

**CENTER  
FOR  
SPATIAL  
JUSTICE  
2021  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**



@Center for Spatial Justice, 2022

PREPARED BY

**Center for Spatial Justice  
(Mekanda Adalet Derneđi)**

EDITOR

**Ceren Yartan**

DATA COLLECTION

**Hüseyincan Eryılmaz**

PROOFREADER

**İpek Tabur**

GRAPHIC DESIGN

**Ezgi Ulusoy**

ADDRESS

**Kemankeş Karamustafapaşa Mah. Halil  
Paşa Sok. Ömer Abed Han No: 2/416  
Beyođlu 34425 İstanbul**

**[www.mekandaadalet.org](http://www.mekandaadalet.org)**

**[info@mekandaadalet.org](mailto:info@mekandaadalet.org)**



# CENTER FOR SPATIAL JUSTICE

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



|    |   |    |  |
|----|---|----|--|
| 08 | <b><u>ABOUT US: SPATIAL JUSTICE PERSPECTIVE</u></b>                     | 48 | <b><u>MADACADEMY</u></b>                       |
| 10 | <b><u>2021 SPATIAL JUSTICE AGENDA IN 2021</u></b>                       | 49 | MADACADEMY MEETINGS                            |
| 18 | <b><u>URBAN POLICIES PROGRAM</u></b>                                    | 52 | MADRESEARCH                                    |
| 19 | URBAN POLICIES REPORT: URBAN TRANSFORMATION IN ISTANBUL                 | 54 | MADJOURNAL                                     |
| 20 | HABITABLE HOUSING IN ISTANBUL RESEARCH                                  | 55 | MADLIBRARY                                     |
| 24 | LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CITY COUNCIL STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS, AND WORKSHOPS      | 56 | MADFELLOWSHIP                                  |
| 25 | THE:PLACE   | 58 | MADWALKS                                       |
| 26 | <b><u>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM</u></b>                             | 60 | <b><u>BROADCASTS, PODCASTS, VIDEO NEWS</u></b> |
| 27 | RIVER BASIN STUDIES   | 61 | PODCASTS                                       |
| 42 | AN OVERVIEW OF THE CORPORATE HUMAN RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITY IN TURKEY      | 62 | PUBLICATIONS                                   |
| 47 | DISPLACEMENTS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE | 69 | MADVIDEONEWS                                   |
|    |   | 72 | EVENTS WE PARTICIPATED IN 2021                 |
|    |   | 76 | FINANCIAL STATEMENTS                           |

# ABOUT US: SPATIAL JUSTICE PERSPECTIVE

Center for Spatial Justice carries out transdisciplinary works for the development of fairer, ecological, and democratic processes and practices in the cities and rural spaces.

Photo: Ekin Çekiç.  
View from the 2021 walks.



Within the scope of our urban policies, environmental justice and MADacademy programs that we carry out all throughout the year we produce and share innovative and quality public knowledge.

Our activities include research and publishing, video activism and documentary production, data collection and visualization, walks, advocacy, and dissemination of good practices.

Our principles are as follows:  
Paying regard to democratic participation and public interest, ensuring the adoption of an integrated spatial approach, defending citizens' law, preserving cultural and natural heritage, recognizing diversity, advocating for fair economic development and the right to housing.

# SPATIAL JUSTICE AGENDA IN 2021

Under the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, the deepening economic crisis, and the increasingly authoritarian political climate, 2021 witnessed an intense urban and environmental agenda and rising demands for social justice in relation to this agenda. In this sense, 2021 has been a challenging year for the Center for Spatial Justice (MAD) in many ways, but it was also a year that made the knowledge produced and the collaborations established by the Center more meaningful, visible, and effective.

Photo: Ekin Çelik.  
A frame taken in 2021  
in Sağlık Neighborhood during the  
Ergene basin field work.



In 2021, housing was at the top of the spatial justice agenda. The need for quality housing, which increased with the pandemic lockdowns, was met with the unstoppable rise in real estate prices, and the issue of affordable housing became a burning problem that affects every citizen. The real estate market, which was invigorated during the Covid-19 lockdowns with the claim of keeping the economy alive, became the only investment alternative for affluent citizens who wanted to protect their savings in the economic crisis governed by the principle of low interest rates-high inflation-cheap Turkish lira. The rapidly devaluing Turkish lira made the citizenship in exchange for real estate program even more attractive, and the number of houses sold to foreigners has increased over 40% compared to the previous year and reached 58,500. On the other hand, rising construction costs due to the pandemic and the currency crisis have led to a slowdown in housing supply.

As an inevitable consequence of all these developments, house prices in big cities have increased by more than 100% and rents by more than 200% in some central neighborhoods. Affordable and habitable housing has become a basic need that is difficult to access not only for the low-income but also for the middle-class citizens.

In addition, the decrease in real estate supply has increased the appetite of market actors for urban transformation, thus reviving some projects that had been stalled due to social criticisms. MAD responded to the housing crisis with two comprehensive studies. *Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul*, which focuses on the impact of the uncertainty created by urban transformation on social psychology, is both an archive and a source of information for fairer future transformation efforts of local governments. Searching for the United Nations' criteria for habitable housing in rental housing advertisements in Istanbul, *the Research on Habitable Housing in Istanbul* sheds light on the meaning of the housing crisis for households with an innovative method.

2021 was a year in which the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic continued to be felt by many sectors and citizens, but the light at the end of the tunnel appeared thanks to widespread vaccines. The pandemic, which caused massive spatial and social inequalities, changed our assumptions about the city and nature, and made us rethink our working and living spaces. Quarantine and prolonged lockdowns have profoundly affected the sustainability of a range of daily activities, from our consumption

habits to our use of our living spaces, from transportation to working life. While it is not difficult to predict that these questions and changes—and currently we can make sense of only a few of them—may evolve into long-term spatial and social transformations, it is not easy to define exactly what the nature of this transformation will be. To contribute to this redefinition, working together with academics, activists, and artists, MAD has imagined what a more ecological and just world might look like. This work, titled *Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World*, discusses through realistic utopias the residues of the pandemic in many areas from transportation to housing, from economic growth to food.

As the pandemic transformed households and living spaces, it

made visible the limits as well as the possibilities of the existing political economy. Although global supply chains have been disrupted and production activities have slowed down under lockdown conditions, companies have been able to emerge from the pandemic with much less damage—in fact increased their profitability—than citizens. The rhetoric that we are all in the same boat was reflected in the promotional bulletins and advertising campaigns of many companies, and the injustices created and deepened by the pandemic quickly became invisible. MAD, which has so far focused on housing and rural struggles that prioritize living spaces and their preservation, decided to focus directly on corporations for the first time this year

Photo: Ekin Çekirç.  
A shot taken in 2021 in  
Sağlık Neighborhood during the  
Ergene basin field work.





and to examine the records of corporations in the context of labor, environmental and urban rights. *The Human Rights Responsibility of Corporations in Turkey* not only suggests new methods for activists working in this field, but also heralds that MAD's knowledge production has begun to deepen in the field of law.

In the first months of the pandemic, the expectation was that the lockdowns would be good for environmental problems. Unfortunately, the news and images shared with the impressive yet misleading assertion that "nature is recovering" were short-lived. Despite the slowing economy and the pandemic lockdowns—and sometimes especially because of them—2021 was a year in which environmental

destruction continued unabated and ecology-threatening mega-projects accelerated. MAD's fast-growing Environmental Justice Program (EJP) spent 2021 focusing on several mega-projects. River basin work focused on two key environmental issues: Canal Istanbul and pollution in the Ergene River. This year, the EJP launched *the Displacements within the Framework of Environmental and Climate Justice*, which aims to bring the relationship between ecological destruction and mobility to the Turkish agenda.

Apart from focusing on the triangle of housing, mega projects, and the pandemic, MAD organized and carried out many activities and events focusing on the right to the city and environmental justice

Photo: Emirkan Cörüt.  
A view from the MADwalks in Habibler.



throughout the year. Organized within the scope of the Urban Policies Program, THE: PLACE, which brings together domestic and international civil society organizations with local governments, commenced towards the end of the year. The MADacademy program, which aims to create a permanent medium to support quality education, research, and debates in an increasingly shrinking intellectual field, continued to organize seminars and workshops under the title of MADacademy meetings and to support young researchers within the scope of the MADresearch program, which focused this year on the theme of disaster. We continued our urban and nature walks, which we have adopted as a productive method since our establishment, and organized walks on eight thematic routes, each guided by a different academic. Our new media productions continued with episodes of MADajans and Serbest Dalış, the podcast series in which we tried to make the voice of the field heard. Under the title of video news, our mini documentaries focusing on the Validebağ resistance in Istanbul and the Aliğa environmental dispute met with the audience in 2021. The tenth and eleventh issues of MAD's periodical print publication *beyond.istanbul*, "Spatial Justice and Gender" and "Spatial Justice and Literature"

were published in this year.

The summer of 2021 also marked a turning point in the perception of climate change in Turkey. One after another, environmental disasters—the Marmara Sea's mucilage, weeks-long forest fires in the Aegean and Mediterranean, and floods in the Western Black Sea—proved that climate change will affect all regions in different ways, and that these effects are already being felt today. The fact that in the face of these disasters, citizens—despite the inertia of the state—were able to quickly come together and form brand new associations was a sign of the vitality and dynamism of Turkey's civil society. On the other hand, the interpretation of these disasters in terms of conspiracy theories by some politicians, journalists, and citizens proved that there is still much to be done in this field. On this occasion, MAD has identified climate justice as a priority area of specialization and has formulated its 2022 plans accordingly ●







RESEARCHES

4

KMS ON THE ROAD

2027



WALKS

10



RESEARCH SUPPORTS

4



PANELS

12

MADLIBRARY (BOOKS)

1640



PUBLICATIONS

7



INTERVIEWS

33

# ACTIVITIES

-  MAD 2021 ACTIVITIES
-  ACTIVITIES MAD PARTICIPATES IN OR CONTRIBUTES TO



# URBAN POLICIES PROGRAM (UPP)

The Urban Policies Program continues to work towards building more just and livable cities for all.



The urgent agendas of the year, such as the pressure of urban transformation, the dramatic upward trend in housing prices, and the need for habitable housing in the aftermath of earthquakes and pandemics, were at the focus of the Urban Policies Program. THE: PLACE, which brings together domestic and international civil society organizations with local governments, was launched towards the end of the year. The Urban Policies Program aimed to support and amplify the voices of local struggles and produced podcasts highlighting the agenda throughout the year. In addition, team members participated in many workshops and met frequently with representatives from civil society organizations.

# URBAN POLICIES REPORT: URBAN TRANSFORMATION IN ISTANBUL

## Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul<sup>1</sup>

Our report, which examined the state of well-being—an issue which is relegated to the background when it comes to urban transformation, but actually stands at the center of this process— has been published. The report titled *Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul* was prepared by Öncül Kırlangıç under the consultation of Selma Karabey, İnanç Sümbüloğlu, İlker Kayı, and Fatih Artvinli and published online.

Deploying the concept of "well-being", the report discusses the impact of injustices in urban transformation processes on public health in Istanbul. In line with MAD's field studies conducted in spaces of urban transformation, the report addresses the effects of transformation processes on the well-being of various social groups.

## Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul MADacademy Meetings Launch Event

The report was launched at Postane, where the Center for Spatial Justice is one of the stakeholders, as part of MADacademy meetings and was streamed live on YouTube on October 23, 2021. While 35 people attended the face-to-face event, the number of those who viewed the live broadcast reached 277. The launching of the report, which was prepared in consultation with public health experts, lasted more than two hours. The first session of the event was dedicated to the presentation of the report by the experts, the Center for Spatial Justice team, and researcher Öncül Kırlangıç, while the second session was completed with the contributions and questions of the participants.

<sup>1</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (2021). Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul. [https://mekandaadalet.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/MADrapor\\_01\\_20211015\\_cift-1.pdf](https://mekandaadalet.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/MADrapor_01_20211015_cift-1.pdf)

## RESEARCH ON HABITABLE HOUSING IN ISTANBUL

Our study, which resonated with the public, evaluates the housing market in Istanbul by focusing on the existing rental housing stock and the quality of the houses. The study aims to evaluate the public complaints about the continuous increase in rents in Istanbul, especially after the pandemic, in terms of social injustice.

In March and October 2021, the rental housing stock in Istanbul was analyzed based on data retrieved from sahibinden.com and with reference to United Nations' "right to habitable housing" criteria. The research was published

in August 2021 with the title "Searching for Habitable Housing on sahibinden.com". In November, the research "Living in Istanbul: A Portrait of the Housing Crisis" which was carried out as part of the Data Science for Social Good Program run by TED University Center for Applied Data Science, constituted the second leg of this research. The website, which was created by extracting data on 17,159 rental housing ads from a real estate search application, allows users to set criteria based on their own living conditions. This repeated research was also covered in the national press.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Dokuz8haber: <https://www.dokuz8haber.net/mad-arastirmasi-istanbulda-yasamaya-elverisli-konut-orani-yuzde>  
 BBC : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Oq8JAzP4eY>  
 Bianet: <https://bianet.org/bianet/print/249332-istanbul-da-yasamaya-elverisli-kiralik-konut-sayisi-800-den-az>  
 Real Estate Agenda : <https://www.emlakgundemi.com.tr/gundem/kiralik-konutlardan-sadece-yuzde-2-si-yasamaya-elverisli-h24780.html>  
 Bianet ENG: <https://bianet.org/english/city/249453-report-only-two-percent-of-rental-flats-in-istanbul-affordable-and-livable>  
 Gazete Kadikoy: <http://www.gazetekadikoy.com.tr/yasam/buyuyen-endise-kiracilik-h18157.html>  
 Açık Radyo- Açık Mimarlık: <https://twitter.com/acikradyo/status>  
 Binsöz: <https://binsoz.com/FL/buyuyen-endise-kiracilik-d85878/>



## Searching for Habitable

## Housing on sahibinden.

## com MADacademy

## Launch Event

On May 11, 2021, the outputs of "Searching for Habitable Housing on sahibinden.com" which was a collaborative research carried out by MADacademy and UPP, were made public. MAD General Coordinator Yaşar Adnan Adanalı, UPP Program Coordinator Bahar Bayhan, and MADacademy Program Coordinator Selin Yazıcı attended the webinar.

Event Poster

**SAHİBİNDEN.COM'DA  
YAŞANABİLİR KONUT ARAMAK**

- 11 MAYIS 2021  
18.00-19.30
- MODERATÖR:  
YAŞAR ADNAN ADANALI
- KATILIMCILAR:  
BAHAR BAYHAN  
SELİN YAZICI

WEBİNAR

MADakademi buluşmaları

MAD



## Searching for the Cosmopolitan City in a Building

The research and preparation process of this publication project, which is centered around the archive of the former British Post Office and carried out in collaboration with the newly founded Postane, began in 2021. The project aims to discover the actors involved in the history of the post office building built in Galata in 1859 for military correspondence and to contribute to urban memory by tracing the cultural, social, structural, and political factors that transformed the space. The project aims to

create a historical narrative through the multicultural traces left by different ethnic and social groups that have been active in Galata, to document the stories of urban traces through institutional and personal archives, and to make this archive visible and understandable.

The building, which was used for various functions by individuals and communities who reflect the cosmopolitan past of Istanbul, was restored as a cultural center by re-operationalizing it as the Postane. A publication and seminar series project are being prepared by adding new research and archival outputs to the work carried out with the archives that emerged during the restoration process.

Searching for the Cosmopolitan  
City in a Building project poster



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CITY COUNCIL STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS, AND WORKSHOPS

We aim to contribute to public debates by actively engaging with local governments in Istanbul. We joined the workshops organized by IBB, other local governments in Istanbul, and the Istanbul City Council and expressed our views on spatial justice in urban policies.

## **Throughout 2021, we participated in these events and workshops:**

- WRI-IBB / Pedestrian Stops Focus Group Meeting
- City Council Participatory Budget Idea Marathon
- Istanbul Housing Summit
- Şişli Municipality Equality Unit Panel on Human Rights of the Elderly
- IBB Department of

Transportation / Bimtaş / Istanbul Transportation Platform Stakeholder Meeting

- Istanbul Vision 2050 Strategy Workshops
- Urban Services Workshop for Roma Women in Istanbul
- IBB Urban Planning Directorate - IBB Beyoğlu Meeting on Participatory Planning Process

At the end of the year, Bahar Bayhan from our team was invited as a guest to Gizem Kıyığı's Yerden Yüksek program on Açık Radyo to talk about the city's urban agenda.

# THE:PLACE

Event Poster



In November 2021, in partnership with the European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA) and with the support of Stiftung Mercator (Mercator Foundation), we started an exchange program aiming at cooperation between civil actors from Turkey and the European Union (EU). With the Turkey Europe Hand in Hand: Exchange Program for Civil Society and Local Governments, which we shorten as THE: PLACE, we will try to create a permanent network among organizations working on local issues and to increase the capacities of organizations through sharing of experiences and interaction.

Through THE: PLACE, we will support 16 projects to be developed jointly by 32 civil

society organizations from Turkey and the EU in two separate periods between November 2021 and October 2025. We aim to involve local authorities as partners in these projects and to work towards the implementation of human rights and the localization of sustainable development goals.

The first round of the program, which will be held between February 2022 and October 2023, consists of six main phases:

- **Online Partnering Meeting**
- **Intensive Guidance Meeting**
- **Online Education Program**
- **Project Development Process**
- **Project Implementation Period**
- **Closing Event**

# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

The Environmental Justice Program is based on the criticism that environmental struggle is not a luxury, but rather a necessity for a healthier and fairer life for all segments of society. Our program aims to adequately document the increasingly widespread environmental conflicts, to show how environmental problems are linked to other social problems, to be the voice of those who have to shoulder these problems, and to produce useful concepts and methods for the ecological crisis we are going through.

Photo: Ekin Çekic,



## BASIN STUDIES

Our aim is to amplify the call for environmental justice so that it resonates with a wider audience. Each year, we study one river basin in the country, and examine how environmental issues intersect with personal stories.

In July 2018, with Ordu Environment Association (ORÇEV), we followed the path of the water along the Melet Basin and recorded the comprehensive devastation of the basin as well as the ongoing struggles for justice.

For eight days in September

2019, we traced the 438-kilometer Çoruh river and collected stories of people and nature.

During our field trip in Küçükçekmece-Sazlıdere-Terkos basins between September and December 2020 we followed the route of the mega project Canal Istanbul.

And in 2021, we crossed the Ergene River, which is referred to as a "waste channel" rather than a river due to intensive industrialization, from Istrancalar to Meriç River and Enez.

Photo: Ekin Çekiç.





## 2020 Canal Istanbul

### Basin Study

During June-December 2020, in our field trip in the Küçükçekmece-Sazlıdere-Terkos basins of Istanbul we followed the route of the mega project Canal Istanbul. Themes such as displacement, development pressure, ecosystem destruction, destruction of water resources, negative impact on agriculture and animal husbandry, overconstruction, problems caused by coastal filling and excavation, destruction of historical and natural heritage were identified through interviews with local people, experts, and local administrators.

The productions pertaining to our Canal Istanbul basin study continued throughout 2021. First, we published the video series "Problems of the Canal Istanbul EIA Report" based on the interviews we conducted in the field with Prof. Doğanay Tolunay from IU Faculty of Forestry. We produced the video work "The Construction of a Destruction" for the exhibition *Towards the City* held at the opening of the Müze Gazhane, Turkey's first climate museum. We participated in the *Yesterday Today Istanbul* exhibition at the Sakıp Sabancı Museum with the video installation "Canal Istanbul: A Dystopia". Finally, we prepared our newspaper publication "Canal Istanbul - The Construction of a Destruction".

Photo: Ekin Çekiç.  
Canal Istanbul site.



Photo: Ekin Çekiç,  
Doğınay Tolunay.



## Canal Istanbul

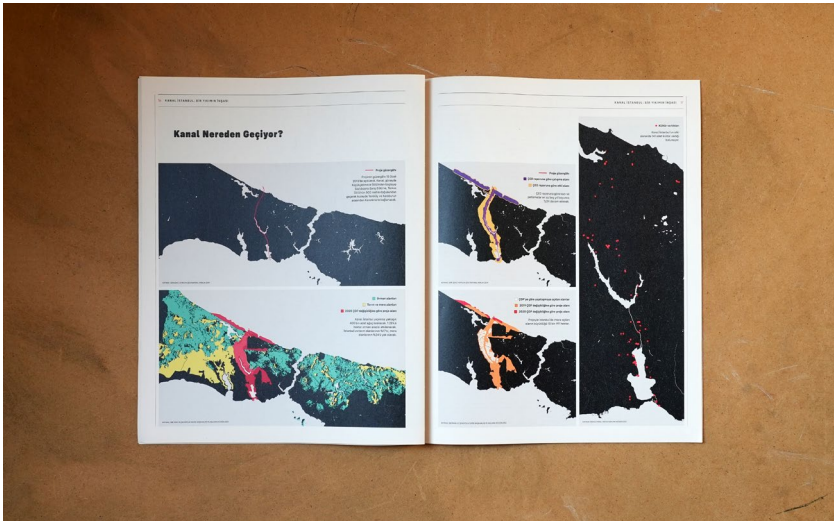
### Newspaper<sup>3</sup>

We have published our newspaper-format publication "Canal Istanbul—The Construction of a Destruction" both in print and online on our

website. The newspaper includes articles by experts, evaluating the impacts of the Canal Istanbul project on urban and rural areas, ecosystems, agriculture, seas, and cultural assets, as well as maps that show the areas opened for development and the overall impact of the project.

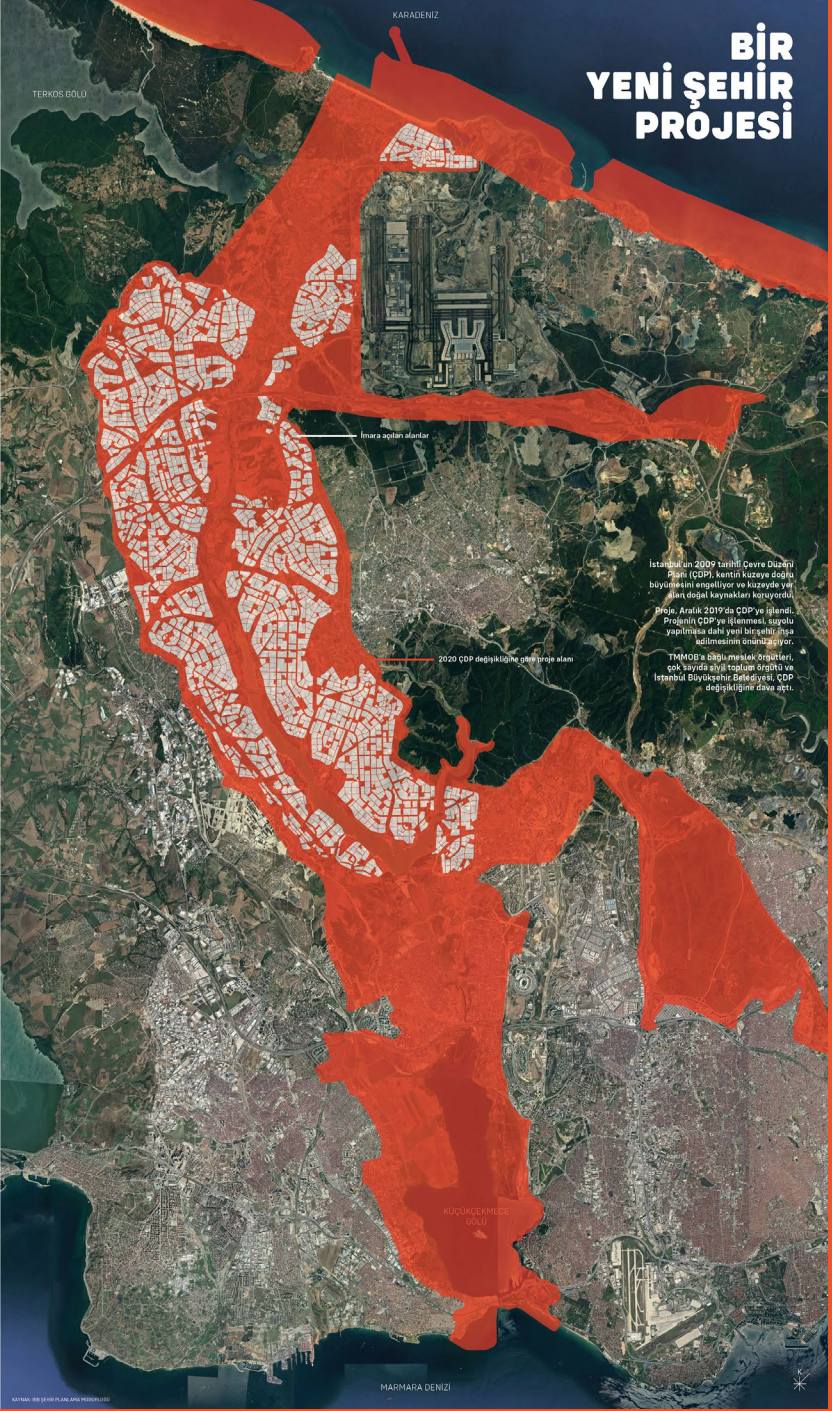


Photo: Onur Temel,  
Kanal Istanbul newspaper.



<sup>3</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (2021). Canal Istanbul: The Construction of a Destruction. [https://mekandaadalet.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/MAD\\_kanalistanbul\\_biryikimininsasi.pdf](https://mekandaadalet.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/MAD_kanalistanbul_biryikimininsasi.pdf)





## "Canal Istanbul: A Dystopia" Video

### Installation

The exhibition *Yesterday Today Istanbul*, the call of which was made by Murat Germen, Sabancı University Faculty Member, and in which MAD participated with a video installation, was a collaborative exhibition of 22 artists who have passed through Sabancı University's Visual Arts and Visual Communication Design Program's halls. In the call for the exhibition, artists who contemplate on Istanbul were asked to make an assessment of the city. "Canal Istanbul: A Dystopia" focused on the spatial justice agenda of Istanbul, which is on the verge of undergoing major spatial transformations along the route following the Küçükçekmece,

Sazlıdere and Terkos basins between the Marmara and Black Sea coast due to mega projects and overconstruction.

MAD's installation, which was based on the Canal Istanbul basin study, was a work that conveyed the current and potential effects of the project in the region through the voices from the field and expert opinions. Focusing on themes such as construction, earthquake, displacement, cultural heritage, ecosystem, agricultural areas, seas, and excavation, it was a work which included comments and testimonies about the expected/actual transformations on the route. The installation created a unique experience for the audience, constantly evolving with each visit.

The exhibition took place at the Sakıp Sabancı Museum in Emirgan between September 3 and November 28.

Photo: Emirkan Cörüt.  
Views from the installation. 2021.





Photo: Emirkan Crt.  
Views from the installation, 2021.



## 2021 Ergene Basin Study

Our fieldwork, conducted over two periods, from 27th September to 1st October and from 3rd November to 5th November 2021, examined the consequences of unplanned industrialization along the Ergene River. We assessed its effects on the river itself, the surrounding settlements, and public health.

Since the 1970s, with the urbanization of Istanbul, industry has moved to Tekirdağ, causing Turkey's most valuable agricultural lands to be occupied by industrial facilities. This haphazard industrialization, starting from the Çerkezköy-Çorlu line, pollutes the air, water, and soil of the Ergene Basin. People vividly describe the dire state of the river, emphasizing that it has reached a severe

Photo: Ekin Çekiç.  
From the Ergene basin.





pollution level of the fourth degree. They lament that even the presence of microorganisms in the river has vanished, despite it once being a place suitable for swimming and fishing. Our work in the Ergene Basin intersects with many topics such as haphazard industrialization and pollution, the right to clean air, food safety, and the mucilage disaster in the Marmara Sea.

For the Ergene Basin Study,

we interviewed 33 people, including 8 experts, and filmed with 28 people. We met with experts who have been following the developments in the region and been working in the Thrace Platform, which has been struggling against the contamination of the Ergene River for years, as well as with people living in the region. We traveled for 2027 kilometers during our field trip.

Photo: Ekin Çekiş.  
From the Ergene basin.



## Cerattepe Mine:

### The Challenge

#### 5th Year Video

Our creative team produced a mini documentary about Artvin's 20-year-long anti-mining struggle. The video was released on the fifth anniversary of the "Great Intervention" in Artvin on February 16, 2016. Both MAD and our partner Green Artvin

Association shared the video on their social media accounts.<sup>4</sup>

*"The efforts of the Center for Spatial Justice, which has created an important Cerattepe literature with its scientific and technical publications and posts based on field studies, as well as its social media support during the Cerattepe struggle, is above all kinds of appreciation. We offer our sincere thanks."*

Green Artvin Association



<sup>4</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (February 16, 2021). What Happened on February 16, 2016 in Artvin. [Video]. Instagram.

[https://www.instagram.com/s/aGlnaGxpZ2h0OjE3ODYxMTM5NTY2NDU4MzEz?story\\_media\\_id=2510195492294644050&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/s/aGlnaGxpZ2h0OjE3ODYxMTM5NTY2NDU4MzEz?story_media_id=2510195492294644050&utm_medium=copy_link)

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=5136414276400228&id=184607751580930](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=5136414276400228&id=184607751580930)





21 Haziran 2015'te

şirketin usulsüz şekilde

Cerattepe'ye çıkmasını

engellemek için ilk nöbet tutuldu.

Bu, 245 günlük kesintisiz nöbetin

başlangıcı oldu.



10 Temmuz 2015'te

ÇED olumlu kararının iptali için

759 kişi ve kurumun katılımıyla,

Türkiye'nin en geniş katılımli

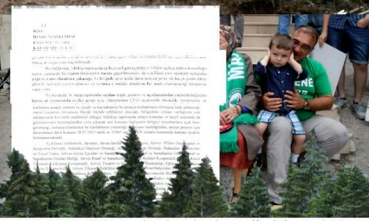
yurttaş davalarından biri

açıldı.



24 Aralık 2014'te

madenin ÇED olumlu kararı



Bu durumda, bilirkişi raporunda yapılan tespit, gözlem ve açıklamalarının yanında belirtilen hususlar konusunda anılan proje için düzenlenen ÇED raporunda eksiklik, yetersizlik ve betirizimlerin bulunduğu, gerçek katılımı sağlanmayan maden faaliyetinin bölgedeki insan ve doğaya amaçlı zarar ve zararlı etkilerinin bu amaçla kollanmaya çalışıldığı, etkilerinin sosyal yaşamın devamına büyük ölçüde tehlikeye atacağı, bölgedeki orman varlığının yitilmesinin kuvvetle muhtemel olduğu, bilirkişi raporunda ortaya konulan ve keşif sırasında da gözlemlenen leşeyenleşen yola çıkarak söz konusu faaliyetin bölgedeki hayvanlara açık hale getirilmesi, koruma alanlarının bu özelliklerini yitireceği sonucuna varıldığından, anılan projeye için düzenlenen dava konusu 18.07.2013 tarih ve 12945 sayılı ÇED olumlu kararında hukuka aykırılik bulunmamaktadır.



Artvin'in  
üstü  
altından  
daha değerli.

## DereTepe.org

DereTepe.org, the digital platform where we present the basin studies of the Center for Spatial Justice, has been published.

In our work, we identify thematic foci to investigate the

environmental and social impacts of development projects, and as a team, we cover a basin from beginning to end. This website is a platform where we aim to share the rich stories of our field experience. DereTepe.org features stories, interviews,

Photo: Ekin Çekiç.  
Teliha Yılmaz, Sebzeciler Village, Artvin.

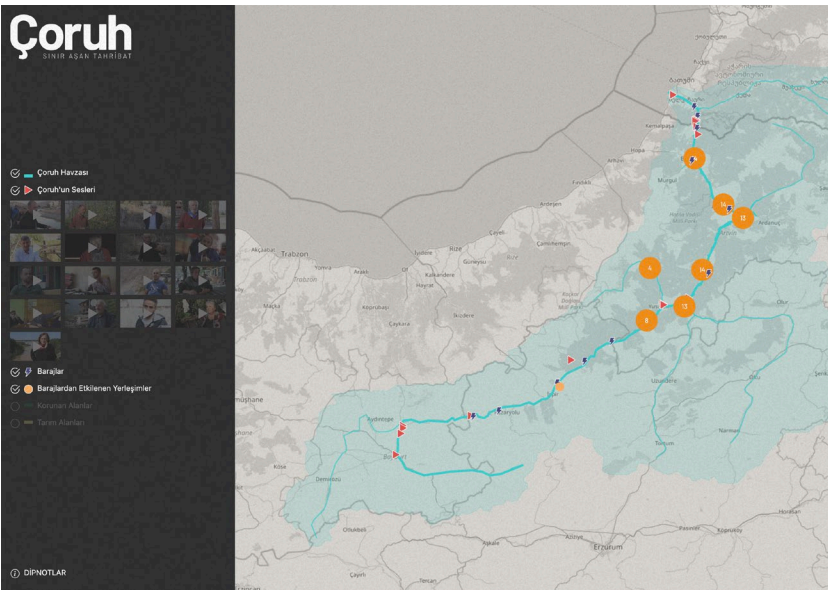




photo-stories and videos that we compiled by interviewing experts, local environmental movements, and local residents, as well as maps where we visualize environmental conflicts. The interactive maps include the projects we documented along the

river route, videos of the people we interviewed, and the areas affected by the projects.

We hope Deretepe.org will be a digital archive based on long-term fieldwork, a multidisciplinary approach, and solidarity with local environmental organizations.



## Deretepe Stories:

### Seeking Environmental

### Justice on the Trail of

### Water

We launched DereTepe.org with the participation of our stakeholders, with whom we carry out the basin work, at a hybrid closed event at the Postane on December 19.

Moderated by Sinan Erensü, Cemre Kara, and Duygu Dağ from MAD Environmental Justice Program, Gül Ersan from Ordu and Nur Neşe Karahan from Yeşil Artvin Association talked about how the basin studies were born, what their purpose is, our field practice, and the stories of Melet and Çoruh that we share on the website.

The second half of the event, to which local environmental struggle actors as well as producer cooperatives were invited, continued with a meal prepared from the products of the producers we met in the field.

The event was attended by civil society actors such as the Green Artvin Association, Ordu Environment Association, Kılıçkaya Women's Initiative Production and Business Cooperative, Istanbul Kılıçkaya Association, Trakyam Producing Women's Cooperative, Yer Mapping for Everyone Association, Green Thought Association, and experts we consulted in the field, as well as academics, researchers, representatives from local governments, journalists, and the MAD team.

Photo: Emirkan Cörüt.



Photo: Emirkan Cörüt  
View from the event, 2021.



# HUMAN RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITY OF COMPANIES IN TURKEY RESEARCH<sup>5</sup>

The research on the "Human Rights Responsibility of Companies in Turkey" commenced in April 2021. During the initial stages of the research, we identified five investment and mega infrastructure projects through meetings conducted with civil society representatives and local stakeholders. As archival research was conducted for the identified projects, relations with local stakeholders and civil society representatives were maintained. In the second phase of the research, we contacted companies and banks that are investors in these projects and finance them.

Taking a transdisciplinary approach to mega infrastructure projects that have irreversible environmental impacts, that severely violate workers' rights and do not include democratic participation, the Center for Spatial Justice focuses on the

responsibilities of companies through the human rights violations they directly or indirectly inflict.

The report, *A Perspective on the Human Rights Responsibility of Companies in Turkey: 3rd Airport, Galataport Istanbul, Hunutlu Thermal Power Plant, Kirazlı Gold Mine, Yusufeli Dam*, examines the human rights approach of companies and banks involved as investors or financiers in the construction of these projects, based on five investment and mega infrastructure projects in Turkey. Focusing on the human rights responsibilities of companies, this research is based on the perspective of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

In addition, two MADacademy meetings centered on the thematic focus of the research were held.

<sup>5</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (2021). Overview of Human Rights Responsibility of Companies in Turkey: 3rd Airport, Galataport Istanbul, Hunutlu Thermal Power Plant, Kirazlı Gold Mine, Yusufeli Dam. [https://mekandaadalet.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/MAD\\_Sirketlerin\\_Sorumluluguna\\_Bakis\\_rapor-1.pdf](https://mekandaadalet.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/MAD_Sirketlerin_Sorumluluguna_Bakis_rapor-1.pdf)

TÜRKİYE'DE ŞİRKETLERİN  
İNSAN HAKLARI  
SORUMLULUĞUNA BAKIŞ:

**3. HAVALİMANI  
GALATAPORT İSTANBUL  
HUNUTLU TERMİK SANTRALİ  
KİRAZLI ALTIN MADENİ  
YUSUFELİ BARAJI**



AN OVERVIEW OF THE  
CORPORATE HUMAN RIGHTS  
RESPONSIBILITY IN TURKEY:

**Istanbul 3rd Airport  
Galataport Istanbul  
Hunutlu Thermal Power Plant  
Kirazlı Gold Mine  
Yusufeli Dam**



## 1st Event - Dynamics

### of Human Rights

### Perspective in Business

In our series of "Human Rights in Business" webinars, we discussed the relationship between business and human rights within the framework of companies' responsibility to respect human

rights. On June 30, 2021, in this first event, we discussed the development of the business and human rights approach and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the main text regulating the responsibilities of companies. The event was moderated by Büşra Üner and Özlem Zıngıl, with Turgut Tarhanlı as the speaker. Eşin Güneş

From the event.



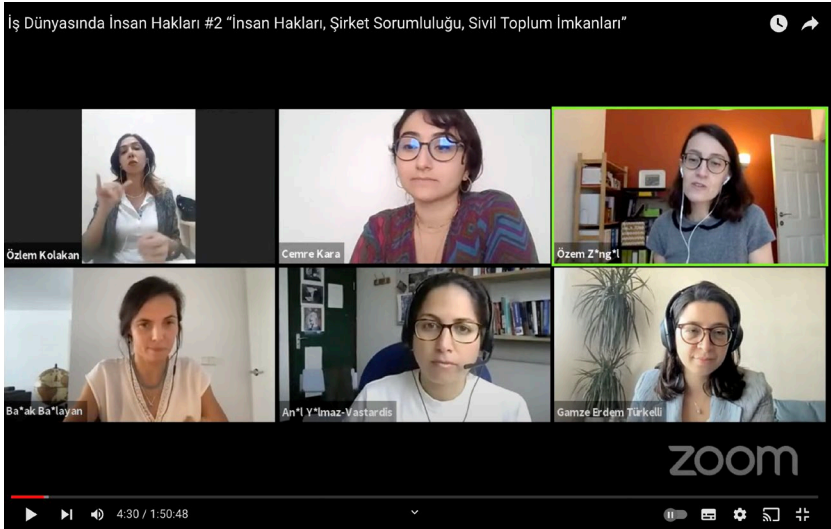


## 2nd Event - Human Rights, Corporate Responsibility, Civil Society Opportunities

The second meeting of the series was held online on October 13, 2021. The speakers in this meeting were Anıl Yılmaz

Vastardis, Başak Bağlayan and Gamze Erdem Türkelli. The meeting was moderated by Cemre Kara and Özlem Zıngıl from the MAD team. The event focused on what civil society can do to follow up on the fulfillment of the responsibilities set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by companies and the change it creates.

From the event.



## 3rd Event - Corporations or Human Rights: Who is in Power in the Fashion Industry?

The third webinar series was held on November 22, 2021. The third event, where we discussed how the commercial decisions of

companies affect human rights and how society and individuals can contribute to changing the current order, was held at the Postane on Monday, November 22nd between 18.30- 19.30. The event was streamed online simultaneously. The event was moderated by Sena Nur Gölcük and Özlem Zıngıl and the speakers were Bego Demir and Gizem Yücelen.

View from the event.





# DISPLACEMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE RESEARCH

The preparation process of the research on "Displacement within the Framework of Environmental and Climate Justice" has begun. This research aims to discuss how environmental problems and displacement are intertwined and drive each other, how environmental problems shape migration/displacement/relocation, and how displacement

in Turkey is caused by environmental factors. The report aims to propose useful concepts and themes on how displacement can be addressed. The report is intended to be a guide for local actors, central and local governments, and a reference for academics, students, journalists, civil society actors, and lawmakers.

Photo: Ekin Çekiç.



# MADACADEMY

With MADacademy, we aim to create a permanent platform to support quality education and research, which are becoming increasingly scarce. To this end, we conduct training activities in the fields of spatial studies and social justice, organize seminars and workshops under the title of MADacademy meetings, and try to support young researchers through mentorship and library activities.

Event poster

## MADDENİN HASTANENİN

• 06 ŞUBAT 2021  
18.00-19.30

• MODERATÖR:  
EMRE ÖZFETİŞ  
MERVE ŞEN

• KATILIMCILAR:  
DENİZ TORTUM  
FATİH ARTVINLİ  
GÜLŞAH MURSALOĞLU

MADakademi buluşmaları

## HALLERİ: RİTMİ



www.madacademy.com



# MADACADEMY MEETINGS

The events organized by the Center for Spatial Justice, whether conducted independently or as part of its projects, are collectively known as MADacademy meetings.

## 1 – Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World (January 30, 2021)<sup>6</sup>

In the first event of MADacademy meetings, the writing, visualization, and design process of *Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World*, which brings together ecological manifestos and accompanying illustrations aiming to shed light on the post-pandemic future, was discussed.

## 2 – States of Matter (February 6, 2021)<sup>7</sup>

We talked about director Deniz Tortum's documentary *States of Matter*. Moderated by emre özfetiş and Merve Şen, the event featured speeches by the documentary's director Deniz Tortum, medical historian Fatih Artvinli, and artist Gülşah

Mursaloğlu. Hospital spaces as living spaces, daily life in the hospital, institutional memory, and the spatialized state and dynamics of matter in the hospital were discussed.

## 3 – Spatial Justice and Gender (March 13, 2021)

In this event, "Spatial Justice and Gender" issue, which aims to contribute to the literature on the intersection of gender and spatial studies, was launched. The guest editors of the publication, Zeynep Gülru Göker and Cenk Özbay, and the authors who contributed to the publication attended the webinar.

## 4 – Searching for Habitable Housing on sahibinden.com (May 11, 2021)<sup>8</sup>

During this event, the outputs of the research titled "Searching for Habitable Housing on sahibinden.com", conducted in partnership with MADacademy and UPP, were shared.

<sup>6</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (January 30, 2021). Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wO5txvmawak>

<sup>7</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (February 6, 2021). States of Matter: Rhythm of the Hospital. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1z2TzcmsvvU>

## 5 – Palestine Neighborhood (June 10, 2021)

We talked about director Özgür Cihan Uçar and Yasin Serindere's documentary *Palestine Neighborhood*, which focuses on the demolitions carried out in Başakşehir Güvercintepe neighborhood.

The event was moderated by Deniz Öztürk and featured the directors of the documentary, Özgür Cihan Uçar and Yasin Serindere, and Bahar Bayhan and Volkan Işıl from MAD. During the event, the rights struggle of the neighborhood, the struggle for the right to housing of other Istanbul neighborhoods that are in a similar quest for justice, and the filming process of the

documentary, were discussed.

## 6 - Dynamics of Human Rights Perspective in Business (June 30, 2021)<sup>9</sup>

Turgut Tarhanlı was the speaker of the first event of a series of webinars on Human Rights in Business.

## 7 – Urban Transformation and Well-Being in Istanbul (October 23, 2021)<sup>10</sup>

In the first event of MADacademy meetings that will be held in the autumn season, the report titled *Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul*, prepared by the Center for Spatial Justice in consultation with public health experts, was introduced.

Event poster.

**FİLİSTİN**

- 10 HAZİRAN 2021  
18.00-19.30
- MODERATÖR:  
DENİZ ÖZTÜRK

**MAHALLESİ**

- KATILIMCILAR:  
BAHAR BAYHAN  
ÖZGÜR CİHAN UÇAR  
VOLKAN İŞİL  
YASİN SERİNDERE

İŞİTİMLİ TERGÖZMESİNE BULUŞMALAR

WEBİNAR

**MADakademi buluşmaları**

<sup>8</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (May 11, 2021). Searching for Habitable Housing on sahibinden.com. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vs71xGbFuYE>

<sup>9</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (June 30, 2021). Dynamics of Human Rights Perspective in Business [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2npfLNwubw&t=6672s>

<sup>10</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (October 23, 2021). Urban Transformation and Wellbeing in Istanbul. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2E6w-a4L5o0>

<sup>11</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (November 22, 2021). Corporations or Human Rights: Who is in Power in the Fashion Industry? [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6povQzbJ0Q>

**8 - Corporations or Human Rights: Who is in Power in the Fashion Industry? (November 22, 2021)<sup>11</sup>**

In the event how the commercial decisions of companies affect human rights and how society and individuals can contribute to changing the current order, starting from the textile industry, were discussed. Speakers were Bego Demir and Gizem Yücelen.

**9 - Bird's Eye View, Handwritten City (December 4, 2021)<sup>12</sup>**

In this event two publications of the Center for Spatial Justice were launched. The "Spatial Justice and Literature" issue of *beyond.istanbul* and the storybook *Postcards from Non-Existent Cities*, both edited by journalist and writer Pınar Ögünç, met with the readers.

**10 - MADresearch 2021: How Do the Social Sciences Tackle Disasters? (December 18, 2021)<sup>13</sup>**

On December 18th, with the participation of MADresearch fellows, works focusing on the theme of "disaster" were presented. Eilf Feyza Uğur, Ebru

Kayaalp Jurich, Mehmet Kentel, Ceminyay Kara, and Oğuzhan İzmir presented their works. Gözde Orhan and Eray Çaylı acted as facilitators in the sessions.

**11- Deretepe Stories: Seeking Environmental Justice on the Trail of Water (December 19, 2021)<sup>14</sup>**

The origins of the basin studies and the scope of DereTepe. org were discussed by Cemre Kara and Duygu Dağ from the MAD Environmental Justice Program, Gül Ersan from Ordu, and Nur Neşe Karahan from the Green Artvin Association. The moderator of the event was Sinan Erensü.

**12 - New Walking Practices (December 25 and 26, 2021)**

In the closing event of the New Walking Practices project carried out by the Center for Spatial Justice, we invited researchers, communities and associations that do walking-oriented works or use walking in their research and advocacy practices and discussed the possibilities and limits of "new walking practices" for two days.

<sup>12</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 4, 2021). Bird's Eye View, Handwritten City. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SHRFtr32Vu0>

<sup>13</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 18, 2021). MADResearch 2021: How Do the Social Sciences Tackle Disasters? Session 1. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVnqlh6EEdc> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 18, 2021). MADresearch 2021: How Social Sciences Disaster Works? Session 2. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Q18IUg3PdG>

<sup>14</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 19, 2021). Deretepe Stories: Seeking Environmental Justice on the Trail of Water. [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utmm\\_sVvzc0&t=929s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=utmm_sVvzc0&t=929s)

<sup>15</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 25-26, 2021). New Walking Practices 1st Session. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cMn58ou4f54> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 25-26, 2021). New Walking Practices Session 2. [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3AHCA\\_rfEE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3AHCA_rfEE)

The Center for Spatial Justice (MAD) organized the fourth MADresearch Support Program this year.

The MADresearch Support Program aims to support research and researchers that have been left out of traditional institutions and programs, to contribute to the development of spatial

and social justice studies, and to breathe new life into the country's shrinking academic and intellectual environment. To date, over 200 applications have been made to the MADresearch Support Program; 23 of these applications have received financial, intellectual, and technical support.

Event poster.

## #MADarařtırma BAřVURULARI

## 2021 AÇILDI

- SON BAřVURU TARİHİ  
24 MAYIS 2021
- PROGRAM DAHİLİNDE MEKANDA ADALET KAVRAMI VE AFET TEMASIYLA KESİŐEN ARAřTIRMALAR DESTEKLENECEKTİR.

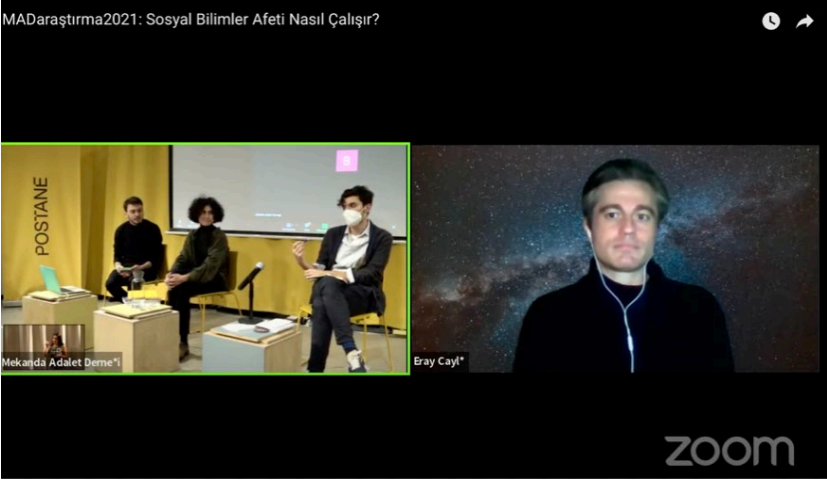


FOTOĐRAF: EKİN ÇEKİŐ

MADarařtırma



View from event.



## MADresearch 2021

### Study Presentations:

### How Do Social Sciences

### Tackle Disasters

Four studies that were conducted with the MADresearch's support, which we provide for research that can potentially contribute to discussions on the concept of spatial justice as a research agenda or as a political-ethical axis, were presented on December 18.

In 2021, we focused on a

single theme in the MADresearch support program. This year, MADresearch supported works focusing on the theme of "disaster" provided that these works intersect with our broadly defined spatial justice research agenda. As we wait for other disasters in a disaster zone, we hope to understand the uncertainty created by disasters and to reveal possible future imaginations through works that bring together different disciplines. On December 18th, we listened to the presentations of the 2021 MADresearch fellows and contributed to their works.



# MADJOURNAL

The second issue of *MADjournal*, which includes the works that qualify for MAD's research support given to researchers and practitioners who work with the concept of spatial justice, has been published.

MADresearch Support Program was created to support researchers who work on topics that will contribute to intersectional thinking on the

concepts of space and justice as a research agenda or as a political-ethical axis, and who have difficulty finding a place in mainstream organs and institutions.

The second issue of *MADjournal* features ten different works selected by an academic panel. The open call for the submissions was made in June 2019.

MADjournal 2021.



# MADLIBRARY

MADlibrary is a library where researchers interested in spatial studies on the axis of social and environmental justice can access resources produced in Turkish and foreign languages. The sources in MADlibrary have been classified and cataloged under various headings and the library has been reopened to public at the Postane building.

Photo: Emirkan Cörüt.  
View from the library.



# MADFELLOWSHIP

## MAD and Mef University AAP research partnership

MAD has been collaborating with Mef University AAP (Alternative Architectural Practices) Master's Program as a research partner for the 2021-22 academic year. This semester, we hosted the students of the master's program, which focuses on the theme of waste, and talked about the "waste" produced by the Postane as a case study.

## Çamlıbel Urban Design Competition

We participated in the Çamlıbel Urban Design Competition organized in Mersin in cooperation with our sister institution Kültürhane and the architectural office SO? and received an honorable mention.

From the Unkapani walk  
with the magazine Sekme.

ADALET DERNEĞİ

## Görünenin Ötesinde

MEKANDA ADALET DERNEĞİ

Yürüyerek tarihle, mekanla, farklı toplumsal gruplarla ilişkiler kurduğumuz, bilgiye aracsız erişim imkanı yarattığımız MADyürüyüşler'de rotamızı Unkapani'na çevirdik. Unkapani yürüyüşümüzde İstanbul'un sürekli değişen eksen ve sınırları içinde yeni bakış açıları yaratmaya; şehrin çok yönlü kişiliğini anlamaya ve görünenin ötesindeki ortaya koymaya çalışıyoruz. Haliç Metro Köprüsü'nden başlayarak Atatürk Bulvarı boyunca ilerliyor, İMC ve İstanbul Belediye Binası'na uğradıktan sonra yönümüzü Şehzade Cami'sine çevirerek Süleymaniye eteklerinde yürüyüşümüzü sonlandırıyoruz. Rotamız boyunca mega projelerin tarihsel bağlamını, Tarihi Yarımada'nın mimari hafızasını ve mozaik sanatını,

sayılar

sekme nedir?

içerik üreticilerimiz

e-dükkan

bize ulaş

## Unkapanı walk with Sekme magazine

Upon the invitation of *Sekme*, an independent online magazine, whose content and editors change with every issue, publishing content in many different fields from culture to art, and design to daily life, we organized a walk in Unkapanı. During our Unkapanı walk, our aim was to foster fresh perspectives within Istanbul's ever-changing axis and boundaries. We sought to comprehend the city's multi-

dimensional character and uncover what lies beyond the visible surface.

## Text and Fountains Walk within the scope of Burası Exhibition

MAD was invited to submit an article for the catalog of Yapı Kredi Culture and Arts' *Burası* exhibition. The Environmental Justice Program contributed to the catalogue with an article on environmental injustices in Istanbul.



<sup>16</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (July-August 2021). Beyond the visible. <https://www.sekme.fugamundi.org/sayi3imc?goto=Mekanda+Adalet+Derneği> (Date of access: October 24, 2022)

<sup>17</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (2021). *Burası*. (Ed. Fisun Yalçınkaya) Istanbul's nature, nature's Istanbul. (pp. 109-115) in [Exhibition catalog]. Yapı Kredi Kültür Sanat Yayıncılık A.Ş. <https://art.ykykultur.com.tr/exhibitions/this-place>  
<https://images.ykykultur.com.tr/upload/document/593ccc2a-b595-4887-8709-7396e3d29606.pdf>

## MADWALKS

Since our establishment, we have been using "walking" as a method to understand and research the city and we have been organizing workshops, conducting research, and carrying out events in this context. Throughout 2020 and 2021, we organized eight thematic walks around the borders of Istanbul, where we experienced and documented various geographical, urban, and social conditions. We created itineraries that conveyed the political ecology of each route together with academics. Besides the experts, photographers, videographers, and artists contributed to our walks. At the end of the walks, a map of each route and a poster of the photographs taken along the route were created.

– **Salacak - A Walk Between Flaneurism and Awareness**  
Sinan Logie and Simge Çil

– **Historic Peninsula - Modern Architecture in the Historic Peninsula**

Zafer Akay

– **Habibler - A Segment of Istanbul's Wild West Habibler**

Jean-François Pérouse

– **Beykoz - A Brief Overview of Beykoz's Industrial Heritage and Social History**

Hakan Koçak

– **Başakşehir - Dreams and Realities as Hegemony Urbanizes**

Emrah Altınok

– **Kadıköy - Cins Adımlar: Gender and Memory Walks**

SUGender Gender Steps

– **Kağıthane - The Search for Identity in Kağıthane: Wandering in Urban Landscape and Urban Imagination(s)**

Bahar Deniz Çalış Rule

– **Beyoğlu - Tracing Culture in the Transforming Beyoğlu**

Yaşar Adnan Adanalı

Photo: Emirkan Cörüt.  
Tracking the Traces of Culture  
in a Transforming Beyoğlu walk.





## New Walking Practices

### Closing Event

To introduce the eight thematic walks we organized in the past two years, we organized an event to delve deeper into their thematic focus and framework. At the closing event of the

project, which took place on December 25 and 26, we invited researchers, communities, and associations that do walking-oriented works or use walking in their research and advocacy practices to discuss the possibilities and limits of "new walking practices".

The event was streamed live on YouTube.



# BROADCASTS, PODCASTS, VIDEO NEWS

MADpodcast, the podcast channel of the Association, brings together different agendas of spatial justice. In 2020, the first series, which tried to make the social dimension of the pandemic visible through individual testimonies and everyday spaces, was aired. In 2021, the Serbest Dalış series, which conveyed both the voice of the field and the urban and environmental justice agenda through testimonies and expert opinions, was introduced to the listeners.



# PODCASTS

## Ajans (Agency)

### 1- İkizdere Resistance

In the first episode of the Ajans series, which aims to instantly capture the voice of the field and bring it to a larger audience, we discussed the resistance against the quarry in İkizdere with journalist Eren Dağıştanlı, who was active in the field.<sup>18</sup>

### 2- Standing Against the Injustice of Urban Transformation

As part of MADpodcast's Ajans program, a podcast was prepared with Serap Halis from the Tozkoparan neighborhood in Güngören.<sup>19</sup>

### 3- Protecting the Validebağ Grove

In the third program of the Ajans series, we talked to Arif Belgin, President of the Validebağ Grove Volunteers Association, about the resistance in the grove and the dynamics of the vigil.<sup>20</sup>

### 4- After the Earthquake

On October 30, 2020, the fourth program of the Ajans series focused on the housing problem faced by the people who lost their homes after the Izmir earthquake.

We talked with Haydar Özkan, President of the Izmir Earthquake Victims Solidarity Association (İZEDA), which was established by the earthquake victims who were forced by the state to borrow long-term loans, about the process following the earthquake and their demands.<sup>20</sup>

## Serbest Dalış (Free Diving)

### 1- Discussing Accessibility in a World of "Normals"

In the first episode of Serbest Dalış, another series of MADpodcast that combines expert knowledge with the agenda of spatial justice, Eser Epözdemir from the Erişilebilir Her Şey team talked about disabled accessibility in the field of culture and arts.<sup>22</sup>

### 2- Deepening Housing Crisis

The second part of the series hosted Emrah Altınok and Yaşar Adnan Adanalı. The deepening housing problem was discussed in relation to the forms of housing provision in the history of Turkey and possible solutions.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (May 2021). Agency #1 İkizdere Resistance. [Podcast]. Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/6Vf3JWzOCaCWt7pPMXuLL2?si=352984e21ea84b84>

<sup>19</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (July 2021). Agency #2 Standing Against the Injustice of Urban Transformation: Tozkoparan Neighborhood. [Podcast]. Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/74fUfOvCL5VQniSsRoWe0o?si=5a8316e62bfc41b5>

<sup>20</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (August 2021). Agency #3 Protecting the Validebağ Grove. [Podcast]. Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/3ucUu56ICGI301eiGsmkkm?si=5e9d973283bb406b>

<sup>21</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (August 2021). Agency #4 After the Earthquake. [Podcast]. Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/4AaqJm6wJ4QEY8hMK8MSyt?si=8c3a09256efa436b>

<sup>22</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (November 2021). Free Dive #1 - Talking Accessibility in a World of Normals. [Podcast]. Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/1Kfo8xxQqTGBXH1bZ6lp9j?si=38574a843854427b>

<sup>23</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (December 2021). Free Dive #2 - Deepening Housing Crisis. [Podcast]. Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7u7THLyDGUIHbbSrrOlorV?si=b96f6174b8c84b2f>

# PUBLICATIONS

## Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World

Starting in 2020, *Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World* was published as an open access collection, and the printed version was published in January 2021. The compilation brings together twelve manifestos that envision the period following the Covid-19 pandemic from the perspective of ecology. Bengi Akbulut, Ethemcan Turhan, Gökçe Günel, Leila Harris,

Candan Türkkkan, Hilâl Alkan and Sezai Ozan Zeybek, Aslı Zengin, Michael Goldman, Yaşar Adnan Adanalı, Eda Beyazıt, Ulaş Bayraktar and Evren Balta are included in the selection. These twelve manifestos are visualized with illustrations by Başak Arslan, Dilara Akbal, Uğur Altun, Özgür Can Taşçı, Meltem Şahin, Vardal Canişi and Bilge Emir. The writings in *Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World* are also available as podcast episodes on MADpodcast.



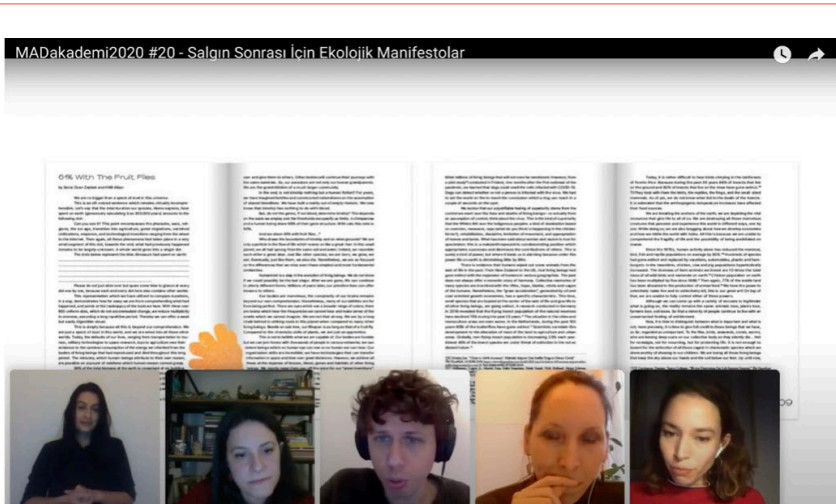
## Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World Launch

The first event of the MADacademy meetings held on January 30th discussed the writing, visualization, and design process of *Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World*, published by the association in 2020. This publication brings together ecological manifestos and accompanying illustrations

in an effort to shed light on the post-pandemic future.

Ceren Yartan and emre özfetiş from MAD moderated the event where Center for Spatial Justice's new publication *Ecological Manifestos for a Post-Pandemic World* was introduced. Hilâl Alkan and Sezai Ozan Zeybek, authors of the manifesto on the rights of animal/non-human beings, illustrator Meltem Şahin and Amir Jamshidi from Studio Pul, who designed the book, participated as speakers.

View from the event.

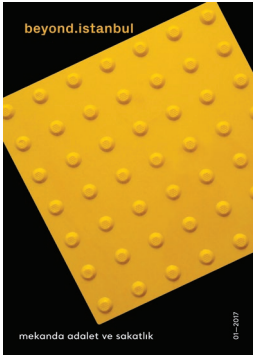




## beyond.istanbul

*beyond.istanbul*, which focuses on a different spatial justice problem in each issue and is part of the Association's advocacy activities, aims to create opportunities for dialogue with public institutions to develop policies on spatial justice. It deepens and diversifies

the concept of spatial justice as a theoretical framework and a social demand. In 2021, the 10th issue of the publication "Spatial Justice and Gender" and the 11th issue "Spatial Justice and Literature" were published. Free PDFs of *beyond.istanbul* issues are available on the Association's website.



## Spatial Justice and Gender

Prepared by the guest editors Zeynep Gülru Göker and Cenk Özbay, this issue focused on the manifestations of gender-based unequal relations in space. For the first time in this issue, articles were collected through an open call and Burak Taşdizen's article was selected and published in the magazine after the evaluation of the guest editors.

## Spatial Justice and Literature

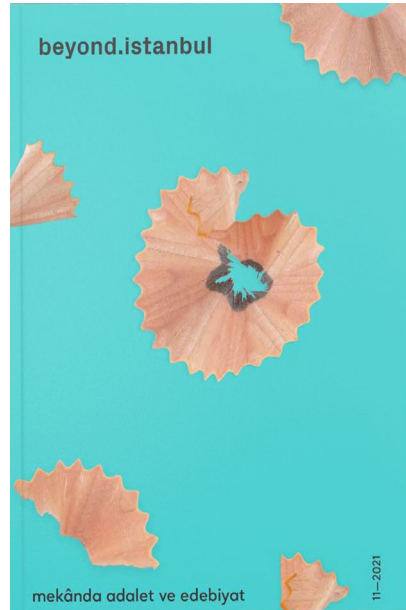
The 11th issue of MAD's periodical print publication

*beyond.istanbul*, titled "Spatial Justice and Literature", was prepared by the guest editor Pınar Öğünç.

This issue endeavors to look at different reflections of spatial justice in literature and to examine its close relationship with imagination. In this sense, it opens a new and unknown, yet exciting field within the practice of the Center for Spatial Justice, which locates space and the city at the center of social relations.

Alongside "Spatial Justice and Literature" issue, Pınar Öğünç's story book titled *Postcards from Non-Existent Cities (Olmayan Kent Kartpostalları)*, which consists of short stories collected from many valuable writers, was also released.

"Spatial Justice and Gender" issue.  
"Spatial Justice and Literature" issue.



## Postcards from Non-Existent Cities

*Postcards from Non-Existent Cities*, the first literary publication of the Center for Spatial Justice, was prepared by journalist and writer Pınar Ögünç. In the book,

twelve authors write about imagined urban landscapes. İlker Aksoy, Cihan Aktaş, Sevinçe Bayrak, Behçet Çelik, Jaklin Çelik, Süreyya Evren, Sibel Öz, Fatih Özgüven, Figen Şakacı, Engin Türkgeldi, Murat Uyurkulak and Irmak Zileli are featured with their stories written for this book.

Postcards from Non-Existent Cities cover



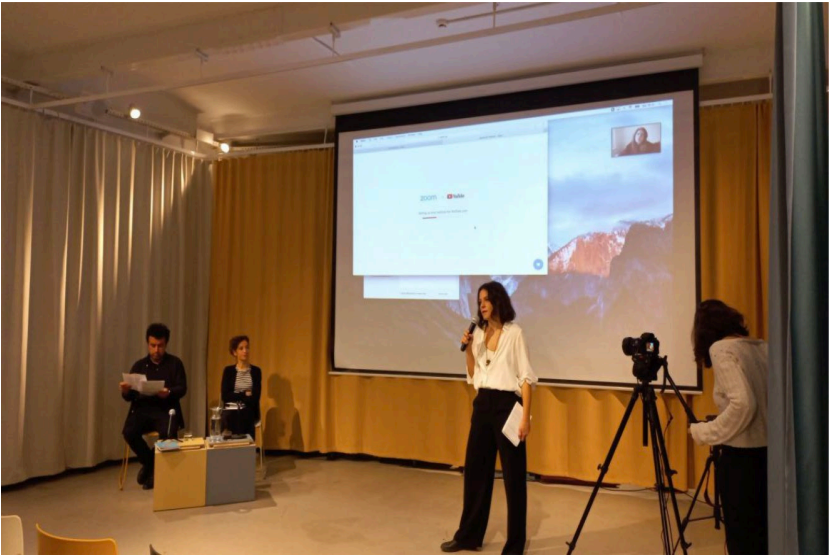
## beyond.istanbul "Spatial Justice and Literature

### Launch Event

On December 4, 2021, two publications of the Center for Spatial Justice, which are intended to accompany each other, were introduced at the event held at the Postane. Edited by journalist and writer Pınar Ögünç, the *beyond.istanbul's*

issue "Spatial Justice and Literature" and the story book *Postcards from Non-Existent Cities*, in which twelve writers write about present day urban landscapes, met with the readers. Ahmet Ergenç and Ayşe Çavdar participated as speakers in the event titled which was moderated by Pınar Ögünç at Postane with the participation of the contributing authors.

Photo: Bahar Bayhan.  
View from the event.



## border\_less

### ARTBOOK DAYS Booth

border\_less ARTBOOK DAYS, which aims to be a platform that brings together artists and initiatives working on texts with museums, galleries, institutions, and institutes, organized its third edition at Bilsart between May 7 and 9. We exhibited the publications, maps, and posters we produced at our booth.

Photo: Senamur Gölcük.  
View from the stand.





## MADVIDEONEWS

The Center is using the power of video to amplify the message of spatial justice and reach a broader audience. It aims to create public opinion by addressing the problems and concentrating on solution proposals. In 2021, video news productions continued with the Galataport video and the Faces of Beyoğlu.

### Galataport<sup>24</sup>

In a video on Galataport tourism complex, one of the most controversial mega projects of the 2000s, we looked into the problems of this structure in terms of public interest and the right to the city. The video has

been published on YouTube.

### Faces of Beyoğlu<sup>25</sup>

In 2020, we expanded the content related to the map "Beyoğlu, "I Will Survive", initially created in 2018 to document the spatial memory of Beyoğlu. Alongside regular Instagram posts capturing Beyoğlu's memory, we conducted interviews for the "Faces of Beyoğlu" series, consisting of ten videos. These interviews featured individuals who shared their personal histories and unique artisanal endeavors in Beyoğlu. We shared the video series on our Instagram IG TV and YouTube account.



<sup>24</sup>—Center for Spatial Justice (November 17, 2021). Galataport. [Video]. YouTube. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=IBx22Kq711w&feature=emb\\_title](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=IBx22Kq711w&feature=emb_title) (1570 views)

<sup>25</sup>—For videos of the series, see the YouTube channel of the Center for Spatial Justice.

### Building a Destruction<sup>26</sup>

The video we released on the day of the opening ceremony of the mega project Canal Istanbul, which was also shown as part of *Kente Doğru (Towards the City)*, one of the exhibitions of Müze Gazhane, addresses in a holistic manner the ecological and social problems that the project will cause through the outputs of the fieldwork we carried out in Küçükçekmece-Sazlıdere-Terkos

basins and expert opinions.

### Canal Istanbul EIA Report's Problems Series (6 videos)<sup>27</sup>

This short video series, in which we asked Prof. Doğanay Tolunay about the shortcomings and problems in various areas of the Canal Istanbul EIA Report, consisted of six videos and was published on MAD's YouTube channel in 2021.



<sup>26</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (June 26, 2021). The Construction of a Destruction. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-qz8a5Sctc&t=1s> (1426 views)

Center for Spatial Justice. (June 26, 2021). The Construction of a Destruction. [Video]. Instagram. <https://www.instagram.com/tv/CQIXWSNglT8/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=> (4134 views)

<sup>27</sup> MCenter for Spatial Justice. (March 5, 2021) Problems of Canal Istanbul EIA Report #1 [Video]. YouTube. [https://youtu.be/0HNI1e\\_6ero](https://youtu.be/0HNI1e_6ero) (787 views). For other videos in the series, see Center for Spatial Justice YouTube channel.

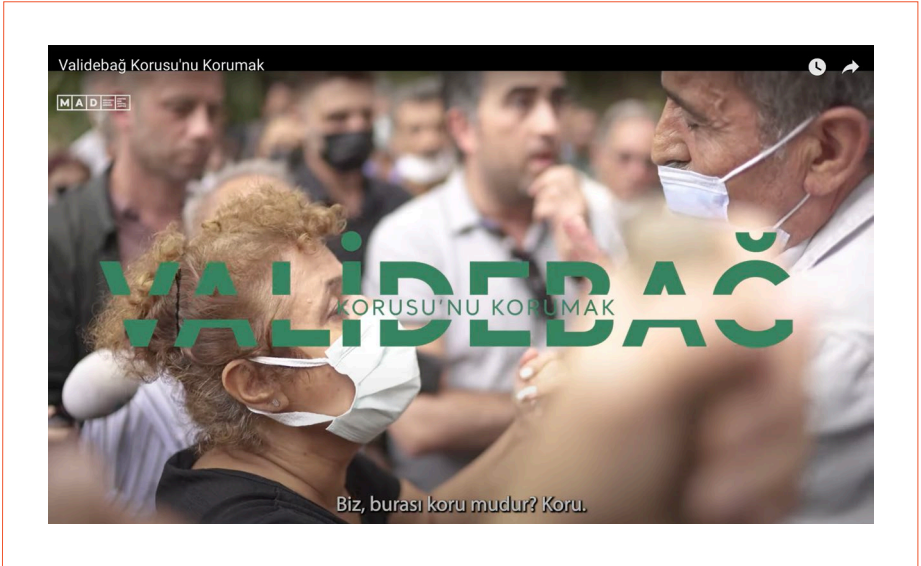
### Protecting the Validebağ Grove<sup>28</sup>

With the zoning plan prepared for the Validebağ Grove, which is the last remaining grove on the Anatolian side and first degree natural and historical site in Üsküdar district of Istanbul, the construction of a "Nation's Garden" (Millet Bahçesi) under the name of rehabilitation and regulation was brought to the agenda. Following the news, residents of the surrounding neighborhood and Validebağ Volunteers started a vigil in the grove. The video on the preservation struggle of the

Validebağ Volunteers, who resist the reconstruction of Validebağ Grove as a national garden, was published on our channel.

### Aliğa: Air, Water, Sea, Land<sup>29</sup>

The Aliğa Environment Platform's (ALÇEP) resistance against the dismantling of the asbestos-containing Sao Paulo ship at the Aliğa Ship Recycling Facility has garnered support. In the video, ALÇEP activists talk about the environmental conflicts caused by the industrial facilities concentrated in Aliğa, including asbestos ship dismantling.



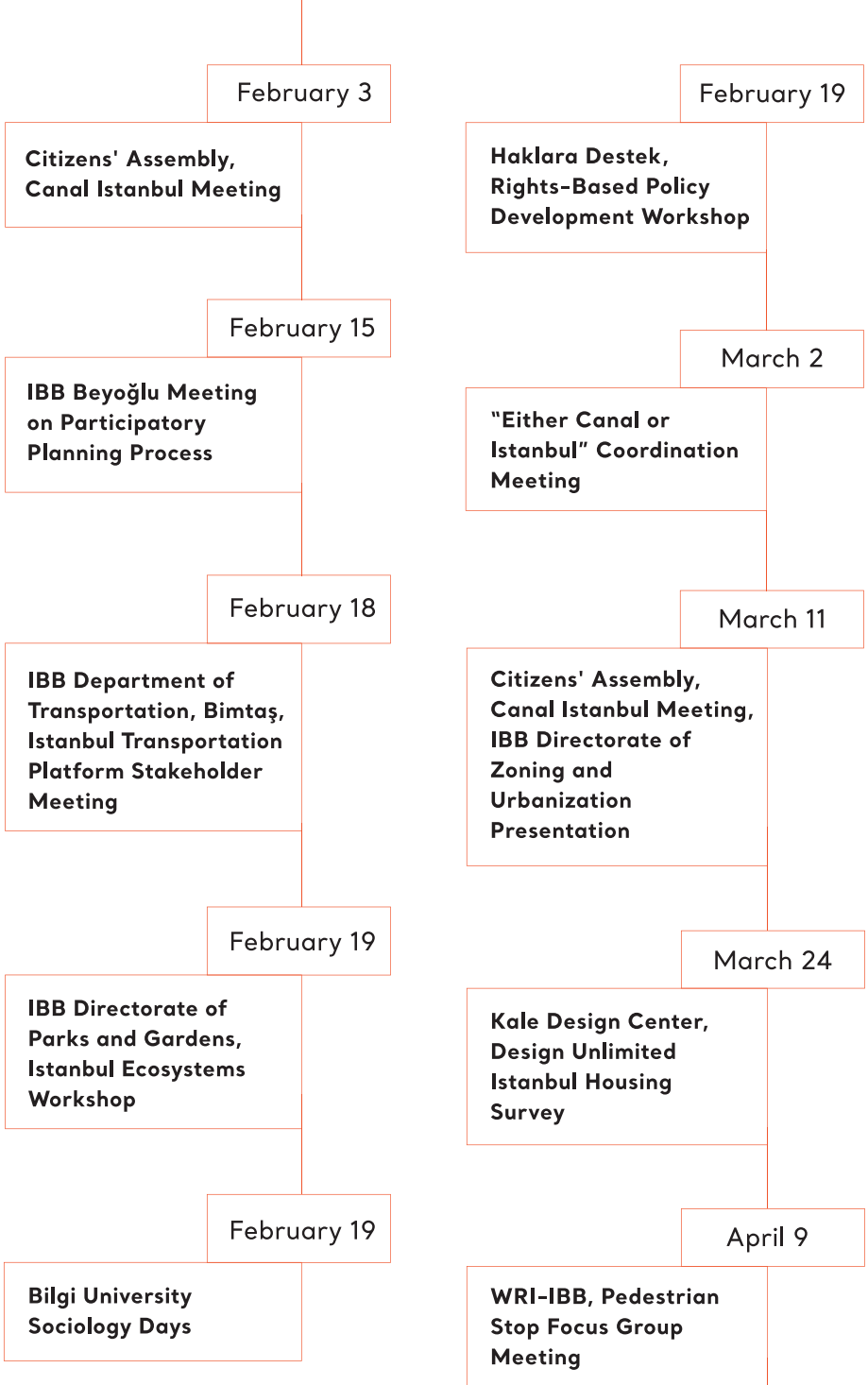
<sup>28</sup> Center for Spatial Justice (September 23, 2021) Protecting the Validebağ Grove. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSsJlBcOeBI&t=2s> (535 views)

Center for Spatial Justice (September 23, 2021) Protecting the Validebağ Grove. [Video]. Instagram. <https://www.instagram.com/tv/CQlXWSNgIT8/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=> (3732 views)

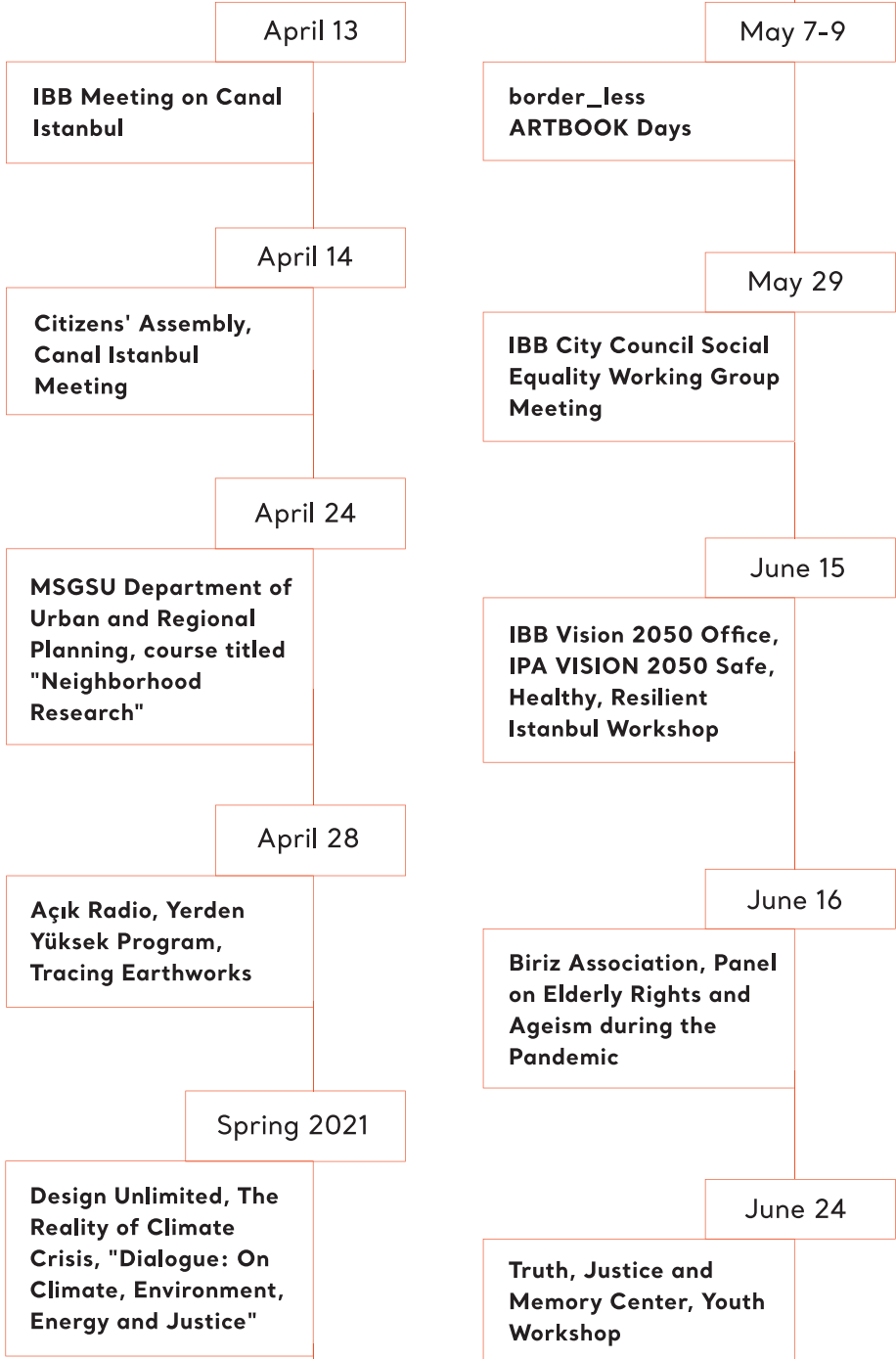
<sup>29</sup> Center for Spatial Justice. (June 11, 2021). ALİAĞA: Air, Water, Sea, Soil. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPAK0Y2a1do&t=14s> (1581 views)

# EVENTS

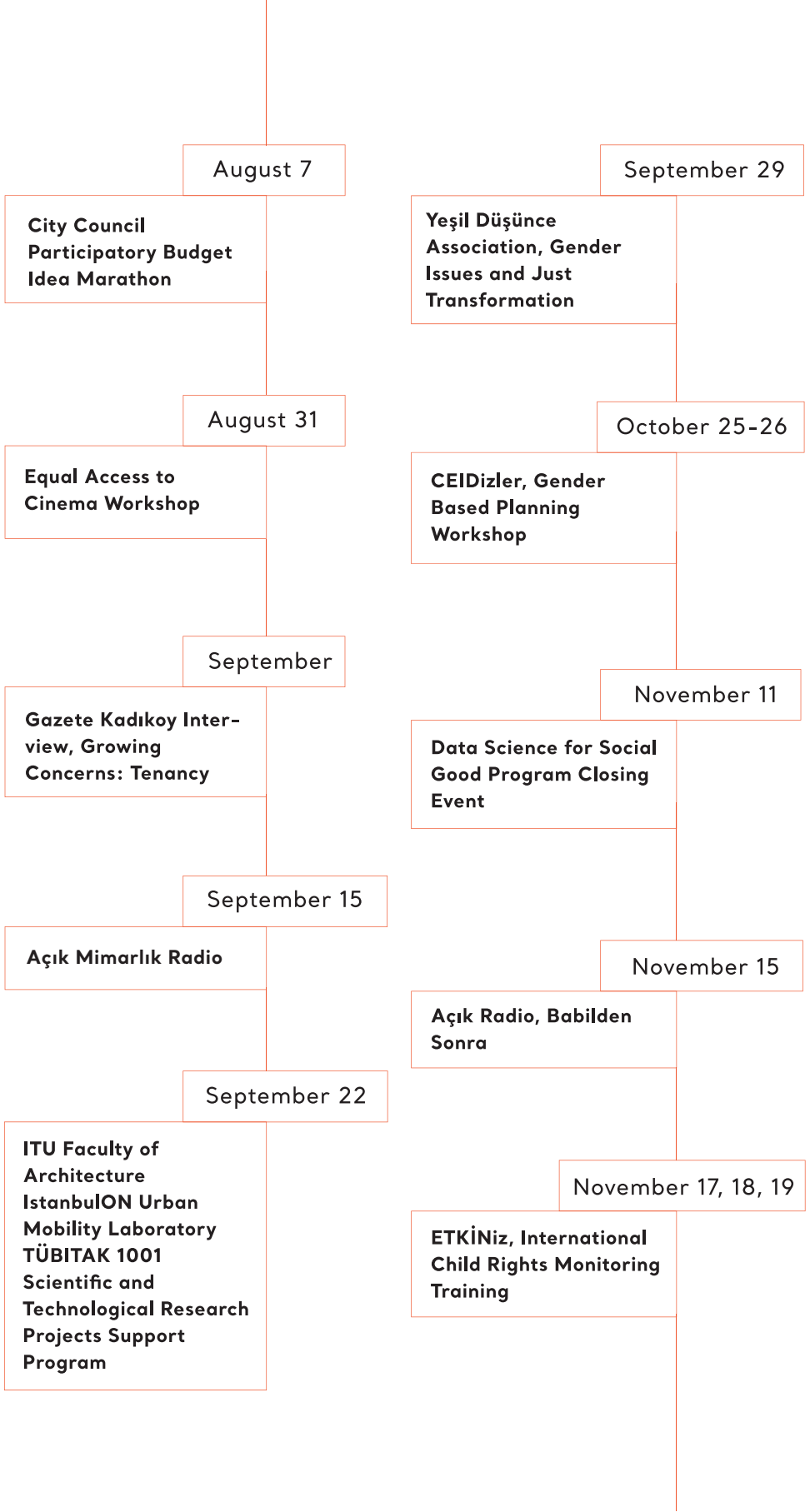
## WE PARTICIPATED



# IN 2021







November 18

**Yeşil Düşünce Association, Conference on Disasters and Risk Management in the Age of Climate and Ecological Crisis**

November 23

**Spatial Justice for Rights Advocacy**

November 25

**Istanbul Policy Center, Istanbul Perspectives Interview Series, "Yesterday, Today, Istanbul" Exhibition**

November 27

**Culture Meetings, Organizing for Impact**

December 4

**IBB Housing Summit, Workshop**

December 5

**Workshop with Sabancı University CIP students**

December 5,6

**IBB Housing Summit, Workshop**

December 15

**Human Rights of Elderly Persons Panel Organized by Şişli Municipality Equality Unit**

December 23

**Mehveş Evin, Kısa Dalga Podcast, DereTepe.org Launching Event**

December 22

**Açık Radio, Yerden Yüksek Program, Urban Agenda of the City**


# FINANCIAL

| <b>INCOME (TL)</b>            |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Revenue Total                 | 1,424,224.48        |
| Membership Dues               | 2,295.00            |
| Aid Received from<br>Abroad   | 679,759.43          |
| Total Donations<br>and Grants | 98,472.28           |
| Financial Income              | 595,799.36          |
| Other Income                  | 47,898.41           |
| Expense Surplus               | 1,111,481.86        |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>2,535,706.34</b> |

# STATEMENTS

| <b>EXPENSES (TL)</b>                    |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Expense Total                           | 2,535,706.34        |
| General Expenses                        | 137,925.05          |
| Personnel Expenses                      | 1,521,035.89        |
| Total Objective<br>and Service Expenses | 876,745.40          |
| Law and Human<br>Rights Total           | 876,745.40          |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>2,535,706.34</b> |
|   |                     |
|   |                     |

**[www.mekandaadalet.org](http://www.mekandaadalet.org)**

 Instagram: @mekandaadalet

 Twitter: @mekandaadalet

 YouTube: @MekandaAdalet





