

# EMMANUEL MACRON SHOULD DEFEND PAYLAN AND COLLEAGUES

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## PETITION

Click on [Emmanuel Macron must intervene for HDP deputies including Garo Paylan](#)

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APR 13, 2018 — EAFJD - European Armenian Federation for Justice and Democracy

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The CDCA ANC France calls upon President of the #French Republic Emmanuel Macron to engage in a demanding dialogue with his Turkish counterpart to immediately bring to an end to fierce attacks against HDP deputies, most particularly, Garo Paylan.



CDCA was appalled to discover that 8 new Turkish deputies representing the People's Democratic Party (HDP), among whom is the outspoken member of the Turkish Parliament of Armenian descent Garo Paylan, have become the target of judicial proceedings in #Turkey, accused of “humiliating the Turkish people, the Republic of Turkey, the Government, the army, propagating and advocating terrorism, and insulting the President”, which sounds line for line as thought crime.

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Garo Paylan, who has already been attacked by ruling MPs at the Turkish National Assembly and threatened with death on several occasions, is being particularly persecuted for his comments made during an interview in Canada on 1 May 2017. This very interview is qualified by the Turkish authorities as "humiliation towards the Turkish nation, the Republic of Turkey, insulting the President".

The Public Prosecutor of Ankara demanded the waiver of the parliamentary immunity of those 8 deputies.

"The climate of constant threat, exploitation of judicial proceedings for political purposes, attacking by every possible means make up "the Erdogan system". Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan understands only the language of force. "President of the French Republic Emmanuel Macron who has shown his friendship and support for Garo Paylan must intervene and engage in a demanding dialogue with his counterpart to immediately bring to end what this "system" does", Committee for the Defense of the Armenian Cause (CDCA) chairperson Harout Mardirossian urges.

The HDP deputies, who carry out political protests against the excesses of the totalitarian regime, have become the subject of unprecedented judicial repression since the declaration of the state of emergency on 15 July 2016 in Turkey. Thus, 420 legal proceedings were initiated against 59 HDP deputies, 55 of them were waived of the parliamentary immunity, 9 of them are currently in prison. 6 judicial proceedings are currently initiated against Garo Paylan, and his parliamentary immunity is threatened.

"France must also be concerned. President Macron must ensure that the relations he maintains with Turkey, which resulted in a great ceremonial visit of President Erdogan on 5 January, are useful to bring about progress in Turkey.

Subsequently, he has clearly spoken of his support for Garo Paylan during the CCAF France annual gala on 30 January. President Macron must not allow that the person placed under his protection becomes a political prisoner. We particularly know that the #ArmenianGenocide has begun with persecutions, imprisonment and killings of distinguished Armenians on 24 April 1915 and that the anti-Armenian hatred has pursued in Turkish prisons", Harout Mardirossian reminds.

