



Paris, July 13th, 2017

**Mr. Bekir Bozdağ**  
**Minister of Justice**  
**06659 KIZILAY**  
**ANKARA**  
**Republic of Turkey**

Dear Minister,

The French Trade Union Organisations have learned that Lami Özgen, the Co-President of 3<sup>rd</sup> biggest confederation of public officers of KESK in Turkey, and 20 more public officers were found of guilty of being a member of an illegal, armed organisation. The 16<sup>th</sup> Chamber of Court of Cassation approved the sentence that was given by the 8<sup>th</sup> Chamber of İzmir Court of Assize on 28.11.2011. The file number of judgement by the local court is 2009/218 E, 2011/276 k and by the Court of Cassation is 2015/2092 E, 2017/3689. Lawyers lodged an appeal against this judgement before the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office in the Court of Cassation.

It is really worrying to learn that the sentence of the case was approved by the court in 2017. The investigation goes back to 2008, criminal proceedings began in 2009, and the local court delivered its judgement in 2011. The Court of Cassation's judgement shows, once again, that justice is a serious problem in Turkey.

According to information, which we received from the Confederation and lawyers in charge of the case, gendarmerie and police officers in charge of the investigation against Mr. Lami Özgen and his colleagues, the Public Prosecutor of the case, 2 judges of the 8<sup>th</sup> Chamber of İzmir Court of Assize, and the Public Prosecutor who prepared the letter of notification on behalf of the Court of Cassation were dismissed from their offices by Decree Laws and most of them are in prison for being appointed by Fettullah Gülen Organisation. Your Government states that Fettullah Gülen Organisation staged the coup-attempt against your Government. In fact, it is understood that this case is a plot against KESK in the person of Lami Özgen and other colleagues. It is known there are similar other cases such as Ergenekon, Balyoz and Oda TV that are considered plot against other segment of the society. Thus, all these plots must be investigated and deciphered. We are of the opinion that there is need to find legal means to reverse the verdict or stop the execution in this

case against Lami Özgen and his colleagues. We strongly believe that they are innocent.

Lawyers in charge of the case state that a meeting constitutes the basis of so called evidence. Public prosecutor claims that it was an organisational meeting and was held in Diyarbakır, on 16-18 January 2009. The Security Directorate in Diyarbakır's letter says there was no meeting in these days yet this letter was not considered in the court. On the basis of this fact, we think that there is a typical plot because evidence in favour defendants was ignored. Therefore, there is a violation of right to a fair trial. We would like to remind your Government that right to a fair trial is for everyone.

Lami Özgen was a member of Wise People's Committee, which your Government established in 2013. He, as the KESK President, contributed to peace initiatives in the Committee. While he was carrying out these peace activities, the case was pending. As a result of plot by those who have no concerns about justice and fundamental rights, Lami Özgen was sentenced to imprisonment. Your Ministry has responsibility of solving this irony.

In conclusion, we call on you to take steps so that Lami Özgen and his colleagues can exercise their right to a fair trial, and to grant a motion for judgment notwithstanding the verdict.

Yours Sincerely,

The French Trade Union Organisations



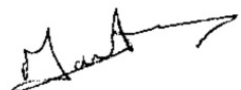
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Secrétaire Général  
CFDT



François Hommeril  
Président  
CFE-CGC



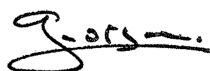
Joseph Thouvenel  
Vice-président  
Confédéral  
CFTC



Philippe MARTINEZ  
Secrétaire Général  
CGT



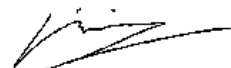
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