

# TURKEY'S MEDIA UNDER SIEGE

#Free  
Turkey  
Journalists

Wednesday, November 28, 2018 | 9:30 – 13:30

House of the European Union | Unter den Linden 78, Berlin, Germany

Over 160 journalists are currently behind bars in Turkey, the world's leading jailer of journalists. The vast majority of those held were detained – many arbitrarily and without formal charges – as part of a sweeping government crackdown on independent media following the July 2016 coup attempt. At the same time, government pressure on Turkey's judicial system has curtailed the ability of journalists to defend their rights in court. The end of the state of emergency in July 2018 has failed to improve the situation.

Despite these odds, Turkey's independent journalists are still working to bring much-needed news and information to the public.



**WELT**

The International Press Institute (IPI), in partnership with WELT, invites interested members of the public to a networking event and series of panel discussions with leading lawyers, journalists and human rights activists from Turkey and Europe, including:

**Deniz Yücel**, correspondent, WELT

**Fatih Polat**, editor-in-chief, Evrensel

**Nevşin Mengü**, freelance journalist and former anchor, CNN Türk

**Rıza Türmen**, former Turkish judge at the European Court of Human Rights

**Tony Fisher**, chair of the Human Rights Committee of the Law Society of England and Wales

Panellists will examine the media crackdown and the breakdown of the rule of law, offering first-person perspectives from Turkey. Importantly, they will also analyse the role that Turkey's international partners, especially the European Union and Germany, can play in protecting fundamental rights in Turkey and will serve as a networking platform to further strengthen relationships of solidarity between the journalistic and legal communities in Germany and Turkey, and Europe at large.

## **ADVANCE REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS REQUIRED.**

To register, please provide your name to [cstockford@ipi.media](mailto:cstockford@ipi.media).

For media enquiries, please contact [sgriffen@ipi.media](mailto:sgriffen@ipi.media) or by telephone at (+43 1) 512 90 11.

**LANGUAGE:** Simultaneous interpretation English/Turkish

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of the European Instrument  
for Democracy and Human Rights



**PRESS FREEDOM AND THE RULE OF LAW IN TURKEY  
AFTER THE STATE OF EMERGENCY**  
EXPERT PANEL DISCUSSIONS | SOLIDARITY & NETWORKING

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## FULL PROGRAMME

9:30 Welcome notes by **Markus Spillmann**, Executive Board chair, International Press Institute

9:35 **Keynote address (TBA)**

### 10:00 **VIEW FROM THE INSIDE: THE FUTURE OF INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM IN TURKEY**

**Nurcan Baysal**, Kurdish journalist and human rights activist

**Mehveş Evin**, journalist, Artı Gerçek and Yeni Yaşam

**Mustafa Kuleli**, secretary general, Journalists' Union of Turkey

**Bülent Mumay**, former digital editor, Cumhuriyet

**Fatih Polat**, editor-in-chief, Evrensel

**Ciğdem Toker**, prominent economic correspondent, Sözcü newspaper

**Moderator:** TBA

11:30 Coffee break

### 11:45 **SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN TURKEY: THE #ISUBSCRIBE CAMPAIGN**

**Caroline Stockford**, IPI Turkey Advocacy Coordinator

**Fatih Polat**, editor-in-chief, Evrensel

**Erk Acarer**, journalist, BirGün

### 12:00 **EUROPE'S ROLE IN PROTECTING FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IN TURKEY**

**Sarah Clarke**, policy and advocacy manager, PEN International

**Tony Fisher**, chair of the human rights committee, Law Society of England and Wales

**Neşin Mengü**, freelance journalist and former anchor, CNN Türk

**Tora Pekin**, prominent defence attorney and former lead Cumhuriyet lawyer

**Rıza Türmen**, former Turkish judge at the European Court of Human Rights

**Deniz Yücel**, correspondent, WELT

**Moderator:** **Daniel-Dylan Böhmer**, foreign desk editor, WELT

13:30 **Closing Address and Solidarity Gesture**

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