

**Statement from the ECBA Human Rights Officer  
on the Arrest of lawyers Naim Eminođlu and Dođa İnesu in Türkiye**

July 10, 2024

I would like to express my profound concern over the arrest and detention of two lawyers, Naim Eminođlu and Dođa İnesu, from the Progressive Lawyers Association (ÇHD) in Türkiye, which appears to be linked to their professional activities.

According to credible reports, Turkish authorities conducted early-morning raids on July 2, 2024, at the residences of Naim Eminođlu and Dođa İnesu, subsequently detaining them without presenting clear charges and preventing them from attending scheduled court hearings for their clients. Without any documented risk of these lawyers attempting to flee, such armed raids and custody actions are highly irregular and disproportionate.

The same credible reports indicate severe violations of Türkiye's Code of Criminal Procedure and its Law on Lawyers, including the absence of a prosecutor or bar association representative during the raids and the seizure of devices containing confidential client information. The authorities' failure to return these devices and to inform Eminođlu and İnesu, or their legal representatives, about the charges against them further raises concerns over procedural fairness and transparency.

Moreover, as it is reported, both lawyers were prohibited from meeting with their legal counsel for an extended period, during which police attempted to elicit information from them outside the presence of their lawyers.

Update: While Eminođlu and İnesu were released on Friday, July 4th, the uncertainty surrounding potential charges against them remains a source of concern.

The arrest and detention of these two lawyers, besides their intimidating and deterring effect, are part of a wider, systematic attack on human rights and the role of lawyers in Türkiye.

The ECBA demands that Turkish authorities:

- Ensure a fair trial for Naim Eminođlu and Dođa İnesu, upholding international standards.
- Clarify the situation regarding potential charges against the lawyers

- Adhere to the United Nations Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers, which uphold the rights of lawyers to perform their professional duties without intimidation, interference, and harassment, and to be protected by the authorities in doing so. These principles also guarantee lawyers' freedom of expression and the right to participate in matters concerning the law, justice, and human rights.

We stand in solidarity with all legal professionals in Türkiye and everywhere who continue to uphold the principles of justice and human rights despite facing significant risks.

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Human Rights Officer  
European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA)