



ODUNPAZARI LISTENING, DIALOGUE, SOLIDARITY (3D) YOUTH FESTIVAL

17-18-19 May 2022, Kanlıkavak Park, Eskişehir



PREFACE

Dear Residents of Eskişehir, we have actualized Odunpazarı Municipality's participatory democracy understanding with your attendance at the Odunpazarı Listening, Dialogue, Solidarity Youth Festival between 17-19 May at the Kanlıkavak Park. During the 3-day festival we have discussed youth issues in our city including economical, social, educational, democratic and participatory issues; we have also discussed issues of tolerance, digitalization and social transformation with the attendance of various political parties, ngo's, youth organizations and the people of Eskişehir. Firstly we listened to each other, then we pinpointed our common problems by engaging in dialogue and lastly we reached solutions by forming solidarity with each other. In fact we have discovered democracy together. In an environment, where people thought different ideas and political parties couldn't come together, we have expressed our opinions freely, modernly and equally. We have encouraged the society we live in and the youth, which refrained from coming together.

We have seen that, when our youth is given the right opportunity; they are ready to be partners in very important work. This is why, like I have always supported, we need to trust in our young people. We as the Odunpazarı Municipality trust in the youth of Eskişehir, their ideas, opinions, entrepreneurship and we share their commitment to democracy and freedom. As seen The Odunpazarı Listening, Dialogue, Solidarity Festival has achieved bringing people to a common ground, which is democracy, freedom and equality.

The festival managed to bring political parties of differing opinions together, as well as create a place to discuss the problems of Eskişehir and its youth in a democratic fashion. In this context, I would like to express my gratitude to all the young people and people who participated in our Festival.

Fellow people of Eskişehir, I should highlight that the aim of this Festival was not only to discuss the problems, but create solutions for these problems by engaging in dialogue and solidarity. We have achieved this by the participation of political parties, non-governmental organizations, youth organizations and our people. Concepts of participatory democracy and governance were at the forefront of this Festival and you can find out about the problems and the solutions to those in this work.

As The Odunpazarı Municipality we believe now is the time to realise the solutions to the problems discussed during the Festival. We are going to take the steps necessary to increase the quality of life of our citizens by following the fruits of this Festival, which are the solutions to problems of economy, social life, politics and culture.

I want to thank Eskişehir European Union Association and its members, that spearheaded the Festival, which we are planning to continue in the following years, as well as the municipality workers, political parties, that actively participated, non-governmental organizations, youth organizations and the people of Eskişehir.

With kind regards,

Kazım KURT – Mayor of Odunpazarı Municipality



Since its foundation in 2019 the Eskişehir European Union Association has been working to popularize, especially in youth related fields, the concepts of democracy, pluralism, freedom, equality, participation and governance; that lie at the foundation of The European Union. The Listening, Dialogue, Solidarity Festival remain one of the important values of our Association.

Through this festival the youth of Eskişehir has reached the opportunity to discuss their common economical, social, cultural issues with people of differing opinions and political ideas. They have defended their ideas with courage and resolution and met new ideas. In this regard important contributions have been made to advance our local democracy. The awareness and the popularization of the three important steps of democracy; namely transparency, accountability and participation; have been achieved.

Another important dimension of the Listening, Dialogue and Solidarity Youth Festival, which is a first for our city and our country as a whole, is that it is a beautiful example of local non-government/government partnership. On the 6th of December 2022 The Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival has been chosen as a member of International Democracy Festivals Association, which aims to further active participation by the people, culture of discussion and critical thinking. This membership will carry the national and the international visibility of our city in areas of culture, arts and sciences to fields of democracy and governance. As an example of a democratic platform, that facilitates communication and partnership between decision-makers and the public, the Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival has shown that trusting in each other means trusting in the public, which in turn means trusting in our country, and that trust can elevate our city and our country.

The fact that the value Eskişehir puts on democracy has found a place in an international platform should not only make the festival organizers but our public feel proud of what we have achieved. I hereby want to thank the actively participating political parties, non-governmental organizations, city councils, neighbourhood assemblies and the people for embracing democracy and pluralism. I also want to extend my gratitude to the mayor of Odunpazarı Municipality Kazım Kurt, vice-chairmanship of Odunpazarı Municipality Cultural and Social Works Directorate, members of Ceren Özdemir Youth Center and Eskişehir European Union Association's volunteers, that together achieved a festival that has contributed to the advancement of our local democracy.

Erhan Akdemir

Eskişehir European Union Association Chairman

INTRODUCTION

People's participation in public discourse in societal issues is an important prerequisite for a working democracy. From this point of view anticipating people in a certain country, city or society to think the same, lead the same lifestyle, pursue the same goals and make the same choices is not possible. On this note it is impossible to expect the members of a society to be in consensus with their ideas. One has to admit, that the individuals in a society have different expectations and interests. This is an ordinary circumstance in pluralist political systems. The unexpected circumstance is the act or the desire of a person with a certain opinion, preference and lifestyle to ignore or even eradicate a person of differing opinion, preference or lifestyle. On the other hand the expectation that these differences are going to cause tensions in society can leave lives, preferences and lifestyles of members of society in danger. The most fundamental ways this can be overcome are the understanding that differences are not a threat, in the contrary these differences are everybody's personal choice and the understanding that other's personal ideas, choices and lifestyles are as valuable as one's own. The easiest and the most effectual way to achieve this is to communicate and interact with individuals and groups that are deemed other. Through aforementioned communication and interaction the parties involved can overcome their prejudices and reach an understanding with the opposite side. Thus people will start to discover common political, social, cultural and economic grounds that allow them to live together by relieving themselves of arbitrary boundaries that push them apart. This discovery will bring about societal peace and social consensus. The path to discovering these aforementioned common grounds will assist in appearance of solution based platforms; that are based upon participation, governance and are related to society's common economical, social, cultural, political problems. These platforms will also help find solutions to these problems. We also shouldn't forget, that in order for individuals' and social groups' belongings to the state and to their citizenship to be stronger it is important for them to participate in political life. The three necessary points of this idea of governance are transparency, accountability and participation.

This participation and governance platform, that left its 50th year behind in Sweden, has inspired almost all countries in Northern Europe and made it possible for similar democratic platforms to form. For example; in Finland, Helsinki the organization is called SuomiAreena. These implementations are named differently in different countries: in Lithuania it is called DiskusijuFestivalis "Būtent!", in Iceland it is called FundurFolkis, in Latvia it is called SarunuFestivals-Lampa, in Denmark it is called Folkemødet, in Estonia it is called Arvamusfestival, in Norway it is called Arendalsuka.

THE AIM OF ODUNPAZARI 3D YOUTH FESTIVAL

Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival aims to achieve a platform, that is in line with previously expressed viewpoints and strives to engage political actors (such as individuals, political parties, NGOs, unions, chamber of commerce, local media organizations, municipalities) to contribute to solutions to people's (most importantly the youth's) economical, social, cultural, political issues through enhancement of political participation and social awareness. The political participation platform in question provides an unofficial venue for individuals to share their daily political, social, economical and cultural demands with other political actors on a basis of respecting other's opinions. The platform aims to stray away from prejudices, provocations, propaganda and partisanship. Within this framework Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival aims for social-political differences to be accepted as valuable through establishing a tolerant society, for individual or societal problems to be easily expressed to addressees directly, for erasure of prejudices towards differing viewpoints and most importantly for national and international democratic governance principals to be widely regarded. In line with these goals the festival aims to create a political participation and governance platform in

Eskişehir through examining similar platforms in the European Union, participating in said platforms and paying regard to aforementioned goals.

The goal of activities within the festival are to provide a platform for economical, social, political, cultural issues and their solutions to be discussed and for ideas, experiences about how one can better the already existing measures to be exchanged and thus popularize discussions, reconciliations, listening, a culture of science by bringing together civil and official participants together on a basis of non-provocation, non-propaganda and non-partisanship. The festival has worked to proliferate topics of participation and governance in every facet of society and to make sure that upcoming generations can take a role in fields of participation and governance by activities themed around participation and governance.



FUNTIONING OF THE ODUNPAZARI 3D YOUTH FESTIVAL

The Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival has realised as 3-day long public discussions. The public discussions have been put into practice, as stated detailedly below, in two A and B tents simultaneously. Each subject has been discussed by political actors in common work groups throughout a day. Moderators have been responsible for moderating discussions in these sessions, while reporters have been responsible for reporting the discussions.

The sessions have been made up of three parts in order: listening, dialogue and solidarity. First sessions under the name "listening" have consisted of political parties giving their opinions on the topic at hand. In these session political parties have conveyd their party policies to the participants

without partisanship, provocation and propaganda. This way the political parties have managed to reach people that they previously couldn't find the opportunity to reach. In these sessions it should be highlighted that the political party representatives have managed to listen to representatives of differing opinions and ideologies by showing respect to each other in a civil manner and without fighting. The public participants also have managed to interact with political parties that don't align with their point of view and to listen to political parties that they would otherwise have a bias toward. The listeners have also been encouraged to ask questions and criticize political parties. Thus political parties and listeners have been granted the opportunity to turn their prejudices into a structure of communication based on knowledge and information. It also should be stated that the public was shown that political actors can come together with differing ideas and speak about common issues when they are provided to ground for.

ODUNPAZARI BELEDİYESİ **ODUNPAZARI 3D GENÇLİK FESTİVALİ** **AVRUPA GENÇLİK YILI** #EYY2022

ODUNPAZARI 3D GENÇLİK FESTİVALİ PROGRAMI
17 MAYIS 2022 SALI
DEMOKRASİ VE SİYASAL KATILIM

Durum Değerlendirmesi – Dinleme

Saat	A Çadırı	B Çadırı
12:00 – 12:30	Açılış Konuşması	Tolerans ve Uzlaş
12:30 – 14:30	Gençlerin Siyasal Hayata Katılımı	
14:30 – 15:30	"İzel&Emre" Gençlik Konseri	

Sorunların Tespiti – Diyalog

Saat	A Çadırı	B Çadırı
15:30 – 17:30	Gençlerin Siyasal Hayata Katılımı	Tolerans ve Uzlaş
17:30 – 18:00	#Etiket Gençlik Konseri	

Çözüm Önerileri – Dayanışma

Saat	A Çadırı	B Çadırı
18:00 – 20:00	Gençlerin Siyasal Hayata Katılımı	Tolerans ve Uzlaş
20:00 – 20:30	Kültür Ve Sosyal İşler Müdürlüğü	
	Halk Oyunu Gösterisi	
20:45 – 21:30	"Neva The Band" Gençlik Konseri	
21:45 – 22:45	"Kaktüs" Gençlik Konseri	
23:00 – 23:30	KİM Tiyatro "Sahibinden Beyaz Melek" Oyunu	

The main goal of sessions titled "dialogue" in Odunpazarı 3D Youth festival have been to pinpoint common problems, that the political actors face, on the topic at hand. Within this framework political parties, ngos, youth organizations, individual participants, neighbourhood assemblies, media representatives and other political actors have actively participated in voicing common problems on topics of the tents despite being from different backgrounds and ideologies. Another important observation is that activities like this where people can discover common economical, social, cultural and political problems are needed and demanded.

ODUNPAZARI 3D GENÇLİK FESTİVALİ PROGRAMI
18 MAYIS 2022 ÇARŞAMBA
DİJİTALLEŞME VE TOPLUMSAL DÖNÜŞÜM

Durum Değerlendirmesi – Dinleme

Saat	A Çadırı	B Çadırı
12:30 – 14:30	Dijital Okuryazarlık ve Sosyal Medya Kullanımı	Dijital Kuşaklar ve
14:30 – 15:30	"Panik Atak" Gençlik Konseri	Z Kuşağını Anlamak

Sorunların Tespiti – Diyalog

Saat	A Çadırı	B Çadırı
15:30 – 17:30	Dijital Okuryazarlık ve Sosyal Medya Kullanımı	Dijital Kuşaklar ve
17:30 – 18:00	"Unchained" Gençlik Konseri	Z Kuşağını Anlamak

Çözüm Önerileri – Dayanışma

Saat	A Çadırı	B Çadırı
18:00 – 20:00	Dijital Okuryazarlık ve Sosyal Medya Kullanımı	Dijital Kuşaklar ve
20:00 – 20:30	Kültür ve Sosyal İşler Müdürlüğü	Z Kuşağını Anlamak
20:45 – 21:30	Halk Oyunları - Modern Dans Gösterisi	
21:45 – 22:45	CASH BAND Gençlik Konseri	
23:00 – 23:30	"Salt" Gençlik Konseri	
	Diyalogik Doğaçlama Tiyatro Oyunu	

In the "solidarity" sessions of Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival solutions to the issues brought up in the "dialogue" sessions have been produced. As could be seen below in the detailed portrayal of contents the solutions have been brought up, whether at local or national levels, by the participants. It should also be highlighted that even though the participants are of differing ideologies, viewpoints and lifestyles, they have managed to produce ideas together, that could lead to solving the aforementioned problems. In this process it could be observed that political parties of differing viewpoints have come together to both bring up and solve the problems at hand. In some instances they even reached similar solutions to the problems. This shows us that when one can act outside of their prejudices one can more easily and more strongly find both issues and solutions to those issues.

The solutions put forward in these sessions will be brought up to local decision makers and also to other political actors (universities, unions, NGOs etc.) depending on the contents of the issues and solutions. By doing this the festival aims to make use of governance mechanisms. Different from other sessions the outputs of "solidarity" sessions to become concrete the participants will need to follow through and audit the decision makers. Thusly the participants will feel the impact of being a part of the decision making progress and governance mechanisms. In this framework Eskişehir European Union Association will follow through on the solutions and keep decision makers accountable.



In the first day of the festival political parties, ngos, young people and other political actors have discussed the topics of "youth participation in political life" and "tolerance and consensus" under the umbrella of "democracy and political participation.

3.1 Main Theme: Democracy and Participation

3.1.1. Tent A: Youth Participation in Political Life

One can define political participation as political actors(political parties, ngos, social groups, media, univercities, citizens,buerocracy) shaping the political life as individuals or groups through individual or group acts. In this light political participation should be considered voting, being a member of a political party or a ngo or a student club, volunteering. In this regard political participation can not be boiled down to voting. Making a petition, protesting, excercising power over decision makers through ngos can be some of the ways one can participate after the voting process is over. Because governing can mean both the management of personal life as well as public life. Aristoteles defined the concept of politics as the act shown by the government to ensure the most basic interest of living a good life. The common point of these approaches are one appealing to manegement and governing on the basis of interests and needs. Both individuals and decision makers make plans to reach their interests, needs and goals. We call this planing: "politics". Thus politics is not the goal but a tool we use to reach our interests and needs. In the first session of Odunpazarı 3D Youth festival, which adopts the principal of politics being much more than just voting, the topic of youth participation in political life was put to discussion. In this session political parties have shared their opinions on youth participation in political life with the participants of the event. After that all participants have put forward problems and solutions regarding the topic.

Assessment of the situation- Listening

The views of political parties are as follows:

Views of Saadet Partisi: The youth have played a big role in the 2019 local elections and they will play a much larger role in the 2023 general elections. The youth stand distant to political parties but they are not apolitical. Young people stand distant to parties with parliamentary groups. The political structure in Turkey is widely regarded negatively by young people and existing political parties don't interest them. In the period of the current government the Turkish politics aim to mobilise the masses by identity politics. Politics should be a discussion platform, meanwhile in Turkey listening and consensus don't exist. Political parties need to change their youth policies, attract young people and change themselves. The youth are not distant from political participation. Gezi and Boğaziçi incidents are examples of political participation. The political structure in Turkey should be overturned drastically, the political parties should organize horizontally, political parties should get rid of their hierarchical structure, they should encourage participations from the bottom up and create governance mechanisms. Politics can be understood as listening, dialogue and solidarity. If politics in Turkey becomes pluralist the young people will join political parties. The political parties in Turkey that value the youth should organize horizontally and not be hierarchical. The organizational structure towards the youth should be changed, especially in youth branches. Parties should increase engagement with NGOs and plan better activities. Saadet Partisi is open to anybody that wants to share their views and to anybody that wants to participate without being a member of the party. The important thing here is: can the person share their views and issues with the political parties? Even more important is if they can participate in decision making processes.

Views of Türkiye İşçi Partisi: Turkish politics consists of "big time" rich people and old people, namely not the youth. Türkiye İşçi Partisi is fighting against that both in the parliament and through its actions on the streets. The future is the youth's. TİP's political views are based upon young people and it is trying to reach young people by festivals, camps and activities. Politics is a field that not only the youth but many people are afraid of. This is abundantly clear especially through people's posts on social media. TİP wants the young people to participate in politics and for politics to outgrow its meaning today. TİP follows policies that put young people on the forefront. TİP cares deeply about young people actively participating in politics. The youth needs to voice their concerns for unlawfulness in Turkey. TİP is trying to reach young people by forums and youth meetings.

Views of Zafer Partisi: Young people are constantly forced to talk politics and this prevents them from living their lives. There is no giving up. Important thing is the wholeness of the homeland. If political parties express their views more clearly, they can pull the undecided young people to their side. Young people think political parties won't listen to them. The union of the country comes from the youth. Atatürk's Address to Youth shows us and lights up the path forward. Zafer Partisi strives to make sure news not in traditional media reaches young people through social media and young people become representatives in parliament. Through posts on social media we are trying to be the voice to voiceless young people. Zafer Partisi wants young people of ages 20-25 to be engaged in politics. I think they are trying to manipulate young people by putting the refugee migrant at the forefront. To the question: "What does Zafer Partisi think about this" the party representative answered: "the party doesn't manipulate young people and the party shares what is in front of everyone on social media."

Views of Emek Partisi: As a Marxist-Leninist party Emek Partisi considers that the existing capitalist society is dividing us into bourgeoisie and the working class. Thus Emek Partisi sees the issue of young people and women in a Marxist-Leninist sense. EMEP stays by the side of all workers. In the

recent times the most politically attacked group is the youth and the youth is aware of all these problems. In the bourgeoisie politics of Turkey young people don't hold an important place. Young people are only seen as votes. Politics is not an elitist matter. Politics should turn its face towards the youth by being structured from bottom to up. Emek Partisi states that young people are placed in a dangerous field when it comes to politics. We don't offer them a rosefield but we are saying that secular young people will save themselves from the dangerous and bad place they are in. The youth should create its own organizations against unemployment and being left without a future. It should create student representation councils in universities. Young people should, in every field they are in, oppose contemporary bourgeoisie politics and fight against it. EMEP Youth is trying to oppose every lawlessness and injustice. In short the youth can achieve its own future and salvation through organising. Salvation won't come individually. EMEP doesn't offer anything to the youth. Young people must achieve their own rights themselves. No disadvantaged group will receive their rights as long as bourgeoisie politics won't change.

Views of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi: The representative stated that they were the youngest provincial manager and highlighted the three base principals of CHP: "Atatürk principles and revolutions, universal principles of social democracy and the contemporary mixture of the two". Young people don't want to be involved in politics and this has its reasons. Political views of their families push the youth into that direction. The family being apolitical pushes young people away from politics. The reason for this is unemployment or the fear that something bad is going to happen to them. This condition affects young people in the way that they no longer want to participate in politics. The condition that prevents people from expressing their political views that stems from the coup of 12th september still exist. Families that witnessed the coup don't want their children involved in politics. Among generations, generation Z is more political than generation Y because of the political pressures they endure. CHP values young people. The youth is ours and the future is ours. Hierarchically the youth branch of CHP is on the same level as other branches. Through the youth branch we show the value we put on young people. We are working towards making the universities autonomous. We are going to abolish the system of credit and dormitories institution.

Views of Gelecek Partisi: Gelecek Partisi has named itself with the consideration of young people. Nowadays unemployment is at an all time high and young people are struggling to find an occupation due to interviews and favours. If the system was based on merit young people will have their path cleared. The youth can not express itself because of the political system. Ahmet Davutoğlu has hosted numerous services for young people. One of them is making it easier for young people to travel to Europe. Ahmet Davutoğlu and his policies are separate from AKP. He was the victim of a bad faith operation. He has put forward lots of policies between 2014 and 2016. Three of these are: transparency in public affairs, the political ethics and morals bill, zoning and unearned income bill. Because Ahmet Davutoğlu was a victim of an operation within AKP, he is working to prevent these kind of operations. Davutoğlu supports enhanced parliamentary system. Gelecek Partisi is working in every facet of the party for young people.

Views of Vatan Partisi: Who are we going to call young? Some people are young despite the fact that they are aging. Turkish youth is our hope. Being in Turkey is an honor. Our country is under the attack of imperialism and the youth is aware of this. Young people are capable of anything given the opportunity. Turkey can not just be a consumer society. After the second world war universally and domestically there has been an outside force.

All parties answered the question: "Does the party have a mechanism through which i can express my views without being a member?" with: "Everybody is more than welcome to work voluntarily without being a member."



Pinpointing of Problems - Dialogue session

Issues participants came up with regarding the topic " Youth participation in political life":

- Families are scaring young people off. Especially parents born in 60s-70s are scared.
- Formerly everybody was more involved politics be it at home or on the field, the youth nowadays is not involved.
- Oppressive instruments of the state are preventing us by taking our oppurtunities away and doing away with our freedom of thought. Parents and media are supporting this aswell.
- Young people don't want to participate in politics because they don't ask questions and don't question things.
- Lack of education
- Fear of being labeled
- Fascism
- Old government in power and old hierarchy born from this
- Problem of belonging
- The reluctanse of young people to create ngos

-emergence of individualism, young people being unable to things(at the very least political things) collectively

-Bullying. Being a member of a political party causes fractionization

-Politics being very elitist

-Young people having trouble finding politically like-minded people. Thus young people are not political and they don't find it engaging.

-By-laws of political parties are made by older people and they are banal making it hard to find sincere by young people.

-Politics and political parties being dishonest and them feeding off of conflict

-Ideological tools of the state cause young people not to question as a result of a repressive mindset. Young people being labeled terrorists because of their opinions and them not being able to have fun.

Solutions - Solidarity Session

-Political parties should make the youth feel like they have their backs.

-Only answer to an organized evil is being organised.

-People should join political parties. People should be able to move away from the viewpoints of their parents and make their own decisions.

-People should try to get rid of their lack of self-confidence.

-Political memory of Turkey is weak. Young people shouldn't forget who put them in this situation and make their response heard.

-For a stable society freedom of speech and freedom of thought should be established.

-Existing political parties have a very hierarchical structure, this should be questioned.

-Young people should rid themselves of the apolitical ideas, which are a result of the coup of 12th September. Identity politics should be left behind.

-Young people should adapt themselves to the structures of political parties because they don't enjoy being ordered.

-Othering and lynching should be done away with.

-People with economic problems don't think that deeply about politics and they should be reached out to.

-People with good economic situations should think about others.

-People find it hard to make time for politics. This time should be created.



3.1.2 Tent B: Tolerance and Consensus

When confronted with the subject of tolerance everybody understands it in a different context. Endurance, putting up with are some notions that come to mind when thinking about tolerance. Tolerance, besides these notions, hold an important place when it comes to human rights and preservation of human rights. As the thinker that put it forward Ioanna Kuçuradi (2007: 89) in her work "Tolerance: Notion and its boundaries" defines tolerance as an individual attitude. According to Kuçuradi tolerance is an attitude that comes from understanding others as human beings first. A quality of a tolerant person is defined as the unwillingness of one to hurt others because they see them as human beings first as they are unique and different. Kuçuradi highlights that people tolerate people who are human just like themselves. If we approach the question of tolerance through this lens we can see that it is a key factor of consensus. For people of differing lifestyles and opinions to coexist, to have their rights protected, to feel like they can be themselves freely tolerance is very important. In this framework in the session "Tolerance and Consensus" how political actors are going to develop a rights based approach and how they are going to reach consensus on dividing concepts have been discussed.

Assessment of the situation - Listening

The viewpoints of participating political parties are as follows:

Views of Türkiye İşçi Partisi: Party representative handled the topic in two parts namely in personal relationships and political relationships. "We should start communicating from a place of respect so that we can establish stronger bonds." They mentioned that they don't accept a structure where the majority pressures the minority. "Everybody should exist within their own identity and we adopt the view that everybody should have equal rights."

Views of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi: Party representative started the conversation mentioning the definition of the word tolerance. They said tolerance is understanding. They defined consensus as

reaching a common idea. They commented that having differing opinions doesn't mean people can't come together. They mentioned the importance of patience when it comes to coming together of different ideas. They ended their speech by saying that we need wise people when it comes to tolerance and consensus.

Views of Saadet Partisi: Party representative mentioned that the reason why people's tolerance threshold is low is the low understanding of concepts. They said that they don't accept tolerance because it has a very narrow meaning. They mentioned that the meaning of the word is the error margin of mechanical products and that the concept is weak when it comes to social issues. They defined it wider as tolerance morals and mentioned that there needs to be ethics of tolerance. They mentioned besides personal tolerance, the tolerance morals of the state. They ended the conversation with: "The tolerance morals of the state comes from ruling with justice and merit.

Views of Zafer Partisi: Party representative mostly talked about the refugee question. They talked about tolerance towards refugees. They mentioned that they approach each social topic with the same mindset and that they are against prejudices. They ended their speech with highlighting the importance of living bound to laws and human rights.

Pinpointing of Problems - Dialogue session

Issues participants came up with regarding the topic "Tolerance and Consensus":

-One of the most important issues is that people don't know how to listen. Society has certain value judgements and people approach each other and criticize each other with these value judgements. This causes the problem of not listening.

-Another issue is labeling people. Labeling people based on their clothes, religion, language and race increases prejudices.

-Another important issue regarding tolerance is people not showing respect towards each other. Confrontations between generations lower the respect threshold and make it harder to reach a consensus.

-Certain groups within society establish very sharp boundaries and can not extend beyond those boundaries. For example I can not accept this, that is my line in the sand.

-The rapid development of technology makes it easier to reach information but at the same time causes problems like: believing everything you see, not researching, not filtering what one hears. These conditions have been discussed throughout the session. Being easily manipulated has been reached as one of the outcomes of the problem.

-Another problem of non-consensus is certain notions not being well established among the public.

-The problem of construction of personality has been discussed at length by the representative of Saadet Partisi. They also touched on people not being able to self evaluate. It has been brought forward that every facet of society should be transparent. They mentioned that the problem of tolerance is the most important issue when it comes to reaching a consensus.

-We exaggerate too much when it comes to certain topics, we should live for ourselves not others, these problems occur because we try to live according to other people's views. We should accept ourselves as we are. The lack of empathy is the root of a lot of our problems.

-A human being is a valuable entity and the lack of awareness of this leads to a place where human rights are not as valued. Another problem is that we can not differentiate between personal truths and universal ones.

-Some participants pointed out the problem of consensus between generations. They highlighted that especially generation Z experiences situations differently from others.

-People embracing monologue based communication was brought up as another problem. Ways of communication should be increased. A consensus has been reached on the value of information and dialogue based on information.

-Fanaticism prevents dialogue and consensus. Discussion and fight have been differentiated. The conclusion has been reached that we should enhance the culture of discussion.

-It has been discussed that a conservative approach can hinder communication on certain topics. It has been highlighted that research and questioning is important.



Solutions – Solidarity Session

We need to establish a democratic culture and know that we have responsibilities towards each other. We need to stray away from Project mentality.

Betterment of societal morals through individual morals. This will be the basis of the solutions.

It has been emphasized that sensitive subjects should not be normalized rather they should be criticised. This will help to elevate problems of labeling.

The importance of familial education in regards to solving generational differences has been discussed. A consensus has been reached that technology education should be broadened to prevent generational clashes.

It has been emphasized that families should be educated in regards to parenting.

Some suggestions have been made to increase the number of non governmental organisations through which the youth and other generations can exist in the same space.

Civil society initiatives should be developed. Education programs should be increased.

Civil society platforms on a basis of tolerance and consensus should be created. It is important that these organizations are enhanced and broadened.

A system where human rights are protected should be established, ‘‘common good’’ should be underlined and the importance of education should be drawn attention to.

It has been stated that the basic needs of an individual should be covered and a place should be created where the individual can live humanely. This way society can be closer to a culture of consensus.

3.2.1. Tent A: Digital Literacy and Social Media Use

Nowadays the exchange of ideas is generally done through the internet and internet based Technologies such as social media, text messages, e-mails. The internet and internet based technologies offer new opportunities for an increase in avenues of political participation, for an increase in the attention on political life by individuals and groups, for individuals and groups to interact with each other, for individuals and groups to participate in politics on a micro level and for mobilization and organisation required for an active participation. However, using the internet solely as a means to demean, judge and alienate others, as well as a form of participation, beyond the aforementioned features, not only dulls the art of face-to-face conversation but also hinders people from coming together, discussing and engaging in face-to-face communication and interaction within the realm of politics. Moreover, this situation not only renders civil mechanisms and platforms ineffective but also enables individuals and social groups to resort more quickly and easily to hate speech against each other, despite being physically distant. In fact, with the existence of internet-based Technologies, things that would not be expressed face-to-face are completely personalized. This leads to a vicious cycle where highly aggressive and hateful speech evokes even greater reactions from the other side. This, in turn, fuels a stronger sense of animosity and hatred, leading to the use of even more severe and harsh language without hesitation. This situation leads to a sterile and closed-off structure in both societal and individual relationships, characterized by hatred and marginalization. In this context, this session has thoroughly explored the positive and negative effects of social media on individuals and society. Additionally, the current state of social media usage in Turkey has also been discussed during the session.

Situation Assessment – Listening

The opinions of participating parties are as follows:

Opinions of Memleket Partisi: The Deputy Provincial Chairman of the Memleket Partisi, responsible for Social Media and Informatics, emphasized the importance of personal data protection and security in the context of social media. He stated that the use of fake accounts should be restricted by laws and specific regulations, and highlighted the need for the involvement of experts in the preparation of these laws and regulations. The participant, who is a graphic design student, asked about the approach of the Memleket Partisi regarding its policy on restricting fake accounts. They expressed their desire to follow art-related content through an additional social media account and inquired about how the Memleket Partisi would respond to this within the framework of its restriction policy. The

representative of the Homeland Party stated that it is important for us to know who we are engaging with on social media (whether they are bots or real individuals). Therefore, they expressed the view that the approach should be in line with this understanding. The representative of the Homeland Party addressed the issue of insults on social media and emphasized that this problem can be largely resolved within the framework of identity policy. Therefore, they reiterated the necessity of identity policy. The representative of the Memleket Partisi addressed the issues of security and lack of oversight in digital payment platforms. The representative of the Homeland Party expressed that without identity verification on social media, we can easily engage in actions using fake accounts. They emphasized that if we exist as real individuals with our identities, these negative aspects would be minimized, and control could be ensured through this approach.

Opinions of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi: The Deputy Provincial Chairman of the Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi in Eskişehir stated that there will be no homes without internet access, particularly highlighting that students will benefit from affordable internet services. Today, in Turkey, approximately 92% of households have access to the internet. However, addressing the issue of digital literacy, it is important to consider how many of the 92% who have internet access can also be considered digital writers, in addition to being digital readers. This highlights the significance of not only politics but also ideas and thoughts. The party representative concluded their speech with the question, "Yes, we use the internet, we read, we write, but how free are we?" The CHP representative expressed that individuals who are afraid to express their ideas and thoughts would be more afraid of sharing on social media with an identity policy. The CHP representative added to the discussion by stating that the owners of fake accounts can be easily identified and that an identity policy, in the context of freedom of thought and expression, could lead to negative consequences in Turkey for those who cannot freely express their thoughts.

Opinions of Zafer Partisi: The representative of Zafer Partisi began their statement by stating that Zafer Partisi actively uses social media. They mentioned that as the youth, their biggest resource is social media and emphasized that Zafer Partisi promotes a liberal and freedom-oriented mindset on social media. The party representative evaluated the identity policy on social media, considering its pros and cons, and commented, "The downside of this policy is the security issue within the scope of freedom of thought and expression, while the upside is that this policy will not be a threat to well-intentioned users." In response to the accusation that Zafer Partisi manipulates young people through their social media posts, the representative of Zafer Partisi stated that the party follows the path of Atatürk and identifies itself as a Turkish nationalist party. The representative of Zafer Partisi stated that those particular posts are primarily made by fan pages, emphasizing that the social media posts of Zafer Partisi are not intended for that purpose. The representative of Zafer Partisi expressed that such prohibitions on digital payment platforms cause significant economic damage to Turkey, particularly in terms of investors moving away from the country.

Opinions of Saadet Partisi: The President of the Women's Youth Branch of the Saadet Partisi began her speech by emphasizing the importance of understanding concepts correctly. She stated that their party's vision in using social media is to be the subject, not the object, of the digital environment. She highlighted that a society based on morality would never require something like insults, regardless of the platform. Therefore, as the Saadet Partisi, they advocate for the compatibility of individual ethics and the ethics of policymakers. The representative of the Saadet Party expressed that social media regulation should be based on universal principles.

Opinions of Türkiye İşçi Partisi: The party representative stated, "We actively use social media. The reason for this is the government's shaping and directing of mainstream media, which affects

Generation Z. That is precisely why we aim to contribute to young people accessing accurate information by actively using social media."

It was mentioned during the session that young people participate in political life more through social media sharing and their social circles, and that they are influenced by these factors to engage in political participation. It was also noted that the family factor has a much less significant role in political participation.

The identification of problems – Dialogue Session

The problems identified by the participants regarding "Digital literacy and social media usage" are as follows:

- The lack of authenticity on social media and the lack of credibility in the news we see on social media.
- Access to the internet, the segments of the population that cannot access the internet, and the high cost of accessing high-speed internet.
- The spread and normalization of hate speech through social media usage.
- The presence of anonymous users and bot accounts.
- The issue of the accuracy of the sources we can access as digital readers.
- The unaware use of social media, with people not knowing how to use it properly.
- The monopolization of the media and the perception of beauty created by social media, which leads to a lack of self-confidence in individuals, causing them to abandon real-life experiences and focus solely on living for social media.
- The lack of adherence to social etiquette and manners from real life on social media platforms.
- The mainstream media channels giving space to only one perspective.
- The lack of established universal principles for social media usage.
- Issues related to the protection of personal data, unknowingly selling our own data, and neuro-marketing.

Solutions – Solidarity Session

- Addressing fundamental issues such as justice and the economy as a priority.
- Allocating 5% of the national income to research and development efforts.
- Students should not be subject to communication taxes.
- Internet infrastructure should be bettered.
- Internet service providers should be nationalized.
- Public procurement laws should be improved. Companies should be aware that operating in small regions may result in economic losses and act accordingly.

- The Ministry of National Education should provide lessons on social media usage in schools.
- There is a need for social media applications that are widely used worldwide to have local representations within the country. (It was noted that the existing representations do not meet this need.)



3.2.2. Tent B: Digital Generations and Understanding Generation Z

The concept of generations, which refers to individuals born in the same period, witnessing similar events, and sharing the same responsibilities and challenges, also highlights the distinctive characteristics of each generation and their differences from other generations. The generations from the 20th century to the present are listed as follows: "Silent Generation," "Baby Boomers," "Generation X," "Generation Y" or "Millennials," "Generation Z," and "Generation Alpha." Within the classification of digital generations, it is noted that Generation Z, born between 2000 and 2020, stands out from previous generations in terms of their use of information and communication technologies. In addition to possessing advanced skills in technology, Generation Z is often referred to as the "Internet Generation," "E-Generation," or "Google Generation" because their proficiency in technology seems almost innate. They have been surrounded by digital media from birth, making them the first generation to grow up in a digitally immersive world. Due to this unique upbringing, they are attributed with significant influence in societal transformation. According to OECD statistics in 2021, Generation Z has an estimated global population of 2 billion and is predicted to constitute a substantial portion of the future workforce. It is projected that by 2025, Generation Z will make up 30% of the world's population and 27% of the workforce. According to data from the Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK), Generation Z comprises 39% of Turkey's population. It is known that approximately 7 million young individuals from Generation Z will be eligible to vote in the upcoming elections planned for

2023 in Turkey. In this context, the session titled "Understanding Digital Generations and Generation Z" discussed the efforts of political parties and civil society organizations in addressing the individual and societal needs and expectations of Generation Z.



Situation Assessment – Listening

Opinions of attending parties are as follows:

Opinions of Vatan Partisi: Youth is a physiological phenomenon. There is a physiological reality. People are born, grow, live, and die. Among these stages, youth is the most dynamic period. It is a time when young, dynamic minds dominate with their thoughts. I think the concept of Generation Z emerged by comparing it to the 1968 and 1978 generations. Today, our youth is referred to as Generation Z because they are expected to think not with their own identity but in the way Western imperialism wants them to. Since Generation Z has grown up with technology, they are adept at using it. However, this alone does not justify labeling them as Generation Z. The term Generation Z has been imposed on us by Western imperialism. A Western ambassador once said that we need to make Turkish youth forget their identity. This concept has been created not only for Turkish youth but also to make oppressed nations forget their own identities. We do not categorize people as young or old, female or male. Although they may have such identities, we develop policies accordingly. However, Turkey is currently facing problems. It has become a country that cannot produce. Farmers cannot produce. We are stagnant in many areas such as industry, agriculture, and education. In this situation, what identity should we bring forward? We want a Turkey that produces. We want a proud, independent Turkey. The young people within a proud, independent Turkey are the Turkish youth. In Atatürk's 1927 Address to Youth, which starts with "Oh Turkish Youth," we will find ourselves, not in the concept of Generation Z. Our policy towards youth here refers to the youth who are committed to Atatürk's principles and revolutions and who tirelessly strive for the goals he set. We should not accept the concept of Generation Z. It has been imposed on us. Youth is the correct concept. Youth is important for the Turkish nation. It is important for the interrupted Atatürk revolutions of the 1940s to

come back to life and be completed. Completing the process of Atatürk's revolutions means "uninterrupted revolutions," which means we have made a revolution, but it is not over. We need to overcome the challenges that lie ahead. This can only be accomplished by the Turkish youth.

Opinions of Türkiye İşçi Partisi: We have no issue with the concept of Generation Z. Our concern lies with those born between 1995 and 2012. Despite the biased media and their attempts to prevent us from accessing information, we know that Generation Z can always communicate and access anything that is hidden from us through digitalization. These empowered young individuals are now aware of the rights taken away from them. If we want to understand Generation Z, the policies discussed by "old wealthy men in parliament" are not the solution for the youth. The problem should be allowing the youth to speak. To understand us, you should listen. Our policy regarding this is to have young people, women, and LGBTQ+ individuals represented in parliament. We emphasize the importance of not segregating identities, religious beliefs, languages, races, sexual orientations, or appearances. I was born during the AKP government and grew up with their tales. We are currently in the process of developing policies that stand against this. How can we be against it? We are in the process of creating policies that oppose it. We can talk about the existence of low-quality education. Teachers not being scrutinized, universities under trusteeship, students being detained even for simply advocating for their rights, academics not being allowed to conduct research, and universities not providing quality education due to the presence of substandard institutions. If we want to understand Generation Z, we can discuss unemployment because the poverty that was once shameful in the 1990s has now turned into our anger. Poverty has deepened to the extent that we are furious enough to not allow discussions of gas cylinder queues. University students have resorted to dropping out because they need to work. Z Generation has been deprived of their right to education. We stand against this. We are deprived of healthcare rights. The value of healthcare labor has been diminished. We have a substandard healthcare system. We are young! We are 20-year-old individuals, our concern should be about having coffee. There is an \$85 monthly student loan to repay, but it wasn't granted to me or many others in similar situations. Who did it go to? It went to those who are affiliated with the AKP. Our policy is not about whether it walks with us, but rather about its youthfulness, the existence of rights, and access to equal citizenship rights. Understanding and expressing Generation Z does not require us to have any concerns or political motives. They should have access to these rights simply because they exist and are equal citizens in this world.

Opinions of Memleket Partisi: First of all, I'm here as a 20-year-old young person. The generation before me was the "baby boomers" generation. After World War II, there was a sudden increase in birth rates. This generation exhibited certain characteristics. However, I don't possess those characteristics. I belong to Generation Z and I exhibit typical traits of that generation. Generation Z is inclined towards collective work and has feelings of rebellion against authority. I also feel the same way. We live in the age of the internet, and I am making an effort to understand phenomena like virtual reality, which bring about entirely different processes. Our party leader, Mr. Muharrem İnce, pays special attention to the youth. He is particularly sensitive to the issue of young people being homeless or without a dormitory. If we come to power, the primary duty of the Housing Development Administration of Turkey (TOKİ) will be to provide dormitories for young people. We believe that young people should not fall into the hands of organizations with unclear intentions. The social state should provide these to young people. TOKİ will solve the housing problem for young people. Secondly, our party policies give special consideration to young people and women. Our political stance prioritizes these groups. Young people don't need fairy tales. By clearing their path and securing our future with reason and science, we will ensure their success. Generations attract the attention of political parties and marketers because of their voting power. Politicians and brand

managers need to understand the different generations. We are also committed to reaching out to young people and producing policies that serve their interests. However, this cannot be solved by political parties alone. Together, we will achieve this goal by engaging in politics, sharing our opinions, or establishing our own organizations. I will share a quote to help understand generations: "These days, the youth have gone out of control, eating in a rude manner, showing disrespect to adults, rebelling against their parents, and annoying their teachers." Aristotle said this 2000 years ago. Conflicts between generations have existed for many years.

Opinions of Zafer Partisi: We were born in a time when we were exposed to intense chaos that did not originate from us. Nobody listened to us, nobody asked for our opinions. Therefore, what young people need the most is to be understood. In this regard, I find this event very meaningful. The older generation burdened us with heavy responsibilities in the chaotic environment they created with their own hands. They disregarded our desires and needs. As it is known, we are not ignorant, lazy, or antisocial individuals. On the contrary, we are a generation that reads, researches, and has a high level of awareness. We call ourselves the Great Turkish Youth. We identify ourselves in this way. Instead of looking up to others, we should start taking steps on our own. We have to keep up with global standards. Quality internet, well-equipped technological devices, cultural trips, learning different languages, and even buying a book to read should not be luxuries. These are basic needs to keep up with the times. We need these basic needs and services to become well-equipped individuals. While meeting these basic needs contributes greatly to our productivity and creativity, they alone are not enough to fully reflect our potential. This is where energy and motivation come into play. How many people can afford to engage in sports, music, or take vacations? Existing resources are being wasted in various ways, and the structure called the government should transparently and accountably spend the common treasury of its citizens for the benefit of its own citizens. When I say citizens, I do not mean the friends who have recently joined us through various means. The reputation of a state is not built by constructing magnificent buildings or shopping malls. It is sought in factories where production takes place, in dormitories where students can stay, and in well-equipped schools affiliated with the Ministry of National Education. We are aware of what is happening around us. However, let's not give up. We must fight. Our duty, as stated in the Youth Address of the Great Leader Atatürk, is to save independence and the republic even under much more difficult conditions than today. If we took an oath to walk on the path he opened and to the goal he showed us, then it is time to fulfill that oath. Let's not abandon our country and go to other countries; we live in this country. We must enlighten our own future ourselves. Despite the great obstacles, it is in our hands to make a change. In this regard, we should prioritize education and social life for our own youth, without squandering the resources of the Republic of Turkey. Young people should be able to develop themselves with the available resources. Additionally, many are being eliminated in interviews because they don't have connections. We will abolish the interview system and establish merit-based positions.



Opinions of Saadet Partisi: The Deputy Provincial Chairman and Board Member of the Saadet Partisi stated in his statement that young people are the hope of Turkey, but they are young people who have lost their hope and vision. If we all looked from the same place, saw from the same place, and listened from the same place, no good, beautiful, aesthetic things would emerge. If there were no differences in you, my uniqueness would not emerge either. My uniqueness arises from the diversity of the other person. We should not define based on the Z generation. We should try to understand. Because defining varies for everyone. Everyone creates their own definition based on their ideology. Defining is not enough to understand the generation. You cannot understand without knowing the other person. We shouldn't even believe without knowing and recognizing God. We need to try to understand the generations and their components without defining them. So, what does it take to try to understand? For this, we must have lived the entire lifestyle of this generation. I have experienced this advantage with many flaws, but I have knowingly lived my flaws. I have come by experiencing every perspective and ideology that the generation can comprehend. I have experienced every perspective and ideology that the generation can experience. I have lived every situation that the generation can experience. Or we must touch. The biggest problem today is the distance between the political leaders and the people, the inability to touch. I don't focus on the representation of young people and women in the political party. It's not just about being young; they should be able to understand me, touch me, address me, and not be distant from me. We believe that in the journey of life, human ages should not be divided into sections. We should not travel in separate compartments. We should bring children together with young people, young people with the elderly, and the elderly with children without categorizing them. Children should have friends older than their age. Or they can make friends with children. To do these, some concepts need to be rebuilt. We need to rebuild some concepts. For example, the concept of trust, the concept of morality. It should not be morality according to you or me; it should be the morality accepted by common sense. Morality can vary. The concepts need to be reestablished and reevaluated among age groups. We need to bring together common values without segregating. The concept of freedom also varies. When defining freedom, it should be reestablished through the spirit,

not through the body. Vagrancy, lawlessness, being able to do anything should be recreated without being included in the definition of freedom. The restrictions imposed by our elders are not freedom. The recklessness of young people is not freedom either. The thresholds of values should be different. For example, the threshold of tradition should be higher in the elderly. The value should be the same, but the threshold should be different. The threshold of freedom for our elders should be able to see from the perspective of young people. So, when we don't separate these generations and generations, this unity will allow us to recognize time. The digital generation will recognize time, recognize the past, and foresee the future. If we recognize time, we will understand the digital world we are in. Whether we are the subject or the object of the digital world will emerge. For example, we are the object of this digital world. I wish we could be the subject, but we fell behind in production. We turned to imitation and assembly. We couldn't produce intellectual mind by combining reason and thought. The digital world was presented, and we had to become its object. When we are the object of the digital world, we can reveal its advantages and disadvantages. Thus, merits and flaws come to light and can be managed. Even if you become the subject rather than the object of that world, you will have the ability to govern the world. The true definition of the elderly is to exercise their will fully, correctly, and wisely. The elderly should not be seen as waste. Young people, children, and the elderly should benefit from each other. The elders should stand behind this generation, not in front of it, always forgive the young and let greatness remain with them.

Opinions of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi: The Chairman of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi Odunpazarı Youth Branch stated that he does not believe the Z generation wants to be understood. The Z generation primarily seeks the right to accessible and free education, as well as basic social aspects such as housing and socialization, which should be present in a social state. CHP's policies in this regard are clear. We refer to individuals born after 2000 as the Z generation. They are now entering the workforce and participating in all areas of life. However, they face nepotism and favoritism. The first issue that CHP will address is precisely this. Everyone will work in institutions they deserve, and there will be no interview system after exams. Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu regularly engages in programs and communication with the Z generation. Currently, there are 7.5 million voters who will vote for the first time. All parties will seek to gain the support of these voters, but when it comes to understanding them, I don't think they are sincere. I have communicated with people of all age groups, including the Z generation. They are different from us; they utilize technology very well. When radio was first introduced, it reached 50 million people in 35 years. Television reached 50 million people in 15 years, while Facebook, which emerged in the early 2000s, reached 50 million people in 1.5 years. Instagram, on the other hand, reached 50 million people in 6 months. Therefore, I believe there is no need to understand the Z generation. Instead, I think the Z generation should be able to understand people over the age of 50 because they cannot understand the Z generation. They live under more challenging conditions. Our priority will be to eliminate nepotism, favoritism, and lack of meritocracy. Everyone will live the life they deserve at the level they deserve.

Opinions of Deva Partisi: Deva Partisi's Odunpazarı Women's Branch President expressed the opinion that "Due to the rapid digitalization, there is a significant gap between generations." She stated, "In the past, our mothers communicated with their own parents, whereas nowadays it is challenging to communicate with our children. It is necessary to prioritize and listen to the youth. The current generation reads books online, and we cannot impose otherwise on them. Before judging, we need to make an effort to understand. I joined a political party to support my children. It is not only about political organization but also about the organization of civil society institutions, especially the formation of cooperatives in rural areas."

Opinions and questions of listeners are as follows:

Sümer Mahellesi Neighborhood council member: "The communication in 1919 was different from the communication in 2022. Today, as a country, we are even unable to produce mobile phones. While Generation Z has good communication skills, their communication should be organized. As a society, we need to be organized. The organized society must take action. Those who have seen politics as a means of enrichment have been governing our country for a long time. Despite being a country capable of self-sufficiency, we have become dependent on foreign sources. Young people, join political parties and read their bylaws. We are a society that reads, but at the same time, we are a society that doesn't read. We are a society that seeks instant gratification, not an organized society. To secure our rights, we need to become an organized society. Read Atatürk's address to the youth."

Participating student: "There is a forward-looking Generation Z. No one has discussed the impact this generation will have in the future. While those born before them would call their mothers in times of need, Generation Z searches and finds solutions directly on the internet. This is a good thing, but how will it shape up in the future? Technology and social media addiction are prevalent nowadays. Their reading habits are different, they are independent and dominant in their decisions. Everyone should respect their family and elders, but Generation Z is not always like that. If we want to achieve something, we should do it together."



Saadet Partisi Representative: "If we look at our hopes and horizons for the future, I don't think my political party affiliation is driven by a concern for being in power. It's not about people voting for us no matter what. Our focus is on presenting the truth, and the quantity of our supporters is not important to us, but rather the quality. That's why, even if we are not in power in the future, I place Turkey's hope in the hands of the youth rather than political parties. As a person of faith, I don't even believe that the hope of Islam lies with its current followers. The hope of Allah lies with the deists and atheists. The hope of Turkey lies with this generation. If there is to be any change or progress, it must be through self-realization and awareness. I believe that individuals should build their character and personality. During this process, they should start with self-criticism, as it helps identify weaknesses

and strengths. Secondly, they should not let their emotions take precedence over their reason. Thirdly, they should find a purpose and meaning in life, something they discover for themselves. Lastly, they should never stop reading, not just texts but also events, individuals, and nature."

Representative of Memleket Partisi: "Google can find things instantly, that's the behavior of this generation. Instead of criticizing, we should accept it. We shouldn't impose reading books on them; as political parties aspiring to govern the country, we will lead with reason and science. To understand different generations, we will analyze it through the lens of reason and science."

Individual participant: Are political parties considering digitization as a threat? Do you think digitization hinders listening, dialogue, and solidarity?

Saadet Partisi representative: One of the potential negative aspects of digitization is becoming the object of social media. We are not in the position of production. This is a threat. We are users of social media platforms. I wish we could have been the ones presenting it to humanity. When you cannot produce something, you become its object. When we transition to production, we become its subject. The use of social media does not come without limitations, and we must also recognize its disadvantages. It is important to manage the digital realm based on merits and weaknesses.

Zafer Partisi representative: Social media is an important tool in shaping public opinion and drawing attention to social issues. However, it is also concerning that even in the judiciary, which should be independent, there are pressures that influence the judicial system. It depends on how we utilize the positive and negative aspects of social media to determine its progress. While there are many advantages, we should strive to use it in the best possible way. It should not be perceived solely as a threat but rather as a platform that can be effectively utilized.

Türkiye İşçi Partisi Representative: Digitalization has led us to dependency because we have no other options. We cannot access sports activities or cultural events. Due to the lack of socializing opportunities, we are exposed to social media. It is true that we have difficulties in reading, but we also lack access to resources. The education system is of low quality, and we have reached a point where we have forgotten about our personal development. Exams have become obstacles to socializing. Due to the necessity of studying and working, we cannot access books. Social media cannot exert pressure on public opinion. We see digitalization as an opportunity rather than a threat. Organizational efforts should take place in the streets, and individuals who come together through social media cannot pose a threat.

Memleket Partisi Representative: We do not see digitalization as a threat. In my time, infrastructure determined the superstructure. Today, the communication infrastructure is technology. As a 61-year-old who feels ashamed of not being able to do anything, I chose to engage in organized struggle within an Atatürkist party. The mainstream media has collapsed, and the media is biased towards the government, lacking freedom for both supporters and critics. Different voices and opinions cannot find a place in the mainstream media. In this regard, as a media owner, I feel ashamed. The corrupt system will change alongside the youth, enlightened individuals, and those with a forward-thinking mindset.

Vatan Partisi Representative: "Man resembles the place he lives in; he reflects the thought system of the place he lives. Social media, controlled by whomever, forces us to think in a certain way. If you oppose U.S. policy, your account gets shut down. In that sense, of course, we need to be cautious. Nothing can be a threat or an advantage on its own. But if it becomes a conditioning tool, it becomes a threat. In the Gulf War, Saddam dropped a bomb and the resulting oil pollution stained the sea black, and this was widely reported on television, leading to the belief that Saddam's head should be cut off,

and it was. But we later found out that it was actually the result of a French tanker sinking. If we do not surpass the limitations they impose to condition us, they will direct social media for their desired purpose, shaping how we think. Social media is an opportunity. There may not be time to hinder the correct idea. We should have a say in this environment. I do not want to exploit Generation Z. The great leader, in his 1927 Address to Youth, also mentioned the importance of youth. We think about how to think with concepts. When they condition us with concepts like Generation Z, we should say no. It enables fast communication. If we do not reject telegraphs, we will use social media as well. It is not possible to see it as a threat. We think according to the place we are in. The place we are in should not be controlled by others. If we deviate from the principle of complete independence, we stumble."

Zafer Partisi Representative: "In criminal law, there are norms that we cannot go beyond. When we look at it, people judge solely based on their conscience and news from social media without having a proper understanding of the norms. Due to the lack of complete separation of powers among the legislative, executive, and judicial branches in our country, politicians have an influence on the judiciary. As a result, social pressures have an impact on the judiciary, whether in a positive or negative sense. Thus, in areas regulated by Turkish Criminal Law, innocent individuals cannot be portrayed as guilty just because they were released, and public opinion should not influence the admission of innocent individuals into custody. The judiciary should be independent, and social media should not influence the judiciary."

Odunpazarı City Council Sümer Mahallesi Neighborhood Council President: "The digital world offers advantages, but it also has its pitfalls, and it should be used with awareness. Not everyone has good intentions, and this negatively affects many people. One can be imprisoned and arrested with just a single tweet. The digital world can pose such a threat. In addition to accessing a lot of information, communication was cut off for people during the Ukraine-Russia war. Young people should be able to engage in political environments and attend discussion clubs among themselves. They need to discover and explore new communication channels. When a disease outbreak occurred, our communication did not get disrupted thanks to the digital world. Sociological measurements are being carried out. Imperialism utilizes the digital world. If we ever find ourselves disconnected from the digital world, it would be necessary for young people to turn to different digital resources to facilitate communication among themselves."



Identifying Problems – Dialogue Session

The problems identified by the participants regarding understanding "Digital Generations and Generation Z" are as follows:

-The lack of equal opportunities in education

-Organizing is an important aspect. It is necessary to evaluate the available resources. Our hopes have been lost, and the root of incompetence is despair.

-There is fear in society.

-Skills are being dulled.

-Building one's personality is crucial, and everyone should be capable of self-criticism and finding purpose and meaning in their lives. Criticism is directed towards things that cannot be changed. You can change yourself. Those who do not attempt to change themselves cannot develop or find purpose and meaning, leading to nihilism. The second problem is the segregation based on age limits. The young, the middle-aged, and the elderly should walk together. We need to raise our thresholds, including the threshold of tolerance and morality. Both the young and the elderly should have their own thresholds. We should not link our hopes and horizons solely to leaders and politics.

-Our rights are being violated.

-The biggest problem of Generation Z is losing their hopes.

-One of the biggest problems of Generation Z is religious sect/community dormitories.

-One of the biggest problems of Generation Z is gerontocracy, which refers to the imposition of ideas by older people based solely on their age. Having more experience does not necessarily mean knowing better.

-The problem lies in people not being able to freely express their opinions. I hesitate to retweet things on Twitter.

-Young entrepreneurs are not supported by the government. The aspirations of young individuals are not recognized, and they are unable to develop themselves. Everyone possesses different talents, but due to various stereotypes, we label them as successful or unsuccessful. There is a need for highly skilled professionals in every field. Positions should be obtained based on merit. Education should be provided according to individual interests and orientations.

-There is nepotism under the pretext of references.

-Fully equipped vocational high schools should be opened instead of universities.

-It is true that vocational high schools have been undervalued and labeled as inferior schools. The labor has been cheapened, and workers in industries and trades are forced to work long hours for low wages, performing strenuous tasks. As a result, these types of professions have been devalued and considered less prestigious.

-Young people should be directed towards various professions according to their talents. Young people have been disconnected from many things. As Gandhi said, "Don't allow anyone with dirty shoes to wander in your mind." We will gain experience from the challenges we face because every

difficulty adds value to a person. It is important for young people to come together and fight collectively. Norwegians say, "Think like Atatürk." There is nothing that cannot be achieved in life. We can only overcome evil through organized goodness.

-Young people are experiencing burnout.

-Nepotism, dormitory conditions, entertainment, living conditions, unfair treatment in job applications, and lack of good living standards.

-One of the major problems in Turkey is the concentration of power in the hands of a single individual.

-Debt is a major issue. We lack savings and rely heavily on borrowing. The social security system is not sufficient.

Solutions – Solidarity Session

-As young people, we can overcome fear and problems by organizing ourselves.

-Entrepreneurship should be supported, and individuals under the age of 18 should be included in grant programs as well.

-Interviews should be eliminated.

-Freedom of expression is necessary. Ensuring the implementation of the law is important.

-Incompetence can be resolved through the value of justice, which is one of the universal values of the system. We should be committed to universal principles and be independent.

-The legal system should be restructured by adapting to universal principles and independence.

-By addressing meritocracy, at least some of the problems faced by Generation Z, such as brain drain, economic challenges, and competitive disadvantage, can be resolved.

-The solution is not reconciliation, but confrontation

-Starting language education at the age of 3 and providing early childhood education is important.

-Efforts should be directed towards individuals rather than the system.

-If we are aware of our rights and defend them, we can solve our problems.

-Production should be encouraged, and support should be provided to farmers in agriculture. Employment should be created in rural areas. Employment opportunities should be provided for young people. If the refugee issue is resolved, the security and employment problems of Generation Z can be addressed.

3.3. Problems the youth faces in Eskişehir

3.1. A and B joint tent: Youth employment, educational and social issues

On the third and final day of the Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival, themed "Challenges Faced by the Youth in Eskişehir," the significant issues of employment, education, and social problems among the

city's dynamic youth were identified and solutions were sought for these problems. During this session, the problems faced or observed by the youth in Eskişehir regarding their employment, educational journey, and social lives, specific to the city's context, were discussed with their general characteristics. Within this framework, various topics and problem areas were addressed as priority discussion points, including the adequacy and fulfillment of labor market demands, the limitation of education to classroom settings, the necessity of personal development and its diverse aspects, communication, peer support, expressing demands and expectations, and more. Another significant social issue highlighted during the session was poverty and the situation of foreign immigrants, which also played a crucial role in the discussions.



Situation assessment – Listening

The final day sessions of the festival were consolidated within a single tent. The views of the participating parties during the session were as follows:

Opinions of Vatan Partisi: There is a significant relationship between youth employment, education, and social issues. In the past years, the term "education" used to imply getting a job, and anyone with any level of education could easily find employment. The speaker mentioned that before the Republic era, education was a privilege for certain individuals to secure jobs, but with the establishment of the Republic, education opportunities were extended to all segments of society. Additionally, in today's context, it was emphasized that aligning education and employment requires planning education in accordance with needs. This involves making investments in education based on regional requirements

and ensuring that these investments are made in the right place and at the right time, which would have a positive impact on both education and employment. The speaker highlighted the example of village institutes as a good model for this approach. They also expressed concern over the politicization and undermining of vocational schools, emphasizing that vocational education should not be sacrificed. The speaker concluded by stating that utilizing the latest technology effectively in education and employment, according to appropriate contexts, could help address social problems. They used the example of tablet distribution policies as an instance where technology was misused, which further highlighted the need for strategic and responsible implementation.

Opinions of Türkiye İşçi Partisi: The party representative began by addressing the issue of employment. They mentioned that the government is highly inadequate in providing workforce, particularly in terms of including women and young individuals in the workforce. They highlighted the high sensitivity of their party, TİP, towards this matter. They noted that the distribution of Kredi Yurtlar Kurumu (Credit Dormitories Institution) facilities is not equal. TİP places significant emphasis on addressing the job search challenges faced by women and young people. The representative expressed concern over the state of the education system, describing it as constantly changing and lacking stability. They criticized the frequent experimentation with new education systems, arguing that these experiments often do more harm to students than good. The representative voiced discomfort with the emphasis on religious vocational education (imam hatip) within the education system. They noted the unequal allocation of budget between religious education and scientific education, and expressed their view that education has moved away from science. Furthermore, the representative criticized the perception of students as mere customers in the education system. They opposed this commercialized view and shared their party's perspective on the need to abolish the Higher Education Council (YÖK). The representative concluded by sharing their party's belief that reforms are necessary to address these issues and to create a more equitable and progressive education and employment system.

Opinions of Memleket Partisi: The party representative began their speech by addressing the challenges students face in education. They particularly emphasized their party's strong concern for issues related to scholarships, loans, and accommodation. They mentioned that they have been actively working on tackling the issue of interest rates charged to students. The representative highlighted the results of nationwide surveys that underscore the significant problem of youth unemployment in Turkey. They emphasized that youth employment is crucial for young people to establish their identity and participate in social life. Additionally, they pointed out the detrimental effects of working without proper labor representation (unions). The representative further mentioned that their party places significant emphasis on the integration of education and practical application, and they are actively engaged in serious efforts in this regard. They concluded by reiterating their commitment to addressing these challenges and working towards a better future for the youth.

Opinions of Zafer Partisi: The party representative emphasized the role of education in advancing society and highlighted the importance of meritocracy in education. They discussed their perspective on placing students in fields of study based on their abilities. The representative mentioned that they are working on projects that prioritize vocational schools and are focused on enhancing the quality of universities by emphasizing practical applications. They also highlighted their party's vision of restructuring the state planning organization, addressing issues related to planning and policy-making. This reflects their commitment to improving the overall educational system and aligning it with the needs of the society. The representative's remarks underlined the importance of a well-rounded education system that caters to individual abilities and contributes to the advancement of both the individual and the society.

Opinions of Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi: The party representative discussed the correlation between employment levels and educational equity, emphasizing the need for a fair distribution of the education budget between private and public schools. They highlighted the significance of quality in education and suggested the reorganization of educational content. The CHP representative, in alignment with other party representatives, emphasized the importance of eliminating interest rates on student loans and the necessity for new initiatives in student housing. Regarding employment, they stressed the importance of a separate budget to support both young people and women, and addressed the issue of the informal economy in Turkey, stating that the CHP is actively working on this matter. The representative also pointed out the low participation of women in the workforce. They mentioned the "HEP BİRLİKTE" (ALL TOGETHER) project, which focuses on solving these problems through listening, collaborative efforts, and representation. The project covers various aspects, such as unemployment support, continued education assistance, paid internships, technology schools with guaranteed employment in industrial zones, and continuity in employment. The representative concluded by highlighting the importance of adopting a qualified, accessible education model and emphasized that merit, not favoritism, should be the basis for decisions, rather than relying on interviews.

Opinions of Saadet Partisi: Party representative emphasized that Turkey lacks a social welfare state and an independent judiciary. They highlighted the impact of this situation on employment, mentioning that not only employment but even internships and job opportunities are often influenced by personal connections. They stressed the significance of equal opportunities and advocated embracing the concept of a social welfare state. They argued that a focus solely on work doesn't lead to true progress; rather, a foundation of rights and freedoms is essential for development. Referring to the past, they mentioned that even before 1987, there were issues with rule of law. Currently, the country faces an unemployment rate of over 30% among the youth. The percentage of young population not engaged in education or employment is also alarmingly high. Turkey ranks first in terms of youth not participating in employment and education. They called for engagement and opportunity, pointing out that every third young person isn't involved in these crucial areas. The representative emphasized the need for harmony between education and economic sectors when establishing universities. Universities should generate added value and shouldn't solely rely on students for survival; projects need to be implemented effectively. They highlighted the shift in education and employment dynamics due to the digital age and noted that a hierarchical approach, as seen in traditional command structures, is inadequate for finding solutions in these sectors. Addressing youth employment, they stressed the importance of involving young people in decision-making processes that impact them. Equal opportunities, scholarships, housing, employment, and education rights should be guaranteed. The importance of education in rural areas alongside urban centers was also emphasized. The relationship between economic growth, politics, and societal development was highlighted. They underlined the necessity of tailored education programs based on individual talents and the importance of considering human resources. Education programs should align with individual aptitudes. However, lack of adequate educational opportunities in rural areas is leading to increased urban migration. Notably, a significant percentage of Turkish youth, around 48%, express the desire to emigrate. The issues of nepotism and favoritism were discussed, reflecting how these practices undermine young people's beliefs. In a globalized world, education policies need to be reformed. They concluded by stating that without nurturing competent youth, prosperity cannot be achieved. Lastly, the representative highlighted the importance of education in rural areas in conjunction with urban centers.

Opinions of Emek Partisi: Party representative addressed the shortcomings of the examination system, child labor issues, and how these problems stem from underlying socioeconomic disparities. They highlighted the challenges students face in finding affordable housing due to high rent costs. Moreover, they expressed concern about the inadequacy of dormitories provided by the Credit and Dormitories Institution (Kredi Yurtlar Kurumu), which has led to an increase in private dormitories associated with certain religious groups.

Opinions of Halkların Demokratik Partisi: The party representative emphasized the necessity of creating environments where young people can envision a better future. They stressed the importance of staying attuned to global trends and developments. The representative pointed out that it's crucial to continuously monitor the direction in which the world is heading and assess how effectively their country is aligning with these global shifts.

In this session, the majority of party representatives expressed the view that individuals with temporary refugee status should be sent back to their countries once the necessary procedures are completed. They particularly highlighted the issue of temporary refugees being employed due to their availability as cheap labor, which has led to a significant challenge in ensuring employment opportunities for local youth who are unwilling to accept low wages. This situation has emerged as a crucial obstacle to achieving satisfactory levels of youth employment.



Identification of Issues - Dialogue Session

Generally, the issues that participants unanimously agreed upon were primarily related to problems in education. The problems identified by participants regarding youth employment, education, and social issues are as follows:

- Due to the inadequacy of the books provided by the Ministry of National Education (MEB) in high schools and middle schools, students are required to purchase additional reference books. However, the high cost of these books limits some students' access to these resources.
- The issue of youth unemployment stems from a lack of production. Due to the absence of sufficient production, new employment opportunities cannot be created for the youth.
- The insufficiency of scholarships and loans received by students in the face of increasing cost of living is an important issue for the youth.
- Meritocracy in education is a recurring issue at every level. The inability to cultivate competent individuals in their respective fields is a consequence of the problem of lack of merit.
- Another issue in education is the inequality of opportunities. Insufficient resources lead to unequal access for every student.
- Due to the high youth population, there is a wage issue where many are earning below poverty or even hunger levels. Wage inequality and insufficiency are prevalent.
- In Eskişehir, students are being treated as customers. Rent and meal prices are increasing. With an 850 lira scholarship-loan, 400 lira or even more is spent on rent or dormitory fees. There's hardly anything left for the student to cover other basic needs.
- In Eskişehir, even students who have completed high school but haven't been admitted to university yet are required to pay full fare for public transportation. At least their student status should continue for a year. Transportation cost is also a significant issue for students.
- The problem with youth employment is mainly due to the lack of production. In Eskişehir, there is a lack of diversity in production, and when there is no diversity, employment opportunities are limited to low-paying jobs in cafes and restaurants.
- There are three universities in the city, but employers are offering very low wages to students. These individuals are striving to complete their education under difficult conditions, and they certainly won't accept low wage levels as a fair compensation for their efforts.
- Lately, we have started to witness interventions and restrictions in the lifestyle specific to Eskişehir. This is not a pleasant situation for a city predominantly composed of university students.
- Cultural activities being limited to certain areas in the city and the need for creating new attractive areas in different parts of the city were emphasized.
- Especially in Eskişehir, alcohol and drug addiction among young people are among the significant issues.
- The inability to adapt to a civilian lifestyle is a problem in both education and social life.
- The cost of theater activities in Eskişehir is a problem for the general population.
- In some neighborhoods of Eskişehir, there is a security issue. Some young people are forming groups to block the path of others and cause discomfort. Measures need to be taken to prevent such actions.
- One of the biggest problems is also social education. There is a significant lack of education regarding environmental pollution. Environmental pollution is a significant threat for both our present

and

our

future.

Solution Proposals - Solidarity Session

Solution proposals for the issues of incompetence and nepotism: During job applications, resumes should be evaluated based solely on an individual's education level and skills. Practices that prioritize equal treatment for all applicants, such as not considering photographs in applications as applied in EU countries, can be adopted. Applications should be conducted online and only through institutions like İŞKUR (Turkish Employment Agency) that specifically handle job applications. The process of application and review should follow transparent and accountable procedures. Transparency is achieved through accountability. Enhancing local participation ensures transparency. Job interviews should be transparent, and evaluations should be open to the public. An in-depth examination of family relationships should prevent institutions from turning into family structures.

Solution proposals for the issues of unequal opportunities and insufficient wages: In order to ensure educational equality, permanent reforms should be implemented in university entrance exams. Equal opportunities need to be identified. Academic committees can be established, along with periodic academic-local management boards. Collaboration between these bodies can determine what can be done for students and ensure swift problem-solving at the source through decentralized management. Students who have graduated from high school and are preparing for university entrance exams again should be granted the opportunity to retain student status for a maximum of 2 years, especially in terms of transportation. Financial literacy of young people should be increased. Income distribution should be adjusted, and societal income inequality should be addressed.



Solutions for the issue of students being seen as potential customers: A consumer-based society has been established, resulting in students, especially in cities where the majority of the population are students, being perceived as potential customers. Local governments should create impartial

regulations for accessing education and healthcare services, targeting those who face difficulties. To prevent viewing students as potential customers, expenditures exceeding the allocated budget for temporary refugees should be redirected towards students. In this period of increasing rent prices, municipalities should construct social housing units to provide affordable accommodation for students. This way, they can escape being seen as potential customers.

Solutions to the problems of those living in rural areas and the limited access of young people to social and cultural activities: The transportation system providing transportation from rural areas to central schools should be eliminated, and education should be expanded in rural areas. This way, people won't have to migrate from rural to urban areas for their children's education, and a solution to the production problem will also be found. Institutions similar to village institutes can be established in rural areas to enhance social and cultural activities.

Solution proposals for environment and climate change: Socialization of production. Production should be oriented towards the needs of the society, thus significantly reducing environmental pollution. Emphasis should be placed on planned urbanization. Areas for outdoor sports should be expanded. Local governments can implement water shortage awareness campaigns by imposing temporary water cuts. Inspections should be intensified. Porsuk River should be regularly cleaned, and social responsibility projects to prevent pollution should be promoted.



4. ODUNPAZARI 3D YOUTH FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

The Odunpazari 3D Youth Festival has hosted not only discussion tents but also various cultural and artistic activities. These cultural and artistic events have been organized by various non-governmental organizations, professional chambers, municipal employees, and youth communities. In this context,

mini youth concerts, theater plays, dance performances, and photo exhibitions have taken place in the event area. Additionally, booths were provided for youth communities and various non-governmental organizations to introduce themselves in the area and to meet individuals they might not have had the opportunity to communicate and interact with before. Youth communities and non-governmental organizations also showcased various performances and games at their booths.







The student clubs and non-governmental organizations that participated in the festival are as follows: Anadolu University Sociology Community, Osmangazi University Anadolu Explorers, Osmangazi University Community Volunteers, Eskişehir Photography Art Association, Association to Support Contemporary Living, Eskişehir Mind and Brain Games Youth and Sports Club, Eskişehir Environmental Association, Mancahane Association, Eskişehir Yunus Emre Rotary and Rotaract Club Association, Toy Youth Association, Eskişehir Art Association, Association of Homeland Enthusiasts, Turkey University Women's Association, Eskişehir Youth Bar Association, Hacı Bektaş Veli Association and Foundation, Odunpazarı City Council and Neighborhood Assembly, Eskişehir -25 Association, Odunpazarı Search and Rescue Team, Eskişehir Calisto Dance School, Polen Youth Culture House, KİM Theater Community, Dialectic Improvisation Theater Community, Eskişehir

Chamber of Certified Public Accountants, International Social Education and Project Support Association, Porty Technology Company, AIESEC Eskişehir, and 15 student clubs.



5. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF ODUNPAZARI 3D YOUTH FESTIVAL

The Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival was jointly organized within the scope of a protocol between Odunpazarı Municipality and the Eskişehir European Union Association. The association took on responsibilities such as coordinating the festival, moderating the platform, determining the festival area, designing and printing promotional materials for the festival. The Mayor of Odunpazarı Municipality assigned the relevant deputy mayor, the Directorate of Culture, and the Ceren Özdemir Youth Center full-time for the execution of the festival. The Eskişehir European Union Association provided academic support and personnel assistance for the festival through both its members and the volunteers who support the association's activities. Regular meetings held from March 9, 2022, to May 16, 2022, transformed the theoretical background of the festival into a concrete plan. As a result, the municipality and the association successfully realized the organization and execution of the festival through public-civil society cooperation within the framework of a governance approach.



6. CONCLUSION

The Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival took place on May 17-18-19, 2022, at Odunpazarı Kanlıkavak Park, after two years of effort and patience, under the umbrella of tolerance in the city of Yunus Emre. We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all political parties, civil society organizations, city councils, neighborhood assemblies, youth, and citizens who provided support and participated from the beginning to the end of this endeavor. The festival provided an opportunity for individuals with different interests, expectations, identities, cultures, and ideologies living in the community to converse, get to know each other, discuss, communicate, interact, and find common ground. The Listen Dialogue Solidarity Platform, which emerged through the efforts of participating political actors and their united engagement, has become a significant indicator of the presence and promotion of a functional democracy in our country and city. Therefore, the festival has been an inspiring and energizing event for everyone with something to say about identifying and solving common social issues within the framework of participation and governance principles. It has shown us that as we engage and understand each other, we can identify shared problems and come up with solutions. One of the individual and societal contributions of the festival, which established a participation and governance platform, is its positive impact on participants' awareness and consciousness to take more responsibility for their country and future.

The perception that the gathering of young people is a potential threat, that different political ideologies cannot come together, and that different segments of society are distant from listening to each other's perspectives, can be seen as learned helplessness. However, this festival, organized with the trust in the country, city, citizens, political parties, civil society organizations, city councils, neighborhood assemblies, and of course the youth, has proven that courage and hope coexist. In this context, our festival, where consensus, diversity of thought, variety of ideas, and political participation were achieved, has not showcased provocation, propaganda, or partisanship. This demonstrates that, contrary to the imposed perceptions, we can come together and listen to each other.

The 3D Festival, which has embraced the three essential principles of governance (transparency, accountability, and participation) and holds the mission of implementing them, is unique for our city and country. With your support and enthusiasm, we have gained confidence that the festival can be carried forward to the coming years. It is important to acknowledge that trusting each other translates to trusting society, and trusting our society means trusting our country. This festival has achieved significant success in this regard. Dear participants, we extend our gratitude to all of you for your patience and the support you have provided. We hope that the connections we have established will strengthen and grow.

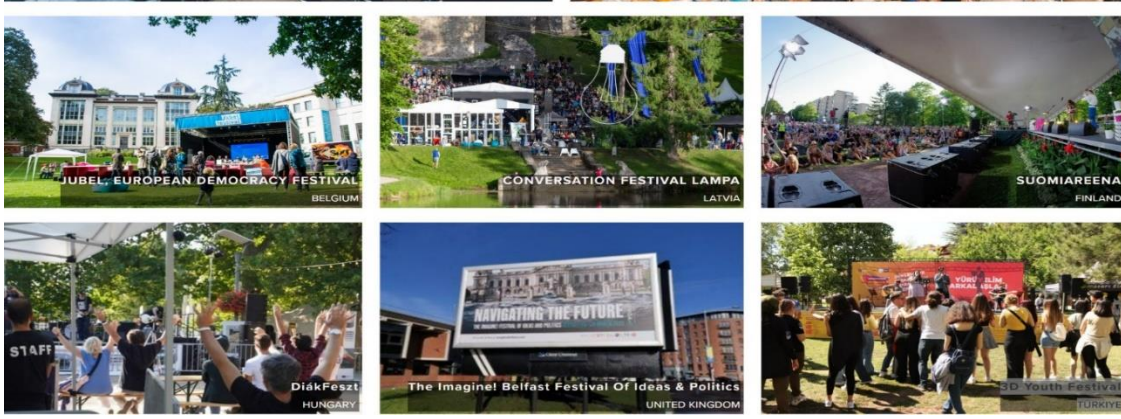


7. MEMBERSHIP TO DEMOCRACY FESTIVALS ASSOCIATION

The Democracy Festivals Association aims to build a functioning democracy within society by facilitating the emergence of democratic dialogue platforms among civil society, politicians, business leaders, media, universities, and the general public. It seeks to strengthen the principle of governance and governance and to create a culture of democracy that thrives through areas and platforms where people can come together, exchange ideas, and engage in discussions. The association advocates the belief that democracy is a culture that needs to be nurtured by creating spaces where people can gather, exchange ideas, and discuss their thoughts. The International Democracy Festivals Association is comprised of member festivals held in Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the United Kingdom, Norway, Belgium, and Hungary.



On December 6, 2022, the Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival was elected as a member of the International Democracy Festivals Association, surpassing the boundaries of Turkey and Eskişehir with its exemplary democracy and governance platform. With this membership, Turkey became a member of the International Democracy Festivals Association, joining countries such as Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the United Kingdom, Norway, Belgium, and Hungary. Furthermore, the 3D Youth Festival, representing Eskişehir and Turkey, has now been featured on the association's website alongside other countries. As a result, the Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival has gained international festival status. Its membership in the International Democracy Festivals Association, which encourages critical thinking, will contribute to the cultural, artistic, and scientific visibility and recognition of our city on both national and international levels, while also promoting democracy and governance.



8. THE FESTIVAL WAS WIDELY COVERED IN THE LOCAL PRESS



Yayın Adı : Eskişehir Anadolu
Referans No : 110459563
Dağıtım alanı : Yerel
Yayın Periyot : Günlük
Yayın Tipi : Gazete

Yayın Tarihi : 18.05.2022
Sayfa : 2
Tiraj : 2800
Reklam E.(%) : 51,67

AJANS PRESS

Kanlıkavak'ta demokrasisi şöleni

ODUNPAZARI BELEDİYESİ VE AVRUPA BİRLİĞİ DERNEĞİ İŞ BİRLİĞİ İLE DÜZENLENDİ

Finlandiya, İsveç, Norveç, Estonya, Litvanya, Danimarka, Belçika, Letonya ve İzlanda gibi Avrupa Birliği ülkelerinin ardından Türkiye'de ilk defa **Eskişehir Odunpazarı**nda gerçekleşen **"Dinleme, Diyalog, Dayanışma (3D) Gençlik Festivali"** gerçekleştirilen açılış töreni ile başladı.

HABER MERKEZİ

Odunpazarı Belediyesi ve Avrupa Birliği Derneği iş birliği ile düzenlenen Odunpazarı 3D Gençlik Festivali'nin açılış törenine Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı **Kazım Kurt**, Türkiye Belediyeler Birliği (TTB) Encümen Toplantısı'nda olduğu için katılamadı. Törende Odunpazarı Belediyesi Başkan Vekili Adnan Evren Olcay, CHP Eskişehir İl Başkanı Recep Taşel, Saadet Partisi Eskişehir İl Başkanı Fesih Bingöl, Odunpazarı Kent Konseyi Başkanı İsmail Kumru ile çok sayıda siyasi parti, demokratik kitle örgütü temsilcisi ve gençler yer aldı. Festival için Odunpazarı Belediyesi'nin kardeş şehirlerinden Bulgaristan Razgrad'dan, Ankara Keçiören'den ve Kayseri Melikgazi'den çok sayıda genç Eskişehir'e geldi. Törenin açılış konuşmasını yapan Odunpazarı Belediyesi Başkan Vekili Adnan Evren Olcay, Başkan Kurt'un TTB toplantısı nedeniyle açılış töreninde yer alamadığını ancak diğer günler festival alanında bulunacağını kaydetti. "3D Gençlik Festivali, Odunpazarı Belediyesi'nin Eskişehir Avrupa Birliği Derneği ile ortaklaşa dinleme, dayanışma ve diyalog kurma mottosu ile gençleri bir araya getirdiği, partizanlıktan ve ön yargılardan sıyrılıp bir şekilde siyasi anlamda birbirimizi dinledik, diyalog kurabildik ve birbirimizle dayanışma içinde sorunlarımızı çözebildik bir ortam yaratma fikri ile çıktı. Yaklaşan 19 Mayıs Atatürk'ü Anma Gençlik ve



Spor Bayramı öncesinde de Kanlıkavak Parkında gerçekleşecek bir dizi etkinlikten oluşuyor" diyen Olcay, bu etkinlikler sonrasında ortaya çıkacak olan sonuçların Türkiye'ye ve Eskişehir'e, "Bütün ümidim gençliktedir" diyen Mustafa Kemal Atatürk'ün izinden yürüyen Odunpazarı Belediyesi'ne ve gençlere katkı sağlamanı diledi. Gençlerin daha demokratik adımlar atmasını temenni eden Olcay, festivale katılan herkese teşekkür etti.

RAPORLAR TÜM SİYASAL AKTÖRLERE GÖNDERİLECEK
Adnan Evren Olcay'ın ardından Eskişehir Avrupa Birliği Derneği Başkanı Doç. Dr. Erhan Akdemir bir konuşma yaptı. 3D Gençlik Festivali'nin 2 yıllık bir çalışmanın ürünü olduğunu belirten Akdemir, 3D Gençlik Festivali'nde emeği geçen herkesi sahneye çağırarak, konuşmasına öyle



devam etti. "Bizim mottomuz yönetim. Yönetişim, siyasal aktörlerle olur. Siyasal aktör sadece yönetici değil, toplumdaki her kesimdir. Bu yetmez, herkesin düşüncelerini, fikirlerini topluma söylemesi, beraber çalıştığı arkadaşlarını dinleyerek gerçekleştirmesi gerekir" diyen Akdemir, Yunus Emre'nin şehrinde, hoşgörünün çatısı altında farklılıkları bir araya getirmek istediklerinin altını çizdi. Odunpazarı 3D Gençlik Festivali için Kanlıkavak Parkı-

na 2 çadır kuruldu. A ve B çadırı adı verilen bu çadırlarda "Gençlerin Siyasal Hayata Katılımı", "Tolerans" ve "Uzlaşma" konuları moderatorler ve raporörler eşliğinde ele alındı. 3 gün sürecek olan Odunpazarı 3D Gençlik Festivali'nde ele alınan konular raporlaştırılarak, Eskişehir'in yönetişime daha açık hale gelmesi için belediyeler, valilik, kaymakamlıklar, üniversiteler ve Eskişehir'de bulunan tüm siyasal aktörlere gönderilecek.



Yayın Adı : Eskişehir Anadolu
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Yayın Tipi : Gazete

Yayın Tarihi : 19.05.2022
Sayfa : 4
Tiraj : 2800
Reklam E.(\$): 65,00

AJANS PRESS

Festivale yoğun ilgi

Odunpazarı Belediyesi ve Eskişehir

Avrupa Birliği Derneği tarafından Türkiye'de ilk kez **Eskişehir Odunpazarı**'nda gerçekleştirilen **"3D Gençlik Festivali"** Kanlıkavak Parkında devam ediyor.



HABER MERKEZİ

Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı **Kazım Kurt**'un da katıldığı festivalin ikinci gününde

"Dijital Okuryazarlık ve Sosyal Medya Kullanımı" ile "Dijital Kuşaklar ve Z Kuşağını Anlamak" konuları ele alındı. Stantların açıldığı, konserlerin, dans ve tiyatro gösterilerinin gerçekleştiği festivale, gençlerin ilgisi yoğun oldu. Partilerinin konularla ilgili düşüncelerini katılımcılara aktaran siyasi parti temsilcileri katılımcıların sorularına da cevap verdi. Festivalin yapıldığı alana gelen **Odunpazarı Belediye** Başkanı **Kazım Kurt**, çadırlardaki oturumlara katılarak konuları ve gençleri dikkatle dinledi. Ardından da alanı gezerek,



katılımcılarla sohbet etti. Festivalin ikinci gününde oturumlar arasında "Panic Atak" ile "Unchained" sahne alarak sevilen şarkıları seslendirdi. Festival, üçüncü gününde (19 Mayıs Perşembe günü) "Genç İstihdamı", "Eğitim ve Sosyal Sorunlar" konuları moderatörler ve raportörler eşliğinde ele alınacak. 19 Mayıs tarihinde gerçekleşecek olan etkinlikler 12.30'da başlayacak. Festivalin kapanışı ve 19 Mayıs Atatürk'ü Anma, Gençlik ve Spor Bayramı kutlamaları kapsamında Kanlıkavak Parkında saat 20.30'da Evdeki Saat Konseri gerçekleşecek.



Yayın Adı : Eskişehir Sonhaber
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DEMOKRASİ FESTİVALİ

Kanlıkavak Parkında devam eden '3D Gençlik Festivali'ne katılan **Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı Kazım Kurt**, konuşmaları dikkatle dinleyerek katılımcılarla sohbet etti.



Festivalde Kanlıkavak Parkına 2 çadır kuruldu. A ve B çadırı adı verilen bu çadırlarda festivalin ikinci gününde "Dijital Okuryazarlık ve Sosyal Medya Kullanımı" ile "Dijital Kuşaklar ve Z Kuşağını Anlamak" konuları moderatörler ve raportörler eşliğinde ele alındı. "Dijital Okuryazarlık ve Sosyal Medya Kullanımı" konusunun konuşulduğu A çadırında moderatörlüğü Doç Dr. Alaaddin Faruk Paksoy, raportörlüğü ise Meral Ekşim yaptı. "Dijital Kuşaklar ve Z Kuşağını Anlamak" konusunun işlendiği B çadırında ise moderatörlüğü Dr. Öğr. Üyesi Tezcan Özkan Kutlu, raportörlüğü ise Merve Burcu Erol gerçekleştirdi.

KONUŞMALARINI DİNLEDİ

Her iki çadırda da siyasi parti katılım-



cıları, kendilerini tanıtarak ele alınan konularda temsilcisi oldukları siyasi partinin konuya bakış açısını anlattı. Konular, durum değerlendirilmesinin yapıldığı "Dinleme", sorunların tespitinin yapıldığı "Diyalog" ve çözüm önerilerinin getirildiği "Dayanışma" adı verilen 3 oturumda ele alındı. Partilerinin konularla ilgili düşüncelerini katılımcılara aktaran siyasi parti temsilcileri katılımcıların sorularına da cevap verdi. Festivalin yapıldığı alana gelen **Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı Kazım Kurt**, çadırlardaki oturumlara katılarak konuları ve gençleri dikkatle dinledi. Ardından da alanı gezerek, katılımcılarla sohbet etti. Festivalin ikinci gününde oturumlar arasında "Panik Atak" ile "Unchained" sahne olarak sevilen şarkıları seslendirdi.

RAPORLAŞTIRILACAK

Odunpazarı 3D Gençlik Festivali'nde ele alınan konular raporlaştırılarak, **Eskişehir**'in yönetişime daha açık hale gelmesi için belediyeler, valilik, kaymakamlıklar, üniversiteler ve **Eskişehir**'de bulunan tüm siyasal aktörlere gönderilecek.

EVDEKİ SAAT GENÇLERLE BULUŞACAK

Festivalde bugün 'Genç İstihdamı', 'Eğitim ve Sosyal Sorunlar' konuları moderatörler ve raportörler eşliğinde ele alınacak. 19 Mayıs'ta gerçekleşecek olan etkinlikler 12.30'da başlayacak. Festivalin kapanışı ve 19 Mayıs Atatürk'ü Anma, Gençlik ve Spor Bayramı kutlamaları kapsamında Kanlıkavak Parkında saat 20.30'da Evdeki Saat Konseri gerçekleşecek. **HM**



3D Gençlik Festivali'nde genç istihdamı ile eğitim ve sosyal sorunlar masaya yatırıldı

GENÇLERE GÜVENİN

3D Gençlik Festival alanına gelen **Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı Kazım Kurt**, "Anayasasında laik, sosyal, hukuk devleti yazan Türkiye Cumhuriyeti için güvencemiz gençlerdir. Gençlere herkesin bizim kadar güvenmesi lazım" dedi.



Odunpazarı Belediyesi, Eskişehir Avrupa Birliği Derneği (ES-AB) ile birliki ile Kani-kavak Parkında düzenlenen "Odunpazarı Dinleme, Diyalog, Dayanışma (3D) Gençlik Festivali"nin üçüncü gününde "Genç istihdamı" ile "Eğitim ve sosyal sorunlar" ele alındı.

PARTİLER ANILATTI
Siyasi parti katılımcıları, kendilerini tanıtarak ele alınan konular da temsilcisi oldukları siyasi partinin konuya bakış açısını anlattı. Konular, durum değerlendirilmesinin yapıldığı "Dinleme", sorunların tespitinin yapıldığı "Diyalog" ve çözüm önerilerinin getirildiği "Dayanışma" adı verilen 3 oturumda ele alındı. Cadır oturumuna katılan **Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı Kazım Kurt**, konuşmaları ilgi ile takip etti.

BAYRAM GİBİ KUTLADIK
Başkan Kurt, Gençlerin 19 Mayıs Atatürk'ü Anma, Gençlik ve Spor Bayramını kutladı. Bugünün Türkiye Cumhuriyetinin en büyük bayramı olduğunu kaydeden Başkan Kurt, 19 Mayıs'ın Ulusal Kurtuluş Savaşımızın başladığı gün olduğunu kaydetti. **Odunpazarı Belediyesi** olarak, her türlü baskıya ve engellemeye çabalarına rağmen bu haftayı gerçek bir bayram gibi kutladıklarını vurgulayan Başkan Kurt, "3D'den birisi Dayanışma. Gençlerin birbiri ile dayanışması için tanışması, bir arada olması lazım. Gençler bir arada olunca yanlış işler yapmıyorlar. Doğru arkadaşlıkları, dostlukları kuruyorlar. Biz gençlere güveniriz. Herkesin de güvenmesi lazım" dedi.



ANLAMAYA ÇALIŞIYORUZ
3D Gençlik Festivali ile demokratik katılımı sağladıklarını belirten Başkan Kurt, Kuzey Avrupa Ülkelerinde yıllardan beri yapılan gençlik festivallerinin Odunpazarı'nda kalıcı olmasını sağlamayı hedeflediklerini vurguladı. 3D Gençlik Festivalinin ilkinin oldukça başarılı geçtiğini ifade eden Başkan Kurt, ES-AB Başkanı Erhan Akdemir ve festivale emeği geçen herkese teşekkür etti. Başkan Kurt şunları söyledi: "Gençlerden korkmamak, onları anlamak lazım. Biz, gençleri anlamaya çalışıyoruz. Tıpkı 100 yıl önce Samsun'da çıkan Mustafa Kemal Atatürk gibi hepimiz geleceğimizi gençlere emanet edebilmeliyiz. Gençler bizim için güvencedir." Konuşmaların ardından **Odunpazarı Belediyesi**'nin kardeş şehirler festivali için **Eskişehir**'e gelen gençler, dans gösterileri yaptı.

GENÇLİK ÇINARI DİKİLDİ
Festival alanına **Odunpazarı Belediye Başkanı Kazım Kurt**, ES-AB Başkanı Doç. Dr. Erhan Akdemir ve festival katılımcıları festivalin gerçekleştirdiği Karlıkavak Parkına "gençlik çınarı" dikti.

SAVAŞ MAGDURLARI İLE BULUŞTU
Odunpazarı Belediyesi, kardeş şehirlerinden Rusya'nın işgali altındaki Ukrayna Festival'den rehabilitasyon için **Eskişehir**'e gelen 100'ün üzerinde çocuğu misafir ediyor. Rehabilitasyon için **Odunpazarı**'na gelen Festivali çocuklar, festival alanında Başkan Kurt ile buluştu. Çocuklarla sohbet eden Başkan Kurt, bir kez daha barış ve kardeşlik çağrısı yaptı. **HM**



9. GOVERNANCE STAFF

Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival Coordinator

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erhan Akdemir – Chairperson, Eskişehir European Union Association

Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival Organization Committee

Figen Engin - Deputy Mayor of Odunpazarı Municipality / Head of 3D Youth Festival Organization Committee

Ebru Dedeoğlu – Director of the Odunpazarı Municipality Culture and Social Affairs / 3D Youth Festival Organization Committee Member

Doç. Dr. Erhan Akdemir – Chairperson, Eskişehir European Union Association / 3D Youth Festival Organization Committee Member

Kenan Tunçay - Director of the Odunpazarı Municipality Libraries and Youth Centers / 3D Youth Festival Organization Committee Member

Rojda Köklü - Director of the Odunpazarı Municipality Ceren Özdemir Youth Center / 3D Youth Festival General Organization Responsible

Tuğçe Edizgil - Odunpazarı Municipality Gallery Responsible/ 3D Youth Festival Committee Member

Senem Mancar - Odunpazarı Municipality 3D Youth Festival Committee Member

Sinan Subaşı - Odunpazarı Municipality Directorate of Culture and Social Affairs Graphic Design Specialist / 3D Youth Festival Visual-Graphic Design Specialist

Egemen Çatalkaya - Odunpazarı Municipality Ceren Özdemir Youth Center Office Staff / 3D Youth Festival Committee Member

Çağatay Tunay - Odunpazarı Municipality Ceren Özdemir Youth Center Office Staff / 3D Youth Festival Committee Member

Ece Özpolat - Odunpazarı Municipality Ceren Özdemir Youth Center Office Staff / 3D Youth Festival Committee Member

Melisa Topçu - Odunpazarı Municipality Ceren Özdemir Youth Center Office Staff / 3D Youth Festival Committee Member

Mümine Özçelik - Eskişehir European Union Association Member / 3D Youth Festival Organization Responsible

Bedir Sarıcı - Eskişehir European Union Association Member / 3D Youth Festival Organization Responsible



Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival Moderators

Dr. Faculty Member Duru Şahyar Akdemir - Eskişehir European Union Association Member

Assoc. Dr. Erhan Akdemir

Assoc. Dr. Aladdin Faruk Paksoy

Dr. Faculty Member Tezcan Özkan Kutlu

Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival Reporters

Meral Eksim

Bedir Sarıcı - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Merve Burcu Erol

Taha Çiçek - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Ecem Ünlütürk - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Mümine Özçelik - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association



Odunpazarı 3D Youth Festival Volunteers

Görkem Ebubekir Kılınç - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Ahmet Cankurt - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Selin Çiçek - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Buse Canbaz

Tomris Eylül Akgül - Eskişehir European Union Association Member

Batuhan Çelik - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association

Canberk Görür - Member of Eskişehir European Union Association