



Brussels, 22 March 2019

**Subject: The critical case of Leyla Güven**

Dear Minister of Justice Mr. Abdulhamit Gül,

We are writing to bring to your attention to the urgent case of Leyla Güven, a Member of the Turkish Parliament who has been sitting on an indefinite hunger since November 2018.

While we welcomed the decision of the High Penal Court of Diyarbakir to release Leyla Güven from prison last January, we remain much concerned about the critical condition of her health after being on hunger strike for 135 days. She has announced that she will not end her hunger strike until the rights of prisoners are respected in Turkey according to international law.

In solidarity with her, hundreds of inmates have joined her struggle in calling for prisoners' rights but the Turkish government is ignoring their voices. As Leyla's health has reached a critical stage and that of others are at risk too, we urge you to begin a dialogue with a view to commit to the upholding of prisoners' rights in Turkey.

We await your action on this matter

Yours sincerely,

MEP Jordi Solé

MEP Rebecca Harms

MEP Ana Miranda

MEP Ana Gomes

MEP Julie Ward

MEP Terry Reintke

MEP Josep-Maria Terricabras

MEP Knut Fleckenstein

MEP Bodil Valero

MEP Wim Van de Camp