

# Reporters Without Borders

<http://www.rsf.org/reporters-attacked-while-covering-18-03-2013,44216.html>

---

Attacked journalists

## Reporters attacked while covering demolition of homes in Ankara

18 March 2013

---

[Türkçe / Read in Turkish](#)

Reporters Without Borders is outraged to learn that two journalists with the news agency *Cihan* were injured when residents of the northeast Ankara district of Dimen attacked reporters who were covering their attempts to resist the court-ordered demolition of their homes on 14 March.

"These attacks must be quickly investigated in order to identify and prosecute those responsible," Reporters Without Borders said. "A very clear message must be sent that anyone committing acts of violence against journalists who are just doing their job will be brought to justice. The authorities must also take steps to ensure that the security forces provide journalists with adequate protection in very tense situations such as this."

Journalists with several news media came under attack from residents while covering clashes between them and employees of the company that was given the job of carrying out the demolition of their homes.

[According to local media reports](#), Cihan reporter **Ebubekir Atmaca** and his cameraman **Bilal Oflaz** were injured. Atmaca was directly assaulted by residents while Oflaz was hit in the face by a shot fired from a pump-action shotgun and was rushed to Ankara's Hacettepe Hospital, where doctors said his injuries were not life-threatening,

Condemning the violence, the Turkish Association of Journalists (TGC) [said](#): "[Recent] verbal attacks by the authorities against media representatives have encouraged other attacks, both verbal and physical." The TGC called on the authorities to "take measures to protect journalists in order to guarantee freedom of information."

( Photo: <http://haber.mynet.com/> )

---