Dear Andrea,

As you mentioned in your statement, in our country the Government created a polarization environment and deepened it after they used massive amount of violence in the summer of 2013 to the environmentalist group in the "Gezi Parkı". The government could not accept election defeat in the 7th of June, and they got terrified by that HDP collected the 13% of the votes. As the result of this, the government ignored the 7th of June election results, by escalating the violence and went on elections on 1 November 2015 and again came to power with 49.5%.

In this period, the anti-democratic practices, pressures and violence policies continued towards to NGOs, press and opposition, and they chose to silence all their opponents with the most brutal methods, showing the coup which was organized by their former ruling partners as a reason. Recently, with the illegal arrest of the elected mayors of HDP and the assignment of trustees (or local administrators) to their posts and with the arrest of HDP co-chairs Selahattin Demirtaş, Figen Yüksekdağ and the other 9 deputies, the process continues with the growing lawlessness and the removing obstacles on the way to the presidency. Even the communication channels of the people in southeast of the country (internet, social media etc.) are closed. We gained democratic rights so far. And now it is desired to build an anti-democratic, totalitarian regime.

On the 11th November night, Attorney Özden Saldıran –already in custody in Antalya- and for 8 other people from HDP got arrested.

Dear Andrea, you gave us strength with your solidarity statement that you published for us while we were living this dark picture. We are appreciated as we have friends like you.

I would also like to express my thanks for the solidarity messages to the Green Party Verena Osgyan, the State deputy.

I would like to thank you with my deepest friendship and solidarity feelings, and I wish you health and success.

Hatice KUZU
Greens and Left Future Party Antalya Province Spokesperson