

# Breaking News from Türkiye

## International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in Türkiye!

- Women across Türkiye marked November 25 despite heavy protest bans, police barriers, and blocked transit in major cities like İstanbul.
- By October 2025, at least 235 women were killed by men, and 247 more died under suspicious circumstances.
- TurkStat reports that over the past five years, the number of women in Türkiye leaving the workforce for family or personal reasons has surged by 81.5%, reaching nearly 4 million and highlighting the growing burden of unpaid caregiving on women's employment.
- **Türkiye's Domestic Violence Emergency Hotline received 377 calls in October 2025, with incidents coming from 19 provinces, led by İstanbul.**
  - **Of the 72 newly recorded cases, most involved domestic or intimate-partner violence;**
  - **The vast majority of victims were women and girls, facing primarily physical and psychological abuse.**
  - **The data underscores that violence overwhelmingly occurs inside the home and is most often perpetrated by legal spouses, who made up nearly 60% of aggressors (Source: TKDF)**

## İstanbul Court Acquits 87 Protesters Detained After İmamoğlu Arrest

A court in İstanbul acquitted 87 people who had been charged over protests triggered by the detention of Ekrem İmamoğlu. The verdict surmounted a wave of arrests and widespread crackdowns on protesters — including journalists — around those demonstrations.

## New Case Against Demirtaş Despite ECtHR Rulings

Prosecutors are seeking 1 year 3 months to 7 years in prison for Selahattin Demirtaş on charges of “insulting” President Erdoğan in speeches delivered in Mersin and Diyarbakır. The case comes despite his nearly nine-year detention and multiple binding European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) rulings that his imprisonment violates international law and that he must be released.



**MARCH 19 PLATFORM**

UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY IN TÜRKİYE

Instagram: @march19platform  
 X: @March19Platform  
 Bluesky: @march19platform.bsky.social  
 Website: march19platform.com  
 Youtube: @March19Platform



Want to help? Spread the word on social media, be our voice.

# Breaking News from Türkiye

## Journalist Altaylı Sentenced for “Threatening” Erdoğan

A court in İstanbul has sentenced journalist Fatih Altaylı to 4 years and 2 months in prison for allegedly “threatening” President Erdoğan in comments he made on his YouTube channel. Press freedom advocates warn that the verdict further intimidates independent media in Türkiye

### More Uplifting (!) News

- Photos showing heavy trucks and cranes inside Hagia Sophia during ongoing restoration work have sparked public outcry, with experts warning that such heavy machinery could irreversibly damage the monument’s ancient marble floor and layered structure.
- The İstanbul Governor’s Office has banned “uncontrolled” public feeding of stray dogs citywide – citing risks like increased pests, environmental pollution, public-health dangers, and ecological imbalance.
- An İstanbul court gave YouTuber İlker Canıklıgil a 26-month suspended sentence over livestream comments—including a joking Star Wars–style “Execute Order 66” reference—prompting him to halt political content amid growing pressure on independent voices in Türkiye.
- A nine-year-old agricultural worker, İsa Şimşek, was killed by a tractor in Batman, becoming one of 85 child workers who have died in 2025.



Photo: Turkish Minute

Photo: AFP



Photo: Medyascope



Photo: DHA



## Follow Our Democracy Watch Panel Series on YouTube



- Do not forget to watch our latest panel from November 23, 2025, featuring Müge İplikçi, writer, journalist, and academic, for a discussion marking the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women**
- Our upcoming panel discussion will be with CHP MP Murat Bakan on December 7.



**MARCH 19 PLATFORM**

UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY IN TÜRKİYE

Instagram: @march19platform  
X: @March19Platform  
Bluesky: @march19platform.bsky.social  
Website: march19platform.com  
Youtube: @March19Platform



Want to help? Spread the word on social media, be our voice.