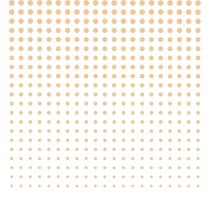








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ASSOCIATION FOR STRUGGLE AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE **2024** ACTIVITY REPORT

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Hello,

The year 2024 was marked by staggering developments for civil society. It was a year of elections across the globe, and nearly half of the world's population attempted to exercise their right to vote under the weight of large-scale disinformation and manipulation. We witnessed public resources being funneled not toward the common good, but instead to deepen social polarization and to violate fundamental rights that are meant to protect all, through judicial means and lawlessness. While wars raged on in the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and the Caucasus; leadership changes took place, and economic crises and inequalities not only fueled crime and violence but also entrenched them structurally, and they became part of everyday life as seen in countries like Türkiye. Human rights and public values suffered further erosion, both in rhetoric and policy. Discussions on societal decay became more prevalent. Civil society, which is precisely the force striving to counteract this deterioration, faced increasing suppression to silence its voice. As the year ended, Trump's victory in the U.S. elections emboldened authoritarian governments and opponents of gender equality, while dealing yet another blow to rights defenders, inclusive civil society, and democratization.

In Türkiye, we experienced a 2024 shaped by local elections, a sharp decline in purchasing power and currency value, successive government-appointed trustees taking over municipalities, growing public disillusionment with political parties and politicians, and a judiciary in which no one has faith in its independence anymore. More activities, human rights defenders, journalists, and politicians were detained, alongside people giving street interviews or sharing their opinions on social media. Too many people were imprisoned, and many public institutions and local administrations were forcibly seized by the government. Unfortunately, 2024 was yet another year when femicides and child murders did not cease, and justice remained elusive. Türkiye was outraged by the murder of an 8-year-old girl, and with the authorities' failure to find her killer. Two young women lost their lives at the hands of a perpetrator whose crime was excused under the pretense of "psychological illness." We fought for trans women whose right to shelter was usurped on Bayram Street, Istanbul, and we lost our loved ones. Just as we hoped to overcome the hardship of 2023, 2024 proved to be an even heavier burden.

As the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence (C\$MD), amidst all these challenges, we celebrated our 10th anniversary with our stakeholders and loved ones, a special day that gave us a moment of respite.



In the first half of year, while carrying out our activities, we collaborated on an independent external evaluation report and prepared our new strategic plan. The results of the local elections gave us hope for collaboration between local governments and rights-based NGOs. However, in the second half of the year, we faced an unexpected financial "crisis" due to abruptly cut funding and we redirected all our energy toward resource development efforts and finalizing our 2024 work plan. Acknowledging that our existing organizational structure was no longer sustainable, we had to make difficult decisions. By the end of the year, we downsized our team and began preparations for a new organizational structure.

We continue to contribute to reducing sexual violence and its damaging effects through rights-based content and activities. In our solidarity, collaboration, and advocacy efforts, we serve as oases for one another in an otherwise harsh landscape. Our support system and support line remained active throughout 2024. We worked to strengthen the capacity of support service providers in the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. We continued our long-running preventive-protective initiatives - Children's Rights to Bodily Autonomy and What's What's Not?! Dissemination Programs -, along with Change Starts with Me awareness workshops, by partnering with municipalities, civil society organizations, and university clubs. As part of our international advocacy efforts, we participated in the 68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68) and, organized a joint parallel event for the first time. Additionally, we took part in the 15th AWID Forum and 88th Session of the Committee Against Torture, advocating for the rights of sexual violence survivors and expanding our network. Our work in media and digital activism continued, further increasing CSMD's visibility across digital platforms.

In 2024, we took a significant step forward through the work we produced and the lives we impacted. At the same time, the effects of harmful national and international policies forced us to take two small steps back in terms of sustainability. As we move forward, we are preparing to renew ourselves with a new structure and strategy.

> With our unwavering motivation and passion for this struggle, we look forward to reuniting in the year ahead!



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. CŞMD 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:

C\$MD 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:

CSMD 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:

C\$MD 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:

C\$MD 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.

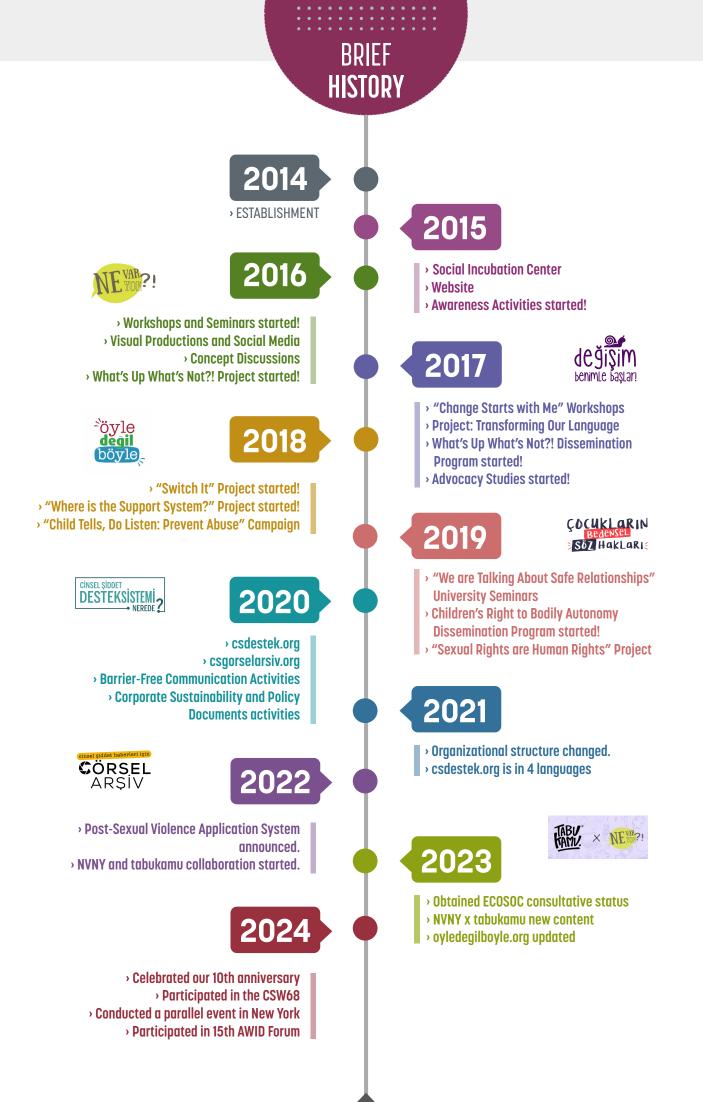
it promotes the global ecosystem:

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.







WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

We know sexual violence is a learned and normalized phenomenon, which means it can be prevented. In response to the critical gap in preventive and protective efforts, we develop and implement workshop content aimed at increasing intervention. Upon request, we tailor workshop content to specific needs, delivering informative workshops and seminars for targeted groups, including parents, young people, professionals, and civil society workers. Through our dissemination programs with professionals, we ensure that our workshop content reaches a wider audience. We collect and analyze data from these workshops, conducted across Türkiye, using evaluation and reporting methodologies.

PRODUCTION oF MATERIALS & DIGITAL ACTIVISM

We conduct campaigns and conceptual discussions and develop visual and informative content to create a communication language and approach that creates a transformative effect on society regarding sexual violence, raises consciousness and awareness, and empowers survivors and witnesses of violence. Through active social media engagement, interviews, regular publications, events, campaigns, and visual materials, we work to amplify this language and approach.

ADVOCACY

We conduct advocacy studies that makes different forms of sexual violence visible and draws attention to the establishment of no hierarchy between them; that values solidarity among those who are subjected to different forms of oppression and discrimination in society; and that aims to implement and develop the rights and demands of survivors of sexual violence and to prevent violations.

SUPPORT

We provide social and legal consultancy services to survivors of sexual violence and their relatives. We produce content that strengthen the capacities of individuals, institutions and civil society organizations working in the field of sexual violence and supporting those in need. We contribute to the increase of protective-preventive studies by producing workshop modules where professionals working in the field of education can work with children and youth. We provide consultancy to institutions and organizations in developing policies to prevent harassment and violence. We prepare support unit maps, produce and disseminate self-help materials.

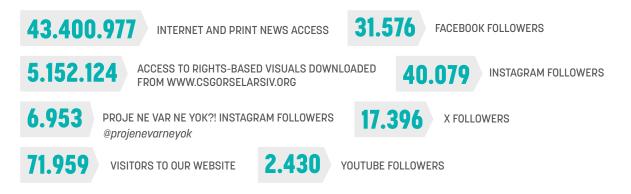




REACHED INDIVIDUALS THROUGH OUR "PROJENEVARNEYOK" INSTAGRAM CONTENT

PROVIDED LEGAL AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL COUNSELING, AND OFFERED REFERRAL SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS

CŞMD PRESS ACCESS IN 2024



SUPPORT WORKS FOLLOWING SEXUAL VIOLENCE

This year, we continued our efforts by advocating for the rights of survivors of sexual violence and strengthening support mechanisms. We carried out informational, referral, and advocacy activities to increase access to legal, psychological, and social support systems. Additionally, we developed collaborations with institutions and organizations to make services more accessible and promote the widespread adoption of rights-based approaches.



CONSULTATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES

In 2024, we provided psychosocial counseling, information, access to security institutions, and survivor-centered support to 47 individuals who reached out to our support line. The most frequently reported forms of sexual violence among the applications were sexual assault, dating violence, and domestic violence. In addition, we provided legal counseling to 27 individuals. The applications not only concerned sexual violence but also included support requests related to psychological violence, divorce, and abortion.

STRUGGLE AGAINST ONLINE SEXUAL VIOLENCE

To facilitate the access of those affected by online sexual violence to their rights and support mechanisms, we published the **Legal Information Brochure on Online Sexual Violence**. The brochure provides comprehensive information on the definition and types of online violence, relevant provisions of the Turkish Penal Code, protection measures, and legal support mechanisms. Additionally, we included information on civil society organizations and public units where individuals can receive free support, along with sample petitions for those wishing to initiate legal proceedings. In response to the emerging need based on applications received by our association, this resource was made available in Arabic, English, Kurdish, and Farsi to reach a broader audience.



EMPOWERMENT AND **SUPPORT** PROGRAM

P R O G R A M S



STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO RIGHTS: LAW NO. 6284 BROCHURE

To facilitate access to protection mechanisms following sexual violence, we prepared and made available the Our Rights Against Sexual Violence: Law No. 6284 brochure. The brochure provides information on protection and restraining orders, shelter rights, temporary financial assistance, and legal support processes. With this initiative, aimed at making legal rights more visible and strengthening survivors' access to support systems, we sought to promote a rights-based approach and facilitate everyone's access to legal processes.

EASY-TO-READ GUIDE AND ACCESSIBILITY INITIATIVES

To reduce barriers to accessing information, we prepared a guide for the easy-to-read version of <u>csdestek.org</u> and printed the easy-to-read sections. This booklet, designed to increased access to information about sexual violence, provides simple and comprehensible content for individuals with intellectual disabilities, learning difficulties, and those facing language barriers. It aims to make it easier for everyone to learn their rights and protect themselves.







WORKSHOPS AND COLLABORATION ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2024, we participated in seminars, workshops, and events on various topics, including combating violence against women, LGBTI+ rights, reproductive health, psychological support, and collaboration with local governments. We shared knowledge and experiences in meetings with national and international organizations such as Purple Roof, Kaos GL, TAPV, WAVE Network, Safe House, and Astrea. Additionally, we strengthened collaborations with local governments by attending strategic planning and women's studies meetings with the municipalities of Avcılar, Beyoğlu, and Şişli, in İstanbul.



We participated in well-being and case management activities with the professionals working in the violence response unit of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. At events such as the Shelter Summit, Solidarity Talks Against Violence, and the Digital Violence Panel, we continued to strengthen solidarity in the struggle against sexual violence. As part of the strategic planning for 2025, we held face-to-face and online meetings with six district municipalities and made plans for future meetings with other municipalities.









EMPOWERMENT AND **SUPPORT** PROGRAM



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

In 2024, during our visit to the United States as part of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), we engaged with various organizations working in the field of sexual violence and providing support services. In our meeting with Decriminalize Sex Work, we discussed the rights violations and needs of sex workers in both Türkiye and the U.S., examining the impact of anti-gender movements on this issue. We visited Safe Horizon and Family Justice Centers to learn about their multilingual and holistic support services addressing domestic violence, sexual abuse, and human trafficking. In our meeting with New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault, we conducted a comparative assessment of the challenges faced in reporting sexual violence and accessing the justice system. We also explored prevention programs that educate young people on safe relationships and consent culture. Throughout these meetings, we introduced CSMD's work, exchanged experiences, and agreed to stay in contact for potential future collaborations.





CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO BODILY AUTONOMY (ÇBSH) DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

Children's Right to Bodily Autonomy (ÇBSH) Dissemination Program is a preventive initiative that invites adults to critically examine their power over children and frames child sexual abuse as a societal issue that can be prevented.

Designed for dissemination across various municipalities and cities, the program covers key topics such as perceptions of childhood, child participation, children's rights to bodily autonomy, preventive approaches to sexual abuse, and the responsibilities of adults in combating abuse. With an expanding team dedicated to outreach, the program aims to engage more adults and strengthen the struggle against child sexual abuse.



"Children have bodily rights and autonomy, just as you do."

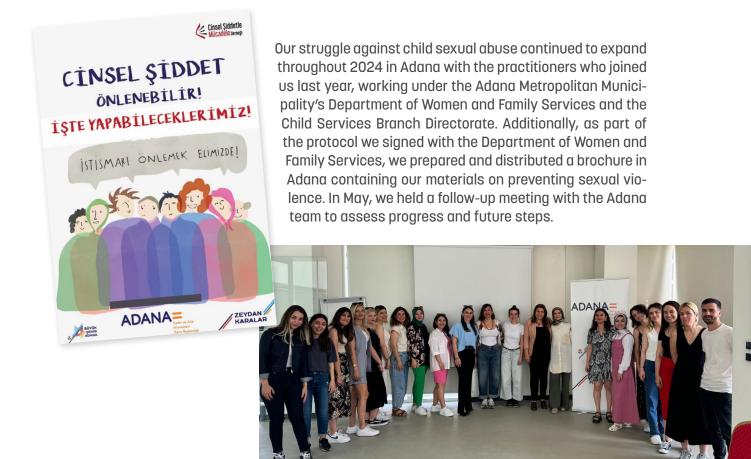
S<u>APIK, PEDOFILI, CANI, HASTA, CANAVAR</u> FAIL SEN, BEN, O....

"Not a pervert, pedophile, psychopath, sick, or a monster. The perpetrator is you, me, them..."

We started 2024 by gathering with our Istanbul team to discuss questions, challenges, strategies, and needs in the field.









Along with the Adana team, the psychological counseling and guidance (PDR) specialists in our practitioner pool, as well as professionals from Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Izmir Metropolitan Municipality, and district municipalities in Istanbul, continued to conduct seminars in their respective fields this year. Thanks to our expanding practitioner pool since 2019, the Children's Right to Bodily Autonomy seminars were held 75 times in 2024 - 2 online and 73 in person - reaching a total of 1,922 adults. These seminars and workshops targeted municipal staff, neighborhood residents, parents of primary and middle school students, educators, university students in relevant departments, civil society volunteers, daycare center managers and teachers, and, in some municipal institutions, children.



TRANSFORMATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM



Psychological counselor Özge Öztürk Birdal, who has been part of our practitioners team since 2019, conducted a seminar herself this time, meeting with parents at the school where she joined the program five years ago.



WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NOT ?! (NVNY) YOUTH PROGRAM

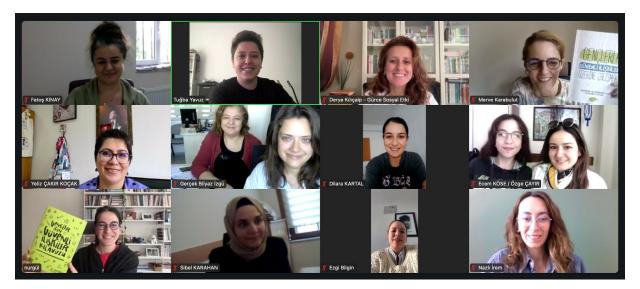
WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NOT?! (NVNY) DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

In 2024, NVNY Dissemination Program reached a broad audience through various events, seminars, and material distributions aimed at increasing young people's awareness of building safe relationships and preventing dating violence. In the first quarter of the year, ahead of the local elections, demands were published for municipalities, proposing policies to raise awareness among young people about safe relationships, gender equality, and violence prevention. Due to the election process, no new municipal participants were enrolled in the program, but communication was maintained with municipal employees who had participated between 2020 and 2023. During this period, our practitioners from the Eskisehir Metropolitan Municipality conducted a workshop with 171 students from Anadolu University's Faculty of Communication. As a result of this workshop, young participants launched a social media project titled "Shades of Dating". Additionally, another workshop was held at the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Women's Solidarity

House, attended by 24 young people. As part of the program, experts from Ataşehir Municipality's Yeni Hayat Youth Center organized seminars on dating violence in high schools. In Trabzon, seminars conducted with high school students utilized the NVNY Implementation Handbook, reaching a total of 250 students.

> The interactive nature of the exercises in the book and the supportive environment provided young people with the skills to assess their own relationships and take action when faced with dating violence.

> > (A teacher from Trabzon)

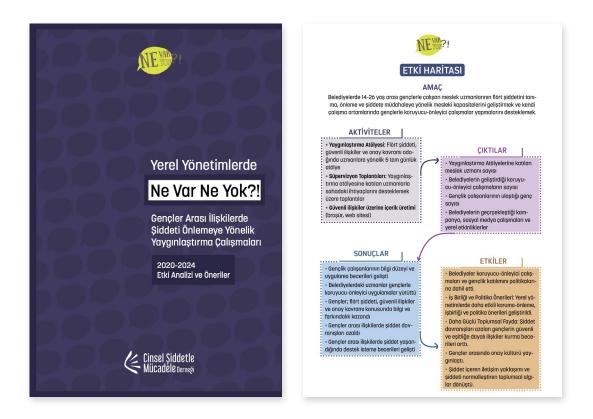


In this year's follow-up meetings with the psychological counselors and guidance teachers from Istanbul who participated in the program in 2017 and 2018, as well as the municipal employees from Istanbul and Eskişehir who joined the program between 2020-2023, we discussed the work participants have done with young people focusing on safe relationships. We also talked about new strategies they could use to carry out more protective and preventive work on safe relationships and consent with a larger number of young people.



TRANSFORMATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

PROGRAMS



In order to analyze the impact of the dissemination workshops and working with local governments from 2020 to 2023, this year the Gürce Social Impact team conducted a research study. The report titled **What's Up What's Not?! In Local Governments: Impact Analysis and Recommendations of the 2020-2024 Dissemination Work to Prevent Vio-lence in Youth Relationships**, prepared with data gathered from surveys and in-depth interviews with professionals who participated in the Dissemination Programs in Istanbul and Eskişehir in 2020, 2022, and 2023, focuses on the efforts to prevent violence in youth relationships. In addition to evaluating the impact of the program, the report provides a roadmap for local governments for future actions.

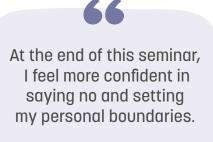


February 14th The Valentine's Day Billboard Campaign by Ataşehir Municipality



"WE ARE TALKING ABOUT SAFE RELATIONSHIPS" UNIVERSITY SEMINARS

This year, university collaboration played a significant role. A total of 48 students were informed about dating violence, personal boundaries, and consent culture through online seminars conducted with the Department of Foreign Language Education at METU Faculty of Education, Arel University, and Atilim University. Additionally, 10 students participated in a workshop organized with the Rainbow LGBTI+ Studies Club of Istanbul Bilgi University, and 30 students attended the "Violence in Romantic Relationships" panel held at Özyeğin University. Important events were also conducted through private sector collaboration. In an online webinar organized with Hepsiburada, 80 young employees were informed about safe relationships and consent culture.



- A young participant

I learned that verbal consent is not always enough. Now, even if someone has given 'consent,' I will pay attention to behaviors that indicate discomfort.

- A young participant





We also participated in Derya Kılıçalp's "<u>Etkili Şeyler</u>" program and shared our youth work initiatives.

TRANSFORMATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

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20

PROGRAMS

TABUKAMU x NVNY

By saying, "Everyone who wants to be in a relationship has the right to experience exciting, beautiful, happy, and, most importantly, safe relationships free from pressure and violence," we joined forces as the NVNY Youth Program and tabukamu. This year, we published the "<u>Safe Relationships Guide for Youth</u>" brochure and "<u>Examples of Safety Plans to Increase</u> <u>Safety in Youth Relationships.</u>"







"What is safety plan? A safety plan is personalized roadmap that outlines the steps an individual can take to ensure their safety while leaving an abusive relationship or while remaining in it."





WHAT'S UP WHAT'S NOT?! SOCIAL AND DIGITAL MEDIA

One of the key components of the dissemination program, social media efforts, helped increase the program's visibility. Between May and October 2024, digital campaigns on the "projenevarneyok" Instagram account reached a total of 68,600 people. Among the most engaging content were "Does this mean I gave consent?" (3,376 views), "How can I support my LGB-TIQ+ partner?" (5,386 views), and "3 responses you should not give when your friend experiences sexual violence" (5,414 views).



"Desiring something doesn't always mean I consent to it!"

World Sexual Health Day

CINSEL SAĞLIK NEDIR?		BU YILIN TEMASI
Dünya Cinsel Sağlık Günü	"Cinsel sağlık, fiziksel, duygusal, zihinsel ve sosyal açıdan cinsel yaşamla ilgili bir iyilik hali durumudur; yalnızca hastalık, işlev bozukluğu veya zayıflığın olmaması değildir." Dünya Sağlık Örgütü	Olumlu İlişkiler "Cinsel sağlık, cinselliğe ve ilişkilere yönelik olumlu ve saygılı bir tutumu içerir ve zorlama, ayrımcılık veya şiddet olmaksızın güvenli ve keyifli cinsel deneyimler sağlar."
		NE 1992: Cinel Siderle Nicadel Rung

"Sexual health is a state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality. It is not merely the absence of disease, dysfunction, or infirmity." - World Health Organization

Digital Violence



Could you be engaging in digital violence without realizing it? Let's find out - take the test.



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Dating Violence





INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Meeting with the Center for Sex Education

We met with representatives from the Center for Sex Education, based in New Jersey and the national education department of Planned Parenthood. The Center advocates for the right of all people to receive comprehensive sex education that helps them understand their sexuality and take responsibility for it. The center focuses on three main areas: developing sexuality education guidelines used worldwide, hosting the National Sexuality Education Conference - the largest conference in the U.S. dedicated to sexuality education and providing access to downloadable lesson plans through the Sex Ed Network. During our meeting in New York, we learned about their approach to comprehensive sex education. We discussed our strategies to promote safe relationships, address the concept of consent, and empower young people to make informed choices regarding their sexual health.



New York

Meeting with Equimundo

Equimundo: Center for Masculinities and Social Justice has been working internationally and in the U.S. since 2011 to engage men and boys as allies for gender equality, promote safe masculinity, and prevent violence. During our meeting, we learned about the center's research conducted in 8 regions and 68 countries. We discussed gender-transformative programs that have had measurable impact in changing the norms, attitudes, and behaviors of men and boys, as well as the institutional cultures in the areas where they socialize, based on research and practice. The discussions also highlighted the positive impact of behavior changes in parents on their sons, as observed in periodic impact assessments. In our conversation about the lack of data and evidence-based advocacy work in Türkiye, and the efforts of civil society organizations like CŞMD, we decided to explore potential collaborations.

TRANSFORMATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM



New York

Day One New York Office Visit

During our participation in CSW68, we visited the Day One New York office, which is guided by the slogan "Love should always be safe," and learned about their efforts to prevent dating violence among young people. During the visit, we discussed the idea of bringing together the youth advisory board of Day One with the youth advisory group to be formed under the CŞMD's NVNYYouth Program and explored potential collaborations. Additionally, we had the opportunity to closely examine the informative publications produced by Day One.

AWID International Forum



Bangkok

At the 15th AWID International Forum, we had the opportunity to meet Deborah Leaver, Regional Program Coordinator for East/Southeast Asia, and Swarnlata Mahilkar, India Program Manager at EMpower Foundation, which have been supporting our youth program for 6 years. It was a valuable experience to share insights and learn from their experiences in the field.





PROGRAMS



"Sexual violence is learned, which means it can be prevented."

CHANGE STARTS WITH ME! SEXUAL VIOLENCE BASIC AWARENESS WORKSHOPS

Although the workshops in five modules differ in their specific objectives and target audiences, they share a common purpose: to inform participants on the various forms of sexual violence, foster awareness of their role in combatting it, and reinforce the belief that sexual violence is preventable. By doing so, the workshops aim to drive individual behavioral change and enhance institutional commitment to action.









In 2024, we conducted several workshops in collaboration with various organizations and institutions:

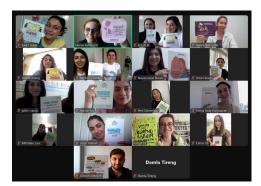
Dating Violence and Safe Relationships Workshop with a group of psychological counselors from Adapazarı, İzmir University of Economics Center for Gender and Women Studies, Farklıyız Eşitiz Association, the support unit of Adana Metropolitan Municipality's Department of Women and Family Services, and the Women's Studies Brach of İzmir Metropolitan Municipality.

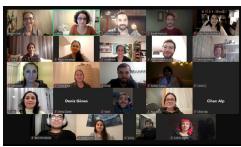
Protective and Preventive Approaches to Child Sexual Abuse Workshop with İmece Initiative Association, Beşiktaş Municipality's Children and Youth Unit, and a group of psychological counselors from Muğla.

Sexual Violence and Strategies for Combatting It Workshop with Giresun Women's Platform, a vegan mixed group, and Kazdağı Association for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Assets.

Rights-Based Journalism on Sexual Violence Workshop with Bianet.

> This year, we conducted 12 workshops across 7 different cities, reaching a total of 248 participants.







<image>



ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

Participation in the 68th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68)



As C\$MD, we participated in CSW68, one of the largest global gatherings on gender equality. Held in New York from March 10-22, 2024, this year's session focused on accelerating the empowerment of women and girls through poverty eradication, institutional strenngthening, and gender-responsive financing. We engaged in various side and parallel events, including Turkish government's side event, to enhance our advocacy efforts, exchange knowledge, and explore new collaborations. CSW68 also served as a critical space for addressing the challenges posed by conservative policies and anti-gender movements confronting feminist activism. Through discussions on women's and LGBTQI+ rights, we contributed to strengthening international feminist solidarity.

Written Notification on Behalf of CSMD to CSW68

As C\$MD, we submitted a written notification with the signatures of the Red Pepper Association and Flying Broom Foundation to the 68th sesssion of CSW68. You can access our report here.





Women's Coalition, Red Pepper Association, and Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence Joint Parallel Event





"Crisis as a Continuum - Gender Impact of Disasters, Problems, and Inclusive Response with a Focus on the 6th of February Earthquake in Turkey" parallel event featured Selma Acuner from the Women's Coalition and Fatma Aytaç from the Red Pepper Association as facilitators, while İlknur Üstün from the Women's Coalition, Attorney Burcu Uçuran from CŞMD, and Michaela Maura Koçoğlu from Florida International University representing the Red Pepper Association participated as speakers. Held on March 14, 2024, the event addressed the barriers preventing earthquake-affected groups, especially women and girls, from accessing adequate support and resources following the February 6 earthquakes. The discussion also covered gender-based violence in disaster contexts, the importance

of inclusive disaster response strategies, and the need for transparent and disaggregated data to assess the impacts of such crises effectively. You can watch the recording of the event <u>here</u>.

New York Visits

During our time in New York, we continued our advocacy efforts by visiting various official institutions and civil society organizations. As part of this, we followed Türkiye's approach to the CSW processes through a visit to the Permanent Mission of Türkiye. In meetings with UN Women and UNFPA, we exchanged information on gender equality, struggle against sexual violence, and women's rights. Additionally, we met with international and local civil society organizations working in the field of women's rights to explore networking and collaboration opportunities. These visits provided an important opportunity to discuss the space offered by CSW68 in terms of international advocacy and to enhance the visibility and impact of civil society in this process.

Joyful Heart Foundation: We gathered with the Joyful Heart Foundation, which works in the fields of sexual violence and rape kit advocacy. We learned about their efforts to regulate the storage conditions of rape kits in states, as well as their work in combating deep fakes and cyber exploitation. We exchanged information on recent developments in the fight against gender-based violence in both the United States and Türkiye. We also evaluated the experiences of both countries in terms of challenges in accessing the justice system, rape kit advocacy, and practices across different states.





15th AWID International Forum Experience



C\$MD participated for the first time in the 15th AWID International Forum, one of the most significant global gatherings for women's rights and feminist movements. Held in Bang-kok from December 2-5, 2024, the forum addressed issues of gender equality, sustain-able development, and the collective empowerment of feminist movements. With the theme "Rising Together," the forum brought together approximately 4,000 feminists from around the world to strengthen feminist solidarity, build transnational networks, and take collective action. Throughout the forum, the Palestinian struggle was highlighted as a feminist issue, and calls for anti-war solidarity were emphasized. As the C\$MD team, we played an active role alongside queer feminist communities, sharing our experiences and amplifying the voice of the feminist movement in Türkiye to international stakeholders, contributing to both local and global discussions.

WAVE Network (Women Against Violence Europe) & Purple Roof Meeting



On April 19, 2024, we participated in the WAVE Network and Purple Roof meeting held in Istanbul. We discussed the history of the feminist movement in Türkiye, the current challenges we face, and potential solutions. In group discussions, we focused on topics such as access to justice, the rise of anti-gender narratives, anti-LGBTI+ actions, women's rights, the situation of migrant women, and the lack of solidarity between feminist organizations. We emphasized the need to identify our common issues as a feminist movement, strengthen monitoring and reporting activities, expand awareness-raising efforts, and develop sustainable strategies. We also discussed the importance of long-term strategies to increase cooperation between feminist networks and ensure the sustainability of our projects.



Southwest Asia and North Africa Regional Meeting by the Mediterranean Women's Fund



We attended the Southwest Asia and North Africa Regional Meeting organized by the Mediterranean Women's Fund for its regional stakeholders in Istanbul from May 17-19, 2024. During the meeting, we listened to presentations from organizations from Palestine and assessed regional conditions. We discussed the experiences of NGOs in struggle against violence towards women, focusing on security and well-being. We talked with Palestinian women activists about human rights violations and shared the socio-economic and political situations of our own countries. We discussed the economic crisis in Türkiye, attacks on women's rights, the withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention, the targeting of LGBT+ rights, anti-gender movements, and how public budgets support these policies, while also engaging in discussions on security and well-being.





NATIONAL ADVOCACY

Our Demands for Municipalities Before the March 31, 2024 Local Elections

Ahead of the March 31, 2024 Local Elections, we published a document outlining our demands for municipalities, emphasizing the need for local governments to take responsibility in struggle against sexual violence. We provided concrete suggestions for the implementation of inclusive policies, support mechanisms, and preventive actions.



International Children's Center (ICC) Violence Against Children in Turkey Report 2023

Our membership in the Steering Committee of the Partnership Network for Preventing Violence Against Children continuted this year. We contributed to the "Violence Against Children in Turkey Report 2023," providing feedback and sharing our recommendations. We will continue our work in the field of children's rights and actively contribute to monitoring process.





CSW68 and Beyond

On May 27, 2024, we participated in the "UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 68th Session and Beyond" civil society dialogue meeting, where we joined the "Experience Sharing Panel of the 68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women." During the panel, the impact of the agreed outcomes of CSW68 on the struggle for gender equality was discussed. As CSMD, we shared our experiences and advocacy strategies from CSW68 with civil society, offering our perspectives on women's rights, struggle against sexual violence, and various forms of intersectional violence. In response to specific questions, we provided information on how CSW68 contributed to CSMD's work and offered evaluations on international solidarity, advocacy strategies, and financial sustainability. We highlighted the shortcomings of CSW68, emphasizing the need for stronger advocacy on issues such as LGBTI+ rights, sexuality education, and intersectional forms of violence. This meeting served as a significant opportunity to strengthen solidarity among civil society organizations in Türkiye and to establish common advocacy goals.



PROGRAMS

ADVOCACY AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATION PROGRAM

Etkiniz FORUM

The "Human Rights Monitoring for Solidarity, Accountability, and Healing" theme was addressed at the Etkiniz Forum held in Antalya on April 18-19, 2024. The forum emphasized the importance of human rights monitoring following the February 2023 earthquakes, discussing how monitoring can strengthen solidarity, enhance accountability, and contribute to the recovery of survivors. We participated as speakers in the session on "**Regular and**



Systematic Communication with Human Rights and Legal Mechanisms", sharing our organization's experiences. We contributed to discussions on the Rule 9.2 process, engagement with international human rights mechanisms, and advocacy strategies. The forum provided a significant space for identifying human rights violations and strengthening advocacy efforts. As C\$MD, we continue to reinforce our advocacy strategies by bringing violations against survivors to both national and international human rights mechanisms.

"Reimagining Gender Equality across Generations and Communities in Turkey"



One of the events launched by UN Women Turkey for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on November 25th was the campaign "Light the Dark." One of the key activities of the campaign was "Reimagining Gender Equality Across Generations and Communities in Turkey," where feminists from different generations gathered to share their activism experiences. This event, held on November 22nd in Ankara, also featured contributions from CŞMD.





REPORTS

CEDAW Interim Report

As C\$MD, we submitted an interim report to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) as part of the CEDAW Civil Society Steering Committee (STYK). We will continue contributing to the CEDAW process and strengthening rights-based monitoring efforts.

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Report

As part of our international advocacy efforts, we contributed to the "Joint Submission on Women's Rights and Gender Equality" report prepared for Türkiye's 4th Universal Periodic Review (UPR). This joint report, compiled by the Women's Coalition International Working Group and involving feminist organizations such as Purple Roof, Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR) and AWID, highlights the current situation regarding women's rights and gender equality in Türkiye, offering concrete policy recommendations to governments. Through this report, we aimed to raise awareness on the international platforms about the need for effective policies to combat sexual violence and the adoption of rights-based approaches.

United Nations Human Rights Committee Joint Report

The United Nations Human Rights Committee is one of the key monitoring mechanisms that examine whether states parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) fulfill their human rights obligations. As part of Türkiye's ICCPR review process, C\$MD contributed to the joint report submitted to the UN Human Rights Committee. Prepared for the Committee's 142nd Session, held on October 23-24, 2024, this written contribution addresses human rights violations in Türkiye, particularly in the areas of gender equality, LGBTQI+ rights, children's rights, and freedom of expression. The report, jointly prepared by Kaos GL, 17 May Association, Human Rights Association (IHD), Diyarbakır Bar Association Children's Rights Center, Romani Godi, and various other human rights organizations, serves as a critical reference in the Committee's decision-making processes, evaluating whether governments comply with their treaty obligations. You can access the report <u>here</u>.

Written Report and Oral Statement to the Committee Against Torture

C\$MD has submitted a report to the United Nations Committee Against Torture, evaluating Türkiye's obligations under the Convention Against Torture (CAT) with a particular focus on sexual violence cases. In addition to the written report, C\$MD also delivered an oral statement during the committee session. The report highlights deficiencies in Türkiye's implementation of Articles 2, 4, 10, 13, 14, and 16 of the Convention, using the Fethiye case as a key example to illustrate structural issues in the judicial process regarding sexual violence. It details systemic failures, including negligence in evidence collection, prolonged judicial proceedings, and the pervasive culture of impunity. The case underscores the state's failure to conduct effective investigations into sexual violence crimes, the lack of deterrent penalties for perpetrators, and the systematic barriers survivors face in accessing justice. Through this report and oral statement, C\$MD aims to shed light on the Turkish government's failure to fulfill its obligations in sexual violence cases, increase accountability through international mechanisms, and advocate for the establishment of an effective justice system in the struggle against sexual violence. You can access the report <u>here</u>.



MEDIA STUDIES

Aydın Doğan Foundation Gender Equality Stakeholder Workshop



As C\$MD, we participated in the Gender Equality Stakeholder Workshop held on September 7, 2024, as part of the Aydın Doğan Foundation's Strong Girls, Strong Futures project. In collaboration with representatives from the public sector, private sector, and civil society, we engaged in discussions on the mainstreaming of gender equality efforts, the challenges encountered, and potential solutions. As C\$MD, we shared our initiatives focused on empowering girls and young women while exploring opportunities for collaboration. The workshop provided a crucial platform for dialogue, reinforcing rights-based advocacy and strengthening inter-institutional solidarity. The workshop's final report can be accessed here in Turkish.

Collaboration with bianet

On February 13, 2024, we held a meeting with the bianet team to explore potential collaborations in the field of media. Our discussions focused on strengthening accurate language use in news production related to struggle against sexual violence and improving the clarity of complex or contested concepts. Within this framework, we explored strategies to enhance the effective use of CŞMD's visual archive in media outlets and to promote a rights-based approach in content production. Additionally, it was further planned for bianet to cooperate



with C\$MD in news publishing processes and for collaborations, including joint content creation and workshops, to ensure accurate reporting, particulary on sensitive and controversial topics.





News Report on Publication Bans in Sexual Violence Cases

We conducted a news report analyzing the impact of publication bans on sexual violence cases, assessing their effects on both public interest and the rights of survivors. Published on T24, this report examined how media censorship influences public awareness and access to justice. As CŞMD, we continue to strengthen our media collaborations to promote rights-based journalism and ensure that contentious issues are addressed within a broader public discourse. Access the news report <u>here</u> in Turkish.



Türkiye'de cinsel şiddet davalarına yayın yasağı kamu yararı mı? Hayatta kalanın haklarının ihlali mi?



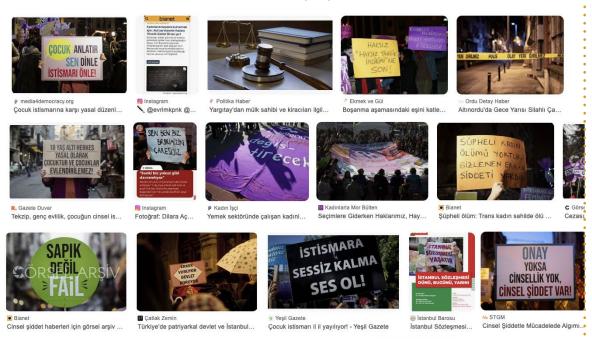
Fotoğraf: Hale Güzin Kızılaslan

"Are publication bans on sexual violence cases in Türkiye a matter of public interest or a violation of survivors' rights?"

Visual Archive for Sexual Violence News

csgorselarsiv.org

- This year, 106 new photographs were added to the visual archive.
- In 2024, with 149 new members, the total number of users reached 698.
- The number of contributing photographers grew to 60.
- The phrase "csgorselarsiv.org" appeared in 156 news articles.
- The archive reached an audience of 5,152,124 people.





CORPORATE COMMUNICATION STUDIES

10th ANNIVERSARY OF CŞMD



We celebrated our 10th anniversary with a special event, bringing together our friends from civil society, academia, and the arts who stand with us in solidarity for a world free from violence.

The event opened with a screening of the short film "Yeter ki Güvensiz Olmasın Aşk!" (As Long as Love is Safe!) and reflected on our decade-long struggle.









dayanışma **YASATIR**

> Cinsel Siddetle Mücadéle Dernes



You can watch our 10th anniversary video here.

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DIGITAL ACTIVISM

VIDEO INTERVIEW

Why is standing against "slut shaming" important in the context of struggle against sexual violence?



C\$MD was featured on the +90 news channel in an episode titled "Slut-shaming."

Slut-shaming refers to the act of humiliating, shaming, or blaming individuals, particularly women, based on their sexual behavior, clothing, or attitudes. This approach, which involves derogatory language and attitudes, can lead to bullying and harassment and may discourage survivors from reporting sexual violence. It reinforces the false belief that sexuality, particularly for women, is wrong or "immoral"; supports gender discrimination; and serves to control women's bodies.

To watch the full episode, click <u>here</u>.



How do the photo, headline, and concepts used in the news contribute to the reduction of sexual violence?

The transformation of misconceptions is crucial in reducing sexual violence, and the role of the media in conveying the right messages to society and the public is critical. With the efforts of women and feminist journalists, we are observing a positive transformation in the language and messages of the media. By participating in the **"isyan" ("Rebellion") program** prepared by Pelin Özkaptan, we discussed gender-focused and rights-based journalism, as well as how some cases have been turning points in the transformation of the media.

You can watch the full interview <u>here</u>:





PROGRAMS

SOCIAL MEDIA

It is important to emphasize abuse and exploitation, while being aware of how the expressions we use actually affect our way of thinking, in order to make visible the harm that these forms of violence cause to children. This is because the struggle against sexual abuse begins with language. To contribute to this struggle, on March 4th, the Day Against Sexual Abuse, we referred to it as "materials related to the sexual abuse of children" or "child sexual abuse material" instead of "child pornography."

Pornography refers to sexually explicit material produced with the consent and participation of adults in the adult world and its perception. When it comes to children, the production and distribution of such content is not pornography, but a crime. The term "child pornography" is used by those who commit this crime, and it should not be a legitimate term used by law enforcement, the judiciary, the public, or the media. When we use the words "child" and "pornography" together, we normalize this form of abuse, turning it into a "type" of pornography. The use of children in the production of any sexually explicit material is a form of sexual abuse against children, and it is also a form of sexual-commercial exploitation of children.

"çocuk pornosu" değil

"çocukların cinsel istismarına ilişkin materyaller"

> للإلك Cinsel Şiddetle العدينة Mücadele Derneşi





Yaşanılan bir mağduriyette çeşitli gerekçelerle kabahati o mağduriyeti yaşayan kişiye yapıştırarak faili aklayan yaklaşımdır.

DAMGALAYICI HABERLERE DEĞİL KAPSAMLI CİNSELLİK EĞİTİMİNE VE ÖNLEYİCİ MEKANİZMALARA İHTİYACIMIZ VAR!



Cinsel Şiddetle Mücadele Derneği

We criticized stigmatizing news and expressed the need for comprehensive sexuality education and preventive mechanisms.

"victim-blaming"



In 2024, the posts we shared on our social media accounts that received the most engagement were those related to digital activism. In December, we shared "Inspired by Gisèle Pelicot: The Power of Survivors," with the message that shame has shifted and that the real responsibility for violence lies with the perpetrator. On November 25, we challenged fear by saying, "Trans, refugee, disabled women, those who don't fit into assigned gender roles, those who step outside gender norms have never walked alone in the face of male and state violence, and we will not walk alone."

In October, we exposed the victim-blaming statements made by an AKP member of the izmir Bayraklı Municipality Council and the AKP member of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Assembly on femicides by using the definition of this concept. In that month where murders committed by men and street harassment significantly increased, we also reminded the State of its responsibility to protect our rights and reiterated the importance of the Istanbul Convention. In September, we responded to political elites, who persistently recite the discourse of the "sacred family", with a post stating that the institution of the family is the area where many forms of violence, including sexual violence and sexual abuse, are most prevalent and invisible to society, while providing relevant statistics.



PROGRAMS

ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

Starting 2024 with excitement, we moved our office to a larger and more functional space to better utilize our organizational capacity and carry out our work more efficiently, embracing the saying "a change of place brings comfort."

To make our organizational structure more effective and efficient, we implemented the staffing plan we prepared through program-based goal evaluation meetings held throughout 2024. With strategic planning sessions, we determined our goals and priorities for the upcoming periods, in line with our core principles and policies, and worked on budgeting the methods to achieve them.

We participated in the two-day online workshop on Approaches and Methods for Resource Development for NGOs, as well as the Support Circle Workshop held on December 13. Through these, we gained information on alternative funding sources and strengthened our resource development capacity.

We revised our documents, including the Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy, Financial Transactions and Accounting Procedure, Financial Planning and Reporting Procedure, Procurement Procedure, and Travel Procedure.

We reported on the projects we carried out and informed our stakeholders. We participated in the webinar "Key Considerations for Associations in Light of Current Audits," organized by the STGM Information Center.

In September 2024, our Audit Board prepared our Internal Audit Report, and in April 2024, we submitted our Association Declaration to the Istanbul Governor's Office. We conducted Independent Auditing and Public Auditing processes.



INTERNAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT CAMP

We held our winter camp this year at our association office on May 13-15. Over the course of three days, we reviewed our work plans and conducted sessions on communication, advocacy, and human resources strategies. We held one-onone feedback sessions and worked on our strategic plan.

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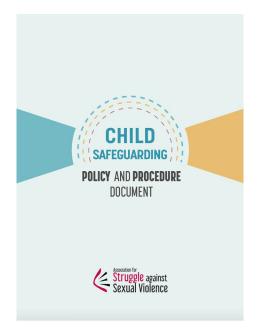
ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS

As part of our capacity development trainings, our association conducted a Psychological First Aid Workshop on February 9, 2024. This interactive workshop, enriched with case studies and group discussions, helped enhance our team's communication skills and effectiveness in decision-making processes. Additionally, in June, we organized a session to ensure that employees in need received Occupational Health and Safety Training. We also revisited the concept and methods of Deep Democracy, a conflict resolution and decision-making approach that we had previously been trained in, and conducted activities to internalize the Deep Democracy concept.







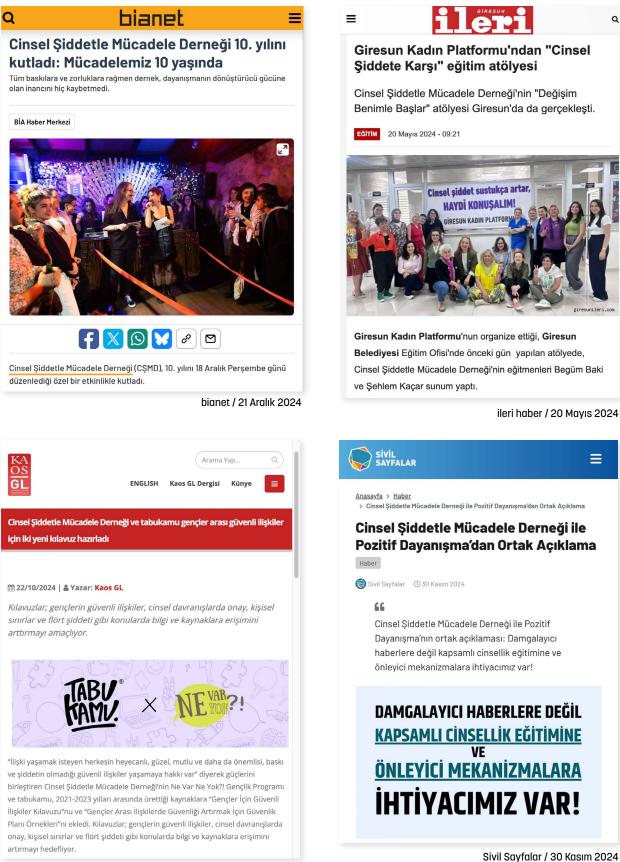


A Concept Commission was established, and Concept Workshops were conducted.

The Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedure Document has been expanded and updated. You can read the document <u>here</u>.



In 2024, the news about the Association for Struggle Against Sexual Violence appeared in 24 printed publications and 126 internet pages. Some of the interviews and news about us in various media outlets in 2024...



Kaos GL / 22 Ekim 2024

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CŞMD IN THE PRESS

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FTKİNLİKLER



Toplumsal Cinsiyet ve Cinsel Şiddeti Haberleştirme Atölyesi sona erdi

Toplumsal cinsiyet odaklı habercilik ve cinsel şiddet haberlerinin hak odaklı bir çerçevede ele alınması konularına odaklanan atölyeye medya mensupları, bağımsız gazeteciler ve iletişim öğrencileri yoğun ilgi gösterdi.

BİA Haber Merkezi

Q



bianet / 12 Kasım 2024



TOPLUMSAL CINSIYET

Cinsel Şiddetle Mücadele Derneği'nden 'Dünya Seks İşçilerine Yönelik Şiddetle Mücadele Günü' açıklaması: "Seks işçiliği, işçiliktir ve seks işçilerinin hakları insan haklarıdır"



Gündem Fethiye / 19 Aralık 2024

Q bianet E "Çocuklara karşı yetişkin merkezci bir düzen içindeyiz" Yetişkin merkezcilik', çocuğu bir birey olarak değil, yetişkinin sahip olduğu

Yetişkini merkezcilik, çocuğu bir birey olarak değli, yetişkinin sanıp olduğu bir araç ve nesne olarak gören bu yaklaşım. Psikolog Nurgül Öz, "Yaşa ve gelişime uygun, güçlendirici ve kapsamlı cinsellik eğitimi savunuyoruz" diyor.

Ayşegül Özbek



bianet / 26 Nisan 2024



Hornet'teki dolandırıcılık ve şantaj krizi büyüyor: T24'e konuşan şirket ne diyor, LGBTİ+'lar dijital şiddete karşı ne yapabilir?

Hornet: Türkiye'nin son yıllarda LGBTİ+'lara yönelik polis, yargı ve hükümet baskısı konusunda çok kötü bir sicili var. Bir kullanıcımız durumu bildirdiği polisin herhangi bir işlem yapmayı reddettiğini söyledi



T24 / 16 Aralık 2024





bianet / 4 Temmuz 2024

"Şiddet senin küfürlerinde başlıyor" demek ne demek?

Cinsel Şiddetle Mücadele Derneği'nden Şehlem Kaçar ve Hilal Esmer: "Orospu lafından korkan, bu korkuyla ömrünü şekillendirmiş nesiller var bu ülkede. Aşağılayıcı lakaplar ezilen özneler tarafından sahiplenildi, şiddet uygulayanın silahı elinden bu şekilde de alınabildi."

Evrim Kepenek

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biamag / 19 Ekim 2024



OUR SUPPORTERS



THE SIGRID RAUSING TRUST





PROJECT SUPPORTERS



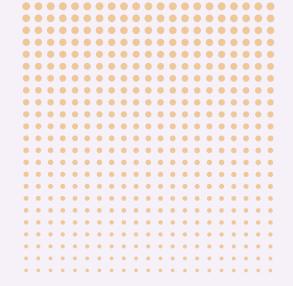


In 2024, we would like to thank our supporters for their contribution to our work.

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