

# IUHPST

International Union of History and  
Philosophy of Science and Technology

**International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology**

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Cambridge, 1 June 2019

His Excellency  
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan  
*President of the Republic of Turkey*  
T. C. Cumhurbaşkanlığı Genel Sekreterliği  
06689 Çankaya, Ankara  
Turkey

Your Excellency:

The *International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology* (IUHPST) is gravely concerned about the violation of human rights of academics in the Republic of Turkey.

The nonviolent exercise of academic freedom and free expression are both recognized under international standards such as the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. Dismissals, detentions, and criminal investigations as retaliation against scholars for this exercise of academic freedom are therefore in violation with these international standards. The *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* and the *European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms*, both of which Turkey has ratified, similarly require the government to uphold citizens' freedom of expression.

Recently, our colleague, the logician Dr Tuna Altınel from the *Université de Lyon* in France, has been arrested in Turkey, presumably in connection to his signing of the 2016 petition entitled "*We, Turkish academics, will not be a party to this crime*". The IUHPST vehemently protests against Dr Altınel's unjust incarceration and demands that the Turkish government immediately release our colleague as well as other academics who suffer the same fate.

Respectfully,

  
The Secretary General