

Witness Biographies

Enes Kanter Freedom is a human rights activist, NBA star, and Nobel Peace Prize nominee who lost his NBA career for speaking out against human rights violations in China. Raised in Turkey, Freedom began to call out human rights violations by President Erdogan in his home country. Turkey then canceled his passport, put his name Interpol list, imprisoned his father, and set a \$500,000 bounty on his head.

7 years after having his Turkish citizenship revoked, Freedom became an American citizen. While becoming a citizen, he changed his last name to Freedom. Freedom has become a voice for the oppressed in Turkey, China, Russia, Iran and more countries worldwide.



Abdülhamit Bilici is a journalist and media executive in exile in the United States following political turmoil and government oppression of the press in Turkey. Before leaving the country, Bilici served as editor-in-chief of the newspaper Zaman, the largest daily newspaper in Turkey with over one million circulation. He was also Chief Executive Officer of its English-language version, Today's Zaman. Before that position, Bilici served as general director of Cihan News Agency and editor of Aksiyon Weekly Magazine.



Nadine Maenza

Nadine is the President of the IRF Secretariat, an international organization focused on building infrastructure to support the religious freedom movement globally, running the International Religious Freedom (IRF) Roundtable in Washington, DC and in over 30 countries globally. She also serves as a Global Fellow at the Wilson Center. In May 2022, Nadine finished her second term as a White House appointee on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), serving her last year as Chair.

