

**GREEK FEDERATION  
OF SECONDARY EDUCATION  
STATE SCHOOL TEACHERS**

2 Kornarou str. & Ermou  
TEL: 00 30 210 33 11 354 – 33 11 339  
FAX: 00 30 210 32 27 382 – 33 11 338

[www.olme.gr](http://www.olme.gr)  
e-mail: [olme@otenet.gr](mailto:olme@otenet.gr)

Athens, 28/5/09

**To:**

**Ministry of Justice (Mr. Sadullah Ergin) Fax Number: +90 312 4193370**

**President of Turkey (Abdullah Gül) Fax Number: +90 312 470 13 16**

**e-mail: [cumhurbaskanligi@tccb.gov.tr](mailto:cumhurbaskanligi@tccb.gov.tr)**

**Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan Fax Number: +90 312 417 04 76 and  
+90312 419 20 71**

**RESOLUTION FOR THE ARREST OF TRADE UNIONISTS IN TURKEY**

We condemn the illegal and, without cause, operations conducted by the police at the head offices of the historical Turkish trade unions of Egitim Sem (Turkish Education and Science Worker's Union) and of KESK (Confederation of Public Employee' Unions).

We condemn also the arrests of our trade unionists colleagues in Ankara, Smyrna, Istanbul, etc.

We are making an urgent appeal to the Turkish government to release all of our arrested colleagues immediately.

We are condemning this antidemocratic operation aiming to terrorize the trade unions and their members.

We support the struggle of Egitim Sen and of KESK for the democratic rights in Turkey.

For the E.B. of OLME

The President

The General Secretary



Kostas Maniatis

Themistoklis Kotsifakis



28<sup>th</sup> May 2009

**Ref No: 2009/600/1204**

**Subject: URGENT/Egitim Sen and KESK members are under arrest**

### **URGENT ACTION REQUEST**

### **EGITIM SEN AND KESK MEMBERS ARE UNDER ARREST**

Dear colleagues,

Today early in the morning (28<sup>th</sup> May 2009, Thursday), Turkish policemen have launched an operation at KESK (Confederation of Public Employees' Unions) headoffice in Ankara, the confederation that Egitim Sen is affiliated in Turkey. One member of Egitim Sen Executive Board is taken into custody by the policemen. Gulcin İsbirt, the Women Secretary of Egitim Sen is arrested by the police as well as the Women Secretary of KESK, Songul Morsümbül. The operations and searches continue at the moment. More than 30 members of Egitim Sen are also under arrest now. It includes the members of administrative boards of Egitim Sen local branches. Policemen started the operation in the local branches of KESK in Izmir, Istanbul, Van and Manisa too.

Egitim Sen (Turkish Education and Science Workers' Union) has historical roots dating back to the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It has been always on the forefront of the democratization struggle in Turkey. The determined position adopted by Egitim Sen and KESK have always created offensive,

anti-democratic pressures on our just struggle. The arrestments that took place today are a part of these offenses on us.

We condemn these unlawful attacks on our democratic struggle. We urgently demand our members and our members of executive boards to be released. The illegal operation at our head offices should be finished immediately. We ask Education International and our sister organizations to protest the antidemocratic operation taking place at the moment which is aiming at terrorizing us and our members. We will not give up on democratic union struggle.

Please send your messages and letters to our following address and fax number:

**e-mail: [international@egitimsen.org.tr](mailto:international@egitimsen.org.tr)**

**Fax message: +90 312 4390118**

You may send the protest letters to the Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and the President of Turkey:

**Ministry of Justice (Mr. Sadullah Ergin) Fax Number: +90 312 4193370**

**President of Turkey (Abdullah Gül) Fax Number: +90 312 470 13 16**

**e-mail: [cumhurbaskanligi@tccb.gov.tr](mailto:cumhurbaskanligi@tccb.gov.tr)**

**Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan Fax Number: +90 312 417 04 76  
and +90312 419 20 71**

Best regards

Mehmet BOZGEYİK  
Secretary General  
Egitim Sen