



April 6, 2022

The Honorable Marjanne de Kwaasteniet,  
Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands  
The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands  
Mevlana Bulvarı  
Yıldırım Kule No.221  
06520 Çankaya Ankara  
Turkey

Re: The Diril family's upcoming trial in Turkey, case number 2020/24

Dear Madam Ambassador,

We are writing concerning the case of the Diril family from the Kovankaya village of Sirnak, Beytüssebab. We are requesting the attendance of a representative of the Embassy at their trial, to observe whether the right to a fair trial is ensured. The trial takes place on April 19 2022 at 09:00 o'clock at the Penal Court in the village of Sirnak. Please see attached a summary, case information, and articles providing more information on this case.

As you might have learned, Hurmüz and Şimuni Diril were declared missing in January 2020. Witnesses have informed the family that Hurmüz and Şimuni were detained by PKK members. The family had enlisted the help of the gendarmerie station and security forces. On the 20th of March 2020, the remains of Şimuni Diril were discovered by her son around 800 metres from their home. According to a forensic medical report, as has been confirmed to the family by their lawyers, Şimuni Diril had been tortured, before her life was taken away by a rifle. However, the gendarmerie informed the family that it was unlikely Hurmüz and Şimuni were taken by the PKK. As of April 2022, Hurmüz Diril has yet to be found, without any indication of his whereabouts.

The family is facing difficulties in receiving a fair trial. First of all, the family has not received a proper investigation on the matter. Most of the evidence in this case has been provided to the prosecution by family members during their search in 2020. Secondly, there has been a confidentiality order lasting two years. In January 2022, the court finally accepted the claim that the prosecution had prepared. It is of utmost importance that the family receives a fair trial, a proper investigation into the missing case of their father, Hurmüz Diril, and to finally be able to close this difficult and horrifying chapter in their lives.

On behalf of the Assyrian community within the Netherlands and the Assyrians in Turkey, we aim to provide a factual basis for necessary debates and we would like to draw the attention of politicians and the media to the systematic oppression of the Assyrians in the Middle East as stated above. Hence, we hope that a representative of the Dutch Embassy will attend the trial in order to observe and confirm that a fair trial is guaranteed.

Yours sincerely,

The board of the Assyrian Federation of the Netherlands