

Joint Statement
The International Legal Community Condemns the Detention
of Attorney Şiar Rişvanođlu

The undersigned organizations vehemently condemn the detention of Attorney Şiar Rişvanođlu, who is registered with the Adana Bar Association and a member of the Progressive Lawyers Association (ÇHD), following a police raid on his residence and subsequent arrest at the Çukurova airport in Tarsus.

On the morning of 26 November 2024, authorities executed a raid at Attorney Rişvanođlu's home without his presence, as he was traveling by plane. Subsequently, he was detained directly from the Çukurova airport upon his arrival. Notably, the raid was conducted without the presence or oversight of a prosecutor or representative from the Adana Bar Association and was only witnessed by a local community leader. A confidentiality order was promptly issued, and Attorney Rişvanođlu was subjected to a 24-hour restriction on communication with his defense team, complicating his right to a fair defense.

Attorney Rişvanođlu's health remains stable, and there have been no reports of mistreatment. However, the charges against him purportedly relate to membership of a 'terrorist' organization, and the circumstances surrounding his detention raise significant concerns regarding adherence to legal norms and human rights.

As a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and European Convention on Human Rights, Turkey has an obligation to ensure, inter alia, that no-one is subject to arbitrary arrest or detention.

Furthermore, in accordance with international standards, lawyers must be able to perform all their professional functions without intimidation, hindrance, harassment or improper interference; and shall not suffer, or be threatened with, prosecution or administrative, economic or other sanctions for any action taken in accordance with recognised professional duties, standards and ethics.

The arrest and detention of Attorney Rişvanođlu are a clear violation of his human rights, including the right to a fair trial and must cease immediately. His rights must be safeguarded; he must be treated fairly and have full access to his lawyers.

Therefore, the undersigned organizations urge the Turkish authorities to:

1. Release Attorney Şiar Rişvanođlu immediately.

2. Immediately and unconditionally ensure that Attorney Şiar Rişvanoğlu is afforded a fair trial and that his legal rights are fully respected, including access to his legal team and disclosure of the accusations against him.
3. Take all necessary measures to guarantee the rights to due process and access to justice for Attorney Şiar Rişvanoğlu.
4. Guarantee, in all circumstances, that all lawyers in Turkey are able to carry out their professional duties without fear of reprisals, undue restrictions, or judicial harassment, in compliance with the United Nations Basic Principles on the Role of Lawyers.
5. Ensure the rights of persons deprived of their liberty are respected at all times.

The undersigned organizations remind the prosecution office, relevant court and the Turkish authorities that the international community is closely monitoring the treatment of legal professionals in Turkey. The actions taken against Attorney Şiar Rişvanoğlu not only affect him but also impact the broader perception of justice and rule of law within the country.

The undersigned organisations will observe the ongoing process with strong attention.



AED-EDL (European Democratic Lawyers)



Centro di ricerca ed elaborazione per la democrazia



Syndicat des Avocats pour la Démocratie



The Law Society of England and Wales



Consiglio dell'Ordine degli Avvocati di Torino - Italia



Human Rights
Institute

International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI)



Legal Team Italia



VSAN (Association of Social Lawyers in the Netherlands)



**Giuristi
Democratici**

Giuristi Democratici - Italy



Institut des Droits de l'Homme Barreau de Montpellier



Lawyers for Lawyers



Comissió de Defensa de l'Il·lustre Col·legi de l'Advocacia de Barcelona



European Association of Lawyers for Democracy & World Human Rights (ELD H)



International Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL)



Republikanischer Anwältinnen- und Anwälteverein (RAV e.V.)



Vereinigung Demokratischer Juristinnen und Juristen e.V. (VDJ)



Deutscher **Anwalt** Verein

Deutscher Anwaltverein e.V.



Institut des Droits de L'Homme du Barreau de Bordeaux



Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers



Unione delle Camere Penali Italiane, Italia



International Association of Democratic Lawyers



EUSKAL
HERRIKO
**GIZA
ESKUBIDEEN
BEHATOKIA**

Basque Country Observatory of Human Rights



Défense Sans Frontière - Avocats Solidaires



**Liga
voor de
Rechten
van de
Mens**

the Dutch League for Human Rights.



Demokratische Jurist*innen Schweiz
Juristes Démocrates de Suisse
Giurist* Democratiche*i della Svizzera
Giurist*a*s democratic*a*s da la Svizra

Swiss Democratic Lawyers



Rechtsanwaltskammer
Berlin

Berlin Bar Association



INTERNATIONAL
OBSERVATORY
FOR LAWYERS

International Observatory for Lawyers in Danger (OIAD)



Avocats sans frontières



Asociación Americana de Juristas