

### Praising Crime and Propoganda of Terrorism in Turkish Law

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Numeorus lawsuits have been filed in Turkey against many people with the claim that they praise crime and propagandize terrorism due to their statements in press and social media and many penalties have been imposed in recent years. Legal provisions that can apply to praising crime and propaganda of terrorism in Turkey are covered in Turkish Penal Code, Anti-Terror Code and codes that regulate media and internet broadcasting. Anti-Terror Code includes a definition of terrorism which is broad in scope and frequently criticised as it also covers non-violent behaviours and expressions. European Court of Human Rights rendered several violation verdicts against Turkey as the crime was not concretised and the criterion of posing a close and clear danger for public order was not considered.

**Keywords:** Terrorism, propoganda, praising crime, propoganda of terrorism, Turkey

#### INTRODUCTION

Since 1992, definition of terrorism and crimes related with terrorism as well as clear legal regulations that define propaganda of terrorism have been available in Turkish law. The most important feature of these regulations is changing of these provisions depending on political alterations in Turkey. As a result of this, no certain case law accumulation has been achieved and in many cases the provisions about propaganda of criminal organization and propaganda terrorism are mixed up due to untidiness and ambiguity of legal regulations. Which statement falls into the scope of freedom of expression and which one is propaganda of terrorism is the most commonly debated issue in many investigations. There are criticisms that almost all people trialed for these crimes are opponent writers, journalists, academicians and human rights activists but a few exceptions.1

# PROVISIONS APPLICABLE FOR PRAISING CRIME AND PROPOGANDA OF CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS

Two separate articles are implemented regarding praising crime and propaganda of criminals in Turkish penal code n.5237 (Türk Ceza Kanunu). The first one of these is praising crime and criminals specified in art. 215 of the Penal Code; second one is praising criminal organization in art. 220.

The first article that can be implemented for terrorism propaganda is article 215 of the Turkish Penal Code. Art. 215, "Praising crime and criminal" is as follows:

"Any person who publicly praises an offence or a person on account of an offence he has committed shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of up to two years if any explicit and imminent danger to the public order occurs therefore."

This article punishes propaganda and praising of crimes committed within the framework of terrorist activities as well as praising of petty crimes. The condition that the act of praising should constitute a clear and close threat in terms of public order has also been added to the article text which was amended by the Law on Amendment of Some Laws in the Context of Human Rights and Freedom of Expression no. 6459. In this way, it was aimed to establish a structure in harmony with precedents of the European Court of Human Rights.

The article that can be implemented for the crime of propaganda of a criminal organisation in such a way as to make its methods which contain force, violence and threat look legitimate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>See, AKDENİZ Yaman&ALTIPARMAK Kerem, "Internet: Restricted Access, A Critical Assessment of Internet Content Regulation and Cencorship in Turkey", Ankara, 2008, p.13

or praise or encourage recourse to these methods as indicated in article 220, par.8 of the Penal Code. Art. 220 titled "Forming organized groups with the intention of committing crime". This article regulates the organizations whose members do not have political aims and whose main purpose is to obtain economic interest by illegal activities, including committing "non-political" crimes. Art. 220, par. 1 is as fallows:

"Those who form or manage organized groups to executes acts which are defined as offense by the laws, is punished with imprisonment from two years to six years unless this organized group is observed to be qualified to commit offense in view of its structure, quantity of members, tools and equipment hold for this purpose. However, at least three members are required for existence of an organized group.

The other paragraphs regulate the responsibilities of the founder and members of the criminal organization.<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 8 sets out the responsibilities of those who propagate the methods (force, violence or threats) of the criminal organization. Paragraph 8 is as follows:

"A person who makes propaganda for an organization in a manner which would legitimize or praise the terror organization's methods including force, violence or threats or in a manner which would incite use of these methods shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of one to three years. If the saidcrime is committed through the press or broadcasting the penalty to be given shall be increased by half."

## PROVISIONS APPLICABLE FOR PROPAGANDA OF TERRORISM

The primary code that can be implemented for terrorism and propaganda of terrorist organization is the Anti-Terrorism Law no. 3713. This code entered into force on April 12 1991 and since then serious changes have been made several times due to political developments in the country and relations with European Union.<sup>3</sup> The Code n.3713 is the basic code which defines terrorism, terrorist as an offender<sup>4</sup>, gives a list of

terrorist offences<sup>5</sup> and offences committed for terrorist purposes<sup>6</sup>.

Art. 1 "Definition of Terrorism" is as fallows:

"Terrorism is any kind of act done by one or more persons belonging to an organization with the aim of changing the characteristics of the Republic as specified in the Constitution, its political, legal, social, secular and economic system, damaging the indivisible unity of the state with its territory and nation, endangering the existence of the Turkish State and Republic, weakening or destroying or seizing the authority of the State, eliminating fundamental rights and freedoms, or damaging the internal and external security of the State, public order or general health by means of pressure, force and violence, terror, intimidation, oppression or threat.<sup>7</sup>

The amendment made in 2002 added the phrase "the propaganda in relation to the organization

- Any member of an organization, founded to attain the aims defined in Article 1, who commits a crime in furtherance of these aims, individually or in concert with others, or any member of such an organization, even if he does not commit such a crime, shall be deemed tobe a terrorist offender.
- Persons who are not members of a terrorist organization, but commit a crime in the name of the organization, are also deemed to be terrorist offenders and shall be subject to the same punishment as members of such organizations."
- <sup>5</sup>Art. 3, "Terrorist Offences: Offences defined in articles 302 (Disrupting the unity and integrity of the state), 307 (Destruction of military facilities and conspiracy which benefits enemy military movements), 309 (Violation of the constitution), 311 (Offence against a legislative body), 312 (Offences against the government), 313 (Armed revolt against the government of Turkish Republic), 314 (Armed organisation), 315 (Supplying arms) and 320 (Enlistment of soldiers in foreign service) of the Turkish Penal Code n. 5237 are terrorist offences."
- <sup>6</sup>A long list of crimes including international crimes, offences against life, offences against physical integrity, offences against liberty, offences against privacy and confidentiality, offences against public peace committed for terrorist purposes are considered as terrorist offences.
- <sup>7</sup>Art 1/2 and 3 which were abrogated by the law 5532 were as fallows: "(2) An organization for the purposes of this Law is constituted by two or more persons coming together for a common purpose.
  - The term "organization" also includes formations, associations, armed associations, gangs or armed gangs as described in the Turkish Penal Code and in the provisions of special laws."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Art.220, par. 2 states that "Any person who becomes a member of an organisation established to commit offences shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of one to three years".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Fulltext of the Code no. 3713 is available at "mevzuat.basbakanlik.gov.tr" English version is available at http://www.opbw.org/nat\_imp/leg\_reg/turkey/anti-terror.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Art. 2, "Terrorist Offenders:

in such a way as to encourage recourse to terrorist activities" while the amendment in 2003 added the provision "propaganda in such a way as to encourage recourse to violence and other terrorism methods". This regulation aimed to punish terrorism speeches that act as promotion of violence. Another amendment made in 2006 added the provision "propaganda of a terrorist organization" and the phrase "promotion of violence" was removed from the law. However. the European Court of Human Rights rendered several violation verdicts as the crime was not concretised and the criterion of posing a close and clear danger for public order was not taken into account.<sup>8</sup> The phrase "in such a way as to make its methods which contain force, violence and threat look legitimate or praise or encourage recourse to these methods" was added finally to the article text with Law no. 6459 in order to be able to create a regulation in compliance with precedents of the European Court of Human Rights. The definition of terrorism in the Law n.3713 is broad in scope and is frequently criticised as it also covers non-violent behaviours and expressions.

The primary article that can be implemented for terrorism propaganda is article 7 of the Anti-Terrorism Law no. 3713

Art. 7 "Terrorist organisations" is as fallows:

"Those who establish, lead, or are a member of a terrorist organisation in order to commit crimes in furtherance of aims specified under article 1 through use of force and violence, by means of coercion, intimidation, suppression or threat, shall be punished according to the provisions of article 314 of the Turkish Penal Code. Those who organise the activities of the organisation shall be punished as leaders of the organisation.

<sup>9</sup>TPC, Art 314 "Armed Organisation" is as fallows:

- Any person who establishes or commands an armed organisation with the purpose of committing the offences listed in parts four and five of this chapter, shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of ten to fifteen years.
- Any person who becomes a member of the organisation defined in paragraph one shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of five to ten years.

Any person who makes propaganda to justify or praise or encourage the use of violent or threatening methods by the terrorist organization shall be punished with imprisonment from one to five years. If this crime is committed through means of mass media, the penalty shall be aggravated by one half. In addition, editors-inchief who have not participated in the perpetration of the crime shall be punished with a judicial fine from one thousand to fifteen thousand days' rates. However, the upper limit of this sentence for editors-in-chief is five thousand days' rates. Statements of opinion that do not exceed the limits of reporting or criticism shall not constitute a crime. <sup>10</sup>

The following actions and behaviours shall also be punished according to the provisions of this paragraph:

 $a)^{11}$ 

b) As to imply being a member or follower of a terrorist organisation,

- carrying insignia and signs belonging to the organization,
- shouting slogans
- making announcements using audio equipment
- wearing a uniform of the terrorist organization imprinted with its insignia.

Those who cover their faces completely or in part to hide their identity during the meetings and demonstrations which are transformed into propaganda of the terrorist organization shall be sentenced to imprisonment of from three to five years. If the perpetrators resort to violence or possess or use any kind of weapons,

• Other provisions relating to the forming of an organisation in order to commit offences shall also be applicable to this offence."

<sup>10</sup>The phrase "Statements of opinion that do not exceed the limits of reporting or criticism shall not constitute a crime." was added article 7/2 with Law no. 7188 on 17. 10. 2019. This provision was added considering the criticism that many was arrested only because of their political critics and the press employees had been accused and convicted of their statements in the news.

<sup>11</sup>The phrase "Covering the face in part or in whole, with the intention of concealing identities, during public meetings and demonstrations that have been turned into a propaganda for a terrorist organisation" was abrogated in 2015 with law n. 6638 and reformed with the same law in the third paragraph.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Sürek v. Turkey(8.7.1999, no: 24122/94), Zana v. Turkey (25. 11.1997, no: 18954/91), Başkaya and Okçuoğlu v. Turkey (8.7.1999, no: 23536/94-24408/94).

molotov<sup>12</sup> and similar explosive, caustic or injurious substances, the minimum limit of punishment shall not be less than four years.

If the crimes indicated under paragraph 2 were committed within the buildings, locales, offices or their annexes belonging to associations, foundations, political parties, trade unions or professional organisations or their subsidiaries, within educational institutions, students' dormitories or their annexes, the penalty under this paragraph shall be doubled."

While article 220/8 of the Penal Code bans any cause or organization propaganda by considering any criminal organization, this organization was defined as terrorist organization in paragraph 7/2 of Anti- Terrorism Law no. 3713<sup>13</sup> The prerequisite of a crime is existence of a terrorist organization for both regulations. However, the organization has to be a terrorist organization in terms of article 7 of the Penal Code. Article 220/8 of the Penal Code is enforced for criminal organizations other than terrorist organizations. Perpetrator refers to a person who knows and wants to propagandise methods of a terrorist organization that uses force, violence and threat as a method.

While those who form or manage organized groups to executes acts which are defined as offense by the laws, is punished with imprisonment from two years to six years (art. 220, par.1) those who establishes or commands an armed organisation with the purpose of committing the offences listed in parts four and five of this chapter (crimes against the state) shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of ten to fifteen years (art.314, par 1) While minimum number of three persons is required for the existence of an organisation in art. 220, par. 1, two or more persons are required in art. 316 for an armed organisation (art. 301) which is considered as terrorist organisation by Anti-Terror Law. While the members of criminal organisations are sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of one to three years (art. 220, par.2), those who become member or Major form recognized for both crimes is if the crime has been committed through media. Propaganda cannot be deemed to exist unless boundaries of the right to inform are not violated in informative news and broadcasts. However, many journalists and scholars claim that this is) overlooked, and freedom of the press is violated. Another different major form was regulated in propaganda crime of article 7 of the Penal Code and punishment was increased two-folds if the crime is committed in buildings, local bureaus and extensions of an association, foundation, political party, worker or professional organizations.

### PROVISIONS APPLICABLE FOR PROPAGANDA OF TERRORISM BY MEDIA AND INTERNET

Law no. 6112 on the Establishment of Radio and Television Enterprises and their Broadcasting Services governs radio and television broadcasting rules. Amendments were made finally in 2017 with decree law in the form of additions. In accordance with this (article 8/1), radio and television broadcasts may not praise and promote terrorism, make terrorist organisations look strong or right or reflect their intimidating and deterrent properties. They may not present terrorist activity, its perpetrators and victims in such a way as to serve the purpose of terrorism.

The law that regulates internet broadcasts and their sanctions is Law no. 5651 on "Regulation of Broadcasts on the Internet and Combating Crimes Committed by Such Broadcasts". Although the law was enacted recently, it has not satisfied many people and has been criticised for falling behind the developments in internet technology. There is no clear regulation in this law about access ban or obstruction in the event that terrorism or terrorism propaganda is performed on the internet. However, a framework provision that was added in 2015 to article 8/A of the law entitled "removal of the content or prohibition of access in cases where delay is considered inconvenient" meets this necessity. In accordance with 8/A, it may be decided to remove the content and/or obstruct access with regard to internet broadcast depending on one or several of the reasons of protection of right to life and safety of life and property, protection of national security and public order, prevention of crimes

an armed organisation shall be sentenced to a penalty of imprisonment for a term of five to ten years art. 314, par. 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>*Molotov* cocktail, also known as a petrol bomb is the term for a simple incendiary weapon developed in Finland to the hand- or sling-thrown *explosive* against Soviet tanks.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>See, YURTLU Fatih, "Suç Örgütünün Propagandasını Yapma Suçu ve Türkiye Açısından AİHM Kararlarına Yansıması", Gazi Üniversitesi Hukuk Fakültesi Dergisi, pp. 411-425, 2016, N. 3, p.418.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>See, ALTIPARMAK & YAMAN, p. 45.

or protection of general health. 15 This decision may be rendered by a judge or in cases where delay is inconvenient, by the President of the Republic. It can be decided that the content be removed by the administrator (administrator of the Information Technology and Communication Institution) and/or access be blocked with regard to an Internet broadcast upon request of ministries about national security, protection of public order, prevention of crime or protection of general health. The decision is immediately reported to access providers as well as relevant content and hosting providers. The decision is materialized immediately or within four hours following notification of the decision as required by the decision of content removal or access obstruction. The decision made by the Administrator to remove content and/or block access upon request of the President of the Republic or relevant ministries based on this article is submitted for approval of the criminal court of peace judge. The judge declares his/her verdict within forty-eight hours. Otherwise, the decision is abrogated by itself.

As it is seen, these regulations allow the administrative authorities to perform a quick obstruction with an administrative decision without the need for a judicial verdict. More than 200 web sites accused with propaganda of terrorism were banned before 2015. 16 The article does not mention terrorism propaganda clearly. However, the purposes of "national security, preservation of public order and prevention of crime" provide a quite comprehensive action area for the administrative authorities. Submission of access obstruction decision for judge review later is not a warranty that always satisfies everyone. The most important reason of that are general criticisms about judicial mechanism and judges of criminal courts of peace.

### GENERAL OVERVIEW OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURAL SYSTEM IN TURKEY

The criminal procedure code (n.5271) is in force since 2005 and basically based on German criminal procedure code. <sup>17</sup> This new law incorporates many institutions of Continental criminal procedure tradition. Turkish criminal procedure consists of investigation and prosecution stages. <sup>18</sup>There is a public prosecution office in every province and district where Assize courts are present. Investigations are conducted by public prosecutors. Court of Assizes and criminal courts of first instance operate as first degree courts. <sup>19</sup> There are also criminal judges of peace whom render seizure, detention and apprehension verdicts and reviews the applications lodged against these verdicts.

Turkey shifted to three-degree criminal procedure in 2016. The verdicts rendered by first-degree courts are sent to Regional Courts of Appeal for appeal review. 20 Verdicts of regional courts of appeal are sent to the Court of Cassation for appeal review. 21 A suspect and defendant who think that one of his rights has been violated within the scope of the European Convention on Human Rights may also lodge a personal application with the Constitutional Court before the lawsuit concludes. The Constitutional Court has rendered important verdicts about long apprehension periods and ensured that lawsuits are concluded without being taken to the European Court of Human Rights.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>Information Technologies and Communications Institute was established with law no. 2813 The authority is a public corporate entity which is independent from administration and has financial and administrative adequacy. The president of the authority is assigned by the Council of Ministers (from now on by President within the latest constitutional reforms in 2018) and is endowed with comprehensive powers. The president owns wide range of powers in the field of Internet broadcasting apart from his/her own activity area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>See, ALTIPARMAK Kerem, "Türkiye'de İfade Özgürlüğü, Türkiye'de İfade Özgürlüğü", pp.19-30, Türkiye Barolar Birliği Publishing, Ankara, 2015, p.21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>Fulltext of the Code no. 5271 is available at "mevzuat.basbakanlik.gov.tr" English version is available at https://www.unodc.org/cld/document/tur/2005/turkis

https://www.unodc.org/cld/document/tur/2005/turkish\_criminal\_procedure\_code.html?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>See, EXUM Jelani Jefferson, "The Essence of the Rules: A Comparison of Turkish and US Criminal Procedure, Turkish Criminal Procedure",pp. 1-20, Beta Publishing, İstanbul, 2009, p.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>See, AKSEL, İsmail, "Turkish Judicial System; Bodies, Duties and Officials", Ministry of Justice of Turkey Publishing, Ankara, 2013, p.59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>Appeal on facts and law- art. 272 (CPC)"A motion of appeal on facts and law may be filed against the judgmentsrendered by the courts of first instance."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>"Appeal on law", Art.286 (CPC)"With the exception of reversal judgments, judgments rendered by Criminal Chambers of the Regional Court of Appeal on Facts and Law may be appealed on law."

The criminal procedure system, structure of criminal courts, and the number of courts and judges have changed many times in recent years in Turkey depending on political developments. As of 2019, criminal courts with general duties are divided into two as Assize courts and criminal court of first instance. In general, there is at least one Assize court around every province and, when necessary, in districts and public prosecution offices and criminal courts of first instance within jurisdiction of these courts.

Assize courts that operates in the form of a board. It consists of three judges and handles lawsuits that require imprisonment for over 10 years and life sentence. At least one prosecutor should be present during hearings in this court. On the other hand, criminal courts of first instance have a single judge and they hear lawsuits that require less than 10 years of imprisonment. Regardless of the penalty amount in terms of terrorism crimes, lawsuits against the defendants charged with these crimes are tried in Assize courts.<sup>22</sup>

# SOME REMARKS ON INVESTIGATION AND PROCEDURAL RESTRICTIONS REGARDING TERRORIST CRIMES

Public prosecutor's offices attached to the Assize courts are authorized for investigation. Throughout these amendments above, the issue which attracted the highest amount of complaints

State Security Courts were authorized regarding the crimes about terrorism and organized crimes. State Security Courts were abolished and replaced by specially authorized departments within the body of Assize Courts by the amendments of Criminal Procedure Code no 5271 which entered into force on June 1, 2005. These courts were commonly referred to as "specially authorized courts". The procedure fulfilled in the trials heard in these courts was stricter than the procedure in Anti-Terrorism Code and State Security Courts. The Criminal Procedure Code was amended once more on July 1, 2012. and the Specially Authorized Assize Courts, practices and verdicts of which had become quite disputable, were abolished and replaced by Regional Assize Courts. These courts were abolished on July 1, 2012. Since then, Assize Courts' departments are authorized by the Council of Judges and Prosecutors have subject matter jurisdiction over crimes listed in Anti-Terrorism Law.

is the fact that the police (especially anti-terrorism units) is the primary actor in the investigations and that it directs the investigation authorities. The most important outcome of this in judicial practice is transfer of police probes and records to the bill of indictment as they are. Another problem is the lack of judicial police organization affiliated to the prosecution authority in Turkey in real sense. For this reason, general criminal police conduct judicial police activities at the same time. This causes both authorities and workload of police to increase and the police to direct prosecutors during investigations.<sup>23</sup> Generally, the police have comprehensive authorities during the investigation phase in Turkish law. However, more power has been granted to the police in order to make it more effective in fight against terrorism. These powers are not contained in special laws but in police, gendarmerie and national intelligence laws. Considering all these laws together, it is seen that the police has quite large amount of power in anti-terrorism cases.

The police were given the authority to intercept of correspondence through telecommunication at country level and to collect information in order to ensure constitutional order through the additional article integrated into the law on police powers with law dated 16.6.1985 and no 3233. The police was also granted the power to intercept the communications carried out by people through telecommunication with regard to constitutional crimes with code dated 3.7.2005 and no. 5397 in order for the police to be able to fulfil these duties.<sup>24</sup> Interception of communications covers detection, tapping, recording of communication carried out through telecommunication and tracing of signal information of the mobile phone. Essentially, the police can exercise this power through decision of Penal Judge of Peace. However, in cases where delay constitutes a problem, this measure can be referred to upon written order of Director General of Security and the Head of Intelligence Department. This order, which is given by administrative authorities, needs to be submitted for approval of the judge (Penal Judge

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>See, KOCASAKAL Ümit & EVİK Vesile Sonay, "Özel Yetkili Ağır Ceza Mahkemelerinde Yargılama Usulü", Ceza Muhakemesi Kanunu'nun 3 Yılı, p.533-548, Türk Ceza Hukuku Derneği Publishing, İstanbul, 2009, p.534.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>See, Human Rights Report of The Union of Turkish Bar Associations for 2012, p.265 et. seg. Full text of the report is available at "http://tbbyayinlari.barobirlik.org.tr/TBBBooks/449-ihp.pdf".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>Fulltext of the Code no. 5397 is available at *http://www.tbmm.gov.tr/kanunlar/k5397.html.*"

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of Peace) in 24 hours. These measures can only be valid for maximum two months but may be extended one more month. On the other hand, if operations of a terrorist organization are in question, this total period of three months can be renewed and extended to six months upon the decision of Penal Judge of Peace. As a result of these practices, telephone conversations of thousands of people is tapped in Turkey due to terrorism suspicions every year. For example, in 2012 approximately 70 thousand people's tele communications were intercepted and tapped.<sup>25</sup>

In 2013, Department of Combating Cybercrimes was established within the body of the General Directorate of Security in order to investigate crimes committed by using computer technologies and examination of digital evidences. However, this department tracks other crimes committed through the internet rather than propaganda of terrorism.

Some restrictions were imposed in the procedure regarding terrorist crimes with statutory decrees passed during the state of emergency declared all throughout the country with decision of the Council of Ministers dated 20 July 2016 after the coup attempt in 2016. These statutory decrees were accepted as they were by the parliament and became laws. The amendments made by statutory decrees in criminal procedure law that may directly affect the right of defence regarding terrorism and organized crime are as follows:

• In the event that investigation or prosecution is found about the attorney selected or assigned by the bar due to establishing an organisation for the purpose of committing a crime, establishing an armed organization against the constitutional order and terrorism crimes, this attorney may be banned from attorneyship in lawsuits related to these kinds of crimes. This banning is requested by the prosecutor and the verdict is rendered by the criminal judge of peace at the investigation stage and the court handling the lawsuit at the prosecution stage. (art.151/3)<sup>26</sup>

<sup>25</sup>The interview of the President of Telecommunication and Communication is available at "http://www.radikal. com.tr/turkiye/resmen 71 bin 538 telefon dinleniyor-1024056". The President of Telecommunication and Communication was also the former vice-president of National Intelligence Organization.

<sup>26</sup>The fact that investigation is performed about many attorneys charged with these crimes and many

• The right of suspect under detention due to a crime within the scope of Anti-Terror Law may be restricted for twenty-four hours with judge verdict upon request of the public prosecutor. No testimony may be taken during this period. (art.154/2)

Furthermore, while maximum custody period is 3 years for crimes that are handled by Assize courts, this period may extend to 5 years in case of crimes that fall into the scope of Anti-Terror Law. (art.102/2)

### **CONCLUSION**

Principles in the European Convention on Human Rights were satisfied to a large extent in the regulations made in the criminal procedure law in Turkey. It is seen in the verdicts of the European Court of Human Rights that expressions that do not contain or call for violence are associated with terrorist crimes in Turkey. The relevant law and procedural law contain harsher regulations on definition of terrorism and crimes associated with terrorism. The legislation should be revised upon the European Court of Human Rights' decisions. Protective mechanisms and specific bodies that will combat terrorism propaganda should be established. There is a need for a specific legislation and prosecution unit in order to fight against these crimes.

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attorneys refrain from taking part in these kinds of lawsuits bear the risk of some lawsuits being tried without any attorneys. Sometimes the attorney designated by the bar within the scope of mandatory attorney refrains from providing service due to public reaction.

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- [5] KOCASAKAL Ümit & EVİK Vesile Sonay, Özel Yetkili Ağır Ceza Mahkemelerinde Yargılama Usulü, Ceza Muhakemesi Kanunu'nun 3 Yılı, p.533-548, Türk Ceza Hukuku Derneği Publishing, İstanbul, 2009.
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