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ETUC Press release

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Turkey: the ETUC Executive Committee condemns the police's disproportionate use of force

The Executive Committee of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) is following the unfolding events in Istanbul, Ankara and other Turkish cities with great concern. The European trade union condemns the disproportionate and unacceptable use of force by the police. This current repression brings to mind a similar reaction against a rally, held in Taksim Square on 1 May, celebrating Labour Day as was the case in many other places around the world. The ETUC supports those who are fighting for the respect of democratic social and trade union rights and against creeping authoritarianism in Turkey. The ETUC Executive Committee calls on the Turkish Government to respect fundamental international rights and the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. The ETUC will stay in close contact with its affiliates to determine what action to take, if necessary, to ensure the respect of these rights in Turkey. The ETUC notes positive signal from parts of the Turkish Government to engage in dialogue.

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) exists to speak with a single voice, on behalf of the common interests of workers, at European level. Founded in 1973, it now represents 85 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 10 industry-based federations. The ETUC is also on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#).

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