











Advocates of Silenced Turkey (AST) is a nonprofit human rights organization working for the rights of persecuted people in Turkey until universal human rights and democratic governance are established and sustained as the utmost priorities of the Republic of Turkey.







AST currently organized new initiative with Set Them Free and Tutsak
Bebekler to raise and spread
awareness about human rights violations in Turkey. During the week of September 20-27, AST is planning to hold a series of events around cities in the United States.
For example, on September 20th, protests held in Manhattan and D.C. to bring attention to the 864 babies in jail in Turkey.





5,000 WOMEN IMPRISONED IN TURKEY ALONG WITH 864 CHILDREN









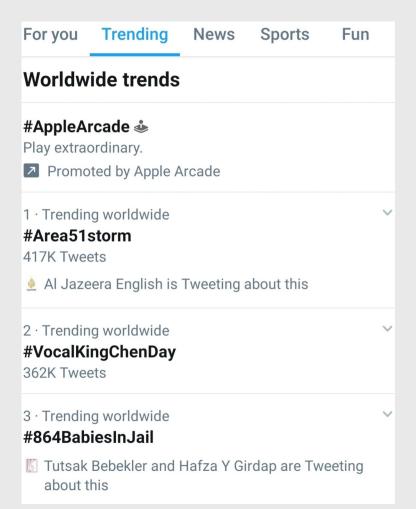


AST is striving to educate people around the world about the unfair human rights violations happening every day in Turkey. 16,500 women are in prison in Turkey, 864 of them imprisoned with their young children or babies. By supporting this project, you will be the voice of 30,000 prisoners of conscience in Turkey including children.



### #864BabiesInJail

## **Trending WORLDWIDE**



AST Stands up to report, document, and TAKE ACTION

to stop human rights violations in Turkey.

Omer Gergerlioglu says: "I know such cases which the child asks "what is this?" when he sees a bird, a tree on the road to the court after months. Two years old kid sees a tree for the first time!

#864BabiesInJail



Öyle vakalar biliyorum ki, çocuk aylar sonra cezaevinden mahkemeye giderken yolda kuş görüyor, ağaç görüyor .. 'bu nedir' diyor?

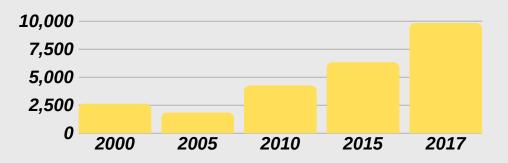
2 yaşında çocuk ilk kez ağaç görüyor !

#864BabiesInJail #864BebekHapiste



3,000+ children in prison 864+ infants held at prison with their mothers

## IMPRISONED WOMEN









# 519 mothers of infants convicted





224 mothers of infants detained

100

women

or had

just

given

who were

pregnant

#### 197 children imprisoned with terror charges



birth imprison ed, 28 pregnant women detained



#### Esma Uludag

A 35-year-old woman who managed to escape from Turkey to Greece along with her three children. Uludag passed away of cerebral breeding amid financial difficulties just 6 months after they took refuge in Athens.

Fatma Ozturk
A teacher was handcuffed to her
hospital bed just hours after she
delivered her baby





#### **Busra Atalay**

A pregnant woman in her 6 month, expecting twin babies was detained. She gave birth early and lost one of her babies. The other baby is in intensive care.

5 children were abandoned in the parking lot of Sincan Prison after their mother was detained while making a visit to their father in prison.



#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Human Rights Groups Call for Release of Babies from Turkish Jails

**NEW YORK, WASHINGTON DC** (September 20, 2019) — *Advocates for Silenced Turkey* and *Set Them Free* today called on the Turkish government to release more than 850 unlawfully jailed babies from Turkish prisons.

In the aftermath of the July 15, 2016, coup attempt, the Turkish government arrested, detained, sacked or tortured hundreds of thousands of innocent people in the arbitrary name of rooting out "terrorism." Included in that group were at least 864 babies and infants who have become political prisoners along with their mothers, living in unhealthy conditions and denied their rights to nutrition, food and access to basic healthcare.

We, as *Advocates of Silenced Turkey* and *Set Them Free*, stand for the rights of the children victims of the Turkey purge. We demand the freedom of innocent children jailed in Turkey and the protection of the rights of purged children. The aim of these events throughout the world is to raise awareness about the plight of thousands of children in Turkey and abroad who face discriminations on several grounds prohibitedby the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We call on local and international media to continue raising awareness on the jailing of children and mothers, violations of basic rights of children who have become the victims of unlawfulness in Turkey.

The arbitrary imprisonment of pregnant women and mothers with children devastated the lives of thousands of families. As the purged families' right to health care benefits are cut off, many disabled or sick children with severe diseases are left without the required health services. Thousands of mothers have had their right to access health services violated during their pregnancy or postpartum periods, affecting the health of innocent children. Dozens of mothers also suffered miscarriages due to the persecutions and harsh conditions in Turkey.

The imprisonment of babies is just one element of the Turkish government's crackdown on innocent people. Approximately **217,000** people have been detained and more than **82,000** people have been arrested on terrorism charges. Those prosecuted include journalists, civil servants, teachers, politicians, academics, human rights defenders, police officers and military personnel. The prosecutions often lack compelling evidence of criminal activity. As a result, government officials use torture and ill-treatment in custody, including severe beatings, threats of sexual assault and actual sexual assault, electric shocks, waterboarding and interference with medical examinations.

