

Press Release

Universities are basically institutions that produce true and factual knowledge for the peace and well-being of all mankind and present it to the service of humanity. Having been the target of imperialist powers, the geography we live in has craved for peace and tranquillity for over a century. Turkey, despite all the attacks in the region, has proved to the whole world that it is an island of peace and tranquillity as an example to humanity. It continues to help and be a shelter for the oppressed, orphans and needy, who have lost their homes and houses. As University Rectors, we are in the city of Kilis, representing our universities, to disrupt the plans of the Western powers who have on their hands the blood of victims of the on-going and immoral war next to us, and to express that we are standing with our state, having launched the "Operation Olive Branch" to establish peace and tranquillity in the region.

Gathering for an appraisal meeting in Kilis on the anniversary of our appointment, as rectors of Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen University, Ardahan University, Artvin Çoruh University, Batman University, Bitlis Eren University, Gaziantep University, İzmir Demokrasi University, Karamanoğlu Mehmetbey University, Kilis 7 Aralık University and Osmaniye Korkut Ata University, we proudly express our full support for the "Operation Olive Branch" launched by the Republic of Turkey against all terrorist groups to extend hope, through its dedication to justice and respect for human life, to the region. The "Operation Olive Branch" is not directed at any religious or ethnic group, but aims at removing from the region the terrorist groups and terrorism disturbing the peace of the region.

As university rectors, we call on all intellectuals, scholars and universities of the world who believe in science ethics to support this oppressed region that has become imperialism's target pad, and to support the struggle waged by our country for peace and harmony in the name of humanity. On this occasion, we are also honoured to note, in the records, that we have fulfilled the responsibilities of Turkish intellectuals and academics. Again in this rightful struggle that we give as the country, we commemorate with respect, gratitude and mercy our martyrs and we pray for a speedy recovery for the wounded. Respectfully submitted to the consideration of the public.