

*Via email to: [contact@tccb.gov.tr](mailto:contact@tccb.gov.tr)*

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan  
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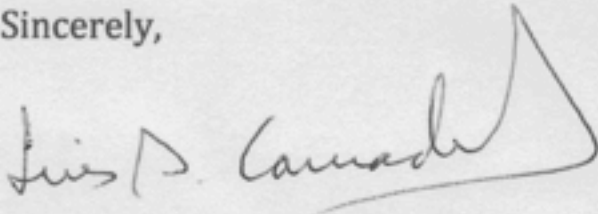
Dear Mr.President:

The Costa Rican Philosophical Association (ACOFI), partner in many activities of the International Development Ethics Association (IDEA, founded in Costa Rica in 1984), has been advised of the December 19 arrest by Turkish authorities of Professor İhtar Gözaydın. I am contacting you on behalf of ACOFI's governing board and its members in order to seek her release.

Professor Gözaydın is a well known Turkish intellectual and a key organizer for the XI IDEA congress scheduled for June 2016 in Istanbul, which was cancelled due to concern for the safety of participants and tentatively rescheduled for June 2017, now cancelled again after the December arrests. We in ACOFI feel that Turkey's well deserved reputation for academic freedom since the foundation of the Republic may be compromised by the detention of academics on the grounds of their ideas. With our colleagues at the International Development Ethics Association, we consider that Professor Gözaydın's reputation is solidly built on dedication to internationally recognized scholarship and her advocacy for human rights.

We ask you to change the chain of events that has been set by Professor Gözaydın's arrest. We are sure that you recognize that academic freedom has a very important role in democratic and just societies, and that its reduction will not benefit the Turkish people. We thus hope that professor Gözaydın will be released as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



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Cc: Dr.Eric Palmer, Presidente, IDEA  
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