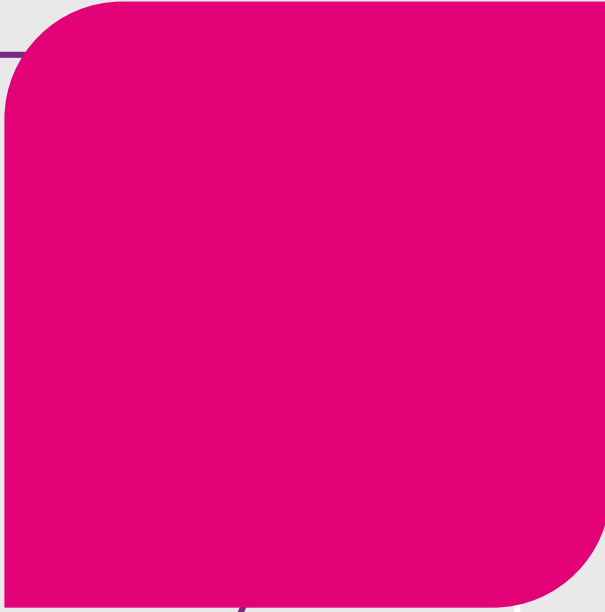


**WWHR** WOMEN FOR  
WOMEN'S  
HUMAN RIGHTS



# ACTIVITY REPORT 2023





# ACTIVITY REPORT 2023

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# GREETINGS

We do not know how you have been feeling, but 2023 was the most grueling of recent years for us. The crises in Turkey have become all but perpetual amid the mounting threat against the feminist movement's gains, deepening problems faced in the realm of human rights fueled by the growing authoritarianism of the regime, the past two decades' sharpest fall in national economy, and the Kahramanmaraş earthquakes on February 6 that struck 11 provinces, resulting in immeasurable losses and an uncontrollable disaster.

According to official data, over 50 thousand people lost their lives, over 100 thousand people were injured, 1.5 million people lost their homes, and 4.5 million people were displaced as a result of the Kahramanmaraş earthquakes on February 6. The government, having caused such devastation by not taking any action to address existing risks and exercising politics merely for profits, also failed to provide coordination among institutions, which delayed search and rescue efforts for days. Essential needs such as food, water, shelter, and hygiene remained unmet for months. Despite such incapability of governmental institutions, rights-based civil society actors were excluded, and sometimes even expelled, from relief efforts.

Immediately after the earthquake, which tragically demonstrated the utter lack of meritocracy and accountability in the system, elections turned out to be the top item on Turkey's agenda, and people in the earthquake-impacted region were abandoned to their own fate. Rights-based non-governmental organizations mobilized all their means both during search and rescue efforts and the subsequent relief and recovery efforts to meet basic needs and worked in full solidarity in spite of all the hardships and attempts to

hinder their activities. Meanwhile, WWHR conducted an eight-month project to provide psychosocial support to quake-affected women and LGBTI+ people in Adıyaman, Diyarbakır and Malatya.

Turkey's general elections in May were another fact that strongly marked 2023. The ruling party built its election strategy primarily on hostility towards LGBTI+ people. Throughout the entire period of elections, the rights and visibility of LGBTI+ people were placed against "national values" and "holy unity of the family", and growing hostility towards LGBTI+ was sponsored by the government. In the aftermath of unequal and unfair elections, the AKP, which ruled the country for two decades, and the People's Alliance secured both the presidential seat and the majority of the seats in the parliament. Meanwhile, the entry of extreme right wingers into the parliament posed further threats against the rights we won. LGBTI+ people were the first group who were once again put on target by the president himself, while some right-wing extremists who won seats for the first time in this election made promises to shut down LGBTI+ organizations, and invalidate or totally annul the Law no. 6284. Despite all these worrying developments, acting in solidarity with the feminist movement and the LGBTI+ movement, WWHR has continued, and continues, to fight against the risks and challenges that the post-election period will unfold.

Although circumstances draw a grim picture, we, as people who fight for gender equality, will devise new strategies and strengthen our solidarity in an environment fraught with risks to continue our unyielding struggle for an equal and free life. We have, especially after the elections, recognized the importance of

building one-to-one, personal and sustainable relationships at local level. Accordingly, we have decided to add “support for local organizing efforts” to the activities under our thematic areas and carry out more systematic work on this front. Despite the darkness surrounding us, one promising development for the future is the broad adoption of feminism among young women. Aware of how important organizing and enhanced rights consciousness among young women is, WWHR will conduct more activities for young women and LGBTI+ people in the coming years, and strengthen its solidarity skills by exchanging knowledge and experiences with different feminisms and women’s movements.

As 2023 was about to draw to a close, we were at the Council of State on November 28, 2023 – two and a half years after the legal case we opened against the decision of withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention. Like we said at the lawless hearing the outcome of which we knew beforehand; no matter how many times the decision of withdrawal is found to be “in accordance with the law”, no matter how many times our demands for the Istanbul Convention are rejected, “it was us who won” at the end of the day, together with millions of people who owned the Convention. We will become even more crowded and stronger in our solidarity and tireless fight for our rights and lives together.





## WHO WE ARE?



At Women for Women's Human Rights Association, we work in collaboration with women's movements and feminist movements in Turkey and around the world in campaigns organized to ensure that women's rights and gender equality are guaranteed by law, policies focusing on gender equality are developed, and existing legislation is implemented with an egalitarian approach. In addition to local and national advocacy work, our association, which has played an important role in many legal reforms in the past, also establishes networks and carries out advocacy work at the United Nations level to create political transformation and international initiatives on issues pertaining to women's rights and gender equality.

WWHR developed the Women's Human Rights Education Program (HREP) in 1995 to facilitate women to exercise their legal rights. This program has been running in different regions of Turkey for 28 years. HREP is one of the most comprehensive and widespread human rights education programs in the world, and it has facilitated the establishment of new independent women's organizations. In addition to HREP group workshops, we have been able to reach many people via the Gender Equality Seminars we developed in 2016 together with municipalities, women's organizations, and private sector institutions.

Since our founding, we have been carrying out research projects on a national and international level to identify the obstacles that prevent women from exercising their

civil, economic, political, sexual, bodily, and reproductive rights and contributing to the formulation of actions and policies to remove these obstacles. As WWHR, we reinforce our work with publications which aim to document and share women's experiences and contribute to the proliferation of women's political gains, achievements, and successful tactics. This is also an effective means of achieving our primary goal to establish links between struggles carried out at local, national and international levels.

The political, economic and cultural atmosphere in Turkey and worldwide has a significant impact on the themes to which we at WWHR channel our focus. Raising our voice against deepening inequalities and systematic threats against our lives and rights as women and LGBTI+ people, and contributing to the voicing of our objection in a more organized and widespread manner are part of our work. In 2023, we extended our struggle against the proposed constitutional amendments in a campaign and brought visibility to the matter both in the public and among politicians, just as we did, in the recent years, extended our struggle when the right to alimony became a matter of public debate, or when the decision of withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention was passed. Similarly, we published leaflets, and produced and disseminated content, including the second episode of our documentaries series *"Remember this Crowd"* on the Law no. 6284, while carrying on with our fight against statements and practices targeting gender equality. We know that the struggle to build a world we dream of can only be won if we engage in advocacy work, produce, collect and disseminate the knowledge to be used for this purpose, and stand in solidarity with, draw strength from, each other. It is with this belief that we continue to come together and act in solidarity with movements and organizations that fight

for gender equality at local, national, regional and international levels. We have actively monitored ongoing platforms and organizing efforts, held and participated in events and meetings, developed a language together, and exchanged experience and knowledge. Since February 6, we have remained in touch with HREP trainers, local women's rights organizations, feminist initiatives and other rights-based organizations and platforms in the region. Under the seasonal psychosocial support project we initiated, we sought to provide support to women and volunteers based in the region. While addressing current developments, we place importance on carrying out activities in our priority areas. As such, we continued to work on the right to abortion, an area which we have prioritized for the past few years. The right to abortion will continue to be a focus area this year and in the coming periods.

2023 was a tough year marked, first and foremost, by the deep sorrow that the earthquakes and wars caused. However, it also stood for something very special for WWHR: 2023 was the 30th anniversary of our association. Having turned 30 as a feminist organization is a great source of happiness as much as it is a great responsibility. We will carry on with our efforts to continue our 30-year-old struggle in stronger solidarity for many years to come.

## WHAT WE DID IN 2023?

### We launched our campaign “No to the Amendments to the Constitution”

We disseminated our [statement](#), signed by 171 women’s and LGBTI+ organizations, and say against the proposed amendment to the Constitution, which is discriminatory and contradicts the principles of equality, on social media and TV channels in January 2023; shared it with all opposition parties; and called those who joined the committee to say no to the proposal. To amplify our message, we prepared [images](#) and [videos](#) describing why we stand against the constitutional amendment. In addition, the strip advertising we prepared [aired](#) on three TV channels to raise further awareness. Through this multifaceted campaign, we successfully reached tens of thousands of people via TV and social media channels.



### We issued a brief note on our primary observations and urgent demands after our visits to the quake-affected region

We issued [a brief note](#) on our primary observations and urgent demands relating to the post-earthquake period. Describing the disruptions in disaster management in the first 72 hours of the earthquakes which cost over 50 thousand people’s lives, we pointed to the fact that the lack of coordination in disaster management deepened the crisis and rights violations especially for women, children, LGBTI+ people, and refugees in the brief note.



We had online meetings and phone talks with HREP trainers right after the earthquake, and supported exchanges of information pertaining to solidarity efforts and solidarity networks our local trainers joined.



## We carried out a psychosocial support project in Adiyaman, Diyarbakır and Malatya in the period following the earthquakes on February 6<sup>th</sup>

Starting in March 2023, we began conducting regular visits to Diyarbakır so as to assess the needs in the earthquake-impacted region, discuss the ways for collaboration, and report on rights violations of women and LGBTI+ people. Our first visit was from March 1 to March 7, during which we came together with the platforms and organizations (including Diyarbakır City Platform, Rosa Women's Association, Eastern and Southeastern Business Women's Association-DOGÜNKAD, Young Approaches to Health, Diyarbakır Youth Center, Women's Culture, Arts and Literature Association-KASED, Mesopotamia Psychologists) that provided aid to Adiyaman, Maraş and Malatya as well as individual psychological support to volunteers. Within this scope, we held 26 individual support sessions with 21 volunteers from 10 different organizations. Additionally, we actively participated in volunteer relief efforts and conducted observations in districts that were severely impacted by the disaster.

We continued to provide post-earthquake psychosocial support in an eight-month project. As part of the project incepted in May, we established a team composed of a social worker and psychologist based in Diyarbakır who provided psychosocial support to women and LGBTI+ people in Adiyaman and Malatya at least twice a week. In the Akçatepe village of Adiyaman's Tut district, Yaylakonak town and Malatya's Akçadağ district, 56 women received psychosocial support in group sessions, while eight women received psychosocial support in one-to-one sessions, and 17 women in sessions in private. In addition, we provided consulting to 60 women in private, and helped 25 of them get in touch with relevant authorities and institutions.



Adiyaman, Tut, Akçatepe Village –  
Group Session, July 2023



Diyarbakır Office –  
Psychosocial Support Room





### We attended the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva

In June 2022, we had conveyed our written input for the report which Reem Alsalem, UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and Girls, was preparing on Turkey to present at the 53<sup>rd</sup> session of the Human Rights Council, and had expressed our views at the meeting she held with women's organizations in Istanbul. Following Alsalem's visit, aimed at providing updates on developments regarding gender equality in Turkey, we organized and facilitated an online meeting involving nine women's and LGBTI+ organizations, including local ones. In June 2023, we attended the 53<sup>rd</sup> session in Geneva, took part in the meetings on the developments in Turkey with Special Rapporteurs, and came together with feminist organizations. We also presented an oral statement before Reem Alsalem presented her report on Turkey. In addition, we released a video message from UN Independent Expert on Protection against Violence and Discrimination Based on Sexual orientation and Gender Identity to support the Pride March in Turkey.





## Euromed Rights Factsheet on Turkey we penned was published

The [Factsheet on Turkey](#) we penned under Euromed Rights' Women Rights and Gender Equality Working Group was published. This comprehensive document, available in English, French, and Arabic, offers general information on the international treaties Turkey is party to, as well as insights into discrimination against women and gender equality within the Constitution and domestic laws. Additionally, it provides an overview of the implementation of these instruments. You can access all country factsheets, including the one on Turkey, [here](#).



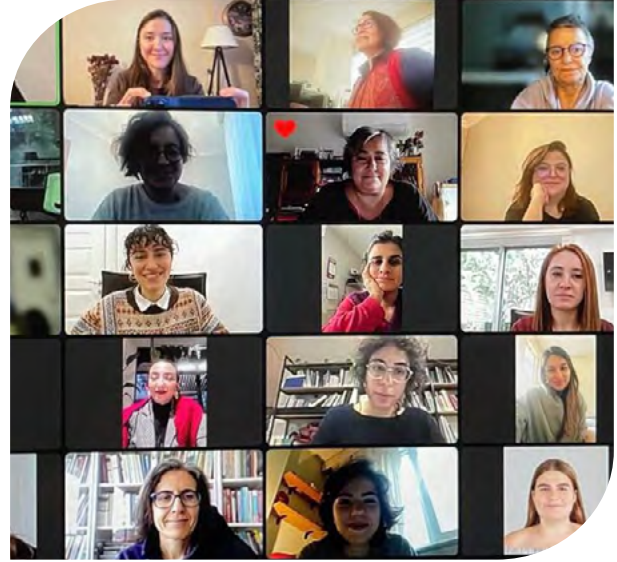
## We came together at the first offline Feminist Gathering after a long while

After a long recess, we organized the first offline edition of the Feminist Gatherings, which we were running online due to the pandemic. At the gathering themed “[We Are Rebuilding Life: Feminist and LGBTI+ Solidarity in Disasters](#)” on April 15, we discussed how the earthquakes on February 6 impacted women and LGBTI+ people, what the specific needs of women and LGBTI+ were

in disasters, and how feminists and LGBTI+ people were building solidarity networks. Bade Başer from the Feminist Solidarity for Disaster Relief Group, Havva Kafes from the Ankara LGBTI+ Earthquake Solidarity Group, and Elif Ege from the Women's Coalition were panelists at the gathering during which participants talked about the incredible solidarity built among women and LGBTI+ people despite all forms of hurdles, and underscored the need for feminist solidarity to rebuild life and the importance of long-term plans in the region and in those provinces that host survivors.

## We held an online Feminist Gatherings session where we addressed sexual abuse within the context of conceptual frameworks, basic principles and preventive efforts

During the fieldwork we conducted in the quake-affected region, we identified field workers' need for support when it comes to how to approach to sexual abuse of children and how to tackle this matter. In response, we organized an online meeting with Efsun Sertoğlu, sexuality trainer and consultant, and children's rights activist, to address this need. Key concepts, principles and preventive efforts were discussed at the meeting that saw approximately 100 participants including practitioners in the region and those interested in the topic.



## We held the first screening of *Remember This Crowd: 6284*

We premiered the second episode of our documentary series "Remember This Crowd" on the Law no. 6284 directed by Vuslat Karan and Burcu Melekoğlu in an event held at Postane on April 29. Hosting over 100 people, we screened the documentary addressing the process running up to the enactment of the Law no. 6284, the struggle of the women's movement in this period, as well as the challenges encountered in its implementation. Following the screening, a panel discussion on Law no. 6284 ensued, featuring contributions from Hülya Gülbahar, Zelay Ayman, Deniz Bayram, İrem Yıldız, Anjelik Kelavgil, and Berfu Şeker.





## We organized the SWANA Regional Dialogue Forum

We held the online SWANA Regional Dialogue Forum on May 29-30 in collaboration with Fòs Feminista, The A Project and the Center for Egyptian Women's Legal Assistance. Coming together with feminists from the Global South, we engaged in discussions about the impact of policies and rhetoric targeting rights on sexual health and reproductive health. Additionally, we shared successful feminist strategies developed to counter such attacks in the region.

## With our belief that “We Stand Together for Our Rights”, we initiated the “Constitutional Committee for Us All” campaign

We held a workshop titled “We Stand Together for Our Rights” on September 15-17, 2023 in Istanbul. Hosting 25 feminist and LGBTI+ organizations in the workshop, we had the chance to discuss our strategies for local and nation-wide struggle against potential threats and attacks against our rights in the coming periods. Then we united forces with 22 participating women's, feminist and LGBTI+ organizations and launched a campaign named “The Constitutional Committee for Us All” to address the parliament's work on constitutional amendments against gender equality, the rights of LGBTI+ people and equality. You may find the campaign and associated activities carried out under the campaign at [hepimizicinanayasa.org](http://hepimizicinanayasa.org).





## We were on a social media campaign on September 28, International Safe Abortion Day



On September 28, International Safe Abortion Day, we joined the campaign led by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR), translated the campaign's visual materials into Turkish and disseminated them across our feminist networks. We were on social media with images in Turkish and the hashtag #KürtajDayanışması (Abortion Solidarity), voicing our demand for a safe, lawful and stigma-free access to abortion.

We also gave a comprehensive [interview](#) on the same day and evaluated access to abortion and contraception in Turkey in the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the right to abortion, in collaboration with our partners, Mor Çatı and Women on Web, in the "Abortion is My Right!" project.



## We attended the International Family Law Symposium

We attended the “International Family Law Symposium” held on November 1-3 in Ankara as part of the project, “Improving the Effectiveness of Family Courts: Better Protection of the Rights of Family Members”, co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Justice Academy of Turkey. While we addressed our criticism and objections against the project outcomes collected without consultation with women and feminists on such essential matters as divorce proceedings, fault-based divorce, alimony, guardianship, and family mediation governed by the Civil Law directly to the interlocutors of the subject, we issued a press statement with the participating feminist organizations and expressed our objections publicly. You may find our statement, “A Roadmap on Women’s Rights Cannot Be Prepared With No Account of Women’s Experiences” [here](#).

## As part of ODOS, we issued a joint press statement against Israel’s occupation of Palestine with the members of CBSR from Turkey

As part of One Day, One Struggle (ODOS) campaign that the Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR) organizes every year on November 9th, we issued a joint statement titled “Israel Must Immediately Stop the War It Has Waged Against the People of Palestine and Bring an End to Its Colonialist Invasion Policies Against Palestine!” You may find our press statement, which stresses that women, children, LGBTI+ people, the disabled and the elderly are primary victims of wars and calls for peace, [here](#).

### İsrail Filistin Halkına Açtığı Savaşı Acilen Durdurmalı, Filistin’e Yönelik Sömürgeci İşgal Politikalarını Derhal Terk Etmelidir!

Bizler Türkiye’den Müslüman Toplumlarda Cinsel ve Bedensel Haklar Koalisyonu (CSBR) üyesi feminist ve LGBTİ+ örgütleri olarak, her türlü savaş, soykırım ve işgal politikalarının karşındayız. Çünkü savaş insanlık üzerinde tarifi olmayan yaralar açar ve savaşların en büyük mağdurları kadınlar, LGBTİ+’lar ve çocuklardır.

Biliyoruz ki İsrail yıllardır uluslararası alanda bölgedeki kadın ve LGBTİ+ haklarının savunucusu görüntüsü altında Filistin halkına yönelik şiddet ve soykırımı meşrulaştırmaya çalışıyor. İşgal sebebiyle yıllardır başta kadınlar ve LGBTİ+’lar olmak üzere Filistin halkı en temel haklarına ve demokrasiye erişemiyor. 7 Ekim’den beri sürdürülen abluka ve saldırılar ise tüm insanlığın gözü önünde gerçekleşiyor, insan hakları savunucusu olduğunu iddia eden bazı ülkeler ise, soykırımı ve işgali olumlayan bir tavır takınıyor.



### The hearing of the lawsuit regarding the annulment of the decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention was held at the Council of State



The hearing for the lawsuit we filed in May 2021 against the decision of withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention was held at the 10<sup>th</sup> Chamber of the Council of State on November 28, 2023. Once a date for a hearing for 24 cases including ours could only be set two and a half years later, we were at the Council of State for the hearing of our case this time. Following the [press statement](#) we made on 28 November, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in front of the Council of State, we made [our plea](#) to the court in which we focused on the developments after the withdrawal and the impact of withdrawal from the convention. As of the date during which these lines are being written, the 10<sup>th</sup> Chamber has not issued its detailed ruling on our case yet.

### We continued our Gender Equality Seminars

We organized Gender Equality seminars with eight institutions including universities, local administrations and private sector actors. We reached approximately 400 people through our Gender Equality seminars. Four out of 11 trainers who attended the orientation sessions for Gender Equality Seminars in 2022 conducted at least one seminar in 2023.

In November 2023, we completed the second orientation session for face-to-face Gender Equality Seminars, and the number of trainers conducting seminars rose to 77.



### As a member of the steering committee of the Women's Assembly at Istanbul City Council, we strengthen our solidarity at the Council

We continue our work at Istanbul City Council's Women's Assembly, of which we are a founding member and a member of the steering committee since 2020. In 2023, we held two online talks, one online Gender Equality Seminar, in addition to two activities involving a booth, one documentary screening and joint discussions, and HREP group sessions in eight districts.

Meanwhile, our HREP trainers Seher Gündoğan and Ayla Erdoğan presented their work at the women's assemblies of İzmir City Council and Karabağlar City Council, where they are members of the steering committee on behalf of the İzmir Women's Solidarity Association, to the members of Istanbul City Council's Women's Assembly.



### We gathered at the 13<sup>th</sup> HREP Training of Trainers Assessment and Future Planning Meeting



On December 1-3, 2023, we completed the assessment and future planning meeting, the last step of the HREP cycle, with 14 trainers and participants of the 13<sup>th</sup> HREP Training of Trainers held on September 12-25, 2022. With sessions where we assessed the first group sessions of our trainers, we talked on the plans for HREP groups to be announced for the next term. We also granted the HREP Group Facilitator certificates to our colleagues who started their first HREP group sessions and completed their supervised practice periods.



### HREP group sessions continue in all parts of Turkey

HREP trainers continue to carry out HREP group sessions in collaboration with local administrations, women's organizations, human rights organizations, trade unions, universities and bars in all parts of Turkey.

In 2023, 28 HREP group sessions were completed in nine provinces, reaching 341 women. The earthquakes on February 6 affected over 10 HREP group sessions, including the quake-affected area, with some groups being cancelled and some postponed.

Well-attended certification ceremonies were held for İzmir's Karabağlar, Denizli, and Ankara groups. More than 500 people participated in these ceremonies.





### We held an HREP Trainers' Gathering



We gathered with our trainers on November 9-11, 2023 in order to reflect on HREP, feel empowered and support solidarity among our trainers.

In a three-day gathering hosting over 80 HREP trainers, we conducted workshops on five themes in addition to HREP-related workshops. Meanwhile, we heard 17 poster presentations prepared by HREP trainers on HREP success stories and examples of local efforts for organizing.

We then shared a report on the HREP Trainers' Gathering with our members and trainers.





### The Purple Newsletter Almanac is out

Since we started releasing the Purple Newsletter digitally, we have compiled the issues released in a year and shared with you under the name "Purple Newsletter Almanac" both in digital and printed formats. You may access the Purple Newsletter Almanac, which contains the issues published in 2022, [here](#).



### As the Women for Women's Human Rights, we celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> year with our friends who supported our journey



We have left behind 30 years since our founding in 1993. We have worked, and will continue to work, driven by the strength and energy we have received from women and LGBTI+ people for three decades. We wanted to remember the feminist struggle we have given for years in our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and celebrate it by saying "We Are Right for the Past 30 Years" in the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Night of our association. We were delighted to come together with old friends we did not have the chance to see for a long while, and to be with fellows with whom we have shared this journey for the past thirty years. At the event held on September 25 at Babylon Bomonti Ada, our General Coordinator Hilal Gençay and İpek İlkcaracan, who

## WHAT WE DID IN 2023?

is among our founders, gave a presentation thanks to which we remembered our 30-year journey as the Women for Women's Human Rights Association. Meanwhile, the master of ceremony Pinar Fidan also did a stand-up comedy gig, followed by joyful music and stage performances of Dolphin Drama, Yasemin Mori, and Sena Şener. We had fun, we danced, and we concluded the night with Florence Konstantina Delight's DJ performance.



We thank each and every one of you for the support you have provided to us as we extend our struggle and solidarity, our friends who were with us for our 30<sup>th</sup> year celebration, and all the performers. We are glad to have you! We wish to have many happy years with you during which we can stand together in our fight for an equal and free life!



## We renewed our logo and name in our 30<sup>th</sup> year

As a result of the work we undertook as the extended team and with the enthusiasm of having left 30 years behind, we decided to refresh our organizational identity. Having carried out activities under the name "Women for Women's Human Rights – New Ways Association" for 30 years, we will, from now onwards, continue our journey as **Women for Women's Human Rights**. It is also a pleasure for us to unveil new logo to you.



### We came together at the Third Extended Team Camp

The third edition of our camp which we now may consider to be “traditional” was held from May 31 to June 4 in Ağva. While we continued with assessments on the strategic planning activity initiated in the previous camp, we reviewed the lessons we learned in this period for the next planning cycle. One of the most important items on the agenda was, of course, the implications of the election results on our lives. Although part of our camp was, undoubtedly, a bit pessimistic and gloomy due to the result, we found relief thinking of the power of the feminist movement and our solidarity and thus concluded the camp with hope for the future.

### We held our 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly

On April 25, 2023, we held our 6<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly. Our post-disaster activities were also on the agenda of our general assembly meeting. Gathering on the occasion of the general assembly, we had the chance to hear from those who went to the earthquake-impacted area after February 6. We also decided to have an online gathering for members and HREP trainers to convey our discussions to the greater group after general elections.





# PUBLICATIONS

## Brief Notes, Press Bulletins, Statements

- Press Release: Letter from Women's Human Rights (WWHR) to IYI Party and CHP MPs, especially Akşener and Kılıçdaroğlu: No to the Constitutional Amendment!
- Primary Observations and Urgent Demands regarding the Earthquakes on February 6
- Press Release: Primary Observations and Urgent Demands from Women for Women's Human Rights (WWHR) regarding the Earthquakes of February 6
- March 8 Statement: We Call to Account Those Who Attempt on our Lives!
- We call to account those who attempt on our lives!
- Our call to all people and social opposition: "We See the Facts. We Say NO To the Constitutional Amendment"
- Israel Must Immediately Stop the War It Has Waged Against the People of Palestine, and Bring an End to Its Colonialist Invasion Policies Against Palestine!
- A Roadmap on Women's Rights Cannot Be Prepared With No Account of Women's Experiences!
- The Istanbul Convention is Ours! We Are Not Giving Up! We Will Be At the Council of State on November 28!
- Like on every November 25, we are not giving up on our struggle for equality, freedom and a life free of violence on November 25, we extend our organized struggle!
- The hearing of the lawsuit we filed against the decision to withdraw from the Istanbul Convention was held at the 10<sup>th</sup> Chamber of the Council of State two and a half years later



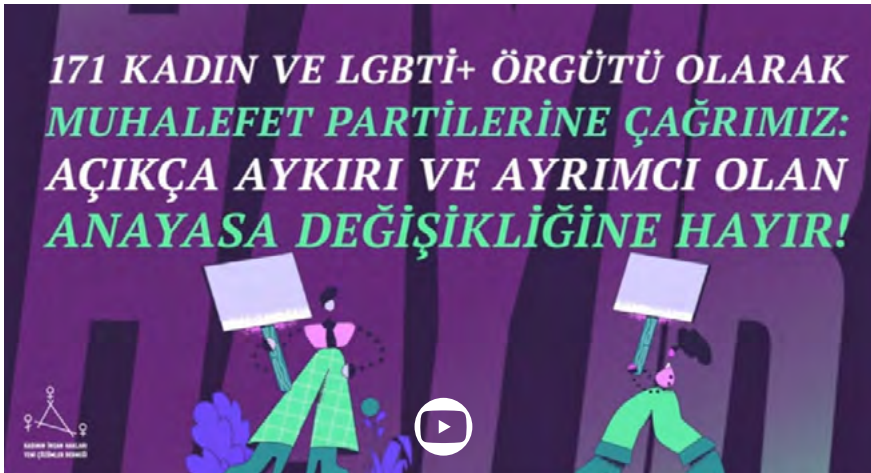
## Videos

The Law no. 6284 is put on target sometimes as an extension of the populist moves of the ruling party or when the adversaries of gender equality bring it up. Similarly in this period, we were faced with attempts to turn the Law 6284 into a matter of public debate. We prepared and disseminated informative materials on what this Law is and is not about in response to disinformation that such attempts are intended to circulate. We also produced an episode on the Law no. 6284 as part of our documentary series *Remember This Crowd* and held screenings so as to remind and remember what kind of a struggle was given to win this piece of legislation that provides legal guarantee to protect women, children and others who face domestic violence.

### Remember This Crowd Episode 2: 6284



### No to the Constitutional Amendment



Four informative videos we prepared in response to the counter-movement targeting the Law no. 6284 spreading on social media reached 1 million people.

### What is 6284?



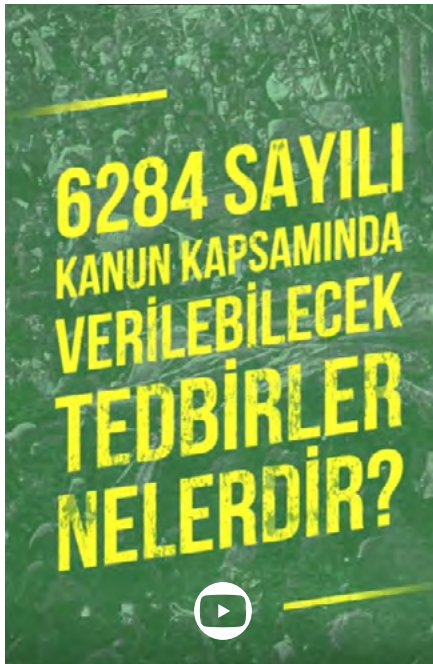
### Why is 6284 Important?



### Does 6284 Punish Men?



### What are the Measures That Can Be Taken Pursuant to the Law No. 6284?







# MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES AND GATHERINGS WE ATTENDED

**We compiled a non-exhaustive list of events, meetings and gatherings we organized, attended and provided contributions to in 2023:**

- We supported the theses of students and research of academics who got in touch with us throughout the year; we gave an opinion about our field of activities with journalists:
  - We provided support to 20 students' thesis interviews, two academics' research projects. We hosted student groups, amounting to 60 people in total, from Denmark and Norway in our office.
  - We provided contributions to seven research projects conducted by non-governmental organizations.
- We screened *Remember this Crowd: Istanbul Convention and 6284* episodes and held talks at the North Aegean Women's Gathering
- We attended the first partner forum of FòsFeminista, an initiative we are member of, working in the fields of sexual health, reproductive health rights and justice, organized on March 28-29.
- We delivered a presentation at the panel named "6284 in the Past, Today and in the Future", held by Istanbul City Council.
- We talked about HREP and its impact at ATGENDER Feminist Pedagogy Conference held at Kadir Has University, Istanbul.
- We presented the psychosocial support project we carried out in Adiyaman, Diyarbakır and Malatya in the Care Economy Dialogue Series organized by UN Women in September in Ankara.





## MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES AND GATHERINGS WE ATTENDED

- We attended the Women Rights and Gender Equality Working Group that EuromedRights, which we are a part of, held in Morocco and delivered a presentation on the current state and strategies for resistance after withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention.
- We participated in the Evvel Temmuz Culture and Arts Festival in Hatay with a Gender Equality Seminar, and the screening of and talks on our documentary series, *Remember This Crowd*. We were also hosted by a TV program of Can TV on being a woman in disasters.
- We attended the Women Deliver 2023 conference held in Rwanda gathering over 6000 women from feminist organizations.
- We screened the *Remember This Crowd: Istanbul Convention and 6284* episodes at Purple Fest held by Istanbul City Council in September, followed by a talk on the documentary.
- We delivered a presentation on the topics of discussion for the feminist movement at a meeting organized by the İzmir Feminist Collective in October.
- We presented our association's psychosocial support project conducted in the earthquake-impacted region at the national coordination meeting of Young Approaches to Healthcare Association held in Ankara under the heading of The Needs and Demands of the Youth in Humanitarian Crises.
- We attended the strategy meeting of the Observatory on the Universality of Rights (OURs) held in November in Kenya.



- At the 26<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Women's Shelters and Solidarity Centers held in November, we presented the preventive and protective nature of HREP practices and reported on our observations from the earthquake zone.



## MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES AND GATHERINGS WE ATTENDED

- We participated in the planning camp of the Sexual Health and Reproductive Health Rights Platform (CİSÜ), in which we are a member of the steering committee, and actively monitored their activities throughout the year. We also took part in the closing meeting of the platform in November.
- We set up an HREP booth with friends from the İzmir Women Solidarity Association at the Civil Voices Festival organized by the Association of Civil Society Development Center in November.
- We presented our strategies for combating the counter-movements towards gender equality at Talk Tawn, an international feminist festival held in November in Denmark.
- We participated in the discussion on the Methods for Combating Violence organized by the Büyükçekmece Municipality on the occasion of November 25.
- We attended the Global Meeting of Safe Abortion Action Fund (SAAF) held in Nairobi hosting over 80 organizations from more than 50 countries.
- We participated in the Feminist Network for Gender Transformative Education organized by the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative hosting 120 representatives from over 50 countries.
- We participated in the Empowerment Conference of the May 17 Association and gave a presentation on the discursive background of anti-gender movements in the world. You may find the relevant news article [here](#).

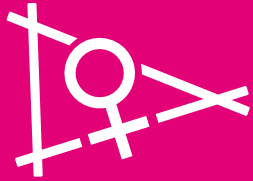


- We attended the LGBTI+ 101 Facilitators Workshops held by the May 17 Association.
- We followed the monthly meetings of Istanbul City Council throughout the year.
- We followed the hearings of the lawsuits to shut down We Will Stop Femicides Platform and Tarlabası Community Center and stood in solidarity with our friends throughout the year.
- We followed the meetings of the Solidarity Network for Human Rights Defenders throughout the year.
- As of May 2023, we monitored the meetings of Adıyaman Civil Society Solidarity Group established for solidarity and coordination among NGOs working in Adıyaman throughout the year.
- As of May 2023, we followed the monthly meetings of Diyarbakır MHPSS group established for solidarity and coordination among NGOs carrying out mental health and psychosocial support activities in Diyarbakır.









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WOMEN'S  
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**WOMEN FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS (WWHR)**

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