



**FREEDOM
FOR
OCALAN**
#FREEOCALAN

Unite House
128 Theobalds Road
London, ST 12345
07411 769 134
info@freedomforocalan.org

Co-Chairs

Baroness Christine Blower
Simon Dubbins, Unite International
Director.

Emergency press briefing on Mr Abdullah Ocalan

Brussels 26th July 2023

The UK based Freedom for Ocalan Trade Union Campaign invites you to an emergency press briefing concerning the Kurdish political leader Abdullah Ocalan.

Mr. Ocalan has been held in solitary confinement in Turkey for twenty-four years, and for the last two years even his lawyers and family have been denied any contact or access to him. It is currently unknown if he is alive and well and there are now very grave concerns for his life and wellbeing.

We are also deeply concerned that the institution in the Council of Europe that is responsible for monitoring the conditions of Mr.

Ocalan's incarceration - The Committee for the prevention of Torture - is not providing the public with sufficient information. Mr. Ocalan's family, his lawyers, and the Kurdish people at large, are requesting that action is taken to address this appalling situation.

In the press briefing we will highlight the completely inadequate response by European governments, human rights organisations, and the Council of Europe, and that their failure to act makes them complicit in this infringement and abuse of basic human rights.

We cordially invite you to this urgent and important press briefing.

Baroness Christine Blower

Simon Dubbins, Director of International - Unite the Union

Supported by:



Lord Navnit Dholakia
PC,OBE,DL, Deputy Leader,
Liberal Democrats, House of
Lords, UK

Baroness Jones of
Moulsecoomb, Green Party
Leader House of Lords UK

Chris Stephens SNP, House
of Commons, UK

Roza Salih, Glasgow
Councillor, Scotland

James Kelman, Scottish
novelist, short story writer,
playwright and essayist.

Mike Arnott President of the
Scottish Trade Union
Congress (TUC), UK

Stephen Smellie, member of
UNISON's NEC, depute
convenor of UNISON
Scotland, UK

Lindsey German, Convenor,
Stop the War Coalition, UK

Prof Felix Padel, author and
Research Associate in the
Centre for World Environment
History at the University of
Sussex, UK

Paul Scholey, Consultant,
Employment Rights, Morrish
Solicitors LLP, UK

Dr Derek Wall, Goldsmith,
University of London, UK

Dafydd Iwan, Former
President Plaid Cymru, The
Party of Wales

Michael Mansfield
KC barrister and Head of
Nexus, the Chambers of
Michael Mansfield, UK

Prof Bill Bowering, Birkbeck
College, University of London
and International Secretary of
Haldane Society of Socialist
Lawyers, UK