

Vol. 14
March 2021

Kaos GL Newsletter



Turkey withdraws from the İstanbul Convention!

Turkey declared to [withdraw from the İstanbul Convention](#) with the decree published in the Official Gazette on March 20. After the decision, many feminist and LGBTI+ organization called for street actions in different cities. [Women and LGBTI+s gathered in Sakarya Square](#) on March 20 in Ankara. In Antalya, police [tried to prevent the rainbow flag from entering the demonstration area](#) during the İstanbul Convention protest held on March 20th. The police attacked the rainbow flag and took it. After the flag was confiscated, the women held a sit-in until the flag is returned. The police kicked a woman in the meanwhile.

Police banned LGBTI+ signs in 8th March protests and detained trans women

A rally was held today (March 6) at Kadıköy upon the call of the İstanbul March 8 Women's Platform. After the [arbitrary and discriminatory ban order against rainbow flags at the March 8 demonstrations in Adana](#), although the Governorate of İstanbul did not publicly announce any ban, the police tried to take away the rainbow flags and even the rainbow-colored umbrellas from the protestors.

After the end of the rally, the police forces followed the trans women LGBTI+ activists, including Yıldız İdil Şen who gave a speech at the rally, stopped their taxi and forced them out of the car by using excessive force. [Three trans women were ambushed](#) on the road to their homes and even the persons who tried to record the incident were battered and detained.

The prosecution sent 9 people to the court with a request for arrest without even taking a statement. In the interrogation, the detainees stated that the police detained them by torture, and that they especially targeted and discriminated the trans people. The judge ordered [house arrest for one month for Yıldız İdil Şen and Güneş](#). All those detained have been sentenced to the injunction of bi-weekly signature and a ban on leaving the country.



Rainbow Scenes from 8th of March Demonstrations

All across Turkey, there were rainbow flags, LGBTI+- themed banners and slogans in 8th of March demonstrations. [KaosGL.org compiled the photos](#) from the demonstrations in Istanbul, Ankara, Adana, Mersin, Diyarbakır, İzmir and Bartın.



Systematic criminalization attempts over rainbow flag in Boğaziçi protests

Boğaziçi University has [launched a disciplinary investigation](#) into a student carrying a rainbow flag during protests against the appointment of a rector. N.D., who raised a rainbow flag during protests attacked by police on February 1, targeted by a disciplinary investigation that says "you went upstairs and waved the LGBTI+ flag". On March 25, [four students were detained](#) in the Hisarüstü Neighborhood, where the Boğaziçi University is located, on the grounds that they were "carrying an LGBTI+ flag". Police also attacked and detained students protesting the detention of their friends.

“LGBT” becomes a swearword in the mouths of the business world

"LGBT", not mentioned by TUSIAD (Turkish Industry and Business Association) during their statement against the withdrawal from the İstanbul Convention, turns into hate speech in the mouths of Anatolian Lions Businesspeople. The President of the Anatolian Lions Businessmen's Association, who expressed his thanks to the President "for our withdrawal from the İstanbul Convention", continues with the statement "we are the custodians of the women by the will of Allah" after [a homophobic hate speech session](#).

Statement from Kaos GL: You can't make "reforms" for human rights while excluding LGBTI+s

Kaos GL Association published a press release regarding the announced human rights reform plan. The association said that the LGBTI+ exclusionary plan is discriminatory from its very beginning and is not a human rights reform in essence.

The whole statement can be reached [from the link](#).



LGBTI+ Agenda of Kaos GL by March 2021

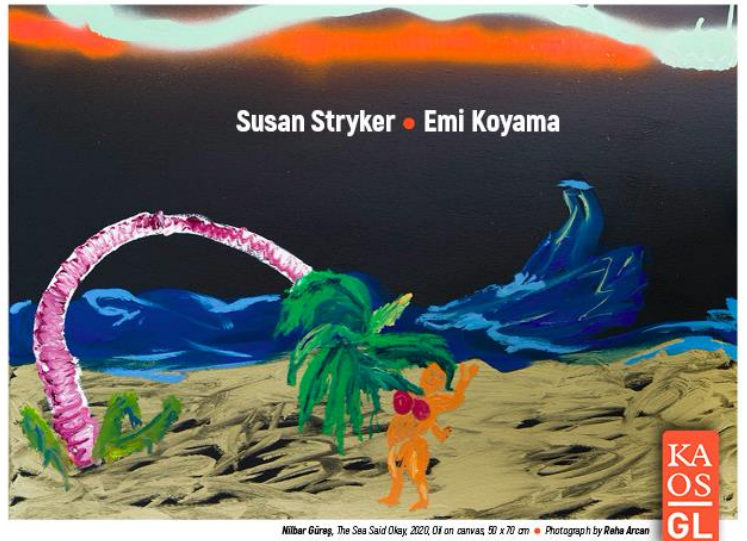
9th International Feminist Forum

[Feminist Forum](#), organized annually by Kaos GL, was held on March 28th. The main theme of the Forum, organized 9th time this year, is "*From the Domination of Darkness to the Horizons of Transfeminist Criticism*". The opening speech of the Forum was made by Kaos GL's Academic and Cultural Studies Coordinator Aylime Aslı Demir. Prof. Dr. Susan Stryker and Emi Koyama, the writer of the Transfeminist Manifesto, were the speakers of the Forum.

9. International Feminist Forum

From the
Domination of
Darkness to the
**Horizons of
Transfeminist
Criticism**

28 MARCH 18.00 - 21.00 zoom



Nilbar Güreğ, The Sea Said Okay, 2020, Oil on canvas, 90 x 70 cm • Photograph by Reha Arcan

What did KaosGL.org do in March 2021?

We published 313 contents in March 2021, including 288 news articles, 12 columns, and 13 visual works. For details, [please follow the link](#).



Kaos GL shared 3168 magazines and books with 300 academicians

More than 300 applications have been submitted for the Kaos GL Magazine's archive for the past three years. A total of 3168 journals and books were sent to 300 academicians, PhD and master's program students all over Turkey. 26 applicants from abroad were given online subscriptions.

CONTACT INFO

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

You may find our social media accounts as follows:





Kaos GL Association

Kaos Gay and Lesbian Cultural Research and Solidarity Association

Tunus PTT PK:12

Çankaya, ANKARA