

We, as the lawyers and members of various bar associations both in Turkey and the World, have been closely following and witnessing to the oppressive and coercive practices and the systemic rights violations carried out by judicial processes that targeted many of our colleagues since 2011, among them Lawyer Ebru Timtik and Lawyer Aytaç Ünsal.

We have been witnessing that in Turkey, the right to a fair trial has been systematically violated, that a point has been reached where it is impossible to talk about the independence of the judiciary anymore and that there are attempts to subjugate the right to defence and the profession of attorneyship. Our clients and colleagues, including Lawyer Ebru Timtik and Lawyer Aytaç Ünsal, were also convicted after a process that took place against such conditions, with their right to a fair trial violated in every way possible.

We, as lawyers who have been witnessing and closely following that trial, unquestionably support the demands of Ebru and Aytaç and hear the call they have been making. Their call for the establishment of a genuinely respected right to a fair trial and legal safeguards in Turkey and around the World is our demand as well as lawyers and we will keep on struggling for this aim. Certainly, the presence, support, and friendship of Ebru and Aytaç are very much needed in that struggle.

Hereby, we call on the authorities, especially the Supreme Court of the Republic of Turkey: Our colleagues are in critical condition and irreparable consequences to follow if they are not released as soon as possible. We do not want to lose Ebru and Aytaç! In the event that they are released, we declare our commitment to insisting that they reconsider the decision they made about their lives! Put an end to this unlawfulness and let us keep our colleagues alive!