

PUBLIC

AI Index: EUR 44/018/2008

10 October 2008

UA 281/08 Torture/ ill-treatment

TURKEY Ozgur Karakaya (m) aged 22
Cihan Gun (m) aged 18

Died: Engin Ceber (m), aged 29

Ozgur Karakaya, aged 22, 18-year-old Cihan Gun, and a 29-year-old man, Engin Ceber, were among a group of people arrested on 28 September during a demonstration and press conference in the Sariyer district of Istanbul. A lawyer for the three men told Amnesty International that the men were tortured in detention. On 10 October Engin Ceber died in hospital as a result of injuries he sustained while in detention. Ozgur Karakaya and Cihan Gun are still in custody at Metris Prison and continue to be at risk of torture and other ill-treatment, and require access to an urgent independent medical examination and appropriate medical treatment as required.

Their lawyer told Amnesty International that they were dragged by police at the scene of the demonstration during their arrest and were repeatedly beaten after they were transferred to Istinye Police Station and subsequently at Metris prison.

On 29 September, Ozgur Karakaya, Cihan Gun and Engin Ceber appeared in front of the Sariyer prosecutor, were charged with resisting police officers and were transferred to Metris prison in Istanbul. The statements by Ozgur Karakaya and Cihan Gun made to their lawyer include allegations of repeated beatings with wooden truncheons at the police station and during their detention in prison, being strip searched and soaked in water, being hit and kicked all over their bodies including their genitals. They state that this torture and ill-treatment continued over several days. Engin Ceber was subsequently taken to Bayrampasa State hospital on 7 October due to the injuries that he sustained and then transferred to Sisli Etfal hospital but died on 10 October.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The group was protesting against continued impunity in the case of Ferhat Gercek, an 18 year-old man who was shot by police last year on 7 October 2007, during the sale of the legal left-wing magazine *Yuruyus*. Amnesty International issued a World Wide Appeal for Ferhat Gercek: see <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/NWS22/002/2008/en>

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or Turkish or your own language:

- calling on the authorities to ensure that Ozgur Karakaya and Cihan Gun are not subjected to further torture or ill treatment;
- calling on the authorities to ensure they receive immediate medical treatment as needed;
- urging the authorities to conduct a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into the allegations of torture and other ill treatment resulting in the death of Engin Ceber and left the other two men with injuries and make public the results of the investigation;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Interior

Mr. Besir Atalay

Icisleri Bakanligi, 06644 Ankara, Turkey

E-mail: besir.atalay@icisleri.gov.tr

Fax: +90 312 418 1795

Salutation: Dear Minister

Metris Prison Governor

Mr. Halim Ibrahim Demir

Metris Cezaevi, Metris, Istanbul, Turkey

Fax: +90 212 537 96 70

Salutation: Dear Governor

Minister of Justice

Mehmet Ali Sahin

Adalet Bakanligi, 06659 Ankara, Turkey

Fax: +90 312 419 3370

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Parliamentary Commission on Human Rights

Mehmet Zafer Uskul, Commission Chairperson

TBMM İnsan Haklarını İnceleme Komisyonu

Bakanlıklar, 06543 Ankara, Turkey

Email: inshkkom@tbmm.gov.tr

Fax: +90 312 420 53 94

Salutation: Dear Mr Uskul

and to diplomatic representatives of Turkey accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 21 November 2008.