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# Kaos GL Newsletter



## Erdoğan: “There is no such thing as LGBT”

On February 3rd, President and AKP Chairperson Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said, “There is no such thing as LGBT. This country is nationalist, spiritualist and is walking to the future with these values” at a provincial congress of his party.

Later on another congress, Erdoğan said, "Let's not worry about what lesbians say". The related section is as follows:

“As Turkey, we owe our ability to fight off the attacks and our confidence in the future to the robustness of our family structure, the mother is the pillar of the family. Let's not worry about what lesbians and their like say. Let's look at our mothers. The pillar of the family is the mother. We will walk confidently to the future with our mothers”

“I hope we will carry our youth to the future, not as the LGBT youth, but as the youth from that glorious history of this nation. Here you are the youth on the keyboards of computers, not the LGBT youth. You are not the youth that breaks stuff, on the contrary, you are the youth that heals those broken hearts” said Erdoğan at the Adana, Antalya, Bursa, and Muğla congress of his party on February 1st.

## Süleyman Soylu said "LGBT is perversion" on the live broadcast

After getting restricted by Twitter twice due to committing hate speech by saying "LGBT perverts" and showing LGBTI+s as target, Minister of Interior Süleyman Soylu said, "LGBT is a perversion" this time on a live broadcast on Haber Global television channel.

Soylu answered the questions of journalist Candaş Tolga Işık and claimed that there is no LGBTI+ in Turkey, he said, "This thing called LGBT is presented to us by the West, which does not comply with our values or with these lands. We are the children of this land. Are there things like LGBT in our past? Is there something like this that we do not know? Maybe there are individuals with such tendencies. But can we talk about the socialization of this? The socialization of this will destroy our moral values and family structure." and he continued his hate speech by saying "LGBT is perversion".

Soylu also mentioned LGBTI+ associations and continued as follows: "This LGBT thing is something that is being propagated to us from Europe and the USA. This thing can brake our family structure. It is supported by external forces in order to divide Turkey."

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## Chronology: An anti-LGBTI+ rights institution, with human rights and equality in its name



We have compiled the smear campaigns and discriminative practices of the Human Rights and Equality Institution of Turkey, which initiated its policies against LGBTI+ rights before it was established.

In order to see the detailed news, please [follow the link](#).

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## Solidarity with Boğaziçi Protests

Many local and international organizations made statements supporting and showing solidarity with Boğaziçi students and LGBTI+s who were systematically targeted during the incidents. [The International Consortium of Critical Theory Programs \(ICCTP\)](#) notes with great concern the ongoing coercion of universities in Turkey and condemns the recent appointment by midnight decree of a rector to Boğaziçi University against the will of the faculty and in violation of the university's democratic practices.

[ILGA-Europe](#) calls on Turkey to respect, guarantee, protect and fulfill the fundamental rights of the LGBTI+ community without discrimination as enshrined in its Constitution and equality article therein, and ratified by human rights treaty bodies.

[The Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies](#): We stand in unequivocal support of LGBTIQ+ people in Turkey, and their fundamental rights to live with dignity and free from persecution and violence.

[328 NGOs from Turkey](#) called on the authorities to give up hate speech against LGBTI+s, reverse the decision to close the LGBTI+ Studies Club, stop police violence and detentions, and release all arrested students.

[LGBTI+ Families Groups and associations from Turkey](#): "Not even the most basic measures are taken, on the contrary, some state administrators provoke the situation further, paving the way for hatred. If one of our children is harmed by a no-good caught up in these provocations, who will account for it? "

[Students of Boğaziçi](#): Those who want to make the LGBTI+'s an object of hate in whole Turkey now laid their hands on the Boğaziçi University too.

[High school students say](#), "We are very concerned and angry because we witnessed the police blockade of Boğaziçi University and hate crimes against LGBTI+ individuals."



## **Eryaman-Esat trials postponed to June 1st**

The first hearing of the case was held at the 30th High Criminal Court of Ankara, upon the Supreme Court's decision to overturn the sentence of the attackers. The case against four suspects on the grounds of assault against trans women in Ankara/Turkey in 2006 has gone back and forward between the Supreme Court and regional courts for over 10 years.

At the hearing attended by all of the defendants and one defendant, Şammas Taşdemir from the prison, the court decided to postpone the hearing to June 1st in order to acquire further evidence.

To learn more about the case, please [follow the link](#).

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## LGBTIQ+ Agenda of Kaos GL by February 2021

### What did KaosGL.org do in February 2021?

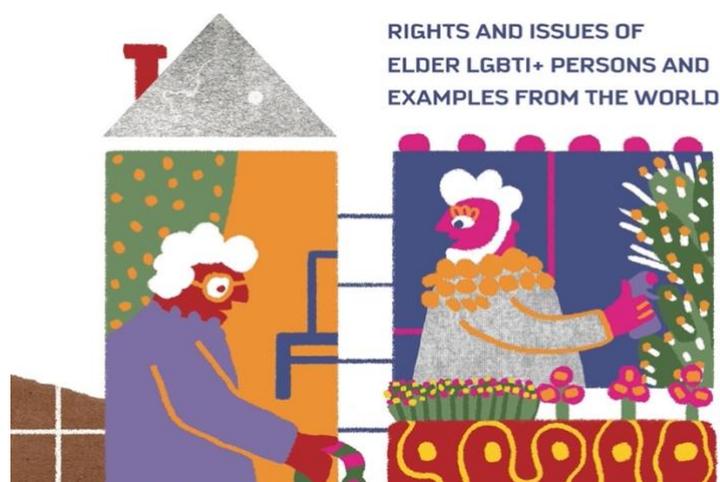
We published 279 contents in February 2021, including 253 news articles, 6 columns, and 20 visual works. For more details, please [follow the link](#).



### Rights and Issues of Elder LGBTIQ+ Persons is out!

"Rights and Issues of Elder LGBTIQ+ Persons and Examples from the World Study And Research Report" was prepared and published by 17 May Association with the support of ILGA Europe within the scope of Eldely LGBTIQ+ Project held between July 2020-February 2021.

You can reach digital copy in English [here](#).



**May 17 Association started its psycho-social support and legal support services!**

May 17 Association aiming to strengthen LGBTI+ organizations and the community has just started its psycho-social and legal support services.

## **CONTACT INFO**

If you would like to make comments, suggestions or complaints, you may reach Kaos GL Association via email: [damla@kaosgl.org](mailto:damla@kaosgl.org)

You may find our social media accounts as follows:



[Twitter](#)



[Facebook](#)



[Instagram](#)

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## **Kaos GL Association**

Kaos Gay and Lesbian Cultural Research and Solidarity Association

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Çankaya, ANKARA