

# Press Release

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## Council of Europe Secretary General "profoundly shocked and saddened" by killing of Turkish journalist

Strasbourg, 19.01.2007 - "I am profoundly shocked and saddened by the murder of journalist and writer Hrant Dink. I join Prime Minister Erdogan in condemnation of this heinous crime and commend his pledge to bring the perpetrators to justice" said Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Mr Dink had the courage to write about a painful period in the history of both Turkey and the whole region. His works were always written in a sincere spirit of reconciliation."

Hrant Dink was targeted by those who hated him for using his freedom of expression and his freedom as a human being to help his nation strengthen its commitment to European values of tolerance and democracy.

Mr Dink will be remembered for advancing the case of freedom of expression in his country. It is important that citizens in every country have the right to discuss freely their national history.

I offer my deepest sympathy to the family, friends and colleagues of Hrant Dink.

## Le Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe "profondément choqué et attristé" par l'assassinat d'un journaliste turc

Strasbourg, 19.01.2007 - "Je suis profondément choqué et attristé par l'assassinat du journaliste et écrivain turc Hrant Dink. Je m'associe au Premier Ministre Erdogan dans sa condamnation de ce crime haineux et salue son engagement à faire traduire les coupables en justice" a déclaré Terry Davis, Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe.

Il a eu le courage d'écrire sur une période douloureuse de l'histoire de la Turquie et de la région en général. Ses écrits étaient empreints d'un sincère esprit de réconciliation.

Hrant Dink a été visé par ceux qui le haïssaient parce qu'il utilisait sa liberté d'expression et sa liberté d'être humain pour aider son pays à renforcer son engagement envers les valeurs européennes de tolérance et de démocratie.

On se souviendra de M. Dink pour avoir fait progresser la liberté d'expression dans son pays. Il est important que les citoyens de tous les pays aient le droit de débattre librement de leur histoire nationale.

Je présente mes vives condoléances à la famille ainsi qu'aux amis et collègues de Hrant Dink.

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