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Freedom from Trial

Following the lifting of my acquittal by the Court of Cassation in Ankara, the case against me has taken on a Kafkaesque character. the very same court which was unable to find any organization behind the murder of Hrant Dink accuses me again of being the head of a terrorist organization -- under the alias "DOGAN K." -- and expects me even to stage manage my "execution" together with the accusers.

As a writer I know the frightening ability to accomodate and the tragic end of Josef K., the protagonist of Kafka's novel, "The Trial." For this reason on December 8, 2010, the first day of the trial against me, I was able with my silence and protected by public solidarity to flee the Kafkaesque room that the Turkish justice system had walled up for me.
Now the court wants to use all its power to shut me up again in this room. I fight with all my strength against this, I will not go back. I will face the Turkish justice system with my silence in the future too. I am not the figure in Kafka's novel, who at the end of his "trial" lets himself "volontarily" be executed with a butcher's knife and yet is again reawakened by every reader to new life. Different from the figure in the novel I have only one life. And I do not want to spend this life in a Kafkaesque farce.

I am making my exit. I will no longer appear before the Turkish courts, not volontarily, and not by force. I take the liberty that they want to deprive me of. I will be free, on my own will.

I am doing this also because "my" case, from the political and human rights standpoint is one part of of numerous unjust cases which are opened, conducted and ended in Turkey with shrill arbitrariness and arrogance. With my decision, I know that, in refusing this trial, I am on the side of those who each in their own way stand up against the Turkish justice system which is the expression of a hopelessly unjust state.

Dogan Akhanli