

We the undersigned have decided to withdraw our association with the Journées Arithmétiques in Istanbul, which we were previously planning to attend as plenary speakers or as members of the Scientific Committee. We do this in order to freely voice our concern over the arrest of Tuna Altinel, a mathematician working in Lyon who is now jailed in Turkey for expressing his opinions and participating in acts of non-violent protest. This development has drawn widespread concern from our professional societies:

<https://euro-math-soc.eu/news/19/05/14/ems-statement-arrest-prof-tuna-altinel>

[https://www.ams.org/news?news\\_id=5152](https://www.ams.org/news?news_id=5152)

<https://smf.emath.fr/actualites-smf/actu-emprisonnement-tuna-altinel>

<https://www.lms.ac.uk/news-entry/22052019-1544/arrest-mathematician-tuna-altinel>

[http://math.univ-lyon1.fr/SoutienTunaAltinel/doc/questionGouvernementVillani11\\_06\\_19.mp4](http://math.univ-lyon1.fr/SoutienTunaAltinel/doc/questionGouvernementVillani11_06_19.mp4)

We do not call for a general boycott of the conference, whose impact would mainly be felt by the local mathematical community. But we also feel that an event like the Journées Arithmétiques cannot proceed as if nothing had happened.

Through our defection we hope to demonstrate that we stand in solidarity with Tuna Altinel, his family, and friends.

At a time when human rights, freedom of expression and the rule of law are

increasingly under siege throughout the world, we believe that passivity and indifference can only invite further erosion of these basic rights.

Boris Adamczewski  
Fabrizio Andreatta  
Henri Darmon  
Victor Rotger