

## PETITION AGAINST THE MASS ARREST IN TURKEY

The declaration of martial law has opened a new phase in Turkey's politics. (26.4.1971). The prime minister has declared the constitution as "extremely liberal" and "luxurious" for Turkey. (3.5.1971). This constitution was accepted by popular vote in 1961 and guaranteed basic human rights and democratic freedoms. Many "intellectuals", writers, teachers and trade unionists are in prison waiting for trial before a specially set up military tribunal. A new constitution is in preparation under martial law which will curb basic human rights. If violence and terrorism is to be criticized on the part of the few extremists, surely the arrest of many university professors, school teachers and journalists, who have defended the 1961 constitution and democracy, cannot be justified under the same pretext.

We call the attention of all the supporters of democracy and human freedom to this situation. We do not wish to see a new Greece or Karachi in our world.

Should you wish to sign a petition to voice your opinion to the Turkish leading authorities please ask for the form from your department secretary today.