

PUBLIC

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22 August 2001

Further information on UA 145/01 (EUR/037/2001, 8 June 2001) - Torture and ill-treatment

**TURKEY** Baki Ya\_ (m), aged 32

Baki Ya\_, who was imprisoned for involvement in an illegal organisation in 1994, continues to be held in strict isolation. His health is reportedly deteriorating and he is being held in conditions that Amnesty International believes amounts to ill-treatment.

Following the initial Urgent Action two months ago, he was allowed outside alone into the prison courtyard, for two hours every day. His family attribute this to Amnesty International's concern. He is however currently only allowed out once a week and according to his family, he has lost a lot of weight, suffers from migraines and his eyesight has decreased to a point where he cannot read books that they bring him.

This month, his lawyer lodged an appeal against a 1999 ruling by the State Security Court, which sentenced him to two years of solitary confinement. This was a disciplinary punishment which has only been enforced this year. As part of his punishment, Baki Ya\_ is held in a cell with no windows and for 15 days he does not have access to anyone else. He is then allowed to see his doctor, lawyer or relatives on the sixteenth and seventeenth day. Following this, he is returned to solitary confinement for another 15 days.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals in Turkish, English or your own language:**

- expressing concern that Baki Ya\_ is being held in isolation in conditions that amount to ill-treatment;
- asking that the disciplinary sentence passed against him in 1999 be suspended or changed to a sentence that meets with international standards;
- reminding the Turkish government of its obligations under Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights, to which Turkey is a state party, which states: "No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment";
- calling for his solitary confinement to be stopped and for the authorities to ensure that prisoners spend a minimum of eight hours a day engaged in communal activities outside their living units, as called for by the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

**APPEALS TO:**

Minister of Justice  
Prof Hikmet Sami Türk  
Ministry of Justice  
Adalet Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
06659 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Justice Minister, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: + 90 312 417 3954 / 418 5667**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**General Director of Prisons**

Mr Ali Suat Ertosun  
Ceza ve Tevkifevleri Genel Müdürü,  
Adalet Bakanl\_\_\_\_  
06659 Ankara, Turkey

**Fax:+90 3 12 425 48 19**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**COPIES TO:**

State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights

E. Safter Gaydali,

Office of the Prime Minister,

Ba\_bakanl\_k,

06573 Ankara, Turkey

**Fax: + 90 312 417 04 76**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

and to diplomatic representatives of Turkey accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 4 October 2001.