

Dear Mr./Mrs. Ambassador,

People in various cities of Turkey are facing heavy police brutality since the last three weeks of demonstrations which started as a peaceful resistance act against the destruction of Gezi Park for the construction of a shopping mall. LGBT activists have always been at the forefront during these three weeks and resisted in solidarity with all social movements together for their right to assembly. The AKP government is denying its citizens their democratic right to peaceful assembly and it is attacking the demonstrators with tear gas and pressure water. In the upcoming weeks there will be two events of crucial importance for LGBTs in Taksim area. Trans Pride March which is going to take place on 23th of June and LGBT Pride March in Istanbul on 30<sup>th</sup> are under serious threat due to current circumstances.

I am deeply concerned about the security of LGBT people attending these marches and I am calling on you Mr./Mrs. Ambassador to ensure that the upcoming Trans Pride March and LGBT Pride March takes place safely. I am also calling on you to urge the Government of Turkey to stop the violence against its people and recognize its citizens' democratic rights.

Sincerely,

Signature