

ISSUE 37



LAST WEEK IN TÜRKİYE

**BY
MARCH 19 PLATFORM**

JANUARY 9, 2026



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PRISON WON'T STOP HIM

*İMAMOĞLU SAYS HE CAN STILL DEFEAT ERDOĞAN
IN ELECTIONS*



POLITICO.EU

Jailed in Silivri on what the opposition calls politically motivated charges since March 2025, former Istanbul mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu says he remains the legitimate presidential challenger and is confident he can defeat Erdoğan in a free and fair election in Türkiye.



JANUARY 9, 2026

SPEECH PUNISHED AGAIN

*SELAHATTIN DEMIRTAŞ SENTENCED
DESPITE A DECADE IN PRISON*



BIANET.ORG

Former HDP co-chair Selahattin Demirtaş, imprisoned since 2016, has been sentenced to an additional prison term for “insulting the president,” as courts in Türkiye continue to ignore rulings by the European Court of Human Rights calling for his release.



JANUARY 9, 2026

TRUMP CLAIM TRIGGERS LAWSUIT

*ERDOĞAN SUES ÖZGÜR ÖZEL OVER ALLEGATIONS
OF U.S. PRESSURE*



TURKISHMINUTE.COM

President Erdoğan has filed a defamation lawsuit and a criminal complaint against opposition leader Özgür Özel after Özel claimed that Donald Trump was pressuring Erdoğan over his personal assets, as critics say democratic institutions are eroding and lawsuits are routinely used to silence dissent in Türkiye.



JANUARY 9, 2026

FREEDOM DENIED AGAIN

*HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER SELÇUK KOZAĞAÇLI
KEPT BEHIND BARS*



TURKISHMINUTE.COM

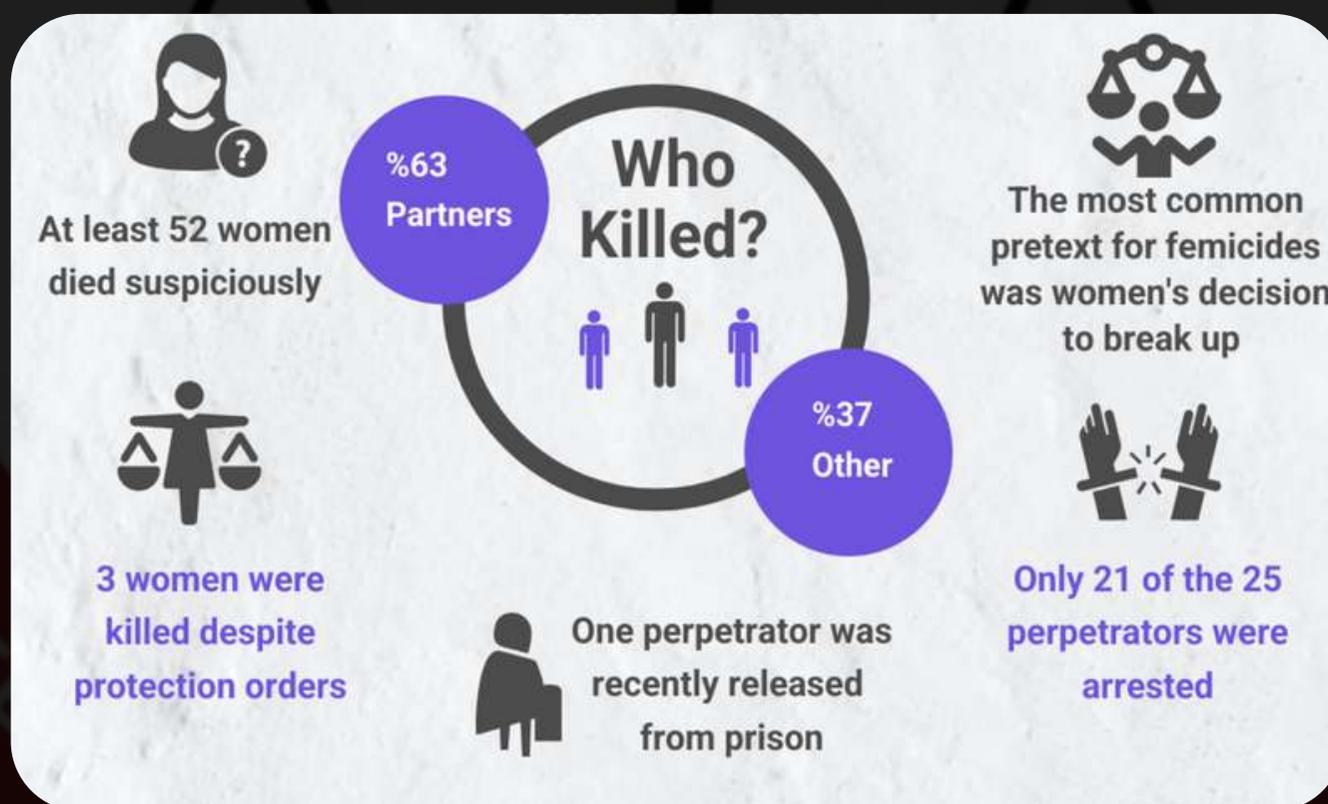
Turkish prison authorities have denied conditional release to prominent human rights lawyer Selçuk Kozağaçlı, citing “lack of good conduct,” reinforcing concerns that release mechanisms in Türkiye are politicized and used to punish lawyers for their defense work.



JANUARY 9, 2026

UNCHECKED MALE VIOLENCE CONTINUES

WOMEN AND CHILDREN KILLED, INJURED, AND ABUSED ACROSS TÜRKIYE



BIANET.ORG

In December alone, men killed at least 28 women and four children in Türkiye, injured at least 51 women, and abused 59 girls and boys, exposing the ongoing failure to prevent gender-based violence and protect women and children.



JANUARY 9, 2026

PUBLIC ASSETS SOLD OFF

*AGGRESSIVE PRIVATIZATION RESHAPES THE STATE IN
TÜRKIYE*



TURKISHMINUTE.COM

Official data show that privatization revenues under the AKP are 63 times higher than before 2002, as decades of public assets—including land and strategic enterprises—have been rapidly sold, sometimes below their market value, weakening public control over key sectors in Türkiye.



JANUARY 9, 2026

DEFENSE ON TRIAL— THEN ACQUITTED

*İSTANBUL BAR LEADERS CLEARED AFTER PROSECUTION
OVER RIGHTS STATEMENT*



TURKISHMINUTE.COM

A court has acquitted İstanbul Bar Association Chair İbrahim Kaboğlu and 10 board members who were prosecuted for condemning the killing of journalists and citing international law, highlighting how legal advocacy and defense of press freedom are routinely criminalized in Türkiye.



JANUARY 9, 2026

LIGHTS OUT AFTER THE SHOW

*HATAY LEFT IN THE DARK AFTER ERDOĞAN'S
RECOVERY VISIT*



ALJAZEERA.COM

Just days after the government showcased Hatay's post-earthquake "recovery," widespread power outages left residents without heat, water, and basic services for nearly a week, exposing the gap between staged official narratives and daily hardship in Türkiye's quake-hit region.



JANUARY 9, 2026

TOO LITTLE FOR PENSIONERS

MINIMUM PENSION HIKE LAGS BEHIND LIVING COSTS IN TÜRKİYE



TURKISHMINUTE.COM

The government has proposed raising the minimum pension to 20,000 lira (\$465) from 2026 while admitting it is insufficient, as critics say retirees in Türkiye are being pushed deeper into poverty by high inflation, rising living costs, and policies that prioritize other spending over basic social protection.



JANUARY 9, 2026

OUR NEXT PANEL ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS

*LIVESTREAMED ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL
AT 12:00 PM EST. ON JANUARY 18, 2026*



March 19 Platform

SİNEM NAZLI DEMİR'İN KATILIMIYLA
TÜRKİYE'DE KADIN HAKLARI

18 Ocak 2026 Pazar

9.00-10.00 PST
12.00-13.00 EST
20.00-21.00 TSİ

Youtube Canlı Yayını

www.youtube.com/@March19Platform

SİNEM NAZLI DEMİR
Gazeteci - Yazar

Journalist and human rights advocate Sinem Nazlı Demir has worked for Cumhuriyet, ANKA News Agency, and ARTI TV. She is the founder of the Farkına Var Association, which supports women and children in underprivileged conditions. She wrote "I Know My Killer," a book on femicides in Türkiye. Currently pursuing a master's degree in Human Rights at Fulda University, Germany, Demir delivers monthly seminars on women's and children's rights across Türkiye and Germany.