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İNSAN HAKLARI DERNEĞİ HUMAN RIGHTS ASSOCIATION

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SEPTEMBER 2018

IHD SEPTEMBER DIGEST

- Human Rights Association (IHD) and Human Rights Foundation of Turkey (THIV) issued a joint statement condemning the police attack on **Saturday Mothers** and the ban imposed on their peaceful vigils. The joint statement underlined the fact that enforced disappearances constituted a shame for all humanity and reminded all concerned of the provisions set forth in the “International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance” calling on the Turkish authorities to sign the convention without delay and with no reservations.

Full statements:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/08/31/joint-ihd-thiv-statement-on-the-ban-on-saturday-mothers-vigils/> (31.08.2018)

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/08/26/joint-ihd-thiv-statement-on-the-attack-against-saturday-mothers-families-of-the-disappeared-and-human-rights-defenders-before-the-700th-sit-in/> (26.08.2018)

- IHD issued a statement on September 1, the date that marks the **World Day of Peace** in Turkey, reminding all that demanding peace is a human right. In the statement IHD emphasized the fact that without finding a resolution to the Kurdish issue in Turkey there would be no permanent peace providing data that pointed out to gross human rights and humanitarian law violations in the country. IHD also underlined the need for a new social contract based on democracy and human rights led by peace in the country whose administration has been becoming more and more authoritarian.

Full statement:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/01/ihd-statement-on-world-peace-day/> (01.09.2018)

World Peace Day Posters:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/01/ihd-world-peace-day-poster-i/>

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/01/ihd-world-peace-day-poster-ii/>

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/01/ihd-world-peace-day-poster-iii/>

Human Rights Association (İnsan Hakları Derneği-IHD) is a non-governmental, independent, and voluntary body. The association, which was founded in 1986 by 98 human rights defenders, today has 28 branches, 6 representative offices, and 7,945 members. IHD is the oldest and largest human rights organization in Turkey and its “sole and specific goal is to promote ‘human rights and freedoms.’”

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- IHD Ankara Branch and Ankara Medical Chamber (ATO) have issued a joint report on the **violations of the right to health in prisons**. The report focusing on prisons in the Central Anatolia Region documented barriers before sick inmates' access to medical treatment and the overall disregard of the provision set forth in the CoE's European Prison Rules stating "All persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with respect for their human rights."

Full statement:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/12/joint-ihd-ato-statement-on-sick-inmates-in-central-anatolia-prisons/> (12.09.2018)

- IHD issued a statement demanding the release of 17 unlawfully detained lawyers, including the chairperson of Progressive Lawyers Association Selçuk Kozağaçlı. IHD reiterated the **deteriorating judicial pressure** on rights defender lawyers who stood trials merely because of their professional and human rights activities.

Full statement:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/18/ihd-statement-on-detained-lawyers/>
(18.09.2018)

- IHD İstanbul Branch issued an observation report on the **detention of airport construction workers** in İstanbul. A delegation from the branch visited the construction site for observations regarding the pre-trial detention of construction workers on September 15, following a raid into their containers after they initiated work stoppage on September 14 protesting the conditions under which they were forced to work and live.

Full report:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/18/ihd-observation-report-on-the-detention-of-airport-construction-workers/>
(18.09.2018)

- IHD issued a comprehensive **report on the elimination of injustice in Turkish penal legislation** and offered its **recommendations** to that end. The report criticizes a recent draft-law lodged before the GNAT proposing reduction in sentence terms for some offenses as it dismisses the fundamental problems witnessed in the Turkish justice system. The report also offers a detailed list of problematic articles in Turkish legislation alongside with recommendations to remedy the cases of injustice brought about by such articles, notably those created by the broad definition of the terms "terror" and "terrorist offenses."

Full report and press statement:

<http://ihd.org.tr/en/index.php/2018/09/26/ihd-report-and-recommendations-for-the-elimination-of-injustice-in-penal-legislation/>
(26.09.2018)

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