

Research Project Report “Comparing women’s movements in different cities in Turkey”

IV. Attachment

September 2017



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1.1 Interview sample

	Ankara	Diyarbakır ¹	Aegean Region	East Black Sea Region
Duration of field research	03.-04.2014; 09.-10.2014	03.-04.2014; 04.2015	03.-04.2015	06.-07.2015
The number of interviews conducted	20	9	18	18

1.2 List of interviewers

Research field	Name	Organisation
Ankara (2014)		
Ankara	Prof. Dr. Aksu Bora	Hacettepe University, Faculty of Communication; Amargi Magazine; Ayizi Publications
Ankara	Prof. Dr. Alev Özkazanç	Ankara University, Faculty of Political Sciences
Ankara	Anonym	Disabled Women’s Association (ENG-KAD)
Ankara	Anonym	Women Belong in Politics (KIPS)
Ankara	Anonym	Turkish Women’s Associations Federation (Türkiye Kadın Dernekleri Federasyonu)
Ankara	Prof. Dr. Feride Acar	The Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the Middle East Technical University
Ankara	Gülşen Ülker	Women’s Solidarity Foundation (KDV)
Ankara	Dr. Handan Çağlayan	Faculty of Political Science at Ankara University; Women for Peace Initiative
Ankara	Hatice Kapuzsuz Kütküt	Association for Supporting Women Candidates (KA.DER)

¹ Due to the political situation in the south-eastern, Kurdish areas of Turkey, the field research project planned for 2014 could not take place in the mentioned regions. During the 10-day stay in 2015, only nine interviews were conducted in Diyarbakır, as the time was limited.

Ankara	İlknur Üstün	Women’s Coalition
Ankara	Anonym	Socialist Feminist Collective
Ankara	Nesrin Semiz	Capital City Women’s Platform
Ankara	Pelin Kalkan	Ankara Feminist Collective
Ankara	Ass. Prof. Dr. Reyhan Atasü-Topçuoğlu	Hacettepe University Social Work Department
Ankara	Seçin Tuncel	KAOS GL
Ankara	Sema Kendirici Uğurman	Turkish Women’s Union
Ankara	Selen Doğan	Flying Broom Women’s Communication and Research Association
Ankara	Prof. Dr. Serpil Sancar	Faculty of Political Sciences Ankara University
Ankara	Sevinç Hocaogulları	Halkevci Women (Halkevci Kadınlar
Ankara	Prof. Dr. Suna Başak	Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences at Gazi University
Artvin (2015)		
Artvin	Ayla Varan	Artvin Bar Association
Artvin	Filiz Karakuş	Eğitim-İş Union
Artvin Hopa	Melike Arduç et al.	Halkevci Women (Halkevci Kadınlar)
Artvin	Nurcan Ay Katırcı	Artvin Women’s (Solidarity) Platform (Artvin Kadın (Dayanışma) Platformu)
Artvin Hopa	Nurcan Vayıç Aksu	Socialist Women’s Assemblies (Sosyalist Kadın Meclisleri)
Artvin Hopa	Nefise Yenigül	Freedom and Solidarity Party
Artvin	Özge Zeynep Arıcı & Anonym	Education and Science Workers' Union & Artvin Çoruh University Faculty of Education
Artvin	Sevda Ersöz et al.	Republican People's Party / Nationalist Movement Party Women’s Branch
Denizli (2015)		
Denizli	Ayşe Balkanay	Supporting Entrepreneur Women Association-Denizli (GİKAD)
Denizli	Bilsen Özen	Denizli Metropolitan Municipality City Council Women's Assembly
Denizli	Anonym	Pamukkale University Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences
Denizli	Halil Kandok	Denizli LGBTI and Their Families Formation (Denizli LGBTİ ve Aileleri Oluşumu)
Denizli	Hilal Can	Woman and Democracy Association (KADEM)

Denizli	Jülide Keleş Yarışan	Denizli Soroptimist Club
Denizli	Nurten Karakış	Association of Women’s Rights Protection
Denizli	Anonym	Denizli Women’s Solidarity Platform
Diyarbakır (2015)		
Diyarbakır	Arif et al.	HEBUN LGBT Association
Diyarbakır	Dilan Çiçek & Ceylan Gülen	KESKESOR LGBT Formation
Diyarbakır	Figen Aras Kaplan	Women’s Academy Association (Kadın Akademisi Derneği)
Diyarbakır	Güler Can	Jin Women’s News Agency
Diyarbakır	Mukaddes Alataş	Kardelen Women’s Centre
Diyarbakır	Anonym	Women’s Association Hands with Henna (Kıvalı Eller Kadın Derneği)
Diyarbakır	Nebahat Akkoç	KA-MER Foundation
Diyarbakır	Sara Aktaş	Free Women Congress (KJA)
Diyarbakır	Zin & Emek	Women’s Association Selis (Selis Kadınlar Derneği)
Muğla (2015)		
Muğla	Adalet Aydın	Peoples’ Democratic Party
Muğla	Aslı Gürsoy Yavuz	Rainbow Women and Family Association (Gökkuşığı Kadın ve Aile Derneği)
Muğla	Zeze	Vegan Feminists
Muğla	Dilek Bulut	Karya Women’s Association; Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University Faculty of Health Sciences
Muğla	Dilek Gedik	Education and Science Workers' Union
Muğla	Fayha Karanlı & Figan Erozan	Bodrum Women’s Solidarity Association (BKD)
Muğla	Gaye Cön	KA-MER Foundation
Muğla	Jale Eren	Republican Women’s Association
Muğla	Nahide Uçar	Labour is Mine Women’s Association
Muğla	Prof. Dr. Özlem Şahin Güngör	Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences
Trabzon (2015)		
Trabzon	Bahar Bostan	Trabzon Bar Association/ Women’s Rights Commission
Trabzon	Emine Altuntaş	JDP Women’s Branches
Trabzon	<i>Fırat Varatyan</i>	Trabzon Purple Fish LGBTI
Trabzon	Güler İpek	Trabzon Emek Sensin Home-based Working Women’s Association
Trabzon	Nilüfer Akgün	Black Sea Women’s Solidarity Association

Trabzon	Nurber Gürdal	Life Women’s Centre Association
Trabzon	Pelin Şirin	Peoples’ Democratic Party
Trabzon	Prof. Dr. Şahinde Yavuz	Black Sea Technical University, Faculty of Communication
Trabzon	Seda Kenanoğlu et al.	University Women’s Collective
Trabzon	Şükran Üst	Femin & Art International Women Artists’ Association

1.3 Map of four research regions



Source: T.C. İçişleri Bakanlığı Göç İdaresi Genel Müdürlüğü

1.4 Interview details

I. Introduction

Activists:

“Can you briefly tell me about *your organisation*?”

[“What kind of difficulties do you face in the *organisation*?”

“What kind of achievements have you made until now?”]

“What is your role in your *organisation*?”

[“For how long have you been active in the *organisation*?”]

“What are the goals of your *organisation*?”

“Which women do you target in scope of these goals?”

“What does being woman mean from your and your organisation’s perspective?”

Academics:

“What do you think are women’s movement(s) and what kind of a meaning and importance does this word hold in your academic activities?”

“Do you think that your academic activities can contribute to the women’s movement(s) / to the development of the women’s movement(s)? If yes, what kind of a contribution is it?”

“What does being-woman mean to you?”

[“What kind of a meaning does the term ‘woman’ have in your activities?”]

II. Women’s movements(s)

Activists:

“What is/are women’s movement(s)?”

“Which movements do you think can be included in the women’s movement(s)?”

“Which *persons, groups, organisations and platforms* are crucial for you and your activities?”

[“Please define the word ‘important’ (i.e. social, political representation)”]

[“What makes these *persons, groups, organisations and platforms* important to you?”]

“Which points of agreement and/or disagreement do you observe among women’s movement(s)? [“i.e. goals, themes of activity, etc.”]

[“Can you specify and explain these points of agreement and/or disagreement?”]

III. Agendas

“What points are on the agenda of the women’s movement(s) in the city of X?”

[“Which topics do they work on?”]

“Which common topics are on the agenda of the women’s movement(s) in the city of X? On which topics do they disagree?”

[“Why do you think that these topics are evaluated similarly or differently by the women’s movement(s) in the city of X?”]

“How much does the local agenda influence women’s activities and the agenda of the women’s movements?”

IV. Action Practices

“Which common or different action practices are carried out by the women’s movement(s) in the city of X?”

[“Can you describe these action practices in more detail?”]

“Where do these action practices take place?”

“What meaning does the city of X hold regarding the women’s movement(s)?”

“Compared to the rest of the country, what contributions does/do the women’s movement(s) in the city of X generally make to the other movements in Turkey?”

V. Communication

“How does/do the women's movement(s) in the city of X come into contact with each other on common issues and on common action practices?”

VI. Gezi

“In your opinion, how do the current political developments affect the women’s movement(s) in the city of X, the topics of discussion of this/these movement(s) and their action practices?”

VII. Conclusion

Academics:

“From which perspective do you see yourself as a part of the women’s movement(s)?”

“Is there anything you would like to say on this subject – except for in response to the questions I asked?”

1.5. Chronology of Women and Gender Politics in the Ottoman Empire and in Turkey

Ottoman Empire

Tanzimat-Reformen 1839-1876:

- Introduction of the right of marriage by civilian judges
- Inheritance law for daughters
- First steps towards formal school education for women

1869 First magazine for women (*Terakki-i Muhadderat*)

1908 Foundation of the first women’s organisation ‘Ottoman Society for the Defence of Women’s Rights’ (*Osmanlı Müdafaa-i Hukuk-ı Nisvan Cemiyeti*) by Fatma Aliye

1913 First feminist-oriented magazine ‘Women’s World’ (*Kadınlar Dünyası*)

1914 Admission of women to university

Republic of Turkey

1923 Foundation of the Peoples’ Party of Women (*Kadınlar Halk Fırkası*), later banned by the central government. Later, transformation into the Turkish Women’s Union (*Türk Kadınlar Birliği*)

1926 Introduction of Swiss Civil Law, replacement of Sharia in civil rights matters:

- Ban on polygamy
- Establishment of civil marriage
- Women receive the right to divorce, as well as the guardianship of their children.

1930 Women receive the right to vote in municipal elections.

1934 Women constitutionally gain civil rights, including active and passive rights to vote.

1935 First female senator in Turkish parliament

1975 Foundation of the Progressive Women’s Association (*İlerici Kadınlar Derneği; İKD*)

1978 Organisation of an international congress regarding the status of women in Turkey by the social scientist Nermin Abadan-Ünat

Duygu Asena publishes the magazine ‘From women’s point of view’ (*Kadınca*).

1980 Military coup: ban on all political associations

1980–1982

Foundation of awareness-raising groups in Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir

1982 Organisation of a symposium on women’s topics in Istanbul

1983 Foundation of the company Women’s Circle for Publication, Service and Consultation (*Kadın Çevresi Yayıncılık, Hizmet ve Danışmanlık Şirketi*) by feminist-oriented women

Legalisation of abortion

1985 Turkey ratifies the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (*CEDAW*).

1986 Authoring of a petition for the implementation of *CEDAW*

1987 First legal feminist-oriented street demonstration against domestic violence

Publication of the first feminist magazine ‘Feminist’ (*Feminist*)

Duygu Asena publishes her bestseller ‘The woman has no name’ (*Kadının Adı Yok*)
 Foundation of the feminist-oriented Women’s Solidarity Foundation (*Kadın Dayanışma Vakfı*)
 in Ankara

Foundation of the feminist socialist-oriented Democratic Women’s Association (*Demokratik Kadın Derneği*)

1988 First feminist congress in Ankara

Publication of the magazine ‘Socialist-Feminist Cactus’ (*Sosyalist Feminist Kaktüs*)

1989 Implementation of a campaign against sexual harassment and rape entitled ‘Purple Needle’ (*Mor İğne*)

Foundation of the Women’s Research and Education Center at Istanbul University (*İÜ KASAUM*)

Intense discussions take place between socialist, Kurdish and radical feminists during a women’s congress in Istanbul.

1990 Foundation of the consultation and support institution Purple Roof Women’s Shelter Foundation (*Mor Çatı Kadın Sığınağı Vakfı*) for women subjected to violence in Istanbul

Establishment of the Women’s Library and Information Centre Foundation (*Kadın Eserleri Kütüphanesi ve Bilgi Merkezi Vakfı*) in Istanbul

Establishment of the Directorate for the Status and Problems of Women (*Kadının Statüsü ve Sorunları Genel Müdürlüğü; KSSGM*)

1991 Establishment of the Ministry of Family and Women’s Issues (*T.C. Aile ve Kadın Sorunları Bakanlığı*) by the government under President Süleyman Demirel

Opening of a women’s consultation centre in the Altındağ district in Ankara

1992 Tansu Çiller becomes the first and – until now – the only female prime minister of Turkey.

1993 Foundation of the organisation Women for Women’s Rights – New Ways (*Kadının İnsan Hakları Vakfı - Yeni Çözümler Derneği; KİH-YÇ*) in Istanbul

Foundation of the Women’s Studies Centre at Ankara University (*AÜ KASAUM*)

Establishment of the gay-lesbian centre *Lambdaistanbul* in Istanbul

1994 The first issue of the gay-lesbian magazine *KAOS GL* in Ankara

1995 The first issue of the feminist magazine ‘Monday’ (*Pazartesi*) in Istanbul

Establishment of the religious conservative-oriented Rainbow – Istanbul Women’s Platform (*Gökkuşáğı İstanbul Kadın Platformu; GİKAP*) in Istanbul

Foundation of the religious conservative-oriented Capital City Women’s Platform (*Başkent*

Kadın Platformu) in Ankara

The Turkish government signs the Beijing Declaration of the Fourth World Conference on Women and thereby commits itself to the National Program for the Enhancement of Women’s Integration in Development, funded by the UNDP and the Turkish government, implemented by the KSSGM.

1996 The first issue of the Kurdish women’s magazine *Roza*

The first issue of the feminist magazine *Amargi*

Foundation of the women’s network organisation Flying Broom (*Uçan Süpürge*) in Ankara

Foundation of the Kurdish, autonomous women’s cooperative (*Jiyan*)

1997 Foundation of the Association for Supporting Women Candidates (*Kadın Adayları Destekleme Derneği; KA.DER*)

Establishment of the KA-MER Foundation in Diyarbakır for the enforcement of women’s rights, especially in the 23 eastern and south-eastern provinces of Turkey.

Introduction of the ban on headscarves at Turkish universities

Organisation of a women’s march against Sharia (*Şeriatı karşı Kadın Yürüyüşü*)

in Ankara in which 52 Kemalist, secular and/or nationalist-oriented activists, NGOs and parties participated

1998 Human chain with three million participants against the headscarf ban at universities and public institutions in Turkey

Introduction of a new family protection law to combat violence against women and children

2001 Foundation of the women’s cooperative *Amargi* in Istanbul

Participation of LGBT activists in the 1 May demonstration in Ankara

2002 Introduction of the reformed Turkish civil law by the Turkish parliament:

2002 Einführung des reformierten türkischen Zivilrechts durch das türkische Parlament:

- The man is no longer the “head” of the family.
- and men are treated equally in marriage, divorce and property law.
- The age for marriage is raised to 18 years for both sexes.

Foundation of the Turkish Penal Code/ Women’s Platform (*Türk Ceza Kanunu Kadın Platformu*) by 29 women’s and LGBT organisations

Turkey ratifies the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW.

2003 Foundation of the media-critical women’s cooperative *Filmmor* in Istanbul

Foundation of the Women’s Platform for Peace (*Barış için Kadın Platformu*) in Istanbul

Reforms in labour law are intended to protect women from discrimination in working life, among others.

Participation of Turkey in the EU’s gender equality programme

Turkey-wide establishment of family courts in cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants

2004 New supplements to the Constitution of Turkey obligate the state to take all necessary measures for gender equality.

Obligation of municipalities with more than 50,000 inhabitants to create refuge shelters for women and children

2005 Introduction of the reformed Turkish penal law by the Turkish parliament:

- Protection of the rights and freedoms of the individual instead of the concept of family honour
- Recognition of the physical and sexual autonomy of women
- Rape (including in marriage) becomes a crime against the individual.
- Ban of so-called virginity tests

2007 The religious-conservative Women’s Rights Association against Discrimination (*Ayrımcılığa Karşı Kadın Hakları Derneği; AK-DER*) organises a first meeting in Istanbul.

Establishment of the Foundation for Solidarity among Women (*Kadınlarla Dayanışma Vakfı; KADAV*) in Istanbul

Foundation of the Women’s Labour and Employment Initiative (*Kadın Emeği ve İstihdamı Girişimi; KEİG*)

Foundation of the Socialist-Feminist Collective (*Sosyalist Feminist Kolektif; SFK*)

Presentation of a national action plan for social gender justice (2008–2013) by KSSGM

2008 Foundation of the Women’s Platform against Sexualised Violence (*Cinsel Şiddete karşı Kadın Platformu*)

2009 Foundation of the Women’s Initiative for Peace (*Barış için Kadın Girişimi*)

Introduction of the Parliamentary Commission for Equal Opportunities of Men and Women (*Meclis Kadın Erkek Fırsat Eşitliği Komisyonu; KEFEK*)

2010 NGO shadow report on the implementation of the *CEDAW*

2011 Restructuring of KSSGM as part of the Ministry of Family and Social Policies (*T.C. Aile ve Sosyal Politikaları Bakanlığı*)

2012 Countrywide protests as part of the campaign ‘My Body! My Decision!’ (*Benim Bedenim! Benim Kararım!*) regarding a draft law for a ban on abortion

2013 Gezi protests with participation of various women’s movements and the LGBTI movement

2014 Entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention)

2015 Countrywide protests against the murder of Özgecan Aslan, supported by the online campaign #tell your story (#sendeanlat)

1.6 Short biographies of the participants in the publication

Prof. Dr. Yasemin Karakaşoğlu

Yasemin Karakaşoğlu has been a professor of Intercultural Education at the University of Bremen since 2004 and a deputy rector for Internationality and Diversity since 2011. She studied Turkology, New German Literature and International Political Science at the University of Hamburg and Hacettepe University in Ankara. She worked as a research assistant at the Centre for Turkey Studies in Essen (1991–1995) and at the University of Duisburg-Essen (1995–2004) in the area of intercultural pedagogy, where she obtained her doctorate in 1999. Her fields of research and teaching are: Intercultural Education and Intercultural Opening of Schools and Universities, Teacher Training in the Migration Society, Islam at School, Women’s Research with a focus on Turkey and Migration.

Dr. Charlotte Binder

Charlotte Binder completed her Magister degree in History and Cultural Studies at the University of Bremen in 2009. She has been a research assistant in the projects “Comparing women's movements in different cities in Turkey” and “University women’s and gender studies in Turkey” in the area of Intercultural Education at the University of Bremen since 2014. Her recently completed doctorate focuses on alliances between women’s and gender political agents as part of International Women’s Day, 8 March, by means of an empirical-qualitative study comparing Berlin and Istanbul. Her fields of research and teaching are: Gender and Diversity Studies, Contemporary Turkey Research, Anthropology and Qualitative Research Methods.

Aslı Polatdemir

Aslı Polatdemir completed her studies (MA) in Political Science with the accompanying subject Near and Middle Eastern Studies at Heidelberg University in 2013. She obtained her

bachelor’s degree in International Relations at Istanbul University in 2011. She has been a research assistant in the project “Comparing women's movements in different cities in Turkey” in the area of Intercultural Education at the University of Bremen since 2014. Her research and teaching focus areas are: Gender Politics in Turkey and the Middle East, Representation and Gender on the Internet, Gender Perspectives in Postcolonial Studies. Her ongoing doctoral project bears the title: “Empowerment Concepts of Women’s Movements in Turkey: A Foucauldian Analysis of Subjectification Through Websites” and supported by the Heinrich Böll Foundation with a doctoral scholarship.

Münevver Azizoğlu Bazan

Münevver Azizoğlu Bazan completed her Magister degree in humanities and social sciences, in political science and gender studies at the University of Hamburg. The focus of her studies is in the area of gender research, postcolonial feminist theories, critique of industrialisation in the example of women’s gainful employment, the Kurdish women’s movement and the women’s movements in Turkey.

Her doctoral project on “The contribution of the Kurdish women’s movement to the empowerment of (Kurdish) women” in the area of Intercultural Education at the University of Bremen is supported by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation with a doctoral scholarship. Additionally, she supports the research project "Comparing women's movements in different cities in Turkey". She also works as a lecturer for Kurdish at the Foreign Languages Centre of the University of Bremen.

Prof. Dr. Betül Yazar

Prof. Dr. Betül Yazar has been continuing her research as a Philipp Schwartz Fellow at the University of Bremen, at the Unit for Intercultural Education since 2 February 2017.

She graduated from the Department of Sociology, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey, in 1991. Later, she received her MA degree in Sociology, at the University of Essex, UK. She finished her PhD in Sociology at Lancaster University, UK.

After her academic studies, she started working as an assistant professor at the Department of Sociology, at Abant İzzet Baysal University, Bolu, Turkey. She then moved to the Faculty of Communication at Gazi University, Ankara, Turkey. Before receiving her professorship in 2012, she worked there as an associate professor.

Her main research fields and academic interests include Modernism, Neoliberalism, New Right, Popular Culture, Visual-Cultural Communication, Body Politics, Gender Studies, Feminist Theory and the Women’s Movement in Turkey.

İkbal Gercik

İkbal Gercik graduated from the Middle East Technical University and received her BA degree in Foreign Language Education in 2011. She worked as a language assistant in a primary school in Styria, Austria, until March 2012 as part of the EU Comenius assistants programme. In 2012, she moved to Vienna to learn German for a year in order to start her MA degree in General Linguistics at the University of Vienna.

While continuing her studies, in 2016, she started working at Onedio, where she did translations from Turkish to English for a year; meanwhile, she also translated a luxury magazine from Turkish to English, which helped her to become familiar with a wide range of topics. Lastly, she took part in the multilingual translation and publication project “Comparing women's movements in different cities in Turkey” carried out by the Unit for Intercultural Education, at the University of Bremen, both as a co-coordinator, and as a Turkish to English and German to Turkish translator.