

Public Services International Internationale des Services Publics Internacional de Servicios Públicos Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste Internationell Facklig Organisation för Offentliga Tjänster 国際公務労連

To M. Recep Tayyip Erdogan Prime Minister Istanbul **TURKEY**

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Dear M. Prime Minister,

Letter of protest

Public Services International (PSI) has already written to you last week to protest in the strongest term against the continued harassment and intimidation of our sister trade unionists in Turkey.

We seem to be obliged to write to you again this week in order to strongly protest against the police raids and imprisonments, which occurred this morning in Turkey.

We have been informed that in early morning hours, the police raid into offices of KESK and houses of trade unionists. KESK's and affiliated unions' headquarters, including SES, Tüm Bel-Sen and BES which are all PSI members, as well as branch offices and trade unionists' houses were raid in provinces such as Istanbul, Ankara, Diyarbakir, A rı, Bitlis, Siirt, Adana and Eski ehir.

During the raids, some of the offices were damaged and the following people were arrested:

- Lami Özgen, President of KESK;
- Mehmet Bozgeyik, General Secretary of E itim-Sen;
- Sakine Eren Yılmaz, Gender Secretary of E itim-Sen;
- Mehmet Siddik Akin, General Secretary of SES;
- Metin Vuranok, President of Tarım Orkam-Sen;
- Seyran ık, Gender Secretary of Haber-Sen;
- Yunus Akıl, former President of BTS;
- Emel Emre, Gender Secretary of ESM.

As far we know, there is no legal basis for their arrest. This is clearly a new attack against the trade union movement and the freedom of association.

PSI calls on the Turkish Government to live up to its obligations, as a member of the international community, and to guarantee the respect of trade union rights and all human rights in Turkey.

Yours sincerely,

P. Weldorff

Peter WALDORFF PSI General Secretary