



Federica Mogherini  
High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy  
Vice-President of the Commission  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200  
1049 Brussels

11 January 2019

High Representative,

We the undersigned unreservedly condemn the sentencing of Turkish journalist Pelin Üner, who forms part of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, to over a year imprisonment following her factual reporting on the ownership of companies held by relatives of the speaker of Turkey's national assembly.

We note with concern the additional case brought against the journalist on the basis of the same series of articles but related to the son-in-law of the President of Turkey, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, that is due to commence in February.

These actions not compatible with a country striving for EU accession.

These charges are a further blow to media freedom and freedom of the press in a country already notorious for draconian practices in this regard. This case is particularly cruel, as the enforcement of the sentence would keep a mother away from her young child simply for doing her job and reporting the truth. The sentence will now undergo an appeal procedure.

We urge you to convey strong and unreserved condemnation of Turkey's actions against journalist Pelin Üner, and further urge you to ask the Turkish authorities to reconsider these actions and drop these charges.

Sincerely,

David Casa (EPP)  
Ana Gomes (S&D)  
Monica Macovei (ECR)  
Maite Pagazaurtundúa Ruiz (ALDE)  
Benedek Jávor (Greens/EFA)  
Stelios Kouloglou (GUE/NGL)