
Le Président
The President

**Delegation of the European Union to
Turkey**

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Brussels, 7 May 2020

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), which represents the bars and law societies of 45 countries, and through them more than 1 million European lawyers.

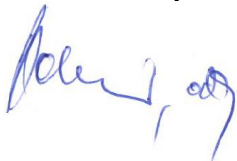
The regulation of the profession, the defence of the Rule of Law, human rights and democratic values are the most important missions of the CCBE. Areas of special concern include the defence of threatened lawyers worldwide.

In this context, the CCBE is taking concrete action to support persecuted lawyers around the world. When a lawyer is a victim of human rights violations, the CCBE alerts the relevant national authorities and their embassies in Brussels. In the most serious cases, the CCBE also refers the matter to key actors at European and International level.

In that context, the CCBE would like to refer to you to the annexed letter recently sent to the Turkish authorities regarding the alarming situation of lawyers Ebru Timtik and Aytaç Ünsal who are currently on a death fast.

Given the gravity and the urgency of the situation, the CCBE respectfully urges the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey to visit these two lawyers who are on hunger strikes in prison or to at least have a phone call with them in order to ascertain their health conditions.

Yours sincerely,



Ranko Pelicarić
President