## Alliance des femmes pour la démocratie Women's Alliance for Democracy Founder: Antoinette Fouque

## SAVE ASLI ERDOGAN AND THE IMPRISONED DEMOCRATS OF TURKEY!

## March 8th is International Women's day. It is also Asli Erdogan's birthday. We dedicate this 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017 to her.

One of the most important writers of Turkish literature who speaks for the isolated, the disinherited, the women who have been unjustly prohibited from having their own rights, Asli Erdogan, was arrested on August 17th, 2016, at the same time as twenty other members of the pro-Kurdish news journal, *Özgür Gündem*.

In a country which used to be the world's only secular muslim country, and is turning its back today on all hope for democracy, Asli Erdogan is the embodiment of flouted and denied human rights and democracy.

On September 29th, 2016, during the first court session of her trial, she has been released on parole. We are certain that this victory is due to the worldwide mobilisation in her favour. The next court hearing will be held on March 14th, and Asli Erdogan could be sentenced to life imprisonment.

Last December,5<sup>th</sup>, she launched an appeal from jail: "*The situation is very serious, terrifying and extremely disturbing. Europe must face its responsibilities by coming back to the values it had defined after centuries of bloodshed: democracy, human rights, freedom of speech and expression...* We need your support and solidarity. We thank you for everything you have done up until now."

## SOLIDARITY SAVES L IVES AND FREEDOM, IT SAVES OUR TRUST IN HUMANITY

Until Asli Erdogan's and the threatened Turkish democrats' complete liberation, let us strengthen the solidarity network formed in Europe, let us dedicate to them all events to which we participate let us them with reading pages by Asli Erdogan, let us talk about her and them , let us manifest our solidarity, remind others of their suffering and their bravery, let us require their liberation! Let them know that we don't forget them, that we are alongside them, each and every one of us aware that our freedom also depends on theirs.

At the initiative of: Alliance des femmes pour la démocratie (Women's Alliance for Democracy) et des éditions *des femmes*-Antoinette Fouque, with: Marielle Anselmo, *poet*, Catherine Benhamou,

author, actress, Sophie Bourel, actress, Claude Du Granrut, essayist, member of the council administration of l'Union nationale des associations des déportés, internés et familles de disparus (National Union of Associations for the deported, institutionalised and families of missing persons), Sterenn Guirriec, actress, film director, Francesca Isidori, journalist, artistic director, Melis Kaya, in charge of human rights at the Kurdish Institute of Paris, Daniel Mesguich, actor, film director, Timour Muhidine, author, professor at the Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilisations and editor of Asli Erdogan, Kendal Nezan, president of the Kurdish Institute of Paris, Cécile Oumhani, author, poet, friend of Asli Erdogan, Le Salon des dames, Jocelyne Sauvard, author, journalist, Victoria Thérame, author, Catherine Weinzaepflen, author, poet... gathered together at a meeting on February 21st, 2017, at l'Espace des femmes in support of Asli Erdogan and the Turkish democrats.

First signatures: Ella Balaert, author, Pierre Barassat, film director, Nathalie Baravian, publicist, Sophie Bassouls, photographer, Delphine Batho, deputy of the Deux-Sèvres, Previous Minister, Laurence Braunberger, film director and producer, André Burgière, historian (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales), Jean-Michel Carré, filmmaker, Christine Clerc, journalist, essay author, Chantal Chawaf, author, Delphine Coulin, author, film director, Muriel Coulin, film director, Colette Deblé, painter, Milagros Ezquerro, professeur of the University Paris-Sorbonne, Joël Farges, film director, Mickaël Ferrier, author, Sylvie Germain, author, Khaled Ghorbal, film director, Marie Guerini, journalist, François Guery, philosopher, Angélique Ionatos, singer, composer, Dominique Issermann, photographer, Stéphanie Janicot, author, Georges Kiejman, lawyer, previous Minister, Nathalie Léger-Cresson, author, Emmanuel Lascoux, héllenist, Catherine Lopes-Curval, painter, Justine Malle, film director, Carole Martinez, author, Marylène Patou-Mathis, prehistorian, Catherine Perret, psychoanalyst, Michèle Ramond, author, Patricia Rodríguez Saravia, author, Susana Romano-Sued, argentine author, psychoanalyst, Fabienne Servan-Schreiber, film producer, Christine Spengler, photographer, author, Alain Touraine, sociologist, Augustin Trapenard, journalist, literary critic, Bernard Vincent, historian (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales), Marina Vlady, actress, Mâkhi Xenakis, painter, He Yuhong, president of the Union of Asian Artists in France (UAAF), Laurence Zordan, author, Hijos Paris, Femen.

P.S.: Please let us know about your initiatives by sending an e-mail to **contact@desfemmes.fr**, so we can properly relay all information

For your signature of this petition : goo.gl/MkNMBE