

Breaking News from Türkiye

Court Voids Istanbul CHP Congress

A court annulled the CHP's Istanbul provincial congress, dismissing chair Özgür Çelik and other officials for alleged procedural issues. An interim committee was appointed, seen as part of a broader political crackdown targeting opposition municipalities, including Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu.

CHP Calls Extraordinary Congress to Protect Leadership in Türkiye

The CHP has applied to hold an extraordinary congress on September 21 to shield its leadership from a possible court annulment of the 2023 election. Party officials say the move ensures delegates can quickly re-elect Özgür Özel if the court rules against them.

CHP Expels Court-Appointed Interim Istanbul Leader

CHP leader Özgür Özel expelled Gürsel Tekin, the court-appointed interim Istanbul head, stressing that only elected officials can represent the party. He vowed that anyone accepting court-imposed leadership would be barred from party offices, rejecting judicial interference.

Türkiye's Crackdown Ripples into Markets

The government's legal crackdown on the CHP resulted in the removal of Istanbul's provincial head, the arrest of officials, and a sharp market sell-off. The central bank sold up to \$5 billion in reserves to stabilize the lira, while a September 15 ruling on the national congress looms over multiparty democracy.

Beykoz CHP Mayor Freed, Then Detained Again in Just 30 Hours

The Istanbul Anatolian Chief Public Prosecutor's Office issued a new arrest warrant for suspended Beykoz Mayor Alaattin Köşeler—he had been released just two days earlier in connection with an investigation into tender manipulation and forming or aiding a criminal organization, but was taken back into custody at his home, to be sent to prison again.

Istanbul Bar Labels New Judicial Year a "Dark Year" Amid Justice Concerns

Türkiye's largest bar association marked the start of the judicial year by unfurling a banner that read "Dark Year," protesting what it called attempts to silence legal defense and erode access to justice.



TurkishMinute

Press Freedom and Digital Censorship Tighten in Türkiye

- Journalist Furkan Karabay faces six to 15 years in prison for allegedly insulting President Erdoğan, officials, and a judge.
- Authorities blocked over 311,000 web addresses in 2024, a record level of online censorship.
- RTÜK imposed a five-day broadcast blackout on opposition channel Tele1.
- RTÜK targeted BirGün's YouTube channel with selective licensing demands, which were criticized as politically motivated.
- Exiled journalist Can Dündar's YouTube channel was blocked after he called for protests.
- Six staff members from the satirical magazine LeMan were indicted—some detained—for a contentious cartoon charged with inciting hatred and insulting religious values.

⚠ Please Note: The İsmail Saymaz panel, initially scheduled for Sunday, Sept 14 at 1 PM EST, has a new time.

Panel Announcement: Sep 13, 1 PM EST

March 19 Platform invites you to a live [YouTube](#) panel discussion with journalist İsmail Saymaz on Saturday, September 13.

Join us as journalist İsmail Saymaz examines the escalating judicial crisis since March 19, the challenges facing the opposition, and the impact of regional tensions on the future of Türkiye's democracy.



I want to see my candidate free and the ballot box in front of me!

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