

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/175/96

12 November 1996

Further information on UA 240/96 (EUR 44/161/96, 18 October 1996) -
Prisoner of conscience

TURKEY _anar Yurdatapan, musician, human rights activist

ON 11 November 1996 _anar Yurdatapan, spokesperson for the "Together for Peace" initiative (BIBA - Bar__ İçin Biraraya) and a leading composer and performer of contemporary music, was released pending trial. He had been detained since 15 October.

In a phone call to Amnesty International, _anar Yurdatapan expressed his gratitude for the appeals sent on his behalf and asked for his heartfelt thanks to be passed on to the many people around the world who had sent him cards and letters while in prison. He said that it helped him to know that Amnesty International was acting on his behalf. He was particularly aware of efforts being made by AI Norway, which he had been due to visit on 26 October as part of AI's worldwide campaign on Turkey, and by AI Austria, which he had visited as a guest speaker on 1 October.

Amnesty International believes that _anar Yurdatapan was a prisoner of conscience, held in breach of Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights. The organization continues to campaign for all charges against him to be dropped, but no further appeals from the UA Network are requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals to the Turkish authorities and messages of support to _anar Yurdatapan.