



Padua, 24 January 2019

**To** *Istanbul Bar Association*

**İstiklal Caddesi  
Orhan Adli Apaydın Sokak, No:2,  
34430, Beyoğlu-Istanbul**

**Attn. Atty. Mehmet DURAKOĞLU  
President**

**Subject:** *Day of the Endangered Lawyer*

Dear Mr President, Dear Colleague,

On 24 January every year, the international legal community celebrates the *Day of the Endangered Lawyer*.

It is an occasion aimed at drawing global attention to the Lawyers worldwide who every day risk their professional and personal safety, while accomplishing the high mission to protect the fundamental rights of the persons they advise and assist.

In 2019, the focus is on Turkey, given that in the last two years the *status* of its Lawyers and of its Judiciary has seriously and worryingly worsened, as a consequence of the well-known events of July 2016.

As the *Istanbul Bar Association* knows (having in the past been an observer Member of our Association, according to Article 3 of our Bylaws), the U.A.E. promotes *inter alia* the enforcement of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

The U.A.E. therefore wishes to express its deep solidarity to the Turkish Colleagues and Judiciary.

Our Association stands by the Turkish legal *milieu* and will continue its efforts for the affirmation of the common values of Europe and the supremacy of the Rule of Law.



Union des Avocats Européens  
European Lawyers' Union

On behalf of the Bureau of the U.A.E., of its Executive Committee, and of our Association as a whole, please accept - dear Mr President, dear Colleague - our deepest admiration and friendship.

Kindest regards,

Gabriele DONÀ  
President of the U.A.E.