



Alliance  
for  
Shared Values

**March 6, 2019**

**AfSV condemns Turkish government's policy of awarding assistance to kidnapping and extrajudicial killings**

The Alliance for Shared Values condemns a Turkish government policy that places a bounty on the heads of Hizmet participants, as reported by a pro-government news outlet. According to *Yeni Safak*, the government of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is offering a “homeland award” to people who help find individuals close to the Gulen Movement or help in getting them murdered. Reportedly, \$3.5 million USD has already been paid out to 249 people for information.

President Erdogan has used the July 15, 2016, coup attempt to consolidate his power and become a dictator. In a deeply misguided response to that horrific night, he has persecuted hundreds of thousands of innocent people by firing, jailing, detaining and even torturing them. That he would approve of an outrageous system to pay those who help extrajudicial killings is an altogether new low.

This practice must end immediately, and the rights and freedoms of all innocent people in Turkey must be restored.

**About 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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