



## Communiqué de l'AFSP du 17 mars 2016 en soutien avec les universitaires et chercheurs persécutés en Turquie

Nos collègues travaillant en Turquie qui ont signé, en janvier dernier, la « pétition pour la paix » sont harcelés par le gouvernement d'Erdogan. Trois nouvelles arrestations sont intervenues le 15 mars, et tous les signataires font l'objet d'intimidations et de menaces. L'Association française de science politique (AFSP) les assure de son soutien. Ci-joint leur appel avec les dernières informations sur les atteintes aux libertés en Turquie et les attaques dont les universitaires font l'objet. L'AFSP invite ses membres à signer la pétition de soutien lancée afin de protester publiquement contre cette attaque renouvelée à l'égard de la liberté d'expression et des droits de l'homme en Turquie.

Lien vers la pétition : [https://www.change.org/p/urgent-call-for-action-following-the-ankara-massacre/u/14957238?recruiter=13403853&utm\\_source=share\\_update&utm\\_m](https://www.change.org/p/urgent-call-for-action-following-the-ankara-massacre/u/14957238?recruiter=13403853&utm_source=share_update&utm_m)

### “Academics for peace”

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We would like to update you on the situation with regards to the ongoing hunt of "academicians for peace" in Turkey.

Yesterday night, three of our colleagues were arrested for terrorist propaganda. The justification of the arrestation is only the petition for peace that I have informed you before. For all of us, more than 2000 petitioners, the juridical and administrative investigations are going on. It would not be surprising that we will all be punished in the same way. Professional contracts of six of my colleagues in my university were already dissolved with the same pretext without even waiting for the conclusion of these investigations.

Below you can find a more detailed information about the arrestations of our friends.

I am sure that you won't deprive us from your support and solidarity.

Today 3 academics were arrested based on charges for supporting terrorist organization. This is symbolic, because essentially these 3 people are no different than other +2000 other academics in terms of their stance for peace. This is a form of threat and intimidation, nothing else. It is not coincidental that yesterday President Erdogan said in his speech: *“There is no difference between the terrorist holding gun, and those using their titles and pencils to support it.... Those people who are caught by our security forces for their support to the terrorist organizations cannot enter courtroom from one door and exit another.”* The very next day arrests took place.

Here is a very draft and brief analysis of the verdict:

-mean: In December 22th, PKK/KCK executive committee co-president Bese Hozat released a statement, and part of statement said “Intellectuals and democratic powers should uphold self-rules”. The Academics for Peace announced their peace statement on January 11th. Without any evidence other than 20 days difference between two statements, the judge said “two statements are in parallel.” In other words, academics were ordered by the PKK. How ridiculous is that?

- The prosecutor's another reasoning, “the state, which in fact is in the defensive in order to end the armed activities of members of terrorist organization” is a curious one. If we start thinking of state as “defending itself,” any acts conducted by the state, including massacres and human rights violations, cannot be criticized.

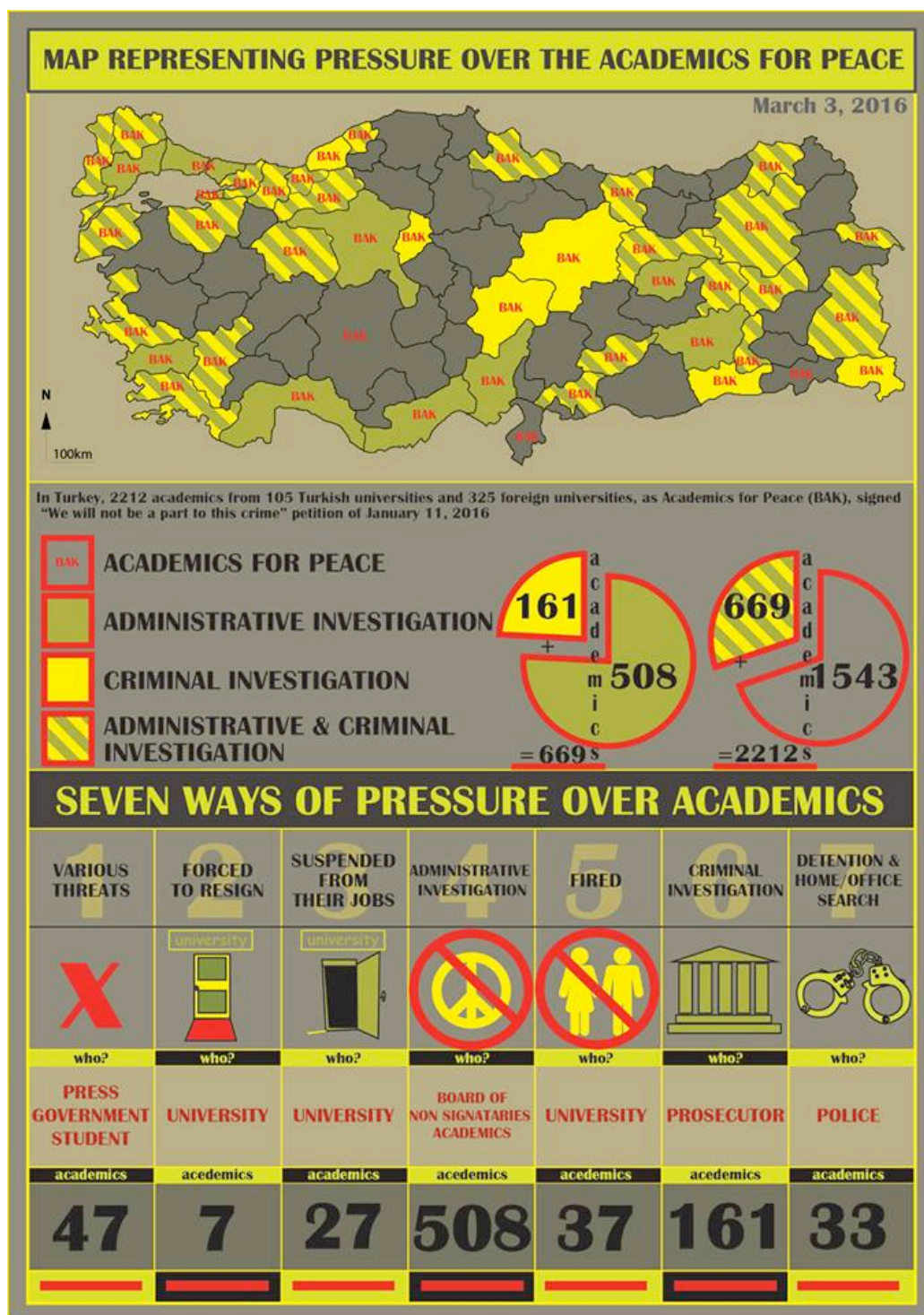
- In the verdict, the judge mentions that in European countries, “states take all possible measures against the terrorists who commit such atrocities and even against those who are understood to have even the slightest relationship with them.” Noticed the “slightest” part, that is a confession that they have no solid evidence, but rely on the slippery terms.

- Why not criticize the PKK? This is the heart of the verdict. The judge interprets a negative act as an evidence. The verdict states that due to the absence of any criticism of PKK's activities “IT IS OBVIOUS that the suspects acted in support of the

terrorist organization.” The academics repeatedly said that they were the citizens of Turkish Republic, not “PKK republic”, therefore they appealed to the state which was acting on behalf of them (and using their tax money).

- Finally, the academics are arrested because the possible period of arrest might be a reason for them to flee. They are giving a clue to what lies ahead.

Please keep following the news and calls for solidarity. Academics for Peace in Turkey are not afraid of such accusations based on unjust, unfair, ridiculous arguments. However silencing them is another very powerful move towards the further anti democratisation of the country.



Pour plus d'information, voir aussi les liens suivants :

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\\_east/3-turkish-scholars-arrested-over-terror-propaganda-charges/2016/03/15/9c1c2978-eaf1-11e5-a9ce-681055c7a05f\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/3-turkish-scholars-arrested-over-terror-propaganda-charges/2016/03/15/9c1c2978-eaf1-11e5-a9ce-681055c7a05f_story.html)

<http://bianet.org/english/freedom-of-expression/173036-3-academics-referred-to-court-for-arrest>