

WHERE IS THE  
**SUPPORT SYSTEM?**  
AFTER SEXUAL VIOLENCE

LEGAL INFORMATION

**ON ONLINE**

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE**





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This brochure contains a variety of information about sexual violence, which may evoke memories of violence or have various effects on us. If we notice this, we can try to relax by taking deep and slow breaths, stopping reading and resuming when we feel ready.

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## 1- Introduction: Online Violence and the Role of Digital Tools

The rapid development of technology, digital communications and social media tools has paved the way for the violent behaviors we encounter in daily life to also become widespread in digital environments. This situation has increased the scope, nature and frequency of digital violence, and factors such as the ability to hide user identities on social media platforms, the capacity of posts to reach large masses, and untraceable forms of circulation in this process have deepened the negative effects of unlawful behaviors on those who face them. Therefore, such behaviors in the digital domain have become a new form of violence in the literature.

Digital/online violence is the set of actions in which technological tools and/or social media are used to oppress and control and which cause emotional, social and economic damage to the person subjected to it. As of yet, there is no agreed terminology in the literature to define this set of actions. Definitions such as digital violence, online violence, cyber violence, etc. can be used. However, they all mean the same thing in terms of violent behaviors and consequences. In this text, we will use the term online violence since we will be talking about violence that occurs not only through digital tools, but especially in online internet environments and applications, and the legal steps that can be taken against them.

The effects of online violence can persist for long periods as content shared on digital and social media cannot be completely removed, deleted or because it is impossible to trace the data shared. This brings with it the

possibility that the violence experienced by the survivor may recur. However, as with any violent behavior, violence is a crime with a perpetrator, and this crime has a legal counterpart. At this point, getting legal support is one of the important steps we can take.

Online violent behaviours can take the form of intimidation, annoyance, provocation, harassment, slander, defamation, exposure and ostracisation. Online violence can be one of these behaviors, or it can occur through multiple behaviors and in combination with other forms of violence. For example, sharing a private photo with sexual content without consent is both online and sexual violence.

According to the 2022 Impact Assessment Report of Post-Sexual Violence Support Activities prepared by our association, the most common type of violence to which the clients who reached our support line were exposed was online sexual violence. Both the increase in this rate compared to previous years and the fact that online sexual violence is not directly stipulated in the law made it necessary for us to prepare this information note.

## 2- Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is defined as any act, behaviour or intervention against a person's physical and/or sexual integrity, including attempts and threats to engage in an unwanted sexual behaviour done without consent<sup>1</sup>, by constructing consent, or in situations where consent cannot be obtained. Behaviours targeting a person's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression; interventions that threaten sexual health, prevention of access to medication and services related to reproductive health, or forced operations on gender identity are also within the scope of the definition of sexual violence. Sexual violence can also take place through intimidation, blackmail and other threatening behaviours. Therefore, sexual violence can be an actual act, as well as attempted or threatened acts and behaviours that have not yet taken place.

<sup>1</sup> For more detailed information, see: Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence, tabukamu, Consent and Consent Construction in Sexual Behavior (in Turkish) <https://www.tabukamu.com/cinsel-davranislarda-ony>



### 3- Online Sexual Violence

Online sexual violence is defined as sexually explicit, aggressive, degrading or intimidating behaviors that target individuals through digital communication channels and that the individual is exposed to against their will.

Examples of online sexual violence include forcing to take sexually explicit photos or videos, sharing and/or threatening to share sexually explicit messages with other people without consent, forcing to consume sexual content through digital tools against one's will, non-consensual actions against the presence or absence of one's gender identity, sexual orientation and sexual practices through social media, etc.

Social media platforms facilitate the perpetration of acts of online sexual violence and constitute one of the factors that increase impunity, as they allow individuals to easily hide their identity and create fake accounts to make themselves appear different from who they are.

Due to the absence of a direct legal regulation on this form of violence in the Turkish Penal Code, there is no established complaint and prosecution mechanism. However, the Istanbul Convention, which Turkey annulled by Presidential Decree in 2021, imposed obligations on state parties to define each form of crime in national laws and to take measures to prevent violence, and one of the types of crimes listed in the Convention was online violence. However, after the signing of the Istanbul Convention, Turkey did not explicitly define online violence in the laws or amendments to the law and did not develop preventive measures to address it.

Still, there is more than one criminal offense that can be reported during the investigation and prosecution phase. Depending on the nature of the act committed, one or more of these criminal regulations may concurrently be at issue. The types of crimes that can be reported relating to online violence are as follows:

Torment (Turkish Penal Code Article 96)  
Sexual Harassment (TPC Art. 105)  
Threat (TPC Art. 106)  
Blackmail (TPC Art. 107)  
Disturbing the Peace and Tranquillity of Persons (TPC Art. 123)  
Persistent Stalking (TPC Art. 123/A)  
Insult (TPC Art. 125)  
Offence of Violation of Confidentiality of Communication (TPC Art. 132)  
Violation of the Privacy of Private Life (TPC Art. 134)  
Recording of Personal Data (TPC Art. 135)  
Illegally Giving or Obtaining Data (TPC Art. 136)  
The Offence of Entering the Information System (TPC Art. 243)  
Producing and Sharing Fake Sexual Content Images with DeepFake Technology

## 4- Types of Offences Related to Online Sexual Violence

### **Torment (TPC Art. 96)**

Anyone who acts in a way that causes a person to suffer persecution shall be punished according to this article of law. In 2022, with the amendment made to the Turkish Penal Code, a minimum sentencing limit was determined in terms of the penalty to be imposed for committing this crime against women.

The act of violence is not clearly defined for this type of crime. However, according to the justification of the law, acts that are incompatible with human dignity and that will cause physical and mental suffering and degradation of a person are defined as torment. The legal interest protected in the crime of torture is the dignity, material and spiritual body integrity of a person. Because these acts may also have the characteristics of insult, threat and sexual harassment. In terms of acts of online sexual violence, it is clear that the violence causes the person to suffer, and attacks the person's dignity, material and moral integrity, and that its effect lasts for a long time, and even for a lifetime. For this reason, we can mention that the crime of torment has occurred when making a complaint.

### **Sexual Harassment (TPC Art. 105)**

A person who harasses another person with sexual intentions is punishable under this law. This act of harassment can take place physically as well as online, and through social media tools. For this reason, the law stipulates that the penalty should be increased if this act of violence is committed by taking advantage of the convenience provided by mail or electronic communication tools.

Sexually explicit expressions, signs, proposals, exposing the naked body, sexually themed audio recordings, visuals, photos of genitals, videos or actions exhibited during video calls, sent to the person against their consent via social media or digital devices, all result in the crime of sexual harassment occurring.

### **Threat (TPC Art. 106)**

A person who threatens another person with the bet that they will carry out an attack on their life, body or sexual immunity or the life, body or sexual immunity of themselves or their relatives shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of this law. In the regulation of this crime, with the legal amendment made in 2022, a minimum sentencing limit has been set in terms of the penalty to be imposed if the crime is committed against women.

Online sexual violence acts such as taking or receiving sexually explicit images of a person through threats, threatening to share these images with others on the internet, social networks or private messaging constitute the crime of threat.

### **Blackmail (TPC Art. 107)**

Although blackmail is similar to the crime of threat, it is a crime with more severe consequences and effects. In terms of online sexual violence, the crime of blackmail can be committed by threatening to disclose or attribute matters that will damage a person's honor or dignity. The behavior must take place with the aim of obtaining a benefit from the person and in the form of coercion that will affect their will.

For example; demanding money from a person on the pretext that their private photographs or video images will be exposed or shared on social media, forcing the party who wants to end the relationship to continue the

relationship because of the threat that their private images will be spread and shared by the other party, forcing the person to have sexual intercourse with the threat that their private images will be spread are the acts of committing the crime of online sexual violence through blackmail. At the same time, this crime is also committed by making threats such as "... if you do not meet with me, I will tell your family that you are a lesbian, if you divorce me, you will never see your children again, I will tell your children that you are a sex worker...".

It can be said that there are three stages in relation to the crime of blackmail committed by using sexually explicit images.<sup>2</sup> These are;

- 1- Consensual or non-consensual acquisition of a sexually explicit image,
- 2- The threat of sharing the sexually explicit image with third parties if the victim does not do what is requested (blackmail) and
- 3- In case the requested action is not taken, sexually explicit images are shared with third parties.

Regarding these stages, the first thing to be noted in terms of criminal responsibility is the act of obtaining the images and the threat of dissemination of these images (blackmail) or the actual sharing ( distribution) of these images in case the victim does not do what is requested are different acts. In this case, the perpetrator will be punished separately for these potential crimes in accordance with the real cumulative punishment.

### **Disturbing an Individuals' Peace and Harmony (TPC Art. 123)**

If a person is persistently subjected to another unlawful act with the sole purpose of disturbing their peace and tranquility, the person shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of this article. This behavior interferes with the person's private and social life and deprives the person of their peace of mind, freedom of decision-making and freedom of action.

<sup>2</sup> Mehmet Emre Yıldız, Criminal Liability Arising from the Methods of Digital Dating Violence in the Light of the Court of Cassation Decisions, (in Turkish) <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/download/article-file/2606124>

Often this behavior becomes invisible within other crimes and its investigation or prosecution is ignored.

For example, if a person is subjected to sexual harassment by insistent phone calls or texts, the crime of sexual harassment comes into play and the allegation of disturbing peace and tranquility is not taken into consideration. At the same time, for this crime to occur, the behavior must continue for a certain period of time. However, there is no clear determination as to how long this period should be, it is evaluated according to the concrete case.

Continuously calling or texting the person for sexual purposes, forcing the person to continuously text, report location or send photos, insisting on communicating even though the person states that they do not want to communicate or does not respond are situations which constitute this crime.

### **Persistent Pursuit (TPC Art. 123/A)**

The crime of persistent pursuit was regulated as a specific appearance of the crime of disturbing the peace and tranquility of persons with the amendment made to the Turkish Criminal Code in 2022. It was regulated in the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of the Family and the Prevention of Violence against Women, which was prepared as an achievement of the Istanbul Convention, and later found an application area in the Turkish Penal Code.

According to the article, the crime of persistent pursuit occurs when "Serious unease to a person or worries about the safety of themselves or one of their relatives is caused by persistently following physically or trying to contact by using communication tools, information systems, or third parties."

The imposed penalty is increased if this offense is committed against a child, a spouse who has been granted a separation order or is divorced, or if it is committed in a way that requires the victim to change their school, workplace or residence or to leave their school or work.

It does not matter what purpose is intended for the perpetration of this crime or whether there is any purpose at all. It is sufficient that the person feels serious discomfort or is concerned about their or their relatives' safety. As such, the repetition of the behavior with a certain persistence will constitute the crime committed.

For example, persistently disturbing the person by phone or other informatics tools or repeatedly subjecting the person to sexual harassment through these tools is the commission of the crime of persistent pursuit in the form of online sexual violence.

### **Insult (TPC Art. 125)**

A person who imputes a concrete act or fact that may offend the honor, honor and dignity of a person or who attacks the honor, honor and dignity of a person by swearing shall be sentenced to a penalty in accordance with the provisions of this law. If this behavior is committed through audio, written or video communication, i.e. using online tools, punishment is imposed in the same way.

Recently, there has been an increase in the commission of this crime by taking advantage of the convenience provided by online tools. It is observed that especially women and LGBTI+ persons are subjected to this violent behavior through their gender identities. For example, exposing people to insults directed at their sexual orientation, gender identity or sexuality practices on social media, using expressions such as "sl\*\*, son of a b\*\*\*\*..." with the purpose of belittling people is the online perpetration of the crime of insult and is online sexual violence.

## **Breaching the Confidentiality of Communication (TPC Art. 132)**

Anyone who violates the confidentiality of communication between persons or discloses it unlawfully without the consent of the other party shall be punished by this provision of law. The penalty is increased if this breach of confidentiality occurs by recording the contents of the communication.

For example; recording correspondence, images or phone calls of sexual content between individuals, exposing or sharing these contents without the consent of the other party is the crime of violating the confidentiality of communication in the form of online sexual violence.

## **Violation of Privacy (TPC Art. 134)**

According to the Turkish Penal Code, anyone who violates the privacy of a person's private life is punished with imprisonment. The penalty is increased if this action is carried out by taking video or audio recordings or exposing them illegally. For example; placing an audio/video recording device in a person's home and sharing this data, disclosing or threatening to disclose sexually explicit messages, photographs and voices sent to the person, disseminating the phone number of the person through social media applications against their will, etc. cause violation of the right to privacy.

According to the Turkish Penal Code, depending on the way the images are obtained, different types of crimes may be brought to the agenda along with the violation of the right to privacy. Sexually explicit images may have been obtained or possessed by the perpetrator in various ways. These images may have been recorded with the consent of the person or sent to the perpetrator intentionally, or they may have been obtained by deceiving the victim, recorded secretly without consent, or obtained by interfering with the victim's information systems, that is, through information crimes.

While a consent for the recording of sexually explicit images may be for



the production or possession of these images, it does not include sharing these images with third parties, so the perpetrator's act will not be in accordance with the law if the images in question are shared. For this reason, the offense of violation of the right to privacy occurs in the event that the sexually explicit images obtained or produced, even if they were obtained with the consent of the person, are shared with third parties.

**Private life** does not only consist of a person's life and privacy out of sight, not shared with others, behind closed doors, between four walls, but also includes all events and information that are completely private, that not everyone knows or should not know, that can be disclosed to other people when requested. Therefore, being in a public place does not mean that the person in the public place consents to the interception, monitoring, recording, continuous and unauthorized possession of every image or sound of the person in this place.

Even when the person is in a public place, the principle of "inconspicuousness, unrecognizability and anonymity in the crowd" is valid, and the information obtained as a result of continuous supervision and surveillance of the person in the public place in order to determine matters like what the person does during the day, where they go, who they meet with, why, how, where and when, or their activities that they would not want to be seen and known by others and that there is no doubt that they fall into the private life area are included in the scope of private life. For this reason, taking unauthorized images of people even in public space for the purpose of using and disseminating them for sexual purposes is an example of the crime of online sexual violence and constitutes the crime of violation of the privacy of private life.

If this offense is committed by a public official and by abusing the authority granted by their office or by taking advantage of the convenience provided by a certain profession or art, the penalty shall be increased by an additional half of the penalty specified in the law.

### **Recording of Personal Data (TPC Art.135)**

This offense occurs when personal data is illegally recorded. In addition, the penalty to be imposed in accordance with the first paragraph is increased if these data are unlawfully related to the political, philosophical or religious views, racial origins, moral tendencies, **sexual life, health status** or trade union affiliations of persons.

Today, many public and private institutions record and use personal data. The recording and use of these data by persons who have access to them by exceeding the limits of authorization constitute the subject of this crime.

It is important that the recorded data is personal data. As an example; since the nude images of a person are considered personal data, the crime of recording personal data also occurs here, but since the violation of the privacy of private life has also occurred, a combined crime occurs.

However, if a person's gender identity, sexual orientation or HIV status is recorded, it can be mentioned that personal data is recorded unlawfully, and this crime occurs.

### **Illegally Obtaining or Giving Data (TPC Art. 136)**

This crime occurs when the personal data of another person is unlawfully obtained, given to another person or distributed, and the person who commits this behavior is punished. One of the ways this crime is committed is to open social media accounts on the internet on behalf of individuals and post on their behalf.

This crime is often committed through social media accounts opened in the name of individuals, in a way that causes them to be unlawfully targeted or subjected to online violence. For example; sharing a person's phone number or private photos from fake social media accounts opened, creating

an impression that will affect the person's daily life by making fake and sexually explicit private correspondence from these accounts... In an old decision of the Court of Appeals, the Court of Appeals ruled that opening a fake social media account on behalf of someone else and sharing sexually explicit messages from this account constitutes both unlawful seizure of personal data and the crime of defamation.<sup>3</sup>

### **Accessing a Data Processing System (TPC Art. 243)**

Deepfake is the creation of a fake or manipulated video or audio recording, usually using artificial intelligence or machine techniques. This technology takes a person's image or voice and uses it in another context, often in a realistic way. Recently, this technology has been used for non-consensual pornographic/sexually explicit images by digitally superimposing a person's face onto another face. The development of technology day by day causes both the spread of this unlawful act and the creation of video and audio recordings that are increasingly difficult to refute.

In this situation, which is not yet regulated as a crime in Turkish Law, determining the punishment is becoming increasingly important every day. Creating these images or sound recordings or the sharing of these recordings on the internet will be subject to different legal evaluations.

For example, a determination should be made regarding the way the photographs/images used in the videos created with DeepFake technology were obtained. If these photographs were obtained without consent, unlawfully, the crime of violation of the right to privacy may be mentioned. However, the use of photographs that the person has previously published with their own consent brings about the discussion of the crime of unlawful provision or acquisition of personal data. It can also be considered that the crime of defamation may also occur since the photographs and voice recordings of the person "taking part in a sexually explicit image" will be an act that

<sup>3</sup> For detailed information see: <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/download/article-file/2606124>

constitutes an attack on the honor and dignity of the person against this person.

However, it should be kept in mind that since there is no legal regulation in the Turkish Penal Code or other laws regarding this technology and the acts it brings with it, it would be most appropriate to make an evaluation according to the concrete case.

## 5- Available Mechanisms to Apply

After being subjected to online sexual violence, it is common for the person to not want to file a complaint due to the situation they are in, to be afraid of filing a complaint or to worry that they will not be believed. The person may feel lonely and guilty for this reason. Most of the time, the perpetrators aim to create this anxiety in order to force the person into social isolation and to dominate the person through isolation. However, it must be remembered that violence is always the perpetrator's fault. Even if we do not take action, as survivors of sexual violence, we should know that there are mechanisms that we can apply to and seek support in the face of violence. We should remember that we can use legal mechanisms and that we are not alone in this process.

If you decide to file a complaint, you can go to the nearest police station and ask the law enforcement officers or the Domestic and Violence Against Women Units in the courthouses to issue a restraining order and a protection injunction based on the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of the Family and Prevention of Violence Against Women.

Within the scope of Law No. 6284, an injunction refers to the decisions to be taken by judges, law enforcement officers and local authorities, upon request or ex officio, for the protection of women, children, family members and victims of unilateral stalking who are subjected to violence. A restraining order is one of the protection measures that a person can request according to Law No. 6284 in order to be protected. In addition, the relevant law provides rights such as the right to shelter, temporary (close) protection, change of identity, concealment of address and personal information,

surrender of the perpetrator of violence to the police, temporary custody, precautionary alimony, temporary financial aid, family residence annotation, general health insurance to persons who have been subjected to violence or are in danger of being subjected to violence. For more detailed information, you can review Law No. 6284 or the information note we have prepared on this subject.

When the decision to make a complaint is made, the person can go to the nearest police station with the evidence in their possession and give their statement to the law enforcement officers or to the prosecutor on duty at the courthouse and file a complaint. What is important in this process is to present evidence that can prove the allegations and ensure that the perpetrator is punished. Although the evidence phase differs for each crime and act, all kinds of audio recordings, images of messaging screens, videos, photographs, sound recordings, documents, etc., as well as testimonies of the act of violence can be presented as evidence to prove the act of violence.

Although unauthorized audio or video recordings are considered unlawful evidence, in some cases, evidence may become lawful when it is not possible to provide other evidence to prove the crime. For this reason, it is important that any evidence available to prove guilt or innocence is submitted to the file.

You can also file a complaint **in cases where you do not have any evidence or evidence has been destroyed**. As per Law No. 6284, there is no obligation to submit evidence or documents during the complaint. However, in practice, there are instances where this is requested and the protection measure is not issued in the absence of evidence.

When you apply to the police station, the relevant officer takes your statement and evidence, if any, but in order for the law enforcement officer to

make this decision, there must be a high degree of urgency and a situation that is inconvenient in delay. If these conditions exist, the law enforcement officer submits the document to the judge for approval no later than the first working day following the date of the decision. Measures not approved by the judge within twenty-four hours shall be deemed to have been rejected. As a result, it is an exception for the chief law enforcement officer to issue a protection measure decision.

For this reason, it may be in your best interest in the legal process to go to the courthouse in person and submit your complaint and request to the Domestic and Violence Against Women Units, together with your evidence, if any. The request is evaluated and decided by the Family Court Judge. Protection orders can be issued for a maximum of 6 months, and if you want the protection order to continue, you need to make a request again close to the end of the given period.

If you are under the age of 18, the specially established Children's Bureau will refer you to the necessary units. If you want to receive judicial support, you can go to the nearest police station. In this case, after determining your age, you will be referred to the Child Bureau or Child Monitoring Center. A lawyer will be assigned to you without your request and the necessary protection measures will be taken in line with your statements with the decision of the prosecutor's office.

If you do not have the financial means to afford a lawyer, you can go to the bar association in your city and get support from the boards and commissions that work on victims of violence or women's rights. **You can request a lawyer at every stage of the criminal proceedings (police station, prosecutor's office, court).** When the conditions are appropriate, you will be assigned a lawyer whose fees are covered by the Ministry of Justice. This is called a criminal procedure lawyer appointment. You can also seek support from non-governmental organizations working on violence.

## 6- Conclusion and Supporting Resources

With this factsheet, we aimed to help individuals who have been subjected to violence to learn about their rights and find the support they need in the process of protecting their rights. The pursuit of justice is an important process that enables individuals to feel safe and to find compensation for the violence they have experienced; however, knowing and being aware of our rights at the beginning of this process gives us resilience and strength. In all forms of violence, especially in public health issues like sexual violence, having awareness and knowing the support mechanisms supports both the physical and emotional healing process.

Through this information note, we would like to remind survivors of sexual violence that they are not alone, that their rights are protected, and that there are various legal and social support mechanisms they can turn to if needed. In the struggle against violence, we grow stronger as we take steps to defend our rights. Knowing that you are not alone in this process is one of the most important supports in the struggle.

It should not be forgotten that the experiences you are going through as survivors of sexual violence were not our fault and is under the responsibility of the perpetrator of violence. As we take steps along this path, we have the right to demand your rights, request protection measures and seek support. The legal process can be complex and challenging, but with professionals, lawyers and civil society organizations on your side, we can navigate it together.

Sexual violence is a public health issue that we must tackle together as a society. We listen to the voices of survivors, we believe in them and we emphasize again: We are stronger together, we are not alone.



## **EMERGENCY SUPPORT HOTLINES THAT CAN BE REACHED IN CASES OF VIOLENCE ACROSS TURKEY**

**ALO 112** Emergency call center (can be called 24/7 for all kinds of violence)

**ALO 183** Family, Women, Children and Disabled Social Counseling Line  
(Face-to-face service can be received at centers)

**ALO 157** Victims of Human Trafficking Emergency Assistance and Notification Line

**Mor Çatı Women's Shelter Foundation Counseling Center:** 0212 292 52 31  
(weekdays between 10:00-16:30)

**Domestic Violence Emergency Hotline:** 0212 656 96 96 - 0549 656 96 96

**Women's Assemblies Hotline:** 0212 912 42 43

**WhatsApp hotline:** 0505 004 11 98 - available 24/7

**SPOD LGBTI+ Counseling Hotline:** 0850 888 5428 (Available between 12.00-18.00 except public holidays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays)

**Federation of Women's Associations of Turkey Emergency Hotline:**  
0212 656 96 96 - 0549 656 96 96

**Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Women Support Line 24/7:** 444 80 86

**KAMER Foundation 7/24:** 0530 664 44 10

**TO [City/District] THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR**

**COMPLAINANT:** Name-Surname (National/Foreigner ID Number in Turkey, if not Passport No)  
Address and Phone Number

The complainant should write their name, surname, and residential address as stated in their identification under the “COMPLAINANT” section.

**ACCUSED PERSON(S):** If the perpetrator is known:  
Name-Surname (National ID Number, if available)  
Address (Must be provided if known)  
Phone Number (Must be provided if known)  
  
If the perpetrator is unknown:  
UNKNOWN PERPETRATOR

**OFFENSES:** List the offense(s) believed to have been committed. For example: Threat (Article 106 of the Turkish Penal Code) Violation of Privacy (Article 134 of the Turkish Penal Code)

**DATE OF THE OFFENSE(S):** xx.xx.202x and any other dates if applicable.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

This section should summarize the incident(s), including the individuals involved and relevant dates, and list the alleged offenses in chronological order. You may describe the events in as much detail and length as desired.

**LEGAL BASIS:** Turkish Penal Code and relevant legislation.

**EVIDENCE:** Include any evidence in your possession, such as written, visual, or audio materials, screenshots of messages, relevant website addresses, identified IP addresses, witnesses, and other supporting evidence.

**REQUEST:** Based on the reasons explained above and other considerations to be evaluated ex officio, I respectfully request the initiation of an investigation into the matter, the collection of relevant evidence, the prosecution of the accused for the offenses and the appointment of a legal counsel to assist me during the investigation process. Date of Submission: ....../....../202..

Complainant  
Name-Surname  
(Signature)

**\*\*ENCLOSURES:\*\***

[List any attached documents, e.g., copies of ID, evidence, witness statements.]


This petition should be printed in Turkish, signed, and submitted to the relevant Public Prosecutor’s Office in Turkey. It’s often helpful to consult a lawyer for legal advice to strengthen your complaint and ensure compliance with procedural rules.


\* If the perpetrator is known, the judiciary of their place of residence or where the incident occurred should be specified.






Association for  
**Struggle** against  
**Sexual Violence**

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