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Brussels/Ferney-Voltaire, 10 November 2021

Open letter on trial against Dr Şeyhmus Gökalg

Your Excellency, ministers,

It is with great concern that the World Medical Association (WMA) and the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) are following the judicial case against Dr Şeyhmus Gökalg at the Diyarbakır 2nd Criminal Court of Peace.

Ahead of the final hearing on 19 November 2021, we reaffirm our appeal to the Turkish judicial authorities to ensure that the proceedings are conducted in full respect of the right to a fair trial the Republic of Turkey has committed to under international law.

It is our understanding that Dr Şeyhmus Gökalg is a well-respected physician exercising his profession in line with the core ethical values of the profession and recognised for his commitment to serve public health interests and to protect patients and physicians.



In absence of substantiated and lawfully obtained evidence in support of the indictments against Dr Gökalp, the charges against him must be dropped immediately.

We will monitor the outcome of the hearing and continue to liaise with the Turkish Medical Association as well as our international partners on further actions if deemed necessary. We trust in a lawful resolution.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Heidi Stensmyren'.

Dr Heidi Stensmyren
WMA President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery'.

Prof. Dr Frank Ulrich Montgomery
CPME President

The World Medical Association (WMA) is the global federation of National Medical Associations representing the millions of physicians worldwide. Acting on behalf of patients and physicians, the WMA endeavors to achieve the highest possible standards of medical care, ethics, education and health-related human rights for all people.

The Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) represents national medical associations across Europe.

We are committed to contributing the medical profession's point of view to EU institutions and European policy-making through pro-active cooperation on a wide range of health and healthcare related issues.