



Strasbourg, 27 October, 2016

**To the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Thorbjørn Jagland
To the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Nils Muižnieks**

Regarding the continuing violations of human rights of the members of the HDP in Turkey

Dear Mr Secretary General,
Dear Mr Commissioner,

I am writing you in order to express my deepest concerns about the unmotivated wave of arrests of the members of the HDP. Only yesterday, two co-mayors were [arrested](#) in Diyarbakir. I would sincerely appreciate if the Council of Europe could carry out inspection on the ground as soon as possible to clarify the motives of the Turkish authorities to imprison so many members of the HDP. The HDP, the party which has its elected delegates participating in our Group of the Unified European Left in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has strongly resisted against the attempt of the coup d'état, but is being mercilessly tackled with reference to the "fight against terrorism" and with the use of special powers under the current state of emergency in Turkey. In doing so, the Turkish authorities are undermining democracy and the rule of law in Turkey in a totally unacceptable manner.

I thank you for your attention and am looking forward to your response.

Kind regards,

Tiny Kox

Chair UEL PACE