Together, we can shift the narratives and perceptions around sexual violence!



www.cinselsiddetlemücadele.ora



Introduction

Harassment, rape, child sexual exploitation, sexualized violence, digital sexual violence, dating violence... Sexual violence, as an umbrella concept, encompasses dozens of forms. Today, in the middle of the 21st century, many forms of sexual violence continue to emerge as a profound societal problem, affecting communities everywhere, from the world's most advanced and so-called democratic countries to the least developed and war-torn regions. Across the globe, survivors of sexual violence are breaking the silence and exposing perpetrators. Yet, despite this, taking concrete steps or allocating budgets for the prevention of sexual violence, unfortunately, remains far from a priority for most states.

In Turkey, too, sexual violence is unfortunately being addressed with ineffective policies. Today, everyone recognizes a simple truth: Sexual violence cannot be prevented by sentencing perpetrators to 300-500 years in prison (which in practice amounts to impunity); nor can sexual abuse be prevented by teaching children to scream, or harassment, rape, and femicide by banning young people from dating. It cannot be prevented by isolating women, LGBTIQ+ people, and youth, nor by burdening survivors with shame and the responsibility of proof. Sexual violence is not confined to individual acts; it is deeply intertwined with the structural conditions, cultural norms, and political choices that enable it. Confronting sexual violence, therefore, requires more than addressing individual perpetrators; it demands confronting the very systems that produce and sustain it. Sexual violence, in essence, is a structural problem. It is tied to the false beliefs internalized and reproduced by politicians and society; to flawed and insufficient public policies; to behavioral patterns taught from the earliest years of life that may later foster sexual violence; to the absence of comprehensive sexuality education: to restrictive bans that curtail freedom; to silenced survivors; and to cases that are deliberately concealed. Today, we all know that sexual violence cannot be prevented without transforming the perceptions and narratives that surround it.

Since 2014, we have been carrying out support, awareness-raising, and advocacy efforts to make various forms of sexual violence more visible, speakable, addressable, and actionable; to bring to light those forms of sexual violence that remain hidden; and to address them without establishing hierarchies among them. We provide support to individuals subjected to sexual violence. We strengthen the capacity and awareness of professionals working in the field of sexual violence through workshops and dissemination programs. We collaborate with municipalities, universities, and educational institutions. We engage in activism and advocacy through digital channels. We reach young people, teachers, parents, adults working with children, and survivors of violence.

With our 2025-2027 Strategic Plan, we are entering a new era. Through this plan, we reaffirm our determination to persist, despite all pressures, in defending our bodily autonomy. We also invite all survivors and everyone who believes that combating sexual violence is both a shared responsibility and an achievable goal to join our struggle.

Together, we can shift the narratives and perceptions around sexual violence.

VISION & MISSION



Vision: To create a world where preventing sexual violence is recognized as a shared responsibility and an achievable goal.

Mission: To break the silence surrounding sexual violence, transform false beliefs, and carry out support, awareness-raising, and advocacy efforts to confront all forms of sexual violence, without establishing hierarchies among them.

ACTIVITIES

Knowledge and Resource Development

Institutional Consultancy and Partnerships

National and International Advocacy

Sexual Violence Awareness-Raising Workshops

Capacity-Building Programs

Sexual Violence Support Line

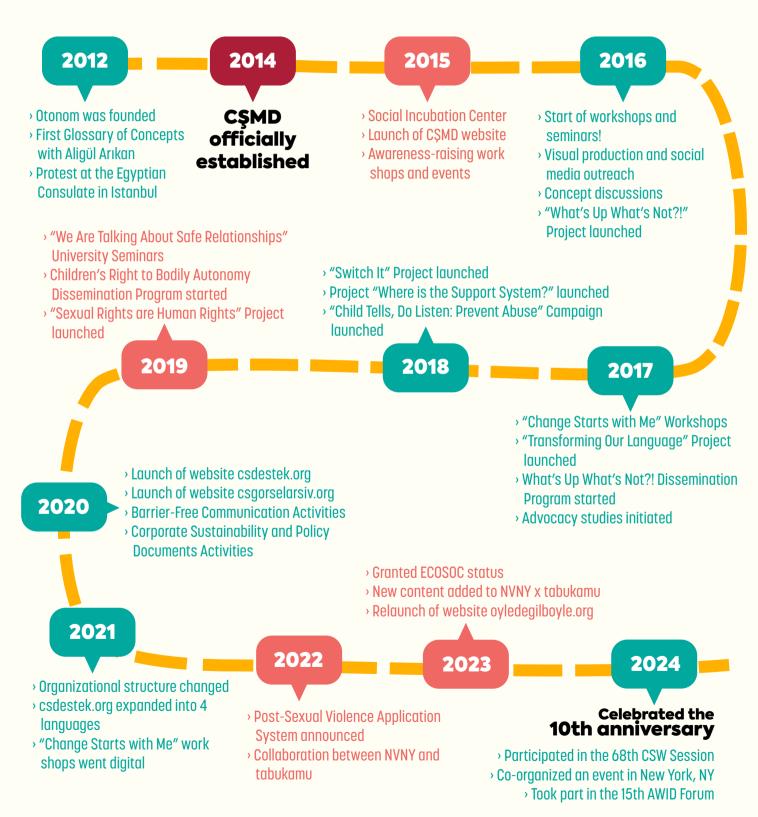


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OUR NON-NEGOTIABLES

- * Acknowledging that anyone can be a survivor and/or a perpetrator of sexual violence
- * Recognizing children and young adults as holders of sexual rights
- * Using empowering language and approaches
- * Seeking transformative solutions rather than relying solely on punishment
- * Promoting restorative and healing justice



CORE VALUES

queer feminist C\$MD does not reduce gender to the female-male binary. Instead, it interrogates the multilayered inequalities embedded in body, reproduction, sexuality, violence, class, norms, and power relations; and it seeks to transform the binary gender regime, essentialism, and domination.

inclusive and intersectional It does not define itself through a single identity or group. It acknowledges that sexual violence can affect individuals of every age, gender, identity, class, species, and way of life; and it develops its knowledge and tools with these diverse experiences in mind.

anti-discriminatory and rooted in equality It stands against all forms of discrimination, hate speech, speciesism, and sexism. It struggles against inequalities based on differences such as gender, identity, ethnicity, class, belief, or health issues.

<u>sex-positive</u> It recognizes sexuality as a natural, diverse, and individual experience. It does not judge based on gen-

eral morality or social norms; it upholds the principle of consent and defends sexual freedom.

<u>critical</u> It approaches sexual violence as a problem of power. It questions power relations and social norms. It creates space for critique and self-critique within organizational communication.

creative and flexible It values the sharing of experiences and sustainability. It adopts a flexible approach that is open to change and appreciates creative methods and ideas.

anti-hierarchical It is based on horizontal organization, teamwork, and solidarity. It values openness and transparency in communication. It makes all forms of sexual violence visible and addresses them without discrimination.

accountable and transparent It acts with transparency and accountability in all its activities and the use of resources. It establishes sustainable structures grounded in the principle of transparency.

CONCEPTS AND APPROACH



Sexual Violence

Defines all kinds of attitudes, actions, interventions entailing attempts, and threats towards sexuality without the explicit and apparent consent of the person, or by manufacturing consent or that occur in cases where the person cannot give consent. Those are unwanted, realized, attempted, threatening actions or behaviors without consent where sexuality is used as a tool while targeting one's sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, gender, or gender expression. The action may be actual, attempted, or threatening. Those acts are directed at one's sexuality using coercion, which may include intimidation, blackmail, or other threats. It may include interfering with someone's physical and/or sexual integrity. For example, an intervention that threatens sexual health and hinders access to medical treatments and services related to reproductive health; mandatory gender-reassignment surgeries against one's gender identity...

Sexual Violence:

- It is not about sexuality.
- It concerns the use of power as a tool of violence.
- It is a societal problem that affects public health.
- It constitutes a violation of rights and freedoms.
- It is socially learned and, therefore, PREVENTABLE.



Sexualized Violence

Refers to all the invisible and indirect forms of sexual violence. In many countries, rights-based activists and experts use the term sexualized violence because the concept of sexual violence alone is insufficient to capture the ways in which this violence does not occur solely through "sexual acts" and permeates our lives, targeting our sexuality. This term conveys that sexual violence is not about sexuality, but is also linked to power relations, unequal conditions, and discriminatory practices that are sexist, speciesist, homophobic, transphobic, and biphobic. In other words, sexualized violence highlights how such acts are used to control, monitor, demean, or

punish the bodies and sexuality of women, children, LGBTIQ+ people, youth, and animals.

Bodily Autonomy

We need to talk more often about the concept of bodily autonomy, a fundamental human right, as a right that is violated when addressing the issue of sexual violence. Bodily autonomy means that a person has control, a say, the right to make decisions, and the right to choose regarding their body, life, and future. This right also includes choices related to health, sexuality, reproduction, and personal identity. It concerns respect for every individual's right to manage their own body without any external pressure or interference. Accessing this right requires both a respectful environment where we can establish our personal boundaries and a cultural structure that allows us to access accurate information about our physical and sexual development. All living beings have the right to live free from violence and oppression, exercising their right to bodily autonomy. Fighting against sexual violence is also fighting for the right to bodily autonomy.

Consent Culture

Refers to the establishment of a form of communication in a society where consent is considered and spoken in all relationships based on emotions and sexuality. Consent culture reflects a culture in which children get raised to discover their boundaries and listen to themselves when they say no or yes, individuals do not get suppressed in expressing or hiding their desires by being segregated in line with the

gender roles, the sexual behaviors without consent are not encouraged and violence is not taught to people by justifying it with various excuses and false beliefs.

Victim-Blaming

Refers to an approach that acquits the perpetrator by attributing the fault or crime to the survivor for various reasons in case of an incident. In cases of sexual violence, the blame and fault are attributed to the survivor through victim-blaming that would claim that the victimization itself emerges as a result of that fault. It is implicitly or explicitly suggested that the survivor deserves the violence. The presentation of various moral and social grounds that try to prove that the survivor does not deserve the sexual violence is indirectly victim-blaming because it feeds the same approach. It is one of the reasons why individuals have to hide the violence when they get exposed to it. It causes sexual violence to be discussed through the survivor, and the perpetrators get ignored. Everyone who talks and comments on sexual violence must question whether the victim is blamed in their and others' approach and raise awareness against it.

Restorative and Healing Justice

Rather than a punishment-focused approach centered on the perpetrator, this is a justice framework that involves the restoration of the harmed person in the process. It aims at the repair and healing of the survivor. To achieve this, the process is built around the participation of the harmed person and their needs, expectations, and demands for reparation. Restorative justice also encourages community involvement.



Being a Pioneer

CŞMD is recognized as one of the first and rare institutions in Türkiye to work on sexual violence in a holistic and intersectional manner. This makes it a pioneering and exemplary organization both nationally and internationally.

We refer individuals to CŞMD without hesitation, because we know they will receive support.

Field Expertise and Reliability

Its materials and resources are frequently referenced by professionals working in the field, rights-focused organizations, and academia alike. By taking on a knowledge-sharing role, CŞMD contributes to both individual and societal transformation.

What makes
CŞMD unique is the
language they use in
this field – carefully
chosen, inclusive,
and empowering.

Original and Empowering Content

The innovative and original nature of its content positions CŞMD strongly in terms of contributing to its stakeholders and developing its own resources. Its empowering language and approach transform the perceptions and narratives surrounding sexual violence.

methods for dissemination and visibility extremely effective.
When discussing visual strategies and outreach within our association, we often cite CŞMD's approach and their youthoriented language as an example.

Effective Communication with Youth

By using a contemporary and empowering language and approach that resonates with young people, positioning them as holders of their sexual rights, and implementing dedicated youth programs, C\$MD ensures that young people play an active and leading role in the struggle against sexual violence.

^{*}The titles and text in this section are taken from the impact assessment report of the association's activities, prepared by independent external evaluators in 2024.

The trainers at CŞMD are perhaps the first truly safe adults I have encountered in my life. I have learned so much just from their presence. We learned by emulating them.

Commitment to Intersectionality and Inclusivity

Its approach, which centers LGBTIQ+ and children's rights, along with its work to ensure accessibility for people with disabilities, enables CŞMD to offer a holistic perspective, setting it apart among other stakeholders.

Experience in Networks, Advocacy, and Campaigns

CŞMD actively conducts advocacy to raise the visibility of sexual violence among lawmakers and policymakers, participates in networks, and runs campaigns. Over the years, its connections with local and international networks have increased knowledge sharing, impact, and solidarity.

Horizontal Organizational Structure

Its participatory, non-hierarchical structure is widely appreciated by stakeholders and youth alike. Over the past 10 years, the organization has been able to manage its growing resources alongside steps toward institutionalization, thanks in part to this approach.

Leveraging the Power of Media

CŞMD recognizes media, which often plays a major role in spreading misconceptions about sexual violence, as a key stakeholder and has made a notable impact by transforming the language used in media coverage. Its rights-based visual archive has become a trusted and frequently consulted resource for media professionals.

Resilience to Crises

While establishing an institutional language and approach through policy documents, guidelines, and procedures, CŞMD remains adaptable to changing conditions, continuously learning and developing, thereby enhancing its resilience to crises.

Work of CŞMD, our way of thinking about sexual violence has changed. We no longer view it solely as a physical assault, but approach it as part of a much broader spectrum.



The experiences we have gained over the past 10 years, particularly the accumulation of the last four years, have guided us in shaping our strategy.

Support Is Not Just an Outcome; It Is Also a Process

Rights-based work must make room for emotionally complex and non-linear processes; it should define success not only by measurable outputs, but also by the relationships built, the care demonstrated, and the continuity of support provided.

Support and Prevention Are Political

Achieving long-term impact in support and prevention work depends not only on individual awareness but also on the cultivation of collective power.

Just as Media Is Critical to Transforming Social Perceptions, So Is the Presence of Women and LGBTIQ+ Journalists

Long-term impact in media transformation depends not only on alternative visuals and concepts, but also on the presence of solidarity networks among women and LGBTIQ+journalists.

Professionals Also Need Spaces for Transformation

Adults must be equipped to discuss consent in age-appropriate and empowering ways, and to actively contribute to cultivating a culture of consent.

Youth Are Not Just Participants; They Are Agents of Transformation

We need more initiatives designed, led, and disseminated by young people themselves.

Care is an Institutional Capacity

To remain resilient, sustainable, and politically coherent, we must recognize and demonstrate that collective and self-care are not luxuries.

2025-2027 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

To achieve our strategic objectives over the next three years, we have identified five strategic priorities that will guide our choice of stakeholders, methods, and tools, following a SWOT analysis.

I. RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT and ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

After 2024, development funds targeting gender equality have been largely restricted and halted both globally and within Türkiye. In response, diversifying the CŞMD's resources and ensuring access to sustainable funding, given that grants and funds are our primary resources, is one of our top priorities to maintain continuity in our work.

2. Collaboration and Strategic Partnerships

In recent years, rights-based advocacy has faced increased pressure and threats due to anti-gender and populist movements in Türkiye and elsewhere. In addition to enhancing the impact of our work and resilience against these pressures, we prioritize establishing more collaboration with stakeholders to facilitate mutual learning, uphold intersectionality, and strengthen solidarity.

3. YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

In 2024, CŞMD established its first Youth Advisory Board. Beyond sustaining and expanding youth participation, we aim to prioritize young professionals as stakeholders in achieving our strategic objectives. We view young people as central agents of transformation.

4. Social impact measurement

CŞMD is highly productive and generates substantial outputs. However, to monitor the transformative impact of our knowledge, materials, and activities, we need to further develop our capacity. In the upcoming strategic plan period, CŞMD prioritizes implementing more professional and holistic impact measurement initiatives.

5 Adapting to digital transformation

Our field of work, target youth audience, and methods require adaptation to digital transformation. In the upcoming period, we will take concrete steps to enhance our digital capacity and expertise in content development and tool selection.



Objective 1: Reach and Support

Provide survivors of sexual violence and support service providers with the guidance and assistance they need.

Outcome: Empowered Survivors

We will have achieved this objective when survivors of sexual violence can request the services they need and gain improved access to counseling, medical, and legal support.

Intermediate Goals:

- Greater use of support services and resources by survivors
- Increased visibility of survivors' needs
- The establishment of sexual violence support units within local governments and the strengthened capacity of service providers in existing units
- Growth in institutional policy documents and guidelines aimed at preventing harassment and violence

Objective 2: Creating Collective Impact for Prevention

Develop knowledge, resources, and materials to increase protective and preventive efforts by breaking the silence surrounding sexual violence.

Outcome: Stakeholders with Strengthened Capacity on Sexual Violence

We will have achieved this objective when service providers, professionals, rights holders, and other actors disseminate the knowledge and approaches they have acquired.

Intermediate Goals:

- Societal transformation of misconceptions and harmful practices related to sexual/sexualized violence through the use of advocacy and media tools
- Increased dissemination of acquired knowledge and approaches by service providers, rights holders, and other actors within their communities and institutions, contributing to more protective and preventive efforts
- Expanded initiatives addressing psychological resilience, mental health, and well-being
- Broader use of accurate language, concepts, and visuals in media, supporting the spread of rights-based reporting on sexual violence



Objective 3: Inspiring Transformation

Increase participation of youth and all individuals in the transformation process needed to foster a culture of consent.

Outcome: Youth Taking an Active Role in Building a Culture of Consent

We will have achieved this objective when young right holders establish safer relationships and take responsibility for promoting a culture of consent.

Intermediate Goals:

- Greater prevalence of a culture of consent among young people
- Increased youth participation in the struggle against sexual violence
- Growth of university-based communities focused on preventing sexual violence and harassment
- Reduction in victim-blaming within the field of sexual violence
- Increased visibility and public discussion of sexual/sexualized violence

Objective 4: Building a Resilient and Sustainable Organization

Ensure organizational and financial resilience and sustainability by adapting to changing conditions.

Outcome: A Resilient, Sustainable Organization

We will have achieved this objective if, by 2027, the organization continues to operate actively while upholding its core values.

Intermediate Goals:

- Development of resources and strategies to support financial sustainability
- Creation of innovative activism initiatives and tools to enhance organizational resilience
- Implementation of online and offline security measures
- Development of activities using tools and methods compatible with digital transformation

THEORY of CHANGE

impact Shifted perceptions and narratives around sexual/sexualized violence

Youth Taking Stakeholders with A Resilient. an Active Role **Empowered Strengthened Sustainable STRATEGIC** in Building a **Survivors** Capacity on **OUTCOMES Organization** Culture of Sexual Violence Consent 1- Greater use of services 1- Societal transformation 1- Greater prevalence of a 1- Development of resourcculture of consent and resources by survivors of misconceptions and es and strategies harmful practices 2-Creation of innovative 2-Increased participation in 2- Increased visibility of 2- Increased dissemination of activism initiatives and the struggle against SV survivors' needs INTERMEDIATE acquired knowledge and tools to enhance organiza-3- Growth of university-ba-3- The establishment and approach by service providers GOALS tional resilience sed communities focused on the strengthened capacity 3- Expanded initiatives 3- Implementation of online preventing SV of support units addressing well-being and offline security measures 4- Reduction in victim-blaming 4- Growth in policy and 4- Broader use of accurate 4- Usage of tools and 5- Increased visibility and guidelines on preventing language, concepts, and methods compatible with harassment and violence public discussion of SV visuals in media digital transformation KNOWLEDGE AND **WELL BEING ACTIVITIES** YOUTH ADVISORY HOTLINE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT **BOARD** POLICY DOCUMENTS BASIC SEMINAR, WORKSHOP. SEMINAR, WORKSHOP, **CAPACITY BUILDING &** SUPERVISION **SUPERVISION DIGITAL ACTIVISM ACTIVITIES FUNDRAISING** DISSEMINATION PRG. ORGANIZATIONAL CSDESTEK.ORG **CAMPAIGNS** CSGORSELARSIV.ORG **ACTIVITIES Building** a Create Collective **Inspiring Resilient and Reach and STRATEGIES Sustainable** Support **Impact for Transformation Prevention Organization**



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