



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
UNIVERSITY OF CRETE**

**SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

Rethymno, 15 March 2017

Statement in support of academics in Turkey

We, the academic staff of the Department of History and Archaeology of the University of Crete, wish to express our deep concern about and strong opposition to the continuing dismissal of academics from Turkish universities, and other government actions against them, without due process and against the principles of the rule of law. We stand in solidarity with our colleagues in Turkey and their institutions and we stress the importance of respect for academic freedom and freedom of expression as a keystone of modern democratic societies. The heavy pressure under which academics in Turkey have been obliged to live and work for several months simply for expressing their academic and political views is totally unacceptable.