

## CIRIEC-Turkey, activities 2022-2024

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In the last two years, we carried out several activities that are below briefly described.

### Events

Istanbul Gelisim University Economic Policy Research Center organized **Economists Week** on October 5-6, 2023. The opening speech was given by the President of CIRIEC-Turkey Prof. Kenan Aydın. He emphasized the importance of cooperatives as a component of the wider social and solidarity economy and highlighted that solidarity and collaboration models between local governments and cooperatives are evolving especially in residential, business, and agricultural development sectors. Prof. Aydın also stressed the positive effects of cooperatives on women's access to decent jobs.

Istanbul Gelisim University forming the Committee of CIRIEC-Turkey, held the **5<sup>th</sup> Social Economy Days Student Workshop** on January 4, 2024. Assoc. Prof. Gülgün Çiğdem, faculty member of the Department of Trade and Business at Istanbul Gelisim University who participated as speaker, explained the relationship between women's labor force participation and economic growth, highlighting that the fact that women, who make up half of the society, are not included in economic activities is an important disruption that affects social welfare by disrupting the growth and development of countries. She stressed that the participation of women in economic activities is very important for a sustainable increase in GDP and an increase in social welfare. However, in the process of reproduction of society according to certain norms, women's withdrawal from production causes a significant loss in economic terms. She emphasized that discrimination against women in the production process is an important problem that needs to be addressed, and one way to address it is to raise women's education levels. In addition to implementing policies to ensure gender equality, it is vital to create accessible employment opportunities by removing barriers.

In observance of International Women's Day on March 8<sup>th</sup>, the theme of the **6<sup>th</sup> Social Economy Days Student Workshop**, held on March 12, 2024 was "Women's Cooperatives in Türkiye". After the screening of the documentary "Borrowing from the Future: Cooperatives for Sustainable Communities", Assoc. Prof. Nilüfer Serinikli, faculty member of the Uzunköprü School of Applied Science at Trakya University, made a presentation on the situation of women's cooperatives in Türkiye. Produced by undergraduate students from Istanbul Gelisim University's Department of Radio, Television and Cinema, this documentary focuses on specific cooperatives in the Aegean region, particularly

those that prioritize women's employment and women's labor, and features interviews with cooperative workers who contribute to the regional and social economy through their manual labor. In her presentation, Assoc. Prof. Nilüfer Serinikli gave information about cooperatives and women's cooperatives operating in Turkey, and addressed the problems of women's cooperatives and suggestions to overcome these problems.

## **Publications**

**"The determinants of income distribution: the role of progress in human capital"**, *Quality and Quantity*, 57(5), 2023, pp. 4193-4227. Published by Assoc. Prof. Onur Özdemir, associate member of CIRIEC-Turkey.

**"Is Democracy Effective in Sustainable Development? Empirical Evidence from E7 Countries"**, *International Journal of Economics, Business and Politics*, 7 (2), 2023, pp. 341-351. Published by Assoc. Prof. Emrah Doğan, associate member of CIRIEC-Turkey and Başak Özarslan.