

TURKEY: A PRISON FOR RIGHTEOUS PEOPLE

HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT OF TURKEY ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

WHO WE ARE

We are a group of lawyers, judges, academics, journalists, and hundreds of activists who cherish democratic ideals and universal human rights.

We are prisoners of conscience wanted by the Erdogan's regime, relatives of political prisoners, and victims who have lost their jobs, property, and family members to the current administration which has been described as a Mafia State.

We are the Advocates of Silenced Turkey.

We, the Advocates, have made it our mission to champion the rights of Silenced Turkey until universal human rights and democratic governance are established and sustained as the utmost priorities of the Republic of Turkey.

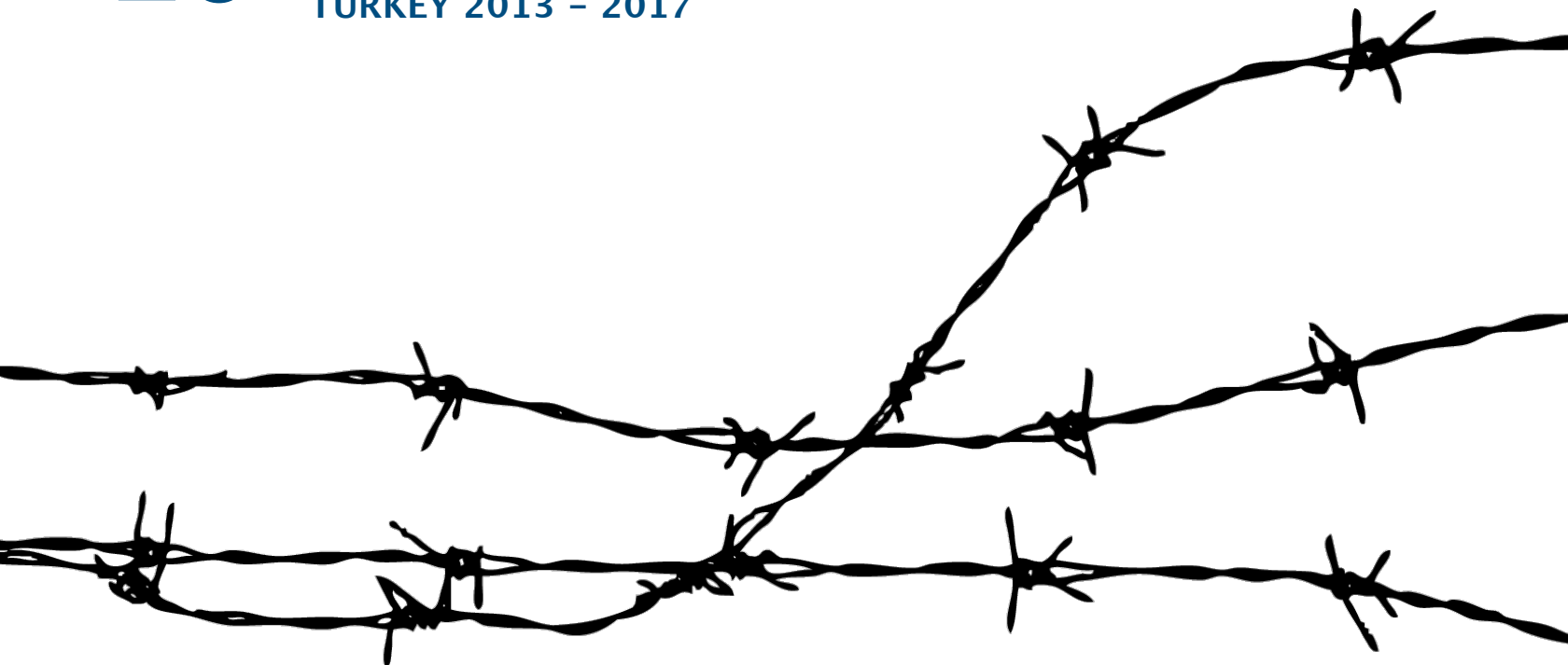
AST is a 501(c)(3) Not for Profit charitable and educational organization based in NJ exclusively for defending human and civil rights.

www.silencedturkey.org



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DEMOCRACY IN CRISIS

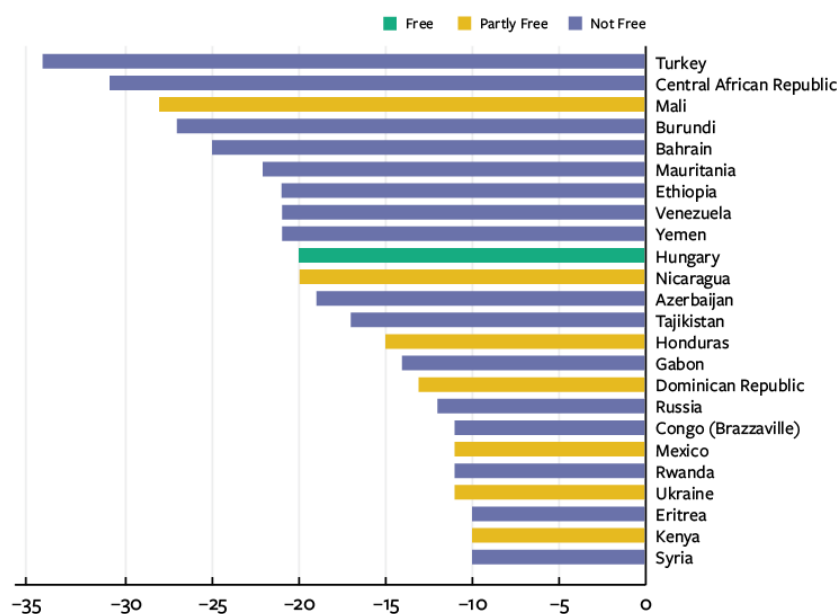
TURKEY MOVES TO 'NOT FREE'

"Turkey's passage over the threshold from Partly Free to Not Free is the culmination of a long and accelerating slide in Freedom in The World. The country's score has been in free fall since 2014 due to an escalating series of assaults on the press, social media users, protesters, political parties, the judiciary, and the electoral system, as President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan fights to impose personalized control over the state and society in a deteriorating domestic and regional security environment."

"Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdoğan broadened and intensified the crackdown on his perceived opponents that began after a failed 2016 coup attempt. In addition to its dire consequences for detained Turkish citizens, shuttered media outlets, and seized businesses, the chaotic purge has become intertwined with an offensive against the Kurdish minority, which in turn has fueled Turkey's diplomatic and military interventions in neighboring Syria and Iraq."

A Decade of Declines

Dramatic declines in freedom have been observed in every region of the world.



www.freedomintheworld.org

"States that a decade ago seemed like promising success stories-**Turkey** and Hungary, for example- are sliding into **authoritarian** rule."

TURKEY

RULE OF LAW INDEX

World Justice Project 2017 – 2018

Overall Score Regional Rank Income Rank Global Rank

0.42

13/13

35/36




101/113

Score Change

Rank Change

-0.01 ▼

-2 ▼

	Factor Trend	Factor Score	Regional Rank	Income Rank	Global Rank
Constraints on Government Powers	—	0.30	13/13	35/36	111/113
Absence of Corruption	—	0.50	3/13	17/36	54/113
 Open Government	—	0.42	11/13	31/36	93/113
 Fundamental Rights	—	0.32	13/13	34/36	107/113
 Order and Security	▼	0.52	13/13	35/36	106/113
Regulatory Enforcement	—	0.44	9/13	30/36	84/113
Civil Justice	—	0.44	13/13	34/36	94/113
Criminal Justice	—	0.40	8/13	24/36	74/113

▲ Trending up ▼ Trending down Low Medium High

101/113

PURGED BEYOND RETURN?



NO REMEDY FOR TURKEY'S DISMISSED PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS

ALMOST 130,000
PUBLIC SECTOR
WORKERS WERE
DISMISSED BY
EMERGENCY
DECREE,
INCLUDING:



33,500+
TEACHERS



7,000+
HEALTH CARE
PROFESSIONALS



31,500+
POLICE



6,000+
ACADEMICS



13,000+
SOLDIERS



39,000+
OTHERS

In order to comply with the human rights standards that they profess to uphold, Turkish authorities should reinstate all public sector workers dismissed by emergency decrees. In any cases where individuals are reasonably suspected of wrongdoing or misconduct in their employment, or of a criminal offence, any decision on their dismissal should be made only in a regular disciplinary process with full procedural safeguards.



STATE OF EMERGENCY INQUIRY COMMISSION



125,000

Applications to
the Commission



71.2%

Applications still
awaiting a decision

28.8%

Applications
reviewed



93.2%

Rejection rate

6.76%

Approval rate



36,000

Decisions reached



31,700

Applications rejected



2,300

Applications accepted



2,000

Inadmissible applications
because applicants had already
been reinstated by decree

Numbers taken from an October 5th 2018 State of Emergency Inquiry Commission press release and from numbers disclosed to Amnesty International by Turkey's Ministry of Justice in a 30 July 2018 meeting





UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER


State of emergency on human rights in Turkey, including an update on the South-East | **January – December 2017**

The referendum on 18 constitutional amendments, granted increased powers to the executive, as it allowed the President of the Republic of Turkey to extend his executive powers into both the legislative branch and the judiciary. It gave him the authority to enact laws bypassing the Parliament, as well as the power to control appointments and oversight procedures within the judiciary.

Following the coup attempt, at least **152,000** civil servants were **dismissed**, and some were also **arrested**, for alleged connections with the coup, including **107,944** individuals named in lists attached to emergency decrees.

About **60,000** security, military and police officials, some **33,000** **teachers**, around **6,000** **academics**, approximately **6,000** **health sector personnel** **alleged by the authorities to be Gulen Supporters**.

Approximately **600** **women** with young children were being held **in detention** in Turkey including about **100** **women who were pregnant or had just given birth**. Mothers and children exposed to such practices face serious risks of health complications, stunting and **even death**.



1,719 human rights, humanitarian, lawyers' associations, foundations, NGOs, many of which were operating in the South-East were **closed**.

An additional **22,474** people **lost their jobs** due to closure of private institutions, such as foundations, trade unions and media outlets.

Some **570** lawyers were arrested, **1480** faced some kind of prosecution, and **79** were sentenced to **long-term imprisonment**.

According to the Ministry of Interior, by the end of December 2017, **159,506** individuals had been **arrested** in relation to the emergency decrees.

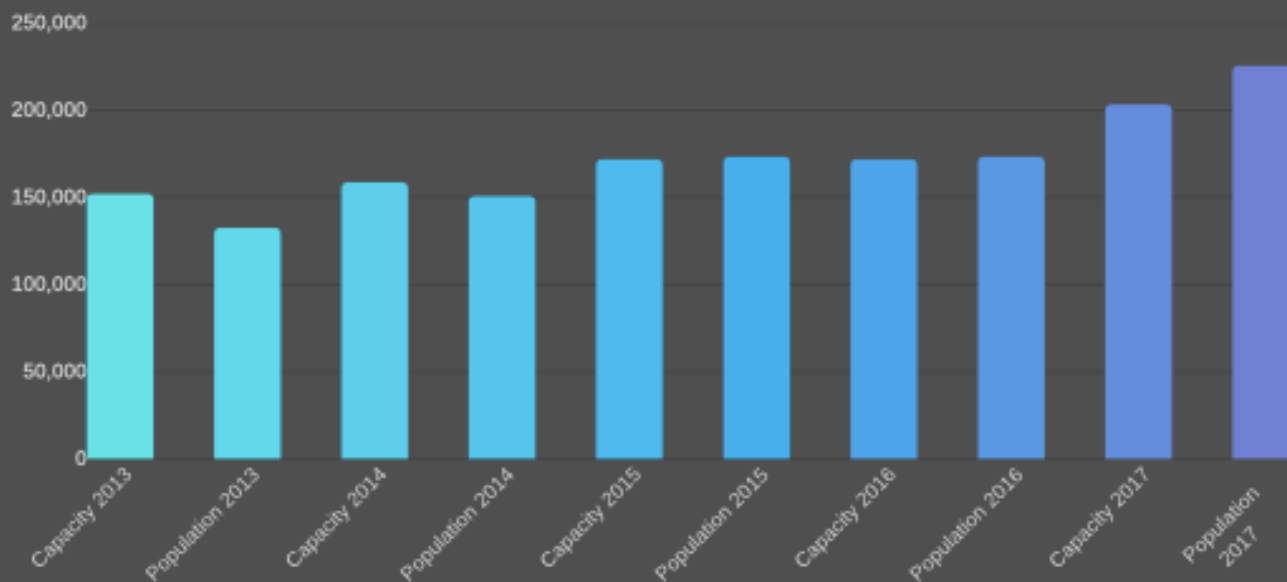
Approximately **50,000** **passports** were **cancelled** in the aftermath of the coup attempt.

Over **150,000** people passed through police custody accused of terrorist offences, membership of armed groups, or involvement in the attempted coup of July 2016.

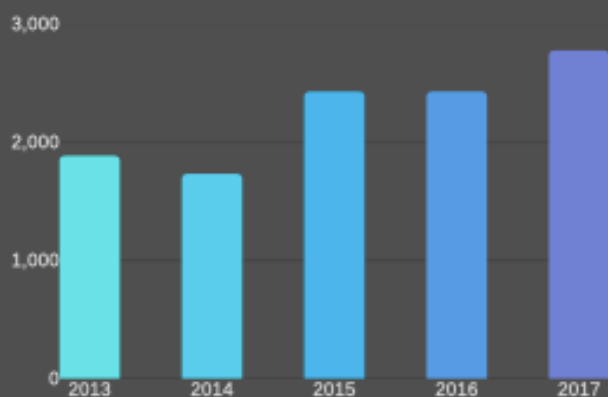
The total number of **violations** amounted to **7,907** ,included **263** incidents of **torture** in detention, and over **100** **incidents of criminalization** of individuals for exercising their right to freedom of expression.

CONCLUSION: THE PROLONGED STATE OF EMERGENCY HAS LED TO A CONTINUED EROSION OF THE RULE OF LAW AND DETERIORATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN TURKEY.

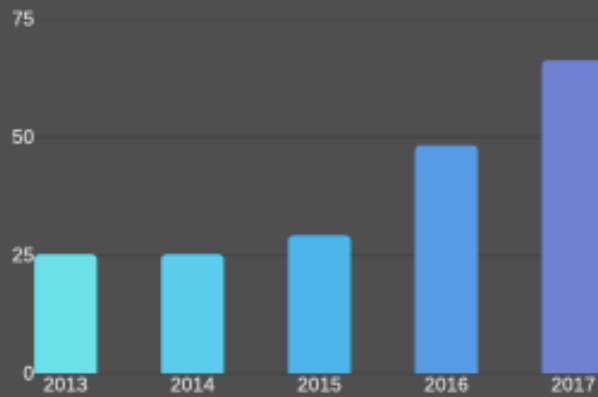
PRISON CAPACITY VS. POPULATION



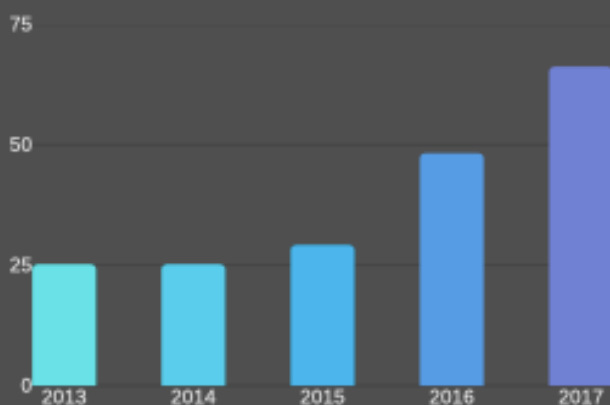
CHILDREN IN PRISON



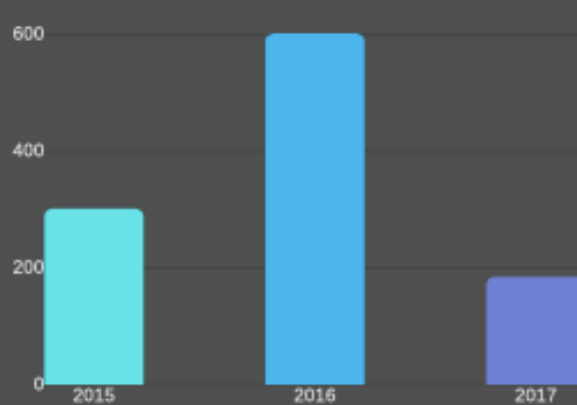
PRISONERS SUICIDES



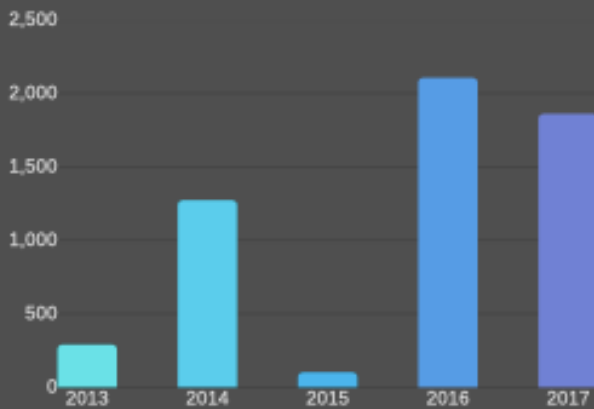
JOURNALISTS JAILED



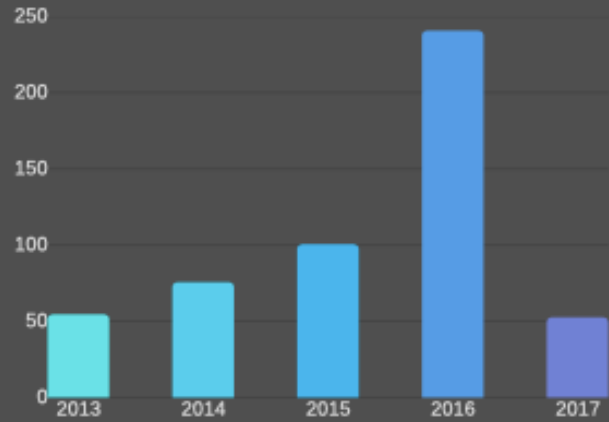
SECURITY FORCES DEATHS



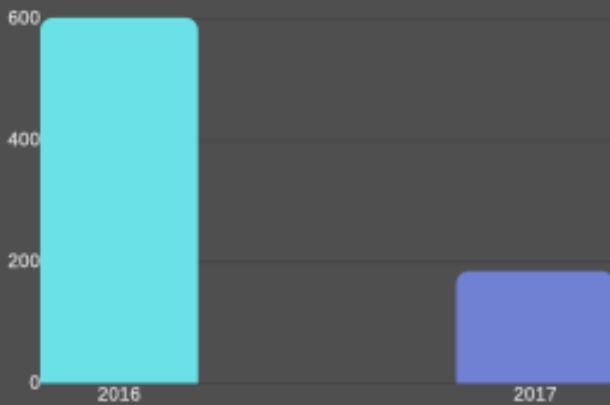
CIVILIANS INJURED



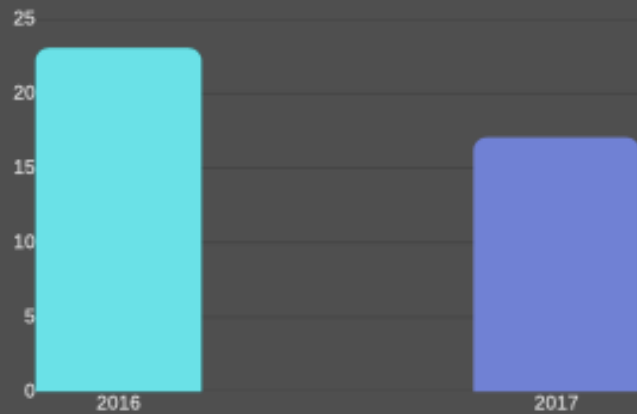
CIVILIANS DEATHS



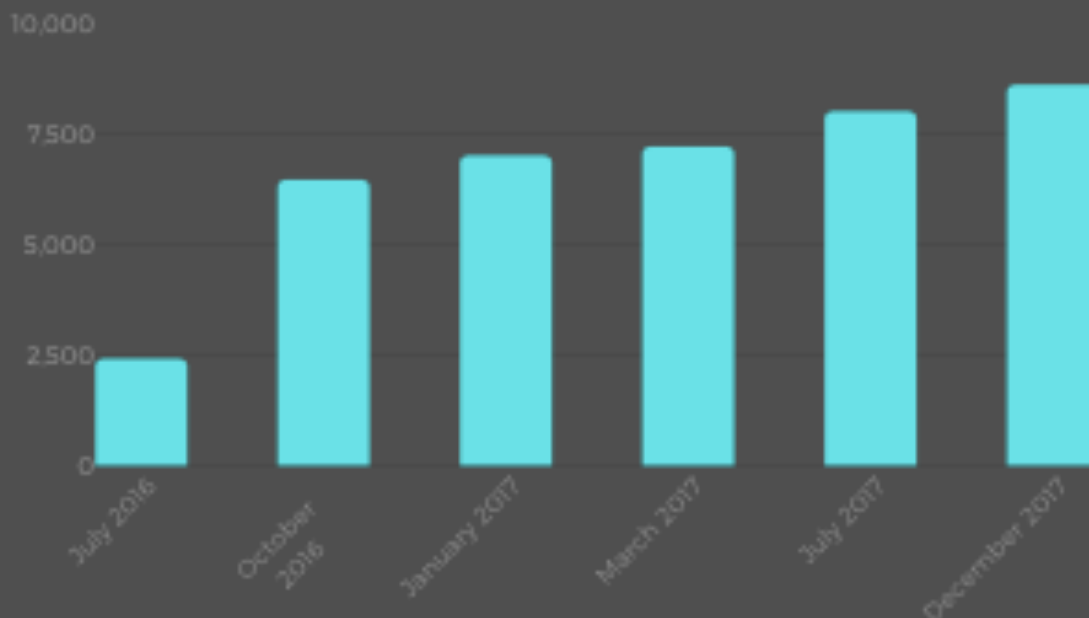
TORTURE, MISTREATMENT, ABUSE



SUSPICIOUS DEATHS IN OFFICIAL CUSTODY



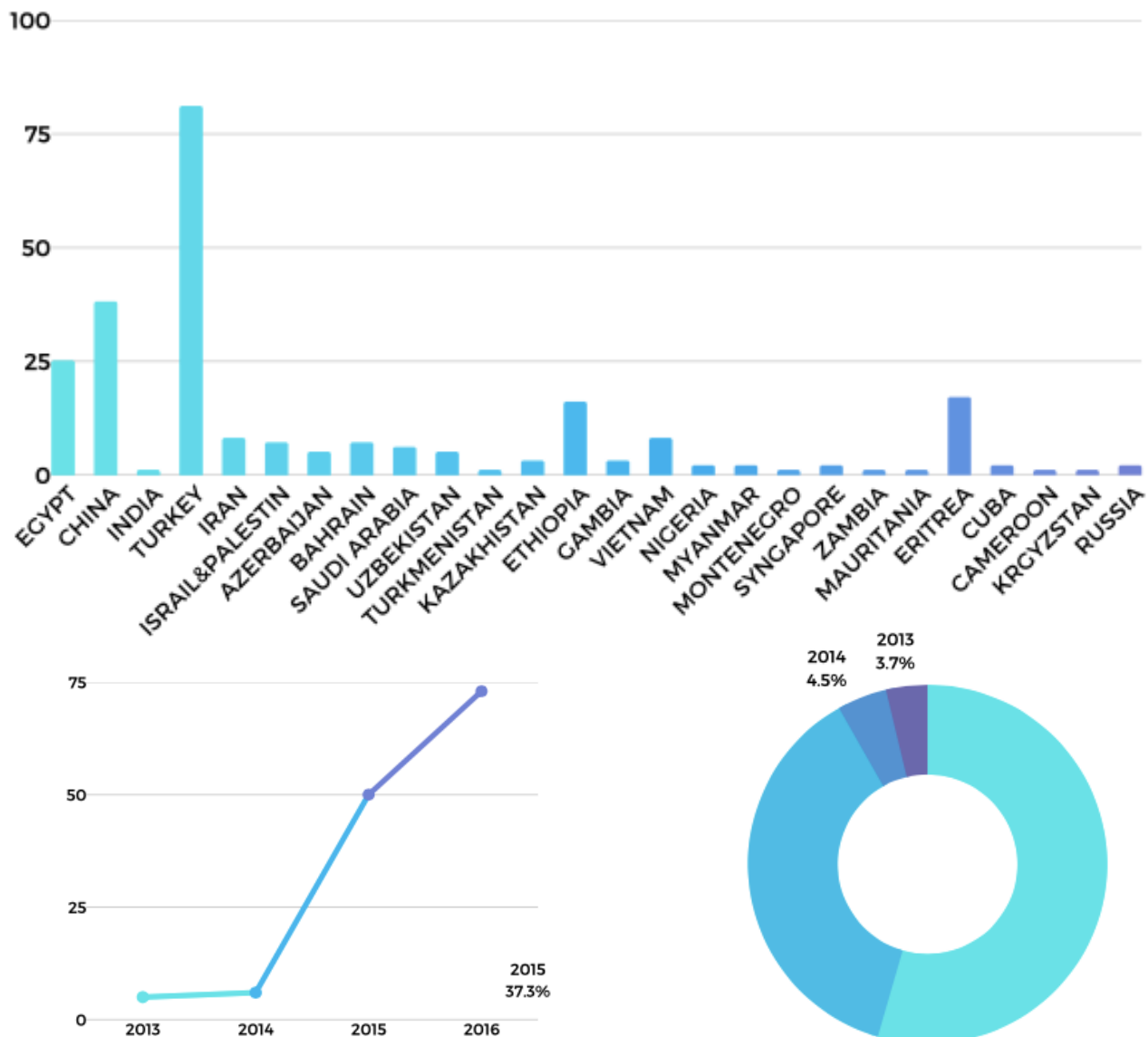
ACADEMICS DISMISSED BY DECREE-LAW



TURKEY: A PRISON FOR JOURNALISTS



2016 PRISON CENSUS: **259** JOURNALISTS JAILED
WORLDWIDE, **81** OF THEM FROM TURKEY:



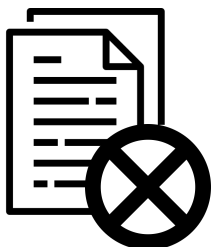
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL 2017 REPORT

TURKEY: JOURNALISM IS NOT A CRIME CRACKDOWN ON MEDIA FREEDOM IN TURKEY



At least **156** media outlets have been shut down by executive decree since July 2016.

According to the Union of Journalists in Turkey (TGS), an estimated **2,500** journalists and other media workers have lost their jobs as a result.



The Directorate General of Press and Information has revoked the press credentials of **778** journalists.

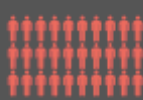


HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHEAST TURKEY

REPORT OF OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)



JULY 2015 AND 31 DECEMBER 2016



2,000 PEOPLE KILLED IN OPERATIONS

40% **MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES**

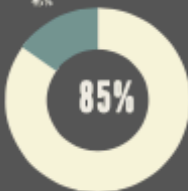
60% **LOCAL RESIDENTS**



**355,000 DISPLACED PERSONS,
MAINLY CITIZENS OF KURDISH ORIGIN**

1,786 DAMAGED BUILDINGS

%95 of the population of
Sur was displaced at the
end of the security
operations



**138 LEGISLATORS STRIPPED OF THE IMMUNITY FROM
PROSECUTION, INCLUDING 50 OF THE 59 HDP MEMBERS**



8,711 DETAINED HDP EXECUTIVES, MEMBERS, AND SUPPORTERS **2,705** OF THOSE ARRESTED

%47.13 OF THE ARRESTS HAD TAKEN PLACE AFTER THE COUP ATTEMPT

TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT

423

VICTIMS FACED
TORTURE AND
MALTREATMENT

SUSPENSION OF SAFEGUARDS AGAINST TORTURE AND ILLTREATMENT

- PROLONGED DETENTION WITHOUT LEGAL REVIEW
- DENIAL OF RIGHT TO CHOOSE LAWYER
- NO ACCESS TO MEDICAL REPORTS
- NO MONITORING OF PLACES OF DETENTION

The UN Special Rapporteur on torture, Nils Melzer, expressed serious concerns about the rising allegations of torture and other ill-treatment in Turkish police custody since the end of his official visit to the country after the coup attempt in 2016.

"Reported abuse included severe beatings, electrical shocks, exposure to icy water, sleep deprivation, threats, insults, and sexual assault"



Gokhan Acikkollu was a school teacher and detained on July 24, 2016. While in police custody for 13 days, he was both physically and psychologically tortured without any official interrogation.



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