



**RECEP TAYYİP ERDOĞAN**  
**Presidency of Republic of Turkey**  
Cumhurbaşkanlığı Külliyesi  
06560 BeştepeAnkara  
TÜRKİYE

Re: Urgent Appeal from the Union of International Architects (UIA) on Lawsuits in respect of Gezi

Dear Honourable President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan:

Greetings from the presidency of UIA.

I am conveying this urgent appeal for your kind consideration.

The UIA, the only international Union of Architects in the world was recently notified of the Gezi Park lawsuits finalized on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in Turkey. The UIA wishes to express its serious concern on the arrest and 18-year jail sentences of Architect Mucella Yapici, Urban Planner Tayfun Kahraman, Lawyer of the Chamber Can Atalay.


The UIA held a General Assembly in Madrid this week with a majority of UIA member countries participating and wishes to express firm solidarity for our Turkish colleagues who are in jail.

The UIA believes that Mucella Yapici, Tayfun Kahraman and Can Atalay were simply carrying out their professional responsibilities ethically in the best interest of protecting Gezi Park in Taksim from construction encroachment. They held no bad intent whatsoever nor any personal motives in carrying out those professional responsibilities.

UIA expresses its full solidarity with the Chamber of Architects of Turkey, an active member of UIA and the Turkish architects. From the professional point of view, protecting green areas in the city and defending public rights are paramount for UIA which is a global organization with active links to many other relevant international bodies. As is well known, UIA represents architects in more than 115 countries in the world and we would like to emphasize once again that architecture's role for a sustainable and livable future is our most crucial goal always expressed as one of our key professional principles.

On behalf of the UIA I am submitting this appeal for your kind consideration and hold high expectations for your effective intervention towards a positive resolution of the plight of our three imprisoned colleagues.

Sincerely yours,



José Luis Cortés  
President

**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ARCHITECTS**

**UIA GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

Tour Maine Montparnasse

B.P.158 - 33, avenue du Maine - 75755 Paris cedex 15-France - Tél. : +33 1 45 24 36 88

[www.uia-architectes.org](http://www.uia-architectes.org)



**BEKÎR BOZDAG**

Turkish Minister of Justice  
06659 KIZILAY / ANKARA

Re: Urgent Appeal from the Union of International Architects (UIA) on Lawsuits in respect of Gezi Park

Dear Honourable Bekir Bozdog:

Greetings from the presidency of UIA.

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**MURATKURUM**

Turkish Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change  
Mustafa Kemal Mahallesi  
2082. Cadde No:52 Çankaya  
ANKARA

Re: Urgent Appeal from the Union of International Architects (UIA) on Lawsuits in respect of Gezi Park

Dear Honourable Murat Kurum:

Greetings from the presidency of UIA.

I am conveying this urgent appeal for your kind consideration.

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**Mustafa SENTOP**

Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey  
TBMM  
06543 Bakanlıklar Ankara  
TÜRKİYE

Re: Urgent Appeal from the Union of International Architects (UIA) on Lawsuits in respect of Gezi Park

Dear Honourable Mustafa SENTOP

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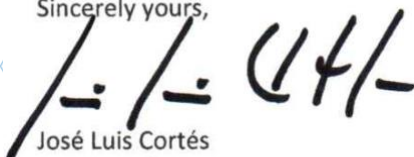
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