

Human Rights Violations in Turkey by Numbers: Judges & Prosecutors

- Over **160** media outlets, most linked to the Gülen movement or Kurdish media, closed down by government[1]
- In one such emergency decree, issued on July 27, 2016, the government ordered the closure of **131** media outlets, including **45** newspapers, **16** TV channels, **3** news agencies, **23** radio stations, **15** magazines and **29** publishing houses with alleged ties to the movement of US-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gülen whom the government accuses of masterminding the failed coup attempt.
- Turkish authorities used the same emergency decree to order the shut-down of **23** TV and radio stations popular among Kurds, Alevis and supporters of opposition parties(September 28, 2016).
- Police detained **12** journalists and managers from one of the last remaining independent newspapers, Cumhuriyet. Ten were later formally arrested (October 31, 2016).[2]
- **140** media outlets and **29** publishing houses had been shut down via emergency decree, leaving more than **2,500** media workers and journalists unemployed (by December, 2016).[3]
- Taking advantage of the state of emergency in force since July 21, 2016 the AKP government has permanently shut down over **160** media and publishing outlets via decree.[4]
- After the July 2016 coup attempt, **16** TV channels with alleged affiliations to the Gülen movement were closed down entirely.[5]
- Decree No. 668, ordered **131** newspapers, news agencies, publishers, television and radio stations, and distribution companies to close down.[6]
- This crackdown intensified as the government moved to shut down **23** pro-Kurdish TV and radio stations in September under emergency decree No.668.[7]
- They revoked hundreds of government-issued press cards, without which journalistic work in Turkey can be impeded, and more than **30** news websites were shut down.[8]
- By December 9, **149** journalists and media workers were in jail. Of 149, **131** were in pretrial detention after being formally arrested by a court on suspicion of committing crimes such as spreading terrorist propaganda, assisting a terrorist organization, membership of a terrorist organization and involvement in the coup attempt. (The remaining **18** have been convicted in the past and are serving sentences.)[9]
- After the emergency decree that shut down **131** media and publishing outlets in July, 2016, **2,308** media workers lost their jobs.[10]

- Taking advantage of its powers to rule by decree under the state of emergency, in place since July 21, the government has permanently shut down 169 media and publishing outlets, citing “national security concerns.”[11]
- As a result of decree No. 668, announced under Turkey’s three-month state of emergency, 131 newspapers, news agencies, publishers, television and radio stations and distribution companies were ordered to close down.[12]
- The authorities have remanded more than 47,000 people in pre-trial detention and closed down hundreds of associations, foundations and other institutions. These include the permanent closure of at least 156 media outlets and in one decree alone, 375 NGOs.[13]

[1] Human Rights Watch Reports, Turkey: Events of 2016 (January 2017), p.4, para.2

[2] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.7, para.3

[3] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.7, para.4

[4] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.12, para.1

[5] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.12, para.3

[6] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.21, para.1

[7] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.12, para.3

[8] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.21, para.2

[9] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.21, para.3

[10] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.55, para.1

[11] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.63, para.1

[12] Human Rights Watch Reports, Silencing Turkey’s Media: The Government’s Deepening Assault on Critical Journalism (December 2016), p.66, para.2

[13] Amnesty International Reports, Turkey: no end in sight: purged public sector workers denied a future in Turkey (May 2017), p.6, para.2