



Re: Reporting a case of harassment - Pinar Dinc and Irem Aydemir



Christofer Edling

Wednesday, 31 October 2018 at 09:18

To: Umut Özkirimli; Cc: Andréa Björk; kristina@advokatg.se; Katarina Broman



You replied to this message on 2018-10-31, 11:42.

This message is high priority.

Dear Christofer

I would like to report a case of harassment by Pinar Dinc and Irem Aydemir. I have been subject to various forms of slander for some time now, but the process has reached a whole new level with the the following incidents which aim to undermine my professional career, reputation, and mental and physical health.

First, a colleague from Reading University, Dr Daphne Halikiopoulou, with whom I will be working together on a new book series told me that she was sent the screenshot of the Faculty's decision (the original in Swedish) and asked not to collaborate with a "convicted sexual harasser". She has no connections whatsoever to Sweden, neither does the person who sent her the screenshot. (See the attached email where she confirms this information).

Second, I was informed that Pinar Dinc has contacted Julie Libarkin of Michigan State University to get my name included in an international database of, again, "convicted sexual harassers". The database can be accessed at: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1CCfcCKmBqyrMbD6fEQ8Lit3eD9MpnUd5eVm2DalrUKo/edit#gid=0>. The information came to me through Professor Istar Gozaydin who is ready to confirm this information (email savasir2002@gmail.com; mobile +90 [REDACTED]).

Third, I have conducted an interview with Ayse Arman, Turkey's most famous lifestyle journalist, about my son's death and my projects dedicated to creating a fund in his name to help kids with neuroblastoma. The night before the interview was published, Ms Arman publicised the interview on her Instagram account. Moments after that, she received a text message signed by Pinar Dinc on her private mobile phone, which asked her not to publish the interview (see attached screenshot; see below for the translation of the message). Pinar Dinc refused Ayse Arman's proposal to do an interview on the allegations of harassment, but claimed that I am trying to make use of my son's death to make money, that nobody should pay a penny to a "convicted harasser". Ayse Arman, a well-known feminist herself, hung up on her. After this incident, I had to hire a lawyer in Turkey as well.

Four, I received a call from the management of IWM (Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen) in Vienna where I have started a new visiting position today. They informed me that they received an email from Pinar Dinc which claims that I sexually harassed her. I do not have the email itself but see the attached screenshot of the email by Knut Neumayer. I think they would forward the email if requested by you.



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To: Umut Özkirimli; Cc: Andréa Björk; kristina@advokatg.se; Katarina Broman

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Five, I have information that Pinar Dinc and/or Irem Aydemir have been sharing confidential information about the case with pretty much everybody in Turkey and beyond. Hence Pinar Dinc told Professor [REDACTED] of Istanbul Bilgi University at the recent ECFR conference that I have sexually harassed her. Other colleagues "informed" by Pinar Dinc and Irem Aydemir include: Professor [REDACTED] and Associate Professor [REDACTED]; Dr [REDACTED]; Dr Hande Paker Uncu, Associate Professor at Bahcesehir University, Istanbul; Professor Yaman Akdeniz, former vice rector of Istanbul Bilgi University. These are only the cases that have come to my attention on various occasions.

I feel that I have been systematically harassed by Pinar Dinc and Irem Aydemir. The actions directed against me are "**abusive**" and lead to "**ill health**", rendering me unable to focus on my recovery and new research projects. I will also report these incidents to the police in Sweden for "förtal" (slander) as they reached a level where they affect not only my professional career and reputation but, as alluded to above, the charity projects I am planning to undertake in my late son's name. The latter in particular is absolutely unacceptable to me.

I would like to point out that these employees also target the work environment and the institution which they accuse of "rewarding" me (see various postings by Pinar Dinc on social media which were relayed to me by various friends and colleagues (as I have pointed out in a previous email, I have not had any contact with her or anyone from CMES personally since March 2018.) What is more, the fact the Rector of a very prestigious institution, Professor Shalini Randeria of IWM, is informed about these confidential matters is a very serious blow not only to my personal reputation but also to the reputation of Lund University.

Sincerely, Umut Ozkirimli

* Translation of the text message to Ayse Arman: Ms Ayse, I am sorry to bother you on your private cell phone but one of our students, Irem, has also contacted you a while ago. And I am very concerned about this issue as a mother, a woman and a scholar. I also believe that you would appreciate being informed about certain matters before your interview with Umut Ozkirimli is published. I have been following your stance on women and feminism from a distance. We would be grateful if you spare some time to listen to me and Irem. Best, Pinar



Today is cancelled



Emma Ohlsson

To: Umut Özkirimli

Monday, 19 November 2018 at 09:13

← You replied to this message on 2018-11-19, 10:54.

! This message is high priority.

Dear Umut,

The interview today is unfortunately cancelled due to the consult. I do understand that you have taken time to come to Sweden but there is nothing I can do I'm afraid. We will get back to you as soon as we can in this matter.

Best regards,
Emma

Emma Ohlsson
Personalsamordnare

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Institutionsservice
Sandgatan 3, 221 00 Lund
Tel: 046 222 4806
Mail: emma.ohlsson@sam.lu.se



Daphne Halikiopoulou <d.halikiopoulou@reading.ac.uk>

Today, 9:31 AM

Umut Özkirimli ▾

↻ Reply all ▾

You forwarded this message on 10/30/2018 9:44 AM

Dear Umut,

I am just writing to let you know that a few weeks ago I was sent a copy of the decision in Swedish.

All my best,

Daphne

Dr Daphne Halikiopoulou
Associate Professor in Comparative Politics
Department of Politics and IR
University of Reading
Room EM 310
Whiteknights, PO Box 218, Reading, RG6 6AA

[Gmail](#)

HOVRÄTTEN ÖVER SKÅNE OCH BLEKINGE
Avdelning 1
Box 846
201 80 Malmö
SWEDEN

Re Mål B 3866-21
Anges vid kontakt med domstolen
Rotel 15 Aktilaga 23

Parter: Pinar Dinc ./ Umut Özkirimli et v.v.
Målet gäller: grovt förtal m.m.

2021-11-25

To whom it may concern

This is to confirm that I have been informed by two unrelated female scholars based in the US that Pinar Dinc tried to contact Professor Julie Libarkin in September-October 2018 to add Umut Özkirimli's name to the Academic Sexual Misconduct Database she was compiling (see Libarkin, J. (2020). Academic Sexual Misconduct Database, <https://academic-sexual-misconduct-database.org>).

Neither of these scholars knew Umut Özkirimli nor met him in person, yet they knew that we were friends and wanted to inquire about the nature of the allegations against him. Umut Özkirimli and I were in close contact in Summer and Fall 2018 even though we lived in different countries, as my husband, who was briefly Umut Özkirimli's therapist, passed away a couple of weeks before his son Luca died (they both died of cancer).

The two scholars in question wanted to remain anonymous as they were scared of potential peer pressure. When I found out that Pinar Dinc had contacted the institutions Umut Özkirimli was affiliated with at about the same time, I felt compelled to share this information with him as the consequences of having his name to be added to an international open access database would have disastrous consequences on his academic career and personal reputation.

I am prepared to provide further information to the court on this, including the names of the scholars who spoke to me **under conditions of strict confidentiality** should the Higher Court of Appeal deem necessary. Please note that neither Umut Özkirimli nor anyone else know these names.

Yours sincerely,

Istar Gozaydin Savasir
(Full contact details)

Pol Morillas

De: İrem Aydemir <irem.m.aydemir@gmail.com>
Enviado el: jueves, 25 de octubre de 2018 13:11
Para: Presidencia CIDOB; Pol Morillas; Anna Estrada
Asunto: Regarding your affiliated researcher

Dear Prof. Segura i Mas, Prof. Morillas, Ms. Estrada Bertran,

I am writing this email to inform you about Dr. Umut Ozkirimli, who is currently affiliated at the CIDOB (Research on South-East Europe). As a master's student at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Lund University, where Dr. Ozkirimli works as a lecturer, I would like to report that there has been an investigation about Dr. Ozkirimli for harassment/sexual harassment towards a colleague and a student. The decision letter, which was sent to Mr. Ozkirimli in June 2018, states that he "had threatened a colleague, harassed a colleague and exposed a student to an offensive treatment". The decision letter also states that Dr. Ozkirimli "also acted in violation of the Prohibition in the Discrimination Act by indirectly threatening both student and employee with reprisals for the events". Furthermore, I imagine the decision letter should be accessible publicly if requested from Lund University.

As a student who is affected by these events, I wish that no other individual is subjected to a similar act at CIDOB and I see it as my civic duty and responsibility towards my peers to report this. I would also appreciate an acknowledgement of this e-mail, by staying anonymous towards the third parties.

Kind Regards,

Irem Aydemir
Master's Student.

