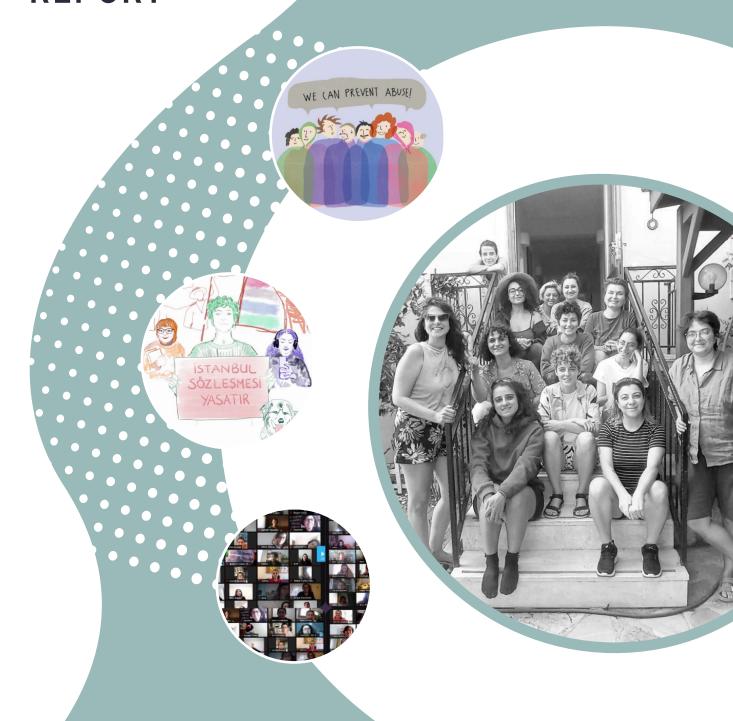
# 2021 ACTIVITY REPORT







This annual report is published by the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence with the support of Sweden. This does not mean that the content of the annual report reflects official views of Sweden.

# ASSOCIATION FOR STRUGGLE AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE 2021

**ACTIVITY** 

REPORT

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# FROM CŞMD Hello again,

As C\$MD, we proudly share our 2021 Annual Activity Report. This year was the year of transformation for us. We were reborn as an association with the structural changes we created; we developed ourselves, expanded, and renewed our team. We worked hard as always. As an organization fighting violence within the rights-based movements for seven years, we have not done any of our work "just for the sake of it". We have produced with enthusiasm, passion, solidarity, and the motivation of doing what we love and what makes us feel good. We strengthened each other by passing on the power of speaking the right word, being right and being permanent, from individual to collective, from collective to individual.

We know our strength as those who struggle in this country, organized or unorganized, on the street or at home, by talking, writing, fighting, making love, reading, running, crying, and laughing. As each of us who deals with court cases, just because jumping, whistling, or just being there in the demonstrations, we multiply as we resist and get results. Women and the LGBTI+ movement in this country know that it sets an example with its struggle and dynamism. Violations of rights in the country's agenda, attacks on our vested rights, violence, censorship, black propaganda, and oppression reinforce our desire to produce new things and resist, instead of intimidating us. We are proud of both our individuality and what we produce as a part of the collective.

We entered 2021 in the shadow of the pandemic and lockdown. The year-long curfews reminded us of the importance of going out on the street, coming together, organizing, and struggling. Survivors were confined along with the perpetrators to "safe areas" where they experienced violence and had difficulty accessing support. Towards the end of December 2020, a bill was passed that paved the way for the appointment of trustees to associations; a trustee was appointed to Boğaziçi University on January 1, 2021, while also that January, associations began to be audited. LGBTI+s have been targeted in the Boğaziçi resistance, and less than a month later, the Istanbul Convention was unlawfully terminated on the pretext of the targeted LGBTI+s, and this chronological order was not a coincidence. This year on March 8 and especially during Pride Week, activists came face-to-face with the police, who attacked with greater resentment and violence than ever before. The escalation of oppression and violence shows us the history of the struggle we know well; the light at the end of the tunnel. We know that we will take back our rights one by one, that the Istanbul Convention will return and this time it will be properly implemented.

What you will read in this report shows the work we did in 2021 under these conditions. This year, for the first time, we monitored the rights violations of sexual violence survivors and created an evidence-based report. We changed our organizational structure under these conditions and created our finance, communication, and support teams along with our programs. We developed and re-created our sexual violence application system. By integrating our dissemination programs and our workshops into the digital environment, we re-created and implemented them. We are transforming and renewing our media-related activities, websites, and visual archive. As a team, we take our capacity-building and well-being even more seriously.

Just like the changing problems of the changing world, C\$MD produces new solutions to new problems by feeding upon itself and its stakeholders, also by questioning and discussing. This year has been the year of transformation for us. We were inspired and nourished by the determination of every woman, every queer person, every survivor, who struggled this year as well. We hope that C\$MD's activities contribute to everyone we act with solidarity as well as to us.

Hope to see you in 2022!

# **BRIEF HISTORY**

ESTABLISHMENT

2015

- > Social Incubation Center

> Workshops and Seminars started!

- > Visual Productions and Social Media
- **> Concept Discussions**
- What's Up What's Not?! Project started!



2018

2016

- > Switch It! Project started!
- > Where is the Support System? Project started!
- "Child Tells, Do Listen: Prevent Abuse" Campaign



2020

- > csdestek.org
- > csgorselarsiv.org
- > Barrier-Free Communication Activities
- Corporate Sustainability and Policy **Documents activities**





- > Website
- Awareness Activities started!

2017



- "Change Starts With Me" Workshops
- > Project: Transforming Our Language
- > What's Up What's Not?! The Dissemination Program started!
- > Advocacy work started!

2019



- "We are Talking About Safe **Relationships" University Seminars**
- > Children's Bodily Autonomy **Dissemination Program started**
- > Sexual Rights are Human Rights Project

2021

- Organizational Structure changed
- > csdestek.org available in 4 languages
- Change Starts With Me Workshops **Digitalised**







2022









Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence (C\$MD) stands against the binary gender polarization that narrows our life and struggles areas, the gender practices we are forced to, and the stereotypical perception of sexual violence in language and social memory. It emerged as a result of our need to open up space for our bodies, words, sexuality, anger as survivors of sexual violence, and our voices that are silenced. Our association, which was officially established in the summer of 2014, took its current form by feeding off the work carried out at the Women's Platform Against Sexual Violence between 2009 and 2013, the experience, research, and writings of trans activist Ali Arıkan, and our knowledge. We are trans and non-trans women, trans men, and gender-neutral individuals questioning the binary gender system, are from various sexual orientations, remain to be actively involved in feminist, LGBTI+, ecology and animal liberation movements, child and immigrant rights organizations, and platforms in these fields. We are an anti-hierarchical organization that advocates for queer imagination, feminism, solidarity, and collective production.

# **OUR VALUES**

# cşmd is a queer feminist association:

While C\$MD is combatting sexual violence perpetrated against all forms of physical beings in different forms and manifestations, it notes that these different forms are fed by different or multiple power systems / mechanisms such as patriarchy, general and public morality, polarized gender binary system, racism, nationalism, and speciesism; and it devotes itself to act without establishing any kind of hierarchy between them. Therefore, it adopts queer and feminist perspectives / methods that can allow the intersection of both similar and different fields of struggle.

# it is inclusive and intersectional:

It does not define its field of activity as an association limited to serve a certain area such as women, LGBTI+, youth or children. Sexual violence is a form of violence which can be perpetrated against children, young people, elderly people, persons who identify themselves as a woman or man, persons who do not fit into any gender in gender binary system, refugees, persons with disabilities, LGBTI+, animals; and it is a form of violence that the can be perpetrated against any person from any profession, gender, social class, country, ideology, belief and lifestyle. C\$MD embraces this inclusion and intersection in all the information it provides and in all the materials it produces.

# it is creative and flexible:

It always cares about experience sharing and sustainability. At the same time, it is open to change and development, new ideas and methods while being flexible.

# it has a critical point of view:

It acts with the assumption that sexual violence is a matter directly related to power and authority. It questions and criticizes the power dynamics and the norms arising from these dynamics. In the same way, it gives importance to the mechanisms of criticism and self-criticism in building communication within the Association.

# it is anti-hierarchical:

CŞMD is an anti-hierarchical association that believes the power of teamwork and solidarity. In case of building internal and external communication, it embraces the open communication and transparency approach. It does not establish any hierarchy among the forms of violence; it is in a constant struggle against all forms of sexual violence, while giving priority to the invisible forms of sexual violence.

# it is sex-positive:

C\$MD has a point of view that sexuality is a common phenomenon and that everyone can enjoy their sexuality in different forms and in various ways. It respects personal values. It does not associate sexuality with public morality, nor limit it to gender norms. It does not establish any hierarchy between the attitudes and practices of persons regarding their sexuality and it defends the consent and communication. It considers the sexuality, as something shall be spoken-out loud and it encourages the persons to talk about their sexuality. The right to comprehensive and inclusive sexuality education, which is implemented from a sex-positive perspective, is among the areas that CSMD built as a part of its struggle.

# it embraces anti-discrimination and equality:

C\$MD is against all kinds of discrimination based on the factors such as gender, age, race, religion, language, political or other opinion, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, health status, disability status, marital status, asylum seeker or refugee status. It has a zero tolerate policy against hate speech and discrimination, speciesism, sexism, homophobia / transphobia / bifobia, and any form of discrimination. Working principles of C\$MD include providing and ensuring a working environment where everyone can feel safe and free from prejudices.

# it embraces anti-speciesism:

C\$MD argues that all animals are sentient beings having the right to live without being exploited, tortured or ill treated. As the sign of its struggle against speciesism and against the exploitation of animals; C\$MD embraces the abstention from all animal products and by-products within its office environment and during its activities. It does not use its financial resources for the products obtained as a result of animal exploitation.

# it adopts participatory approach:

CŞMD focuses on and encourages the participation of children, young people and survivors in its field of studies. It participates in rights-based networks and platforms that can enhance the combat against sexual violence. It uses consensus as a method of decision-making; it cares about participation and collective production.

# testimony carries an evidentiary weight:

C\$MD believes the testimonies of the survivors. Survivors do not bear the burden of proof in their testimonies, they are not obliged to prove and document the violence they are exposed to. C\$MD does not look for evidence to initiate the necessary processes. It acts to operate mechanisms that strengthen those exposed to violence and support their well-being.

# it is accountable and transparent:

CŞMD considers the principle of transparency and accountability in its activities, actions and financial resources. It constructs the methods and structures that will ensure that resources are used wise and responsibly.

# it promotes the global ecosystem:

C\$MD imagines a world where there is no exploitation against all living things in the ecosystem. It is aware of the fact that the climate crisis targets the entire ecosystem and all the lives within it. It treats climate justice as a political problem and it adopts a responsible approach. It uses its resources in this direction. arını bu yönde kullanır.

# it is an anti-militarist association:

C\$MD is an anti-militarist association, it is against every organized or unorganized policy and practice of violence; it has a structure that uses nonviolent communication methods believing in the right of self-defense.

# WHAT DO WE DO?

### **WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS**

We are aware that sexual violence is an acquired and normalized phenomenon that is therefore preventable. Hence, we develop training content and provide training to increase preventive-protective studies that are highly rare in this field. We provide informative training, workshops, and seminars to persons in need, parents, young people, professionals, and NGO staff by developing different training contents for meeting the various needs on-demand. From these workshops we have been conducting in Turkey, we transform the assessment and reporting studies into data.

### PRODUCTION of MATERIALS & DIGITAL ACTIVISM

We conduct campaigns and concept discussions; develop visuals and informative content to create a communication language and approach for a transformative effect in the society about sexual violence that raises consciousness and awareness and empowers those who are survivors of violence and witnesses of the violence. We disseminate this language and approach via efficient social media tools, the interviews we provide, the regular publications we create, the events we participate in, the campaigns we carry out, the visual materials we produce.

### **ADVOCACY**

We conduct advocacy studies to make the different forms of sexual violence visible, to ensure people not establish a hierarchy among them, to foster the solidarity between people exposed to different forms of oppression and discrimination in society, and to ensure the enjoyment, implementation and development of the rights, in line with the demands of the survivors of sexual violence and for the prevention of violations.

### **SUPPORT**

We produce content that strengthen the capacities of individuals, institutions and non-governmental organizations that provide services and support for the rights and needs of survivors of sexual violence. Within the scope of the support system, we provide referral and resource support via our Social Worker to people who apply to us. We prepare support units-map, produce and disseminate self-help materials.









# WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN 2021?

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING MEETINGS ATTENDED

ADVOCACY REPORTS PREPARED

CAPACITY-BUILDING TRAININGS RECEIVED

BENEFICIARIES REACHED THROUGH WORKSHOP, CAPACITY-BUILDING, DISSEMINATION PROGRAMS AND SEMINAR/WEBINARS

27(1) YOUNG PEOPLE MET AS PART OF WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS/WEBINARS

PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM LEGAL-SOCIAL COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE SUPPORT WE PROVIDED

**32200** FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS REACHED

37800 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS REACHED

16800 TWITTER FOLLOWERS REACHED

2000 YOUTUBE SUBSCRIBERS REACHED

**6355** PODCAST LISTENERS REACHED

**57396** WEBSITE VISITORS REACHED

## **EMPOWERMENT** AND **SUPPORT** PROGRAM

# **CONSULTANCY AND GUIDANCE**

# We continued to provide counseling and referral support to **survivors of sexual violence.**



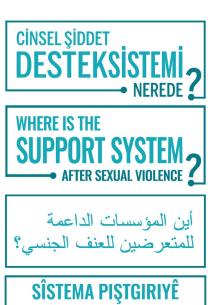
This year, we continued our support system efforts to empower survivors of sexual violence so that they have more access to support systems and benefit more from their rights. In 2021, we provided legal and social consultancy to 76 people who applied to our association via phone and email.

As the Empowerment and Support Program, we recruited a Social Worker and started the system-building efforts by making the referral support we provide to the survivors more traceable and institutional. We received team supervision to ensure that the support we provide is rights-based, to protect the team from possible secondary traumas, and to respond more clearly to the needs of survivors. We finalized the software of the data tracking program we designed to protect and process the data of survivors in the best way and strengthened our texts on the Law on the Protection of Personal Data.

# WHERE IS THE SUPPORT SYSTEM?

# **csdestek.org** is online in Arabic, English and Kurdish

This year, we launched the <a href="csdestek.org">csdestek.org</a> website with its Arabic, English, and Kurdish translations, which we prepared for the benefit of adults who have been subjected to sexual violence. The site contains information about the post-sexual violence support system and self-help, application processes, and the <a href="Ls-tanbul Support Units Map">Ls-tanbul Support Units Map</a>. On the <a href="csdestek.org">csdestek.org</a> website, up-to-date information is available in Arabic, English, and Kurdish so that refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers who are not citizens of Turkey but live in Turkey can access their rights after experiencing sexual violence.



SÎSTEMA PIŞTGIRIYÊ YA TUNDKARIYA CINSÎ LI KU YE ?

# CHILDREN'S BODILY AUTONOMY DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

This year, we continued to talk about children's bodily autonomy rights as adults who enlarge the fight against sexual abuse and continue to expand the <u>protective-preventive approach</u>. Our dissemination team, consisting of professional experts working in local administrations, carried out 87 awareness-raising seminars and reached 1424 adults, primarily municipal staff and parents. We talked about the needs of our team at the supervision and follow-up meetings, we got empowered by the solidarity, and we got motivated.

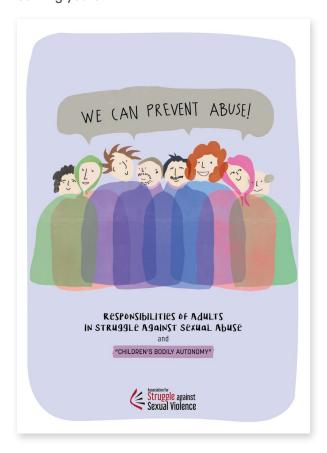
With the strength we draw from each other, we launched a joint campaign with the municipalities of Sarıyer, Kadıköy, Ataşehir, Şişli, and Avcılar this April 23, and made children's bodily autonomy rights visible in different parts of the city.







We continued to emphasize at every opportunity that the responsibility of combating sexual abuse belongs to adults, not children, and we prepared a booklet in which we discussed the responsibilities of adults in this regard under different headings. We aim to translate the booklet, which we published in Turkish and English this year, to other languages in the coming years.



We met with Gedik University child development department students over Zoom and talked about our protective and preventive approach to sexual abuse and our responsibilities.







In addition, this year, we took steps to refresh the visual identity of the program, and updated our digital application materials on which we still work. We continue our efforts to support our implementation team in local governments, which are our primary stakeholders.

# WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NOT?! YOUTH PROGRAM

This year, we continued to discuss with young people about dating violence, safe relationships and the concept of consent. We met at the webinars "We are Talking About Safe Relationships" with young people from Turkish Psychology Students Working Group, Açı High School Put an End to Violence Project, Hacettepe Community Volunteers Society, Tabukamu.com Youth Advisory Board, Biruni University Medical Students Association, Human Resource Development Foundation and Atılım University KASAUM.

We met with the preparatory class students at the Istanbul American Robert High School, introduced CŞMD's work, talked about the importance of the language used in struggle against sexual violence and what we can do together.

After the "Working on Safe Relationships with Youth" Capacity Building Workshop in November 2020 for municipal employees working in Istanbul, Kadıköy Municipality employees carried out a "Flört Haklarım (My



Dating Rights)" billboard campaign at 6 locations in Kadıköy.

After the "Working on Safe Relationships with Youth" Capacity Building Workshop for municipal employees working in Istanbul, which we held in November 2020, we came together with the participants again at the implementation follow-up and supervision meetings.



The 10 workshop modules in the "Working on Safe Relationships with Young People: A Practical Handbook for Educators and Counselors" were adapted to the training modules of IMM Istanbul Family Counseling and Training Center (ISADEM). What's Up What's Not?! Dissemination Workshop for mental health professionals working in ISADEMs is planned to be held in January 2022.

Our new project application, which covers our youth work focused on dating violence and safe relations, has been accepted. EMpower Foundation, which has been supporting our work since 2018, will continue to provide grants also between the years 2021-2023 to What's Up What's Not?! Youth Program.

We were invited to "Adolescent Development Talks" within the scope of the Ergengelisim.org studies carried out to support adolescent health and development processes of adolescents, and we had a conversation on "What and Why Should Parents Know About Dating Violence?"



"Working on Safe Relationships with Young People: A Practical Handbook for Educators and Counselors" that we prepared in 2018 was again in demand this year by educators and experts working with young people. 15 psychological counseling teachers, branch teachers, municipal employees and clinical psychologists from cities such as Ankara, Giresun, Istanbul, Izmir, Bursa, Kırşehir and Edirne have demanded and accessed the handbook.

We participated in the "<u>Erkekler Çiçektir (Men are Flowers)</u>" podcast series and talked about dating violence and safe relationships.

We continued to produce informative and empowering visual content about dating violence, safe relationships, personal boundaries, and the concept of consent for young people via social media.







instagram.com/projenevarneyok

# CHANGE STARTS WITH ME AWARENESS WORKSHOPS

We adapted the "Change Starts with Me!: Sexual Violence Basic Awareness Workshops" which we prepared to change the misconceptions in the society and for the reduction of sexual violence and abuse, to expand protective-preventive works, to remind us of our responsibilities as individuals in the struggle against sexual violence, and to raise awareness. We held the workshops "Module 4: Struggling Against Sexual Abuse of Animals" in November and "Module 3: Sexual Violence, Concepts and Methods for Prevention" in December. We continued to run the workshop "Struggling Against Sexual Abuse of Animals" together with the Animal Rights Watch Committee.

The content of 5 different workshops we implemented within the scope of the project:



# MOD 1) Dating Violence and Safe Relationships

The definition and forms of dating violence, concepts and common myths in society, characteristics of safe relationships, protective-preventive approach, methods of struggle and intervention **Target group:** Professionals working with young people such as psychological counselors, psychologists, social workers, lawyers, field workers (NGO, RAM, Municipality employees)

# MOD 2) Preventive Protective Approach to Sexual Abuse

The definition and forms of sexual abuse, rights-based approach when working with children, concepts of consent and boundaries for children, protective-preventive approach, methods of struggle and intervention

**Target group:** Professionals working with young people such as psychological counselors, psychologists, social workers, field workers (NGO, RAM, Municipality employees)

# MOD 3) Sexual Violence, Concepts and Methods for Prevention

Concepts of Gender and LGBTI+, the definition and forms of sexual violence; concepts and common myths in society, support after experiencing sexual violence, empowering language and approach **Target group:** Professionals working with survivors such as psychological counselors, psychologists, social workers, lawyers, field workers (NGO, Municipality employees)

### MOD 4) Struggle Against Sexual Abuse of Animals

Forms of discrimination, speciesism, definition and forms of sexual violence against animals, social perceptions and concepts, animal liberation, rights-based approach, struggle and responsibilities

Target group: General audience

### MOD 5) Rights Based Journalism About Sexual Violence

Gender and LGBTI+ concepts, myths about sexual violence, rightsbased journalism, empowering language and approach, reporting on sexual violence, correct language use and media responsibility **Target group:** Press members

# ADVOCACY AND NETWORK ACTIVITIES

We continued to participate in networks, express our opinion, write press releases, make statements and evidence-based monitoring, and produce information and documents within the scope of <u>advocacy efforts</u> to reduce the damage caused by sexual violence and sexualized violence.





After the official announcement of Turkey's decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention, we expressed our opinion on the Istanbul Convention by producing content about the convention.

We have prepared the "I Have the Right to Ask for Support" report within the scope of evidence-based advocacy with the support of the ETKİNİZ EU Program. As part of the preparation process of this report, we translated and published in Turkish the book "Combating Violence Against Women: Minimum Standards for Support Services" published by the Council of Europe in 2008.

# **NETWORKS**

# **WOMEN'S PLATFORM FOR EQUALITY (EŞİK)**

EŞİK (https://esikplatform.net/en/), where we came together with more than 300 organizations in Turkey for a common struggle against threats to the right to an equal and free life and gains, covers many issues such as sexual abuse of children, Istanbul Convention, violence against women and LGBTI+s. We participated in many national and international activities on the subject. We supported the March 8th and November 25th events. We joined the #YasalaraDokunmaUygula campaign group. We visited political parties to evaluate the possible risks in the 5th judicial

package that will be submitted to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, and to evaluate the common principles for the alliance that the six opposition parties are preparing, and to convey their suggestions.



# THE COALITION FOR SEXUAL AND BODILY RIGHTS IN MUSLIM SOCIETIES (CSBR)

We included our <u>podcast series</u>, which we emphasized the Istanbul Convention, inclusion in Turkey and LGBTI+'s right to access support, in the One Day One Struggle 2021 campaign of the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR), of which we are a member.

We also attended the network's strategic evaluation and planning meeting and Strategic Planning workshops.



# **WOMEN'S COALITION**

With the <u>Women's Coalition</u>, which is the platform of independent women's organizations aiming to increase women's social and political participation and a policy based on egalitarian justice, we have mostly organized over the Istanbul Convention and expressed our justified demands. We participated in the "We Don't Give Up" campaign.

### SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS (SRH) PLATFORM

As a network member, we continued to contribute to and participate in the Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Platform, which was established to increase access to sexual health in Turkey, and in which we participated in joint advocacy on sexual health services. We continued our work on sexual violence and sexual health by taking part in the Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Work Group. By participating in the Sexual Awareness workgroup, we contributed with our Change Starts with Me awareness modules and our experience in the field. On the other hand, we provided ideas and supported the STI group in terms of evaluating the gender perspective and sexual health from a broader perspective than the binary gender system. We attended the meetings provided on the platform activities such as





Sexual and Reproductive Health in Crisis and Disaster Situations, Minimum Services, SRHS Services in Critical Situations in Crisis and Disaster Situations, Good Practice Examples, Gender-Based Violence and Medical Services, Coaching Training, Advocacy Training, Rights-Based Monitoring, and Sexual Violence Work Group, Sexual Violence Awareness Group meetings. On Medyascope.tv, we talked about the support system for people subjected to sexual violence and the impact of developments such as Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention and the pandemic on support services. We also took part in the dissemination of Subject-Oriented HIV activities on December 1st.

### PARTNERSHIP NETWORK TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

This year, we continued to take part in the executive committee of the network and attended regular meetings. A survey was carried out by The Partnership Network to Prevent Violence Against Children (ÇKŞÖOA), which turns 10 as of 2021, in which all members participated in order to evaluate the network and its communication with members, the degree of ownership and participation in the network, the development and change experienced in this 10 years, and the benefit and impact created. Before planning the future, the survey was used to remember and memorize the past, to extract

lessons learned and to ask "Are we still in the same expectation?", it is aimed to be a study that will shed light on why each member is involved in the Partnership Network, or whether they want to be involved or not.

In addition, we contributed to the writing of the statement in which we emphasized that the Istanbul Convention is important not only for women who are subjected to violence, but also for children and young people, emphasizing the negative consequences of withdrawing from the Convention for children.



Istanbul Sözleşmesi diğer birçok insan hakları sözleşmesi ile beraber, Birleşmiş Milletler Çocuk Haklarına Dair Sözleşme'yi de göz önünde bulundurur. Diğer bir söyleyişle, 18 yaşına kadar tüm bireyleri çocuk olarak kabul ederek bu sözleşmede çocuklara da yer verir.



Türkiye'de Çocuğa Karşı Şiddeti Önlemek için Ortaklık Ağı üyesi olan ve ayrım yapmaksızın çocukların maruz bırakıldığı her türlü şiddetle mücadele eden örgütler olarak, bu kararı kabul etmiyor ve "İstanbul Sözleşmesi yaşatır!" diyoruz.

# https://feministasylum.org/

We became a Feminist Asylum signatory for women, girls and LGBTI+s who have been forced to flee their country due to sexual violence, gender-based violence, human trafficking, bullying, forced marriage, female genital mutilation and many discriminatory practices; aiming to provide an effective definition of specific grounds for asylum for women, girls and LGBTI+'s.

# GENERATION EQUALITY FORUM-2021

By participating in the virtual sessions of the <u>Generation Equality Forum</u> held in Mexico in March 2021, we came together with civil society actors, public officials and activists from many parts of the world for dynamic discussions, events and cultural celebrations. We attended the thematic sessions and expressed our views in dialogue meetings.

### **WORLD WITHOUT SHELTER**

We participated in the Assembly of Women's Shelters and Solidarity Centers, where organizations, activists and feminists working in the field of violence from many cities of Turkey came together for the 24th year with the demand for a "World Without Shelter".





### LAW FOR LIFE

As a part of the Law for Life Initiative, which was formed with the support of many institutions operating in the fields of animal rights, ecology, women's rights, LGBTI+ rights, prevention of sexual violence, human rights, disability rights, public health, children's and elderly rights across the country coming together by the invitation of Eray Özgüner, the mother of animal freedom activist Burak Özgüner who passed away in 2019, we participated in the campaign on the draft law on animal rights which is expected to be discussed at the Turkish Grand National Assembly. At the press conference held on January 25th, we reiterated our demand for a "law for life", emphasizing that the violence that people inflict on people and animals and the reasons for using this violence are the same. We participated in simultaneous actions across Turkey against abandoning the work on the Animal Rights Law and the work on legal infrastructure far from protecting the rights of animals.

# GENDER EQUALITY POLICIES ASSOCIATION

We took part in the advisory board of the Gender Equality Policies Association, which was established to carry out studies on the prevention of gender-based discrimination and violence in civil society. The association, which was established in January 2022 by carrying out preliminary preparations in 2021, is expected to carry out activities such as producing policies and content with the focus of preventive studies, capacity-building of non-governmental organizations in this context, and providing guidance and consultancy to the applicant institutions on processes and mechanisms.

# CEDAW 8th TERM REVIEW / SHADOW REPORT

As the components of the CEDAW Civil Society Executive Board, we contributed especially to the violence section of the report by preparing the 8th term shadow report on behalf of independent women's organizations, working together as in the combined 4-5th, 6th and 7th terms.

# **COOPERATIONS WITH MUNICIPALITIES**

We participated and contributed to the meeting titled "Child" within the scope of the SKEP (Sarıyer Municipality Strategic Plan) preparatory workshops, where Sarıyer Municipality brought together different stakeholders to plan the next 20 years. We asked whether there was a child safety policy or directive within the municipality, what kind of ways and methods they followed in case of possible abuse, and most importantly, what their protection policies were, and we reminded the importance of all these steps for local governments.

We participated in the IMM Sexual Violence Counseling Service Studies. As stated within the scope of the 2021-2024 Local Equality Action Plan of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, we participated in the activities initiated to open the Sexual Violence Crisis / Counseling Center and Station Shelter. We are included in the advisory board. We created the directive regarding the Working Procedures and Principles of the Sexual Violence Counseling Service with the participation of relevant non-governmental organizations and experts working in the field. We contributed to the creation of the Sexual Violence Counseling Service Personnel In-Service Training Program. We will continue this work in 2022 as well, which we started towards the end of 2021.

We participated in the IMM Women and Family Services Directorate / City Council meeting. We received information about the stage of establishment of units such as the Rape Crisis Center and shelters from IMM, and we carried out advocacy activities in order to make shelters inclusive for all women+.

We participated in the Fair, Equal, Rights-Based and Inclusive Istanbul Workshop organized by the Istanbul Planning Agency as part of the Vision 2050 Urban Situation Workshops, and talked about protective-preventive urban planning for sexual/sexualized violence in Istanbul.

We participated in **Kartal Municipality's panel on Combating Violence Against Women**. We listened to the speech of Şengül Altan Arslan, Deputy Secretary General of IMM, on how they created the Equality Action Plan and IMM Women's Support line, what they aim for in the future and how they are progressing towards this target. We reminded Şengül Altan Arslan of the importance of keeping the disaggregated data of the applications received from the IMM Women's Support Hotline and sharing it with the public.

# LEGAL ADVOCACY

We followed a court case by participating in the hearings of the child's qualified sexual abuse file, for which we requested intervention for strategic litigation and our request was accepted. The case continues.

We requested to be intervention on behalf of the Association in the dog sexual assault case in Bartin, Turkey and we started to follow the case. In the last session of the relevant file, our request for intervention was rejected by the local court. We objected to this rejection decision. We await the outcome of our appeal.

While the feminist group gathered in Kadıköy to defend their constitutional rights were dispersing to their homes after the assembly was over, the taxi in which the trans women were in was stopped by law enforcement officers and the trans women were detained. After this detention, an investigation was launched against trans women. We continue to follow this ongoing investigation file.

# MEDIA-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Since the day we were founded, through media-related activities we have been trying to realize the language transformation, which is one of the most important factors in the transformation of social perception. In 2021, we participated in workshops and conferences, conducted discussions, gave interviews and produced content for the benefit of media professionals.

We published the <u>Rights-Based Journalism</u> <u>about Sexual Violence Report</u>, as an outcome report of our workshops and awareness-raising campaigns intended for the media.

In a three-year period, we met with 919 people, 69 of whom are media professionals, at workshops in 23 sessions in 8 cities. About 3.5 million people were reached with the campaign Switch It!



"Visual Archive for Sexual Violence News" emerged as a project developed in line with the wishes of editors and journalists as a result of our work with the press. Roundtable meetings with women and LGBTI+ journalists to improve the archive continued this year as well. The number of photographers who are members of our website





csgorselarsiv.org has increased to 42 and the number of rights-based images has increased to 326. We observed the use of images on many high-traffic news sites and received positive feedback from journalists. We invite everyone to our archive who works for social change, takes photos, makes news, writes and draws.





We have started preparations to renew the oyledegilboyle.org site in order to provide media workers with information, tools and materials on the rights-based approach and gender equality approach in making news about sexual violence cases. In 2022, all sources used for rights-based news will be accessible on this site.

# Activities we participated in as part of the media-related activities

- "Pornography of Violence in the Media" presentation with Adnan Menderes Medical Students Association
- Interview with Lions on "What We See and Don't See about Gender Equality and Sexualized Violence in the Media"
- Açık Radyo Diğerkam Interview on Sexual Violence News
- Ege University Faculty of Communication
   Digital Communication Course "Rights-Based
   Journalism about Sexual Violence" Workshop
- Yeditepe University "Gender-Based Violence in the Media and Rights-Based Broadcasting" panel
- World Human Relief WHR "Rights Based Journalism About Sexual Violence" interview

- BirGün Newspaper "Rights Based Journalism About Sexual Violence" Workshop
- Kadir Has University "An Analysis of New Media and Cultural Experience Practices of Young People in Turkey" symposium "Sexual Violence and Media" presentation
- We held a workshop on Sexual Violence, Concepts and Methods for Prevention with GroupM employees, one of the largest media companies in Turkey.

### Participant:

Impact and Capacity of Turkey's Independent Media-IPI International Press Institute

"Let Women Tell Me: Media training participation in "Improving the Visibility of Women in the Media in Turkey" project.

# **CORPORATE COMMUNICATION**WORKS

We started Corporate Communication efforts within the scope of the Advocacy and Corporate Communication Program in our organizational structure, which changed in line with our institutionalization efforts in 2021. We gained the opportunity to implement the communication activities of the Association more effectively and efficiently by the participation of a Digital Media Specialist in our team. We started to produce Instagram Reels content in order to adapt to the rapidly changing content diversity of social media and to stay up to date. Thus, we increased our reach and interactions with people besides our followers.



# ⇒ DIGITAL ACTIVISM

# LGBTI+ Rights are Human Rights!

We declared our solidarity with all LGBTI+ students of Boğaziçi University regarding the hate speech and targeting campaign against LGBTI+ students and activists, and called on rights-based non-governmental organizations that advocate for democratic values to struggle against hate crime.



Photograph: Meltem Ulusoy / csgorselarsiv.org





We declared <u>our support</u> for the case when the trial on the perpetrators who attacked 30 sex worker, transvestite and trans women in Eryaman and then Esat and Kurtuluş districts of Ankara in 2006, risked the statute of limitations.



We have <u>reacted</u> to the sexualized violence committed on social media which has a body reductionist approach, makes people's bodies the object of discussion, is based on gender assigned by the feminine-masculine duality, blocks the feminist struggles of trans women and non-binary people and excludes them from discussion.

# Öz Savunma Cezalandırılamaz!

Kendisine fiziksel, psikolojik ve cinsel şiddet uygulayan faile karşı yaşam hakkını koruyan Çilem Doğan'a verilen 15 yıl hapis cezasının yargıtay tarafından onanmasını kabul etmiyoruz!

İstanbul Sözleşmesi'nden bir gece yarısı hukuksuzca çıkılmasından bu yana kadınların, LGBTİ+'ların, çocukların ve hayvanların yaşam haklarına yapılan saldırılar devam ediyor.

Bugün boşanmaya çalıştığı erkek tarafından sistematik şiddete maruz bırakılan, 9 kez koruma kararı aldıran, fakat devletin ısrarla korumadığı ve şiddetle mücadeledeki isteksizliğini gösterdiği bu davanın geldiği nokta erkek adaletin bir göstergesidir. Çilem Doğan'ın da dediği gibi bu kararla bütün kadınları hapsetmek istiyorsunuz.

Kadın+ cinayetlerinde takım elbise giydiği için erkek faillere ceza verilmezken yaşam hakkını savunmak zorunda kalan kadınlar cezalandırılıyor. Devlet bu kararlarla kadın+ların temel insan haklarına erişimini engelliyor.

Devletin korumadığı kadınlar, kendilerini koruduğu için cezalandırılamaz. Yaşama hakkımızdan ve hayatlarımızdan vazgeçmeyeceğiz!



We stood by self-defense and Çilem Doğan against the approval of the sentence to imprisonment to her. "Defending life is not a crime, **#ÇilemDoğan** cannot be imprisoned!" we stated.

# Ya basta! Edi bese! Artık yeter! Devleti temsil edenlere hatırlatıyoruz: Kullandığınız eril - cinsiyetçi dil ve üslupla cinselleştirilmiş şiddeti normalleştiriyorsunuz!

Mücadele Derneği

We have issued a statement against the statements of the officials representing the state that normalize sexual/sexualized violence and feed the culture of rape and hostility towards women and LGBTI+s. We urged those whose duty is to protect people to practice fundamental human rights.



On October 11th, the International Day of the Girl Child, we said that "Happy 11 October, the International Day of the Girl Child, for the days when we will not force children into gender categories through their professions, dreams, emotions, clothes..."



On December 10th, the **Human Rights Day**, we prepared a post together with the Disabled Women's Association to make the violence deepened by disability visible and to raise awareness.



On September 23th, the **Bi+sexual Visibility Day**, we prepared an awareness-raising content and declared that we stand with the bi+s against the systematic negative attitudes and oppression towards bi+s.



Reminding that both hate and hate crimes begin and become normalized within language, on November 20th, the **Transgender Day of Remembrance**, we expressed that we are against hate speech that justifies intervention in the lives of trans people and discrimination that escalates sexualized violence against trans people.

# LIVE BROADCAST: Istanbul Convention and Support System



We <u>talked</u> about questions and answers about "What would the support systems be like after sexual violence if the Istanbul Convention was effectively implemented?" with lawyer Burcu Uçuran.

What is the Support System? How does the Istanbul Convention set up support systems? How is the benefit of survivors of sexual violence safeguarded? Simultaneous sign language translation was also applied in the broadcast for accessible communication for the visibility of the Disabled Week and the persons with disabilities who were subjected to sexual violence.

# LIVE BROADCAST: "My Right to Ask for Support" Report



We <u>talked</u> about the "Human Rights Compliance of Support Units Report", which we prepared by combining the questions we asked to the public institutions on support systems after sexual violence and the experiences of survivors of sexual violence.

In the 8-month long study, nearly 60 national and international legislations, conventions, recommendations, action plans, and protocols were scanned and the compliance with international standards of the centralized and local governments in Istanbul and the Istanbul Bar Association was examined.

# ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

In line with the institutional capacity-building efforts we have been carrying out for several years until the middle of 2021, we created the Organizational Sustainability Program, which aims to increase both financial sustainability and employee satisfaction, and undertakes the task of supporting all programs.

Along with these efforts, we realized that there was a need for new human-resource allocation. Thus, a Digital Media Specialist, a Financial Specialist and a Human Resources Specialist joined our team.

Within the scope of institutionalization, we took human resources consultancy and made job analyzes of all employees; we determined new job descriptions and the organizational chart. Simultaneously, we restructured the employees' personnel archive.

# CAPACITY-BUILDING TRAININGS



We worked together with the **Şiddetsizlik Merkezi (Nonviolent Education and Research Center)** by holding workshops on non-violent organization, non-violent communication, productive meeting, non-violent feedback and egalitarian decision making.

- Under the title of Toplumsal Cinsiyet Konuşmaları (Gender Conversations), we held three seminars respectively titled as "Transfeminism Manifesto, Equality and Diversity", "Non-binary / non-duality, Intersections and Inclusiveness", "Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminism and Current Controversies in Transfeminism" to discuss those issues together.
- We received strategic planning training from Haklara Destek (Institutional Support for Human Rights Programme).
- ⇒ With the **Digital Protection** training, we took action to ensure that the entire team can safely use their digital tools.

- We started our efforts to make the activities of the Association more accessible by holding Accessibility Workshops consisting of 2 sessions with İdil Seda Ak from Engelli Kadın Derneği (The Disabled Women's Association). In the first session, we talked about the history of disability activism and the perception of disability; in the second session, we discussed how we can make accessible and inclusive work. We've prepared a facilitating guide to make our work accessible in 2022.
- ⇒ Our Digital Media Specialist received video **production training** to adapt to the changing content forms of social media.

# HAKLARA DESTEK (INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME)- ORGANIZATIONAL MENTORING PROGRAM

- ⇒ In 2021, we continued the Support for Rights program, which was realized in cooperation with Hakikat Adalet ve Hafıza Çalışmaları Derneği (Hafıza Merkezi) and the EU Delegation to Turkey, which we were entitled to participate in between July 2020 and July 2021, by receiving human resources expert support for the strengthening and development of the institutional structure.
- Within the scope of the program, we carried out work to facilitate accountability, such as reshaping the budget structure, arranging procedures and forms, reorganizing the accounting infrastructure, with a finance expert.
- ⇒ In addition to the human resources expertise support, 5 nonviolence trainings to strengthen the organizational structure were held within the scope of this project.



- ⇒ Support system, referral system, team empower
  - ment and development, the need for our Social Worker's supervision, and website maintenance and add-ons; government incentive consultancy expenditures and various translation needs were fulfilled within the scope of the project.
- ⇒ With the support of experienced and informed experts, the capacity of the organization was strengthened, the need for human resources was determined with the devoted work of our guide Bilge Taş, preparations were made for two new positions, and job descriptions were reshaped with the understanding of fair division of labor. The Support for Rights Programme provided great convenience in solving the problems that CŞMD experienced or may experience during its institutional development and transformation.

# **POLICY TEXTS**

We have prepared our <u>Child Safety Policy and Procedure Document</u> and put it into effect in November 2021 to ensure that the political arguments we produce as an Association, the services we provide and the representation of children and youth in the media we use do not and will not pose any risk to children and that there are reporting mechanisms that can intervene in case of any risk/damage that may arise or be observed during the implementations, without increasing the damage.



### SIDA

In 2021, our activities began to be supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). Within the scope of the project that will last until the end of 2023, we carry out our work under 4 main program titles (Empowerment and Support, Transformation and Prevention, Advocacy and Corporate Communication, Organizational Sustainability). In the project, where we aim to reduce sexual and sexualized violence and the their damages, survivors of sexual violence can benefit more from their rights and have more access to support and services. Protective efforts to prevent sexual violence before its emergence were increased. While doing all this, as the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence, we carried out studies on corporate communication, capacity-building, advocacy and networking in order to ensure the sustainability of our corporate structure.

# **GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Ordinary General Assembly meeting, which we could not hold for about a year due to the restrictions of the COV-ID-19 pandemic, was held on September 17, 2021 at the Association's office with the participation of our 23 members. At the meeting, five permanent and five substitute members were elected to the new Board of C\$MD. The permanent members of the new term Board were determined as Hazal Sipahi, Semih Özkarakaş, Bilge Taş, Arzu Aydoğan and Şevval Kılıç.

# STRATEGIC PLANNING CAMP

We reviewed the activities of 2021 in the Strategic Planning Camp, which we organized by taking pandemic measures in Karaburun in September, and we carried out activities for the 2022 planning. In the camp, the sessions were held on the 2021 Strategic Plan self-assessment, the duties and responsibilities of the General Coordinator and the Board, the Child Safety Policy Document and Directive, the 2022 Risk Assessment, the financial procedure, and the hybrid working system during the pandemic. 2020-2021 Financial Situation presentation and 2022 budget planning were made.

A two-day game workshop was held in order to re-discover the ways of communicating through the concept of "game" with the team of the Association, who have been away due to the pandemic and have reduced ability to embody in the digital work environment.







In addition, yoga, meditation and self-massage sessions were held as part of the camp program to contribute to the well-being of the team.

The one-week long strategy planning camp ended with a camp evaluation.



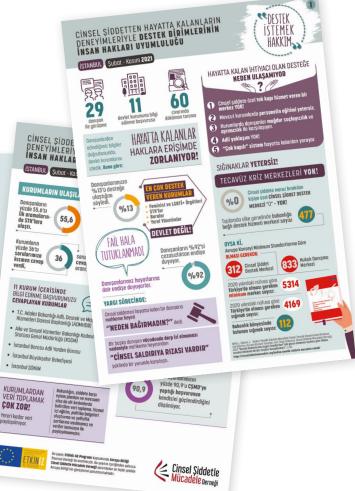
# I Have a Right to Ask for Support: A Report on Sexual Violence Survivors' Experiences and Human Rights Compliance of Support Units



We prepared the "I Have the Right to Ask for Support" report, which emerged as a result of the experiences of 29 applicants who seeked support from the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence, and the information requests made to 11 relevant institutions, within the scope of evidence-based advocacy with the support of the ETKINIZ EU Program. During the 8-month long study, we carried out indicator studies with 7 NGOs. We scanned nearly 60 national and international legislations, conventions, recommendations, action plans, and protocols. In the report, we have included the difficulties experienced by the applicants in reaching the institutions, their experiences and the violations of their rights, in their own words.

We have published an <u>infographic leaflet</u> and <u>infographic video</u> through the remarkable data from the report.





# Combating Violence Against Women: Minimum Standards for Support Services

"Combating Violence Against Women: Minimum Standards for Support Services" published by the Council of Europe in 2008 was translated into Turkish and prepared by our Association with the support of the ETKINIZ EU Program. The book, which includes holistic service delivery to people exposed to gender-based violence, inclusive principles to be determined while establishing minimum standards, and legally binding and non-binding international obligations, is a guide for those working in the field and service providers. We hope that this study will be a useful resource for minimum standards, scope and limits, basic principles and practices for support services in our country, where support services are mostly not offered through a single door system.



# Rights Based Journalism About Sexual Violence Report

We published the <u>Rights Based Journalism About</u>
<u>Sexual Violence Report</u>, in which we share the results of the "Rights Based Journalism About Sexual Violence" workshops and the "Switch It!" campaign that we conducted between 2017-2019.

As the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence, we aim to contribute to the adoption of a non-violent and rights-based approach in media production, to increase social awareness and to spread the culture of consent, by saying #ÖyleDeğilBöyle (Switch It!).

We continue our efforts to encourage the media to question false beliefs and stereotypes by reviewing their commitment to ethical principles in their production, to set an example for the society and to be a part of social transformation.



# Responsibilities Of Adults In Struggle Against Sexual Abuse and Children's Bodily Autonomy

We have published the booklet Responsibilities Of Adults In Struggle Against Sexual Abuse and Children's Bodily Autonomy in Turkish and English, which we have prepared in order to provide a holistic perspective on our, as adults, perception of children and children's bodies, our approach to sexual abuse and what we can do to struggle against abuse within the scope of the Children's Bodily Autonomy Dissemination Program.





# We Talk About the Istanbul Convention Podcast Series

We started the podcast series "We Talk About the Istanbul Convention" after the decision was made to withdraw illegally by a midnight decree from the Istanbul Convention, to which Turkey was a party.

In the 4 episodes we prepared as part of the series, we talked about the Istanbul Convention under the titles of "Protection Against Violence", "Post-Sexual Violence Support Systems", "Gender and Inclusion" and "LGB-TI+'s Access to the Support System".



# İstanbul Sözleşmesi Nedir? #İstanbulSözleşmesiYaşatır



Photograph: Hale Güzin Kızılaslan / csgorselarsiv.org

# Istanbul Convention and Gender Concepts

After Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention with a midnight decree, we prepared two articles to inform the public about the <u>Istanbul Convention</u> and the <u>Concepts of Gender</u>. We have compiled the importance of the internationally binding Istanbul Convention in post-violence support systems and in the prevention of violence, the duties of the state and the consequences of withdrawal from the Convention.

In the article where we explained the concepts of gender, we talked about the inequality caused by the binary gender system and the gender-based violence (sexualized violence) it causes.

# ACTIVITIES



We attended the Role of Civil Society in Combating Digital Violence webinar organized by the Social Information and Communication Association.

- We held workshops on "Basic Concepts of Sexual Violence" and "Support System" with the Queer Cyprus Association.
- We held a "Basic Concepts of Sexual Violence" workshop with Positive Solidarity organization.
- ⇒ We held an open lecture on "Sexualized Violence" with Boğaziçi University students.
  - ⇒ As a guest of CISU Platform that we are a part of and the Medyascope channel, we talked about <u>post-sexual</u> <u>violence support services in Turkey</u>.



- → We held a "Basic Concepts of Sexual Violence" workshop with the Turkish Psychology Students Working Group.
- On 17-18th of June, we participated in the forum "What are we watching during the pandemic?" within the scope of the <a href="ETKINIZ EU">ETKINIZ EU</a> program.

Some of our interviews with various media institutions and news about us in 2021...



Kaos GL / 11 January 2021



Medyascope / 28 May 2021



bianet / 18 January 2021



Gazete Kadıköy / 8 July 2021



BirGün / 10 March 2021



Çatlak Zemin / 24 November 2021





bianet / 3 Agust 2021



Kaos GL / 22 October 2021



Yeşil Gazete / 15 December 2021



Sivil Alan / 27 November 2021





## THE SIGRID RAUSING TRUST





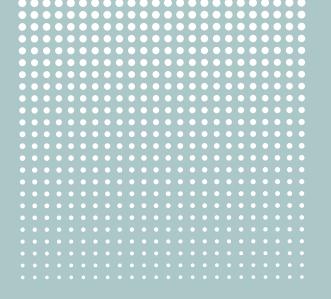


# FOR THE PROJECT



We would like to thank our supporters for their contribution to our work in 2021.







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