

A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON THE PRISON CONDITIONS IN TURKEY

IN PRISON 2017



IN PRISON 2017

<i>INTRODUCTION</i>	2
<i>TORTURE AND MISTREATMENT</i>	5
<i>METHODOLOGY</i>	7
<i>OVERVIEW</i>	8
<i>THE MARMARA REGION</i>	9
<i>THE AEGEAN REGION</i>	26
<i>THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION</i>	36
<i>CENTRAL ANATOLIA REGION</i>	45
<i>BLACK SEA REGION</i>	54
<i>SOUTHEAST ANATOLIA REGION</i>	60
<i>EAST ANATOLIA REGION</i>	63
<i>CONCLUSION</i>	65

INTRODUCTION

The existence of the witch hunt in Turkey has become much more evident after the failed coup attempt of 15 July 2016, which is likened to the Reichstag Fire of Hitler by many and is called “the controlled coup” by Kemal Kilicdaroglu, the leader of the opposition party, the CHP. Hours after the attempt, thousands of soldiers were arrested along with thousands of judges and prosecutors who had no possible connection to the coup attempt. With the emergency decree issued on 20 July 2016, “the opposition hunt” went beyond mere control and hundreds of thousands of public officials were discharged from their offices. Since then, tens of thousands of people from various occupations such as opposition party MPs, journalists, judges and prosecutors, academics, doctors, soldiers, teachers, police and many more, have been arrested and taken into custody. Human rights associations have reported ill-treatment such as: torture, beating, nudity, people being left in physically uncomfortable positions for long periods of time and threats of rape during the custody period which has been increased from one day to thirty days by an emergency decree. Also, allegations of threats to lawyers and interference in medical examinations in order to cover up the abuses have been commonly reported.¹ More than fifty people have lost their lives by committing suicide due to torture and ill treatment.² Some claim that many of those deaths were extrajudicial killings but the authorities declared that they had committed suicide.³

Children are also victims of the post-coup witch hunt. Many children have to live in the jails with their mothers. According to the Justice Ministry, 668 children are currently held in Turkish prisons with their mothers.⁴ Among them, 149 are under a year old, 140 are a year old, 124 are 2 years old, 117 are 3 years old, 77 are 4 years old, 44 are 5 years old, 6 are 6 years old and the ages of the remaining 11 are not known.⁵ The prison administrations are obviously unable to provide proper conditions for children’s physical and psychological development such as nutrition, toys,

¹ <https://www.hrw.org/tr/report/2016/10/24/295607> ;
<https://www.hrw.org/tr/world-report/2017/country-chapters/298690> ;
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/europe-and-central-asia/turkey/report-turkey/>

² <https://turkeypurge.com/some-50-post-coup-victims-committed-suicide-14-disappeared-in-2017-main-opposition>

³ http://stockholmcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Suspicious-Deaths-And-Suicides-In-Turkey_22.03.2017.pdf

⁴ <https://www.turkishminute.com/2017/08/31/video-668-young-children-to-welcome-eid-al-adha-in-turkish-prisons/>

⁵ <http://jwf.org/press-release-for-a-report-the-state-of-turkeys-children-victim-of-unlawfulness/>

playgrounds and healthcare even if they wanted to.⁶

News of people who are subjected to ill treatment, not just during the custody period but also after they have been transferred to prison finds its way into the media despite the media being almost completely under the control of the government.⁷ The relatively freer social media is the medium through which such violations can often be exposed.

The emergency law decrees issued by the ruling power were the forerunners to the extensive rights violations committed in prisons.

Many rights violations in fact started as a result of the impunity brought by the state of emergency regime. On October 14, 2016, Enis Yavuz Yıldırım, the General Director of Prisons and Detention Centres, stated to the Turkish Parliament Human Rights Investigation Committee that:

- Detainees are being searched naked,
- Torture allegations are being handled as discrete cases,
- The detainee-lawyer meetings are being recorded,
- Detainees are not allowed to obtain clothes from outside, but are forced to buy them from the shop inside the prison,
- Suicides are unpreventable.
- A “harsh intervention team” will be formed to deal with the detainees.⁸

Article 6 of the emergency decree law No. 667, dated 23 July 2016, has paved the way for confidential meetings between detainees and their lawyers to be recorded and a third-party official to be present at those meetings. This is a limitation only applicable to individuals accused of committing a crime against the state (after the July 15 event, hundreds of thousands have been accused of this). The right to defence, one of the most fundamental elements of a fair trial, has been blatantly violated by this decree, as it has allowed officials to video the detainees’ meetings with their lawyers, and to allow such meetings to take place where prison guards can attend.

With the same article, the category of people who can visit the detainees, which is normally very generous under the regulations,⁹ is limited only to

⁶ <http://www.platformpj.org/forced-inmates-turkeys-prisons-small-children/>

⁷ <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/aftermath-failed-turkey-coup-torture-beatings-and-rape>

⁸ <https://bianet.org/bianet/siyaset/179659-cezaevleri-genel-muduru-ciplak-arama-ve-iskenceyi-kabul-etti>

⁹ Article 6 of the Regulation on Visiting Detainees and Convicts: “Convicts and detainees can be visited by their; spouse, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren, siblings, and grandparent, parent, daughter, son, brother, and sister-in-law, step children, children of grandchildren, nephews and nieces, uncles and aunts and their spouses, and guardians, and trustees. Apart from those listed in the first paragraph, within 60 days of their detention, the convicts and

the spouse, blood relatives until the second degree, first-degree kinship by marriage, trustees and legal guardians. Again with this article, detainees' right to telephone their family members, normally once a week, is limited to only "once a fortnight, and only to the persons mentioned above."

Under the emergency decree law No. 673, dated 1 September 2016, members and heads of the prison watch committees, which were established for every prison and which had the authority to enter the prison and hold one-to-one meetings with the detainees and report problems concerning the operations and practices in the prison to the relevant institutions, have been discharged from their positions, and these committees have been re-structured under the name of "Judicial Justice Commissions".¹⁰ It is evident that the aim of this move is to establish prison watch committees that are composed of officials who will not include the violations of rights committed in the prisons in their reports.

Indeed, in relation to the allegations of torture and ill-treatment in the aftermath of July 15, the European Commission for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) conducted inspections in some prisons in Turkey and prepared a report about these investigations. This report was approved in the General Assembly of the CPT. However, the Turkish government did not allow this report to be made public.¹¹

For the government to make drastic changes in the structure of the prison watch committees that have the authority to prepare relatively independent reports on the one hand, and to prevent the CPT report from being publicised on the other, has affirmed the suspicions of torture, ill treatment and other violation claims of the prisoners.

Furthermore, the government has put extraordinary pressure on the media to prevent the reporting and discussion of such violations taking place in public forums. To that end, hundreds of journalists have been arrested and detained. According to the RSF report, Turkey has the highest number of arrested journalists in the world.¹² As of now, a journalist has to take the risk of being arrested in order to publish news about rights violations by the government.

Lawyers, who are seen as the most effective mediators for exposing the violations of human rights and bringing them under investigation, are

detainees may determine and inform the name and surname, and if they know, the address of three other visitors.

¹⁰ <http://www.turkishpedia.com/2017/01/25/decreed-with-force-of-law-no-khk-673-english/>

¹¹ <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/european-anti-torture-committee-says-ankara-does-not-allow-report-on-turkey-to-be-published.aspx?pageID=238&nID=112277&NewsCatID=339>

¹² <https://rsf.org/en/turkey>

another occupational group that has been targeted by the government. Investigations have been launched against thousands of lawyers who undertook the legal counselling of individuals who were detained and arrested after the July 15 coup attempt, and as of today, 522 of them have themselves been detained¹³. Therefore, it is extremely difficult for lawyers to expose and file complaints about violations committed against the rights of the detainees.

TORTURE AND MISTREATMENT

The violation of rights in prisons is not solely a result of overcrowding. The cabinet members have publicly incited punishment and mistreatment of detainees following the coup attempt. The Minister of Economy **Nihat Zeybekci** said, “*We will punish them in such a way that they will beg to die in order to escape,*” and this exemplifies the dominant approach.¹⁴

Thus, following the coup attempt and especially during the state of emergency, there has been a significant increase in human rights violations in prisons across the country.

Ezgi Duman, a lawyer, in her interview with Duygu Ayber, talks about the mistreatment towards women in prisons during the state of emergency:

“There have been general changes during the state of emergency and women too have been affected by this. It is especially important to note the increase of dispatches. Some detainees have been forcefully moved three times a month, away from their families. Certain detainees have expressed complaints about not attaining their belongings after the moves. The moves are made with male policemen in vehicles which are extremely cold in the winter, and extremely hot in the summer.

Straight after the move, as soon as they arrive in the new prison, a naked search is done as a sort of “welcoming”. This procedure—which is normally required only if there is a reasonable suspicion that the captives might be in possession of illegal belongings—has become a routine procedure under current regulations. The detainees who resist being searched naked, encounter physical violence. Arbitrary naked searches are torture and intolerable for anyone; however, this situation is much more perilous for women. Those who have entered the prison with stories of violence in their minds, encounter such violence within the prisons themselves.

Another striking procedure regarding women that has unfolded during the state of emergency is the transference of women to three-person cells. Before the state of emergency, no matter what high-security procedure was in effect, women were not

¹³ <https://arrestedlawyers.org/2017/07/23/situation-in-turkey/>

¹⁴ <http://t24.com.tr/haber/ekonomi-bakani-bu-darbecilere-oyle-bir-ceza-verecegiz-ki-gebertin-bizi-diye-yalvaracaklar.352845>

sent to Type F/three-person cells. Apart from heavy life sentences, women stayed in crowded cells. However, recently women have been moved to three-person cells in prisons such as Kandira. The effects and consequences of this can be worse for women, who have already been restricted from social areas and outside access.¹⁵

On February 7, 2017, Ayse Arman of the *Hurriyet* newspaper interviewed the award-winning writer Asli Erdogan, who had been arrested during the state of emergency. In the interview, Asli Erdogan mentioned many different hardships she faced along with her fellow detainees: urine within the cells, extremely cold prison cells, no clean water for detainees, psychological abuse inflicted by guards towards detainees.¹⁶

Some female detainees from Silivri Prison described to their lawyers the tortures they faced in the prison. Some torture methods include physical violence, sticking needles in their nipples, and verbal violence.

Reportedly, when Lawyer Riza Oguz wanted to meet Mersin Type-E Prison's director regarding torture allegations, he was forcefully removed from the premises. The torture allegations for this prison include physical violence such as beating with rods performed by a group of ten guards and the director himself.¹⁷

In the Antalya Type-L Prison, the detainee Hasan Yakut was taken outside by the guards who told him that his lawyer was waiting there, but he was then taken to the police headquarters. When he came back to his ward five days later, there were torture marks on his body.¹⁸

In the Kandira Type-F Prison Number 2, the cells have been raided with different excuses and the detainees have reportedly been tortured. The guards entered the cells with the excuse of a mandatory search and after searching all their belongings seized the detainees' musical instruments. Under the name of "searching everything that makes a sound", the guards have forced the detainees to undo their buttons and zips. The head guard informed them that these were new instructions from the Justice Ministry. Then, he made the threat, "If I want, I can search you all naked too," and after that he gave orders to conduct a naked search.¹⁹

¹⁵ <http://journo.com.tr/tutuklu-kadin-sayisi-ciplak-arama>

¹⁶ <http://www.hurriyet.com.tr/yazarlar/ayse-arman/asli-erdoganin-cezaevindeki-136-gunu-40329758>

¹⁷ <http://aktifhaber.com/m/iskence/mersin-cezaevinde-tutuklulara-falaka-h95637.html>

¹⁸ <http://www.birgun.net/haber-detay/12-eylul-u-hatirlatan-gunler-tutuklu-mahkumlara-iskence-161113.html>

¹⁹ <http://magduriyetler.com/2017/06/04/tutsaklara-iskence-yapiliyor/>

METHODOLOGY

While Turkey is going through such a treacherous process in which violations of human rights have increased and seeking justice is no longer easy, it is very hard to identify each violation one-by-one and to publicise each in a report under the current circumstances.

With significant human rights violation claims, the prisons of Turkey are places, which are closed to inspections by both national and international civil rights organisations, and cannot be efficiently scrutinised by the UN and EU institutions. Even the reports about these prisons, which have managed to be prepared after restricted inspections, are not allowed to be made public. Because of the oppression in the country, neither detainees nor their lawyers are able to pursue the violations committed in these prisons by means of either judicial or administrative remedies, and for the same reasons, they cannot make these violations known to the public.

The data used in this study was collected by PPJ volunteers conducting face-to-face interviews with 66 lawyers and 197 family members of detainees. The lawyers working with the PPJ have examined the raw data taken from the interviews and translated it into the format of a report. However, they have chosen not to alter the form of expression used by the volunteers too much, in order to properly convey what people have been going through. Volunteers have noted the striking hesitation of the interviewees during the interviews. They agreed to be interviewed by our volunteers, provided that their names would remain anonymous in the report due to their concerns of being subjected to unlawful investigations or de facto pressure by the government. Hence, their names are not disclosed.

The report tries to shed light on the common practices in prisons rather than the individual stories of the detainees in order to illustrate the general circumstances in Turkish prisons. The earlier works published by the PPJ dealt with specific aspects of the unjust hardships inflicted on vulnerable groups in Turkey's prisons: the forced imprisonment of young children with their mothers²⁰, the disabled and sick inmates,²¹ and jailed pregnant and puerperant women.²²

The current report deals with the appalling standards and practices generally observed in 80 prisons across Turkey.

²⁰ <http://www.platformpj.org/forced-inmates-turkeys-prisons-small-children/>

²¹ <http://www.platformpj.org/criminals-out-disable-and-sick-in/>

²² <http://www.platformpj.org/jailed-pregnant-puerperant-women-turkey-denied-even-water/>

OVERVIEW

Following the extensive detentions conducted after the July 15 event, the report draws attention to the fact that the majority of the rights violations are committed against those who have been detained under the accusation of “membership of a terrorist organisation”.

It has been observed that the facilities in 72 out of 80 prisons are inadequate. To name a few examples: the gym in the Karabuk Prison is used as a ward and there are only 3 shower facilities and 3 toilets in a ward where 100 detainees are staying together. In the women’s section of the Tarsus Prison, 70 women are detained in a ward for 17 people, and in the men’s section, 60 detainees are staying in a ward for 26 people. In the Düzce Prison, 25 people are detained in a ward for 8 people; in the Bursa TYPE H Prison, 18 detainees are staying in a ward for 8 people; in the Bandirma Type T Prison, 42 detainees are staying in a ward for 22 people, in the Izmir Aliaga Closed Prison, 28 detainees are staying in a ward for 12 people; in the Manisa Type T Closed Prison, 30 detainees are staying in a ward for 14 people; in the Osmaniye Type E T Closed Prison, 24 people are detained in a ward for 10 people; 42 detainees are staying in a ward for 15 people in the Burdur Type E Closed Prison; 50-55 people are detained in a ward for 16 people in the Konya Type E Closed Prison; 15-20 detainees are kept in a ward made for 5 people in the Kirsehir Closed Prison; 49 detainees are kept in a ward made for 23 people in the Corum Type L Prison; 30-40 people are detained in a ward for 16-18 people in the Ankara Sincan Prison; 20-25 detainees are kept in a ward made for 6 people in the Sinop Prison; while in the Manisa Type E Closed Prison for women, in a space of 33 square meters, 30 inmates are being detained, which means only 1 square meter is allowed per person.

Since the number of toilets and shower facilities were built for the ideal capacity of the prisons and because the number of detainees staying in one ward is well over that capacity, every 25-30 detainees have to share 1 toilet and 1 shower and this causes long queues. Taking into consideration, the limited availability of hot water as well, the opportunity for taking a shower is very limited. For instance, in some prisons, such as the Bandirma Type T Prison, each detainee can only take a shower once a week, and for only 5 minutes.

In prisons with poor conditions, due to the shortage of beds, some detainees have to sleep on bedding laid out on the floor.

It is often reported that the right of detainees to watch television and listen to the radio is seriously restricted. While some prisons do not allow radio and television on the wards, the prisons that allow television and radio on the wards, allow only the channels that broadcast pro-government programmes, and the broadcast of opposition TV channels is banned by

the prison administrations.

The limitations imposed on the right to follow periodicals and non-periodicals are also unusual: It is reported that the detainees are forced to be content with only the few books available in the prison's library and they are denied the right to access books from outside. This is despite the fact that access to books is not banned by the courts. While pro-government newspapers and magazines are allowed in the prisons, the newspapers seen as opposing the government, such as *Yeni Asya*, are not allowed.

Another significant violation of human rights revealed in the report is the arbitrary ban imposed on participating in cultural and arts events, exclusively for those who are detained under the claim of membership to the Gulen Movement. In this regard, the detainees are not only denied the right to participate in such activities organised by the prison administrations, they are also not allowed to organise any such event themselves, either.

Apart from being banned from being involved in cultural and arts activities, these detainees are also denied the right to join the courses organised within the prison. Likewise, in most of the prisons, the detainees –a big majority of whom are those who are in custody due to claims that they are affiliated to the Gulen Movement – are not allowed to use the sports facilities in the prisons. In some prisons, however, the use of this facility is anyway very restricted.

This report also covers many other practices in the prisons such as the right to healthcare, accommodation provided for the children of the detainees, sending and receiving letters, fax and telegraph messages, nutrition and clothing.

THE MARMARA REGION

Kocaeli Kandira Prison

The detainees are allowed to phone family members once every two weeks for 10 minutes. They are allowed to call a maximum of 3 numbers that have been approved by the prison administration.

Detainees are allowed to see their visitors for weekly 40-minute visits with no contact, and monthly 40-minute visits with contact. Only first degree family members and fathers and mothers-in-law of the detainees are allowed to visit. The number of visitors can be 8 at a time at most, including children.

Regarding the rights to health; at most, two detainees at a time are able to visit the health clinic, and only once a week. Due to high demand, appointments for dental check-ups are only available 1 or 2 months later.

Detainees are allowed to send letters every day of the week. All of the letters sent or received by the detainees are first read and approved by the letter reading commission, and then forwarded to the recipient.

With regards to the right to petition and complain, in the Kandira Prison, all kinds of petitions are accepted on weekdays, during the morning roll-calls, and they are forwarded to the relevant authorities.

Regarding the right to visit the library, detainees are given a list of the books available in the prison's library, and once every two weeks, the detainees are able to request books from outside by writing a petition.

There is a list of items and the number of each item that the detainees can have in their cells or on the wards. The clothes specified in these lists are supplied by their family members from outside the prison and they are given to the detainees only if they are approved by the prison administration.

Detainees are given three meals a day. The prison also provides special meals to suit the dietary requirements of ill detainees, if they have been prescribed a certain diet.

The detainees who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement, are denied the right to participate in cultural and arts activities and they are not allowed to attend the courses provided by the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Karabuk Type T Closed Prison

The indoor sports hall of the prison is used as a ward. In the same hall, which has got only 3 bathrooms and 2 toilets, 100 detainees are staying. Since the sports hall was not built as living quarters, the heating facilities are very inadequate. The whole of the hall is being poorly heated by an air-conditioning system.

A very strict dress code is applied in the prison. Since the number of detainees is well above the capacity of the prison, the available closets far from meet the needs of the prisoners. Detainees are not allowed to have a spare tracksuit. The families of the detainees stated that when they expressed their concern over this clothing problem to the prison administration, the reply was, "What work do they do in the prison! Let them wash!"

There is a library in the prison. However, those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied the right to use the library. These people are also denied the right to read newspapers and magazines.

Detainees are allowed to watch only a limited number of TV channels, which are decided by the prison administration, but they are not allowed to listen to the radio.

Those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities or to attend the courses organised in the prison, and they are not allowed to use the sports facilities of the prison.

Duzce Type T Closed Prison

Conditions in the prison seem to be very bad. In an 8-person ward, 25 detainees are staying. Since the wards have only 8 bunkbeds, many of the detainees have to sleep on the floor. In each ward, there are only 2 toilets and 1 bathroom. Although there is one table in the middle, because the table is so closely surrounded by beds, there is not enough room for an adequate number of chairs. In order to perform their daily prayers, the detainees have to first pick all the bedding up from the floor. Since the detainees are not able to use the tables in the wards, they have to sit bent over to read their books, which causes serious back complaints. When they want to write a letter, the detainees have to wait their turn to come to use the table in the centre of the ward. Due to the claustrophobic conditions, during the month of Ramadan, the detainees had to take it in turns to break their fasts. There is also a lack of chairs on the wards.

The detainees are allowed to see their lawyers. However, the whole of the session with the lawyers is filmed and sound-recorded, and a prison guard takes notes during these meetings.

The detainees are given the right to make one 10-minute telephone call every 2 weeks. However, due to too many detainees waiting in the queue, they are sometimes only able to use this right once every 3 weeks. Meanwhile, the telephone call day of Tuesday, by claiming that, “the telephones are not working,” is postponed to Friday. The telephone connections are always problematic and they can speak for only 5 minutes.

The detainees are given the right to see their visitors at 30-minute non-contact visits held every week. The contact visits, however, are restricted for those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement. These detainees can see a maximum of 5 individuals from their families for only 30 minutes, during the contact visits held once every 2 months.

The petitions, submitted to the prison administration, are not taken into account, and all of the detainees' requests are rejected. To protest his feelings about this, a detained former judge, wrote a petition stating, "I request a continuation of my detention," to which he received the reply, "Your request has been rejected!"

Detainees are normally given the right to use the library and have access to periodicals and non-periodicals. However, they are not allowed to take the on-line entrance exams to enter the Open University.

To bring copies of the Holy Qur'an from outside the prison is not allowed.

The prison administration does not allow the detainees to use notebooks or notepads or to keep diaries.

The detainees are normally allowed to send and receive letters. The letters, however, reach their recipients a month after they were sent. The reason for this delay is that in the Düzce Prison, there is only one prison official who is assigned to check and read the letters. "Because I am the only person, I cannot keep on top of the workload," said the official in answer to the complaints about these delays. The detainees are denied the right to send/receive fax messages.

The issue of nutrition in the prison is very problematic. The detainees are served very badly cooked or nearly raw food. At breakfast, they are given either one tiny sachet of jam or 1 egg. The detainees who have got some money in their prison accounts, try to feed themselves with the groceries they buy from the prison's canteen.

The detainees in the prison also suffer problems regarding clothing. The clothes brought in by their family members once every two weeks are first accepted by the checkroom. Because the wards are overcrowded, the detainees cannot find anywhere to store their clothes. Then because the prison depots are also full, the clothes brought in by the families are sometimes not accepted.

There is a very limited supply of hot water. It is supplied in litres. The detainees are forced to use the very limited amount of hot water for both taking shower and washing their clothes. However, there is no place to dry their wet clothes.

The detainees often say that the doctors examine the patients in a very slapdash manner, not paying much attention to their complaints.

Many things that the detainees need are not available in the prison shop. It is stated that, because slippers are not sold in the shop, some of the detainees have to walk on the wards with their boots on for ten days, until

their families can bring them their slippers.

Those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement are denied their right to take part in arts and cultural activities, to attend the courses organised in the prison or to use the sports facilities. They are only allowed to walk in the courtyard.

Duzce Prison D-5 (Women)

Physical conditions in the prison are terrible and it is badly overcrowded. The number of toilets and bathrooms is completely insufficient when compared to the number of detainees. Hot water is provided only at certain times, and only a limited amount.

Families of the detainees can see them at non-contact visits once a week, and at contact visits once every two months.

Detainees are able to use their rights to make telephone calls once every 15 days for 10 minutes.

There is a limited number of books in the prison's library, and the detainees stated that they cannot fully benefit from the library. They complain that the books they request are not provided, and that they are not allowed to bring books in from outside the prison.

The detainees are allowed to use their right to benefit from the periodicals and non-periodicals but with restrictions.

It is seen that they experience problems in practising their religion and faith. The detainees are not given the number of copies of the Qur'an they have requested.

With regards to clothes, the detainees are allowed to take in 1 top and 1 bottom piece of clothing once every 15 days.

The detainees have got the right to send and receive letters, but it takes 15 days for each letter to reach its recipient. They are not allowed to use the facilities of sending/receiving faxes or telegram messages.

The detainees are denied the right to use computers even to prepare their defence statements.

Whenever the detainees request it, they are taken to the health clinic in the prison. However, when they need to be taken to hospital, they are not transferred to the hospital on time or regularly.

Those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied their rights to take part in arts and cultural activities, to attend the courses organised in the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Silivri Prison (Prison section is not confirmed)

Four Detainees are sleeping in 2-person cells. They sometimes have to sleep on the floor. The detainees are allowed to take fresh air for only 2 hours a day.

Twenty-eight detainees are kept in 10-person wards, which have got only 2 toilets and 2 bathrooms. The daily hot water allowance provided is only enough for 10 people.

The detainees are not allowed to see their lawyers for more than 20 minutes a week. The detainees' meetings with their lawyers are watched, listened to, and interfered in by a guard, and the whole session is filmed and sound recorded. Due to the short duration of the meeting with the lawyer, the detainees are not being able to prepare an efficient defence with their lawyers, which is an open violation of the right to a fair trial.

The detainees are allowed to see visitors at 20-minute non-contact visits held once every week, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. These visits are held under inconvenient conditions.

The detainees are given the right to one telephone call to a land line number for 8 minutes once every 2 weeks. Even in emergency situations, the detainees are not allowed to make any telephone calls at other times.

The detainees are denied the right to send/receive letters, fax or telegram messages.

The detainees are not allowed to use their rights to healthcare adequately, either. Elderly detainees, in particular, are suffering serious difficulties. The medicines they need on a routine basis are not being provided, while those that are provided are brought weeks later.

The right to petition and complaint exists only in theory in Silivri Prison. In practice, there is no possibility for the detainees to have any of their requests or complaints answered.

Regarding the right to use the libraries, the detainees are allowed to take 1 book every 2 weeks. To change just this one book can sometimes take a whole month.

Regarding the right to access to periodicals and non-periodicals, it is stated that the detainees are given only the publications that are approved by the

prison administration. They are denied access to any publication other than those allowed by the administration.

The detainees are not procured items or books for praying. They are not given copies of the Qur'an for a long time after they have requested them, while prayer mats are not provided at all. The detainees are not allowed to pray in congregation and they state that they perform their prayers under intense suppression.

The meals are generally served cold, and the amount of food is not sufficient. If the detainees cannot buy food from the prison's canteen with their own money, they suffer from malnutrition. When the detainees complained about this to the prison administration, the answer was that there were too many detainees in the prison -well above its capacity- and the food supplied for normal capacity, was not sufficient for the excessive number of detainees.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, they are not allowed to attend the courses organised in the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Silivri Building No-8 B9

The physical structure of the building is not suitable to live in. The wards are damp and the use of bathrooms is very limited.

The detainees may see their lawyers, but they face problems bringing the notary to the prison.

Their right to see their visitors is very restricted, and they can only use their right to make a telephone call once every two weeks.

The detainees are not allowed to send/receive fax or telegram messages, but they are allowed to write petitions and to file complaints.

The detainees are able to use the library and read the newspapers available there. They are not, however, allowed to use computers to write their statements.

The detainees can watch television, but cannot have any access to the Internet.

They are not allowed to order fruit or groceries from outside the prison.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, they are not allowed to attend the courses organised in the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Edirne F Type High Security Closed Prison

The wards are 4-person duplexes, which have 24-hour running hot water. Between 10 am and 6 pm the doors to the courtyards are left open. The first detainees to arrive were taken to very dirty wards. The detainees had to do the cleaning themselves and to pay a cleaning cost of about 400 TL (\$110).

Regarding the right to visit the detainees, non-contact visits are allowed once a week for 60 minutes. Contact visits, on the other hand, are made once every 2 months, again for 60 minutes. Only immediate family members and the father and mother-in-laws of the detainee are allowed to visit. The maximum number visitors at one time is limited to 4. The visitors have to go through an intensive body search, even the nappies of the babies are subjected to a thorough search.

Regarding their rights to communication, the detainees are allowed to make a telephone call once every 2 weeks, for 10 minutes to any of the 3 telephone numbers that have been approved by the prison administration.

The detainees are allowed to send letters on weekdays. The sent and received letters are first read and checked by the letter reading commission.

Although everyone on the wards can perform their daily prayers, the first to arrive, in particular, faced the problem of not being allowed to have copies of the Qur'an on the wards and not being informed of the daily prayer times.

The detainees are served 3 meals a day. If a doctor has prescribed a special diet for an ill detainee, he is provided with that menu.

Regarding the right to healthcare, the detainees are able to go to the health clinic and see the GP whenever they need to. There is no time limit on health check sessions. Appointments for dental checks are given for a date 1 or 2 months later.

Only those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, and they are not allowed to attend the courses organised in the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Bursa Type H Closed Prison

Eighteen detainees are staying on an 8-person ward. Because there is not enough space, the detainees have joined the beds together to sleep on. Hot water is given only for 1 hour a day. Since the wards are overcrowded, detainees are able to have a shower once every 5 days.

The detainees are abruptly transferred to other prisons, without any warning. Families of the transferred detainees only learn of this when they come to visit them at the prison. Detainees are woken up at 1 am and told that they are going to be transferred.

The detainees are able to use their right to communication by making regular telephone calls. They can also send/receive letters.

The detainees are given 3 meals a day, however the quality of the meals is bad.

The detainees are denied the right to attend the arts and cultural activities held in the prison.

Bursa Men's Prison (Prison section is not confirmed)

Having been chosen as the pilot prison which conforms to the standards of the EU, the detainees in this prison do not encounter any problems in respect to the use of their rights.

At the prison, the detainees are not restricted from: using their rights to send/receive petitions and file complaints, seeing their lawyers and notary, attending arts and cultural activities, having access to periodicals and non-periodicals, clothing, shelter for children-in-need, making telephone calls, having access to radio and TV broadcasts and Internet facilities, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages, freedom of religion, good nutrition, freedom of rejecting the supplied food and drinks, accepting visits, using the sports facilities, library or attending the courses organised in the prison.

Physical conditions in the prison are good. The detainees are able to take shower every other day. Sixteen detainees stay in one ward and no one has to sleep on the floor.

Bursa Prison (Prison section is not confirmed)

Physical conditions in the prison are very bad. There are 17 detainees staying in 8-person wards. Because the bunk beds are so close to each other, there is not much space to move around in. Some of the detainees are sleeping on the floor. Every day one detainee sleeps on the floor. Hot water is supplied for only 1 hour a day. The condition of the toilets is very

bad and unhealthy. Both the noise and the smell reach the wards.

The detainees do not experience any difficulty in seeing their lawyers or the notary.

The detainees are allowed to see their family members with non-contact visits held once a week, and contact visits held once a month. They can also make telephone calls once every 2 weeks for 10 minutes.

The detainees are subjected to some restrictions in accessing periodicals and non-periodicals. For example, the prison administration does not allow the purchase of the *Yeni Asya* newspaper. All other newspapers, however, are allowed to be brought into the prison.

The detainees do not have any problems sending/receiving letters or practising their faith.

The detainees are served 3 meals a day. Although the breakfasts are very poor, other meals are sufficient.

The detainees can do sports by themselves. They do some sports activities in the prison's 25 sq metre courtyard.

While all other detainees are allowed to attend the courses and the arts and cultural activities held in the prison, this right is denied to those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement.

Bolu Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the prison are not sufficient. An 11-person ward is occupied by 23 detainees.

The detainees are not faced with any restriction in: using their rights to file petitions/complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, using the library, having access to periodicals and non-periodicals or clothing.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at non-contact visits held once a week, and they can make telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

They do not face any restriction in practising their faith or satisfying their nutritional needs.

The detainees can use the sports facilities, but are denied the right to use the library and attend the courses organised in the prison.

Bolu Type T Women's Prison

Generally 22 people are detained in 10, 12 and 14-person wards in the prison. Each ward has got one toilet and one bathroom. Cleaning products, plates and chairs are bought by the detainees themselves. In some wards, the bathroom and toilet are inside the ward. People with no disabilities are staying in wards which have been officially allocated for disabled detainees. This causes serious unrest among the detainees.

The detainees can use their rights to file petitions/complaints, and see their lawyers and the notary. They can see visitors at non-contact visits held once a week, and at contact visits held once a month.

The individuals who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement are able to make phone calls once every 2 weeks, while all other detainees can make phone calls once a week.

The detainees are not faced with any restrictions in: using the library, having access to periodicals and non-periodicals, clothing or accommodating their children-in-need.

There is no definite regulation concerning sending/receiving letters, but detainees postal packages are only handed to them once every 15 days.

The detainees are given 3 meals a day but breakfasts are insufficient.

Those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement are denied the right to take part in arts and cultural activities and are not allowed to attend the courses organised in the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Bilecik Type M Closed Prison

Fourteen Detainees are staying in 6-person wards, which means many detainees have to sleep on the floor.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints and they can see their lawyers or the notary.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities held in the prison. Although they can use the library, because the number of books available in the library is very few, the library is far from satisfying the needs of the detainees.

The detainees can make telephone calls. They have access to radio and television broadcasts, and they can wear whatever they like. However, they do not have access to the Internet.

The detainees are able to send/receive letters, although this process takes a very long time.

The detainees are able to freely practise their faith and perform their prayers, but they can see visitors for contact and non-contact visits.

The detainees are, however, suffering nutritional problems. They state that the meals served by the prison are not good.

Sakarya Type L Closed Prison

Physical conditions of Sakarya Ferizli Prison are far from responding to the needs of the high number of detainees. The wards are overcrowded and are poorly ventilated. The hot water supplied is very limited and there is not enough for the detainees to have a shower.

They do not encounter any problems in seeing their lawyers or the notary.

The detainees are faced with restrictions concerning visitors. They were able to have 10 visitors, but now the number of visitors is limited to 5 for each detainee.

They are allowed to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks. They were able to call 3 to 5 people, but then a decision taken later by the prison administration, has meant that this number has now been limited to only 1 person.

The detainees are allowed to use their right to file petitions and complaints in a very limited manner. The petitions submitted to the prison administration sit for a long time without being looked into. The petitions given to the prison administration stating that there are not enough copies of the Qur'an or beds on the wards are left unanswered.

The detainees can use the library, however, the number of books available in the library is not adequate. In particular, language teaching source books are very scarce. When a detainee orders a book, the officials buy it from a very expensive supplier which puts the detainees in a financially difficult situation.

The detainees are allowed to read only the periodicals and non-periodicals available in the library.

The detainees are allowed to have limited items of clothing. They are not given enough clothes. The detainees are also experiencing problems because the allowed items, numbers of which are strictly limited, are listed

wrongly—for example, T-shirts are listed as shirts or pyjamas are listed as tracksuits. In September of 2016, the prison administration forced the families to buy new winter clothing for the detainees and this imposed financial difficulties on the families.

The detainees are not allowed to use the Internet, but they can have access to radio and television broadcasts.

They face difficulties in practising their faith and performing their prayers. In the beginning, they did not have enough copies of the Qur'an. Since the wards are overcrowded, they have difficulty in performing their congregational prayers.

The detainees are denied the right to use a computer to prepare their defence statements. As they were not allowed to use a computer, their applications to the Constitutional Court were sent back due to the fact that they had not been written in the required format.

Kirklareli Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Kirklareli Prison are very bad. Although the capacity of the prison is a maximum of 500 people, 1,000 detainees are currently staying in this prison. Twenty-three detainees are squeezed into 12-person wards. They complain that the prison is very dirty and old. It is infested with insects and rats, rats are even falling from the roof of the building, and although the detainees have filed complaints to the prison administration, no steps have been taken to rectify this so far. Hygiene is the most obvious problem in this prison. The cleaning is done by a private cleaning company. A very small amount of detergent and bleach is supplied.

The walls of the prison are damp and the paint is peeling off. Windows are not sealed properly, and the detainees complain that bitterly cold winds blow in through the windows. The only way they can keep themselves warm when they sleep is by filling the plastic bottles given to everyone with hot water.

The detainees do not face any problem in filing petitions and complaints. All petitions are accepted on weekdays, during the morning roll-calls and are forwarded to the relevant authorities.

Lawyers of the detainees and the notary can come to the prison whenever they want, but they cannot conduct an interview of more than half an hour.

When the detainees are first brought to the prison, they are not allowed

to make telephone calls for the first few months. Then, they are given the right to call their families, and that is once every 2 weeks for a duration of 10 minutes.

For the first few months of their detention, the detainees are not allowed to send/receive letters or fax messages. After that first few months, they can use this right on 3 days of the week.

The detainees are faced with serious problems regarding their rights to healthcare. Even when the prison GP has referred them to a hospital, the detainees are either not taken to the hospital at all or taken at least 2 months later.

When a detainee falls ill, the officials of the prison do not bring a stretcher or a wheel-chair, instead they roughly push the patient out of the ward. Even the severely ill detainees are forced to come down for the morning roll-calls.

Regarding detainees right to use the library; the detainees are given a list of books and they request the books they want to read by writing a petition. The borrowed books are returned and replaced with new ones once every 2 weeks.

The right to have access to periodicals and non-periodicals is granted for only the newspapers and magazines deemed acceptable by the prison administration.

Regarding clothing, the detainees are given a list telling them how many of each item they can keep on the ward. The families of the detainees can bring in the clothes written on this list.

Regarding the accommodation of children-in-need (including infants), the detainees are able to write a petition to the prison administration and, if found reasonable, they are allowed to take their children into the prison.

Everyone is able to perform their prayers and practise their religion freely on the wards.

There are problems with the food supply. The breakfasts are insufficient. The detainees have to buy extra food from the canteen to make up for this deficiency. Most of the time, the meals served are cooked legumes. Many of the detainees who are suffering with health problems supplement their diet with salads which they buy themselves.

The detainees are able to have visitors at non-contact visits held once every 2 weeks, and at 45-minute contact visits held once every 2 months. However, visiting times and duration of the visits are sometimes arbitrarily altered. On 29 October 2016, for example, although they had the right to

two subsequent contact visits, the detainees were forced to write a petition, which resulted in one of their contact visits being cancelled.

Although the detainees insistently request this, the prison administration denies them the right to use the sports facilities and won't allow them to take part in the courses or the arts and cultural activities held in the prison. The administration does not reply to the petitions made by the detainees regarding this matter.

Tekirdag Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the prison are very bad. The wards are overcrowded, and the number of toilets and bathrooms is insufficient.

Although the detainees can file petitions and complaints, their requests are generally not taken into consideration.

The detainees can use their right to see their lawyers and the notary in a limited manner. Likewise, there are some restrictions on their rights to have visitors.

Access to healthcare is restricted. They are not able to see the specialist doctors they need to see, and visits to the prison's health clinic is limited to certain days of the week.

Although they can use the library, the number of books available in the library is very few. The detainees have access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

Certain restrictions concerning clothing are imposed on the detainees.

The detainees give 3 telephone numbers and once every 2 weeks, they can make 10-minute telephone calls to these numbers.

They are not allowed to send/receive letters, fax or telegram messages.

The detainees are free to practise their religion as long as they do not disturb others.

The detainees face problems with regards to eating proper food. The meals are sometimes served cold, and the detainees do not have the right to reject the food served by the prison.

Unlike the other detainees, those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and they are not allowed to attend the courses held in the prison or to use the sports facilities of the

prison.

Bandırma Type T Prison

Physical conditions in Bandırma Type T prison are very bad and the wards are overcrowded. Most of the detainees are sleeping on the floor or on the dining table. 42 detainees are staying in a 22-person ward. Hot water is supplied so scarcely that all 42 people have only a period of 3 hours within which to take their showers.

The detainees are able to file their petitions and complaints, to use the library, to have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, to accommodate their children-in-need, to make telephone calls, send/receive letters and fax and telegram messages, and to have visitors and place orders in the prison's canteen.

They can see their lawyers and the notary, but their meetings are video recorded and a prison guard is always present.

The biggest problem that the detainees face in the prison seems to be the restrictions and preventions imposed on their right to access to healthcare. A detainee who suffers from a serious illness is not referred to a hospital until they have been suffering for a long period of time. Even if they are referred to a hospital, either they are taken to the hospital too late or not taken at all.

Regarding nutritional rights, the detainees are given 2 meals a day. However, because the meals served are not enough for the number of detainees, they need to buy extra food from the prison's canteen.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and are not allowed to take part in the courses held in the prison or to use the prison's sports facilities.

Balıkesir Type L Prison

Physical conditions at the Balıkesir Kepsut Type L prison are very bad. Since the wards are very crowded, most of the detainees are sleeping on the floor.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, to use the library, to have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, to accommodate their children-in-need, to make telephone calls, send/receive letters and fax and telegram messages, and to have visitors and place orders in the prison's canteen.

The detainees face serious problems in getting access to healthcare. The

seriously ill detainees are referred to a hospital with great difficulty. Even if they are referred to a hospital, either they are taken to the hospital too late or not taken at all.

The detainees are allowed to make telephone calls once every 2 weeks, when they are supposed to have the right to make phone calls once a week.

The detainees are denied the right to attend arts and cultural activities.

Burhaniye Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Burhaniye Type T prison are very bad. Twenty-one detainees are staying on 16-person wards. The wards are composed of 35 sq metre double-storey rooms and 35 sq metre courtyards. Hot water is supplied 3 times, but the water is cut off sometimes for days, which causes great difficulty especially when using the washrooms. The door to the courtyard is open between 7am and 8pm. The upper floors of the wards are becoming too hot. The detainees cannot use fans because the upper parts of the wards have not got any electric sockets and the detainees are not allowed to use extension cables in the wards.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, use the library, send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages and satisfy their nutritional needs.

They are allowed to see their lawyers or the notary only once a week.

The detainees can have visitors at non-contact visits held once a week, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They can make telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

The detainees can request books from the library. They can also place orders with the prison guards, to buy books from online bookstores. However, neither the publisher, nor the book can be one of those prohibited by the government.

They can order groceries and other items from the prison's canteen once a week.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the cultural and art activities, and the courses held in the prison, and they are not allowed to use the sports facilities.

THE AEGEAN REGION

Denizli Type D Closed Prison

The number of detainees staying in Denizli Kocabaş Type D Enclosed Prison is well above the capacity of the prison. Although the number of male detainees has been reduced, the men's prison is still overcrowded.

The detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, keep their children-in-need with them, send/receive letters and fax and telegram messages, and place orders from the prison's canteen.

The detainees are able to see their families only at 45-minute non-contact visits held once a week. They are able to make telephone calls once every 15 days for 10 minutes.

The detainees are able to use the library. Although the number of the books available in the library is very few, they can borrow the books they want.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities held in the prison. Although they can do sports with very limited facilities, sometimes they are denied this right.

Denizli Type T Closed Prison

The detainees in Denizli Kocabaş Type T Prison are able to file petitions and complaints, and can see their lawyers and the notary.

The detainees can see visitors at non-contact visits held once a week and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They can make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees are able to send/receive letters, but the letters arrive with their recipients in indefinite periods of time.

The detainees are given 3 meals a day, although the amount of food served is not sufficient and the nutritional value is low.

They can place orders in the prison's canteen. However, the canteen is far from satisfying the detainees' needs.

The detainees are denied the right: to participate in the arts and cultural activities, to use the library, to have access to the periodicals and non-periodicals, to attend the courses and to use the sports facilities.

Mugla Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Muğla Type E Enclosed Prison are very bad. Toilets and bathrooms do not meet any standards; they are very dirty and there are not enough of them. The wards are too small, airless and overcrowded. Hot water is supplied twice a week, for only 10 minutes per person. The water to the wards is completely cut off at night, from 12 midnight to 7am. Male detainees are given water for 6 hours a day.

The detainees face no difficulties in filing petitions and complaints, and in seeing their lawyers and the notary.

The detainees see their visitors at non-contact and contact visits. They use their communication rights by making 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

They are allowed to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages.

They are denied the right to healthcare. The right to be checked by the GP is given to only 5 detainees once every 3 weeks.

The detainees are able to use the library, but the books available in the library are very old and very few. They have limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. For example, to bring *Yeni Asya* newspaper into the prison is not permitted.

Although the conditions of the prison are not suitable for children, the detainees' children-in-need are allowed to be accommodated in the prison.

Initially, the detainees were allowed to buy radios from the canteen, but since then these radios have been taken away.

Although their nutritional needs are satisfied to an extent, the meals served are not good.

The detainees are denied the right: to participate in the arts and cultural activities, to use the library, to have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, to attend the courses and to use the sports facilities.

Nazilli Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Nazilli Type E Enclosed Prison are extremely poor. Although the number of female detainees have been partly reduced, the number of detainees kept in some wards of the women's prison is still too high.

The detainees have the right to see visitors at 45-minute non-contact visits held every week, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They can use their communication rights by making 10-minute telephone calls,

once every 15 days.

The detainees do not have any difficulty in filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages, and placing orders in the prison's canteen.

Although they can use the library, the number of books available in the library is very few. They have limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees are not allowed to accommodate their children-in-need in the prison.

They have not got any problems with the meals served in the prison.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities, and the courses held in the prison. Although they can do sports with very limited facilities, sometimes they are not allowed to use the sports facilities at all.

Izmir Sakran Women's Closed Prison

Since İzmir Şakran Women's Enclosed Prison is newly built, it is in better condition than the others. The women detainees are able to stay in 2-person cells. However, as the toilet and the kitchen unit are placed close to each other, the detainees complain about the bad smell.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, accommodate their children-in-need, send/receive letters and fax and telegram messages, use the sports facilities, and place orders in the prison's canteen.

The detainees can see their visitors at weekly 45-minute non-contact visits. They are able to use their communication right by making 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

Although they can use the library, the number of books available in the library is very few. They have limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. Bringing the *Sözcü* and *Yeni Asya* newspapers into the prison is banned.

They do not have any problems with the meals served in the prison.

The detainees are not allowed to participate in the arts and cultural activities or the courses held in the prison.

Izmir Şakran Prison (Aliaga Penitentiary Campus)

Physical conditions in the İzmir Şakran Prison are very bad. Twenty-eight detainees are kept in a 12-person ward. Most of the detainees are sleeping on the floor. Only 2 bathrooms and 3 toilets are available for 28 people. Hot water is available for only 1 hour a day. The detainees are taking turns to have showers. There is a small courtyard, the top of which is covered with wire meshing. The detainees are not allowed to go out into the courtyard all the time. Sanitary services in the prison are not good. The prison guards are treating the detainees very badly.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, send/receive letters and fax and telegram messages, see their visitors, and place orders in the prison's canteen.

The detainees are prevented from using their right to benefit from the library services. There was only one copy of the Qur'an on the ward, and the detainees were reading it in turns.

The right to have access to periodicals and non-periodicals is limited to only the pro-government media. The detainees are given only newspapers such as *Aydınlık* and *Sabah* which openly support the AKP government. They are not allowed to read magazines.

The detainees with children-in-need, are given the right to keep their children with them only after subjecting them to terrible conditions.

The meals served meals are not sufficient, and are cold most of the time. Children are not provided with separate meals.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in arts and cultural activities or the courses held in the prison. They are not allowed to use the sports facilities of the prison.

Manisa Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Manisa Type E Closed Prison are very bad. The wards are overcrowded, damp and airless. The toilets are often blocked.

The detainees are able to file their petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, accommodate their children-in-need, see their visitors, and place orders in the prison's canteen.

The meals are very bad.

The detainees are able to use the library. However the library does not have all the requested books. The right of having access to periodicals and non-periodicals is given only for the pro-government newspapers. Bringing

the *Yeni Asya* newspaper into the prison is banned.

The detainees are allowed to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

Although the detainees can send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, the detainees receive the letters long after they were sent.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. The only sports they can do is to walk and play ball in the courtyard of the prison.

Manisa Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Manisa Type E Women's Prison are very bad. 30 detainees are forced to stay in an area of just 33 sq metres.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, to see their lawyers and the notary, to use the library, to accommodate their children-in-need, to make telephone calls, to see their visitors, and they are served meals, and can place orders in the prison's canteen.

The detainees can use their right to access to periodicals and non-periodicals in a limited way. Bringing the *Yeni Asya* and *Cumhuriyet* newspapers into the prison is banned.

They can send/receive letters.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. The prison administration tells the detainees that they have not got the right to do sports.

Salihli Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Manisa Salihli Durasılı Prison are very bad. Twenty-eight detainees are kept in a 10-person ward. The detainees are taking it in turns to sleep on the floor-beds they bought from the canteen. Although it is too hot, the prison administration has not responded to the detainees' insistent requests to buy fans for the ward.

The detainees are given only 15 litres of water per person a day. The detainees are forced to pay the electricity bill. Although there is not any legal obligation, the detainees who have grown beards, are forced to shave off their beards. "You are not even allowed to have stubble, otherwise your visits will be cancelled," the guards have threatened.

The detainees face no difficulty in filing petitions and complaints, seeing

their lawyers and the notary, accommodating their children-in-need, using the library, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages, and placing orders in the prison's canteen.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at contact visits held once every 2 months and at weekly non-contact visits held 3 times a month. They can make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

Meals nearly always consist of legumes.

The detainees have got a limited right to read periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. The only sports activity they can do is to walk in the courtyard of the prison. They are not allowed to play basketball or volleyball.

Manisa Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Manisa Type T Enclosed Prison are very bad. The number of detainees kept in the prison is well above its capacity. Thirty detainees are crammed into a 14-person ward. There is only one bathroom and one toilet. Because the ground is covered by beds, not much space is left to move around. When the door to the courtyard is closed at 8 pm, the space becomes even more claustrophobic. Although the weather is unbearably hot, the administration do not allow the detainees to buy an AC device, even though the ventilator fails to satisfy the need. Because of the lack of space, the detainees have to eat their meals in turns. In particular during Ramadan, they suffered great difficulties. Many of the detainees are sleeping on the floor. Those, sleeping on the floor, cannot spend their time during the day on their beds as the others do, as they have to place their bedding under the bunkbeds to open up some space in the ward.

The detainees are able to see their lawyers and the notary, but, because they feel intimidated, the lawyers do not visit their clients regularly.

They can see their visitors, but second degree relatives such as the uncles and aunts of the detainees are not allowed to visit.

The detainees are able to use their communication rights by making 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

They can use the library but with limitations. They can borrow books from the library for a period of 15 days, though they cannot find all the books

they want.

They have limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. Bringing the *Yeni Asya* newspaper into the prison is banned.

The process of sending and receiving letters runs with long delays.

They face great difficulties in accessing healthcare. They have to beg the GP to examine them, and due to there being too many detainees in the queue, they have to wait for at least 2 weeks to be examined.

Although they cannot find everything they want, the detainees can place orders in the prison's canteen. But the prices defined for the items are more expensive than those outside.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. The only sport they can do is to walk in the courtyard of the ward.

Usak Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Usak Prison are very bad. Twenty-five detainees are kept on a 14-person ward, where many of them sleep on bedding on the floor. One-person cupboards are used by two people. The wards are very damp. Hot water is supplied only for one hour a day. Because of this, only 4 people can have shower in one day. On a 10-people ward downstairs, a female detainee is being held on her own. By intentionally leaving the drain covers off, they allow the rats to roam around the wards.

Although the detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, these petitions are not taken into consideration at all by the prison administration. The administration remains unconcerned about the problems of the prison.

The administration raises difficulties in letting the detainees see their lawyers and the notary.

The detainees are able to see their visitors only at non-contact visits held once every week. There are also bars behind the glass panel, which causes problems and makes it very difficult for the detainees to see the faces of their visitors.

The administration cancels contact visits without prior warning, particularly on special days -normally they have to be held once every 2 months. They cancelled the contact visits during the Ramadan Festival, too. During the very few contact visits, the families of all the detainees are forced to sit around one single table, which makes it impossible for the

detainee to hug his relatives. Moreover, neither the detainees, nor their families are informed of the times or dates of possible contact visits.

Regarding the communication rights, the detainees are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

Although the detainees are able to send/receive letters, it takes 20 days for the letters to reach their recipient, even if they are residing in the same city. They are denied the right to send/receive fax and telegram messages.

The detainees are prevented from using the library. They are not given any books to read. Even the copies of Qur'an, which they want to perform their prayers, are given in a limited number. Because of this, the detainees have to read the Holy Qur'an in turns.

Detainees are complaining that the food served by the prison is not sufficient.

The detainees face problems in placing orders in the canteen. The items ordered by the detainees are sometimes not delivered for weeks.

The detainees are completely denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities, and they are not allowed to attend the courses held in the prison. In regard to sports, the detainees are only allowed to play volleyball.

Menemen Prison

Physical conditions in the Menemen Prison are very bad. In a 3-person ward, they have placed 8 detainees. Some people are sleeping on the floor. They can go out into the courtyard, which I covered by wire meshing, only until 5pm.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, send/receive letters, and place orders in the prison canteen.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at non-contact visits held every week, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They can make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

Although the detainees can use the library, there are only a few books in the library. The administration does not allow the requested books to be brought into the prison. They have got access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees are served 3 meals a day, but because the meals are prepared

in accordance with the capacity of the prison, they are not sufficient. Because of this, the detainees satisfy their nutritional needs by buying extra food items from the canteen.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. They are not allowed to do sports.

Buca Kaymakci Women's Closed Prison (Prison section is not confirmed)

Physical conditions in the Buca Kaymakçı Prison are very bad. The toilets and the bathrooms in the wards are far from satisfying the needs of the detainees.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints.

The right to see their lawyers and the notary is sometimes restricted. The detainees requests to see their lawyer are sometimes rejected with the answer that there are not enough staff.

The detainees can borrow books from the library without any difficulty.

They face restrictions in having access to periodicals and non-periodicals. Purchasing the *Yeni Asya* newspaper, for example, is not allowed.

The detainees do not face any problem in using their communication right to make telephone calls.

They have no problem in sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages.

They do not face any problems in seeing their visitors.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. They are not allowed to do any sports either.

Kutahya Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Kütahya Type E Prison are very bad. The building is very old and very damp and the wards are overcrowded. Hot water is supplied for only 1.5 hours a day, so there is only 9 minutes for each detainee to have a shower. Tap water is cut off at about 10 in the morning, and is given again for one hour after lunch. Then it is again cut off until the evening meal. The detainees are trying to meet their water needs for performing ablutions and going to the toilet by filling up plastic

bottles. Since the wards are too crowded, many of the detainees are sleeping on the floor. There are not enough cupboards; the personal belongings of many detainees are kept in plastic bags.

The detainees meetings with their lawyers and the notary are held in the presence of a prison guard, in front of a camera.

The detainees see their visitors at weekly held, 30-minute non-contact visits, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. Only 5 visitors are allowed to attend those visits. They are allowed to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees can file petitions and complaints, but with some restrictions.

Although they can use the library, there are very few books available in the library. The administration does not allow the detainees to keep more than 2 copies of the Qur'an on the wards.

The detainees did not have any access to periodicals and non-periodicals before, but recently they have started to get these publications.

The detainees are able to send/receive letters, but the number of pages they can write is limited. They are banned from writing poems, verses of the Qur'an, sayings of the Prophet and prayers in the letters.

They do not face any problems concerning the meals, and they can use the prison's canteen facilities.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison.

Canakkale Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Çanakkale Type E Prison are very bad. The detainees face difficulties when the wards sometimes become overcrowded. They also face problems with the supply of hot water.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints. Generally the requested repairs and refurbishments are carried out on the same day.

They can have meetings with their lawyers and the notary, but these meetings are filmed. Because there are only two rooms available in the prison for meetings with a lawyer, the detainees have to wait their turn.

The detainees can see their visitors at weekly held non-contact visits, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They are allowed to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees have got the right to accommodate their children-in-need, but the conditions of the prison are not suitable for children. This causes problems, because the wards are already overcrowded.

The detainees can send their letters on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. However, they have problems in sending fax and telegram messages.

They are served 3 meals a day. They are served different dishes for lunch and dinner, each of which has got 3 courses. For breakfast, they are served consists of small packs of cheese, olives, etc. and each detainee is given one loaf of bread a day.

On a certain day of the week, the detainees are able to place their orders in the canteen.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison, and they are not allowed to do any sports.

Dinar Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Afyon Dinar Prison are terrible.

The detainees face no difficulty in filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, following radio and television programmes and having access to the Internet, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages, meeting their nutritional needs, seeing their visitors, and placing orders in the prison's canteen.

They have limited access to the library.

The detainees are not allowed to read periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison, and they are not allowed to do any sports.

THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Mersin Tarsus Women's Prison

The detainees are kept in very bad conditions in the Mersin Tarsus Women's Enclosed Prison. This prison is 80 years old and it is one of the

oldest penal institutions in Turkey. The walls are 70cm thick. The windows are 30x30cm, and are 2.5 metres above the ground. The ceramic tiles in the bathrooms are broken. Hot water is not supplied, the detainees are forced to have cold showers. The prison has got no central heating system; the detainees use stoves for heating. The number of toilets and bathrooms is not sufficient. Seventy women detainees are crammed into a 17-person ward. Some of the detainees have got their babies staying with them. Every inch of the wards is occupied by bunk-beds, so there is no room left to move about in. In a 30 sq metre room, there are 13 bunk-beds! The floor is not covered with hygienic floor tiles.

Detainees are not allowed to request to see their lawyers or the notary. Only if the lawyer comes to the prison, the client is able to see him. The detainees face difficulties in seeing the notary. The administration prevents the detainees from giving their power of attorney in order to transfer the ownership of their vehicles and properties.

The detainees are able to see their families at 20-minute weekly non-contact visits, and 45-minute contact visits held once every 2 months. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees are able to file petitions, but the prison administration does not take any notice of these petitions.

The detainees are able to use the library. But they have limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. They are not given the books brought from outside, including copies of the Holy Qur'an.

The detainees are given the right to accommodate their children-in-need in the prison, but they are not supplied with separate meals or beds. The babies have to share whatever their mother is served. They only supply some food items such as milk and biscuits.

They do not face any problem in sending/receiving letters, and satisfying their nutritional needs.

The detainees stated that the behaviour of the prison guards towards the detainees is very rude and offensive.

Only those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities, and courses held in the prison. They are not allowed to use the sports facilities either.

Silifke Type M Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Mersin Silifke Closed Type M Prison are very

bad. The building is 40 years old and its walls are 70cm thick. The windows are 30x30cm, and are situated at 1.5 metre above the ground. The ceramic tiles in the bathrooms are broken. Hot water is not supplied, the detainees are forced to have cold showers. The prison has got a central heating system. In an 8-person ward, 18 detainees are kept, and many of them are sleeping on the floor. There is not much room in the wards to move about. The toilets and the bathrooms are in the same place and there are not enough of them. Walls are damp and there are water leaks. There are no cupboards for the detainees to put their belongings in.

The detainees are able to see their lawyers and the notary under a camera and a prison guard is always present.

The detainees are able to see their families at 40-minute non-contact visits held once every 2 weeks, and 45-minute contact visits held once every 2 months. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees are able to file their petitions and complaints. However, the prison administration becomes irritated by those who file petitions and moves them to another ward.

The detainees are able to request only the books available in the library, by filling in a request form.

They are able to read periodicals and non-periodicals. They can watch television, but they are not allowed to listen to the radio and have not got any access to the Internet.

They do not have any problem in sending/receiving letters.

There is not any problem in satisfying their nutritional needs. They can place orders in the canteen once a week.

Only those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison. They are not allowed to do any sports either.

Mersin Tarsus Closed Prison

As is the case with other prisons, physical conditions in the Mersin Tarsus Men's Closed Prison, too, are very bad. The wards are too small, claustrophobic and derelict. The walls are 70cm thick and the 30x30cm windows are situated 2.5 metre above the ground. The ceramic tiles in the bathrooms are broken. Hot water is not supplied, the detainees are forced to have cold showers. The prison has no central heating system; the

detainees are using stoves for heating. The number of toilets and bathrooms is not sufficient. Sixty detainees are crammed into a 26-person ward. There is no room for social activities in the prison.

Detainees are not allowed to request to see their lawyers or the notary. Only if the lawyer comes to the prison, the client is able to see him. The detainees face difficulties in seeing the notary. The administration prevents the detainees from giving their power of attorney in order to transfer the ownership of their vehicles and properties.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at 20-minute weekly non-contact visits, and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees are able to file petitions, but the prison administration does not take any notice of these petitions.

The detainees are able to borrow books from the library, but there are only a few books available in the library. They have got the right to access – although limited– to periodicals and non-periodicals.

They have not got any problems in sending/receiving letters, and satisfying their nutritional needs.

The prison's canteen has a very limited range of products.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison.

Mersin Tarsus Women's Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the prison are very bad. The wards are too small, claustrophobic and dirty. The walls are 70cm thick, and the windows are 30x30cm, and are situated at 2.5 metres above the ground. The prison has no central heating system. Natural gas is not connected. There is not enough toilets and bathrooms. In 14-person wards, 24 detainees are kept. The wards have no suitable facilities for detainees with little children.

The tiles in the toilets and bathrooms are dirty and they are not cleaned at all. Because the prison was opened before the construction had finished, there is construction debris in many places. There is a water shortage in the prison, and hot water is not supplied at all. The detainees are forced to have cold showers. There are a lot of mosquitoes in the prison, and the administration does not take any measures to sort this problem out. Prison guards smoke cigarettes in closed areas.

Detainees are not allowed to request to see their lawyers or the notary. Only if the lawyer comes to the prison, the client is able to see him. The

detainees face difficulties in seeing the notary.

The detainees are able to see their families at 20-minute weekly non-contact visits, and 30-minute contact visits held once every 2 months. They are denied the right to make telephone calls on the excuse that there is not the adequate infrastructure.

The detainees are able to file petitions, but the prison administration does not take any notice of these petitions.

The right to send/receive letters is restricted. The letters of the detainees are not posted for weeks.

The detainees have got limited access to the library. They allow only 2 copies of the Holy Qur'an to be kept on a 14-person ward. They have not got the right to access periodicals and non-periodicals.

The canteen of the prison has a very poor range of products, but the detainees have not got any problems in satisfying their nutritional needs.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities. They are not allowed to attend the courses held in the prison, nor can they use the sports facilities

Adana Kurkçuler Prison

In the Adana Kürkçüler Prison, the detainees are not allowed to request to see their lawyers or the notary. Only if the lawyer comes to the prison, the client is able to see him. The detainees face difficulties in seeing the notary, too.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at 30-minute weekly non-contact visits, and 45-minute contact visits held once a month. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints.

They can borrow books from the library by requesting a book on the list provided. They have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees have got the right to accommodate their children-in-need in the prison, but these children are not given separate meals or beds. They have to share whatever their mothers are given. But the administration supplies some food such as milk and biscuits for them.

They are able to send/receive letters.

The detainees have no problems with the meals served.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in the arts and cultural activities. They are not allowed to attend the courses held in the prison, nor can they use the sports facilities.

Osmaniye Type T Closed Prison

In Osmaniye Type T Enclosed Prison, 24 detainees are kept on 10-person wards. Sixteen of the detainees are sleeping on bunk-beds, while 8 of them are sleeping on the floor. Twenty-four detainees have to use only 1 bathroom and 1 toilet.

Because the prison is situated next to an industrial estate, a nasty strong smell and dust comes enters the wards. The wards, including their courtyards, do not get any sunlight for 6 months of the a year.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints.

Detainees are not allowed to request to see their lawyers or the notary. Only if the lawyer comes to the prison, the client is able to see him. The detainees face difficulties in seeing the notary, too. The administration prevents the detainees from giving their power of attorney in order to transfer the ownership of their vehicles and properties. There are only 3 meeting rooms for lawyers in the prison and at least 3 prison guards are present during the meetings of the lawyers with the detainees.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at 40-minute non-contact visits held once every 2 weeks, and 45-minute contact visits held once every 2 months. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks

They can borrow books from the library by requesting a book from the list of books provided. They have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. They can listen to the radio and watch television programmes, but they have not got any access to the Internet.

The detainees can send and receive letters on one day of the week.

They have not got any problems with the meals, and they can place orders in the canteen on one day of the week.

Only those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities. They are not allowed to attend the courses held in the prison or to use the sports facilities.

Hatay Iskenderun Type T Prison

Physical conditions in the Hatay İskenderun Type T Prison are very bad. The number of detainees kept in the prison is well above its capacity. Twenty-eight detainees are kept in 14-person wards.

The detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, use the library, make telephone calls, send/receive letters, satisfy their nutritional needs (although the meals served are not sufficient), place orders in the canteen and see their visitors.

However, they are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities, have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, use the sports facilities and attend the courses held in the prison.

Alanya Type L Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Alanya Prison have some deficiencies.

The detainees are denied the right to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, participate in arts and cultural activities, use the library, have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, accommodate their children-in-need, use the sports facilities and attend the courses held in the prison.

Although in some matters they are restricted, the detainees are able to: make telephone calls, listen to the radio and watch television programmes, and have access to the Internet, send/receive letters, and fax and telegram messages, satisfy their nutritional needs, see their visitors, and place orders from the canteen.

Isparta Type E Closed Prison

There are some deficiencies in the physical conditions of the Isparta Type E Prison.

The detainees have no difficulty in: filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, using the library, having access to periodicals and non-periodicals, accommodating their children-in-need, making telephone calls, sending/receiving letters, and fax and telegram messages, satisfying their nutritional needs, seeing their visitors, using the sports facilities, attending the courses, and placing orders in the canteen.

However, they are not allowed to participate in arts and cultural activities.

Burdur Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Burdur Type E Prison are very bad. Forty-two detainees have been crammed in to 15-person wards. There is only 1 toilet and 1 bathroom on each ward. Six detainees are sleeping in the room allocated as a kitchen.

The meetings with the lawyers and the notary used to be held under camera, but at present, the prison guards are also present at these meetings.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at weekly non-contact visits, and contact visits held once every 2 months. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

They do not attend to sick people on time. The detainees are handcuffed to the stretcher.

The detainees are able to file their petitions and complaints.

Although they can use the library, they are not given books on every ward. They can have access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees very restrictedly use their right to accommodate their children-in-need. A detainee with a 1.5-year-old child, for example, was not allowed to have a separate bed for her baby.

The detainees are able to watch television, but listening to the radio and using the Internet are not allowed.

They are able to send/receive letters, and fax and telegram messages.

They have no problem with the meals served. They can place orders in the canteen.

The detainees are denied the right to take part in arts and cultural activities, to use sports facilities and attend the courses held in the prison.

Antalya Type L Closed Prison

Physical conditions and facilities in the Antalya Döşemealtı Type L Prison are terrible. The wards are overcrowded. Forty-two detainees are crammed into 16-person wards. Because of this, there is not enough space to move around inside the wards, which have no ventilation.

They do not allow the detainees to see their lawyers or the notary in a suitable environment. A prison guard is always watching over their meetings. These meetings are also sound and video recorded. However, the detainees do not face difficulties concerning the procedures they conduct with the notary.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at weekly non-contact visits and contact visits held once every 2 months. Although they were prevented from making telephone calls just after the July 15 event, they are now able to use their communication rights and make 10-minute telephone calls every fortnight.

In the early days of their detention, the detainees had difficulty in filing petitions and complaints, but in the interviews with the families we came to the conclusion that these problems have been solved now. The petitions generally reach their recipients.

Although they can use the library, there are only a few books in the library. They have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. Very few newspapers and magazines are brought to the prison.

The detainees are completely denied the right to send/receive letters, and fax and telegram messages.

They do not have any problem in satisfying their nutritional needs.

At certain hours of the day, the detainees are able to use the sports facilities.

However, they are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities held in the prison.

Kahramanmaras Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions of Kahramanmaraş Type E Enclosed Prison are very bad. The wards are overcrowded. There are 60-70 detainees staying in only one ward. Toilets and bathrooms are far from meeting the needs of the detainees.

The detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, use the canteen facilities, meet their nutritional needs and see their visitors.

They are, however, denied their right to participate in the arts and cultural activities, have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages.

They can use the library services.

They can make telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

Anamur Type T Closed Prison

As is the case in many other prisons, physical conditions in the Anamur Enclosed Prison are really bad. There are 24 detainees staying in 12-person wards. Sixteen detainees sleep on bunk-beds, while 8 of them have to sleep on the floor. They all have to share only 1 bathroom and 1 toilet.

Detainees are not allowed to request to see their lawyers or the notary. Only if the lawyer comes to the prison, then he can see his client. The detainees face difficulties in seeing the notary, too. The administration prevents the detainees from giving their power of attorney in order to transfer the ownership of their vehicles and properties.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at weekly 40-minute non-contact visits, and 45-minute contact visits held once every 2 months.

They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks

The detainees are able to write petitions and use their right to complain.

They can borrow books from the library by requesting a book on the list of books provided. They have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

They are able to send/receive letters on one day of the week.

They have no problem with the meals served. They can place orders in the canteen on one weekday.

Only those who are detained under the claim of being members of the Gulen Movement, are not allowed to use the sports facilities and attend the courses held in the prison.

CENTRAL ANATOLIA REGION

Konya Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the 30-year-old Konya Type E Closed Prison are very bad. In 16-person wards, 50-55 people are staying. Three detainees take it in turns to sleep on one bed. The mattresses are very old and dirty. All of the 55 detainees have to use only 1 bathroom, 1 toilet and 1 sink. The wards are airless and damp, and the walls are covered with patches of mould. Because the building is not maintained properly, it is a health hazard. Hot water is generally available. The wards have got a 50 sq metre courtyard, the doors of which are opened at 7am and closed at 7pm. On the wards, the space allocated for the beds and daily living is only 50 sq metres. Including their personal belongings, each of the detainees has a

personal space of only 60 sq centimetres. One cupboard is used by 2 or sometimes 3 people. There are tailoring and ironing services in the prison. The detainees can only launder their sheets and prayer mats.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints.

They can see their lawyers and the notary for 1 hour on one day of the week. Lawyers who represent more than one client have to complete their sessions with all the clients in just 1 hour. They can, however, see the notary without any restrictions.

The detainees can see their visitors for 10 minutes at non-contact visits, and for 45 minutes at contact-visits.

They can borrow books from the library on Tuesdays and Fridays. They have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. The purchasing of the *Yeni Asya* newspaper is banned in the prison.

The can make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The letters written by the detainees are sent on every day of the week, but the letters addressed to them are delivered only on Fridays.

They have no problem with the meals served.

The only sports they can do is playing volleyball in the courtyard.

They are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison.

Konya Ereğli Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the prison are fairly adequate.

In Konya Ereğli Enclosed Type T Prison, the detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, use the library, accommodate their children-in-need in the prison, make telephone calls, send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfy their nutritional needs, and see their visitors.

The detainees are able to read only the periodicals and non-periodicals that are allowed by the prison administration.

Although limited in number and choice, they can place orders in the prison's canteen.

They are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities,

and the courses held in the prison, and are not allowed to use the sports facilities.

Seydisehir Type T Closed Prison

There were no problems expressed by the interviewees concerning the physical conditions in the Konya Seydisehir Enclosed Prison.

The detainees are able to: file their petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, use the library, make telephone calls, send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfy their nutritional needs.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at contact visits held once every 2 months, and at weekly non-contact visits. They are able to make telephone calls once every 15 days.

They are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison, and are not allowed to accommodate their children-in-need, nor use the sports facilities.

The detainees are able to read only the periodicals and non-periodicals that are allowed by the prison administration.

Seydisehir Type T Closed Prison Cell

Physical conditions in the Seydisehir Prison are very bad. The detainees are able to take fresh air for only an hour a day. The detainees are not kept together with other detainees accused of the same claim, but in cells in the block where people who are convicted of severe crimes are kept. While in the other block, 2 detainees are kept in 1-person cells. In the cell, the top of the part containing the toilet and the bathroom is not covered.

The detainees kept in cells are able to: file petitions and complaints, read periodicals and non-periodicals, satisfy their nutritional needs and use the canteen facilities.

They can see their lawyer and the notary for 1 hour.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at weekly non-contact and bi-monthly contact visits. While it is supposed be every week, they are allowed to make telephone calls only once every 2 weeks.

Although they allow the convicts guilty of severe crimes to have radio and television in their cells, those who are not convicted, but held in the cells

under the accusation of being a member of the Gulen Movement are not allowed to have radio and television in their cells.

They are able to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages to/from only their first degree family members.

They are not given a copy of the Holy Qur'an. Although they are kept in solitary confinement, they are not allowed to have an alarm clock to enable them to wake up for night and morning prayers.

They are denied the right to use the library, participate in the arts and cultural activities and courses held in the prison, and they are not allowed to use the sports facilities.

Nigde Type E Closed Prison

In Niğde Type E Closed Prison, the detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, satisfy their nutritional needs and use the sports facilities.

Visits are held as bi-weekly non-contact visits and bi-monthly contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

They can send/receive letters.

They are denied the right to use the library, participate in the arts and cultural activities and courses.

Kirsehir Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Kirsehir Closed Prison are very bad and the wards are very overcrowded. There are 15-20 people staying on 5-person wards.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints. However, it is reported that the prison administration arbitrarily sweep all the petitions they consider opposing under the carpet, and reject all the requests related to health issues.

The detainees are very much restricted in seeing their lawyers and the notary. Most of their lawyers have been accused of some claims and put into custody. On the other hand, many of the lawyers appointed by the Bar are misleading the detainees, who have not been convicted of any crime, by telling them, "Confess, and save yourself". All talks with the lawyers and their clients are sound and video recorded. If there is no

camera recording, there is always a guard witnessing the counselling session. Thus, the detainees are denied the right to have a private conversation with their lawyers and prepare their defence statements.

The detainees are allowed to make 10-minute telephone calls once a week. Some of the detainees, however, are denied this right.

The right to use the library is allowed only for books supporting the AKP government, defined by the prison administration, and there are very few books in the library.

The right to read periodicals and non-periodicals is also allowed but only for the pro-government newspapers.

The detainees have limited right to accommodate their children-in-need. The children who stay with their mothers are kept in the prison, under very hard conditions and exposed to infections. These children do not have the right to go outside in the fresh air. Even the windows of the wards are kept closed. It is unbearably airless inside the wards.

They are able to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages.

The meals served by the prison are not sufficient and the quality is very poor.

Regarding sports, in the beginning the detainees were allowed to play football, but now this is banned.

They are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison.

Corum Type L Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Çorum Type L Prison are very bad. The wards are overcrowded. Forty-nine people are crammed into 23-person wards where they have to share only 1 toilet and 1 bathroom. The water is frequently cut off, it is not running sometimes for 10 hours a day.

The detainees are able to: see their lawyers and the notary, read periodicals and non-periodicals, listen to the radio and watch television programmes, satisfy their nutritional needs and use the canteen facilities.

They are allowed to be visited by only their first degree family members. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

Although the detainees have the right write petitions and complaints,

these are not taken into consideration by the prison administration. For example, detainees complained that there is only one tap head for both the tap in the bathroom and the tap for the only toilet in the wards and that they have to unscrew it to use it either on the sink or on the toilet. For 2 months, they have kept on writing petitions to the administration requesting a separate tap head to be installed but to no avail.

The detainees are denied the right to use the library. However, they are able to order books from outside the prison.

The detainees are able to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages to/from only their first degree family members.

They are denied the right to participate in the arts and cultural activities and the courses held in the prison, and they are not allowed to use the sports facilities.

Sivas Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Sivas Type E Prison are very bad. The wards are too small and the number of detainees kept in the prison is well above the capacity of the prison. Three detainees are taking it in turns to sleep on one bed. Too many detainees are staying on the wards, and they have got only one toilet and one bathroom.

The detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, use the library, make telephone calls, send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfy nutritional needs and see their visitors.

However, they are denied their rights to: take part in the arts and cultural activities and the courses, held in the prison, read periodicals and non-periodicals, accommodate their children-in-need, listen to the radio and watch television programmes, have access to the Internet or use the sports facilities.

Nevşehir Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions of Nevşehir Prison are very bad. The wards are overcrowded and airless. They do not supply enough amount of water.

The detainees in Nevşehir Prison do not face problems while using their rights to; file their petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, read periodicals and non-periodicals, make telephone calls, send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfy nutritional needs, see their visitors, make sports, and use the canteen facilities.

Nevşehir Type E Closed Prison (Women's)

The detainees in the Nevşehir Women's Closed Prison are deprived of using their rights to: take part in the arts and cultural activities, use the library, read periodicals and non-periodicals, accommodate their children-in-need, listen to the radio and watch television programmes, have access to the Internet, use the library and the sports facilities, and attend courses.

They are able to poorly satisfy their nutritional needs and have limited access to the canteen facilities.

Eskisehir Prison

The prison does not meet the needs of the detainees and the physical conditions are bad. There are 25 detainees staying in 14-person wards. Each ward has only got one toilet. Before every prayer time, the detainees have to wait for at least half an hour to be able to use the washroom. Hot water is supplied 3 times a week for only 3 hours. In other words, all of the 25 people are compelled to take their showers in only 3 hours.

The petitions and complaints of the detainees are left unanswered, or even their most simple requests are rejected for reasons of security with the statement, "It is deemed inappropriate".

The detainees are allowed to see their lawyers for half an hour per week. These meetings are sound and video recorded and a prison guard is always present.

Although they have the right to see their visitors at weekly non-contact visits and monthly contact visits, the detainees in the Eskisehir prison are allowed to see their visitors at non-contact visits held once a fortnight and at contact visits held once every 2 months. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every week.

Although the detainees have the right to borrow one book a week from the library, there are not enough books in the library to be able to do this. They waited 10 weeks to borrow one particular book and even then this was not possible. They also had difficulty in getting copies of the Holy Qur'an, but now with the copies sent by the Directorate of Religious Affairs, this problem has been solved. However, sometimes these copies of the Qur'an are collected and are given back for a few weeks for reasons such as, "There will be a stock take".

Regarding access to periodicals and non-periodicals, the detainees are able to subscribe to monthly newspapers. Although the *Yeni Asya* newspaper was previously banned, since March, it has been allowed to bring this newspaper into the prison.

Letters reach detainees within 3-5 weeks.

Although the meals are good, the portions served to each person are inadequate. The breakfasts are very insubstantial: e.g. 4 or 5 olives and a piece of white cheese the size of a small matchbox; or 1 small bowl of sesame paste and grape molasses served for 10 people.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, attend courses and use the sports facilities. Even the ball that the detainees made out of old socks has been impounded.

Eskisehir Type H Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Eskisehir Type H Closed Prison are as follows: the lower floors of the double storey wards are allocated to living space, kitchen, toilet and bathroom and the upper floors are allocated to sleeping space. Sometimes there are not enough beds available on the wards, so some of the detainees have to sleep on the floor. In 24-person wards, there are sometimes more than 24 detainees. The door to the 30 sq metre courtyard is opened in the morning and closed in the evening.

The detainees are allowed to see their lawyers for 30-minute meetings which they can hold between 8am and 5pm on only one day of the week. These meetings are filmed and a prison guard is always present.

Visitors can see the detainees at weekly 30-minute non-contact visits and at bi-monthly 45-minute contact visits. The detainees are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

They can borrow books from the library for 15 days. In terms of having access to periodicals and non-periodicals, the detainees are able to buy only the newspapers allowed by the prison administration. Buying the *Yeni Asya* newspaper is banned by the administration.

The detainees are not allowed to accommodate their children-in-need with them.

Regarding the right to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, the detainees are able to send their letters on 2 days of the week (Tuesday and Thursday), and the letters sent to them are delivered on Wednesdays and Fridays. They are not allowed to send/receive fax and telegram messages.

The meals that are served by the prison do not provide proper nourishment. Breakfasts are not served regularly. They sometimes give cheese, olives and jam. Generally two-course meals are served for lunch and dinner. Each detainee is given 2 bread rolls every day.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, to attend courses and use the sports facilities.

Ankara Sincan Prison

Physical conditions in the Ankara Sincan Prison are very bad. There are 30-40 people detained in 16-18-person wards.

Some of the detainees are not taken to the courthouse on the days of court hearings. Although the detainees have written complaints about this situation, the prison administration keeps turning a blind eye to the problem.

The detainees do not have any problem in seeing their lawyers and the notary.

They can see their visitors at bi-weekly 30-minute non-contact visits and at bi-monthly contact visits. Because the prison administration counts the days of court hearings as contact visits, the detainees' contact visit rights corresponding to those days are being cancelled. The detainees are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every 2 weeks.

The detainees have limited access to the library. They are allowed to buy only certain periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees are able to: send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfy their nutritional needs and use the canteen facilities.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, attend courses and use the sports facilities.

Kirikkale Keskin Type T Closed Prison

The number of people detained in the Kirikkale Keskin Closed Prison is well above the capacity of its wards. Because of this, many detainees have to sleep on the floor.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints, satisfy their nutritional needs and use the canteen facilities.

They do not face any problems in seeing their lawyers and the notary.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at bi-weekly non-contact and at bi-monthly contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every 2 weeks.

They have limited access to the library. The prison administration neither

buys nor gives any book by a publisher other than those allowed by the administration. The detainees have also got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. They are able to read only the newspapers allowed by the administration.

Although they can use their right to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, it takes a whole month for the letters to reach their recipients.

The detainees are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, to attend courses and to use the sports facilities.

BLACK SEA REGION

Zonguldak Type M Closed Prison (Women's)

Physical conditions in the Zonguldak Beycuma Type M Women's Prison are very bad. There are 28 people detained on 18-person wards and there are only 18 beds in the wards. There is only one toilet and one bathroom on each ward.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints.

They can use their right to see their lawyers and the notary.

The detainees are able to use the library.

They are also able to use their rights regarding reading periodicals and non-periodicals, and choosing their clothes.

The detainees with children-in-need are only allowed to keep with their children who are younger than 6 years old with them.

The detainees are allowed to make telephone calls, and can have radio and television on their wards.

The detainees are able to: send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, practise their faith, satisfy their nutritional needs, reject the food and drinks served by the prison, see their visitors, do sports and use the library.

The detainees are denied their right to participate in arts and cultural activities.

Bartın Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Bartın Prison are quite bad. The wards are overcrowded and there is an insufficient number of beds. Sixteen

detainees are staying on 10-person wards, and 25 detainees are crammed into 10-person wards. For this reason, the detainees are taking it in turns to use the beds. The wards are very stuffy and airless.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at weekly non-contact and monthly contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every 2 weeks.

The detainees do not face problems in: filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, taking part in arts and cultural activities, using the library, getting the clothes they want, sending/receiving letters, satisfying their nutritional needs and rejecting the food and drinks they are served.

They are allowed to use their right to get periodicals and non-periodicals for only the pro-government newspapers. Bringing the *Yeni Asya* newspaper into the prison is banned.

The detainees suffer some difficulties in practising their religion freely. They are able to perform their prayers, but are having difficulties in taking ablutions and having showers.

Because the prison is packed-full of detainees, the sports facilities are full as well.

Trabzon Bahcecik Type E Prison

The detainees in the Trabzon Bahçecik Type E Closed Prison are able to: file their petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary and use the canteen facilities.

They are able to see their visitors at weekly non-contact and bi-monthly contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every 2 weeks.

The detainees are allowed to watch television, but they can neither listen to the radio, nor use the Internet.

They are able to use the library, from which they can borrow 3 books a week.

They are able to send/receive letters, but the letters are delivered very late.

According to the interviewees, the detainees state that the meals served by the prison are fairly good.

Vezirkopru Type M Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Samsun Vezirköprü Type M Closed Prison are very bad. Fourteen people are detained on 6-person wards. The wards are cleaned but the lighting is poor.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints.

The detainees do not have any problem in seeing their lawyers and the notary.

Although they are able to see their visitors, the monthly contact visits have been reduced to bimonthly contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every 2 weeks.

There is no problem in using the library. They are able to get periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees with small children are not allowed to keep their children-in-need with them, for reasons of “terrorism”.

They do not face any problem in sending/receiving letters, fax and telegrams.

The meals, served by the prison are sufficient and regularly provided. They are also able to use the canteen facilities of the prison.

The detainees who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement, are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities, and courses, and they are allowed to use the sports facilities.

Samsun Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Samsun Type E Prison are very bad. The warden of the prison remains unconcerned about the problems of the prison. This is a very old prison. A cold draught always blows under the doors and the sides of the windows, from which the detainees seriously suffer in winter. There are 36 people detained on 20-person wards. The number of beds is insufficient; 2 beds are allocated for 3 detainees. Each ward has got only one toilet and one bathroom. Hot water is given only between 11am and 1pm. Due to this, one detainee has only 12 minutes to have his shower and he can only have a shower once every 4 days. Long queues form in front of the toilets.

The detainees cannot efficiently use their right to file petitions and complaints. The petitions submitted to the administration are not taken seriously and no action is taken.

Conversations with lawyers are being recorded. A prison guard also attends the meeting. And the meetings with the lawyers are limited to only 10 minutes.

The detainees are able to see their visitors at bi-weekly non-contact and bi-monthly contact visits. However, sometimes their right to see their family members at contact visits are being arbitrarily cancelled. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls every 2 weeks, however, the administration arbitrarily changes the hours of these calls every week.

The library is very poor in terms of the variety and number of books available. Although the detainees were told that they could use the library as they liked, they are banned from reading some books, especially the collection of *Risale-i Nur*. They have limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals. Bringing the *Yeni Asya* newspaper into the prison is banned.

They are experiencing problems in sending/receiving letters and fax messages. It takes about 2 months for the letters to reach their recipients. Even fax messages take 17 days to reach their destination.

They do not have serious issues concerning the meals served by the prison.

The detainees who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement, are treated as if they are convicted of “aggravated life sentence” and they are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities. They are not allowed to attend the courses, nor allowed to use the sports facilities.

The detainees are being completely deprived of the sports facilities. They are not allowed to use any of the sports facilities. They are allowed to go out to the courtyard for only 1 hour a day. The wards are too small even to stand up in, let alone to do any kind of sports in.

Bafra Type T Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Samsun Bafra Type T Closed Prison are bad. In the prison, hot water is supplied for only 2 hours a day. Twenty people are detained on one ward. Turns for having a shower come every other day for each person, but they have to complete their shower in only 9 minutes. The tap water is cut off at midnight and is turned on again at 6 o'clock in the morning. When they are asked the reason for the water cuts, they claim breakages or water shortages are the reason.

The detainees are denied their right to participate in the arts and cultural activities. The administration organises quiz programmes, and Qur'an recitation contests once a month. However, those who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement, are denied the right to take part

in these contests.

Again, the detainees accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement are not allowed to use the library either.

While the right to make telephone calls is supposed to be given every week, those who are detained under the claim of being a member of the Gülen Movement are allowed to make the 10-minute telephone calls once every two weeks.

Listening to the radio is also banned for only those who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement while others are allowed to listen.

The detainees face great difficulties when sending/receiving their letters, fax and telegram messages. Although normally the letters and fax messages are delivered to the detainees twice a week, the letters and fax messages of those who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement are deliberately kept aside until Friday.

The meals served to the detainees are far from satisfactory. For breakfast, they are only given one bread roll, one small pack of jam and a glass of tea. On other days of the week, the jam is alternated with chocolate spread, sesame paste and grape molasses or one egg. The detainees are trying to meet their needs with the groceries they buy from the prison's canteen.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at bi-weekly non-contact, and bi-monthly contact visits. In the beginning, the non-contact visits were held weekly, while the contact visits were held monthly. When this is explained to the prison administration, it is said that there are too many people in the prison. They pointed out the same reason for reducing the duration of visits to half an hour or 45 minutes, when they are supposed to be one hour.

Those who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement are denied the right to use the sports facilities and participate in the courses.

The detainees do not face any problem in using the canteen facilities.

They, however, have great difficulty having their hair cut. Despite the fact that there is a separate room in the prison for hairdressing and shaving services, those who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement are not allowed to go to that room. Instead, barbers are coming into their wards and cut their hair in the compartment of the ward where the kitchen is, and leave remnants of hairs everywhere on the ward. Barbers do not groom the detainees' hair, instead, they just shave off the detainees' hair with an electric shaver.

Sinop Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Sinop Prison are very bad. There are 20-25 people detained on 6-person wards. The bathroom, toilet, kitchen and sleeping quarters are all in one place.

The detainees are restricted in using their rights: to see their lawyers and the notary, use the library, read periodicals and non-periodicals and satisfy their nutritional needs.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at bi-weekly non-contact and bi-monthly contact visits. Only their first degree family members can visit them. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints and use the canteen facilities.

Although they were not allowed to in the beginning, recently they have started to be able to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages.

The detainees are not allowed to take part in arts and cultural activities or the courses. They cannot listen to the radio or watch television programmes. They have not got any access to the Internet and they are not able to use the sports facilities or the library.

Amasya Type E Closed Prison

The detainees state that physical conditions in the Amasya Prison are very bad.

The detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, read periodicals and non-periodicals, see their visitors, make telephone calls, listen to the radio and watch television programmes and send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages.

They have got limited access to the library. Their requests for some books are rejected.

The meals served by the prison are not good. The detainees have to compensate by buying groceries from the canteen.

The detainees are prevented from participating in arts and cultural activities. They are not allowed even to have a bağlama (musical instrument with three strings). They are not allowed to use the sports facilities or to attend the courses held in the prison.

SOUTHEAST ANATOLIA REGION

Diyarbakir Type D High Security Prison

Physical conditions in the Diyarbakir Type High Security Prison are really bad. There is condensation and mould on the walls, and it is cleaned by the detainees with pieces of clothes. The wards and general parts of the prison are dirty.

The detainees do not face any problems in: filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, using the library, sending/receiving letters, satisfying their nutritional needs and placing orders in the canteen.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at monthly contact visits, and at weekly non-contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

They are denied access to all periodicals and non-periodicals. Despite their persistent requests, the *Yeni Asya* newspaper is still not brought to the prison.

Those who are detained or convicted with the crime of being a member of Hezbollah or the PKK, are able to use this right. Those who are accused of being a member of the Gülen Movement are denied the right to participate in arts and cultural activities.

Sirnak Type D Closed Prison

No negative remarks have been made about the physical conditions in the Şirnak Prison.

The detainees do not face great problems in: filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, using the library, reading periodicals and non-periodicals, accommodating their children-in-need with them, making telephone calls, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfying their nutritional needs, seeing their visitors and using the canteen facilities.

Television can be watched on the wards.

The detainees are not allowed to do sports or participate in arts and cultural activities.

Mardin and Kızıltepe Prisons

Physical conditions in the Mardin and Kızıltepe Prisons are moderate.

The detainees do not face problems in: filing their petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, reading periodicals and non-periodicals, making telephone calls, listening to the radio and watching television programmes, sending/receiving letters, satisfying their nutritional needs, seeing their visitors, doing sports or using the canteen facilities.

The detainees, however, are not allowed to participate in arts and cultural activities, use the library, keep their children-in-need with them or attend the courses held in the prison.

Kilis Type L Closed Prison

Compared to many prisons, the physical conditions in the Kilis Type L Prison are much better. However, they have got problems with the hot water. They are supplied hot water only 2 days of the week.

The detainees do not have any problem in filing petitions and complaints. They are able to regularly submit their requests for release.

They are allowed to see their lawyers and the notary.

The detainees do not face any problems in seeing their visitors, and they can make telephone calls.

They are allowed to use the library and attend the courses.

They are also able to send/receive letters without facing any problems.

Regarding the meals served by the prison, the detainees state that the amount and nutritional value of the meals served is insufficient.

They have limited access to the sports facilities.

Gaziantep Type H Closed Prison

The wards of the Gaziantep Type H Closed Prison are duplexes. The upper floors are used as sleeping quarters. However, due to the leaks in the roof, when it rains, it causes mould to form on the ceiling. The detainees complained about this to the administration, but the reply was, "There is nothing we can do about it. The building is old, and it will stay as it is." Average 10 to a maximum of 13 people are detained on the wards.

The detainees are able to file petitions and complaints. Generally, they

receive a reply to their requests. Oral requests are not accepted.

The detainees are able to see their lawyers for only 10 minutes during working hours. This restriction is applied only to those who are detained under the claim of being a member of the Gulen Movement. When they are asked the reason for this discriminatory restriction, they reply, "This is the order from above." The meetings of the detainees with their lawyers are filmed and sound recorded. Those who are detained for being a member of ISIS, however, do not face the duration and working hour restriction. These detainees are free to see their lawyers whenever and for as long as they want. In seeing the notary, on the other hand, the detainees do not face any problems.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at weekly 30-minute non-contact, and monthly 30-minute contact visits. They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 15 days.

The detainees are allowed to borrow 2 books a day from the library. Regarding the right to have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, if they subscribe to a newspaper, it is delivered to them. The prison administration does not allow any Qur'an version or collection of *Risale-i Nur* other than those which are published by the Directorate of Religious Affairs. Recently, though, they have started to accept *Risale-i Nur* and *Jawshan* books published by the Zehra Foundation.

Concerning the children-in-need of the detainees, the administration says that they can allow the child to stay with the mother as long as the child will stay permanently not temporarily.

The detainees do not face any problems in sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages.

The detainees are able to use the canteen facilities by written request.

The detainees are not allowed to: participate in arts and cultural activities, use the sports facilities or attend the courses held in the prison. The administration explains this ban by saying that it is because they are detained not convicted. These bans are not applied to the convicts.

Sanliurfa Hilvan Type Prison No.2

The people detained in Sanliurfa Hilvan Type T Prison No 2 do not experience any problems in: filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, making telephone calls, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages, satisfying their nutritional needs, seeing their visitors or using the canteen facilities.

The number of detainees kept in the prison is above the capacity of the prison.

EAST ANATOLIA REGION

Erzurum Prison (Prison section is not confirmed)

It is stated that the physical conditions in the Erzurum Prison are moderate.

The detainees have got a very limited right to file petitions and complaints. It takes 2 months for a submitted petition to reach the prison administration. Application forms, which are required to be printed, such as the application forms to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), are not allowed in the prison.

The detainees have got the right to see their lawyers once a month, but generally such meetings have been held once every 2 months.

The detainees are allowed to see their visitors at contact visits held once every 9-10 weeks. It has been observed that the detainees have been denied the right to see their visitors during religious festivals.

The detainees are able to make 10-minute telephone calls once every 2 weeks. But the day and the hour of the phone calls are chosen arbitrarily by the administration, which causes great inconvenience for the families of the detainees.

The detainees have got very limited access to the library, and they are allowed to borrow only the books available in the library. As of November 2016, the administration has not allowed any book to be taken into the prison.

Regarding the right to read periodicals and non-periodicals, the detainees are allowed to read only the pro-government newspapers.

The detainees have not got any problem regarding clothes.

The detainees are allowed to send/receive letters, fax and telegram messages, but since November 2016, it takes too long -about 10 weeks- for the letters to reach their recipients. And it is stated that many of the letters have not reached their destination at all.

The detainees are not allowed to be examined by a doctor at a hospital,

only by the prison GP. It is said that the GP prescribes only pain killers to treat the detainees' illnesses.

The detainees are not allowed to do any sports activities, other than those they do themselves in the courtyard.

They are not allowed to attend the courses held in the prison.

The detainees are also deprived of their educational rights. Academics, for example, are not allowed to attend their PhD courses held at the universities they have been a student of.

Bitlis Type E Closed Prison

Physical conditions in the Bitlis Type E Prison are bad for the detainees.

The detainees do not face any problem in terms of: filing petitions and complaints, seeing their lawyers and the notary, participating in arts and cultural activities, using the library, sending/receiving letters, fax and telegram messages and using the canteen.

They are allowed to see their visitors at weekly 15-minute non-contact, and monthly 45-minute contact visits.

They are able to make 10-minute telephone calls, once every 2 weeks.

The detainees have got limited access to periodicals and non-periodicals.

The detainees with children-in-need are not allowed to keep their children with them.

They are denied the right to use the sports facilities.

Adiyaman Type E Closed Prison

Compared to many other prisons, the physical conditions in the Adiyaman Type E Enclosed Prison are very good.

The detainees are able to: file petitions and complaints, see their lawyers and the notary, participate in arts and cultural activities, use the library, have access to periodicals and non-periodicals, accommodate their children-in-need, send/receive letters, satisfy their nutritional needs, make sports, use canteen facilities and use their rights to healthcare.

They make telephone calls once every 2 weeks.

They can use the library.

The detainees are denied the right to attend the courses held in the prison.

CONCLUSION

The extent of the widespread rights violations in Turkey's prisons revealed by this report, without even going so far as to disclose the individual victimisation occurring such as: beatings, rape and torture, is alarming. And what is more, these violations are only the ones that have been leaked, despite intense efforts by the government to prevent the national and international public from learning of the human rights violations which are occurring in prisons. It is not difficult to predict that the details of much more serious violations would be revealed if independent national and international organisations were allowed to visit those prisons and to hold one-to-one meetings with the detainees.

The rights violations that are being committed in Turkey's prisons not only breach the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and Prison Management, European Prison Rules and other related international treaties, but also openly breach the Turkish Constitution and the Turkish Law on Criminal Execution. In a country, where even human rights advocates, including the representatives of Amnesty International are not immune from unlawfully being imprisoned under the claim of "being a terrorist", nobody seems to care a jot about international treaties and fundamental human rights. Many public servants including some prison staff seem to be acting under some kind of impunity in carrying out torture and mistreatments in a race to appease the ruling regime.

It is absolutely essential for the EU, the UN and the international non-governmental organisations to play active roles in pinpointing the violations committed in Turkey's prisons today and to raise a decisive and strong voice asking the regime to put an end to these assaults against the most fundamental rights and freedoms.

Using the July 15 coup attempt as a pretext for the unlawful acts and turning it into a tool of annihilation for all of the opposition, the government -for merely political reasons- has now filled the country's prisons with the most highly educated individuals. Obviously not satisfied even with that, the regime continues to violate and deprive these people of their most fundamental rights while they are in prison. These people who are being kept under custody for an unknown period of time cannot make their voices heard beyond the prison walls. Neither the EU, the UN

nor other international non-governmental organisations should remain silent any longer concerning the violation of fundamental human rights, which humanity has developed and brought to the level it is today, to be loutishly violated by the ruling political power of Turkey, and must immediately take a decisive stance and produce fast and effectual remedies that will prevent all these violations and terminate the current victimisations.

PLATFORM FOR PEACE & JUSTICE

Platform for Peace and Justice (PPJ) is a platform that monitors and reports the developments in the fields of peace, justice, democracy, the rule of law and human rights, with a special focus on Turkey.

PPJ is currently an online intellectual medium (www.platformpj.org) undertaking its work by generating and disseminating news, articles, op-eds, and reports as well as by organizing activities and initiating campaigns.

PPJ is an initiative of a group of dedicated scholars, lawyers, journalists and civil society activists.

PPJ's work is primarily based on democratic and human rights principles enshrined in the international human rights instruments and understood through the prism of the European best practices.

PPJ strongly believes that a worldwide peace and justice can only be achieved through the advancement of these values and principles across the borders.

Mission

PPJ aims to promote peace, justice, democracy, the rule of law and human rights in the world, particularly in Turkey, through;

raising awareness and sensibility for upholding these values and principles,

monitoring and reporting human rights violations,

generating and diffusing knowledge on conducive policies and practices,

defending basic human rights and democratic principles against infringements,

campaigning against human rights violations affecting individuals and groups,

serving as a common and open platform for advocating human rights and democratic principles,

strengthening respect for human dignity and civil right consciousness,

encouraging good policies and practices for building peace among people and nations.

Vision

PPJ's vision is to become a prominent civil society organization for defending and fostering universal democratic and human rights principles in Europe striving for peace and justice for all.



Email: info@platformpj.org

