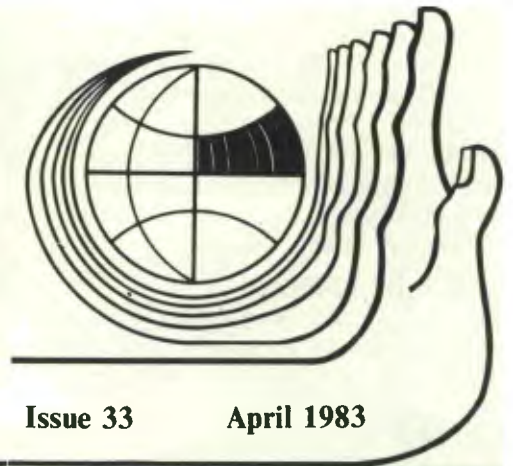


TURKEY NEWSLETTER

Monthly publication of the Committee for
Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey



Issue 33

April 1983

Our Poetry Is Written With Tears

by M Emin Bozarslan

In the prisons
in the dark and crowded prisons
behind heavy iron gates and bars
that resemble strongholds and forts
among rats and roaches
the seeds of our literature grow
and our history matures

With tears
With the eyes' tears
with children's tears
that flow for the fathers
fathers who sit in prisons
our poetry is written
and our history matures

With longing
with young wives' longing
with young newlywed women's longing
that is felt deep in their hearts
for their men
those who sit in the prisons
our tales are woven
and our history matures

With blood
with young men's blood
with young women's blood
and our heroes the *Peşmerga's blood
that flows over the mountains
over the Kurdish mountains
our songs are made
and our history matures

Our inspiration
doesn't come from rouged lips
and painted eyes
nor from powdered faces
It comes from flowing tears,
the heart's deep longing,
young men and women's blood
They are our sources of inspiration
small puffs of wind
that renew our love

* Peşmerga: Kurdish guerilla soldier.



New Prisons

This year 37 new prisons will be opened in 36 cities in Turkey, according to the fascist junta's Justice Minister. (*Güneş*, 19.2.83)

Atasport

All sporting activities are to be organised according to Atatürkist principles. (*Güneş*, 19.2.83)

Three free zones

The recently announced free zones of Antalya, Aliğa and Yumurtalık will be used for a Mideast construction

Homeless

The Secretary for Housing announced 1.3.83 that Turkey has 350,000 homes *less* each year. It is estimated that 1.75M flats, offices and factories in Turkey are in danger of falling down, 500,000 in İstanbul alone.

In March the junta announced its aim of clearing the *gecekondu* (shanties) surrounding Turkey's cities. The proportion of the population living in *gecekondu* in Ankara is 69%, İzmir 49%, İstanbul 40%. In these cities 20,000 *gecekondu* are to be cleared in May, when it is warmer (to lessen the likelihood of civil disorder). There are already signs that *gecekondu* residents are preparing to resist.

Elections "Deferred"

Talking to a US journalist in March, President General Evren said: "We cannot promise that elections will be held this autumn, because 85 laws still have to be prepared. If these laws can be prepared in time, then there can be elections. If not, then there can be elections in the autumn of 1984."

No Old Politicos

Fascist junta Statement 30, having the full force of law, decrees that former politicians will get a blow from which they will not recover if they persist in attempting to reenter politics:

"All martial law courts will do their duty, because these former politicians are very irresponsible persons. They would like to crush the authority of the state. They have no respect for the constitution. These politicians before 12 September (the 1980 fascist coup — *TN*) produced animosities. Today they would like to do the same thing."

Lib rati n Reaffirms Support

The coordinating body for solidarity organisations, Liberation, agreed unanimously at its Annual Delegate Meeting on 26 February the following resolution on Turkey:

That in view of the continuing tortures, mounting deaths in custody and by execution, and the numerous trials of trade unionists, peace activists and progressives (and in which the defence lawyers suffer persecution also) under the regime of Turkey's military fascist junta, this ADM, recognising the importance of the work already done by Liberation on Turkey, calls upon Liberation supporters to use every possible opportunity to expose the true face of this junta and to continue to give the greatest possible support to the activities of the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey.

At the same meeting CDDRT President Stan Newens MP was reelected Chair of Liberation, and our General Council member John Bowden was elected a Vice Chair.

company, as a transit harbour, and for production.

Firewood

One month's supply of firewood, 1 *çeki* ($\frac{1}{4}$ ton), now costs TL 10,000 (£35), which is the minimum monthly wage.

Special Courts

Special Courts (DGM) will operate when martial law is lifted. Rather than allow its own creature, the Consultative Assembly, to handle this hot potato the National Security Council (the junta)

took the decision to set up DGM's on its own.

Prisoners' Demo

Political prisoners in Buca Prison, İzmir demonstrated against the wearing of prison uniforms in early March. Soldiers then attacked the prisoners, beating them and putting them in 'coffins' (see *March Turkey Newsletter*). The 'coffins' are 60-75cm square and 175cm high. This is a standard torture, but since on this occasion there were insufficient 'coffins', each was made to hold 5 or 6 prisoners.



Economy Sinks

Between 1978 and 1982 the average national income in Turkey fell to below £650 pa, and is continuing to fall. Investment of fixed capital is too low; as a proportion of Gross National Product (GNP) it has decreased:

1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
22.3%	21.6%	19.4%	19.1%	18.9%

This lack of investment makes all the talk in the Turkish papers about exports, finance and banking look pretty pointless. Unemployment has officially increased to more than $1\frac{3}{4}$ times its 1978 level; the current production of unemployed is about 20% of the workforce.

The EEC added its own damper on 8 March. The European Commission drastically curtailed cotton exports from Turkey. Until 15 July only 1200 tonnes of cotton fabric and 3.6M tee shirts may be imported. This move pegs such exports to little more than last year's levels. One more vaunted avenue of safety for the junta has thus been blocked.

To these difficulties Turkey's economy has no solution. The rate of growth is now slowing remarkably:

1963-67	1968-72	1973-77	1978-82
6.4%	7.1%	6.4%	2.0%

(These are rates for each 5 year period, not annual rates.)

As a topping to the crumbling pie, both the results of the West German elections and imminent cancellation of projects by Saudi Arabia may lead to increasing numbers of workers returning to Turkey. Their expectations and experience will further add to the difficulties of the fascist junta.

New Trade Union Trials

DİSK*

As if death demands for 64 of the 74 defendants in the DİSK trial were not enough, on 2 March a supplementary indictment was made against all of them. This followed an incredibly incriminating statement in court by one of the 74, Hakkı Öztürk.

Öztürk's accusations were rejected by DİSK President Abdullah Baştürk and General Secretary Fehmi Işıklar. Eight other defendants also spoke out in court against the prosecution's attempt to use Öztürk in this way. They were: Kemal Nebioğlu, Tuncay Kocamanoğlu, Süleyman Çelebi, Selahattin Selçuk Sayın, Kemal Yalnız, Demirhan Tuncay, Ridvak Budak and Niyazi Kuas.

The new accusations concern the introduction of the politics of the Communist Party of Turkey (TKP) into DİSK-affiliated trade unions.

* Revolutionary Trade Union Confederation.

Public Employees

A new trade union trial which opened on 1 March in İstanbul includes three trade union presidents and 36 leaders of Genel-İş (public employees union). Some of this new trial's defendants are also on trial in the main DİSK trial. They include Abdullah Baştürk, İsmail Özbiçer, Ekrem Akkuş,

Bergüzer Can, İsmail Hakkı Önal, İsmail Çalışkan and Cemal Arslan.

The military prosecutor is demanding sentences of 6²/₃ to 8 years for "furthering the aims of communism."

Oil Workers

"Turning a legal organisation into a illegal one." That is the charge against 41 leaders and members of Oleyis trade union, whose trial started in İstanbul at the beginning of March. Under Articles 141, 31, 33 and 173 of the Penal Code the military prosecutor has demanded 6²/₃ to 20 years in prison for these defendants.

Oleyis was until 1979 affiliated to the yellow trade union confederation Türk-İş, after which it switched to DİSK. The prosecutor alleges that, "from 1974 until 12 September 1980," (the date of the fascist coup), "the defendants worked along the lines of Marxist-Leninist ideology."

Defendants present in the military court rejected the indictment. Amongst these were Ahmet Taş, Ömer Ülkü, Kemal Kalender and Şaban Ali Yaşaroğlu. Oleyis President Nusret Aydın, Tahir Güner, Ali Kocaman, Şaban Aydın and Ali Özkaralıoğlu were not present in court because they are in the main DİSK trial.

DEATH MINE

An explosion at Armutçuk mine in the Zonguldak coalfield killed over 100 miners and injured scores more on 7 March. Mine officials did not even know how many men were working below at the time.

It was no accident

Before the disaster miners coming up after their shift told men on the next shift that there was a fire raging down below. Obviously reluctant to go down, the next shift were forced to by mine officials, who said barriers had been set up to contain the fire. 288 workers have been killed at the notorious Armutçuk mine over the last 40 years, but the total was soon to soar. Still far from satisfied the miners went below on the understanding that gas levels would be checked regularly. This was not done. In fact workers claim that methane gas levels were at around 5% — highly dangerous.

After the disaster as relatives waited at the pithead for the dismembered bodies to be brought up in coffins, troops were everywhere. Some months ago the only hospital was moved from Armutçuk, leaving only two GP's to provide emergency cover. For this reason the wounded had to be moved many kilometres in buses over poor roads. The roads have been deliberately neglected to ensure isolation of the area.

The union, even though affiliated to yellow Türk-İş, has declared no confidence in the investigation team now at the pit. Little wonder when we see Turkey's coalmining deathrate. Numbers killed per million tons of coal produced are in USA 0.25, West Germany 1.03, India 2.69, and Turkey 15.8. In Zonguldak region since 1963, 135,000 miners have been injured; in only the last 10 years 633 miners have been killed.

Scapegoat

Talk of a "thorough inquiry" (BBC) being ordered by President General Evren is pure hogwash. Evren contented himself with saying, "We will find who is



responsible, who did not do his job well, and punish him." The fascist junta and its very own finance capital colleagues are responsible directly for the death of these miners. That is why they are looking for a scapegoat to blame, and why their disgusting press is even rubbishing the miners themselves.

Congress of Solidarity

The Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey, now five years old, is holding its Second Congress this year. On Sunday 15 May 1983 London's County Hall will host representatives of organisations as well as individual activists, all keenly interested in raising the level of solidarity with Turkey's working people. The Congress will be decisive.

It is not too late for you or your organisation to take part in this Congress. Send us a completed affilia-

tion form and fee (see back page) plus £1 per Congress delegate, and you will receive Congress credentials together with all documentation.

Emergency motions will be approved for debate at Congress by the General Council sub-committees.

An individual affiliate may attend as a delegate, local affiliates and Branches may each send two delegates, and national affiliates may each send five delegates to Congress.

YOUTH REJECTS FASCISM

By Cüneyt Ergün of IGD*

Before 12 September 1980 Turkey was a country where a fierce class struggle was waged and taking on bloody forms. The level of economic development of the country could not stand the double exploitation by imperialism and local finance capital. There was only one means by which to achieve monopolist super profits. On the one hand, and by whatever means of oppression possible, intensifying exploitation inside the country, on the other hand (and as an extension of this policy) to open outwards by any means whatsoever, including that of war. The state with all its official force played an important role as a means of oppression. The result has been that the working class in particular has been pushed to the level of subsistence and even below. Under such conditions, the broad popular masses became rapidly politicised and were drawn into the centre of political struggle. Daily life became enmeshed in massive political actions and political murders, including mass murders. The people started to organise for their own defence against official and civil fascist forces.

In Turkey 60% of the population consists of young people below the age of 20. The proportion of the entire population of young people is even higher. The great majority of these young people are from the working people. Consequently, it was impossible that the youth — which represents the largest and most dynamic sector of society — should not have been directly affected by the deep economic and political crisis in the country. Furthermore these young people had additional problems stemming from their youth.

First among these problems are those which originated from deficiencies in the educational system. The level of illiteracy was still high. Because the educational programmes changed with every change in government young people were deprived of any real education. In the schools outside the large cities there were not enough teachers to apply these programmes and lessons could not be held. As for higher education, it was not so much a right as a privilege of the upper strata of society. Furthermore, the anti-democratic regulation contained in Law No.1472,

applying to academics and Institutes of Higher Education, and Law No.1750, applying to the Universities, deprived these institutions of their nature as scientific establishments. By way of the inter-university entry examinations tens of thousands of young people were each year torn away from education and left to face unemployment. In reality, university graduates swelled the ranks of the army of unemployed as graduated unemployed.

Another real problem of young people was that of unemployment. Apart from hidden unemployment, the number of unemployed (according to official statistics) was over 3 million. Young people represented the great majority of this large army of unemployed. The heavy burden of unemployment was increased by the low wages paid to young people. Young workers had no possibility of professional and technical education. With the Apprenticeship Laws a frightful exploitation combining child-labour with beatings and forced labour was legalised.

As a result of all this, young people rapidly organised in progressive, revolutionary youth organisations, in trade unions and political parties. An alert, enthusiastic and great force, they started to play a very important role in political life. The ever present activities of youth became the unfailing barometer of tension in society.

It is no coincidence that it is revolutionary young workers who today are being passed through the torture chambers of the fascist junta and for whom heavy sentences are demanded as trade union leaders and shop stewards in the DİSK trade unions.

Between 1976 and 1980 Turkey had the largest May Day celebrations of the entire capitalist world. Young workers had the greatest share in organising these demonstrations, in raising participation and in security measures. On the other hand, and together with the student youth, they represented the basis of the left opposition which emerged in all organisations.

The fascist junta has dismantled all progressive, legal organisations of the working people using state terror. However, it has not been able to solve a single problem. For this reason its attacks on the working class, the petty



bourgeoisie and the Kurdish nation continue. Youth is also affected by these attacks. The junta knows from past experience what kind of potential youth represents. For this reason it tries to create a basis of support among young people by way of militarist, chauvinist propaganda which it bases on Kemalism. This cheap demagoguery is taught in schools in the name of "education". Furthermore it plays the same tune in the universities which through the higher education laws have been deprived of all autonomy — administrative, financial and scientific.

In all schools and work places a military discipline is in force. The violent fear that the fascist generals feel about the youth is reflected in the campaign of repression it wages against it. To date, 200,000 people have been detained by the junta. At this moment there are 130,000 political detainees in the fascist junta's prisons. A large majority of these are young workers, intellectuals and students. 120 have died under torture (a number which only reflects those whose identity has been definitely established), and all of these have been young people. 700 young people have been killed because, "they engaged in armed exchanges with the security forces".

It is now vitally important for youth to organise itself particularly in Europe, away from the fascist oppression. In such important initiatives youth from Turkey can work with other democratic organisations in solidarity. This will be a most important part of the struggle for democracy in Turkey.

* Now illegal progressive youth organisation.

KURDISH – THE ILLEGAL LANGUAGE

by M Emin Bozarslan

The Kurdish language is an indo-european language, used by about 20 million people living in Kurdistan, which has been divided between the countries Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Iran. There are also Kurds living in the Soviet Union and Lebanon as minority groups. Since the middle of the sixties Kurdish immigrant groups are living in all West-European countries.

The majority of Kurds live in North Kurdistan which has been a Turkish colony since 1923. The aim of the Turkish regime, laid down when Kemal Atatürk founded the Turkish Republic in 1923, was to assimilate the Kurds with the Turks. To make it possible to reach that aim the Kurdish language and literature were forbidden.

The Turkish Republic during 58 years has been trying to exterminate Kurdish culture, literature and language. To achieve this aim they use all public and private means e.g. education, massmedia and oppression. You are not allowed to write and publish books in Kurdish or make researches on the Kurdish language, culture and literature. Moreover it is forbidden to import into Turkey books, journals, newspapers, cassettes and records in Kurdish.

The world's only forbidden ABC

I wrote an ABC-book (*ALFABE*) in Kurdish for children and grown up illiterates. The book was published in İstanbul in 1968. It happened to be a great event for the Kurdish people and also for the Turkish regime. As the book was the only Kurdish ABC-book in North Kurdistan, all Kurdish children welcomed it with joy. On the other hand the Turkish regime reacted very sharply.

Two days later two courts, one in İstanbul, the other in Diyarbakır (the biggest town in Kurdistan) declared the book to be banned and illegal in Kurdistan and the whole of Turkey. By reason of that book they accused me of trying to divide Turkey and found an independent Kurdish state. I was put into prison for four months. The book is still forbidden in Turkey. It is so because of one single reason; it is written in Kurdish and the Kurdish language is forbidden in Turkey.

This Kurdish ABC-book thereby happened to be the only forbidden ABC-book of the world. As far as I know there is no other example like it in the world. This example stands for the Turkish so-called "democracy".

In the autumn of 1980 the book was published for the second time. It was in Sweden with the support of the Public Institute of Information of Educational Means. The Swedish Board of Education has decided it is to be used as a spelling-book for Kurdish children in Sweden. This is the only Kurdish ABC-book in the whole of Europe.

Taught in a foreign language

In Turkey the official administrative and teaching language is Turkish. Kurdish children are not allowed to read in their Kurdish mother tongue at schools. The children are not even allowed to use Kurdish during breaks at school. Those who use it run the risk of punishment. The children are obliged to read and talk in Turkish at schools, though Turkish is a foreign language to them.

Turkey has placed itself under an obligation to work for human rights as a member of the United Nations and the European Council. For the same purpose Turkey has furthermore signed the Helsinki-agreement.

Despite that, all democratic countries and organisations of the whole world silently observe the crime that Turkey commits and the racial, inhuman policy that the Turkish regime applies. But the Kurdish people never have accepted the Turkish coercion. Despite all oppression the Kurdish people have been able to preserve their language, culture, literature and identity. The situation is almost the same in the other parts of Kurdistan.



Bozarslan in Britain

The prominent Kurdish writer Mehmet Emin Bozarslan will speak at CDDRT's public meeting on Saturday 16 April (see back page).

M. Emin Bozarslan has written extensively about Kurdish language, literature and history, as well as on Mideast affairs generall. Since Kurdish is a forbidden language in Turkey, all his books in that language or concerning Kurdistan have been banned.

His first books, published in 1968, to be so treated were *Alfabe* (an ABC book) and *Mem u Zin* (a national epic). *Alfabe* is the only Kurdish ABC in Latin characters in North Kurdistan (i.e. within the boundaries of the Republic of Turkey). *He was imprisoned for four months for writing it.*

In 1971 his translation of *Şerefname* was published. Since then he has published a Kurdish-Turkish dictionary (1978), *Meyro* (Kurdish short stories), *Mir Zoro*, *Gure Bilurvan* and *Kez Xatun* (three children's books).

M. Emin Bozarslan's recent work includes a fourth children's book, more Kurdish short stories and a comprehensive Kurdish dictionary. He is at the same time developing language courses for Kurdish children in Sweden.

MAY DAY 1983

Join the CDDRT contingent on this year's London May Day March!

Meet us at Parliament Hill 11am on 1 May.

ACADEMIC CHAINS



The recent visit of two senior Turkish professors, Drs. Yahya Tezel and Kemal Gürüz is by no means a mere coincidence or routine visit. As they were guests of the British Council: does this visit reflect Foreign & Commonwealth Office support for the fascist junta's McCarthyite purge and liquidation operation at the universities of Turkey? In the House of Commons on 3 March CDDRT Sponsor Norman Atkinson MP asked the Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs:

In reply Minister Onslow said, "**The British Council is not the Turkish Government for the purpose of recruiting British university teachers and scientists; and if he will make a statement.**"

In reply Minister Onslow said, "**The British Council is not assisting the Turkish Government to recruit British university teachers and scientists and has received no request from the Turkish Government to do so. It does, however, foster academic links between the two countries as with many others. This activity may involve inter alia short-term visits of up to three months in either direction.**"

It is now more than two years after the fascist coup of September 12 1980 in Turkey. Tezel and Gürüz are the representatives of that fascist junta, and are both members of the Council on Higher Education (YÖK). YÖK has been charged with applying the first measures stipulated by the new Higher Education Act, promulgated in November 1981. This 25 member stooge body is two thirds junta-appointed and has absolute power over the universities and their staffs. It has swept away the once far reaching autonomy of universities. Chancellors and Deans, formerly elected officers, are now appointed by President General Evren. YÖK has hired and fired faculty members throughout the Turkish university system. It has drawn up new curriculum for the universities and fixed all

programmes and contents of courses. A Higher Education Surveillance Committee has been set up to keep strict discipline in the universities. There is a strict dress code imposed: women are forbidden to wear trousers and men are forced to shave their beards.

YÖK has forbidden academic staff and students from joining political parties (should these be formed) and prohibits them from giving interviews to journalists without the specific permission of the Chancellor. Permission is also required in order to become a member of any organisation.

So far 231 university teachers have been fired and more than that number have been forcibly transferred to distant campuses. At least 500 have resigned in disgust and others have asked for early retirement in a wave of discontent among university staff as the junta implement their education acts. There has been a student boycott in Ankara University (11.2.83) in which lessons and food were boycotted in the Political Science Faculty.

YÖK intends to completely silence all intellectual dissent against the junta and to impose fascism on the educational system of Turkey by reshuffling Turkey's 12,800 university teachers. A knock at the door and a dismissal letter from the rector of the university tells the teacher concerned that he or she has been sacked by order of the military. They lose pension rights and the right to teach or work in public service again. They also find it almost impossible to get a passport, so losing their right to travel abroad.

The junta claims that they have doubled student intake at a stroke and increased the number of universities from 19 to 28 (by calling teacher training colleges universities). Deprived of 700 academics, unqualified civil servants will have to be ushered in to teach classes or else the junta will have to go recruiting abroad for unemployed teachers. This is the real reason for the British Council two week tour of Drs. Tezel and Gürüz. Nosing around Oxford, Cambridge, London, Edinburgh, Glasgow and other universities they are hoping to import jobless lecturers on short-term contracts to fill the vacancies of victimised teachers.

CDDRT calls on British Academic Staff:
DON'T COLLABORATE WITH THE FASCIST JUNTA IN TURKEY! SAY NO TO WORKING FOR THE GENERALS! SUPPORT YOUR VICTIMISED COLLEAGUES IN TURKEY!

MP's Challenge Complacency

British MP's are not satisfied with the replies they have been getting about lack of academic freedom in Turkey. On the occasion of an higher education lobby of parliament on 9 March several MP's challenged Minister Douglas Hurd on the matter:

Mr Sheerman asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs if he will make representations to the Turkish Government about the curtailment of academic freedom in that country.

Mr Hurd: We would not condone the restriction of academic freedom in any

country, but we have no plans to make representations about academic freedom in Turkey. The administration of Turkish Universities must be a matter for the Turkish authorities.

Mr Sheerman: Academic freedom, wherever it is under threat, is of serious concern to democratic countries such as this. What is going on in Turkey is surely of interest to the Government and this country where a NATO ally is purging anyone who does not agree with it from the university world and putting them in goal. Are not the human rights of an ally alongside

whom we would be willing to go to war even more important than the human rights of a potential enemy?

Mr. Moyle: ... Turkey is a member of NATO — in the same alliance as we are — and therefore should not Turkey be defending academic, trade union and press freedom? Should we not be urging it to do so as the price of remaining part of NATO, which makes it Turkey's responsibility to defend these freedoms?

Mr Hurd: It must be for the Turks to decide how their universities should be run.

From Hansard

DUSTBIN CORNER



This month two items qualify.

Slander

"The coal mine disaster occurred because the miners wanted more coal and wanted to work."

Tercüman quoting 'a worker' after Turkey's biggest death toll from mining (7 March 1983).

Appeaser

Most MP's who spoke on the issue in the House of Commons on 9 March were very concerned at lack of academic freedom in Turkey. This was the exception.

Sir Patrick Wall: Are not the Labour Party's continued attacks on NATO allies to be deplored? Is it not a fact that the Turkish Government have restored law and order in that country and are now moving rapidly towards parliamentary and democratic government?

Mr. Hurd: My right hon. Friend is right. The new Turkish constitution has been approved by an overwhelming majority. Elections are due in October. It is good progress.

CONSTITUTION OF CDDRT

- The name of the organisation shall be the Committee for Defence of Democratic Rights in Turkey (CDDRT).
- The aims of CDDRT are as follows:
 - End military rule, martial law, torture and executions.
 - Release of political prisoners.
 - Freedom for all democratic organisations.
 - End national oppression of the Kurds and national minorities.
 - Stop expansionism; end the occupation of Cyprus.
 - Withdraw Turkey from NATO and close all NATO bases.
 - No military, political or economic support for the fascist junta.
 - Totally oppose junta harassment of overseas opponents.
 - Organise solidarity on the basis of the foregoing utilising every means at our disposal.
- Organisations and individuals accepting the aims of CDDRT can apply to affiliate. Such applications are subject to the approval of the General Council. Affiliation fees shall be set by the General Council and become payable from 1 January each year.
- Congress is the highest body of CDDRT and

- shall meet every two years. It shall consist of delegates from Branches and affiliated organisations, and individual affiliates. Congress shall elect the General Council and consider reports and motions. The conduct of business shall be on the basis of Standing Orders approved by Congress. Pre-Congress arrangements are the responsibility of the retiring General Council. Each Congress shall decide the size of the General Council.
- The General Council is the continuing body of Congress and shall meet quarterly. It shall appoint the Executive Committee which is responsible to it. The General Council shall have the right to co-opt.
- The Executive Committee shall consist of the General Secretary and such other members as the General Council may decide. The Executive Committee shall meet weekly and be responsible for the day to day work of CDDRT.
- Local Branches of CDDRT are formed with the approval of the General Council.
- This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority at a Congress.
- The General Council may call, or upon request by two-thirds of affiliated national organisations shall call, a Special Congress.

Pac Women at NATO

The junta's representatives to NATO received an unpleasant surprise on March 8, International Women's Day. That day saw the culmination of protests organised by the STAR (Stop The Arms Race) campaign of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) near the Brussels HQ of NATO.

In the morning of 8 March a delegation of three, including a representative from CDDRT, met one of the junta's men at NATO, Teoman Surekok. Many pointed questions about lack of democratic rights in Turkey were asked. Mr Surekok attempted some answers as follows. (The replies are not verbatim as our representative could not record the meeting: NATO HQ staff confiscated her equipment.)

Q: What is your view on the Palme Report?

A: We are unsure of its effect. But we are firmly against any nuclear free zone in Turkey.

Q: Is it true troops are moving east into Kurdistan?

A: Moving the troops is our policy. There is no Kurdish problem. We are all Turkish.

Q: Why does your government always link peace to the communists?

A: That is the one difference in our country — communists are illegal.

Q: Could the WILPF go to Turkey and see the trials and the conditions in the prisons?

A: Yes, certainly you can go and see the trials. Just apply to the Ambassador in London.

Q: You say we can have peace organisations in Turkey if we want?

A: Yes, you can set up a branch of WILPF if you like. We only have bans because we temporarily have a military government.

GENERAL COUNCIL OF CDDRT

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Richard Balfé MEP,
John Bowden
Aif Lomas MEP
Stan Newsom MP (President) | Gerry Pocock
Reg Race MP (Treasurer)
Ernie Roberts MP (Chair)
Alan Sapper | Marion Sarafi
Bob Wright
Jim Moody (General Secretary) |
|--|--|--|
- and one representative each from the Turkish Students' Federation of the UK, Union of Turkish Progressives in Britain and the Union of Turkish Workers.

Sponsors include

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Frank Allaun, MP
Joe Ashton, MP
Norman Atkinson, MP
Guy Barnett, MP
Tony Benn, MP
Andrew Bennett, MP
Sid Bidwell, MP
Ron Brown, MP
Dennis Canavan MP
Tom Cox, MP
Bob Cryer, MP
Arthur Davidson, QC, MP
Frank Dobson, MP
Dick Douglas, MP
Alfred Dubs, MP
Ken Eastham, MP
Geoffrey Edge, MP
Bob Edwards, MP
Fred Evans, MP
Martin Flannery, MP
George Foulkes, MP
John Golding, MP
Frank Hooley MP
Doug Hoyle MP
Les Huckfield, MP
Bob Hughes, MP
Roy Hughes, MP
Lewis Carter-Jones MP
Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP
Neil Kinnock, MP
James Lamond, MP | R. Leighton, MP
Arthur WJ Lewis MP
Bob Litherland, MP
Allen McKay, MP
William McKelvey, MP
Bob McTaggart, MP
Jim Marshall, MP
Joan Maxton, MP
Joan Maynard, MP
Michael Meacher, MP
George Morton, MP
Stan Newsom, MP
Martin O'Neil, MP
Stan Orme, MP
Bob Parry, MP
Reg Race, MP
Jo Richardson, MP
Allan Roberts, MP
Ernie Roberts, MP
Ernie Ross, MP
Dennis Skinner, MP
Clive Soley MP
Jack Straw, MP
John Tilley, MP
Philip Whitehead, MP
Sheila Wright, MP
Richard Balfé, MEP
Roland Boyes, MEP
Richard Caborn, MEP
Barbara Castle, MEP
Ann Clwyd, MEP
Kenneth D Collins, MEP | Brian Key, MEP
Aif Lomas, MEP
Dr Barry Seal MEP
Colin Barnett, Sec. NW TUC
Ken Brett, AGS AUEW
Stan Cole, AUEW NC
Harry Conroy, NUJ
Lawrence Daly, NUM
J. Davidson, NW Dist. Sec. FTAT
Beryl Huffinley, Yorks and
Humberstone TUC
E.V. Hughes, Vice Pres., NW TUC
Alex Kitson, TGWU
Mick McGahey, NUM
Alan Sapper, ACTT
Bob Wright, AGS AUEW
ACTSS Central London Branch
APEX — Holborn Branch
ASTMS — Divisional Council 8
ASTMS — Manchester HS Branch
ASTMS — Hendon Branch
AUEW — Kingston District
AUEW — N. Manchester District
AUEW — Sheffield District
AUEW (TASS) — Divisional
Council 9
COHSE Caterham Branch
Firc Brigades Union
GMWU Burnley Branch
GMWU 22 Bury Branch
GMWU 115 Manchester Branch
GMWU Pendle 122 Branch
GMWU Warrington Branch | NALGO Metropolitan District
Council
NALGO — Hackney Branch
NALGO Southwark
NATFHE Leek
NUM
NUM Derbyshire
NUM Scotland
NUM Yorkshire
NUPE
NUPE — West Midlands Div
NUR — Manchester
SOGAT '82 ICA&EP Branch
TGWU
TGWU Reg. No. 1
UCATT — London Region
UCATT — NW Region
Greater London Association of
Trades Councils
Cambridge & District Trades
Council
Gloucester Trade Council
Greenwich Trades Council
Hackney Trades Council
Kingston & District Trades Council
Leeds Trades Council
Cities of London & Westminster
Trades Council
Preston Trades Council
Rotherham Trades Council
Stockport Trades Council | Waltham Forest Trades Council
GEC Openshaw JSSC
Union of Turkish Workers
Andwick CLP
Beckenham CLP
Bermondsey CLP
Cambridgeshire CLP
Chelmsford CLP
Clackmannan & E Stirlingshire
CLP
Greenwich CLP
Haitemprice CLP
Hazelgrove CLP
Heywood & Royton CLP
High Peak CLP
Runcorn CLP
Keighley CLP
Renfrewshire West CLP
St. Helens CLP
Stockport South CLP
Walthamstow CLP
Wigan CLP
Labour Party Young Socialists
National Organisation of Labour
Students
Communist Party of Great Britain
Association of Cypriot Women in
Britain
Forcning For Progressive Fira Tyrkia
Iraqi Students' Society UK
(Branch of GUS IR)
KNE — Communist Youth of
Greece (arg. in Britain) | Kurdish Students Society in Europe
(UK)
Portuguese Communist Party
(org. in Britain)
Union of Turkish Progressives
in Britain
Turkish Students Federation of UK
City of London Polytechnic
Students' Union
Cyprus Students' Society —
Manchester University
Leeds University Union
UMIST — Students' Union
Manchester Poly Students' Union
Manchester University Students'
Union
Teesside Polytechnic Students'
Union
Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation
Demokrat Norway
Haldane Society of Socialist
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William Pomeroy
Andrew Rothstein
Marion Sarafi
Gordon Schaffer
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|--|--|---|--|--|---|

STOP THE TRIALS

Public Meeting with

TONY BENN MP

JOHN BOWDEN

M EMIN BOZARSLAN

chair:

ERNIE ROBERTS MP

6.30pm Saturday 16 April 1983

Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1

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