

November 2016

## TURKEY: Protect Eren Keskin from arrest

Eren Keskin will not be quiet.

- She protested when the army killed a 12-year-old boy.
- She wrote a report about how soldiers harmed some women.
- When the government told a minority group of Kurds\* they could not use their own language, she stood up for them.
- She has criticized the government for their policies many times.



Eren Keskin is a lawyer, a human rights activist and she used to be a journalist. She lives in Istanbul, one of Turkey's largest cities.

The government of Turkey has punished Eren Keskin for being so outspoken, so vocal.

\* The Kurds are a cultural group who share religious traditions.

Over the last few years, they have forced her to go to court more than 100 times. Once they put her in jail for six months just for using the word “Kurdistan”\*\* in an article.

Now the government wants to put her in jail again. That could happen any time, and she could be in prison for a long time.

But Eren's only crime has been to speak out against injustice. She will not be silenced.

Eren has spoken up for others. We must speak up for Eren. She has a right to express her opinions in any peaceful way she chooses.

\*\* Kurdistan is the region where the Kurds live. Some are in Turkey, some are in Iraq and some are in Iran.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

Please write to Turkey's Minister of Justice.

1. Start with Dear Minister.
2. Tell him something about yourself to make your message personal and different from the others he will receive.
3. Explain that everyone has the right to say what they think, and to give and receive information. (That right is declared in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.)
4. Ask the minister to make sure Eren is not jailed and can continue her activities freely.



## WHERE DO I SEND MY MESSAGE?

Bekir Bozdağ  
Ministry of Justice  
Adalet Bakanlığı  
06659 Ankara  
Turkey

Postage: \$2.50  
Fax: 011 90 312 417 7113  
Email: [ozelkalem@adalet.gov.tr](mailto:ozelkalem@adalet.gov.tr)  
Twitter: @bybekirbozdog



Eren lives in Istanbul. Can you find it on this map?  
Map credit:  
[http://web.mit.edu/space/www/kip\\_antalya/resimler/turkey.jpg](http://web.mit.edu/space/www/kip_antalya/resimler/turkey.jpg)

## WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

Send Eren Keskin a card or letter to show your support for her. You could tell her that you have asked the Justice Minister to respect her right to say what she thinks. Or you could write something like *Dear Eren, Greetings from X. I defend your right to freedom of expression.* You are welcome to include a drawing, a postcard from your town or a photo of yourself.

Use a \$2.50 stamp to mail your greeting to

Eren Keskin  
c/o Turkey team  
Amnesty International Secretariat  
1 Easton Street  
London WC1X 8DJ  
United Kingdom

If you have not received this Lifesaver directly from Amnesty International's Toronto office and would like future actions, reach us at the contact information in the header. There is no cost.