

17TH DECEMBER INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS

Sex workers suffer from many different kinds of violence during their daily lives. Violence occurs as a direct result of social exclusion, marginalization, stigmatization and discrimination.

Sex work is perceived as a criminal act because of the social moral norms and the negative approach of state institutions towards citizens working as sex workers. Sex workers are treated like criminals, subject to arbitrary administrative practices by the law enforcement officials and cannot reach the justice mechanisms when they experience human rights violations.

Because sex work means precarity and insecurity, sex workers become victims of physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence of many actors. Sex workers are subjected to the violence of their clients, organized crime groups, police officers and many other persons and groups.

Sex workers are murdered...

Sex workers are pushed to poverty...

Problems of sex workers are ignored...

Sex workers are subject to discrimination and violence...

Sex workers in many parts of the world are organized against the violations of their rights and especially the violence.

Various visibility and awareness raising events are organized on the **17th DECEMBER INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS** with the purpose of making this violence visible and acting with solidarity against it.

Red Umbrella organizes many activities within the scope of the 17th December.

On 14th December, Red Umbrella brings provincial health directorates from various provinces of Turkey, Ministry of Health officials, academics working on public health, sexual health and reproductive health, health professionals, NGO representatives, General Directorate of Security under the Ministry of Interior, Human Rights Institution of Turkey, the Ombudsman's Office, Human Rights Investigation Commission of the Parliament, municipalities and other stakeholders gather for a round table meeting and discuss the sex work legislation and the situation of sexual health and reproductive health of sex workers.

We are organizing a one-day training on the 18th December with the purpose of informing trans women about the arbitrary practices of law enforcement officials against them. Trans women from various provinces of Turkey will be trained about administrative fines, home sealings and other administrative practices. The training will be carried out with the participation of the lawyers of Red Umbrella and Assistant Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Sever from the Atılım University.

On the 19th December, representatives from Transgender Europe (TGEU), International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE) and the Sex Workers' Advocacy Network in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SWAN) will discuss the violence targeting sex workers based on their working areas. Sex workers, legal experts and representatives from various state institutions from Turkey will discuss the violence against sex workers, access to justice and protection mechanisms in detail.

Our goal is to bring the violence against sex workers and dynamics surrounding this violence to the agenda of the society.

We would like to convey our gratitude to want to the US State Department, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Astraea Foundation

and the Red Umbrella Fund for their generous financial support for specific activities within the scope of these events.

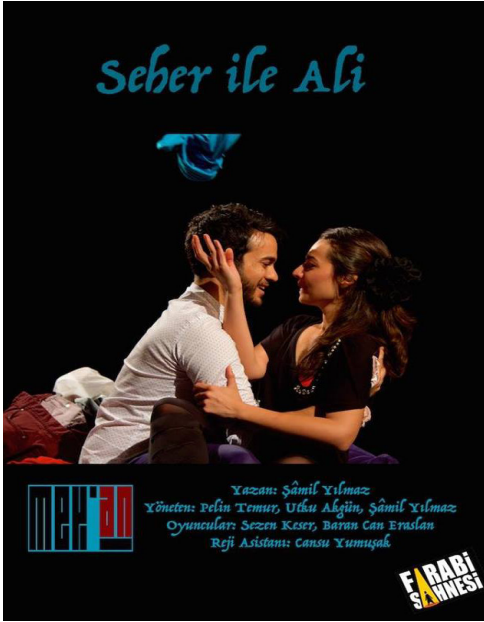
We also would like to thank to our board members, employees and volunteers who participate in the preparation process of our activities.

We would like to present our biggest thanks to sex workers participating in our activities, authorities from state institutions, representatives from NGOs, human rights activists and allies.

VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS IS A CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY!

KEMAL ÖRDEK
CHAIR
RED UMBRELLA SEXUAL HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION





"SEHER AND ALI"

(OPEN TO EVERYONE)

Note: The play will be performed in Turkish and there will not be simultaneous interpretation unfortunately.

The production of MEK'AN, this theatre play will be performed in order to collect money for trans people and sex workers in prisons.

We, as Red Umbrella, would like to thank to the entire team of MEK'AN for the opportunity and support they provide.

DATE: 18 DECEMBER 2015, FRIDAY

TIME: 20:00

RESERVATION: 0312.4680058

TICKETS: Farabi Venue Booking Office

"SEHER: I would die with you if you told me to "die with you", Ali. I wouldn't ask "Why?". Would a person deny dying to the one she loves? Believe me I wouldn't ask... This is Ali but not like Ali that I know. A person would know what to do even if he were a stone, a tree. The one is just like a stone, you know, just like earth. But you- What would a person do with you Ali?

WRITTEN BY: Şâmil Yılmaz

DIRECTED BY: Pelin Temur, Utku Akgün, Şâmil Yılmaz

ACTORS/ACTRESSES: Sezen Keser, Baran Can Eraslan

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Cansu Yumuşak

16+

TICKET PRICES

Full fare: 25TL

Student: 20TL

BRIEFING & CONSULTATION ROUND TABLE MEETING ON SEX WORK

(EXCLUSIVE TO THE INVITED PARTICIPANTS ONLY)

DATE: 14 ARALIK 2015

TIME: 09:00 - 17:30

PLACE: BEST OTEL KAVAKLIDERE

**ADDRESS: Atatürk Bulvarı No: 195 Kavak-
lıdere, ANKARA**

TEL: 0312.4670880

Red Umbrella Sexual Health and Human Right Association is organizing a round table meeting with the financial support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) within the scope of the project that it implements to enhance the capacity of sex workers to reach sexual health and reproductive health services, inform them about HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections and to inform the provincial health directorates about the needs and demands of sex workers.

A thematic meeting will be carried out for the Ministry of Health officials and the representatives of the provincial health directorates for the first time in Turkey.

This meeting aims at bringing the issues and

the needs of sex workers regarding their sexual and reproductive health, characteristics of the sex work legislation, amendment suggestions regarding the legislation, challenges in terms of reaching out to the health services and the required practices to eliminate these challenges, the possible steps to take in informing the public officials in bringing the needs of sex workers to their daily agenda and ways to ensure continuous collaboration.

Representatives from several provincial health directorates, representatives of the United Nations Population Fund Country Office, academics, NGO representatives and sex workers will participate in this meeting.

Briefing & Consultation Round Table Meeting is designed in accordance with the results of the report called "The Sexual and Reproductive Health Situation of Sex Workers in Turkey: Needs and Suggestions" that Red Umbrella carried out with the support of the United Nations Population Fund Country Office and which reveals the data about the sexual health and reproductive health situation of sex workers. The printed copies of the concerning report will be distributed during the meeting to the participants.



**TRAINING FOR TRANS WOMEN ON
ADMINISTRATIVE FINES, HOUSE RAIDS
AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS**

(EXCLUSIVE FOR INVITED PARTICIPANTS ONLY)

DATE: 18 ARALIK 2015

TIME: 12:30 - 18:00

PLACE: BEST OTEL KAVAKLIDERE

ADDRESS: ATATÜRK BULVARI

NO: 195 KAVAKLIDERE, ANKARA

TEL: 0312.4670880

Red Umbrella Sexual Health and Human Rights Association carries out the project called "Stop Fining My Identity" with the support of the US State Department. Within the scope of this project, our organization aims to create public opinion about the administrative fines which are put in process by the police and that target trans women, to provide legal support for trans woman victims and to lobby the authorities about the fines periodically.

Another event being carried out within the scope of the project is the training for trans women regarding the administrative sanctions such as the arbitrary and unlawful administrative fines and home raids imposed by the police.

Within the scope of this training, approximately 30 trans women from various provinces of Turkey will be trained about the problems such as the administrative fines, home raids, home sealings, and the problems occurring while trying to reach out to the justice mechanisms after the administrative actions and how to overcome these problems.

Trainers will be the lawyers of Red Umbrella; Nihan Erdoğan, Buse Tunca, Sinem Hun and the academic Asst. Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Sever. Kemal Örddek and Belgin Çelik from Red Umbrella will also take part in training the participants trans women on daily experiences and ways of community building against these unlawful actions.

The participants will be requested to take part in role-plays in specific regard to the administrative actions of the police forces. This way, our organization aims at attracting more attention to the situation on the ground easily and to encourage trans women to inform their peers after the training.

**DISCUSSIONS ON THE STRUGGLE AGAINST
THE VIOLENCE TARGETING SEX WORKERS:
NO "BAD" WOMEN JUST BAD LAWS!**

(OPEN TO EVERYONE)

19 DECEMBER 2015, SATURDAY

OPENING SPEECH

13:00 - 13:15

Kemal Ördek, Chair of Red Umbrella

"Discourses, Legislations and Policies Against Sex Workers Legitimize the Violence"

PANEL 1:

13:30 - 15:30

**Violence Against Sex Workers and Trans
People in Europe**

Moderator:

Özge Gökpınar, Red Umbrella

——— Trajche Janusev, Sex Workers' Advocacy Network in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (SWAN)

"Failures of Justice: State Based and Non-State Violence Against Sex Workers"

——— Krizstina Kolos Orban , Transgender Eu-

rope (TGEU)

"ProTrans: Reporting the Violence Against Trans People in Central and Eastern Europe"

— Thierry Schaffauser, International Committee on Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE)

"Decriminalisation of Sex Work and Its Impact on Violence Against Sex Workers"

COFFEE BREAK:

15:30 - 16:00

PANEL 2:

16:00 - 17:00

Violence Against Sex Workers, Access to Justice and Protection Mechanisms

SESSION I

Moderator:

Av. Sinem Hun, Red Umbrella / Hun Consultancy

— Bihter Karal, Red Umbrella

"An Evaluation on the Lawyer-Survivor Relations"

— Çisem Ünal, Red Umbrella

"Police Violence Against Sex Workers as a Vi-

cious Circle”

—— Nihan Erdoğan, Red Umbrella
“Violence Against Sex Workers and Claiming
the Rights: Case Studies”

PANEL 3:

17:00 - 18:00

**Violence Against Sex Workers, Access to
Justice and Protection Mechanisms**

SESSION II

Moderator:

***Av. Sinem Hun, Red Umbrella / Hun Consul-
tancy***

—— Lale İncesu, President of Gelincik Cen-
tre of Ankara Bar Association
“The Importance of Lawyers and Institutions in
Accessing the Justice after Violence”

—— Merve Deveci, Provincial Directorate of
Ministry of Family and Social Policies, Violence
Prevention and Monitoring Center (ŞÖNİM)
Psychologist
“ŞÖNİM’s ACTIVITIES For Women Within the
Scope of Law No.6284 and Istanbul Conven-
tion”

— Özge Danyeli & Gülhan Alıcı Avşar,
Çankaya Municipality Directorate of Social As-
sistance and Affairs

"Monitoring Violence and Shelter Facilities of
Çankaya Municipality Directorate of Social As-
sistance and Affairs"

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