

To The Commission or name of official...

Dear

Date.....

It's been ---- months since my dismissal from public service and Foreign Ministry. I was summarily sacked without receiving any plausible legal explanation for the cause of my dismissal from diplomatic service.

During this time period, I'm unable to find proper work to make a decent living. We, the dismissed public workers, were condemned to live a wretched life. We are deprived of a livelihood in the post-coup era. Our passports have been revoked, our health care, social and housing benefits have been canceled. Since the official ban on working in the public sector have been published in the Official Gazette, our status has become a matter of public knowledge.

As a diplomat serving Turkey abroad, I had no relation whatsoever to the coup attempt in 2016. But the blanket definition of every dismissed worker as a putschist extended to Turkey's respected diplomats as well. We are suffering the consequences of this indiscriminate and collective punishment.

The purge has left no room for us to get a decent job in the private sector. We are unable to use our expertise and experience in international affairs. Almost all private companies are understandably afraid to hire us due to fear of political backlash. We lost not only some form of affluent life but also everything deemed to be the most basic elements of a life with a dignity. We are simply condemned to utter poverty and live in humiliation.

At first, we largely depended on good graces of our beloved ones, family members and friends rightly after the purge. But by the time, the situation has become untenable. Many of our friends and us had to work clandestinely, in underpaid jobs, like giving foreign language courses to students or doing some translation. The report by Amnesty International in late October pointedly illustrates the hardships and officially-sanctioned discrimination that dismissed public workers have experienced since the 2016 coup.

With the hope of a remedy, I applied to the Inquiry Commission, which was established by the government and which was called OHAL Commission. But I received a response nearly a year later. The Commission is simply designed to prolong processing applications rather than offering a quick and thorough review of the dismissal cases. It has refused my appeal without presenting any satisfactory and reasonable explanation.

The commission's rejection has shut down all the prospect of a meaningful and tangible remedy in the domestic domain. As a diplomat, I'm unable to work either in the public or private sector. We are condemned to abject poverty, and even starvation, in this social and political environment in Turkey. Therefore I bring my case to the European Commission in an effort to obtain an effective remedy given the legal obstacles in Turkey. We urge the Commission to ramp up pressure on Ankara to address our plight before it becomes too late, before many lives lost.

Yours Sincerely,

Signature

Name and your contact info.