

Breaking News from Türkiye

His Strength Still Guides Us!

What Atatürk left behind is more than a republic; it's the strength that still unites us against injustice and antidemocratic power, the belief that reason and equality will always prevail.



İmamoğlu Hails Mamdani's "Historic" New York Mayoral Victory

Jailed İstanbul mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu congratulated Zohran Mamdani on his New York win, calling it proof of "social municipalism, inclusivity, and people-oriented leadership.

Parliament Moves to Lift Immunity of 12 Lawmakers, Including Özel

Parliament received files to lift the immunity of 12 lawmakers, including CHP leader Özgür Özel and other opposition MPs, allowing prosecutors to pursue charges. Opposition figures say the move aims to silence political critics.

Analysts See Bahçeli's Demirtaş Remark as Tactical Move

After the European Court of Human Rights called for Selahattin Demirtaş's release, Erdoğan ally Devlet Bahçeli said freeing him "would be beneficial." Analysts said the remark signals a tactical shift within the ruling alliance, not genuine democratic reform, as repression and control remain intact.

Prosecutors Open Insult Probe into CHP Leader Özel

Prosecutors in Türkiye launched an investigation into CHP leader Özgür Özel for allegedly insulting President Erdoğan and İstanbul Chief Prosecutor Akin Gürlek, after accusing Gürlek of working illegally for a state-run company. The move came amid mounting political tensions and what the opposition calls a "judicial coup" targeting its mayors and officials.



MARCH 19 PLATFORM

UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY IN TÜRKİYE

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Türkiye Facing Its Worst Democratic Decline in History

Nacho Sanchez Amor said Türkiye's democratic decline has intensified over the past year, particularly in key EU membership criteria such as the rule of law, amid growing pressure on the opposition and the media.

İstanbul Court Rejects Retrial in Tayfun Kahraman Case

An İstanbul court rejected the Constitutional Court's retrial order for Tayfun Kahraman, claiming it exceeded its authority. The decision drew strong criticism and deepened concerns over judicial independence in Türkiye.

Crackdown on Press, Media, and Entertainment Continues

- **Journalists briefly detained in İstanbul probe**: A Turkish court banned six journalists, including Ruşen Çakır and Aslı Aydıntaşbaş, from traveling abroad over alleged links to a "criminal organization" tied to jailed İstanbul Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu. They denied wrongdoing, calling the move a politically motivated crackdown on the opposition.
- **Journalists cleared over protest against killing of two reporters by Turkish drones**: An İstanbul court acquitted seven journalists who were tried for joining a Şişhane demonstration last year protesting the killing of two reporters in a suspected Turkish drone strike in Syria.
- **Seven Celebrities Cleared in İstanbul Drug Investigation**: Prosecutors declined to press charges against seven celebrities in a drug-use investigation after forensic tests found no illegal substances in their samples.
- **Musician Hakan Akay detained at İstanbul Airport**: Kurdish musician Hakan Akay was briefly detained upon returning to Türkiye over allegations of "terrorist propaganda" and released after questioning, his lawyers said.

Our Next Panel with Murat Bakan

Join our next Democracy Watch panel on **December 7, 2025**, featuring Murat Bakan, CHP İzmir Member of Parliament for a discussion on informing the public and fostering dialogue in support of Türkiye's struggle for democracy at this critical crossroads. The discussion will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel at 12:00 PM EST.

MURAT BAKAN'IN KATILIMIYLA

7 Aralık 2025 Pazar

09.00-10.00 PST
12.00-13.00 EST
20.00-21.00 TST

Youtube Canlı Yayını
Kanal: March 19 Platform

Murat Bakan
CHP İzmir Milletvekili, MYK Üyesi,
İçişlerinden Sorumlu Genel Başkan Yardımcısı



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