



UPOTUDAK

ULUSLARARASI POLITIK TUTSAKLARLA DAYANISMA KOMITESI
INTERNATIONALE SOLIDARITÄTSKOMITEE MIT DEN POLITISCHEN GEFANGENEN
INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE WITH POLITICAL PRISONER
COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE SOLIDARITE AVER LES PRISONNIERES POLITIGUES

Freedom for Abdullah Gurlek and Vedat Yeler!

In the face of mass movements and riots around the world, the ruling classes have strengthened their racist, fascist, anti-women and anti-immigrant parties and groups through their policies. Europe, which is claimed to be continuously raising the banner of “democracy”, is one of the places where these policies are best implemented. While on the one hand the European imperialists do not derogate the discourses of “democracy” and “human rights”, on the other hand, they support invasion attacks, for example, as in the Rojava occupation of the Turkish state. Or they do not speak up to the “refugee blackmail” of fascist Erdogan.

In the anti-immigration policies of the European imperialists, the Greek state stands in a special place. The fact that Greece has borders with the Republic of Turkey has led to an increase in its aggression towards immigrants and to the adoption of new laws. Attacks against immigrants have increased, especially with the establishment of the New Democracy government. The Greek police are pursuing migrants and occupation houses where the immigrants are staying are raided and evacuated.

In recent months, allegations have been made that people who have fled from Turkey to Greece have been tortured and forcefully returned to Turkey. Even political activists who fled from the fascist repression in Turkey were also arrested by the Greek repressive authorities, evicted and negating the laws of the country were handed over to the fascist Turkish regime. The Greek and the European public know about the practices of the fascist AKP and Erdogan government against the revolutionaries and activists of the Kurdish liberation movement and all others opposed to its rule. They know that those political refugees that were handed over to the Turkish government by the Greek authorities are now imprisoned in Turkey.

In parallel, attacks and repression by the Greek authorities against revolutionaries from Turkey and activists of the Kurdish liberation movement have increased in recent years. The Greek government continues its wave of arrests against revolutionaries. On February 13th, 2019, **Abdullah Gurlek**, former chairman of the Tohum Cultural Centre in London and a fellow ATIK activist and **Vedat Yeler**, a member of the left-wing newspaper Ozgur Gelecek and an ATIK activist, were arrested in Greece. After a two-day pre-trial detention, they were transferred to Komotini Prison. Gurlek and Yeler have remained detained ever since. Their trial, which should usually take place in June was delayed to 20 January 2020 without facing a judge in the meanwhile.

The political identity and the work of both revolutionaries are obvious. So the fact that these two revolutionaries are still kept in detention cannot be accepted. We call on all the progressive and revolutionary public to extend their solidarity with Abdullah Gurlek and Vedat Yeler and demand their immediate release.

Free Abdullah Gurlek and Vedat Yeler!

Freedom for all political prisoners!

Long live international solidarity!