

26
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No state
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Turkey

Alert created on: 28 Sep 2016

A Court Orders the Blocking and Closure of Information Websites and Users' Profiles on Twitter

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ State


CATEGORY  ▶ Other acts having chilling effects on media freedom

NO STATE REPLY YET

PARTNER: EFJ/IFJ, AEJ, Index

In a judgment dated from 2 August 2016, the Criminal Court of Gölbaşı (Ankara) ordered the prohibition of access to 33 Internet addresses (17 Twitter accounts, 1 Facebook account and 15 information sites, including profiles and sites managed by journalists) on the grounds of "protecting people's right to life and safety, the property of others, national security or the maintenance of public order." The court's judgment considers that the sites in question are "promoting terrorism, violence or are inciting to commit crimes that threaten public order or national security." Contrary to these allegations, several of the sites in question which are managed by professional journalists, according to the European and International Federations of Journalists (EFJ-IFJ), provide essential information about the purges launched following the aborted coup of 15 July and the ongoing violations of media freedom in Turkey.


ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

 Tweet from Sean D.B. Craig publishing the Court's decision listing the Twitter accounts and websites the Government wants blocked.

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26 Sep 2017 | The CoE Commissioner for Human Rights recalls that any restrictions on access to Internet content should be based on a clear and predictable framework affording guarantee of judicial oversight to prevent possible abuses.

 Comment by the Commissioner for Human Rights: "Arbitrary Internet blocking jeopardises freedom of expression"