence of peoples, faith groups and cultures in Turkey is the strengthening of the HDP and its alliances. The government may imprison our Co-Presidents and other people that demand peace, democracy, justice and freedom, but it will not end our democratic and political struggle. The Erdoğan-AKP government has brought chaos to the country over the past year and a half, and killed, injured, left without a house or a job millions of people as they increased the polarization in the society. We emphasize clearly once again; the 'Turkish-style presidency is 'one-man's rule, fascism, war, oppression, discontent and cruelty.

4. We call upon all democracy forces, democratic organizations and institutions, parliaments, political parties and non-governmental organizations in the world: Raise your voices for commitment to universal human rights and the democratic values of law, take a political stance, and do not bow to Erdoğan's threats. Because, the Erdoğan-AKP government is dragging Turkey to a totalitarian regime where universal human rights are ignored and international democratic agreements are violated. Failing to say 'stop' is a grave danger for the countries of the region and the peoples of Europe.

We call upon the forces of democracy, labor and peace in Turkey and the conscious citizens that have had enough with oppression and injustice; Our call is not only a call for solidarity with the HDP but a call for the joint struggle of everyone that work towards and have made sacrifices for freedom, equality, democracy, secularism and justice.

We know that our shared yearnings have social legitimacy and validity. Therefore, we are determined to develop our struggle together with all forces of democracy and peace against the November 4 coup targeting the democratic gains of peoples, faith groups, cultures, and women's liberation movement in Turkey.

We will not bow down to these attacks and disseminate our proposal of democracy against dictatorship. Let us not forget that we are all the hope of Turkey and the lights of democracy and freedom. We will grow this hope and light altogether.

WE WILL PREVAIL..."

Profiles and Messages from the Arrested MP's

Selahattin Demirtaş:



Co-Chair and MP representing Istanbul. Mr. Demirtaş was born in Diyarbakır, Turkey in 1973. He enrolled at Ankara University Law Faculty. After college, Demirtaş worked as a freelance lawyer for a time before becoming a member of the executive committee of the Diyarbakır Branch of the Human Rights Association (IHD). During his term as chair, the association focused heavily on the increasing unsolved political murders in Turkey. Demirtaş is among the founding members of the Turkish Human Rights Association (TIHV) and the Diyarbakır post of Amnesty International. He has 93 lawsuits issued by the prosecutors from 18 different provinces. In total, 486 years of imprisonment and two aggravated life imprisonments are indicted by the prosecutors.

Mr. Demirtaş' message: Firstly, greetings and love to all friends. In these days where our country is pushed further into darkness, our illegal arrest only served to intensify the darkness. However, those that think that they can make us surrender to this darkness should remember that one piece of match or one candle is enough to lighten up this darkness. Whatever our location or conditions may be, we will continue to burn like a candle so that our people can live in peace in free days to come. Everyone should be part of the struggle for democracy and work towards our bright future. My morale and health are good. With love.

Figen Yüksekdağ:



Co-Chair of the HDP and MP representing Van. Ms. Yüksekdağ was born 1971 in Gölovası, Yumurtalık, Adana Province, into an ethnically Turkish farming family. She is the current coleader of the Peoples' Democratic Party (HDP) of Turkey as of 2014, serving alongside Selahattin Demirtaş. She was an independent parliamentary candidate for the Adana electoral district in the 2002 general election. She was involved in women's rights movements for several years before becoming the editor of the Socialist Woman magazine. While serving on the board of the Atılım newspaper, she was taken into custody in 2009 due to her political activity. She cofounded the Socialist Party of the Oppressed (ESP) shortly after in 2010 and resigned as leader in 2014 to join the HDP. She has 21 lawsuits against her.

Ms. Yüksekdağ's message: Despite everything, they cannot end our hopes and break our resistance. HDP is the only hope for freedom and democracy in Turkey, whether we are inside or outside prison. This is why they are scared. Nobody should be demoralized or put down their guard. Nobody should forget that this hatred and hostility is out of fear. Love and courage will win. With love and greetings.

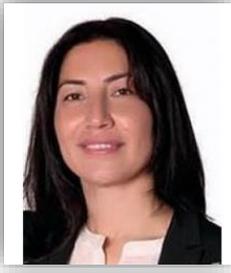
İdris Baluken:



MP representing Diyarbakır. Mr. Baluken, born in 1976 in Bingöl, currently serves as a parliamentary group leader of the HDP since April 2014. He previously served as a parliamentary group leader for the Peace and Democracy Party (BDP) from 2012. He graduated from Ankara University Faculty of Medicine. He worked as a doctor in Bingöl and Diyarbakır for many years. He has been involved in the administration of the Turkish Thoracic Society, the Turkish Medical Association and the Health and Social Service Workers Union Diyarbakır branch. He is married with two children. Joined several national and international academic studies. Married with two children. He has 23 lawsuits.

Mr. Baluken's message: Our people should keep their morale high, I salute our people that stand up for their honor. We are standing up for our honor too. Those that are supposed to be here are not us but those that have prepared this conspiracy. They are hiding where we are in order to marginalize us. This is the policy of kidnapping and taking hostages. Throughout history, this mentality has always been defeated. We will continue to preserve our stance and continue our struggle wherever we are. Greetings to our people.

Leyla Birlik:



MP representing Şırnak Province Born in Mardin/Derik in 1974. She was the chair of the City Council of Şırnak Province. She continues her oil painting works. Fluent in Kurdish and Turkish. Married with one child. She has 8 lawsuits.

Ms. Birlik's message:

We will resist here, in prison, and outside. And we will certainly prevail. Greetings.

Ferhat Encü:



MP representing Şırnak Province. Born in Şırnak/Uludere in 1985. Studied Mining Engineering at Çukurova University, Adana. He lost 34 relatives during the bombardment of Turkish air forces at Roboski Village on 28 December 2011. Fluent in Kurdish and Turkish. He has 17 lawsuits.

Mr. Encü's message: This is a struggle, and thousands have fallen for this struggle. We are no different from them. This is a violent wave of attacks, but can be repelled with resistance. We are resisting here, and we will continue. Nobody should be unhappy, the honorable resistance of those that keep their hopes alive will prevail. Hope is also uniting, the honorable resistance of our people against fascism will prevail. Nobody can call

themselves free in a country where our Co-Presidents are taken hostage. I send my greetings and love to our people.

Gülser Yıldırım:



MP representing Mardin Province. Born in 1963 in Mardin/Nusaybin. She became active in politics in 2000 as a member of the Women Branch of the HADEP (People's Democracy Party). She was an executive member of Free Party, DEHAP, DTP and BDP. She was imprisoned in 2010 for four years due to her political activities. Fluent in Kurdish and Turkish. Married, mother of 4 children. She has 11 lawsuits.

Ms. Yıldırım's message: No matter what the AKP dictatorship does, we will never give up from our struggle and the values we believe in. AKP's inhumane policies show how right the struggle we have been waging against the AKP has been. I want our people to know that we are more determined. Greetings and love.

Nursel Aydoğan:



MP representing Diyarbakir. Born in 1958 in Bursa/Yenisehir. Studied Food Engineering at Hacettepe University in Ankara and then worked as Food Engineer for several years. She was the executive member of trade union SES before her election to the Parliament in 2011. She has 44 lawsuits.

Ms. Aydoğan's message: Our arrests are part of the elimination of the HDP. They should not forget that the HDP is a party with a cause. Even if we are in prison, we will follow our cause and struggle. Nobody's morale should be affected by our arrests; nobody should ever lose hope. No matter what the AKP decides to do, we will keep our morale high. We will grow our hope.

Selma Irmak:



MP representing Hakkari. Born in 1971 in Mardin/Kızıltepe and moved to Konya in 1978. She attended Konya Selçuk University for preschool teacher education but arrested for political reasons. She was imprisoned for 3 years and 9 months. She became an active member of the Democratic People Party (DEHAP) after she was released. She then became the executive board member of the Mesopotamian Cultural Centre and the Kurdish Institute of Istanbul. She returned back to Konya and elected as the chairperson for the Konya Branch of the DEHAP. She participated in the formation of the Democratic Society Party (DTP) and elected as general accountant of the DTP. She was elected to the

parliament from Şırnak in 2011 and was a member of the foreign affairs commission of the Parliament. She was reelected to the Parliament from Hakkari both in the 7 June and 1 November 2015 elections. Fluent in Kurdish and Turkish. She has 22 lawsuits.

Ms. Irmak's message: AKP's coup has become apparent. This coup targets the democracy front and is sneakier than the 1980 coup. It is based on the fear of widespread opposition. Resistance will continue as our people resist out there and we resist in here. Prisons are our second homes. My special greetings to woman comrades. Women will be the AKP's nightmare. Our people should stand up for their future. We call upon the people of Turkey and Kurdistan to resist. Greetings and love.

Nihat Akdoğan:



MP representing Hakkari Province Born in 1980 in Hakkari. Studied Public Relations at Anadolu University. He was a member of the Party Assembly of the HDP before his election to the Parliament on 7 June 2015. He has 8 lawsuits.

Mr. Akdoğan's Message: The democracy will win and the end

Protest Across the World

People of Kurdistan and their allies rose up across the world to protest the AKP government's political genocide operations against Kurdish people and the HDP. Protestors condemned the arrests of HDP politicians and called upon European institutions to take action against the Erdoğan dictatorship in Turkey.



Cologne - Germany



Brussels - Belgium



London - UK



Oslo - Norway



Istanbul - Turkey



Diyarbakir - Kurdistan - Eastern Turkey



Parise - France



Milano - Italy



Eddinburg - Scotland



Helsinki - Finland



Zurich - Switzerland



Vienna - Austria



Copenhagen – Denmark



Poland



Athens - Greece



Malmö – Sweden



Toronto – Canada



Moscow – Russia