

# Call for 3rd Global Hasankeyf Action Day on June 7-8, 2019!

18.05.2019[Spanish and Italian below]We call on social movements, NGO's, activists and others in the world to join the 3rd Global Day of Action for the defense of the 12,000 year old town Hasankeyf and the Tigris River on June 7 and 8th, 2019! It is urgent because the Turkish government announced recently that on 10th June 2019 it will start filling the Ilisu Dam reservoir. On 15th May, 2019 more than 100 civil organizations from Turkey, Iraq, Iran and other countries of the world released a statement calling on the Turkish government to stop the destructive Ilisu project and initiate a new process in the Tigris Valley. They also called on the civil public to act against the flooding of the Tigris Valley, which would also cause grave damage to downstream regions in Syria, and particularly in Iraq. If completed, the Ilisu Dam will be an incomparable social, cultural and ecological disaster for a big part of Mesopotamia!On June 7 and 8 actions are planned in dozens of cities in Turkey and across Mesopotamia.You are invited to organize a public action in your city or country against the Ilisu Project in solidarity. The demands could target the Turkish government, the Austrian company Andritz, which is leading the Ilisu Project consortium, and request the Iraqi government to urgently act against the impending desertification of its region, a matter on which it is strangely silent.In comparison to former Hasankeyf action days, this time we plan to broaden the variety of action types, including particularly artists. In around one week we will inform you with proposals.Do not hesitate to contact us or inform us about your planned action.**Hasankeyf is our culture and the Tigris our nature!**Initiative to Keep Hasankeyf Alive + Mesopotamia Ecology MovementEmail: [hasankeyfgirisimi@gmail.com](mailto:hasankeyfgirisimi@gmail.com)  
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## **¡Llamada para el 3er Día de Acción por Hasankeyf el 7 y 8 de junio de 2019!**

¡Hacemos un llamado a los movimientos sociales, las ONGs y activistas del mundo para que se unan al 3er Día de Acción Global para la defensa de la ciudad de Hasankeyf y el río Tigris, de 12.000 años de antigüedad, el 7 y 8 de junio de 2019! Es urgente porque el gobierno turco anunció recientemente que el 10 de junio de 2019 comenzará a llenar el embalse de la presa de Ilisu.

El 15 de mayo de 2019, más de 100 organizaciones civiles de Turquía, Irak, Irán y otros países del mundo publicaron una declaración en la que pedían al gobierno turco que detuviera el proyecto destructivo Ilisu e iniciara un nuevo proceso en el valle del Tigris. También pidieron al público civil que actúe contra la inundación del valle del Tigris, lo que también causaría graves daños a las regiones río abajo en Siria, y en particular en Irak. ¡Si se completa, la Presa de Ilisu será un desastre social, cultural y ecológico incomparable para una gran parte de Mesopotamia!

Los días 7 y 8 de junio se planean acciones en docenas de ciudades en Turquía y en Mesopotamia.

Le invitamos a organizar una acción pública en su ciudad o país contra el Proyecto Ilisu en solidaridad. Las demandas podrían dirigirse al gobierno turco, la compañía austriaca Andritz, que encabeza el consorcio del Proyecto Ilisu, y solicitar al gobierno iraquí que actúe con urgencia contra la inminente desertificación de su región, un asunto sobre el cual está extrañamente silencioso.

En comparación con los anteriores días de acción de Hasankeyf, esta vez planeamos ampliar la variedad de tipos de acción, incluyendo particularmente a los artistas. En alrededor de una semana te informaremos con propuestas.

No dude en contactarnos o informarnos sobre su acción

planificada.

¡Hasankeyf es nuestra cultura y el Tigris nuestra naturaleza!

Iniciativa para mantener Hasankeyf VIVO + el movimiento Ecológico de Mesopotamia

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**Appello per la 3a Giornata Globale di Azione per Hasankeyf il 7 e 8 giugno, 2019!**

18.05.2019

Ci rivolgiamo a movimenti sociali, ONG, attivisti\* e altri\* nel mondo perché partecipino alla 3a Giornata di Azione Globale per la difesa della città di Hasankeyf, antica di 12.000 anni del fiume Tigri per il 7 e 8 giugno 2019! È urgente perché il governo turco di recente ha annunciato che il 10 giugno 2019 inizierà a riempire il bacino della diga di Ilisu.

Il 15 maggio 2019 oltre 100 organizzazioni della società civile da Turchia, Iraq, Iran e altri Paesi hanno rilasciato una dichiarazione chiedendo al governo turco di fermare il distruttivo Progetto Ilisu e di iniziare un Nuovo processo nella Valle del Tigri. Hanno anche fatto appello al pubblico perché agisca contro l'allagamento della Valle del Tigri che causerebbe anche gravi danni nelle regioni a valle in Siria e in particolare in Iraq. Se completata, la diga di Ilisu sarà un disastro incomparabile dal punto di vista sociale, culturale ed ecologico per una larga parte della Mesopotamia!

Il 7 e 8 giugno sono previste azioni in dozzine di città in

Turchia e in tutta la Mesopotamia.

Siete inviat\* ad organizzare un'azione pubblica nella vostra città o nel vostro Paese in solidarietà contro il Progetto Ilisu. Le richieste potrebbero essere rivolte al governo turco, all'impresa austriaca Andritz che sta guidando il consorzio del Progetto Ilisu e al governo iracheno chiedendo di agire con urgenza contro l'imminente desertificazione della sua regione, una questione sulla quale è stranamente silenzioso

Rispetto alle precedent giornate di azione per Hasankeyf, questa volta intendiamo allargare la varietà di tipologie di azione, compresi in particolare artist\*. Tra circa una settimana vi informeremo di proposte.

Non esitate a contattarci e ad informarci delle azioni che avete programmato.

**Hasankeyf è la nostra cultura e il Tigri la nostra natura!**

Iniziativa per tenere viva Hasankeyf + Movimento Ecologico della Mesopotamia

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# **Urgent Int'l Call: Save Hasankeyf! No filling of the Ilisu Dam Reservoir!**

+++ International Urgent Call to Turkish Government and International Public +++

**It's not too late to SAVE HASANKEYF and Tigris River!**

**No filling of the Ilisu Dam Reservoir!**

For 12.000 years, Hasankeyf in the Southeast of Turkey has been a site of uninterrupted human settlement. With the labour of dozen of cultures this outstanding universal site has been created on the banks of the Tigris River and adjacent small valleys and hills. Recent excavations show that Hasankeyf lays atop of a deep, uncovered cultural heritage. Independent researchers state that Hasankeyf and the surrounding Tigris Valley are as important historically as Ephesus, Troy and Cappadocia and fulfill 9 out of the 10 UNESCO criteria for a World Heritage Site. It is assumed that Hasankeyf is the twin of Göbeklitepe, a sanctuary site 225 km to the west with a similar age, which led to global new conclusions on history's first human settlement.

While the Turkish government achieved the inclusion of Göbeklitepe in UNESCO's World Heritage List, Hasankeyf and the surrounding Tigris Valley is planned to be flooded by the Ilisu Dam and Hydroelectric Power Plant Project, which is almost fully constructed. In recent statements the Turkish government announced that it will start the filling of the Ilisu dam reservoir on June 10, 2019. Officials add that in October 2019 Hasankeyf town would be affected by raising water level.

The Ilisu Project was and is a completely wrong and destructive investment. That is why since the beginning the project it was strongly opposed not only at the local level in Turkey, but also in Iraq, Syria and globally. Contrary to official claims, the dam would have no socio-economic or any other benefit for the majority of society in the affected region and up to 80.000 people would lose their livelihoods. Apart from Hasankeyf, an important part of the not yet excavated cultural heritage in Upper Mesopotamia along the Tigris River would be flooded. The biodiversity of the Tigris River ecosystem – still mainly natural – would be degraded significantly. The Ilisu Project would also gravely affect the downstream stretches of the Tigris, seriously jeopardizing the water supply of major Iraqi towns, and Iraqi agriculture would be put under serious risk. In particular the UNESCO site of Mesopotamian Marshes in southern Iraq would be threatened with drying out due to reduced downstream flows.

In the last few years, the government's program of so-called "monument relocation and consolidation of rocks" has seriously damaged the cultural heritage in Hasankeyf. But there is still so much cultural heritage left to rescue. Despite the project near completion, we believe strongly that the cancellation of the Ilisu project would stimulate a process from which the broader local population, Turkey and Iraq would benefit directly, economically as well as socially and culturally.

**We call upon on the Turkish government** not to start the filling by the Ilisu Dam, neither in June nor later. Instead a new broad, participative and transparent discussion with all representatives of the local population on the future of the affected five provinces should be started. Based on the common outcomes of these participatory discussions, policies on the future of the Tigris Valley and the surrounding region should be developed and implemented with the agreement of all affected parties. Another condition should be the achievement of a mutual agreement with Iraq and Syria according to

international law, which should guarantee sufficient water flows into the Mesopotamian Marshes and southern Iraq.

We call on all people and organizations all around the world to support our demands and to launch similar calls on the Turkish government!

**A call by:**

Initiative to Keep Hasankeyf Alive, Turkey

Save the Tigris Campaign, Iraq

Mountain Watch, Iran

Humat Dijlah, Iraq

Make Rojava Green Again, Rojava/Syria

Mesopotamia Ecology Movement, Turkey

Waterkeeper Iraq, Kurdistan Region of Iraq

Hasankeyf Matters, Turkey

Iraqi Civil Society Solidarity Initiative (ICSSI), Iraq

Ecology Union, Turkey

Munzur Environmental Association, Turkey

Iraqi Social Forum, Iraq

Green Rage Ecology Collective, Turkey

People's Campaign to Support Kind Zagros, Iran

TMMOB (Union of Chambers of Engineers and Architects) Urban Planners, Ankara Branch, Turkey

Civil Development Organization (CDO), Kurdistan Region of Iraq

Campaign Right to Water, Turkey

350Ankara, Turkey

Çoruh Conservation Union, Turkey

Life and Solidarity Travelers, Turkey

Green Resistance – Ecology and Life Newspaper, Turkey

Antalya Ecology Council, Turkey

Alakır Sister-/Brotherhood, Turkey

HDK Ecology Council, Turkey

Black Sea Region in Rebellion, Turkey

Northern Forests Defense, Turkey

Children of Nature (*Doğanın Çocukları*), Türkiye

EGEÇEP (Aegean Platform for Environment and Culture), Turkey

AYÇEP (Aydın Platform for Environment and Culture), Turkey

Yeni Foça Forum, Turkey

Salihli Environment Association, Turkey

Halk İmdat, Turkey

Saqiz Environment Protectors, Saqiz, Kurdistan, Iran

Shney Piro Institution, Muchish, Kurdistan/Iran

Kareza Environmental Institution, Kurdistan/Iran

Shney Nojin Institution, Kurdistan/Iran

Helebce Environmental Protector, Halabja, Kurdistan Region of Iraq

Kurd Organization for Environment and Education, Halabja, Kurdistan Region of Iraq



Green Kurdistan Population, Kurdistan/Iran

Pajin Institution, Bane, Kurdistan/Iran

Green Chiya Institution, Meriwan, Kurdistan/Iran

Lebanon Eco Movement

Eco-Conscience, Tunisia

The Peoples' Advocacy Foundation for Justice and Redress,  
South Africa

Rivers without Boundaries International Coalition), Asia

Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum, Pakistan

Environment Support Group, India

Tajik Social and Ecological Union, Tajikistan

Inter-American Vigilance for the Defense and the Right to  
Water (Red VIDA), The Americas

Chile Sustainable, Chile

April Foundation (Fundacion Abril), Bolivia

Movement of Defence of Water, Land and Environment (MODATIMA),  
Chile

Movement of Dam Affected People (MAB), Brazil

Friends of Earth, El Salvador

Veracruz Assembly of Initiators to Defend the Environment (La  
Asamblea Veracruzana de Iniciativas y Defensa Ambiental),  
Mexico

Center of Applied Studies on Ecology and Environmental  
Sustainability (Ecos El Salvador) (*Centro de Estudios  
Aplicados en Ecología y Sustentabilidad Ambiental*), El  
Salvador

National Forum of Water Central America (*Foro Nacional del  
Agua Centro América*), El Salvador

Federacion National de Trabajadores del Agua Potable y Alcantarillado del Peru (FENTAP), Peru

*Otros Mundos Chiapas A.C.*, Mexico

European Water Movement

Earth Thrive, Balkan

Odbranimo reke Stare planine, Serbia

Ekologistak Martxan, Basque Country

Network for a New Water Culture (XNCA), Catalonia

End of Territory (Ende Gelände), Germany

Ecologists in Action, Spain

World Heritage Watch (WHW), Germany

Platform in Defence of the Ebro River, Catalonia

Un Ponte Per (UPP), Italy

CounterCurrent, Germany

The Corner House, UK

Friends of Earth, France

Italian Forum of Water Movements

Riverwatch – Society for the Protection of Rivers, Austria

Animals Are Sentient Beings, USA

Coordination EAU Île-de-France, France

Plan C, UK

Shoal Collective, UK

Hasankeyf Initiative Berlin, Germany

Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, USA  
Coordination EAU bien commun, France  
Urgewald, Germany  
Idle No More SF Bay, California/USA  
EcoMujer, Germany  
Solidarity Economy Association, UK  
FreshWater Accountability Project, USA  
Plataforma Ciudadana Zaragoza sin Fractura, Spain  
Association of Popular Culture Alborada, Gallur/Spain  
International Rivers, USA  
Solifonds, Switzerland  
Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO),  
Netherlands  
Ecological Center DRONT, Russia  
Ecosocialist Horizons, USA  
Socio-Ecological Union International, Russia  
Biodiversity Conservation Center, Russia  
Earth Law Centre, USA  
Green Anti-Capitalist Front, UK  
Cambridge Social Ecology Group, UK  
Integral Cooperative of Heraklion, Crete/Greece  
BankTrack, Netherlands  
Komite Internazionalistak, Basque Country

Italian Committee For World Water Contract, Italy

Earth Guardians, USA

European Sanitation Initiative (EuSAIN)

Berlin Water Table, Germany

ENVJUSTICE-EJAtlas project, ICTA – Autonomous University of Barcelona, Catalonia

Babylonia Journal, Greece

Montpellierian Collective of Solidarity with the Kurdish People, France

Rete Kurdistan, Italy

Basque Platform of Solidarity with Kurdistan, Basque Country

Kurdistan Solidarity Network, UK

Kurdistan Solidarity Campaign, UK

Kurdistan Solidarity Committee Berlin, Germany

Hevalen-Gr, Collective of Solidarity with the Kurdish Struggle, Crete/Greece

Revolutionary Communist Group, UK

Transnational Institute of Social Ecology (TRISE), Greece

Confederación General del Trabajo (CGT), Spain

Platform for a new Energy Model (*Plataforma por un Nuevo Modelo Energético*), Spain

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## Statement of the Ecology Union in Turkish



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(Türkçe) Hasankeyf'te 'taşıma  
köprüsü' balık neslini tehdit

# ediyor

Sorry, this entry is only available in [Türkçe](#).

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## Civil Society Organizations protest ECHR decision on Hasankeyf



Article in Turkish:

[http://www.cumhuriyet.com.tr/haber/cevre/1272637/Sivil\\_Toplum\\_Orgutleri\\_AiHM\\_kararini\\_Hasankeyf\\_te\\_protesto\\_etti.html#](http://www.cumhuriyet.com.tr/haber/cevre/1272637/Sivil_Toplum_Orgutleri_AiHM_kararini_Hasankeyf_te_protesto_etti.html#)

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# Mesopotamia Water Forum - Registration deadline and new paper

The Mesopotamian Water Forum (MWF) will be organized in the Sulaymaniyah (Silemanî) University between April 6-8, 2019!

To participate in the MWF, please register before 15 March 2019. While registering you can also submit a workshop on day 2 of the Forum. Workshops are self-organized but space and equipment will be available.

Find here registration link in five languages:  
<https://www.savethetigris.org//international-mesopotamian-water-forum/>

The first of the three main papers have been published. Ercan Ayboga analyzes in its paper "Policy and Impacts of Dams in Tigris and Euphrates River Basin" the background of dam construction with the impacts and political implications. See here:

<https://www.savethetigris.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Paper-Challenge-B-Dams-FINAL-to-be-published.pdf>

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# European Court for Human Rights rejects appeal for conserving Hasankeyf – an act of ignorance and irresponsibility

Press Statement, 21.02.2019

Today the European Court for Human Rights (ECHR) has rejected the appeal for conserving the archaeological site Hasankeyf and the surrounding Tigris Valley which is threatened by the Ilisu Dam and Hydroelectric Power Plant Project in the Kurdistan region of Turkey. The ECHR has argued that there is not an universal individual right of access to cultural heritage in the convention of the European Convention on Human Rights agreed between the member states. Thus the court unanimously ruled that the appeal is inadmissible.

The decision of the ECtHR is more than regrettable, it is an evaded responsibility in order to save the 12.000 years old Hasankeyf and the surrounding Tigris Valley which have an outstanding universal value. This cultural and natural heritage site – inhabited continuously – is inarguably one of the most important heritage sites in Turkey, Middle East, and Europe and is much more valuable than any economic investment. In our views with new necessary excavations – it could be excavated for 100 years maybe – it has the potential to change the writing of the neolithic and antique period and it is likely more important than Cappadocia, Ephesus and Troy.

A decision by the ECHR against the flooding of Hasankeyf, could have triggered discussions in Europe for better legal



conserving cultural heritage sites and the access to them by people and it could have pressured the government of Turkey to change its approach on the Ilisu Project – one of the most controversial dam; it would destroy also livelihoods in Iraq and the UNESCO heritage site of Mesopotamia Marshes – and to reach higher international environmental and social standards.

The ECHR could have taken a decision for conservation of cultural and natural heritage as well as the livelihoods of more than 80.000 people relying on improved international conventions and standards at UN and other international organizations in the last years. For example the UNESCO considers access to cultural and natural heritage as a basic human right and also a right to education. Or in March 2017 the UN Security Council approved a resolution which considered destruction and smuggling of world heritage sites on purpose as an act of terrorism.

A big question for us why the ECHR waited 13 years in order to state that it is inadmissible for the case of Hasankeyf. Today the construction of the Ilisu Project has achieved a high implementation, while 8-10 years ago almost nothing had been constructed. Has the ECHR read all the documents and arguments of dozen of civil society organizations from Turkey with which they supported the five complainers from West of Turkey: Prof. Dr. Zeynep Ahunbay, Prof. Dr. Oluş Arık, Prof. Dr. Metin Ahunbay, Avukat Murat Cano and Özcan Yüksek who appealed to the court in 2006.

It is a shame that the ECHR has avoided to take any responsibility. In a period when the justice system of Turkey has started not to exist any more it could have given support to many people at the Tigris River and in all over Turkey campaigning for defending their livelihoods and heritage and against destructive and exploitative investment projects. However our struggles will continue.

What we criticize in substance is that European institutions

claims to have high democratic standards, but is not able to take responsibility in a crucial case like Hasankeyf and the Tigris River.

Ercan Ayboga

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Note: Link for the ECHR decision:

[https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#{%22itemid%22:\[%22003-6336974-8286675%22\]}](https://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press#{%22itemid%22:[%22003-6336974-8286675%22]})

A paragraph of the official justification of the ECHR: “The Court considered that the application was incompatible (ratione materiae) with the provisions of the Convention (Article 35 §§ 3 (a) and 4). It noted that there was to date no European consensus, or even a trend among the member States of the Council of Europe, which would have made it possible to infer from the Convention’s provisions that there existed a universal individual right to the protection of one or another part of the cultural heritage, as requested in the present application.”

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**Bresser’s conduct in last year’s relocation of the Zeynel Bey Tomb did not comply with OECD Guidelines**

\*\*\* The Initiative to Keep Hasankeyf Alive \*\*\* Hasankeyf Matters \*\*\*

Press Release, 20 August 2018

### Summary

*The Dutch NCP for the OECD Guidelines has concluded that Bresser, a small to medium-size Dutch enterprise, has not fully met the expectations and satisfied the due diligence criteria of the OECD Guidelines.” in the project to relocate the Zeynel Bey Tomb, in Hasankeyf, in Southeastern Turkey. The tomb is a late-15<sup>th</sup>-century monument of extraordinary cultural value and a symbol of the rich cultural heritage of the region. Its relocation impacts the human right to culture of the affected people. Companies of all sizes are expected to consider and minimize the potential impact of their activities on human rights.*



DCIM100MEDIADJI\_0008.JPG

*The NCP notes that Bresser made some effort to carry out due diligence with regard to the involvement of the local community, but recommends that Bresser adopt a more structural approach before engaging into a project, in order to avoid contributing to adverse human rights impacts. In order to avoid a violation of the human right to culture, a broad consultation with all stakeholders, including the local community, should*

*have been conducted prior to the removal of the Zeynel Bey Tomb. The NCP's statement also confirms that under the Guidelines, companies of all sizes, regardless of their location in the supply chain, are responsible for conducting adequate due diligence in order to prevent adverse impacts to human rights, including the right to culture/the right to cultural heritage and its conservation.*

## **Introduction**

On August 20, the Dutch National Contact Point (NCP) for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises ("the Guidelines") published its final statement concerning the notification about Bresser. The final statement notes that the parties did not reach an agreement through a mediated dialogue. In its final statement, the NCP recommends changes in Bresser's behaviour. The notification was filed by the Initiative to Keep Hasankeyf Alive (Turkey), Hasankeyf Matters (Turkey), and the Association for International Water Studies (FIVAS, Norway).

Bresser, working as a sub-contractor to the Turkish firm Er-Bu İnşaat, supplied the technology and skills essential to the relocation of the Zeynel Bey Tomb. The monument was built as the burial place of an Akkuyunlu prince killed in battle against the Ottomans in 1473. The tomb was relocated on May 12, 2017, under the protection of armed security forces, as part of the controversial Ilisu Dam project, which is expected to flood the ancient city of Hasankeyf and large parts of the Tigris River Valley.

## **Plaintiffs urge Bresser to cease work in Hasankeyf**

The organizations that filed the complaint have asked Bresser to cease all activity in Hasankeyf until a proper human rights assessment and the attendant due diligence are carried out. The plaintiffs maintain that Bresser's contribution to moving the Tomb without the involvement and consent of the local population and other stakeholders makes the company responsible for a violation of the human right to culture. A sufficient due diligence would have made it possible for the company to identify and mitigate the adverse impacts. By moving the monument without consultation and infringing upon human rights, the project is also in breach of both Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Architectural

Heritage of Europe (CETS 121) as well as what is considered best practice for a European structural relocation company.

### **The NCP's recommendations**

The NCP states that that Bresser should have used its leverage “as a supplier of essential technical knowledge and experience” and should have “ensured more thoroughly with the main contractor [Er-Bu İnşaat] and/or DSI, that procedures are in place providing sufficient opportunities for stakeholders to participate in project development and implementation.” The NCP states that this case shows that Bresser has not fully carried out the due diligence necessary to satisfy the expectations of the criteria of the OECD guidelines. The NCP further notes that Bresser did some efforts to carry out due diligence, but these measures were not adequate to meet fully the expectations established by the Guidelines. The NCP recommends that the company adopt a more structured approach and show a clearer inclusion of risks external to the company in their risk management system.

### **All companies have a responsibility to conduct due diligence**

This decision is noteworthy for the international business community, as it affirms that all companies, including SMEs, have a responsibility to conduct risk-based due diligence under the Guidelines. The NCP acknowledges that “the size of the enterprise does not affect its responsibility to conduct due diligence, but may affect its manner of carrying out due diligence.”

It is also worth noting that the Dutch NCP confirms that cultural rights are part of human rights, meaning that international businesses of all sizes and status in supply chains should include the potential adverse impacts on cultural rights and the right to cultural heritage and its conservation as part of human rights risk-based due diligence processes.

### **The project continues to deny the right to stakeholder consultation**

It is alarming to observe that Bresser continues to assist Er-Bu and the DSI in the removal of select architectural elements. On August 6, the historic hamam (bath) was relocated using techniques similar to those used in removing the tomb, but now with even less transparency/public

disclosure. The project continues to exclude a broad cross-section of relevant stakeholders, including the local community and independent experts in cultural heritage conservation, from the selection of monuments, the manner of removal, and their future location.

While the final statement makes clear that Bresser's actions and policies have not fully met the expectations established in the Guidelines, the fact that Bresser continues to participate in the removal of Hasankeyf monuments, with virtually no change in its behavior, raises questions about how the OECD Guidelines can help commercial enterprises to identify potential synergies between ethical corporate behavior and the creation of economic value.

We call upon Bresser to halt all work in Hasankeyf until the cultural heritage conservation project is conducted in a way that meets the expectations established in the Guidelines.

**For more information, please contact:**

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**The Artuklu Bath has also "relocated" - media news**



ARTI GERÇEK, 6.8.2018:

Link:

<https://www.artigercek.com/haberler/650-yillik-artuklu-hamami-tasiniyor>

1500 Tonluk Tarihi Hamam Taşındı

Ilısu Barajı altında kalacak olan Hasankeyf ilçesinde bulunan Artuklu Hamamı, Hasankeyf Yeni Kültürel Park Alanı'na taşındı. Daha önce de Zeynel Bey Türbesi taşınmıştı.

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Tarihi Hasankeyf ilçesinde yapımı süren Ilısu Barajı ve Hidroelektrik Santralleri projesi kapsamında bazı tarihi eserlerin sular altında kalmaması için taşınmasına karar verilmişti.

Yürütülen proje kapsamında 2017 yılının Mayıs ayında ilk kez Zeynel Bey Türbesi yerinden taşındı Tarihi yapılar için için yapılan çalışmalara bir yenisini daha eklendi. 540 yıl geçmişi olan Artuklu Hamamı'nın taşınma çalışmalarına bu sabah saat 04.15 itibariyle başlandı.

1500 ton ağırlığındaki yapı, 150 tekerlekli özel platforma yüklenerek 2 bin 950 metre uzaklıktaki Hasankeyf'in yeni yerleşim yerine taşınma çalışmalarında, 2 saat 50 dakikada 2

bin metre yol katedildi.

DHA'da yayınlanan habere göre Artuklu Hamamı'nın taşınmasıyla ilgili Devlet Su İşleri'nden yapılan açıklamada, "Bu çerçevede ülkemizde bir ilk olan ve 540 yaşında olması itibarıyla dünya ölçeğinde bütüncül olarak taşınan en eski tarihi yapı sayılan Zeynel Bey Türbesi'nin yeni yerine taşınması işlemi 12 Mayıs 2017 tarihinde başarıyla gerçekleştirilmiştir.

Yaklaşık 1100 tonluk tarihi yapı taşıma işlemi boyunca hassas cihazlarla yapılan gözlemler neticesinde herhangi bir hasar almadan tamamen emniyetli bir şekilde yeni yerine taşınmıştır. Şimdi ise taşıma tertibatı da hesaba katıldığında 1500 ton ağırlığa ulaşan Artuklu Hamamı'nın bütüncül taşıma işlemi gerçekleştirilecektir. Artuklu Hamamı'nın halihazırda bulunduğu Hasankeyf'teki mevcut konumu ile yeni yerleşim alanında düzenlenecek arkeoparktaki yeni konumu arasındaki mesafe 2 bin 950 metre olup hamam 70 metre üst kote taşınacaktır" denildi. (YAŞAM HABERLERİ SERVİSİ)





BİRGÜN, 06.08.2018:

Hasankeyf'te Tarşş Artuklu Hamamı Taşındı

Link:

<https://www.birgun.net/haber-detay/hasankeyf-te-tarihi-artuklu-hamami-tasindi-226089.html>

ARKEOLOJİ HABER, 06.08.2018:

Hasankeyf'te 800 Yıllık Artuklu Hamamı Taşınıyor

Link:

<http://arkeolojihaber.net/2018/08/06/hasankeyfte-800-yillik-artuklu-hamami-tasiniyor/>

GAZETE KARINCA, 06.08.2018: ,

Tarih Yerinden Edildi: Hasankeyf'teki Artuklu Hamamı Taşındı

Link:

<http://gazetekarinca.com/2018/08/tarih-yerinden-edildi-hasankeyfteki-artuklu-hamami-da-tasindi/>

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**[FT: Why water is a growing faultline between Turkey and Iraq](#)**

See article of the Financial Times on the Ilisu Project from

July 4, 2018:

[20180704\\_Why water is a growing faultline between Turkey and Iraq – Financial Times](#)

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## **Call for Global Sur and Hasankeyf Action Day**

THE PLATFORM AGAINST THE DESTRUCTION OF SUR +++ MESOPOTAMIA  
ECOLOGY MOVEMENT +++ İSTANBUL SUR SOLIDARITY PLATFORM +++  
HASANKEYF INITIATIVE +++ LET MUNZUR FLOW FREELY ASSEMBLY

TO THE PRESS AND PUBLIC!

Call for Global Sur and Hasankeyf Action Day



Distinguished Members of the Press and Participants,

As a result of intensive discussions we made with numerous institutions, individuals, platforms and initiatives respecting history, society and nature, it has been decided to declare April 28, 2018 as the Global Action Day for Sur and Hasankeyf. We expect that a series of simultaneous actions and events will be held on April 28 in around one dozen countries.

By these actions, we will raise these demands;

Lift the Ban upon Sur, Let Sur Live. Let the People of Sur return to their homes!

Stop the Destruction and Relocation of Hasankeyf; Let the Tigris river flow freely!

'Stop the Historical, Political, Ecological and Cultural Crime in Sur and Hasankeyf!'

DO NOT ALLOW THE MASSACRE OF CITY AND NATURE; DEFEND THE COMMON

## HISTORY, NATURE AND CULTURE!

In order to express our demands, various actions will be held on April 28, 2018 in one dozen countries and in many cities of Turkey with the invitation of Artists, Intellectuals, Authors, Ecology and Environmental Movements, Urban Movements, Women's Organizations, NGOs, Platform and Initiatives, Sensitive Political Parties and Unions, Professional Organizations and Chambers.

We would like to invite all sensitive circles and our people to participate in the actions and to embrace the ancient cities of Sur and Hasankeyf which have hosted humanity for thousands of years on the banks of the Tigris River. These cities are the common heritage of humanity and they belong to everyone. Therefore, it is all of our interest. For this reason, we invite everyone to take responsibility and embrace these cities to stop the destruction, relocation and sale of these cities. With these feelings and thoughts, we invite everyone to participate in these events in the cities where the events of April 28th will be held and to join this voice. We believe and we know that so many people are against the destruction of these cities. The way of revealing what we are against is through legitimate and democratic ways of supporting the scream of SUR and HASANKEYF.

We will also organize a number of events to support the ancient cities of Sur and Hasankeyf in Amed with our components and sensitive institutions on April 28th. These events will begin with a statement to the press and public including the opinions of the people of Sur, Hasankeyf, many other experts and the people who are deeply committed to these cities in terms of expressing our suggestions and requests regarding the current situation of the two cities. The statement will be made at 12:00 in front of the Grand Mosque (Ulucami) in Sur. After the statement, a number of inspections will be held with the artists and delegations coming from other cities in Ali Pasha and Lalebey Neighborhoods where the

urban transformation still continues. In the evening, poetry-music audition and documentary shows will be held about Sur.

So we say,

'Stop the Historical, Political, Ecological and Cultural Crime in Sur and Hasankeyf!'

STOP THE DESTRUCTION AND RELOCATION IN HASANKEYF; LET THE TIGRIS RIVER FLOW FREELY!

LIFT THE BANS UPON SUR, LET SUR LIVE, LET SUR PEOPLE RETURN HOME!

DO NOT LET THE MASSACRE OF CITY AND NATURE; DEFEND THE COMMON HISTORY, NATURE AND CULTURE!

We invite everyone to become the scream of SUR and HASANKEYF.

Calling organizations:

THE PLATFORM AGAINST THE DESTRUCTION OF SUR (Sur'un Yıkımına Hayır Platformu)

MESOPOTAMIA ECOLOGY MOVEMENT (Mezopotamya Ekoloji Hareketi)

İSTANBUL SUR SOLIDARITY PLATFORM (İstanbul Sur'la Dayanışma Platformu)

HASANKEYF INITIATIVE (Hasankeyf'i Yaşatma Girişimi)

LET MUNZUR FLOW FREELY ASSEMBLY (Munzur Özgür Aksın Meclisi)

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## [Ecology Union founded](#)

On April 16, 2018 in several cities at the same time the foundation of the "Ecology Union" has been done. After months of preparations 56 organization all over from the Republic of Turkey agreed on principles and coordination for common

objectives.



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## [Signature campaign in Iran against Ilisu Project](#)

***Safeguarding Hoor al-Azim Lagoon  
Stop Land Degradation in Western Iran***

Link for campaign:  
<https://www.change.org/p/mr-ant%C3%B3nio-guterres-secretary-general-of-the-united-nations-safeguarding-hoor-al-azim-lagoon>



Photo: Seyed Bagher Mousavi

Dear Mr. Secretary-General

With great respect, we would like to inform you that, in the past two decades, the Republic of Turkey, has constructed a tremendous number of dams in the Southern Anatolian region and the headwaters of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. The Ataturk dam on the Euphrates River, with 48 billion cubic meters of capacity was completed in 1992 and one more dam– the Ilisu Dam with 10.4 billion cubic meters of capacity, is under construction on the Tigris River since December 2014.

Construction of these dams has not only influenced the hydrology system of these two important rivers– the Tigris and Euphrates– but it has also deprived several million hectares of Syrian and Iraqi agricultural lands, and created a serious crisis in its downstream “Hoor-al-azim” wetland. This crisis in turn has changed the “Hoor-al-azim” wetland– one of the most important marine ecosystems– to one of the biggest dust storm and crisis centre of wind erosion in the region.

The Indigenous Peoples and the people of Iran, Syria and Iraq, whom are at the origin of ancient civilizations such as the Iranian, Syrian and Mesopotamian civilisations are severely

damaged by these destructive activities and actions.

The continued process of this destructive and irresponsible exploitation of water resources by the Republic of Turkey damages the agricultural systems in the Mesopotamian region, and intensifies dust storm in the west and centre of Iran. This devastating phenomenon threatens productive activities and peoples' live, and human ecosystems in the region are being abandoned.

The devastating consequences of dam construction in the Republic of Turkey not only intensifies and amplifies the effects of war and the human tragedies in Syria and Iraq but the construction process itself is also in contradiction with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and environmental conventions such as The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

We, the undersigned, call on the United Nations and UNESCO to respond to the worrying situation of indigenous peoples and their water rights on the Tigris and Euphrates river basin. We demand the revival of the Mesopotamian region by releasing the water-rights of the southern Anatolia dams, in particular Ataturk Dam, and by stopping the under construction dams in the region, in particular the Ilısu Dam.

**People's Campaign to Support the Kind Zagros**

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**(Türkçe) Hasankeyf 'te restorasyon rezaleti**

Sorry, this entry is only available in [Türkçe](#).



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**(Türkçe) Miliyet: "Elde kalırsa dünyaya rezil oluruz"**

Sorry, this entry is only available in [Türkçe](#).

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