

27 July 2016

His Excellency
Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
President of the Republic of Turkey

Your Excellency:

As the democratically elected government of Turkey restores order and peace after overcoming the failed illegal coup, the undersigned scientific societies sincerely hope that the human rights of the scientific community are protected. In a globalized world, the future prosperity and security of any nation depends on its ability to be a knowledge-based, innovative society and to a considerable extent on the work of its scientists, engineers, academics, and researchers. Turkey has made great progress over the past decade in greatly strengthening its scientific and academic institutions, which are essential for training the next generation and stimulating new innovations that benefit society. Sustaining a high-quality scientific enterprise requires that scientists have freedom to think independently and innovatively and are able, with minimal hinderances, to engage with scientists around the world, including traveling and collaborating in research outside Turkey, in pursuit of excellence in their scientific investigations. The government of Turkey has stated that “democracy, freedom, and the rule of law are nonnegotiable in Turkey.” We hope that in the pursuit of justice the government will follow through on this pledge to fully respect human rights, the rule of law, and due process and thereby protect its citizens and its scientific community.

Sincerely,



Rush D. Holt
Chief Executive Officer and
Executive Publisher, *Science*
American Association for the Advancement of
Science



Edward Liebow
Executive Director
American Anthropological Association



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Doug Richardson".

Douglas Richardson
Executive Director
American Association of Geographers

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate P. Kirby".

Kate P. Kirby
Chief Executive Officer
American Physical Society

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sally Hillsman".

Sally Hillsman
Executive Officer
American Sociological Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Wasserstein".

Ronald L. Wasserstein
Executive Director
American Statistical Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Charles Nemeth".

John Nemeth
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, Inc.



ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Dudley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Susan" and the last name "Dudley" clearly legible.

Susan Dudley
Executive Director
Society for the Psychological Study of
Social Issues