

Breaking News from Türkiye

İmamoğlu Faces Trial Amid Crackdown, Warns of Deepening Democratic Crisis

Istanbul Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu appeared in court in one of several ongoing cases targeting him ahead of the 2028 presidential race. Prosecutors are seeking up to four years in prison and a political ban, which he called part of a politically motivated crackdown.

In a letter from prison, İmamoğlu warned that Türkiye is facing its deepest democratic crisis. He accused Erdoğan of weaponizing the judiciary and urged unity to restore rule of law.



TurkishMinute

CHP Re-Elects Özel to Block Takeover, Corruption Probes Widen to Ankara

To head off a possible court-ordered annulment of its 2023 congress, the CHP held an emergency vote and re-elected leader Özgür Özel, accusing the government of using the judiciary for a political takeover.

Meanwhile, corruption probes into CHP-run municipalities widened: 13 people were detained over Ankara's concert spending, which the CHP says is AKP-driven political targeting.

“Free İmamoğlu” Truck Stuns Erdoğan Outside White House:

Outside White House:

During Erdoğan's live meeting with Trump at the White House, a truck organized by the March 19 Platform drove by with “Free İmamoğlu” and pro-democracy messages, calling for justice and political freedoms. The moment aired live on Sözcü TV. A similar truck was seen in New York two days earlier during Erdoğan's UN visit.

During Erdoğan's visit, President Erdoğan was welcomed in New York by "İmamoğlu and Özel." A photo of Ekrem İmamoğlu and Özgür Özel with the word "Hope" was displayed on a billboard in Times Square.



Cumhuriyet.com.tr



MARCH 19 PLATFORM

UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY IN TÜRKİYE

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Erdoğan's US Visit Draws Controversy Over 'Legitimacy' and 'Begging' Remarks

Trump's envoy said the US aims to give Erdoğan the "legitimacy" he seeks, while Senator Rubio claimed leaders were "begging" to meet Trump — sparking backlash from Turkish opposition, who called both statements insulting and urged Erdoğan to respond.



Bianet.org

Queer Singer Mabel Matiz Faces Travel Ban Over "Obscenity" Probe

Pop star Mabel Matiz was banned from traveling amid an obscenity probe into his song "Perperişan." He said the lyrics are metaphorical, rooted in Turkish folk tradition, and won't disrupt public order.

YouTubers Face Prison in Türkiye Over Joke About Hadith

Two Turkish YouTubers face up to 4.5 years for allegedly insulting the Prophet Muhammad in a joke, amid rising online speech restrictions and religious sensitivities.

Our Next Panel with Ahmet Şık

Join our next **Democracy Watch** panel on **September 28, 2025**, featuring **Ahmet Şık**—one of Türkiye's most courageous investigative journalists and a Member of Parliament with the Workers' Party of Türkiye (TİP). The discussion will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel at 1:00 PM EST.

March 19 Platform

AHMET ŞIK'IN KATILIMIYLA

TÜRKİYE GÜNDEMİNİ DEĞERLENDİRİYORUZ

📅 **28** Eylül 2025 Pazar

🕒 10.00-11.00 PST
🕒 13.00-14.00 EST
🕒 20.00-21.00 TST

▶ **Youtube Canlı Yayını**

Kanal: March 19 Platform

Daha fazla bilgi için:
march19platform.com

Ahmet Şık
TİP İstanbul
Milletvekili/Gazeteci



Aslı Köksal
Moderatör



Mert Gökdoğan
Moderatör





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