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SU Gender Activity Bulletin

July-December 2023

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

In the second half of the year, we continued our research in migration, cities, politics, ecology, literature, education, arts etc., focusing on gender, launched new national and international research, and carried out dissemination activities. We launched an event series called 'Cumartesi Söyleşileri' (Saturday Conversations) in October. In December, we organized the first International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference in Istanbul. Our training and awareness activities at different levels continue in cooperation with our stakeholders inside and outside the university. This bulletin presents a summary of our research, training and awareness activities in the second half of 2023. We would like to thank each and every participant and contributor involved in our work.

Research

- We have been a partner in the multidisciplinary international research project Express2: Specify and Protect the EU Social Contract and it has been awarded a grant by the EU Horizon Europe programme. The project, coordinated by Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, will start in March 2024. The objectives of the project include conducting research and developing policy recommendations on insecurity, populism, gender inequality, climate change, digitalization, pandemic, etc. in order to establish a new social contract that is more inclusive, democratic and sustainable in Europe. (1)
- We held a workshop called “Migration and Arrival in Turkey: Urban and Spatial Approaches” on September 30 with academics, students and people working in public and non-governmental organizations within the scope of the project EU ReRoot- Arrival Infrastructures as Sites of Integration for Newcomers. Under the same project, we held four Self-Defense Workshops in September in cooperation with BoMoVu (The Network of Sport and Body Movement for Vulnerable Groups) with representatives from various NGOs and immigrant women working in the field.



Research

- The last physical meeting of the EU RESISTIRÉ (REsponding to outbreakS through co-creaTive inclusive equality stRatEgies) project, of which we are a project partner, took place in Istanbul on September 20-21. The two-day workshop brought the project partners together and also hosted the experts who had participated in the open studios organized within the scope of the project. The last conference of the project took place on September 22 as a hybrid event. During the conference, we discussed social inequalities created and deepened by the pandemic, effective methods of combating crises at all stages with reference to the February earthquakes in Turkey, challenges and inequalities caused by discrimination, and practical methods for secure, flexible and sustainable funding support
- We have joined the Management Committee of the Cost Action called "Research Network for Interdisciplinary Studies of Transhistorical Deliberative Democracy" (CHANGECODE) that is planned to operate between 2023 and 2027.



Training

- We held the Purple Certificate's Summer School in July. 41 teachers from 21 different cities and various branches attended the 4-day school. The 15th Issue of the bulletin "Gender Equality in Education" has been published by the Purple Certificate Program with contributions from the teachers who attended the Summer School in September. The third Feminist Literature meeting of Purple Certificate took place in August with a number of teachers of different branches and levels. We hosted Başak Elvan Usta Gündüz for a webinar on peer bullying within the scope of the Purple Certificate Program: "Akran Zorbalığının Çocuk ve Ergen Ruh Sağlığı Üzerine Etkileri - Neler Yapabiliriz?" (Effects of Peer Bullying on Children's and Adolescents' Mental Health - What Can We Do?). We listened to Elif Ekin Akşit's speech "100 Yılda Toplumsal Cinsiyet ve Eğitim Tarihi" (History of Gender and Education in 100 Years) in the second webinar of the term. We discussed the establishment of girls' institutes and their social impact as well as gender in the context of education as current issues 100 years after the founding of the Republic.



Training

- In addition to the certification, we also organized awareness sessions and workshops through various channels where teachers meet. The workshop “Resimli Kitaplarda Görsel Hikâye Anlatıcılığı” (Visual Storytelling in Picture Books) was held together with Betül Gaye Dinç from Northumbria University. In this workshop, we elaborated on the principles of storytelling through visualization and caricaturisation and held discussions on how this selection of children’s books addressing gender equality could create more gender-aware pictures. The Purple Certificate team held a workshop titled “Global Citizenship: For Whom? Material Design Workshop” with 41 teachers from different provinces of Turkey within the scope of this year’s **Good Practices in Education Conference** organized for the 19th time by Sabancı University’s Education Reform Initiative. In the workshop, we held discussions on how the concepts of intersectionality and inclusion were associated with global citizenship by reconsidering the concepts of citizenship, prejudice, and social learning theory from a gender perspective.

*Resimli Kitaplarda
Görsel Hikaye
Anlatıcılığı Atölyesi*

Betül Gaye Dinç

*14 Ekim
14.00*



Events

- We launched a new event series called '**Cumartesi Söyleşileri**' (Saturday Conversations), where we hosted a number of lectures and conversations on various topics within the framework of gender studies at Minerva Han on the first Saturday of each month. The first event was **Aksu Bora's** lecture on "the century of women" on October 7. The second event was a discussion on the question "Will popular culture save women?" with **Nühket Sirman** and **Feyza Akinerdem** as the speakers on November 4, and the third event was held on 2 December to discuss the topic "The Republic and gender" with **Cenk Özbay**, **Nacide Berber** and **Bermal Küçük**. The series will continue in spring 2024.



Conference



- The first International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference was held at Minerva Han on December 9-10. Academics, researchers and NGO staff from Turkey and the international arena attended the conference and the keynote speech was delivered by **Feride Acar**. 20 sessions were held in two days about studies on gender in many fields from employment to ecology, technology to politics, youth, city, migration, world, art, law, etc. 76 different studies were covered throughout the conference with more than 300 participants. In addition, our annual panels and award ceremonies for Dicle Koğacıoğlu Article Awards and Şirin Tekeli Research Awards took place in the last sessions on both days of the conference. The conference program is available on the website.

Collaborations and Cooperations

- We hosted Nour Shantout as the second guest of the Conversations on Gender and Art, which we started in collaboration with the international creative residency program Gate 27 at Minerva Han in September. The event titled “Weaving Tales with Nour Shantout” was facilitated by Ahu Antmen, a member of the Gate 27 Advisory Board and Faculty Member at Sabancı University Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. As part of her research-based project called “Searching for the New Dress”, which she will continue at Gate 27, Nour Shantout is currently interested in the impact on the Palestinian embroidery culture of women who fled Syria and took shelter in the “Shatila” camp in Palestine due to the war in Syria. The third event of the series was held on October 19, moderated by Ahu Antmen, with Dominique Hurth as our guest. During her residency at Gate 27, Dominique Hurth conducts research at the Women’s Library and Information Center Foundation, working on documents on women artists included in the archives. She is interested in gaps in terms of official art historiography, aiming to adopt a feminist strategy of talking upon and through the works of women artists whose works have not yet found a place in the canon of art history, and works within and through the gaps and margins of the archives.
- The “Wiki Walks the City” was organized in cooperation with the Curious Steps Program and with the project support received from the Wikimedia movement by Ege Atacan Doğan and Özge Yalçın, both Sabancı University students, and took place on September 25. We held a workshop at Minerva Han after the walk accompanied by stories from Curious Steps’ routes: Beyoğlu and Beyoğlu in the Traces of Artist Women.



Collaborations and Cooperations

- We held a city-focused workshop with the Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) on September 14. The first session was moderated by Cenk Özbay and included short presentations by Berrin Koyuncu Lorasdağı, Koray Velibeyoğlu, Ceylan Öner, Uğur Sadioğlu, Ahu Sumbaş and Evren Dinçer about their studies on the structure of cities today. In the second session, the moderator was Berrin Koyuncu Lorasdağı, while Gülru Göker, Ayşe Betül Çelik, Reyhan Atasü Topçuoğlu, Ayşe Köse, Kristen Biehl, Marhaba Saparova, Ezgi Güler and Aslı İkizoğlu talked about their studies on urban inequalities and differences. The last session was moderated by Fuat Keyman who opened possible collaborations for city-oriented studies up for discussion.



Awards

- This year, the awards by SU Gender were announced during the special sessions held within the scope of the International Gender Studies in Turkey Conference. The 14th Dicle Koğacioğlu Article Award Panel and Award Ceremony was held on December 9. The panel was moderated by Ayfer Bartu Candan, also a juror, and the authors who won the awards and incentive support talked about their studies. Within the scope of the 2023 awards, the Article Award went to **Berkem Yanıkcı**, and **Esra Nur Akbulak** and **Sena Türkdoğan** were awarded the Academic Incentive Support.
- On the second day of the conference, on December 10, the Şirin Tekeli Research Award Panel and Award Ceremony took place. The seventh Şirin Tekeli Research Award was awarded to **Işıl Bayraktar** while **Burcu Sarı**, **Selver Şahin** and **Erol Sağlam** were awarded the Research Incentive Support. Last year's award winners joined the panel to present the outputs of their studies throughout the year. Ayşe Betül Çelik, also a juror, moderated the panel where Esra Demirkol Colosio, Burcu Saka, Elif Uyar, İlkay Özkuralpli and Özden Senem Erol talked about their studies.



Publications

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- Terzioğlu, A., Ergül, H.İ., Tercan, M., Yanıkoğlu, B., & Arın, İ. (2023). Derin Öğrenme Tabanlı bir Nefret Söylemi Tanıma Sistemi: Türkiye ve Tunus’un Karşılaştırmalı Analizi Conference 2023 31st Signal Processing and Communications Applications [Conference paper](#)



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