



**June 26, 2020**

## **AFSV Statement on the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture**

Today, the Alliance for Shared Values joins the United Nations in recognizing the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. We take this opportunity to acknowledge and remember those who have suffered torture — including on political, ideological, religious, or ethnic grounds —and to renew our commitment to advancing human rights and combating torture in all forms.

We denounce the Turkish government’s use of torture and the continued detention of political prisoners. During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Turkish government’s continued holding of prisoners in unsafe and inadequate conditions amounts to ongoing torture and is, for some, a death sentence.

As we reflect on the inhumanity of torture today, we also must continue to raise our voices as advocates of political freedom, human dignity, and universal human rights.

### **Alliance for Shared Values**

The Alliance for Shared Values (AFSV) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that serves as a voice for cultural organizations affiliated with Hizmet, a civil society movement inspired by prominent preacher and peace advocate Fethullah Gülen. The Alliance strives to promote peace and social harmony by helping reduce misinformation and false stereotypes about any or all ethnic, cultural and religious communities. To learn more about the Alliance, please visit [www.afsv.org](http://www.afsv.org).

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