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CIFAL Istanbul - Gender Equality and Violence Against Women



: 12 3 2025

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Webinar

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Istanbul, Türkiye

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12 3 2025

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2 Hours

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Decentralize Cooperation Programme

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Bahçeşehir University

CIFAL Istanbul, Bahçeşehir University,



Gender-based violence remains a pressing global issue, rooted in deep-seated inequalities and often perpetuated through both overt hostility and more subtle forms of sexism. The event "Gender Equality and Violence Against Women" was created to help high school students recognize and reflect on these dynamics in their everyday lives and relationships. Led by Dr. Mukadder Okuyan and organized in partnership with Liceo Italiano IMI, the session offered a space for

students to explore the societal roots of gender inequality and understand how it contributes to violence against women, including within the context of dating. Through a mix of conceptual discussion, real-life examples, and interactive engagement, the event aimed to raise awareness, challenge harmful norms, and encourage students—especially boys—to become active allies in the fight for gender equality.



The main objectives were to help students recognize various expressions of sexism, understand the societal and psychological roots of violence against women, and identify how dating violence reflects broader gendered power imbalances. The event also intended to address potential resistance from male students, foster constructive dialogue, and emphasize the role of youth in creating gender-equal communities.



The event included a talk that combined clear conceptual explanations (e.g., hostile vs. benevolent sexism), real-life examples (such as dating violence and online misogyny), and interactive elements designed to keep students engaged and reflective. The talk was structured around a logical flow—from defining gender inequality to exploring its consequences and finally discussing what individuals can do to challenge it.



The methodology involved a structured, interactive talk that combined clear explanations of key concepts (like hostile and benevolent sexism) with real-life examples and student engagement. The session encouraged reflection and dialogue, aiming to foster awareness, challenge biases, and promote allyship among students.



9th and 10th grade high school students