



Ambassador

*Embassy of Turkey
Washington, D. C.*

Mr. Joel Simon
CPJ Executive Director
330 7th Avenue, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10001

April 22, 2016

Dear Mr. Simon,

Upon instruction of my Government, I am writing in response to your letter dated March 8th, 2016, regarding the Feza Media Group, addressed to the Turkish Prime Minister Honorable Ahmet Davutoğlu.

Contrary to the allegations in your letter, the appointment of trustees to the “Zaman” and “Today’s Zaman” newspaper is the result of a decision taken by the independent judiciary, in the context of an ongoing criminal investigation. There are many other important newspapers in Turkey that are highly critical of the government and are not facing any criminal charges or investigations, a fact that is often ignored by sensationalist accounts misconstruing the realities of the situation.

Please find attached a fact sheet on the details and facts of this case. If you have any further questions regarding this issue or any other topic related to Turkey, please do not hesitate to contact the Embassy.

Sincerely,


Serdar Kılıç