

PUBLIC

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Further information on UA 378/00 (EUR 44/69/00, 13 December 2000) and follow-up (EUR 44/75/00, 21 December 2000) - Fear of torture/possible "disappearance"

**TURKEY**Relatives and supporters of hunger striking prisoners  
Ümit Erkol, Ankara Medical Association Chairperson  
65 other detainees

**Bayla Ba\_ta (f), aged 20, law student**

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In their communications with Amnesty International the Turkish authorities have consistently denied that law student Bayla Ba\_ta was ever taken into custody. However, Istanbul police have confirmed to a Turkish human rights organisation that she was arrested, charged and imprisoned.

She was released on 25 December, on the orders of a court. There is no information about how she was treated in detention.

When the Human Rights Association (IHD) made enquiries about Bayla Ba\_ta, the Justice Ministry told them that she had not been arrested. However, the human rights defenders kept looking for her, and learned that she had been arrested in connection with the prison protests. It seemed that the \_i\_li district prosecutor in Istanbul had remanded her to Bak\_rköy Prison for Women and Children (in Istanbul) on charges of violating the Law on Demonstrations and damaging state property.

On 7 January Istanbul Police Headquarters told the IHD that their information was correct. Bayla Ba\_ta and two of her friends had been arrested by the Police Directorate of \_i\_li on 19 December. The police gave the \_i\_li prosecutor's investigation number for her as 2000/52701, and the court's number as 2000/570. On 25 December 2000 the \_i\_li Court of First Instance No. 7 ordered her release.

**No further appeals are required on behalf of Bayla Ba\_ta. Many thanks to everybody who contributed to the success of this UA on unacknowledged detention, a practice that increases the risk of torture and "disappearance".**

**The information on the detainees in Ankara will be updated as soon as possible. In the meantime there is no need for further appeals.**