

President
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
Cumhurbaşkanlığı Külliyesi
Beştepe – Ankara

T Ü R K E I

Fax: (0090) 312 525 58 31

Dear President,

Amnesty International the impartial and highly respected organization for the protection of human rights has informed me of the police intervention against the 'Saturday Mothers Vigil' in Istanbul on 25 August 2018.

Police officers used unnecessary and excessive force, including tear gas, plastic bullets and water cannons, to disperse participants of the 700th renewal of the weekly 'Saturday Mothers Vigil' - held for victims of enforced disappearance in Turkey over the years. Participants, especially elderly relatives of forcibly disappeared people, were ill-treated and 47 people were detained before being released from police custody later that day.

The 'Saturday Mothers Vigil' though always peaceful has been interrupted by the authorities ever since.

I strongly demand from you to ensure that the vigils again can be held in future without unlawful restrictions, and the participants can perform their rights to expression and peaceful assembly.

Dear President, I may remind you of your cooperation offer of 2011 and would appreciate to accept the invitation of the Saturday Mothers to meet them in the near future.

Thank you for respecting the Human Rights of every citizen of the Republic of Turkey.

Yours sincerely,

Copy:

Botschaft der Republik Türkei
S. E. Herrn Ali Kemal Aydın
Tiergartenstr. 19-21
10785 Berlin

Fax: 030 275 90 915