

Invitation to the International Press Conference of the Platform Rule of Law

Turkey: Arbitrary Detention & Crash of the State of Law The passivity of the European Court of Human Rights and of European States

Date: **Wednesday, 21st February 2018, 10.00am**

Place: **Vienna International Press Center of the
Austrian Journalist's Club (ÖJC),
1010 Vienna, Blutgasse 3**

Since long time and contrary to the right to a fair trial, a large number of judges, lawyers, prosecutors, academics and journalists are imprisoned in Turkey. Additionally, the independence of the judiciary is no longer guaranteed because of political influence. Therefore, it can be said that the rule of law in Turkey has broken down.

In spite of that, individual applications to the European Court of Human Rights are failing due to unjustifiably imposed admissibility obstacles. Possible and necessary state applications by member states of the Council of Europe are tarrying due to political reasons.

Speakers:

- Friedrich **FORSTHUBER**, Chairman, Section for Criminal Law, Association of Austrian Judges
- Ceren **UYSAL**, Turkish lawyer and researcher at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights in Vienna, Dr. Georg Lebiszcak Award for Freedom of Speech 2016
- Veysel **OK**, Lawyer of Deniz Yücel (Journalist of the journal "Die Welt", imprisoned in Turkey)
- Hannes **TRETTNER**, Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM), Vienna

The **Platform Rule of Law** is an initiative to support judges, lawyers, journalists and academics who are in prison in Turkey now. The platform aims to support applications to the ECtHR in cooperation with Turkish lawyers.

Supporters of the initiative are the following organizations:

**International Press Institute (IPI),
Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Menschenrechte (BIM),
Österreichische Liga für Menschenrechte,
Österreichischer Journalisten Club (ÖJC),
Rechtsanwaltskammer Wien,
Vereinigung österreichischer Richterinnen und Richter (RiV).**

Speakers will talk German or English.

Registration: organisation@oejc.at