

SU Gender Activity Bulletin

July-December 2024

SU Gender dates back to 2010 and it has been continuing its work with the status of application and research centre within Sabancı University since 2016, contributing to gender and women's studies in Turkey with its research, training and awareness activities.

Greetings

With this bulletin we present a summary of our research, training and awareness-raising activities in the second half of 2024. The bulletin includes the latest news on the research we have conducted on different scales in gender inequality, gender and migration, ecology, and politics, and on the activities of international project consortiums in which we are involved, and on our dissemination activities. The bulletin also provides information about public talks and seminars we have organized, the Second International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference, and our training and awareness-raising activities in collaboration with our stakeholders within and outside the university. We would like to thank each and every participant and contributor involved in our work.



Research



- Burcu Borhan Türeli, from the project team of the EU Horizon 2020 project **ACCTING (AdvanCing behavioral Change Through an INclusive Green deal)**, attended the meeting "Agroecology and Our Rights" held in Kirazlı Village, Aydın on May 31-June 1. She discusses her insights from the meeting in a [blog post](#). In November, four *Open Studios* took place in the last cycle of the Project. Esin Düzəl and Burcu Borhan Türeli from the ACCTING project team attended the Green Digital Accessibility conference held in Barcelona in a hybrid format and presented their analysis based on the findings from the fieldwork conducted in İzmir, Muğla and Antalya.

accting

On-the-ground perspective

Connections of the forest villages' defence of water and forest resources to disaster prevention and intervention in Turkey

Esin Düzəl, Sabancı University (SU)

Research

- Kristen Biehl and Marhabo Saparova, from the EU Horizon 2020 project **ReROOT (Arrival infrastructures as sites of integration for recent newcomers)**, attended the 21st IMISCOE Conference held on July 2-5 and presented their papers.
- Zeynep Güler Göker and Meriç Çağlar, from the EU Horizon Europe project **EXPRESS2 (Specify and Protect the EU Social Contract)**, attended the webinar organized by UAB (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) on September 25 where the project's conceptual framework on social contracts was presented, and the online co-creation workshop where this framework was discussed with civil society representatives on November 13.



Research

- We attended a number of international events and conferences, and presented the outputs of our research. Meriç Çağlar made two presentations at the 21st IMISCOE Conference on *Migration as a Social Construction* held on July 2-5. Ayşe Betül Çelik, Cenk Özbay and Zeynep Gülru Göker attended on July 8-10 the *European Conference on Politics and Gender*, organized biennially by the *Standing Group on Gender and Politics of the European Consortium for Political Research* (ECP). Zeynep Gülru Göker was an invited speaker in the webinar series organized by the *Standing Group on Gender and Politics of the European Consortium for Political Research* on September 19 to address current debates in feminist and queer mobilizations as subjects of social movement research. On December 11, Cenk Özbay gave a seminar on the Republican regime and changing masculinities in the seminar series of the Department of Gender Studies, Lund University, Sweden.



Purple Certificate Program

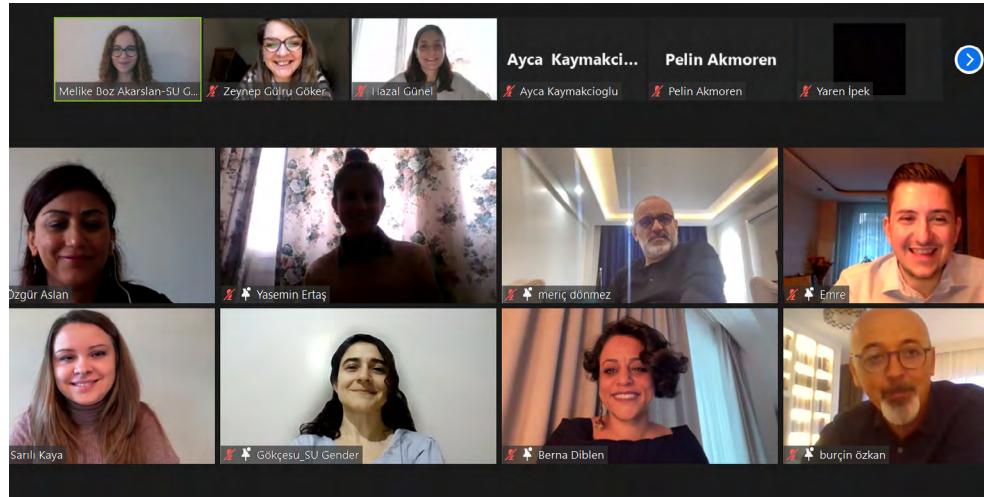


- In 2024, **Purple Certificate's Summer School** was held at Tuzla Campus of Sabancı University on August 19-22. During the summer school, 45 teachers and faculty of education students from 23 cities and various grades and branches participated in sessions on science, literature, ecology, philosophy, children's rights, health, communication and conflict resolution, etc., all aimed at raising gender awareness in education. We conducted the **Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Gender in Education** with the participants of the Purple Certificate's 2024 Summer School on September 17. We organized the **Basic Awareness Training** online on November 16-17.



- We started designing **Feminist Literature and Narratives Toolkit** in April 2023 and held monthly meetings thereafter with a selection of teachers with a Purple Certificate from different branches and grades, which has led to the creation of a reference guide on feminist literature and narratives in 2024.

Purple Certificate Program



- The winners of the third edition of the **Purple Certificate Program - Gender Equality in Education Awards** were announced at the award ceremony held on November 23. Following the opening speech by Ayça Kaymakçıoğlu, the award winners presented their projects in the panel moderated by Berna Diblen, a teacher and a former Purple Certificate award holder and Gökçesu Özgül, training coordinator of SU Gender.

- The Purple Certificate Program was a participant of the **Creative Self-Confidence Festival** organized by the Teachers Network (*Öğretmen Ağı*) on November 24 at Zorlu PSM. Our booth with the theme “Gender is everywhere!” was visited by many teachers and other stakeholders and we had valuable conversations with them about gender.

Training & Awareness Activities

- SU Gender has been running training programs based on profound experience with an aim to raise awareness of gender equality, diversity and inclusion and enhance trainees' knowledge in these areas. We continued to work with various institutions as part of the adult training programs organized within an academic framework for the private sector with the contributions of experts from different disciplines. As part of the training and awareness activities organized for 4 institutions in cooperation with EDU (Executive Development Unit) of Sabancı University, Gökçesu Özgül and Meriç Çağlar provided training on diversity and inclusion in business life. Gökçesu Özgül also delivered gender equality and inclusion training to school administrators as part of EDU's School Leadership Certificate Program.
- We also took part in this year's orientation program for undergraduate students and held two seminars introducing the units, projects, and people conducting gender awareness activities in the University. The same seminar was given once again in November for all the students of the University. On December 2, Gökçesu Özgül gave another seminar on **Gender Equality** to undergraduate students as part of the Civic Involvement Projects program (CIP).



- We resumed the **Gender and Literature Seminars** and completed its 2024 Fall Program. In these seminars by academics from Sabancı University and other institutions, including **Sibel Irzik, Reyhan Tutumlu, Damla Çakmak, Cansu Kutlualp, Başak Demirhan and Ayten Sönmez**, we discussed a number of notable literary works from a gender perspective. The seminar series will continue with new topics in spring 2025.



Events



- We have continued our event series called '**Cumartesi Söyleşileri**' (Saturday Conversations), where we hosted a number of speakers and held conversations on various topics within the framework of gender studies at Minerva Han on the first Saturday of each month. We hosted **Fatmagül Berkay** on October 5 and **Başak Tuğ** on November 2, and the titles of their speeches were "A Contract That Cares for the Earth" and "Politics of Honor in the Ottoman Empire: Women's Honor, Men's Honor". The series will continue in spring 2025.

- On November 29, SU Gender and the Istanbul Policy Center co-organized an event titled "**The Istanbul Convention: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow**" at Minerva Han. We organized the event as part of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (**November 25**). The keynote speaker of the event, **Feride Acar**, gave a speech titled "Once Upon a Time...: Istanbul Convention and Turkey", which was followed by a panel with **Gökçeçiçek Ayata**, **Perihan Meşeli** and **Gökçesu Özgül**.

Events



- As part of our new series titled **Gender Perspectives on Bodies and Health**, we organized a panel discussion participated by **Ayşecan Terzioğlu, İşil Bayraktar and Özge Akbulut** at the Digital Campus of Sabancı University on November 15. The speakers addressed social and cultural aspects of breast cancer from a gender perspective and we also had a chance to get to know more about Özge Akbulut's project #caresivar.

Toplumsal Cinsiyet Açılarından
Beden ve Sağlık
Tartışmaları

Ayşecan Terzioğlu
Sabancı Üniversitesi
Toplumsal ve Kültürel
Boytularıyla Meme Kanseri

Özge Akbulut
Sabancı Üniversitesi, Sürğüate, Fark Labs
Malzeme Mühendisiyim,
Meme Yapıyorum

İşil Bayraktar
Kyoto Üniversitesi
Meme Kanseri Tedavi
Süreçlerine Bakış

Tarih: 15 Kasım Cuma 15.00-17.30
Yer: Dijital Kampüs (Altunizade)

Adres: Altunizade Küçük Çamlıca Mahallesi
Şehit İsmail Moray Sokak No: 3 Kısıklı Üsküdar/İstanbul

Etkinliğe katılmak için kayıt gereklidir.

Conference



- The second [International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference](#) was held at Minerva Han on December 7-8. Academics, researchers and NGO representatives from Turkey and abroad attended the Conference. The keynote speech was delivered by [Ayşe Kadıoğlu](#). During the Conference, 58 papers were presented in various panels on politics, subjectivity and resistance, migration, literature, art, sexuality, innovative research approaches, psychology,

health, family, violence and many other topics. The Conference program included 14 sessions and 5 workshops, and was attended by more than 350 participants. In addition, our annual panels and award ceremonies for Dicle Koğacıoğlu Article Awards and Şirin Tekeli Research Awards took place as special sessions on both days of the conference. For the [agenda](#) and detailed information on the Conference, please visit the [conference website](#).



Awards

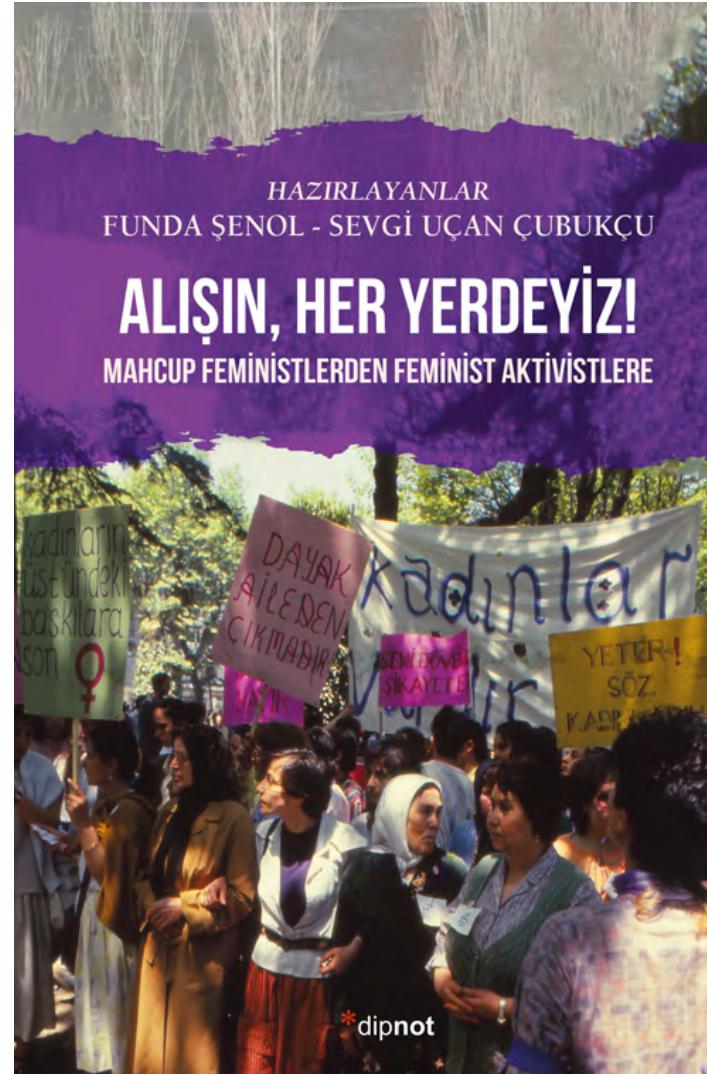


- This year, SU Gender's article and research awards were announced during the special sessions held within the scope of the Second International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference. The 15th Dicle Koğacıoğlu Article Award Panel and Award Ceremony was held on December 7. The Article Award went to **Melis Berk**; **İrem Sumru Müftüoğlu** and **Yunus Emre Yaşađı** were selected to receive the Academic Incentive Support. They all presented their work in the panel moderated by **Nükhet Sirman**.

- On the second day of the conference, on December 8, the Şirin Tekeli Research Award Panel and Award Ceremony took place. The 8th Şirin Tekeli Research Award was awarded to **Sinem Bal**'s research proposal and **Yağmur Çağatay**'s proposal was awarded the Research Incentive Support. **İşıl Bayraktar**, **Burcu Sarı Karademir** and **Selver Şahin**, who had won the awards and incentive support in 2023, presented their work in the panel moderated by **Yıldız Ecevit**.

Awards

- The articles by a selection of the winners of the Şirin Tekeli Research Awards since 2017 were compiled into a book titled “Alışın Her Yerdeyiz! Mahçup Feministlerden Feminist Aktivistlere” (We are Here, Get Used to It! From Shy Feminists to Feminist Activists) published by Dipnot Yayıncıları. The selected articles in the work, edited by Funda Şenol and Sevgi Uçan Çubukçu, are organized under the following sections: *Yeni Ekonomik Düzen/sizlikte Kadın-Erkek İlişkilerinin Değişimi* (How Women-Men Relations Have Changed in the New Economic Order/Disorder), *Dilde ve Edebiyatta Feminist Alanın İnşası* (The Construction of a Feminist Realm in Discourse and Literature), and *Değişen ve Değişmeyen Aktivizm Biçimleri* (Changing and Unchanging Forms of Activism). We would like to thank the editors, all the authors and Dipnot Yayıncıları for bringing together this valuable addition to scholarship.



Publications

- Borhan Türeli, Burcu. (2024). “Tackling food security with agroecology: Insights from the Agroecology Meeting in Turkey”, Blog, Project news. <https://accting.eu/tackling-food-security-with-agroecology-insights-from-the-agroecology-meeting-in-turkey/>
- Heidari, S., Whitacre, Çağlar, M., R., Usta, j., Tyrovolas, T., Rajan, A., Onyango, M.A., (2024). “ Liminality and transactional sex among queer refugees: Insights from Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, and Switzerland”, Journal of Refugee Studies, 1–17. <https://academic.oup.com/jrs/advance-article/doi/10.1093/jrs/feao47/7718076>
- Özbay, C. (2024) “Cumhuriyet'in Erkek Sorunu?”, Bir Toplumsal Cinsiyet Muhasebesi, pp. 215-238. Der. N. Berber, Tarih Vakfı Yurt Yayınları, İstanbul.
- Sönmez, Ayten. (2024). “Mücadele Eden Kadınlar: Seray Şahiner'in Eserlerinde Kadın Yoksulluğu”, Feminist Yaklaşımlar, 45. <https://feministyaklasimlar.org/sayi-45-2024/mucalede-eden-kadinlar-seray-sahinerin-eserlerinde-kadin-yoksullugu/>
- Uçan Çubukçu, Sevgi. & Şenol, Funda. (2023). “Alışın Her Yerdeyiz! Mahçup Feministlerden Feminist Aktivistlere”, Dipnot Yayınları, Ankara.



Talks and Webinars

- Zeynep Gülru Göker, “Nasıl Bir Dünya? Nasıl Bir Türkiye? The Republic and Its Achievements”, Istanbul Policy Center & Stiftung Mercator Initiative in cooperation with Medyascope, October 24, 2024.
- Gökçesu Özgül, “Nasıl bir dünya, Nasıl bir Türkiye? Women's rights movement in Türkiye: Gains, Failures, and Seeking”, IPC & Medyascope, “, November 28, 2024.
- Ayşe Kadıoğlu, “Feminism in the History of Individuals”, 2nd International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference, December 7, 2024.



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SU|GENDER SABANCI UNIVERSITY
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR
GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

