

PROGRAM BOOKLET

# Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Turkey Amid Pandemic Conference



**Webinar**  
**19 November 2020**  
14:00 - 16:30



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# Opening Speeches

14:00 – 14:40

**Moderator**  
**Özlem Gürses**  
Journalist

**Prof. Ayşe Akın**  
Başkent University BÜKÇAM Director,  
TAPV Executive Committee Member

**Dr. Hassan Mohtashami**  
UNFPA Turkey Representative

**Angel Hidalgo Gutierrez**  
EU Delegation to Turkey, First Counsellor,  
Economic and Social Development, Head of Section

**Dr. Bekir Keskinliç**  
Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health,  
Deputy General Director

# Speeches

14:40 – 15:40

**Moderator**  
**Özlem Gürses**  
Journalist

**Turkey's Reproductive Health with the THPS  
from Yesterday to Today**  
**Prof. Banu Ergöçmen**  
Hacettepe University Population Studies Institute Director

**Findings of Monitoring Report on Sexual and Reproductive Health Services in  
Turkey before and during the Pandemic**  
**Assoc. Prof. Volkan Yılmaz**  
Director of Bogazici University Social Policy Forum Research Centre

**Data-Based Approach to Sexual and Reproductive Health**  
**Prof. Tomris Türmen**  
Director of International Child Center Association

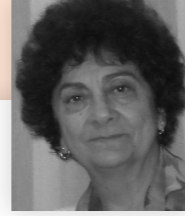
**Questions and Answers**  
15:40 – 16:30

## Özlem Gürses



Born in Ankara. Completed her primary and secondary education at TED Ankara College where she got the chance to study by ranking the second in Turkey. Later, she graduated from METU Department of Architecture. A traffic accident during her post graduate education on The History of Architecture program moved her to İstanbul and into the media world. She continued her media career at Star TV channel with 'Gece Hattı' and 'Kırmızı Koltuk' which she started as a reporter at ATV channel News Center. She prepared the documentaries 'Mimarlık ve Yaşam' (Architecture and Life) for NTV and 'Yeşil Ekran' for CNNTURK channels. She was anchorwoman and editor at Habertuk TV channel founded by Ufuk Güldemir for the TV programs called 20. Saat, 13 Ajansı, Bildiğin Gibi Değil and Burası Haftasonu. She was both the Newsroom Assistant to Editor in Chief and the anchorwoman of Kanal 1 Prime Time News. She raised the ratings of Prime Time News to the first 20 that she took over between 90-100. She was the producer and the editor of TV programs called 'Özlem Gürses'le Bakış' and 'Şahane Çocuklar' at the same channel. She hosted many prestigious celebrities at Skyturk channel in her program called 'Özlem Gürses'le Çizgi Dışı'. She was the authentic format creator and the editor of TV program called '3YÜZ' which she hosted along with Vivet Kanetti Uluç ve Ayşe Böhürler at TV8 and Habertürk channels. She was the screen face in the daytime TV Show 'Affetsen' at FOX TV channel. The big change Turkey experienced in 2000s led her to search for "new opportunities, free spaces". One of her searches was ArtıBir TV channel that she became a part of a team believing in free journalism. She prepared and reported the Prime News with Uğur Dündar. Until now, she took part in many national and international organization as "Moderator and Master of Ceremony". Her first book "Bazen Olmaz..." was released in May 2017 by Kronik Kitap. She was featured in Sözcü newspaper with her columns and interviews. Nowadays, she prepares and presents 20th Hour program on Halk TV. Özlem Gürses is married with a child named Uzay.

## Prof. Ayşe Akin



Prof. Dr. Ayşe Akin is a medical Doctor, obstetrician, gynecologist and public health specialist. She served as a faculty member of Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, Department of Public Health for 42 years. Currently, she is the Director of Başkent University Women, Children Health and Family Planning Research Center and a faculty member of the same university's Faculty of Medicine, Public Health Major.

After starting her career in Erzurum, Akin served at every level of Turkey's health system. She worked as a community health center doctor, hospital chief physician, group president and later as General Director of Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning at the Ministry of Health. Her major fields of expertise are women's health, reproductive health and gender. She acquired a 4-year advanced education experience at Southampton University and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Diseases in the United Kingdom. She served as a member and chairperson of various advisory boards and management committees of the World Health Organization (WHO). Currently, she is a consultant to international institutions such as the WHO and UNFPA. She is a board member of the Turkish Family Health and Planning Foundation (TAPV).

She has received several science and service awards, including Nusret Fişek Science Prize, World Health Organization's İhsan Doğramacı Family Health Foundation Prize and United Nations' 2019 Service Award for contributions to human rights and women's rights.

## Dr. Hassan Mohtashami



Hassan Mohtashami is a medical doctor with over 26 years of leadership experience in the health sector. Before joining UNFPA in 2004, he served in his home country (Iran) in different positions as District Health Director, World Bank Project Manager, CEO of Family Planning Association (IPPF-affiliate), and in Afghanistan as WHO Reproductive Health Advisor. Prior to DPR Korea, he has held the positions of UNFPA Representative in Pakistan, Lao PDR and Swaziland, and UNFPA Deputy Representative in Sudan & Uganda.

## Angel Hidalgo Gutierrez



Mr. Gutierrez Hidalgo is an EU Official with more than 20 years of service at the European Commission. Since September 2018 he is based in Ankara as First Counsellor and Head of the Economic Cooperation and Social Section at the EU Delegation to Ankara, where he is responsible for the management of the financial assistance to Turkey under the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA I and II) in the areas of Environment and Climate Change, Transport, Competitiveness and Innovation and Human Development.

In 1996, he joined the European Commission in Brussels as an Official. From 2001 he worked in Bolivia as Head of Economic Cooperation, Trade and Political Affairs Section. In 2006, he started his post in Syria as Head of Operations and Economic Cooperation. In 2010 he was appointed Head of Sector African Union and Pan African Issues at the European Commission in Brussels at the Directorate General for Development and Cooperation – Europaid. Before his arrival to Turkey, Mr. Gutierrez Hidalgo was posted in Cairo at the EU Delegation to Egypt, being responsible for the EU cooperation with Egypt and bilateral and regional programs in the fields of trade, private sector support, environment, energy, infrastructures, water and sanitation, R&DI.

## Dr. Bekir Keskinliç



Bekir Keskinliç was born in Ankara in 1964. After his graduation from Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine, he served in Kayseri. Completed his residency in family medicine at Ankara Training and Research Hospital. Has been working in different units of the Ministry of Health (General Directorate of Treatment Services, General Directorate of Basic Health Services, Department of External Relations) since 2003. Represented Turkey as a member of the Standing Committee of the World Health Organization Regional Committee for Europe between 2010 and 2013. Served as Vice President of the Public Health Agency of Turkey. Began to represent Turkey as a member of the WHO Executive Board in 2016. Appointed as Deputy General Director of the General Directorate of Public Health. Proficient in English. Married with two children.

## Prof. Banu Ergöçmen



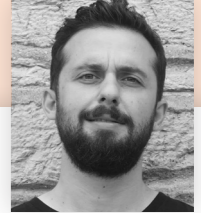
Prof. Dr. Banu Ergöçmen's undergraduate degree is from the Middle East Technical University Department of Sociology, her masters and doctorate degrees are in the field of technical demographics from Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies. Currently, Banu Ergöçmen is a faculty member of the Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies and has also been the Director of the Institute since 2014. Besides her academic work and publications in the discipline of demography, she has a qualitative and quantitative experience of more than 30 years in the field.

## Prof. Tomris Türmen



Prof. Dr. Tomris Türmen was graduated from Istanbul Arnavutköy Girls' College in 1964 and from Ankara University Faculty of Medicine in 1970. After completing her Pediatric Health and Diseases Residency at the New York University of the United States in 1974, she did a postgraduate study in Infant Science at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. She became an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in 1981 and a Professor of Pediatric Health and Diseases in 1988. She worked as a faculty member at different universities in Pakistan, Singapore, Canada and the US. She was appointed to the General Directorate of Maternal and Child Health and Family Planning of the Ministry of Health in 1989 and became Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Health in 1991. The following year, she became Executive Director at the World Health Organization based at the United Nations in Geneva. For 15 years, she served as Turkey's highest-ranking official abroad. She returned to Turkey in 2007 after working as Representative of Director-General of the WHO and joined Ankara University Department of Pediatric Health and Diseases as Chair of Newborn Science Major. Currently, she is the President of the International Children's Center in Ankara. She is the author of several national and international scientific papers and books. She has received several awards in Turkey and abroad, including the International Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology's (US) "Contribution in the Field of Women's Health Award" (2000), the International Pediatric Association's "Outstanding Pediatrician Award" (2007) and WHO Regional Committee for Europe's "European Health Award" (2019).

## Assoc. Prof. Volkan Yılmaz



Volkan Yılmaz is an Assoc. Prof. of Social Policy and the Director of Social Policy Forum Research Centre at Bogazici University, Istanbul. Yılmaz took his BA degrees in Political Science & International Relations and Sociology from Bogazici University, MA degree in Modern Turkish History from Bogazici University, and PhD degree in Politics from the University of Leeds. His latest book, The Politics of Health Care Reform in Turkey, has been published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2017. Yılmaz's academic interests include the politics of social policy reforms; health care policies; immigration, humanitarian assistance and social policies; disadvantaged groups and social policies.

