



Call to Observe the Hearing of Ms. Figen Yüksekdağ

HDP Co-Chair Ms Figen Yüksekdağ was arrested on 4 November 2016 along with Co-Chair Mr. Demirtaş and 8 other HDP deputies. The second hearing of Ms. Yüksekdağ's case, for which she is under pre-trial detention in Kandira F Type Prison, will be held on **18 September 2017 at Sincan F Type Prison Campus in Ankara.**

In their unlawful operation against the Peoples' Democratic Party, Erdoğan and the AKP government have been particularly targeting Co-Chair Ms. Yüksekdağ, as a woman and a socialist of Turkish origin. The judiciary has been making decisions about our co-chairs and MPs under direct orders from the Erdoğan-AKP government.

In the person of Ms. Yüksekdağ, this assault on the HDP is an attempt to eliminate the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural democratic coalition it represents. In her person, the government is also attacking women's equal participation and representation in politics, against the institution of Co-Chairship. It is not a coincidence that Ms. Yüksekdağ was the first HDP MP whose parliamentary mandate and party membership were unlawfully revoked.

The indictment of her case contains the following charges:

Establishing or directing armed terrorist organization, making propaganda of a terrorist organization, inciting people to hatred and enmity, inciting people to commit a crime, inciting people to break the law, participation in unlawful meetings and demonstrations. Her indictment consists of 8 separate files that were merged later. Almost all of the files are about speeches she made as the leader of a political party. Evidence cited from her speeches includes:

- Describing the demonstrations against curfews in Kurdish cities as "resistance,"
- Supporting "democratic self-administration," a political goal included in HDP's party program that was also approved by relevant state authorities,
- Describing the killings of hundreds of civilians in the operations carried out by state security forces as "massacre"

We invite you to observe the hearing to make it clear that the international democratic public is keenly following this case. We particularly call on international women organizations to attend and observe this hearing in order to expose the misogynist policies of the AKP regime and to stand with women in their struggle for freedom, equality and justice.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need assistance for the necessary arrangements to observe the hearing.

HDP Foreign Affairs Commission

Contact: international@hdp.org.tr **Web:** www.hdp.org.tr

Address: Barbaros Mah. Tahran Cad. Büklüm Sok. No: 117 06680 Çankaya, Ankara - Turkey

Phone: +90 312 427 17 80 **Fax:** +90 312 4288957