

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EMERGENCY HOTLINE PROTOCOL SIGNING CEREMONY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION WORKSHOP CLOSING STATEMENT

November 20th, 2021

As part of the November 25th, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the municipalities that signed the "Domestic Violence Emergency Hotline Protocol" with the Federation of Women's Associations of Turkey (TKDF) came together under the hosting of the Izmit Municipality and held workshops on "Gender Equality, Women's Employment, Violence Against Women, Women's Policies and Women's Studies" on November 18-19-20, 2021. Within the scope of the workshop, trainings were made on Gender Equality and the national and international legal framework for the prevention of violence against Women and Girls, with participants from more than 30 municipalities, and "Examples of Good Practice" from Turkey and Europe were examined.

According to the data of the Federation of Women's Associations of Turkey's Emergency Hotline, there has been a noticeable increase in violence against women and girls as of March 2020, when Covid19 was first detected in Turkey. However, Turkey's withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention has multiplied the inequalities that make it difficult for women to participate in employment and all areas of social life, and Turkey has been imprisoned in an agenda where femicide is considered a common issue. Central policies are incapable of producing policies that take into account the needs, demands and priorities of women. This workshop was organized on the basis of the need to formulate local policies as a whole with a gender equality perspective.

The workshop conclusion recommendations are summarized as follows:

- The cooperation of TKDF and municipalities mainly aims to institutionalize the gender equality approach locally.
- The needs, demands, priorities and problems of women in the local area are different from each other. The municipalities participating in the workshop agreed on the importance of establishing all local policies and services with a perspective that takes these differences into account and aims to prevent gender inequality.
- It is essential for municipalities to create a Gender Equality Action Plan and/or institutionalize existing plans for equality policies to be sustainable.
- TKDF Domestic Violence Hotline provides preventive and protective services for the prevention of violence against women and girls, and within the scope of these services, it cooperates with many different stakeholders to meet the needs of women and girls at risk. Considering that the struggle for gender equality requires a holistic approach, TKDF and the participating municipalities will act together to expand the emergency hotline locally and to provide inclusive services for women and girls who have experienced violence or are at risk.

The workshop conclusion book, which will be prepared in Turkish, English and German, containing common views and good practice examples, will be shared with the public in order to be used as a reference book in the future.

We will continue to work for a Turkey where equality starts locally and we do not give up on the Istanbul Convention!

We respectfully announce to the public.

FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATIONS OF TURKEY

