

DIYARBAKIR BRANCH OF HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

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HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OCCURRED IN CONFLICTING ENVIRONMENT

(24 JUNE 2015 – 24 JUNE 2017)

RESEARCH REPORT

BALANCE-SHEET

DESCRIPTION ON REPORT BALANCE-SHEET

The objective of this report is to make determinations with regard to violations of fundamental right to life and human rights occurred in conflicting environment throughout Turkey especially in the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region between 24 July 2015 accepted as the beginning of the conflicting environment and 24 July 2017.

A part of the statistical datum indicated regarding the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region was provided comparatively with the statistical datum throughout Turkey.

Some of the information included in the report are claims; however, the claims are accepted as true and fact unless concerned institutions or persons make statement and expression in order to confute.

As long as new information regarding the claims are brought into question, the concerned sections in the report will be updated. Some information might be excluded or maintained by making certain.

ARMED CONFLICTS

Throughout Turkey:

771 security forces lost their lives. **1699** security forces injured.

Deaths:	Soldier: 477	Police: 251	Village Guard: 43
Injured:	Soldier: 978	Police: 773	Village Guard: 79

1307 armed organisation militants lost their lives. Establishable **23** armed organization militants injured.

Deaths:	PKK/HPG: 1055	YPS/YPS-JİN: 243	TAK: 9
Injured:	PKK/HPG: 23		

53 civilians lost their lives amidst conflicts. **80** civilians injured.

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

670 security forces lost their lives. **1668** security forces injured.

Deaths:	Soldier: 425	Police: 202	Village Guard: 43
Injured :	Soldier: 956	Police: 634	Village Guard: 78

1291 armed organisation militants lost their lives. Establishable **23** armed organisation militans injured.

Deaths:	PKK/HPG: 1048	YPS/YPS-JİN: 243
Injured :	PKK/HPG: 23	

53 civilians lost their lives amidst conflicts. **80** civilians injured.

Extrajudicial Executions

(Those Killed or Injured as a result of Arbitrary Killing, Violation of the Authority to Use Weapon and Disobeying Stop Warning)

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

As a result of Extrajudicial Execution performed / claimed to have been performed by Security Forces (*soldier, police, village guard*);

448 persons lost their lives, **379 persons** injured.

CIVILIANS KILLED / INJURED AS A RESULT OF ACTIONS BY ARMED ORGANISATION

In the bomb attacks carried out by armed organisation militants to military units and civilian settlements;
Throughout Turkey:

129 civilians lost their lives, **588 civilians** injured.

Deaths:	Children: 8	Women: 10	Men: 38	Undistinguishable: 73
Injured:	Children: 5	Female: 2	Male: 3	Undistinguishable: 578

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

62 civilians lost their lives, **514 civilians** injured.

Deaths:	Children: 8	Female: 7	Male: 31	Undistinguishable: 16
Injured:	Children: 5	Female: 1	Male: 4	Undistinguishable: 504

NOTE: Injuries of civilians occurred as a result of the attacks carried out towards security forces. The distinction between security forces and civilians couldn't be made in some cases. In accordance with the established datum, **418 persons** were injured; however, their identities could not be identified. These figures are not included in statistics.

THOSE KILLED/INJURED BY ARMED ORGANISATION MILITANTS

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

14 persons were killed after abduction or as a result of attacks by armed organisation militants.

PRACTISES AGAINST MILITANT CORPSES

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

It was determined that **19** armed organisation militants who lost their lives in the conflicting environment were identified by being stripped or their corpses were tortured by security forces. Certain finding regarding these determinations were published through social media tools.

Establishable **36 militant corpses** were not submitted to their families.

It was learned that while some corpses were held in conflict zones, others were held in the Forensic Medicine Institution. It was also learned that some corpses were buried in cemetery of the nameless without informing the families or identification. It is seen that especially DNA comparisons take months and this situation causes moral damage on funeral owners.

Graves of the militants having lost their lives in conflicts were damaged **15 times** both during military operations and by security forces.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL SECURITY ZONES / PROHIBITION ON LAND, SUMMER RANGE PASTURE AND GRAZING LAND

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

123 times special security zone decisions were taken and announced 'on the grounds of security or military operation' in the rural areas of districts affiliated to provinces situated in the region. It has been determined that it was decided announcement of special security zones comprising one or more regions at the same time and continuing **4842 days** in total would be carried **at least 10 days** and **at most 365 days**.

Entrances and exits of civilians to the announced special security zones were forbidden. Prohibitions led economic suffering and violation of freedom of travel as agriculture and livestock is the means of living in the region.

Forest and land fires broke out in the **12 regions** during military operations started in the prohibited areas. Material damage occurred as fire zones were near to the rural settlement areas. In addition, citizens' responding to fire were weakened as fires broken out in special security zones and citizens' entrances and exits to these areas were forbidden.

Settlements situated in the operation areas were attacked by Special Forces, citizens were subject to torture and ill-treatment during operations. Citizens were forced to leave their homes on the grounds that it is the conflict zone.

It was claimed that **1 village** (*Zara village of 43 houses located in Lice district of Diyarbakır*) was evacuated during military operations started in prohibited areas.

CURFEWS

Between the dates of 24th July 2015 - 24th July 2017:

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

Day-long and indefinite curfews were declared **250** times in **11** provinces and **45** districts.

Curfew declared on 28th November 2015 in 6 neighborhoods of central Sur district of Diyarbakır, (**634 days**) still continues to this day. Curfew was paused for 1 day on 10th December 2015 and it was lifted in some streets of 4 neighborhoods out of 6 on 22th May 2016.

NOTE: It was determined that a significant part of **448** cases of extrajudicial execution occurred [in the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region](#) was happened during curfews. According to establishable data, at least **321 civilians** lost their lives of whom **75** were children.

DEATHS AND INJURIES OCCURRED AT BORDER LINES AND AS A RESULT OF MINE AND UNCLAIMED BOMB EXPLOSION

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

15 children lost their lives, **61 children** got injured with permanent physical damage as a result of mine and unclaimed bomb explosion. **5 adult citizens** lost their lives, **17 adult citizens** of whom **3** were women got injured.

56 civilians lost their lives, **67 civilians** got injured as a result of fires opened at the border lines.

PROHIBITION OF TORTURE / TORTURE, ILL-TREATMENT, INDIGNITY AND AFFRONT AND PUNISHMENT

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

According to determined data; **1279 people** in total were subject to torture and ill-treatment.

341 people were exposed to torture and ill-treatment in custody units.

281 people were exposed to torture and ill-treatment outside the custody units (in house raids, streets).

11 people were exposed to torture and ill-treatment by village guards.
442 arrested-convicted inmates were exposed to torture and ill-treatment in prisons.
14 people were exposed to threat of kidnapping and spying.
43 people's live safety was threatened.
147 people got injured in demonstrations as a result of intervention of security forces.

VIOLATIONS AGAINST PERSONAL FREEDOM AND SAFETY THOSE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY - ARRESTED - HOME RAIDS

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

According to data we were able to determine and at least:

13 698 people in total were taken into custody including **321 children** and **13 337 adults**.

3 256 people in total were arrested including **84 children** and **3172 adults**.

8 055 houses or offices were raided by security forces mostly at midnight or towards morning.

THOSE ABDUCTED BY ORGANISATION MILITANTS

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

97 people were abducted by armed organisation militants. It was determined that those who were abducted were mostly soldiers, police and public officers. 30 abducted people (**20 Customs and Enforcement officers, 7 soldiers, 1 Police, 1 District Governor and 1 politician**) were taken from armed organisation militants and surrendered to security forces by means of committees formed at different dates, including our association.

VIOLATIONS AGAINST FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

[Throughout Turkey:](#)

Activities of **5 news agencies, 16 TV, 24 radio stations, 62 newspapers, 19 journals and 29 publishers** were terminated.

National and regional dissident news websites were blocked (some of them more than once) at **144 times**.

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

4 TV, 2 News Agencies, 18 Newspapers, 1 Radio Station were shut down. **1 TV (Zarok TV)** and **7 newspapers** were later reopened.

18 media organs were raided by security forces.

8 cultural activities were banned.

190 printed publications and materials were pulled from shelves or banned.

INVESTIGATIONS, CASES AND PUNISHMENTS AGAINST THOSE EXPRESSED THEIR OPINIONS

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

55 different investigation files were opened, investigations were opened on **747 people** in total.

58 different case files were opened, **136 people** were put on trial in total.

101 different case files were settled, various prison sentences were given on **423 people**.

VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE FREEDOM OF ORGANISATION

[In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:](#)

128 institutions and organisations in total including **49 Political Parties, 15 Associations, 11 Education and Cultural Institutions, 53 municipalities** and their outbuildings were exposed to raids by security forces or attacks by racist groups.

468 associations, 139 schools, 26 student dormitories, 2 universities, 27 foundations, 11 Education and Cultural Institutions were closed.

NOTE: Majority of the closure decisions were carried out and announced by means of the 667, 668, 672, 675, 677, 679, 683, 689, 692 numbered Decree-laws. Amongst the closed institutions, 47 out of 468 associations,

4 out of 27 foundations and 12 out of 139 schools were reopened by the Decree-law announced. Some of the institutions were closed by the trustees appointed to municipalities or their activities were ceased. Amongst the closed institutions, 47 out of 468 associations, 4 out of 27 foundations and 12 out of 139 schools were reopened by the Decree-law announced. Some of the institutions were closed by the trustees appointed to municipalities or their activities were ceased.;

VIOLATIONS AGAINST ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

Throughout Turkey

90,393 people were dismissed from public institutions and Turkish Armed Forces.

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

1349 people were dismissed from profession.

Criminal and administrative investigations were launched against **13,156 public laborers** .

10,483 public officials were suspended from profession.

15,824 public officials were dismissed from profession. (225 of those dismissed were returned to their duties)

NOTE: Dismissal decisions were carried out and announced by means of the 669, 670, 672, 675, 677, 679, 683, 689 and 692 numbered Decree-laws promulgated on different dates in 2016 and 2017.

The posts of public servants in some of the dismissals decisions in the decree-laws promulgated were not indicated; therefore, they were not included in the statistics. Consequently, the number of dismissals that we determine is not certain and should be evaluated **AT LEAST**.

TRUSTEES / MUNICIPALITIES

Throughout Turkey:

Trustees were assigned to **93 municipalities**.

3 metropolitan municipality, 6 city municipalities, 73 district municipalities, 11 town municipalities

DBP: **3 metropolitan municipalities, 6 city municipalities, 69 district municipalities, 11 town municipalities**

AKP: **4 district municipalities**

MHP: **1 district municipality**

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

Trustees were assigned **89 municipalities**.

3 metropolitan municipalities, 6 city municipalities, 68 district municipalities, 11 town municipalities

DBP: **3 metropolitan municipalities, 6 city municipalities, 68 district municipalities, 11 town municipalities**

AKP: **1 district municipality**

NOTE: The trustee appointments to 4 AKP and 1 MHP district municipalities were carried out within the scope of the FETÖ/PDY investigations following the 15 July coup attempt.

DEATHS CAUSED BY ARMORED VEHICLE COLLISIONS

Between the dates of 24th July 2015 - 24th July 2017:

In the Eastern and Southeastern Anatolia Region:

14 citizens including 4 children lost their lives. 29 citizens were injured with permanent physical damage.

Decree-Laws Promulgated as of 23 July 2016:

23 July 2016 / 667 numbered Decree-Law;

<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/07/20160723-8.htm>
27 July 2016 / 668 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/07/20160727M2..htm>
31 July 2016 / 669 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/07/20160731-5.htm>
17 August 2016 / 670 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/08/20160817-17.htm>
01 September 2016 / 672 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/09/20160901M1-1.htm>
29 October 2016 / 675 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/10/20161029-4.htm>
22 November 2016 / 677 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/11/20161122-1.htm>
06 February 2017 / 679 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2017/01/20170106M1-1.htm>
23 February 2017 / 683 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2017/01/20170123-2.htm>
29 April 2017 / 689 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2017/04/20170429-M1-1.htm>
14 July 2017 / 692 numbered Decree-Law;
<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2017/07/20170714M1-1.htm>

ABBREVIATIONS:

AKP – JUSTICE AND DEVELOPMENT PARTY (ADALET VE KALKINMA PARTİSİ)
DBP – DEMOCRATIC REGIONS PARTY (DEMOKRATİK BÖLGELER PARTİSİ)
HPG – PEOPLE'S DEFENCE FORCES (HÉZÉEN PARASTINA GEL)
KHK – DECREE-LAW (KANUN HÜKMÜNDE KARARNAME)
MHP – NATIONALIST MOVEMENT PARTY (MİLLİYETÇİ HAREKET PARTİSİ)
PKK – KURDISTAN WORKERS' PARTY (PARTİYA KARKERÉN KURDISTAN)
TAK – KURDISTAN FREEDOM HAWKS (TEYRÉBAZÉN AZADİYA KURDISTAN)
YPS – CIVIL PROTECTION UNITS (YEKİTİYA PARASTINA SİVİL)
YPS/JİN – CIVIL PROTECTION UNITS /WOMEN (YEKİTİYA PARASTINA SİVİL/JİN)

References:

Concerned individual applications made by victims to IHD branches in cities of the region between 24 July 2015 and 24 July 2017

Media Screenings: (Milliyet, Hürriyet, Sabah, Evrensel, Birgün, Cumhuriyet, Özgür Gündem, CNNTURK, NTV, Habertürk, ANF, ETHA, DİHA, DHA, JİNHA, ANHA, Bianet.org, El Cezire, BBC, Yüksekova Haber, Van TV, Özgür Gün TV, T24, Özgürlükçü Demokrasi, Dibaher, Gazete Sujin, Gazete Karınca, IHaberVar)