

PRESS RELEASE - 30 January 2018

CPME CONDEMNS ARREST OF TURKISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION LEADERS

The President of the Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME), Dr Jacques de Haller, condemns the arrests and the threats of physical violence and the criminal complaint that has been made against the Turkish Medical Association (TMA), its officers and staff.

"The CPME fully supports our Turkish colleagues in their public statement that war is a public health problem.

We agree with the global medical community that the Turkish Medical Association has a duty to support human rights and peace and we are deeply alarmed about the latest arrests and the criminal complaint. Together with our colleagues we strongly denounce these attacks on freedom of expression.

We join the World Medical Association in calling on the Turkish authorities to immediately release the physician leaders and to end the campaign of intimidation. We urge national medical associations in Europe to advocate for the full respect of Turkey's humanitarian and human rights obligations, including the right to health, freedom of association and expression".

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