



Human Rights Violations in Turkey by Numbers: Education System, Academics & Teachers

- Over **1,000** university lecturers who signed a petition criticizing government policy in the southeast subjected to a criminal investigation for “insulting” the Turkish state (January 2016), and **68** were fired by decree in September and October. [1]
- Alongside **28,000** teachers discharged, another **11,000** were suspended (September 8, 2016). [2]
- **11,000** teachers in the southeast who were mainly members of the left-leaning Eğitim Sen trade union were suspended. [3]
- In addition to institutions of higher education, **2,099** other educational institutions across Turkey, including hundreds of private K-12 schools, have been closed and all their assets expropriated and transferred to the Treasury. [4]
- The closure of thousands of institutions immediately forced more than **128,000** students to either terminate their studies or relocate to other schools. [5]
- Students in these schools have faced some of the gravest consequences of these closures: they have been expelled from these institutions under the emergency decrees. Teachers and other administrative personnel have been unlawfully dismissed from their positions, based solely on political and administrative decisions – **44,385** in total. [6]
- Along with their careers and right to work increasingly contributing unnecessarily to the precarious economic circumstances for hundreds of thousands of families, the future of approximately **1.5 million** students and more importantly, the future of education in Turkey have been irreversibly impacted. [7]
- The Governor’s office reported to Amnesty International that of the **4,784** students registered at six schools within the six neighborhoods under curfew it had by June, provided free transport, one of the costs associated with continuing education, to **1,927** of the students while the remaining **2,857** students had been registered at alternative schools without being provided with transport. [8]
- Information provided by the education union, Eğitim-Sen indicated that there were **15** schools within areas in Sur under curfew and a total of **7,450** pupils. [9]
- According to the Ministry of Education, which has dismissed more than **30,000** employees in total, dismissed teachers are also barred from working in private schools. [10]
- In a series of State of Emergency Decrees 71 from July 23 until April 2017 the government dismissed and/or revoked teaching licenses to approximately **44,283** teachers, mainly over alleged links to the Hizmet movement or the Kurdish PKK. [11]

- On September 19, the first day of school year, a deputy prime minister announced that in the last two months the government had fired **27,715** teachers and another **9,465** remain suspended. [12]
- By the end of April 2017, **372** signatories to the petition had been dismissed from their positions as academics under the decrees. The vast majority of them are among the **1,128** original signatories to the petition, rather than those who added their support later. [13]

[1] Human Rights Watch Reports, Turkey: Events of 2016 (January 2017), p.3, para.4

[2] Human Rights Watch Reports, A Blank Check: Turkey's Post-Coup Suspension of Safeguards Against Torture (October 2016), p.17, para.5

[3] Human Rights Watch Reports, Turkey: Events of 2016 (January 2017), p.3, para.2

[4] Journalists and Writers Foundation Reports, The State of Turkey's Children: Victims of Unlawfulness (October 2017), p.16, para.5

[5] Journalists and Writers Foundation Reports, The State of Turkey's Children: Victims of Unlawfulness (October 2017), p.16, para.5

[6] Journalists and Writers Foundation Reports, The State of Turkey's Children: Victims of Unlawfulness (October 2017), p.16, para.6

[7] Journalists and Writers Foundation Reports, The State of Turkey's Children: Victims of Unlawfulness (October 2017), p.17, para.1

[8] Amnesty International Reports, Turkey: displaced and dispossessed: Sur residents' right to return home (December 2016), p.19, para.1

[9] Amnesty International Reports, Turkey: displaced and dispossessed: Sur residents' right to return home (December 2016), p.19, para.1

[10] Amnesty International Reports, Turkey: no end in sight: purged public sector workers denied a future in Turkey (May 2017), p.14, para.2

[11] Journalists and Writers Foundation Reports, Women's Rights Under Attack in Turkey (May 2017), p.29, para.5

[12] Journalists and Writers Foundation Reports, Women's Rights Under Attack in Turkey (May 2017), p.29, para.6

[13] Amnesty International Reports, Turkey: no end in sight: purged public sector workers denied a future in Turkey (May 2017), p.11, para.3