



ELDH European Association of Lawyers
for Democracy and World Human Rights



AVOCATS EUROPÉENS DEMOCRATES
ABOKATU DEMOKRATA EUROPARRAK
AVRUPALI DEMOKRAT AVUKATLAR
EUROPÄISCHE DEMOKRATISCHE RECHTSANWÄLTE
ADVOCATS EUROPEUS DEMOCRATES
ABOGADOS EUROPEOS DEMOCRATES
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΙΟΙ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΕΣ ΔΙΚΗΓΟΡΟΙ
AVVOCATI EUROPEI DEMOCRATICI
EUROPESE DEMOKRATISCHE ADVOCATEN
EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS



Dear colleagues, Dear friends,

This year, for the 9th Day of the Endangered Lawyer, we hereby invite you and your organisation to take part in the Day of the Endangered Lawyer events once again.

The next Day of the Endangered lawyer will take place on the 24th of January 2019. This year, the focus will be on the very difficult situation that lawyers in Turkey are facing.

This is not the first time that we are focusing on Turkey, however, as you all know, the lawyers' situation is becoming worse in Turkey day by day. Turkey was ruled under the state of emergency for 2 years. During those two years, journalists, academics, judges, prosecutors, human rights activists and of course lawyers were arrested. **According to OHCHR almost 570 lawyers were arrested, 1,480 faced some kind of prosecution, 79 were sentenced to long-term imprisonment. In several mass trials lawyers are accused just because they represent alleged members of terrorist in other trials. The risks faced by criminal defence lawyers is reportedly so high that it is extremely difficult for suspects arrested during the state of emergency to find a lawyer. Even after the lifting of the state of emergency in July 2018, the political trials against lawyers did not end. The UN Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers are permanently violated by the Turkish prosecutors and judges, in**

particular Art. 18. “Lawyers shall not be identified with their clients or their clients' causes as a result of discharging their functions”

Almost every week, there is at least one trial against lawyers, especially in Istanbul. According to this fact, it could be claimed that the lawyers who are still free, are practicing law under the risk of a sudden arrest.

In 2018, the Day of the Endangered Lawyer was a huge success. The events were organised in 36 cities, almost in all the continents of the world: Europe, North and South-America, Asia and Australia.

We hope that this year will be at least as successful as last year.

A basic report of the situation in Turkey and a petition will follow soon.

Please inform us a.s.a.p. which manifestation or action will be carried out in your city or country and who will be its coordinator, so we can be in touch.

Please spread this email to your contacts.

We believe that we can raise the awareness and support our colleagues once more all together.

Best regards

Florence de La Pradelle and Ceren Uysal

The international coordination will be organized by the Foundation day of the Endangered Lawyers supported by AED, IAPL, and ELDH:

Florian BORG, lawyer in Lille (France) Secretary general of the European democratic lawyers federation. TEL: <tel:+3336671428>
Fax: [+33366721427](tel:+33366721427) Email: florian.borg@evin-avocats.com

Hans Gaasbeek, lawyer and director of the foundation for the Day of the Endangered Lawyer in Haarlem: <http://dayoftheendangeredlawyer.eu/>
and president of the Dutch League for Human Rights.
Phone: [0031-235318657](tel:0031-235318657), Mobile: [0031-652055043](tel:0031-652055043)
Email: hgaasbeek@gaasbeekengaasbeek.nl

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Dag-van-de-Bedreigde-Advocaat-Day-of-the-Endangered-Lawyer-1005246816248557/>

Florence de La Pradelle, AED commission defense for the defense.

Mobile : [+33637513099](tel:+33637513099) Email: florence.delapradelle@struyven-law.be

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Dag-van-de-Bedreigde-Advocaat-Day-of-the-Endangered-Lawyer-1005246816248557/>

Thomas SCHMIDT, lawyer in Düsseldorf (Germany), Secretary General of the European Association of Lawyers for Democracy and World Human Rights (ELDH), PHONE: [0049 – 211 – 444 001](tel:0049-211-444001), email: thomas.schmidt@eldh.eu

Ceren Uysal, AED commission defense for the defense.

Mobile: [+436644853347](tel:+436644853347) Email: serifecerenuysal@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Dag-van-de-Bedreigde-Advocaat-Day-of-the-Endangered-Lawyer-1005246816248557/>