17. Istanbul Technical University

17.1. Legislation, Curricula, Policy, Stakeholder Analysis

Data collection is done by monitoring gender equality in the context of LGBTI+ rights in universities; thus, the Units, Commissions, Coordination Offices, Research and Implementation Centers, academic data management system (AVESIS), Regulations, Directives, and university mission and vision available at the Istanbul Technical University web site were examined thoroughly.

Indicators *for Discrimination Against LGBTI+ People in Universities*	*INDICATOR*		*SCORES*			*Findings*
			0	**1**	**2**	
	1.	**LGBTI+ Rights and Gender Equality in Academic Activities in Universities**				**5/10**
	1.1.	The number of compulsory courses on gender and in the context of LGBTI+ rights at all levels of education (associate, bachelor, master, PhD)	0			
	1.2.	The number of elective courses on gender and in the context of LGBTI+ rights at all levels of education (associate, bachelor, master, PhD)		1		2 elective courses having a keyword in the course title
	1.3.	Academic activities on gender equality in the context of LGBTI+ rights in universities			2	205 academic publications
	1.4.	Number of gender and women's studies departments in universities	0			
	1.5.	Number of gender and women's studies centers in universities			2	Center for Women Studies in Science, Engineering and Technology
	2.	**Campus Climate for LGBTI+ People**				**10/10**
	2.1.	Number of LGBTI+ solidarity/research clubs in universities			2	Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Studies Club (CinsArı)
	2.2.	The status of the LGBTI+ Community in universities (official/unofficial/in the process of officialisation)			2	Official club
	2.3.	The number of activities specific to LGBTI+ people in universities			2	65 events
	2.4.	Number of Pride Week/Month events on campuses			2	4 events
	2.5.	Number of March 8th (International Women's Day) events on campuses			2	14 events
	3.	**LGBTI+ phobic and gendered stereotypes in universities**				**3/6**
	3.1.	Number of campaigns and informative materials to promote gender awareness in the context of LGBTI+ rights		1		İTU Gender Equality Plan 2022

3.2.	Number of trainings and seminars on gender equality in the context of LGBTI+ rights tailored for and delivered to university members, especially the academic staff and the administrative board	0	
3.3	Number of declarations in accordance with gender equality in the context of LGBTI+ rights in the statements available on university websites	0	
3.4	Number of reports on gender equality to be examined in the context of LGBTI+ rights published by universities	2	İTU Gender Equality Plan 2022
SCORE:		**18/28**	

There is an available Women Studies Center in Science, Engineering and Technology (BMT-KAUM) in Istanbul Technical University. The Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Studies Club (CinsArı) is one of the official student clubs at İTÜ.

The Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Studies Club (CinsArı) and the İTÜ Women+ Solidarity Club organized a total of 83 events at the university.

There are 2 courses available on gender in the İstanbul Technical University curricula. Hence, 2 courses titled Gender Studies are identified to be LGBTI+ inclusive, in line with the curricula. Thus, 181 publications themed LGBTI+ inclusive gender equality are accessible via the Academic Data Management System (AVESIS), and 16 dissertations are accessible via YÖK THESIS center database through keyword scanning.

Istanbul Technical University has produced the İTÜ Gender Equality Action Plan [55]to analyze the current situation on gender equality and make improvements, respectively.

Access to LGBTI+ Rights in Universities Indicators	***INDICATOR***	***SCORES***			***Findings***
		0	**1**	**2**	
1.	**Gender Equality in the Context of LGBTI+ Rights in University Legislation, Directives and Policy Papers**				**8/12**
1.1.	Number of regulations and directives referring to / cite from CEDAW and Istanbul Convention	0			
1.2.	Number of references/citings to concepts such as “gender” and “sexual orientation”, “gender identity” in Legislation, Directives and Policy papers			2	Regulation for Women Studies Center in Science, Engineering and Technology, Directive on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination, ITU Gender Equality Plan 2022
1.3.	Number of regulations, directives and policies referring to the Sustainable Development Goals, 5th objective	0			

55 https://sustainability.itu.edu.tr/tr/surdurulebilirlik-ofisi/cinsiyet-esitligi-plani (Last Accessed on 04.07.2022)

1.4.	Number of regulations supporting gender equality	2	Regulation for Women Studies Center in Science, Engineering and Technology
1.5.	Number of anti-discrimination policies of universities on gender, gender identity and sexual orientation	2	Student Clubs and Student Activities Coordination Office Directive, Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Directive, İTÜ Gender Equality Plan 2022
1.6.	A clear and direct indication of means to Change one's Name Change on Diploma/ Graduation Certificates	2	Directive on the Issuance of Diplomas, Diploma Book, Certificates and Other Documents
2.	**Universities' activities and collaboration with NGOs to draw attention to TCE**		**1/4**
2.1.	Number of campaigns, joint work, activities, collaborations with NGOs as well as the number of diversity (diversity of institutions, diversity of partnerships) in the context of the TCE here	1	2 events / Interuniversity Communication Network Against Sexual Harassment and Assault, and New Solutions for Women's Human Rights Association, Purple Roof Women's Shelter Foundation
2.2.	Number of models designed and implemented with NGOs	0	
3.	**Institutionalization of the Fight against Violence and Harassment in Universities: CTS Units**		**5/10**
3.1.	Number of active CTS units in universities	2	Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Unit
3.2.	Clear and direct indication of the ways of applying to CTS units at universities	1	Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Directive
3.3	A university-website with information on CTS units available	1	
3.4	Available content in CTS units on referral, assisting access to justice, providing psychological support, etc.	0	
3.5	Number of trainings and/or seminars delivered on harassment and mobbing issues, etc.	1	IX. Cooperation and Communication Network Workshop Against Sexual Harassment and Assault (2016)
SCORE:		**14/26**	

Istanbul Technical University Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Unit does not have a website. [56] The document is available on BMT-KAUM's website, "CTS Archive" tab,

56 www.kaum.itu.edu.tr/

and contains the unit directive, including information on how to apply to the unit, definitions, and how the unit operates. The definition of ”harassment based on sexual orientation” is evidently presented in the unit directive.

Istanbul Technical University Directive on the Issuance of Diplomas, Diploma Book, Certificates and Other Documents states that the changes shall be delivered with inscribed date and description on the back of the diploma, in case the diploma is issued or submitted.

Although the university does not have any model under implementation with NGOs, the WeRIn – Woman Entrepreneurs in Regional Inclusive Ecosystems Project (2022), where İTÜ GİNOVA is a partner, aims to improve inclusiveness in the training and support programs to ensure the proportion of female graduates in the entrepreneurship ecosystem and involvement in regional ecosystems across Europe are raised.

17.2. LGBTI+ Rights Scale

A total of 58 Istanbul Technical University members participated in the study, including 52 students 3 academic staff and 3 graduates before 2016. 19 questions listed in the Access to LGBTI+ Rights Scale were posed to 58 participants, and findings derived from analysing participants' responses to 5 point (1-5) likert-type questions are provided below. The findings shown below are derived through translating participant response averages into 100 value system.

İstanbul Technical University Access to LGBTI+ Rights Scale Scores

1	LGBTI+ rights are freely advocated in the university.	48,28	Organization and Advocacy	49,75	TOTAL	49,38
2	LGBTI+ rights related activities are freely carried out in the university.	44,40				
3	LGBTI+ themed activities are freely conducted in the university.	41,38				
4	LGBTI+ students at the university can gather to advocate LGBTI+ rights.	57,33				
5	LGBTI+ people can get organized in the context of student clubs at the university.	67,67				
6	Pride Marches are organized freely at the university.	32,76				
7	LGBTI+ people express themselves freely in student clubs.	56,47				
8	Classrooms are safe for LGBTI+ people.	57,33	Safe Space	57,33		
9	Communal/shared spaces (i.e. cafeterias, canteens, libraries, study halls, laboratories, restaurants, sports facilities and other spheres of socialization) are safe for LGBTI+ people.	62,50				
10	Administrative buildings are safe for LGBTI+ people.	52,16				
11	The university administration has knowledge on LGBTI+ rights.	26,73	Perception and Attitude of The members of the University	28,95		
12	The administrative staff has knowledge on LGBTI+ rights.	28,02				
13	University security staff has knowledge on LGBTI+ rights.	20,69				
14	The university administration pursues gender equality when communicating with students.	36,21				
15	Administrative staff pursues gender equality when communicating with students.	35,35				
16	University security staff pursues gender equality when communicating with students.	26,73				
17	Students has knowledge on LGBTI+ rights.	59,48	Peer Behaviour	61,49		
18	Students pursue gender equality in inter-student communications.	61,64				
19	In friend circles, LGBTI+ issues are discussed in a positive atmosphere.	63,36				

As seen in the above table, the calculated scores of responses provided by İstanbul Technical University members to the questions in the Access to LGBTI+ Rights Scale are as such: 49.75 to the 7 questions under Organization and Advocacy sub-scale; 57.33 to the 3 questions under Safe Area sub-scale about the university being safe for LGBTI+ people; 28.95 to the 6 questions under the Perception and Attitude of University Members sub-scale about the opinions and behaviour of university members towards LGBTI+ people; and 61.49 to the 3 questions under the Peer Behavior sub-scale that measure the attitude of peers towards LGBTI+ students. The total score for İstanbul Technical University's responses to the scale is calculated to be 49.38.

17.3. Discrimination against LGBTI+ People Scale

İstanbul Technical University Discrimination against LGBTI+ People Scale Scores

1	LGBTI+ people are not subjected to verbal violence in the university.	50,75	Violence	59,50	TOTAL	55,00
2	LGBTI+ people are not subjected to physical violence in the university.	70,50				
3	LGBTI+ people are not subjected to psychological violence in the university.	49,00				
4	LGBTI+ people are not subjected to sexual harassment in the university.	68,00				
5	LGBTI+ people that are exposed to discrimination in the university can easily express it.	54,50	Academic Activities	60,50		
6	The lecturer (academician) pursues gender equality during classes.	56,00				
7	During classes, students pursue gender equality.	62,75				
8	The course contents are in line with gender equality.	56,25				
9	LGBTI+ people are not exposed to discrimination in the class.	63,25				
10	LGBTI+ people are not exposed to discrimination in extracurricular academic activities (seminars, workshops, studios, etc.).	62,75				
11	LGBTI+ people are treated equally when communicating with academic staff in the university.	60,75				
12	LGBTI+ people are treated equally when communicating with students in the university.	66,75				
13	LGBTI+ people are not subjected to discrimination in dormitories.	39,50	Accommodation	40,00		
14	LGBTI+ people are treated equally in the dormitories when communicating with the dormitory administration.	40,00				
15	LGBTI+ people are treated equally in the dormitories when communicating with the dormitory staff.	37.50				
16	LGBTI+ people are treated equally in the dormitories when communicating with fellow students living in dorms.	45.50				

As seen in the above table, the calculated scores of responses provided by İstanbul Technical University members to the 4 questions under the Discrimination Against LGBTI+ People Scale, Discrimination: Violence sub-scale is 59.50; to the 8 questions under Discrimination: Academic activities sub-scale, which shows being subjected to discrimination during academic activities is 60.50; and to the 4 questions under Discrimination: Accommodation sub-scale which shows students being subjected to discrimination in dormitories is 40.00. The total score for İstanbul Technical University's responses to the scale is calculated to be 55.00.