

**WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS**

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



METU PRIDE DEFENDERS, TURKEY

PROSECUTED FOR CELEBRATING LGBTI RIGHTS

From day one, biology students Melike Balkan and Özgür Gür dedicated themselves to defending lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI+) rights at their university. As members of the LGBTI+ Solidarity Group, they have organized campus Pride marches successfully for years.

But in May 2019, the university banned the planned march and called the police to disperse the peaceful sit-in. Despite simply exercising their right to peaceful protest, 18 students and an academic are now on trial.

Tell Turkey to acquit them of all charges.