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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

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CIFAL Istanbul - Understanding Sexuality and Dating Violence

People

Deadline: 5 Mar 2025

Type:	Seminar
Location:	Istanbul, Türkiye
Date:	5 Mar 2025
Duration:	2 Hours
Programme Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	https://cifalistanbul.org
Price:	\$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	cisil.sohodol@bau.edu.tr
Partnership:	CIFAL Istanbul, , Bahçeşehir University, , Bahçeşehir University

BACKGROUND

Adolescence is a crucial period for personal growth, self-discovery, and learning how to build respectful and healthy relationships. However, it can also come with confusion and challenges around sexuality, romantic experiences, and understanding personal boundaries. Recognizing the importance of open dialogue on these topics, the event "Understanding Sexuality and Dating Violence" was created to offer students a safe, inclusive space to explore these complex issues.

With guidance from Assistant Prof. Dr. Aliye Canan Taşlıoğlu Sayiner, this interactive, bilingual (Turkish-Italian) program addressed real questions submitted anonymously by students. Through honest conversation, expert insights, and a focus on emotional well-being, the event aimed to empower young people with the knowledge and confidence to navigate relationships with mutual respect, clear communication, and an understanding of consent.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

Provide a safe and inclusive space for open discussion. Address key topics related to sexual development and romantic relationships. Clarify important concepts such as consent, healthy communication, and mutual respect. Answer participants' questions and concerns in an informative and supportive manner. Focus on recognizing and understanding intimate partner boundaries and violations. Promote awareness of personal rights and emotional well-being in relationships.

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Students anonymously submitted their questions about sexuality, romantic relationships, and dating violence by placing them in a box set up at the school. These questions were collected by the school counselor and forwarded to the speaker. The speaker then designed an interactive program that directly addressed the students' questions and remained open to follow-up inquiries and discussions. The program aimed to support students in building healthy relationships and increasing their awareness on these important topics. The entire event was conducted bilingually in Turkish and Italian, ensuring accessibility and engagement for all participants.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the event involved collecting anonymous student questions on sexuality, romantic relationships, and dating violence through a question box system, ensuring privacy and honesty. These questions were then used to shape an interactive, bilingual session led by an expert, fostering open dialogue, active participation, and responsive discussion.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

9th and 10th grade high school students