

Vol. 17  
Summer 2021

# Kaos GL Newsletter



## Against All the Bans - Istanbul Pride Week

[29th İstanbul LGBTI+ Pride Week](#) has held on June 20-27. On June 22nd, a vegan picnic that was planned to be held in Heybeliada, first, was [threatened by the Island Police Department](#). The picnic, relocated to Maçka Park in Şişli, was banned again by Şişli District Governorate. The District Governorate [banned all kinds of activities to be held in the scope of Pride Week for 30 days](#), citing the “national security, public order, prevention of crime”. The application of the Pride Week Committee for the 29th İstanbul LGBTI+ Pride Parade to be held at the Maltepe Rally Area was refused. The [governorate banned the Pride Parade](#) by saying "in order to protect the peace and security of the people including those attending the meeting, the protection of the safety, general health and general morality, the rights, and freedoms of others, to prevent possible violence and terrorist incidents, to prevent provocative acts and incidents".

In spite of the bans, LGBTI+s gathered at Beyoğlu. Even before the parade, police forces attacked violently to LGBTI+s and journalists. Here you may find the [details and photos of the Pride March and police violence](#).

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## 5th Antalya Pride Week: “We still see colors even though it all gets painted in black”

[5th Antalya Pride Week](#), taking place between June 21-27 with the theme of "A Farewell to Arms", has [posted](#) its press release on its social media account. The press release of 5th Antalya Pride Week, organized by the Antalya Biz Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Studies Association, mentions the joint struggle of LGBTI+’s, whose rights were substantially usurped during the pandemic, and says ‘We are not giving up on the İstanbul Convention’.



## 7th Mersin Pride Week: Intersectionalities!

On 2-8 August, 7th Mersin Pride Week was held with lots of colors and joy. The events including concerts, sports activities, panel sessions were carried out with the initiation of Mersin Muamma, and ended with the 7th Mersin Pride March without any police intervention.





## 1st Aydın and Eskişehir Prides were banned!

Aydın LGBTI+ Solidarity organized 2nd Pride Week in Aydın in 8-11 July. The week was full of panels, exhibitions, performances and workshops held successfully. However, on 11th July, [after the governorate's ban](#) on the grounds to protect public moral, public health and preventing any crimes, police forces prevented the 1st Aydın Pride March. [The 1st Eskişehir Pride](#) was organized by independent activist groups on 30th of July. 15 activists were detained by the police during the pride, then in the late night, they were released.



## 9th İzmir LGBTI+ Pride Week

The 9th İzmir LGBTI+ Pride Week has held on 15 - 20 June. “*Against the government that attacked our streets and safe spaces, censored our rainbow and our dignity, terminated the Istanbul Convention and closed our school clubs; We invite you to defend what is ours and to fight to gain freedom.*” During the Pride month, [İzmir Bar Association](#) that are an ally with the LGBTI+ movement and has an LGBTI+ commission changed its logo with rainbow colors.



## LGBTI+ Agenda of Turkey – Summer 2021

### What did Kaos GL do in June 2021?

- We organized 65 events and 17 coordination activities. We reached more than 3,000 people with the events.
- We provided expert support to employees working in the field 57 times. We gave academic consultancy to 5 projects. We have published 1 fact sheet.
- We published 341 content on kaosgl.org.
- We reached 5.3 million views on Twitter during the month.
- Kaos GL Refugee Rights Program provided counseling to refugee LGBTI+s a total of 167 times in June.

### What did Kaos GL in July 2021?

- We organized 19 events and 13 coordination activities. We reached over 850 people with the events.
- We have provided expert support to those working in the field 10 times.
- We published 175 content on kaosgl.org. Our works, news and publications have been reported in the media 33 times.
- We reached 2.3 million views on Twitter during the month.
- We provided counseling to refugee LGBTI+s 32 times in total.
- The "Hard Times" issue of Kaos GL Magazine is out.
- We have published two factsheets.

### What did Kaos GL in August 2021?

- We organized 15 events and 12 coordination activities. We reached more than 200 people with the events.
- We provided expert support to those working in the field 11 times.
- We published 135 content on kaosGL.org.
- We reached 1.5 million views on Twitter during the month.
- We provided counseling to refugee LGBTI+s a total of 158 times.
- We have published three factsheets.

## **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:



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## **Kaos GL Association**

Kaos Gay and Lesbian Cultural Research and Solidarity Association

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Çankaya, ANKARA