



LAST WEEK IN TÜRKİYE

A weekly roundup of the top news
and developments in Türkiye



OCTOBER 4, 2026

REMINDERS BY NUMBERS



since Ekrem Imamoglu was arrested.
The indictment seeks up to 2,430 years
in prison



since attorney Mehmet Pehlivan was
arrested. He remains imprisoned despite
the reported expiration of the maximum
legal period for pretrial detention.



since journalist Merdan Yanardağ was
jailed on political espionage charges
over alleged foreign-intelligence ties
and claims his TV station was used to
influence politics.



since elected Üsküdar Mayor Sinem
Dedetaş was jailed pending trial,
despite not being convicted of any
crime.



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BBC

Another child has been forced to grow up by his father's coffin... Once again, Soma, once again, tears and unimaginable grief.

FIVE MINERS KILLED IN SOMA MINE COLLAPSE

Five miners were killed and two injured after a mine collapse in Soma, Manisa, on October 1. Authorities detained nine people on October 2 as part of an investigation, including the mine's general manager, deputy manager, department heads, shift supervisor, and two engineers. One injured worker remains hospitalized, while the other has been discharged. Soma was the site of Türkiye's 2014 mining disaster, in which 301 miners were killed.



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BIRGUN



FATMA BETÜL SAYAN KAYA HAS NOT REPAID ₺2.2 BILLION IN FUND SCANDAL

Journalist İsmail Saymaz reported that former AKP deputy Fatma Betül Sayan Kaya and her husband, İlyas Kaya, had not repaid the fund-related money. Citing Justice Ministry sources, Saymaz said authorities had instead imposed precautionary measures on their assets.

Earlier reports claimed the couple had returned approximately ₺2.2 billion (about \$45 million) in profits from stock trading. Those claims were subsequently disputed.



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BBC NEWS



MERSIN MAYOR VAHAP SEÇER AND 59 DETAINED MUNICIPAL CORRUPTION INVESTIGATION

Mersin Mayor Vahap Seçer and 58 others were detained in a corruption investigation involving three municipalities. Authorities allege public losses totaling approximately ₺1.45 billion. Tuncer also faces an investigation over alleged links to an armed criminal organization. Yeni Parti leader Özgür Özel called the detentions a “political operation” and alleged they were intended to divert attention from the fund scandal.



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BİRGÜN



YENİ PARTY WALKS OUT AS ERDOĞAN ADDRESSES PARLIAMENT

Türkiye's Parliament opened its new legislative session with a protest by the YENİ Party. Party leader Özgür Özel and YENİ Party lawmakers left the chamber when President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan began speaking, while CHP lawmakers remained. Özel said they had no time to listen to someone who had imprisoned their presidential candidate and carried out what he described as a “judicial coup” against his party. Erdoğan devoted much of his speech to a “New Constitution.”



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BBC NEWS



IMPRISONED MP CAN ATALAY ENDS 24-HOUR HUNGER STRIKE

The TIP lawmaker from Hatay, imprisoned since 2022 as part of the Gezi Park trial, announced that he had ended his 24-hour hunger strike. He began the protest on October 1, the first day of Parliament's new legislative year, to draw attention to what he called Hatay residents' "usurped right to representation" and his demands for justice. On October 2, he thanked citizens who supported his action.



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SOZCU



EYÜPSULTAN MAYOR DETAINED IN CORRUPTION INVESTIGATION

Eyüpsultan Mayor Mithat Bülent Özmen was among 28 suspects detained in an investigation into alleged corruption at the Istanbul municipality. The operation involved 23 public officials, and investigators also searched Özmen's home. He was reportedly detained as part of a broader investigation linked to Ankara's Çankaya Municipality and is expected to be taken to Ankara. Three months earlier, Eyüpsultan Deputy Mayor Hasan Karabulut and a municipal employee were arrested in the same investigation.



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EVRENSEL



EKREM İMAMOĞLU'S DETAINED LAWYER MEHMET PEHLIVAN TRANSFERRED TO KANDIRA PRISON AT 3 AM

YENİ Party Deputy Parliamentary Group Chair Murat Emir said detained lawyer Mehmet Pehlivan, who represents imprisoned presidential candidate Ekrem İmamoğlu, was transferred from Çorlu to Kandıra F-Type Prison around 3 a.m. without prior notice. Emir criticized the transfer, calling it a violation of the right to a defense and a fair trial. He urged lawyers, bar associations, and professional organizations to strongly protest the move.





13 DETAINED IN ATAŞEHİR MUNICIPALITY INVESTIGATION

Ataşehir Deputy Mayor Murat Güneş and 12 others were detained in an investigation into alleged bribery, extortion, bid-rigging, and forming a criminal organization. Güneş was elected deputy mayor in April after Mayor Onursal Adıgüzel was detained and later arrested. The investigation follows an earlier operation in which authorities arrested Adıgüzel and 19 others. On September 29, six Ataşehir council members elected from the CHP list joined the AKP, altering the council's political balance.



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BIRGUN

HERŞEY TÜRKİYE İÇİN

HEP
BİRLİKTE
YENİ
HEDEFLERE

M.İHSAN
ÜNLÜSAN

İSTANBUL 1. BÖLGE
MİLLETVEKİLİ ADAY ADAYI



PUSULA PORTFOLIO'S AUDITORS LINKED TO AKP

Aksis International Independent Auditing, which audited Pusula Portfolio, has executives with ties to the AKP, according to BirGün. Aksis Chairman Tayyip Yaşar also serves on the Darülaceze administrative board. Vice Chairman Mehmet İhsan Ünlüsan previously served as an AKP Ataşehir municipal council member and was an AKP parliamentary candidate hopeful in 2018. Pusula is among several portfolio companies whose funds were ordered liquidated or suspended by the Capital Markets Board (SPK).



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DW NEWS



FUND SCANDAL RAISES QUESTIONS OVER REGULATORY OVERSIGHT

Türkiye's Capital Markets Board (SPK) says it identified risks in the fund market in late 2025, but the sequence of regulatory actions remains unclear. The SPK later ordered the liquidation of 131 funds affecting 455,758 investors. Former MASAK deputy head Ramazan Başak questioned whether regulators acted adequately after detecting unusual market movements. The State Audit Board has launched an investigation into both the fund transactions and regulatory oversight.



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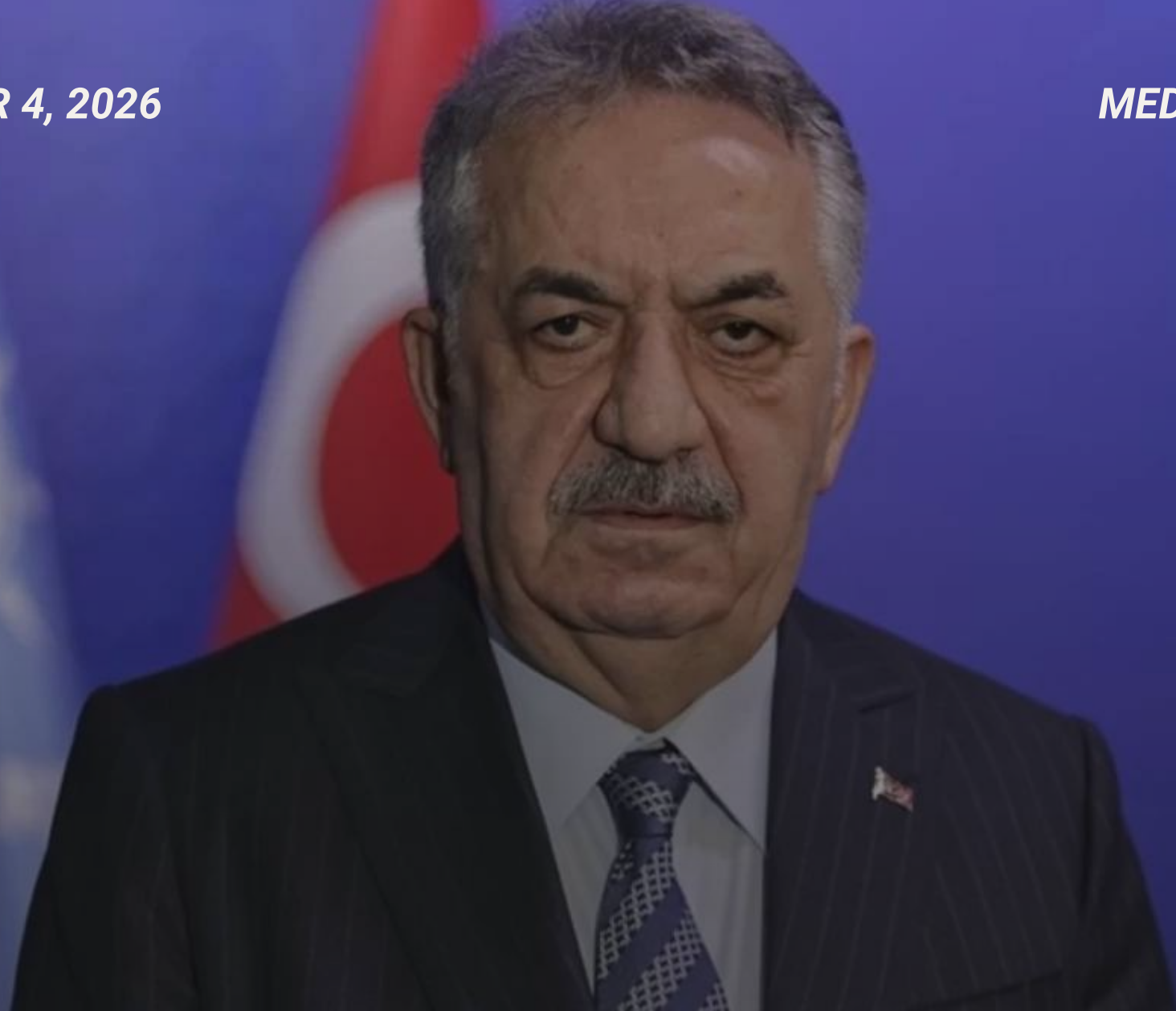
EUPHONNEWS



DDK OPENS FUND INQUIRY AS CHAIR LEAVES BORSA ISTANBUL

Following President Erdoğan's directive to examine recent investment-fund transactions, the State Supervisory Council (DDK) launched an inquiry. DDK Chair Salih Tanrikulu then stepped down as deputy chair, independent board member, and Audit Committee chair at Borsa Istanbul. He remains DDK chair. Opposition figures have questioned the arrangement, arguing that his previous role at Borsa Istanbul raises concerns about the inquiry's independence.





ASSET RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON AKP OFFICIAL'S SON IN FUND

Istanbul prosecutors imposed restrictions on the assets of Mustafa Yazıcı, son of AKP Deputy Chair Hayati Yazıcı, as part of the ongoing fund investigation. Prosecutors also requested measures covering the spouses and children of people named in the investigation. However, prosecutors lifted the restrictions on Mustafa Yazıcı's assets several hours later. Prosecutors cited suspected market manipulation involving funds and unusually large increases in certain stocks as grounds for the investigation





A LIFE DEVOTED TO HUMAN RIGHTS: IOANNA KUÇURADI DIES AT 89

Renowned philosopher Prof. Dr. Ioanna Kuçuradi died at 89, leaving behind decades of scholarship and advocacy. A leading figure in the development of philosophy in Türkiye, she devoted her life's work to ethics, human dignity, freedom and human rights. As she once said, "Human dignity is not about what happens to you, but how you respond to what happens to someone else."



RESOURCES

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