On 4 March 2016, following a court order, the Turkish authorities seized the Zaman daily, Today's Zaman (English language daily of the group), the Cihan news agency and the Aksiyon weekly magazine. The Court ordered that those media should be placed under the supervision of trustees appointed by the court to take over the group management. The measure puts at risk press freedom, media pluralism in the country and job security for over 1 000 journalists and media workers employed by the group. The websites of the seized media organisations have also been handed to the trustees and all editorial lines have been altered to support the ruling party's actions.

**UPDATES**

11 Jun 2019: Zaman daily, Today's Zaman, the Cihan news agency and the Aksiyon weekly magazine's assets were transferred to Savings Deposit Insurance Fund (TMSF) of Turkey.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Letter of the UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
- Statement by RSF: "Despotic Erdoğan seizes control of leading daily".
- AEJ statement: "AEJ protests against seizure of Zaman newspaper in Turkey"
- CPJ writes to Turkish PM Ahmet Davutoğlu to protest takeover of Feza media group.
PACE Monitoring Committee expresses serious concern at recent developments in Turkey with respect to restrictions on media freedom and access to pluralistic information.

Statement from PACE Monitoring Committee

PACE President expresses concern about the Istanbul Court's decision undermining media freedom

Statement of Mr Pedro Agramunt President of PACE

CoE Secretary General considers that the court decision to appoint trustees to Zaman group is yet another worrying development with regard to media freedom in Turkey.

Statement by Council of Europe Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland

OSCE Representative on Media Freedom calls on Turkey to refrain from acts of intimidation against media, following appointment of trustees to run Zaman newspaper.

Statement of Dunja Mijatović, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

CoE Human Rights Commissioner Muižnieks deprecates new case of judicial harassment against media in Turkey.

HR Commissioner Nils Muižnieks statement

Factsheet on Freedom of Expression and the Broadcasting Media

Overview of the ECHR case law and other relevant Council of Europe resources related to Freedom of Expression and the Broadcasting
This section presents a non-exhaustive selection of CoE instruments and ECHR case-law. This information is not a legal assessment of the alert and should not be treated or used as such.