

WORKERS OF ALL COUNTRIES, UNITE!

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TÜSTAV

STATEMENT

Our country is living through difficult days. The military, political and economic pressures of imperialism are intensifying. The fascist attacks are assuming more bloody dimensions with every passing day. The internal and external threat to our people and our country is becoming graver.

American imperialism is insisting on Turkey that US aggressive bases, nuclear arms depots and intelligence centres be made to work more efficiently. It is opposing with force the nationalisation of our national wealth. The aim of these imperialist pressures is to strengthen NATO's southern flank, consolidate US positions in the Middle East, protect its political, military and economic interests in regard to Turkey and, in particular, sabotage the relations which are developing between Turkey and the Soviet Union, Turkey and the socialist countries. This aggressive strategy of imperialism constitutes a great danger for our people, for regional and world peace.

The government is bowing to the pressures of the American imperialists and the NATO ruling circles. Together with this, imperialism, the International Monetary Fund and the CIA are inciting the fascist escalation in our country. They are holding the alternative of fascism in reserve.

The fascist Nationalist Action Party wants martial law. It cannot hide the fact that it is intensifying its bloody attacks in order to provoke martial law. The striking, terrorist force of American imperialism and the collaborating bourgeoisie, the NAP, is pushing the government towards martial law. Its aim is to provoke the army, to drive the army – by the hand of the government – against the progressive forces and the working class movement, to take advantage of this atmosphere and come to power.

The Republican People's Party-dominated government remains a spectator to this bloody scenario put into practice by the fascist forces, to the shooting and murder of very young people every day. By not suppressing the fascist party and the fascist striking organisations, by giving concessions to imperialism, and by its policy of foisting the burden of the crisis onto the backs of the working people, it is losing its support. With its policy of "being against both right and left", it is gradually applying methods of repression directed against democratic forces. It is moving closer to anti-communism, distancing itself further from the democratic forces. All these are increasing the fascist danger.

The TKP exposed the character of this government on the very day it was established. It stressed that only a government having an anti-imperialist and anti-fascist programme, a government composed of national democratic forces would be able to overcome the problems. Developments are confirming the TKP's view.

There are forces in our country that can defeat the pressures of American imperialism and NATO, stop fascism and curb exploitation by domestic and foreign monopolies. The TKP will overcome all obstacles in its struggle to establish a broad national democratic front unity of all truly progressive forces in the nation. It will defeat the anti-TKP, political and ideological attacks of the bourgeoisie. There is no ban that can prevent the TKP from

standing shoulder to shoulder with other democratic forces in anti-imperialist, anti-fascist unity of action.

The force that will bar the way to fascism is the organised, mass struggle unity of the people. The struggles and actions of the working class, working people and their organisations will drive back and defeat imperialist repression and fascist escalation. In such a situation, our working class and people will take into their own hands the task of ensuring security of life against the fascist terror and protecting democratic rights; it will organise for this, establish new organisations of struggle.

The fascist NAP which is calling for a military dictatorship, all allied organisations, must be closed down! The fascist laws must be repealed and the anti-democratic investigations stopped! There is no place in our country for even one American soldier! The American and NATO bases must be seized! Our natural riches must be nationalised! An end must be put to mass sackings and the freezing of wages!

Those who shun unity of action in the face of these national tasks will have to give an account before history. The leaders of the socialist parties, trade unions and mass organisations, the spokesmen of the left wing of the Republican People's Party, progressive MP's, intellectuals and officers are faced with such a responsibility.

All national democratic forces, unite in a single front of struggle!

Central Committee

5 October 1978

Communist Party of Turkey

Mr. Bülent Ecevit, Prime Minister and Chairman of the RPP,

Our motherland, our 42 million people are living through very grave, very difficult and bloody days. The most reactionary forces who have long trod underfoot our people's national interests, sold our country to imperialism, are striving to drag our motherland into a civil war. With this they want to break the struggle of our people for liberation from the yoke of American imperialism and NATO first and foremost, their struggle to reclaim our national independence and sovereign rights, ensure peace and security in the world and in our region, achieve an advanced democratic order and proceed to socialism.

In such a situation, your party and your government are faced with an historical responsibility. For this reason, I consider it necessary, on behalf of my party, to draw your attention to the vital, urgent, main problems.

Your party, the Republican People's Party, entered the elections with a programme distinct from those of the other bourgeois parties. This programme included a series of promises. Our people voted for the RPP in the hope that it would implement their demands.

What do we see today? Facts do not listen to orders. Your government has been in power for 9 months. It appears that your actions totally contradict the promises you made to the people.

What remains today of the policy to defend peace and national interests, a policy the RPP has talked about? The RPP-dominated government is perpetuating the policy of dependence on NATO and American imperialism.

Moreover, with every passing day, imperialist impositions are leading to retreat even from the positions it formerly held. You have said that, "There is no threat to Turkey from the Soviet Union". But you are opening the nuclear arms depots and the aggressive American bases, without having discussed this in parliament. Like other governments, you are trampling on the constitution. You are behaving contrary to the joint Turkish-Soviet Political Document signed by yourself, coming into conflict with the interests of peace and detente in our region. The TKP demands withdrawal from NATO, the closing of the American and NATO bases, and progress towards disarmament. It is struggling for this.

The RPP has stated many times that it opposes fascism. But the government in which you predominate is remaining a spectator to the bloody attacks, instead of preventing fascist escalation with the actions of the masses. The ruling forces want to use the hand of the government to crush the progressive forces' struggle for national independence and democracy. The TKP opposes the policy of repression and forced assimilation being employed against the Kurdish people. In particular, it vehemently protests against the recent provocations. Your governors are closing, not the fascist NAP and its allied organisations guilty of the bloody terror that has taken the lives of almost 800 countrymen, but progressive, patriotic and democratic organisations. You are not taking the road of purging the state apparatus of fascists or dispersing the counter-guerrilla organisation. The bloody attacks place under fire not only communists and socialists, but the RPP as well. The fascist escalation directed by US imperialism is also a danger for your party and your government. The experience of Chile and several other countries is clear. Instead of uniting with the working class and working people, the communist, socialist and other democratic forces against the Türkeş'es, Elverdis and Türüns, your party leadership prefers collaboration with the bloody-handed Justice Party. "Happy days", you said, but our people are living through bloody days. The TKP sees the only way of preventing a civil war in the realisation of a national democratic front, in the dispersal of the fascist lairs by the organised struggle of the people, in the closing of the Nationalist Action Party and the purging of fascists from the state apparatus. It insists on this.

You have declared many times that you are on the side of democratic freedoms and the repeal of anti-democratic laws. But with every passing day your party leadership is closing its ears to the demand for democratic freedoms. Your government prosecutors are putting on trial the directors of "Ürün" publications for having published the TKP Programme, as well as other democratically-minded people. The fascist articles 141 and 142 are being rigorously applied in the period of your government. It is impossible to excuse these applications on the grounds of "legal requirements" or "parliamentary arithmetic." The recent speech in Çanakkale, of your party's general secretary clearly shows that the RPP leadership is being swept up by increasingly virulent anti-communism. In this way you are trampling on human rights and democratic freedoms. The TKP demands the halting of the trial of the publishers of our party programme and full recognition of our party's legal rights, the repeal of all anti-democratic laws and an end to the persecution of

all democratic, patriotic, socialist parties and organisations and their press organs.

During the elections, the RPP spoke of "bringing prosperity" to the people, the working people and of establishing "a just order". But your government is bowing to the impositions of imperialist monopolies and making the life of the working people, our people, a hell. The collaborating monopoly bosses are throwing tens of thousands of workers onto the street. The army of unemployed is counted in millions. Inflation and the pincers of devaluation are cutting into the working people's, the people's daily bread. The government led by your party is laying its hands on workers' wages and democratic trade union gains under the name of "social contract". It is ruining the masses of small peasants with its minimum statutory price policy. Your government is foisting the whole burden of the crisis onto the backs of the working class and working people. The bourgeoisie which is not included among the domestic and foreign monopolies is also suffering the harmful effects of these grave conditions. Your government has brought impoverishment, not prosperity, to the people, and unlimited profits to a handful of monopolists and speculators. The TKP is fighting for the working class' attainment of all its political, social and economic democratic rights, the liberation of the peasants from oppression by the landowners and their obtaining of land, and the happiness of the entire people.

All the events, all the facts, show that your party leadership is going on a parallel with the bloody-handed Demirels and Türkeş'es who have won the hatred of broad masses of the people. In what way is it any different from the reactionary, fascist coalition governments? The people are asking this question.

The TKP is fighting against American imperialism's attempts to sabotage peace and Turkish-Soviet relations, against the fascist escalation, unemployment and high cost of living. It is striving to establish a struggle unity of our people, of the broad masses of the working people. The TKP will support any forward step taken in this direction.

We call on you to keep the promises you gave to the people.

İ. Bilen

General Secretary,
Central Committee

13 October 1978

Communist Party of Turkey

**TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE WORKERS' PARTY OF TURKEY (TİP)**

Esteemed friends in the Workers' Party of Turkey,

In the name of all communists of Turkey, the Central Committee of the TKP protests and abhors the murder of six young members of TİP by fascist commandos, this barbarity.

We declare that we are in solidarity with your party and all members of

TİP in the face of these bloody attacks. With revolutionary feelings, we share your deep sorrow and express our condolences to the families of the youths, who have fallen in the struggle. The struggle unity of our working class and people will bar the way to fascism.

With revolutionary greetings,
İ. Bilen

General Secretary,
Central Committee

Communist Party of Turkey

11 October 1978

**TO COMRADE EZEKIAS PAPAIOANNOU, GENERAL SECRETARY
OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY
OF THE WORKING PEOPLE OF CYPRUS (AKEL)**

Esteemed Comrade E. Papaioannou,

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey and all communists of Turkey, as well as on my own behalf, I congratulate you on the occasion of your 70th birthday and convey our militant revolutionary greetings.

For many years you have fought untiringly against fascism in Spain and in the Second World War and against imperialism, for the national independence of the people of Cyprus.

You waged and are waging an active struggle in the ranks of the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus (AKEL), in its foremost position, against attempts by the US imperialists and the ringleaders of NATO to divide Cyprus and turn it into an imperialist base. In this difficult period for Cyprus AKEL is working, under your leadership, for the withdrawal from the island of Turkish armed forces and all foreign soldiers, for the regaining of the complete independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Cyprus, for the return to their homes of those driven out of home and land, and the protection of the democratic rights of the Greek and Turkish communities.

You are uncompromisingly defending the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. You are showing great attention and care for the strengthening of the unity of the world communist movement and the development of fraternal relations among our parties. The TKP will hereafter, as until now, be in complete solidarity with the just struggle of the people of Cyprus under the leadership of AKEL.

Esteemed Comrade E. Papaioannou,

We wish you many new successes and good health in your responsible duty and difficult struggle.

İ. Bilen

General Secretary,
Central Committee

Communist Party of Turkey

8 October 1978

TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF PERU

Esteemed comrades,

On behalf of all communists of Turkey, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey sincerely congratulates you on the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of Peru and conveys its militant revolutionary greetings.

The TKP is bound to the Communist Party of Peru by fraternal ties on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. Our common struggle against a common enemy, American imperialism, against imperialism's efforts to enslave the peoples binds us even closer together.

The Communist Party of Peru is struggling against imperialism and the local oligarchy for national independence and social progress, for the defence and development of the democratic rights and gains that have been achieved and the opening of the road to socialism. In this struggle it is marching on the road of strengthening and consolidating the action front of the working class, working masses and all forces against imperialism and oligarchy.

On the occasion of its 50th anniversary of struggle, the Central Committee of the TKP wishes the Communist Party of Peru many new and great successes in its struggle.

With communist greetings,
İ. Bilen
General Secretary
Central Committee
Communist Party of Turkey

7 October 1978

TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEES OF THE FRENCH, ITALIAN, PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTIES

Esteemed comrades,

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Turkey expresses its appreciation for the solidarity shown to the TKP by the members of your parties who are deputies in the parliamentary group at the Council of Europe. This solidarity and the common statement that was issued are concrete examples of internationalist solidarity, proletarian internationalism, among the fraternal communist parties. The slogan for Freedom to the TKP and the demand for the repeal of such fascist laws as 141 and 142 which impinge upon freedom of thought and organisation in Turkey have today been adopted by the broadest masses. The progressive and democratic forces in our country are vehemently protesting against the trial of the manager and editor of the "Ürün" publishing house, which lawfully published the TKP Programme. In

such a situation the show of continuous solidarity by the fraternal communist parties is an important contribution to the struggle of the democratic forces in Turkey.

With communist greetings,
İ. Bilen
General Secretary,
Central Committee
Communist Party of Turkey

5 October 1978

SOLIDARITY WITH THE PROGRESSIVE FORCES IN TURKEY AND PROTESTS AGAINST ANTI-DEMOCRATIC PERSECUTIONS

The trial of the directors of the "Ürün" publishing house, which published the TKP Programme, is to begin on the 17th of October, in the Second Criminal Court in İstanbul. The manager and editor of "Ürün", Ahmet Taştan, faces a sentence of 11 years 8 months imprisonment. He is being tried under the fascist article 142 and other anti-democratic articles of the penal code.

Solidarity with "Ürün" publishers and other democratic forces is growing on a national and international scale.

Progressive and democratic forces in Turkey, well known lawyers, scientists and men of letters are engaged in a broad campaign against this anti-democratic prosecution known as the "Trial of the TKP Programme". A Turkey-wide Committee of Solidarity with the "Ürün" publishers has been formed for this purpose. 50 lawyers holding various convictions are participating in the 17th of October hearing.

The Writers' Union of Turkey issued a statement protesting against the trial of Ahmet Taştan in connection with the publication of the TKP Programme. The Union engaged a lawyer to defend Ahmet Taştan. In addition, it applied to the Chairman of the İstanbul Bar.

At a press conference organised by trade unionists and lawyers come to Turkey to observe the trial, it was announced that these observers will apply to international law organisations for the repeal of articles 141 and 142. Visited by the delegation, the Assistant General Secretary of the Republican People's Party, Uğur Alacakaptan, said that they are opposed to articles 141 and 142 and that they can be repealed by a lower court application to the Constitutional Court.

Ahmet Taştan also declared that he will demand that the court apply to the Constitutional Court for the repeal of 141 and 142.

In Federal Germany

Organisations affiliated to the Federation of Turkish Workers' Association in Federal Germany, sent telegrams and letters to Prime Minister Ecevit protesting against the 17th of October trial. In addition, representatives of some organisations announced that they will attend the trial. A

representative of the Turkish Peace and Freedom Committee and Dr. Böck, a well-known lawyer in Federal Germany, and the famous anti-fascist journalist Emil Karlabach are coming to İstanbul to attend the trial.

In West Berlin

The "West Berlin Committee of Solidarity with Ürün" issued an Appeal in which it stated that the trial of the "Ürün" publishers is part of a systematic campaign of aggression that has been launched against already restricted freedom of the press in recent months and declared its solidarity with the progressive, democratic forces in our country.

A letter of protest against attempts to prosecute the "Ürün" publishers signed by 2,500 people was sent to Kurt Waldheim, UN General Secretary, Prime Minister Ecevit and the Chairman of the Council of Europe.

In Britain

The Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain (UTPB) and other organisations are organising a demonstration to be held in front of the Turkish Embassy in London on the 17th of October. In addition, a "Committee for the Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey" has been established with the participation of parliamentarians and trade unionists. Meanwhile, it was announced that a British delegation made up of two trade unionists and a lawyer will go to Turkey to observe the 17th of October trial.

In Belgium

The campaign launched in Belgium for a halt to the trial of "Ürün" editor Ahmet Taştan and the repeal of the ban on the TKP is continuing with success. The signature campaign opened by the Union of Turkish Workers in Belgium has received great attention. Until now, more than 2,000 signatures have been collected. The deputy chairman of the Belgium Communist Party, members of its Central Committee, trade unionists and lawyers have taken an active part in the signature campaign. The Christian Peace Movement, Christian Trade Union Confederation and representatives of more than 40 democratic organisations in Belgium have demanded the lifting of the ban on the TKP and a halt to the trial of the "Ürün" publishers. In addition, the Belgian lawyer, François Bailly, has announced that he will go to Turkey to be present at the trial of Ahmet Taştan.

In France

Eight French intellectuals have sent a letter to Prime Minister Ecevit, protesting against the trial of the publishers of the TKP Programme. The letter declares that this trial casts a shadow over freedom of thought and freedom of the press and that the TKP is the only Communist Party banned in Europe. The letter expresses solidarity with the progressive forces in Turkey. The eight French intellectuals who signed the letter are: Cueco (painter), Lucien Seve

(philosopher), Pierre Jaegoe (physicist, French Centre for Scientific Research), Grego Baeson (orchestra conductor), Luis Daquin (film director), Bertran Kavernier (film director), Baurice Failevic (TV director).

The trial of the "Ürün" publishers comes in for sharp criticism under the heading "An anti-communist trial" in the 14th of October edition of "l'Humanite". The same article declares the solidarity of French communists and working people with the democratic forces in Turkey.

In addition, Antoin Porcu, a French Communist Party parliamentarian, raised questions in the Council of Ministers of the European Community and in the European Community Commission. His questions characterised the 17th of October trial in Turkey as an anti-democratic prosecution. Moreover, a telegramme sent to Ecevit by five French communist MP's demanded an immediate halt to the prosecution of the "Ürün" publishers and an end to anti-democratic prosecutions in Turkey. These five deputies to the the Parliament of the European Economic Community are: Bordu, Ansart, Eberhard, Porcu and Soury.

In Dominique

Subsequent to telegrammes sent to Ecevit by various workers' and communist parties of Western Europe, the Communist Party of Dominique also sent a telegramme. The telegramme said the following: "We protest the anti-democratic repression directed against the "Ürün" publishers and demand the legalisation of the TKP".

FASCIST ATTACKS INTENSIFY

In recent days bloody attacks by Nationalist Action Party fascist commandos and provocations by the Maoists have assumed unprecedented dimensions. The number of victims of the bloody terror is mounting relentlessly. The Nationalist Action Party is demanding martial law. Following the murder of the president of the Nationalist Action Party İstanbul organisation as the result of a provocation, demands for martial law intensified and the fascist terror mounted.

In the first days of October, NAP fascist commandos seized three students from the Taksim-Sarıyer bus in İstanbul and later lined up and shot these three patriots. The result of the fascist commandos' barbarity was two students killed, one seriously wounded. The wounded Lycee student who survived stated that those who shot his friends were NAP fascist commandos.

The building which houses the Kadıköy branches of the Progressive Youth Organisation (İGD) and the Association of Progressive Lycee Students (İLD) was bombed by commandos. As a result of this attack, 20 people were wounded, 3 of them seriously. İlhan Akyıldız, a member of Zeytinburnu Community Centre and the Association for Struggle against unemployment and the High Cost of Living in İstanbul, and a worker in Elazığ were murdered in attacks by fascist commandos. In a period when repression and sanguinary terror directed against democratic forces and organisations has so intensified,

the General Centre of the Union of Revolutionaries in Kocaeli as well as its Gölcük, Gebze, Derince and Karamürsel branches, have been closed by the governor. Its leaders have been put on trial. The grounds for this anti-democratic action were given as the use of the slogan "Freedom to the TKP" at this organisation's last Congress.

The most barbarous slaughter of the recent period took place on the 9th of October. Fascists murdered six young members of the Workers' Party of Turkey (TİP) in the course of an attack on a house in the Bahçelievler district of Ankara. Three were lined up and shot, another strangled. Another was seriously wounded. The two remaining youths were shot on the road to Eskişehir. Serdar Altın, a student at the Middle East Technical University who was seriously wounded in the fascists' attack stated that his friends had been killed by fascist commandos. The murdered youths were: Lâtif Can, Efraim Ezgin, Osman Nuri Uzunlar, Faruk Ersan, Salih Gevenci, Hürcan Gürsan.

This bloody attack met with strong protests on a nation-wide scale. The funerals of the TIP youths turned into a massive demonstration against fascism with the united action of all democratic organisations and parties.

Fresh evidence in recent days is providing clear proof that the NAP and the Ülkü Ocakları affiliated to it, are the source of the bloody attacks. According to a statement by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, out of 2,000 persons arrested, 1118 are members of the NAP, the Ülkü Ocakları affiliated to it, the fascist trade union confederation, MİSK, or the Cevher-İş Union. The arrested include the fascist commando Tüysüz, President of the Ankara Aktepe branch of the Ülkü Ocakları, who is responsible for the murder of two people. An NAP member has been identified as the murderer of the prosecutor Doğan Özün. It was announced that Ülkü Ocakları fascists organised the massacres in Niğde and Balgat. The President of the NAP, Şişli branch youth wing and eight of his friends are being tried for the murder of four people. The President of the Great Ideal Associations, Şahin Gülhan is also being tried for murder. The panic among the fascists mounted after it was exposed that fascist organisations such as the Army for the Liberation of the Enslaved Turks (ETKO), the Pan-Turkist Vengeance Brigade (TİT) and the Turkish Lightning Commandos had been established under the control of the NAP. The NAP and its allied organisations are trying to suppress the evidence. They have even begun to kill their own members who appear dangerous in this respect.

These are only a few examples which prove that the NAP and its allied organisations are the source of the bloody attacks. There is more than enough evidence in this regard. For this reason, the TKP, progressive forces, TİP and other socialist parties, DİSK and democratic organisations are demanding the immediate closure of the NAP and its allied organisations, punishment of those guilty of bloody attacks and the adoption of resolute measures.