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**INTERNET MEDIA
CHILD RIGHTS
VIOLATION
MONITORING
REPORT FOR 2021**



INTERNET MEDIA CHILD RIGHTS VIOLATION MONITORING REPORT FOR 2021



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ABBREVIATIONS

UN (UN)	United Nations
ÇHS (CRC)	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
GİYAV	Migration and Humanitarian Aid Foundation



PREFACE

We used news stories to evaluate the state of the rights of the child guaranteed in the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child (ÇHS, the Convention) and other international and national standards that Turkey must comply with. Unfortunately, our findings show that children's rights did not improve in 2021. The reports we prepare every year based on the news reflected in the online media present a picture in which violations continue, and those responsible do not fulfil their obligations. Due to this picture, we call our reports on violations of children's rights "Dark Report".

The results of our 2021 monitoring data show that most violations can be prevented if child rights-oriented policies and mechanisms are established. However, despite this, we are faced with a situation where the relevant public authorities, including the legislature, do not take action. As the Migration and Humanitarian Relief Foundation (GİYAV), we aim to make violations visible with the annual reports we prepare, to create public pressure on those responsible for taking the necessary measures and preventing child rights abuses.

Within the scope of the monitoring study, we focused on determining whether the state has fulfilled its obligations regarding children's rights by analysing news reports on violations of the right to life, early forced marriages, child suicides, children who died in armed conflicts, and children who were sexually abused. Our report shows that all of us, especially the state, need to take urgent action to eliminate the darkness in which children live and protect our hopes for the future.

We say the state in particular because Turkey has not fully fulfilled its obligations under the ÇHS since 1995. Our report shows that Turkey has not provided the legal and administrative safeguards to protect the child. Likewise, Turkey has not established effective mechanisms and has not used the existing human rights redress mechanisms. It reveals that Turkey is reluctant to fulfil adequately the social, cultural and economic obligations guaranteed in the Convention.

However, it will be possible to minimise violations if it is accepted that children are independent individuals, rights holders with agency to exercise their rights themselves, and if all public policies and practices are planned on the axis of the principle of "The Best Interest of the Child". It will be easier to hope for a better country/world for children if relevant persons, institutions and organisations, especially children, are involved in all processes related to children's rights at every stage, and their opinions and suggestions are taken into consideration.

We would like to thank our dear Ülkü Doganay and Nejat Taştan for their support in this monitoring study, which we completed with the support of the Etkiniz EU Programme, and to our colleagues and managers who undertook the main burden in the preparation of the report.

Migration and Humanitarian Relief Foundation Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Turkey ratified the ÇHS in 1990 with reservations to Articles 17, 29 and 30, including the mother tongue rights of children from minority and indigenous groups. The Convention has been in force for Turkey since 1995. The Convention guarantees children's rights to life, development, protection, participation, and social and cultural rights, including freedom of expression and association, and imposes duties on States Parties to establish child-specific measures and safeguards.

As GİYAV, we have been trying to identify violations of rights by scanning news about children through online media since 2012. We report the data of our monitoring study in order to mobilise decision-makers and practitioners to eliminate violations and raise public awareness. According to our 2021 monitoring study data, children face inequality in access to rights and are exposed to violations.

As the Migration and Humanitarian Relief Foundation (GİYAV), we are here again with the "Internet Media Child Rights Violations Report 2021", which we have been publishing annually since 2012. Unfortunately, despite widespread violations of children's rights, the failure of those responsible for taking action was also seen in 2021. For this reason, as the Foundation, we call our reports "Dark Reports". We hope that 2022 will be a year in which those responsible take the necessary measures to prevent violations, and no child is subjected to rights violations.

The sole purpose of our monitoring and reporting work is to make violations of children's rights visible and to present the situation regarding children's rights based on data for advocacy and decision-makers. We know that every situation determination based on children's rights imposes responsibility on individuals, civil society organisations and the media, especially decision-makers and practitioners. As the Foundation, we will continue to defend children's rights in order to create a better country for children within the framework of this responsibility.

We aimed to create a reporting framework centred on the rights that children are most violated in Turkey. Accordingly, we designed our monitoring and reporting into two main sections. While the first section is devoted to monitoring the following six rights areas by making a selection among the rights included in the ÇHS, the second section is a separate examination of how online news platforms and newspapers report violations/violations in the news about these rights, whether they lead to new rights violations while reporting, and the language and visuals used in the news.

The categories of rights that make up the first part of the report and that we monitor;

1. The child's development, survival and right to life,
2. The right of the child to protection against sexual abuse and exploitation,
3. The right of the child to protection against torture, ill-treatment, violence and the death penalty,

1-In the report, it is briefly used as the right to life.

4. The right of the child to protection from hazardous work and exploitation,
5. The child's right to education,
6. We identified and analysed news reports on events and situations that could be considered violations of the right to personal security and the protection of physical and mental integrity.²

Based on the six categories of rights listed above, we conducted a screening study to identify violations of children's rights reflected in online news platforms and newspapers throughout 2021.

Our Findings on Violations of Rights

The qualitative content analysis we conducted on 715 news articles published on online news websites and platforms in 2021 on six categories of rights included in the monitoring study revealed that a total of 1325 violations of children's rights occurred in the incidents covered in these news articles. The distribution of violations of children's rights by months showed that there was no significant difference in the number of children whose rights were violated according to seasons or certain months of the year. (See Table 1).

Table 1: Monthly Distribution of Violations of Children's Rights

Month	Number of News	Number of Children Affected by Violation	%
JANUARY	35	127	9,58
FEBRUARY	41	97	7,32
MART	63	90	6,79
APRIL	60	82	6,19
MAY	62	108	8,15
JUNE	72	96	7,25
JULY	68	109	8,23
AUGUST	65	125	9,43
SEPTEMBER	55	90	6,79
OCTOBER	53	126	9,51
NOVEMBER	58	149	11,25
DECEMBER	83	126	9,51
TOTAL	715	1325	100,00

2- The right to security and integrity of the person is briefly used in the report.

The related news items did not include any information about the gender of approximately half of these children (47%). Of the children whose gender information was included in the news reports, 31% were boys, and 22% were girls.

Table 3: Age of the Child Subjected to Rights Violation

Age	Number of Children	%
0-2	67	5,06
3-6	197	14,87
7-14	366	27,62
15-18	182	13,74
Unknown	513	38,72
Total	1325	100,00

Violated Rights of Children³

	NUMBER OF NEWS	NUMBER OF NEWS%	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	NUMBER OF CHILDREN%
Right to life	378	51,57	517	37,30
Right to protection against sexual exploitation	92	12,55	166	11,98
Right to protection against torture, ill-treatment, violence and the death penalty	5	0,68	7	0,51
Right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation	24	3,27	167	12,05
Right to education	16	2,18	200	14,43
The right to protection of personal security and integrity	218	29,74	329	23,74
TOTAL	733	100	1386	100

3- It also includes situations where there is more than one violation of rights in the same news item.

Table 4 shows that in the news agenda of the online media on violations of children's rights, violations such as death, injury and sexual abuse, which attract the attention of the readers and allow for sensational and dramatised narration, are highlighted. Accordingly, more than half of the news items included in the scope of the review are related to violations of children's right to life. It was determined that 513 children were violated in these news items. In 30% of the news items, violation of the right to personal safety and integrity is the subject of the news items due to incidents such as children being injured, being subjected to violence, etc., as a result of violations. Violations of the right to protection of children against sexual exploitation constitute approximately 13% of the news items. On the other hand, violations of children's rights in areas such as the right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation and the right to education, which do not allow the presentation of sensational, dramatic content and images that will attract the attention of readers and cause them to stay on the page longer, but which we can easily follow from open sources that many children experience violations of rights, do not make it to the agenda of the media.

When we look at the perpetrators of the rights violations identified in the 715 news items included in the scope of the research, parents come to the fore predominantly. In 505 cases (36%) in which children's rights were violated, one of the perpetrators was the parents of the children. Again, in 380 cases (27%) where 380 children's rights were violated, public administrations and local governments were among the perpetrators. The rate of death or injury resulting from the negligence of vehicle drivers is also noteworthy among the violations. It was determined that the perpetrators of 15% of the violations of rights experienced by children were vehicle drivers. Our data show that violations against seven children were committed by security forces.

The analysis of 715 news items in which we identified violations of children's rights showed that 170 of the children whose rights were violated were refugees or migrants. Of the refugee or migrant children whose rights were violated, 25 were girls, and 35 were boys. No information on the gender of 109 children was found in the news reports. It was observed that more than half of the refugee or migrant children (89 children) whose rights were violated had their right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation violated. According to the data reflected in the news reports, the right to life of approximately one-quarter of refugee and migrant children who experienced rights violations in 2021 and the right to personal safety and integrity of 22% of them were violated. The media's interest in incidents resulting in the death

4- <https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/urfada-mahalle-arasinda-dolasan-zirhli-arac-5-yasindaki-cocugu-ezdi-haber-1539076>

<https://www.karar.com/guncel-haberler/yalovada-cocuga-polis-siddeti-dur-ihzarina-uymayan-isliselleri-20-dakika-1640115>

5- Poverty emerged from the house where 4 Syrian children died in Esenyurt. It was revealed that the family was using an electric stove because they could not pay the natural gas bill and the fire started because of this reason. <https://www.evrensel.net/haber/450147/4-multeci-cocuk-oldu-dogal-gazi-odeyemedikleri-icin-elektrikli-soba-kullanmislari>

In Mersin, 13-year-old Syrian child labourer U. K., who was caught in a citrus packing machine in which his scarf was caught, died. <https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/paketleme-makinesine-kapilan-13-yasindaki-cocuk-isci-oldu-haber-1542116>

and injury of refugee and migrant children stems from the fact that it focuses on news content that will attract the attention of the reader by dramatising rather than the violations of their rights. The news items in which we were able to identify violations of the rights of refugee children are mainly about death or injury due to poverty, fire, etc.

Table 7. Violated rights of refugee/migrant/asylum-seeker children

Violated Right	Number Of Children	%
Right to life	40	23,53
Right to protection against sexual exploitation	4	2,35
Right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation	89	52,35
Right to security and integrity of the person	37	21,76
TOTAL:	170	100

Regarding the monitoring and analyses of violations of children's rights through the news, which we have included in the second part of the report within the scope of our study;

- Since the media are mostly organisations acting on the axis of commercial purposes and structural relations, their social responsibility to make violations, especially in areas such as human rights, visible and not to create new violations of rights is secondary.
- One of the most common issues we have come across in the news items within the scope of the review is the inclusion of information that discloses the identity of the child in a way that allows the child who has experienced a violation of rights to be recognised, and that eliminates the right to be forgotten and the right to privacy.
- In news items on child sexual abuse, language, photographs, or disclosure of the child's identity once again lead to rights violations
- Behind the dramatic news narrative in the news, a news language that hides the abuse experienced by the child is used
- We have determined that a language that shows the child as responsible for the violation of rights that the child is exposed to is used.

Taking into account the findings of the monitoring study is recommended to take concrete steps in the following areas:

- It is necessary to ensure that all children benefit equally from the rights in the "UN, CRC"(BM, ÇHS) and to eliminate the conditions that cause discrimination. Various measures and effective mechanisms should be established for this purpose.

- The State should take the necessary legal, administrative, social and educational measures against all forms of abuse and ill-treatment.
- It is necessary to develop effective measures and policies to protect children with the basic principle that the employment of children is prohibited.
- State policies should be developed to prevent violations of rights, and programmes with child participation should be established based on their age and development.
- Prevention-based studies should be carried out in partnership with non-governmental organisations.
- News should be prepared with the perception and awareness of children's rights and childhood, taking into account the power of media organs and actors both at the political level and in creating and changing social perception.
- Unity between media organs and actors, and organisations working in the field of children's rights should be ensured.

INTRODUCTION

Turkey ratified the ÇHS in 1990 with reservations to Articles 17, 29 and 30, which include the mother tongue rights of children belonging to minority and indigenous groups. The Convention has been in force for Turkey since 1995. The Convention guarantees children's rights to life, development, protection, participation, and social and cultural rights, including freedom of expression and association, and imposes duties on States Parties to establish child-specific measures and safeguards.

As GİYAV, we have been trying to identify violations of rights by scanning news about children in the online media since 2012. We report the data of our monitoring study in order to mobilise decision-makers and practitioners to eliminate violations and raise public awareness. According to our 2021 monitoring study data, children face inequality in access to rights and are subjected to violations. Public authorities still do not have a perspective that recognises children as free and equal members of society. This perspective determines the language and approach used by politicians, media organisations, journalists and those with responsibilities for children in everyday life. As a result of this dominant approach, which is an important indicator of the perspective on children's human rights, children are not seen as subjects in any issue that concerns them. On the contrary, children are deprived of their right to participate in social life as equal and free individuals, to develop their potential and to participate in the decision-making processes to be taken about them due to this perspective that sees children as inadequate and weak and therefore leaves them to the protection and supervision of adults. This situation forms the basis of all kinds of abuse and neglect. We continue to face the need to change this perspective on the child, to recognise the child as an individual subject of rights, to make appropriate legal arrangements to ensure their participation in social life and decision-making processes, and to transform the existing ones into a more effective structure.

For this reason, as GİYAV, we will continue to monitor and report on the news reflected in the online media in order to make stronger data-based advocacy against violations of children's rights.

With this report, which we have prepared with the support of Etkiniz EU Programme for our work on Monitoring Compliance with International Human Rights Standards on Children's Rights, we share with you the data on rights violations against children that we have access to and our assessment of how the media handles these violations.

OBJECTIVE AND METHODOLOGY

The sole purpose of our monitoring and reporting work is to make violations of children's rights visible and to present the situation regarding children's rights based on data for advocacy and decision-makers. We know that every situation determination based on children's rights imposes responsibility on individuals, civil society organisations and the media, especially decision-makers and practitioners. As the Foundation, we will continue to defend children's rights in order to create a better country for children within the framework of this responsibility.

In our reporting work, we have taken the rights guaranteed in the ÇHS, which all children should benefit from without discrimination based on race, religion, colour, language, ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, political opinion, belief, sect, etc. as a basis.

However, as in every similar study, this study also has certain limitations. The first of these limitations is that the monitoring study does not reflect all situations related to children's rights since it was conducted through online media. We tried to verify the data we obtained from the news we could reach from different sources. However, we should underline that our report is limited to the violations we have collected through news platforms and newspapers on the internet due to the fact that on the one hand we do not have the necessary human resources and tools to verify our data in the field, and on the other hand, there is no up-to-date and rights-based statistical data that can be used for comparison. In other words, since the state does not collect rights-based data on children, our report was limited to the data "deemed newsworthy" by media professionals.

For this reason, based on the results of the monitoring studies we have conducted in previous years, we aimed to create a reporting framework centred on the rights that children are most violated in Turkey. And by making a selection among the rights included in the ÇHS, we conducted monitoring in the following six rights areas. These are;

- Child development, survival and the right to life,
- The right of the child to protection against sexual abuse and exploitation,
- The right of the child to protection against torture, ill-treatment, violence and the death penalty,
- The right of the child to protection from hazardous work and exploitation,
- The child's right to education,
- We have identified and analysed news on events and situations that may be considered as violations of the right to personal security and protection of physical and mental integrity.

6- The right to life is briefly used in the report.

Based on the six categories of rights listed above, we conducted a screening study to identify violations of children's rights reflected on online news platforms and newspapers throughout 2021. Simultaneously, we conducted a separate analysis on how online news platforms and newspapers reported on these rights, how they reported the violations, whether they led to new violations of rights and the language used in the news. This evaluation aimed to draw attention to the relationship between the news items that formed the basis for the data obtained through media scanning and the principle of the best interests of the child. In particular, based on the necessity of a rights-based perspective towards identifying the violation, labelling it as a problem and eliminating or compensating it, we think that whether a new violation of rights has been committed through the news should also be addressed as an important problem in news reports on violations of children's rights.

As it is also included in the Child-Oriented Journalism Handbook ; "Media that does not favour children, does not see them as individuals, objectifies them, irresponsibly disseminates their personal information without respecting their private lives, does not include their voices, discriminates against them, and portrays them only as weak beings in need of protection violates the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Turkey is a party. However, media centred on children's rights is possible."

The absence of a rights-based perspective in the news, the use of a language that exposes the identity of the child, targeting, accusing, protecting/hiding the perpetrator, showing the child as a poor victim, and the pornographicisation of the abuse or violence experienced by the child lead to new violations of rights, and therefore stand before us as a problem and task that should be addressed in a separate and more comprehensive study.

In this report, based on the results of our survey on violations of children's rights reflected in the media, we are content with presenting and discussing some data that can form the basis for a more comprehensive study that will problematise the media's handling of children's rights.

While conducting our monitoring work, we accepted individuals between the ages of 0-18 as children as regulated in the ÇHS. The violations subject to the report in this report are based on the data obtained as a result of the scanning we conducted on the mainstream and local media that publish news on the internet covering the period between 01.01.2021 and 31.12.2021. During the monitoring process, we aimed to identify all violations that children were subjected to and that were reflected in the online media. However, we would like to emphasise that we do not know whether we were able to reach all the violations reflected in newspapers and news platforms due to reasons such as access restrictions imposed on some news items or their removal from publication. On the other hand, considering that news platforms that publish online or newspapers that publish online content, due to reasons such as their access to news sources, employee policies and agenda priorities, cover the events in big cities such as Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir, where their headquarters are located, at a higher rate than those in local areas, it should be accepted that this scanning through news reports cannot reflect all

7- https://bianet.org/files/static/bia_kitaplar/Cocuk_Odakli_Habercliik_Elkitabi.pdf

violations of rights experienced by children in 2021. Again, the fact that there are differences in content between the printed and online versions of newspapers, as well as the fact that local newspapers published only in print are excluded from the scope of monitoring, shows that rights violations are by no means limited to the data in this report. Nevertheless, the main objective of this monitoring study was to reach as much violation data as possible and to conduct a rights-oriented monitoring.

We identified news on child rights violations through the websites of a total of 82 online news platforms and newspapers and the Google search engine, using predetermined keywords. The news scanning was carried out through the words “child; child bride; girl child; boy child; boy; boy; boy; girl; girl; baby; baby girl; baby boy; refugee child; Syrian girl; Syrian boy; Syrian baby; refugee girl; refugee boy; refugee boy; refugee baby; school; school-child; male student; female student; student without access to education; EBA; distance education; asylum-seeking child”. The monitoring process consisted of identifying all news items containing these words, preliminary reading of the news item, identifying news items about violations of the six rights we identified, coding and analysing the information contained in the news items.

While determining the news subject to the analysis, we tried to act on an event and case basis, as our main goal was to access as much data as possible on the violations of rights suffered by children in 2021. In cases where the same event was covered on more than one news site or platform, we chose the news that included the most details. When we could not find sufficient information in a news article or when we doubted the accuracy of the information, we tried to verify it by comparing it with news published on other websites about the same incident. Since we aimed to identify violations, we excluded news that, for example, addressed the problems experienced by children in a general framework and did not directly refer to a certain number of children.

The news stories identified within the scope of the research were analysed with the qualitative content analysis technique. In the process of analysing the news, as a result of the workshops we conducted with our expert colleagues, we created the “Identification-Coding Form for Violations of Children’s Rights” consisting of 18 questions. The first part of the questionnaire included introductory questions that would allow a general evaluation of the news we included in the research under headings such as the website where the news was published, the date of the news, the title of the news, the summary of the news. These questions were followed by questions aimed at determining the number of children subjected to the violation in the news item, the gender and nationality of the child, the place of the incident, and the perpetrator of the incident/violation. In addition, we tried to determine which rights of children were violated the most in 2021 and in relation to which issues with two main questions that allow multiple coding to determine which right(s) of the child was violated in the incident subject to the news

8- For the list of newspapers and news platforms where news on violations of children's rights were found to have been published as a result of the scan, please refer to the ANNEXES section of the Report.

9- For the coding form, see ANNEXES

and the subject of the news. With the answers given to these questions, we aimed to make comparisons between demographic data such as gender, age, nationality of children and the type of violation they experienced. For the news analysis, we analysed whether the way the news was reported, the language used in the news, the title of the news, the text of the news and the visuals used created a new violation for the child whose rights were violated. For this purpose, we developed questions to determine whether there was a violation of rights through the news and how the violation of rights was carried out through the news.

As a result of the preliminary evaluation, 715 news items that were decided to be included in the study were coded based on the disaggregated data. After the coding was completed, all data were reviewed by experts and GİYAV team and frequency and cross-analyses were performed using SPSS statistical software.

Thus, we reached 715 news reports on rights violations experienced by children in the six rights categories we identified. In these news reports, we determined that a total of 1325 children were subjected to rights violations.

GENERAL DATA ON VIOLATIONS OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

The qualitative content analysis we conducted on 715 news articles published on online news websites and platforms in 2021 on the six categories of rights included in the monitoring study revealed that a total of 1325 violations of children's rights occurred in the incidents covered in these news articles. The distribution of violations of children's rights by months showed that there was no significant difference in the number of children whose rights were violated according to seasons or certain months of the year (see Table 1).

Table 1: Monthly Distribution of Violations of Children's Rights

Month	Number of News	Number of Children Affected by Violation	%
JANUARY	35	127	9,58
FEBRUARY	41	97	7,32
MART	63	90	6,79
APRIL	60	82	6,19
MAY	62	108	8,15
JUNE	72	96	7,25
JULY	68	109	8,23
AUGUST	65	125	9,43
SEPTEMBER	55	90	6,79
OCTOBER	53	126	9,51
NOVEMBER	58	149	11,25
DECEMBER	83	126	9,51
TOTAL	715	1325	100,00

The available data did not show significant differences indicating that violations of rights may be more likely to be experienced in the months when schools open and close or in the seasons when children are used as labour force at home, in the workplace or in the field. However, it is possible to state that more children (40%) experience rights violations in October-February, when they are more likely to be in closed spaces such as homes and schools, than in the remaining months of the year. Especially in the cold winter months, there is an increase in injuries and deaths due to accidents caused by the use of unsafe heating devices in poor households. News on abuse, harassment and violence experienced by children in closed spaces were also more common in these months. In the summer months, as the weather started to warm up across the country, injuries and deaths occurred due to children entering into waters such as ponds, canals and dams where adequate safety precautions were not taken in order to cool off, endangering their safety. Similarly, incidents in which children are injured or killed by falling from balconies, terraces and windows due to negligence also increase in these months.

¹⁰

10- "The child who fell into the irrigation canal lost his life.", "Two of the 3 children who entered the pool used for fire extinguishing of the Forestry Directorate in Osmaniye drowned.", "Tragic incident in Trabzon! A visually impaired"

Graph 1: Distribution of Violations by Province



Table 2: Distribution of violations of children's rights in the news according to provinces (10 provinces with the highest number of violations)

City	Number of News	Number of children	% (Number of children)
ADANA	45	58	4,38
ANKARA	27	41	3,09
ANTALYA	31	44	3,32
DİYARBAKIR	25	45	3,40
ESKİŞEHİR	10	80	6,04
GAZİANTEP	32	51	3,85
İSTANBUL	115	278	20,98
İZMİR	32	60	4,53
MARDİN	9	59	4,45
ŞANLIURFA	25	47	3,55
TOTAL	351	763	57,58

According to our data (Table 2), approximately 21% (278) of the children whose rights have been violated live in Istanbul, while 58% (763) live in the ten provinces listed in the table. As mentioned above, the fact that the news centres of national media outlets are mostly located in Istanbul, or that the reporters and employees of the agencies from which these media outlets receive news are located in big cities such as Istanbul, Ankara, Izmir, Adana, Antalya, Antalya and Gaziantep, inevitably causes the events that take place in these centres to be reflected more in newspapers and news websites. In determining the news agenda of the internet media, events and issues that will attract the attention of more readers and keep them on the page longer are prioritised, which also leads to the fact that the events taking place in these provinces where the population is concentrated can more easily enter the news agenda. The table shows the top 10 provinces with the highest number of violations based on the provincial distribution of children who were found to have experienced rights violations. However, the table also includes the number of incidents that were the subject of news reports in these provinces with the highest number of violations of children's rights. Considering the number of news items, it is seen that approximately 29% of the news items cover violations in Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir. However, the fact that news items on cases of violations are more common in provinces with higher population densities does not mean that children do not experience fewer rights violations in provinces with lower population densities. Although the research also covers local media outlets, it is much more difficult to identify violations of rights in less densely populated provinces through media scanning due to many reasons, such as the fact that fewer news are published in these media outlets, which have fewer reporters and channels of access to news, the fact that some cases of abuse and violations are not reflected in the media at all due to local relations and networks, and the fact that local media in small provinces do not have the resources, technical equipment and human resources to publish their news on the internet.

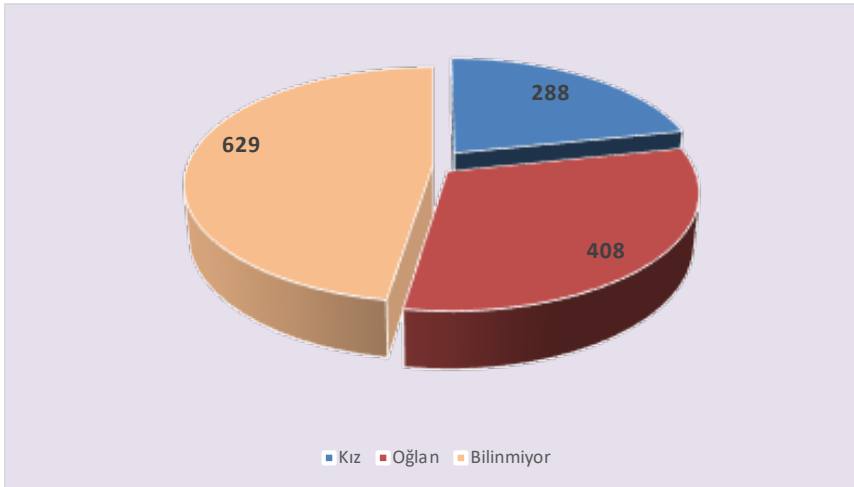
Despite all these limitations, which prevent us from making a generalisation on the distribution of rights violations by provinces based on the table, it is noteworthy that the highest number of violations of children's rights was detected in Adana (45 cases of rights violations and 58 children) after Istanbul. Our monitoring study has shown that violations of the right to life due to individual armament are intensified in Adana. On the other hand, although the number of news items in the table is relatively low, Eskişehir and Mardin were the provinces where the number of children whose rights were violated was high. In Mardin, 50 children's right to education and in Eskişehir, 30 children's right to education were violated in one news item each. Again in Eskişehir, there was a news report on the poisoning of 7 child labourers in the fields where they were employed.

11- year-old boy who fell from the terrace lost his life."

12- <https://www.milliyet.com.tr/galeri/okul-yolunda-olum-tehlikesi-her-sabah-3-kilometre-6650709/1>

13- <https://www.evrensel.net/haber/437699/tarim-ilaci-atigi-olan-bidondan-su-icen-7si-cocuk-13-tarim-iscisi-zehirlendi>

Graph 2: Gender of the children who were violated



(Yellow: Unknown, Red: Male, Blue: Female)

Based on the 715 news reports we obtained as a result of our scan on the internet media, we determined that a total of 1325 children experienced rights violations. In the relevant news reports, there was no information on the gender of approximately half of these children (47%). Of the children whose gender was mentioned in the news, 31% were boys and 22% were girls.

Table 3: Age of the Child Subjected to Rights Violation

Age	Number of Children	%
0-2	67	5,06
3-6	197	14,87
7-14	366	27,62
15-18	182	13,74
Unknown	513	38,72
Total	1325	100,00

14- It also includes situations where more than one right is violated in the same news item.

Again, in 39% of the news items included in the scope of the monitoring study, we did not come across any information on the age of the child subjected to the violation. The children whose ages were mentioned in the news items were predominantly (27.62%) in the 7-14 age group. It was determined that 14.87% of the children were between the ages of 3-6.

In the news reports, there is no information such as gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, belief and other grounds for discrimination about children whose rights are violated at a high rate. This situation not only reveals that the media does not see the child as a subject with rights, but also makes it difficult to analyse the violations and to determine whether there is a violation of the prohibition of discrimination in the incident.

Table 4: Violated Rights of Children¹⁴

Violated Right	Number of News	Number of News%	Number of Children	Number of Children%
Right to life	378	51,57	517	37,30
Right to protection against sexual exploitation	92	12,55	166	11,98
Right to protection against torture, ill-treatment, violence and the death penalty	5	0,68	7	0,51
Right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation	24	3,27	167	12,05
Right to education	16	2,18	200	14,43
The right to protection of personal security and integrity	218	29,74	329	23,74
TOTAL	733	100	1386	100

Table 4 shows that in the news agenda of the online media on violations of children's rights, violations such as death, injury and sexual abuse, which attract the attention of the readers and allow for sensational and dramatised narration, are highlighted. Accordingly, more than half of the news items included in the scope of the review are related to violations of children's right to life. It was determined that 513 children were violated in these news items. In 30% of the news items, violation of the right to personal safety and integrity is the subject of the news items due to incidents such as children being injured, being subjected to violence as a result of rights violations. Violations of the right to protection of children against sexual exploitation constitute approximately 13% of the news items. On the other hand, violations of children's rights in areas such as the right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation and the right to education, which do not allow the presentation of sensational, dramatic content and images

¹⁴ It also includes cases where there is more than one perpetrator in the same incident.

that will attract the attention of readers and cause them to stay on the page longer, but which we can easily follow from open sources that many children experience violations of rights, do not make it to the agenda of the media. In the one-year period under review, only 24 (3%) news items on violations of children's right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation and only 16 (2%) news items on violations of the right to education were published on 82 online platforms and newspapers.

Table 5: Number of Children / Perpetrator of Rights Violation¹⁵

Person	Number of Children	%
Peer/Child	78	5,60
Parent	505	36,25
Parent's Relative	73	5,24
Law enforcement	7	0,50
Public Administrations and Local Governments	380	27,28
Public Personnel	9	0,65
Teacher and school administrator	55	3,95
Chaplain	14	1,01
Vehicle drivers	212	15,22
No Perpetrator Information in the News	20	1,44
Perpetrator Unidentified	36	2,58
Other	4	0,29
Total	1393	100

When we look at the perpetrators of the rights violations identified in the 715 news items included in the scope of the research, parents come to the fore predominantly. In 505 cases (36%) in which children's rights were violated, one of the perpetrators was the parents of the children. Again, in 380 (27%) cases of violation of the rights of 380 children, public administrations and local governments are among the perpetrators. The rate of death or injury resulting from the negligence of vehicle drivers is also noteworthy among the violations. It was determined that the perpetrators of 15% of the violations of rights experienced by children were vehicle drivers. Our data show that violations against seven children were committed by security forces.

16- <https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/urfada-mahalle-arasinda-dolasan-zirhli-arac-5-yasindaki-cocugu-ezdi-haber-1539076>

<https://www.karar.com/guncel-haberler/yalovada-cocuga-polis-siddeti-dur-ihtarina-uymayan-lisellileri-20-dakika-1640115>

17- <https://beyazgazete.com/haber/2021/2/27/insaatin-9-uncu-katindan-dusen-isci-hayatini-kaybetti-5983442.html>

18- <https://www.internethaber.com/mersinde-korkunc-olay-15-yasindaki-cocuk-kanlar-icinde-kaldi-2164023h.html>

19- Multiple placements were made for the news with more than one right feature in the same news.

As can be seen in Table 5, in 36 news items where 36 children were subjected to a violation, no clear information on the identity of the perpetrator or who was responsible for the violation could be identified. In 20 news items on violations against children, there was no information on the identity of the perpetrator. This situation is related to the lack of a rights-oriented perspective in journalistic practices that emphasise the event and its sensational and dramatic elements in the news narrative. Within the conventional news narrative, it is difficult to find traces of a journalistic approach that focuses on the background of the incident, the detection of the violation of rights, revealing the causes of the violation, exposing those responsible for the violation of rights and remedying the violation.

Within the conventional news narrative, it is difficult to find traces of a journalistic approach towards the background of the incident, determination of the violation of rights, revealing the causes of the violation, exposing those responsible for the violation of rights and remedying the violation. The absence of information on the perpetrator of the violation in the news items included in the scope of the analysis is related to the fact that the media is far from adopting a rights-oriented approach when reporting events related to children.

Table 6: Distribution of News According to Type of Violation and Perpetrator of the Incident¹⁹

Right	Peer/ Child	Parent	Parent, person in a relationship	Security/ law enforcement	State and local authorities	Teacher and school administrators	Vehicle Drivers	Civil servants	Other	No Perpetrator Information	TOT.
Right to life	29	221	26	2	65	2	60	5	37	13	459
Right to protection against sexual exploitation	4	27	27	2	6	10	-	1	42	-	119
Right to protection against torture, ill-treatment, violence and the death penalty	1	1	-	4	-	2	-	-	-		8
Right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation	-	21	1	2	4	-	3	7	6		44
Right to Education	-	2	1	-	10	8	-	1	-		22
The right to protection of personal safety and integrity	23	100	12	4	21	12	25	3	47		247
TOTAL	57	372	67	14	106	34	88	17	132	13	900

The analysis carried out on 715 news stories shows that at least one of the perpetrators or those responsible for the violation is the child's parents in nearly half (48%) of the news about violations of the right to life. In 179 of these news stories, it was learned that 202 children lost their lives as a result of the negligence of the parents. The violation of rights suffered

19- Multiple placements were made for the news with more than one right feature in the same news.

by six children who died as a result of murder and seven children who committed suicide was also associated with the parents. Similarly, parents are confronted as the perpetrator or responsible for negligence in events that lead to violations of the children's right to safety and bodily integrity. It has been determined that the responsible person for this violation is the parent in 40% of the incidents resulting in injury or damage to children.

Public authorities and local governments have direct or negligent responsibility in 65 news reports regarding the violation of the child's right to life and 21 incidents that are considered as violations of the child's right to safety and bodily integrity. In 12 cases, it was determined that teachers and school administrators were responsible.

In the news items on the violation of the right to protection of the child against sexual exploitation, the perpetrators are the parents and the persons with whom the parents are in a relationship. In approximately half of the news items on the violation of this right (54 news items), it was reported that the child was sexually abused, exploited or raped by their parents or persons related to the parents (relatives, partners, etc.). The number of children who were sexually abused by their parents or persons related to them is 91 and the number of children raped is 68. In addition, in 10 news items, a total of 18 children's right to protection against sexual exploitation was violated by teachers and school administrators. In 6 news items, it was determined that public authorities violated the right to protection against child sexual exploitation. In 4 news items coded under the category of other in Table 6, it was found that one child was sexually harassed and 12 children were raped by the staff in boarding Quran courses or centres affiliated with religious orders.

In 7 news items in which children's rights were violated by law enforcement officers, it was observed that more than one right of children was violated. Accordingly, security and security forces violated two children's right to life, four children's right to security and bodily integrity, and six children's right to protection from torture and ill-treatment. In addition, security forces are responsible for the negligence of 2 children in the violation of their right to protection against sexual exploitation.

20- <https://www.internethaber.com/sirnakta-bulduklari-cisim-patlaman-2-cocuk-hayatini-kaybetti-2171799h.html>

21- <https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/zirhli-aracin-oldurdugu-mihrac-miroglunun-babasi-bizi-kimse-duymuyor-haber-1533808>

ASSESSMENT OF VIOLATIONS

A total of 386 children, 122 of whom were girls and 260 of whom were boys, lost their lives, and 109 children were injured in the incidents covered in 331 news items that we evaluated as violations of the right to life. According to our data, 60 of the 386 children lost their lives in homicides, 15 in suicides and 12 in accidents involving children in labour. On the other hand, 299 children lost their lives in preventable accidents in homes, neighbourhoods, playgrounds and traffic areas where adequate safety precautions for children are not taken, or adequate inspections are not carried out.

The fact that almost every day, a child dies and 109 children are injured in preventable incidents with necessary precautions is a picture that needs to be considered. Although parents and vehicle drivers appear as perpetrators in the news reports, the responsibilities of public authorities, including local governments and employers who exploit child labour, should not be ignored.

Moreover, it is evident from the news reports that public authorities are directly responsible for some of the violations of the right to life. For example, according to the news dated March 21, 2 children lost their lives in Şırnak as a result of the explosion of an object they found in a rural area. However, according to the Ottawa Convention, it is the obligation of states to clear explosives and mines left over from the conflict and to mark risky areas.

According to a news report dated September 4, Mihraç Miroğlu died in an incident in İdil district of Şırnak due to being hit by an armoured vehicle. Despite the reports prepared by the Human Rights Association and the Diyarbakır Bar Association on the use of armoured vehicles in urban areas, no steps have been taken to stop the deaths caused by armoured vehicles.

International conventions such as the ÇHS, the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention), the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities guarantee the protection of children against all forms of sexual exploitation, and stipulate that states must take the necessary legal, administrative, social and educational measures against all forms of abuse and ill-treatment. The data we were able to access within the scope of this study emphasise that there is still inadequacy in preventive, protective and criminal law in combating all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children, and the lack of comprehensive, effective and accessible mechanisms in these areas.

We would like to remind you that these data, which we can only access through media monitoring, are much lower than the actual data. However, these data alone are enough to remind the state of its responsibility regarding the measures it should take against these violations and offences. The importance of effective intervention mechanisms, information, awareness and

22- <https://www.sozcu.com.tr/2021/gundem/igrenc-olay-tutuklananlardan-birisi-oz-halasi-cikti-6456276/>

23- <https://www.karar.com/guncel-haberler/yalovada-cocuga-polis-siddeti-dur-ihitarina-uymayan-liselileri-20-dakika-1640115>

consciousness raising activities both for the general public and especially for children is clearly seen. The need for effective sanctions and legal regulations against these violations and practices such as good behaviour discounts and impunity for perpetrators continue to maintain their importance in the fight against child sexual abuse and exploitation. Again, the development of state policies to prevent violations of rights, the creation of child-participatory programmes based on their age and development reveals the necessity of carrying out all these precautionary and prevention-based activities in partnership with non-governmental organisations.

Based on the news reports we analysed within the scope of the monitoring study, we determined that 165 children's right to protection against sexual exploitation was violated in 91 news reports in 2021. 77 of these children were girls and 31 were boys. In 57 cases of sexual exploitation and abuse reported in the news, we could not find any information on the gender of the child. In 43 news reports where 74 children were violated, at least one of the perpetrators was a parent or a person related to the parent

On May 28 2021, it is learned from the news coverage of May 28, 2021 that, two girls aged 15 and 16 who were under state protection in Sevgi Evleri were forced to prostitution by 4 people including their aunt. According to the news reports, one of the children ran away from Sevgi Evleri 6 months ago and the other one ran away from Sevgi Evleri 3 months ago. The news report did not include any information about the fact that the children were found only 3-6 months after the escape despite the fact that they were under state protection. However, it is the fundamental responsibility of the state to carry out an effective search in cases of disappearance of children.

All international regulations to which Turkey is a party, especially the ÇHS, the Constitution and national legislation prohibit torture, violence, ill-treatment and acts and discourses against human dignity against children. While the principles and standards developed within the juvenile justice system emphasise the obligations of states, international conventions and regulations remind the principle of the best interests of the child. It is clear that cases of violence against children can develop within the family, in closed environments such as prisons, care centres, schools and health centres.

It is an obligation imposed on the state to establish mechanisms that include all kinds of preventive and protective measures and measures related to the safety of children, and to create a system that will operate effective sanction processes against violations of rights such as violence and ill-treatment against children.

24- <https://www.birgun.net/haber/bekcilerin-darp-ettigi-genclere-su-bile-vermemisler-345795>

25- https://tihv.org.tr/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Verilerle_2021_Yilinda_insan_Haklari_ithalleri.pdf

26- Turkish Statistical Institute

27- TÜİK news link: <https://data.tuik.gov.tr/Bulten/Index?p=Child-Labour-Force-Survey-2019-33807>

Within the scope of the monitoring study we conducted on online news websites and newspapers, we were able to come across 7 news on the violation of the child's right to protection from torture, ill-treatment and violence in the online media in 2021. Based on these news stories, it was determined that 21 children were subjected to violation of rights. It was reflected in the news that 5 of the children were boys and 2 of them were girls. When the news items were analysed, it was seen that the perpetrators of the violations were police or watchmen.

For example, according to a news report published in the media on November 20, 3 students in Yalova stated that they were beaten by the police for 20 minutes for disobeying a stop warning, that they were prevented from getting a report on the beatings and that they were warned not to file a complaint against the police.

In another news report on May 24, there was information that two people, one of whom was a child, were beaten by the police and guards and that they were not even given water in the police station where they were taken. The camera footage of this living incident was also reflected in the media.

The Human Rights Foundation of Turkey's Documentation Centre reported that, according to data from the first 11 months of 2021, at least 28 of those who were subjected to torture and ill-treatment as a result of the intervention of law enforcement officers in peaceful protests and events held within the scope of freedom of assembly and demonstration were children.

The importance of a holistic and comprehensive approach to children's rights necessitates a very broad approach specific to childhood. In such a way that a violation of one area of rights (with its negative and positive aspects) violates more than one area of rights and freedoms of the child.

States are under the obligation to take the necessary measures against the economic exploitation of children, not to employ them in hazardous work, and not to employ them in a way that harms their education, health, physical, mental, spiritual and social development, both at the legal level and in administrative and social terms, and to take educational and awareness-raising mechanisms.

The state, which is responsible for protecting the child against all forms of neglect and abuse, should establish effective measures and policies to protect the child with the basic principle that the employment of children is prohibited.

According to Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK) data, there are 720 thousand child labourers in Turkey, 70.6% of whom are boys and 29.4% girls. However, the real extent of child labour in Turkey is concealed in official data. The statistics on which the decrease in child labour is based are missing the main bodies of child labour, including migrant children and 1.5 million apprentices, trainees and vocational training students. On the other hand, child labour force surveys are conducted seasonally in Turkey in October and December, when child labour is at its lowest, which conceals the true extent of child labour. When these factors are taken into consideration, it is seen that there are at least 2 million child labourers in Turkey today.

Within the scope of the monitoring study, it was determined that 167 children's right to

protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation was violated based on the news reports in the online media in 2021. There is information on the gender of 151 of these children in the news reports. It was found out that 3 of the children were girls and 13 of them were boys. 89 of 167 violated children are asylum seekers or migrants. 12 working children lost their lives while working at workplaces or on the streets. 9 of the children were boys and 1 was a girl and the gender of 1 child was not included in the news report. 3 boys were injured in these incidents.

According to the news reports, parents and the people with whom parents have a relationship appear as perpetrators in the employment of 105 children. This situation can be evaluated as an increase in the tendency of parents to employ their children due to the fact that the state does not provide adequate and regular family support despite the spread of poverty as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic and the economic crisis.

Another issue that attracted our attention in our monitoring study is that we did not come across any news other than begging on the issue of asylum-seeker/migrant children working in dangerous jobs. One of the realities in Turkey is that refugee children are employed unregistered, under the stairs in very heavy and dangerous jobs. It is known that asylum-seeker/migrant children are exploited economically in construction, textile, recycling, agriculture, industry, market places and many other sectors. Although the perpetrators of the violations are identified as parents, caregivers and employers, the inadequacy of the laws, the inadequacy of the control and complaint mechanisms regarding the violations experienced by the laboured children is the main cause of child labour exploitation.

28- Poverty emerged from the house where 4 Syrian children died in Esenyurt. It was revealed that the family was using an electric stove because they could not pay the natural gas bill and the fire started because of this reason

In Mersin, 13-year-old Syrian child labourer U. K., who was caught in a citrus packing machine in which his scarf was caught, died. <https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/paketleme-makinesine-kapilan-13-yasindaki-cocuk-isci-oldu-haber-1542116>

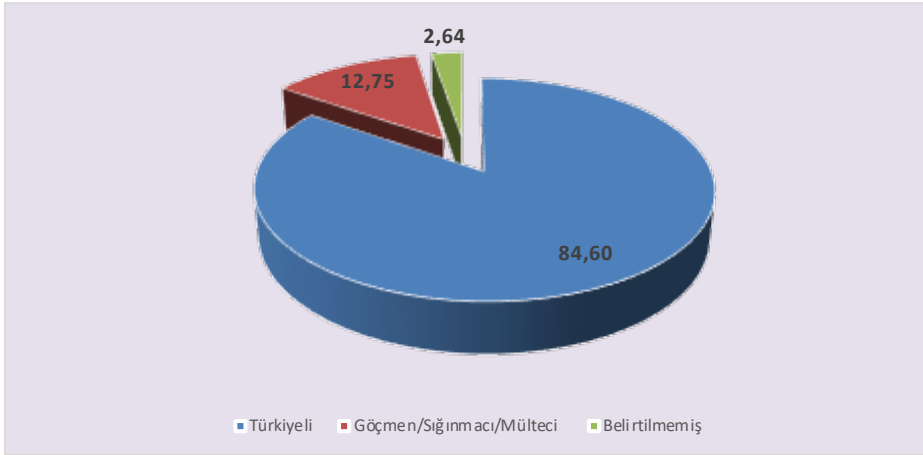
29- <https://t24.com.tr/haber/meb-raporu-suriyeli-cocuklarin-yuzde-35-i-okula-gidemiyor,1024611>

30- https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---europe/---ro-geneva/---ilo-ankara/documents/publication/wcms_739463.pdf

31- "An operation was carried out against begging Syrian children in Istanbul: 21 children rescued" <https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/istanbulda-suriyeli-cocuklari-dilendirenlere-operasyon-yapildi-21-cocuk-kurtarildi-41725411#:~:text=Ard%C4%B1ndan%20belirlenen%20Ba%C4%9Fc%C4%B1lar'daki%20iki,uyruklu%202%20ki%C5%9Fi%20g%C3%B6zalt%C4%B1na%20al%C4%B1nd%C4%B1>

INVISIBILITY OF ASYLUM SEEKER / REFUGEE / MIGRANT CHILDREN IN RIGHTS VIOLATION NEWS

Graph 3: Nationality/status of children subjected to rights violations



The analysis of 715 news items in which we identified violations of children's rights showed that 170 of the children whose rights were violated were refugees or migrants. Of the refugee or migrant children whose rights were violated, 25 were girls and 35 were boys. No information on the gender of 109 children was found in the news reports. It was observed that more than half of the refugee or migrant children (89 children) whose rights were violated had their right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation violated. According to the data reflected in the news reports, the right to life of approximately one quarter of refugee and

32- Umay Aktaş Salman, Child Focused Journalism Handbook, İPS Communication Foundation, Istanbul, 2019 <https://hrantdink.org/attachments/article/1542/Turkiye-yazli-basininda-cocuklarin-temsili.pdf> Ezgi Koman and Şeyma Özkan, Representation of Children in the Turkish Print Media, Hrant Dink Foundation, Istanbul, 2018

33- Article 17 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which explains the role of the media in disseminating information that promotes the welfare of the child in the broadest sense and imposes important duties on States Parties; Article 12 of the Convention, which regulates the right of children to express their views on matters concerning them; Article 13, which regulates freedom of expression; and Article 16 of the Convention, which includes the right of the child to protection against interference with or attack on private life, family life or communication, honour and reputation. Article 16 of the Convention, which includes the child's right to protection against interference with or attack on private life, family life or correspondence, honour and reputation, is instructive in terms of understanding why it is unacceptable for the media to act with commercial concerns in news about children and the necessity to develop a rights-based perspective in news about children. https://www.unicef.org/turkiye/media/2626/file/TURmedia_%20Cocuk%20Haklari%20ve%20Gazetecilik.pdf

migrant children who experienced rights violations in 2021 and the right to personal safety and integrity of 22% of them were violated. The media's interest in incidents resulting in the death and injury of refugee and migrant children stems from the fact that they focus on news content that will attract the attention of the reader by dramatising them rather than the violations of their rights. The news items in which we were able to identify violations of rights of refugee children are mainly about death or injury due to poverty, fire, etc.

Table 7. Violated rights of refugee/migrant/asylum-seeker children

Violated Right	Number of Children	%
Right to life	40	23,53
Right to protection against sexual exploitation	4	2,35
Right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation	89	52,35
Right to security and integrity of person	37	21,76
TOTAL	170	100

As can be seen in the table, no data on violations of the right to education experienced by refugee, migrant or asylum-seeking children could be found in 715 news articles published in the online media in 2021. According to the 2021 data of the Migration Management Administration, there are 1,365,884 foreign children living in Turkey, and according to the report prepared by the Ministry of National Education, 35% of 1 million 124 thousand Syrian children of educational age cannot access the right to education.

On the other hand, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO) 2020 data, there are 127,140 Syrian working children in Turkey. In 82 online platforms and newspapers analysed in 2021, 6 news items were found in which we were able to identify violations of refugee/migrant children's right to protection from dangerous work and economic exploitation. Based on these news reports, a total of 89 refugee children's right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation was violated.

Although the number of refugee and migrant children whose right to education is violated, who are subjected to economic exploitation and forced to work as child labourers is so high according to official figures, the fact that the rights violations experienced by these children occupy a very limited place on the agenda of the media causes the violation to be rendered invisible and the discrimination experienced by children to increase exponentially.

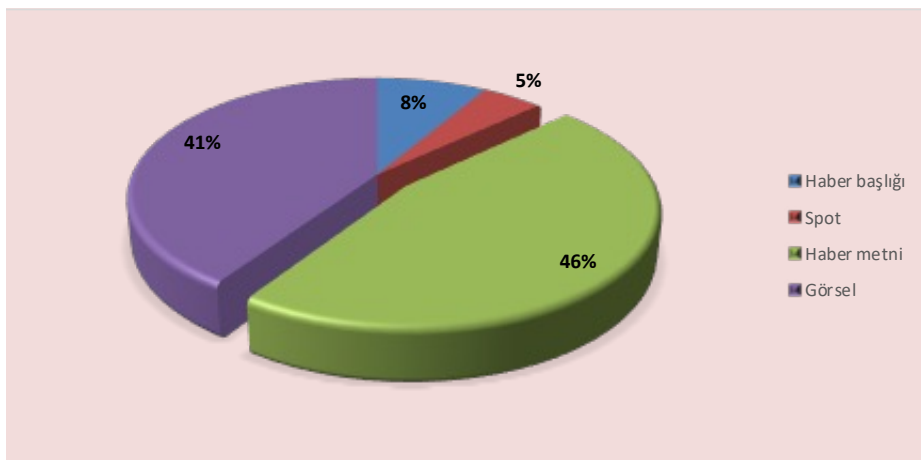
VIOLATION OF CHILD RIGHTS THROUGH NEWS

It is known that online newspapers and news platforms, just like conventional media, adopt a journalistic approach that is largely far from a rights-oriented perspective and emphasises the speculative, sensational, dramatised narrative of the event that caused the violation in order to ensure that readers click on the news and stay on the page longer. The fact that the media are mostly organisations acting on the axis of commercial purposes and structural relations causes the social responsibility to make violations, especially in areas such as human rights, visible and not to create new violations of rights to be relegated to the background. Like conventional media, in online media, editors and reporters act under the influence of mainstream journalism and journalistic practices in the process of attributing newsworthiness, that is, in the process of deciding what is newsworthy and what is not, and in this context, while they attribute newsworthiness to shocking events such as death, violence, crime and abuse in their news about children, they carry events related to children whose rights such as education, health and protection from economic exploitation are violated on their pages in a more limited manner. It is known that the understanding of journalism that sees the child as a subject while reporting on events related to children, that reveals the violation of rights experienced by the child, that labels those responsible for the violation, that determines what needs to be done to eliminate the violation, that attaches importance to the background information of the event in this context and that protects the rights of the child is still very limited in Turkey. Instead of revealing violations of rights, a news fiction that focuses on the event, violence, drama and visuals comes to the fore, and the existence of the child as a subject and the rights of the child that need to be observed are often ignored. As a result, the media not only fails to fulfil its duty/responsibility to inform the public that what the child is experiencing is a violation of rights, but also causes the child to experience a violation of rights through the news about him/her. In particular, the photographs and visuals used in the news; information that will reveal the identity of the child survivor of a human rights violation that would cause them further harm if/when recognized in public (name of the child or their relatives, address, neighbourhood, etc.); information that will cause the child to forget the incident he/she has experienced. Content that will damage the child's right to forget or be forgotten about the incident and trigger trauma; narration that conceals the perpetrator(s) of the violation or those responsible for the violation and holds the child responsible; pornographisation in order to attract the attention/interest of the reader by describing in detail the violence or sexual abuse that the child has been subjected to; discriminatory, belittling, mocking, dehumanising and showing the child as a weak, incompetent being in need of protection lead to the violation of the rights of the child whose rights have been violated once again through the news.

In this section of the report, without aiming to make a comparison between the news platforms or newspapers included in the study and without aiming to reach generalisable data on how

children or violations of children's rights are represented in the media, we aimed to exemplify how "violation of rights through news" is carried out through the sample news we identified regarding the violations covered by the monitoring study. In this framework, in 172 (19%) of the 715 news items included in the monitoring study, we found that a total of 248 children were subjected to rights violations through the news in addition to the rights violations they experienced. 70 of the children who were subjected to rights violations through the news were girls and 92 were boys, and there was no information on the gender of 80 children in the relevant news items.

Graph 4: Where is the Violation of Rights in the News?



The most common violation of rights that we came across in the news items within the scope of the analysis was the inclusion of information that discloses the identity of the child in a way that allows the child to be recognised, and that eliminates the right to be forgotten and the right to privacy. In this respect, in 137 news items examined within the scope of the study - that is, in 19% of the 715 news items subject to the analysis and in 80% of the 172 news items in which we identified a violation of rights through news - items that revealed the identity of the child who experienced the violation in a way that contradicts the "Child's right to protection against interference or attack on private life, family life or communication, honour and reputation" defined in Article 16 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child were included.

Table 8: Violation of Rights through News

	Number of News	%	Number of Children	%
Yes	172	24,05	248	18,72
No	543	75,95	1077	81,28
TOTAL	715	100	1325	100

In 45% of the news items (110 news items), the violation of rights was committed through the words used in the news text, the information given, the description of the event and the perpetrator. Similarly, we found that the visuals used in the news item also led to a violation of children's rights to a large extent (96 news items). It was observed that statements and information leading to violation of rights were less common in news headlines (9%) and spots (5%), which are more likely to undergo editorial control and correction within news production practices, compared to news items. On the other hand, it should be noted that in 38 of the news items in which we identified a violation of rights through news reports, the violation occurred in more than one of the headlines, spot, visual and news text elements of the news item and in more than one way. For example, while information revealing the identity of the child is given in the text of the news item, a similar or different violation may be encountered in the headline, visuals or spots.

Table 9: Which Rights of the Child are Violated in the News

	S	%
Invasion of privacy by giving name/surname	32	12,45
Violation of privacy by giving place of residence, relatives, etc.	44	17,12
Using the child's photograph in a recognisable way	92	35,80
Holding the child responsible for the violation of rights	24	9,34
Protecting/hiding the perpetrator	8	3,11
Pornographising violence	33	12,84
Pornographising sexual abuse	5	1,95
Dramatisation / stereotyping	12	4,67
Establishing a relationship with the violation of rights by revealing belonging neden olma	6	2,33
Other	1	0,39
TOTAL	257	100

34- https://www.sabancivakfi.org/i/content/4853_2_Cocuk_Evliikleri_ve_Uluslararası%20Sozlesmeler.pdf

35- In 2007, the Regional Office of the Commonwealth of Independent States for Central and Eastern Europe adopted a report entitled "Children's Rights and Journalistic Practice: A Rights-Based Perspective" adopted by the Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States in 2007, holds media professionals "responsible for keeping children's rights on the agenda by monitoring initiatives to protect children's rights and criticising those who fail to fulfil their commitments to children" (p.39). The programme highlights the media's avoidance of this responsibility due to commercial pressures as a problem, emphasises the importance of a rights-based perspective and refers to the Oslo Call of 1999 in this context: The Oslo Call, declared on the 10th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, underlines the need for the media to "consider the best interests of children as a primary priority in the process of achieving commercial and financial success" (p. 110).

As seen in Table 9, in 13% of the news items analysed within the scope of the study, we observed that the photograph or video image of the child was published in a way that allowed the child to be recognised. Some of the images were clear enough to allow the child to be recognised even though the photograph or video was iced. In some of them, the image was published without icing. On the other hand, in approximately 5% of the 715 news items analysed within the scope of the study, we observed that the child's first name, surname or both were not coded in a way that would allow the child to be recognised. In such news items, while the child's name was coded in the title or introduction of the news item, the child's name, surname or both were used one or more times in the text without being coded in a way to reveal the identity of the child. Similarly, in 6% of the 715 news items, the identity of the child was revealed by using the place where the child lived or the names of his/her relatives. In some news items, even if the surname of the child and his/her relatives was coded, information that would lead to the identification of the child was disclosed by giving the name of the mother, relatives or the perpetrator. Especially in places with small populations, the names of the neighbourhood, parents or relatives, and in some cases the names of the perpetrators were included in the news reports as information that could lead to the identification of the child.

In the report, we did not find it appropriate to give examples of such news items that violate the privacy of the child in order not to cause the child to experience a violation of rights once again. However, in order to explain how information about the place where the child experienced a violation of rights or the relatives of the child can violate the privacy of the child, Milliyet newspaper published a news article titled "11-year-old child is pregnant! Her mother's boyfriend is in custody", we felt the need to share the news article by covering this kind of information. In the news article, the name of the province and neighbourhood where the sexually abused child and her grandmother, who suspected the abuse, lived was clearly given. The initials of the names of the child, her mother and the abusive man were given in code. We think that clearly stating the neighbourhood where the grandmother lives and including the initials of her and her relatives' names in a province with a small population should be considered as information that would lead to the identification of the child, and that it is important for members of the press to observe the principle of the best interests of the child when deciding whether to publish such information, which has no special importance in terms of understanding the incident described in the news report.

<https://www.milliyet.com.tr/gundem/11-yasindaki-cocuk-hamile-cikti-annesinin-erkek-arkadasi-gozaltinda-6517031>


Milliyet Özetlem
11 yaşındaki çocuk hamile çıktı! Annesinin erkek...

Haberler Gündem Haberler 11 yaşındaki çocuk hamile çıktı! A. Google News Kurumsal

11 yaşındaki çocuk hamile çıktı! Annesinin erkek arkadaşı gözaltında

█de, yanına gelen 11 yaşındaki torununun durumundan şüphelenen anneanne, küçük kızı hastaneye götürünce hamile olduğu ortaya çıktı. Küçük kızın ifadesi üzerine cinsel istismarda bulunduğu iddia edilen annesinin dini nikahla birlikte yaşadığı H.Ç. gözaltına alındı.

08.05.2021 - 15:05 | Ben GörselAnnenne: 08.05.2021 - 15:23 DHA



Olay █'nin █ Mahallesi'nde meydana geldi. Annesi A.K. ile birlikte İstanbul'da yaşayan 11 yaşındaki kızı A.K., █ oturan anneannesinin yanına geldi. **Anneanne**, torununun durumundan şüphelenerek küçük kızı hastaneye götürdü.

Hastanede yapılan muayenede kızın **hamile** olduğu ortaya çıktı. Durum Emniyet Müdürlüğü ile Aile ve Sosyal Politikalar İl Müdürlüğü'ne **haber** verildi. Çocuk İzleme Merkezi'ne götürülen çocuğun burada annesinin dini nikahla birlikte yaşadığı H.Ç.'nin cinsel istismarına uğradığını söylediği öğrenildi.

A.K. koruma altına alınırken şüpheli H.Ç. ve kızın annesi A.K. İstanbul Anadolu Adliyesi tarafından başlatılan soruşturma kapsamında gözaltına alındı. Olayla ilgili soruşturma sürüyor.

11-year-old child found pregnant

Suspicious of her 11-year-old granddaughter's condition, the grandmother took the little girl to the hospital and it was revealed that she was pregnant. Upon the testimony of the little girl, H.Ç., who allegedly sexually abused her mother, was detained.

Her 11-year-old daughter A.K., who lives in Istanbul with her mother A.K., went to her grandmother's house. The grandmother suspected the condition of her granddaughter and took the little girl to the hospital. The examination at the hospital revealed that the girl was pregnant. Security Directorate and Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies were informed. It is learned that the child was taken to the Child Monitoring Centre³ and told that she was sexually abused by H.Ç., with whom her mother had a religious marriage. While AK was taken under protection, the suspect H.Ç. and her mother A.K. were detained within the scope of the investigation initiated by Istanbul Anatolian Courthouse. The investigation on the incident is ongoing.

<https://www.milliyet.com.tr/gundem/11-yasindaki-cocuk-hamile-cikti-annesinin-erkek-arkadasi-gozaltinda-6517031>

In 39 of the 92 news items analysed within the scope of the study, in which we identified violations of the child's right to protection against sexual exploitation, we found that a total of 64 children experienced a violation of rights through the news. In other words, in 42% of the news items on sexual abuse of children, the language, photographs, etc. used in the news item or the disclosure of the child's identity caused the child to experience a violation of rights once again. The news item we discussed above exemplifies the fact that a child who has been sexually abused has once again experienced a violation of rights through the news. In 5 news reports on incidents in which the child's right to protection against sexual exploitation was violated, it was observed that a "pornographic" narrative was used through detailed descriptions

of rape or harassment. The fact that the press, in order to attract the reader's attention in such incidents and to ensure that the reader spends more time on the page, conveys details that do not contribute to the reader's understanding of the nature of the abuse or the violation of the child's rights, is extremely problematic as the abuse is used as a tool for a pornographic narrative that arouses curiosity or excitement in the reader. In order not to repeat the violation of rights caused by these news items in this way, the report does not refer to these news items and does not include an analysis of the visual and language use in the news items.

A similar situation is observed in the pornographicisation of violence, that is, in the reporting of the details of the violence experienced by the child in a way that does not contribute to the news in terms of understanding the incident, and in the display of injured or dead bodies. There were 33 news items in which violence was pornographed in this way. For reasons similar to the above, it was decided not to include a detailed analysis of these news items in the report.

In the news report below, the use of a news language that conceals the abuse experienced by the child behind the dramatic news narrative is exemplified. Dramatisation, which is often resorted to in order to attract the attention of the reader, functions to render the multiple dimensions of abuse invisible while highlighting the dramatic elements of the event that mobilise the emotions of the reader. In 12 of the news items analysed within the scope of the research, this kind of dramatisation is in question. In the news article titled "Blood freezing atrocity! 17 years old and 5 months pregnant S.... In the news article titled "Blood freezing atrocity!", the murder of a 17-year-old child who was married in a "religious marriage" and made pregnant by the 24-year-old man she was "married" to is covered. According to the UN ÇHS and the Turkish Civil Code, it is stated that individuals who have not completed the age of 18 cannot be married and it is accepted that the act performed under the name of marriage is a form of legitimisation of sexual abuse. On the other hand, in the news article, the fact that the child was married off at the age of 17 and impregnated was normalised with the explanation "in a religious marriage", the murderer was named as "his wife in a religious marriage" and thus sexual abuse was covered up. The news report does not cover the abuse, but the murder of the child by the man she was married to, and the information that the child was stabbed to death in 16 places is repeated 3 times in the sub-headings and in the text to add a dramatic element to the news report. The title "Blood freezing atrocity!" similarly aims to attract the readers to the news. While the child's name and surname are clearly stated in the news article, the murderer's name is coded, the pregnancy photo of the child, who is referred to as the "unfortunate girl", and her social media posts about her baby are included as dramatic elements to mobilise the emotions of the reader. On the other hand, another problem encountered in the news article is the possibility that the information given under the heading "killed because of jealousy" based on the statement of the murderer may provide a "justifying/extenuating reason" for the murder. Although the struggle for women's rights has made significant progress in this regard, the media still presents reasons such as "honour", "jealousy", "insanity", "playing with her dignity", etc. as reasons for murder based on the statements made by men before the police or the court.

Blood-curdling atrocity! "S.", 17 years old and 5 months pregnant, was murdered.

In Konak district of Izmir, a woman (17) who was 5 months pregnant was stabbed to death in 16 places by her religiously married husband Anil Y. (24) from whom she had been separated for 3 months.

<https://www.milliyet.com.tr/gundem/kan-donduran-vahset-17-yasinda-ve-5-aylik-hamile-olan-sezen-olduruldu-6466540>


Another violation we came across in the news items we analysed was the use of a language that blames the child for the violation of rights. In 9% of the violations of rights through news, we came across a news language that blamed the child and in 3% that concealed the perpetrator or those responsible for the neglect. In the news article titled "The life threat of the 8-year-old boy who shot himself continues" published on the Haber3 website, it is seen that the name and surname of the child who was wounded with a gun and his mother are clearly given. If the child survives, this news will be accessible online for decades. In some cases, even a decision to block access does not make it possible to completely eliminate news that has been shared or quoted in other media.

8-year-old boy who shot himself remains in life-threatening condition.

It is claimed that the 8-year-old girl who was playing with the pistol she found when no one was home shot herself, while the life-threatening condition of the hospitalised girl continues.

In Adana, an 8-year-old girl allegedly shot herself while playing with a pistol when no one was home. While the life-threatening condition of the girl who was taken to hospital continued, her mother had a nervous breakdown.

According to the information obtained, the incident occurred on the 2nd floor of a two-storey house in Akıncılar neighbourhood of Yüreğir district. Allegedly, the 8-year-old girl started playing with a pistol when no one was at home. The girl was injured in the head when she touched the




Kan donduran vahset! 17 yaşında ve 5 aylık hamile olan S... öldürüldü

Izmir'in Konak ilçesinde, 5 aylık hamile [REDACTED] (17), 3 aydır ayrı yaşadığı dini nikahli eşi Anil Y. (24) tarafından 16 yerinden bıçaklanarak öldürüldü. [REDACTED]'un bebegi de ölüken, genç kızın sosyal medyada kamerası açık olduğu bir fotoğrafı paylaşarak altına "Sabırsızlıkla bekliyorum seni bebeyim" yazdığı görüldü. Olay sonrası kaçan Anil Y. ise polis ekiplerince yakalanarak gözaltına alındı.

16 YERİNDEN BİÇAKLANDI, ÇOCUĞU DA ÖLDÜ

Dini nikahli eşi Anil Y.'nin bıçakla saldırısına maruz kalan [REDACTED] (17), vücuduna 16 bıçak darbesi aldığı öğrenildi. [REDACTED]'ün ölmüşi yakarları yassa bağarken, tahliye edilen genç adamın medyataya çıktığı öğrenildi.

Olay saat 23.00 sıralarında ilçeye bağlı Güneş Mahallesi 1158 sokakta meydana geldi. İddiaya göre, 5 aylık hamile [REDACTED] sokakta yürüdüğü sırada, arkasından gelen ve 3 aydır ayrı yaşadığı dini nikahli eşi Anil Y. tarafından bıçaklandı. Olay sonrası tahliye kız kenarlarında kaçıran, saldırılan Anil Y. ise hızla olay yerinden kaçtı. Çevredekilerin ihbarı üzerine olay yerine çok sayıda sağlık ve polis ekibi sevk edildi. Sağlık ekiplerince olay yerinde ilk müdahaleleri yapılan [REDACTED] Sağlık Bilimleri Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi ve Arşivleme Hastahanesine kaldırıldı. Tahliye kız, burada doktorlarının tüm müdahalelerine rağmen kurtarılamadı.



Yeni bulur kalır mıym, ölür müym?

Çinayete kurban giden [REDACTED]'ün, sosyal paylaşım platformunda kamerası açık olduğu bir fotoğrafı paylaşarak altına "Sabırsızlıkla bekliyorum seni bebeyim" yazdığı net olduğu görüldü. Olay yerinden, genç kızın paylaştığı bir videoda ölmüşi olduğu Selen Akçılın "Nikah adı [REDACTED] yazıyor" dediği öğrenildi. "Bir daha bu yolları ayrı hemde yürür müym, kim bilir ne bekler kalır mıym, ölür müym?" dediren dikat yapıtı.

3 EL ARZAN SPOTICAR'DA SENE BEKLEYİN

Çinayete kurban giden [REDACTED]'ün, sosyal paylaşım platformunda kamerası açık olduğu bir fotoğrafı paylaşarak altına "Sabırsızlıkla bekliyorum seni bebeyim" yazdığı net olduğu görüldü.

KIRKANLIK YÜZÜNDEN ÖLDÜ

[REDACTED] tarafından, savcının inceleme süreci aralarında [REDACTED] Adli Tıp Kurumu morguna kaldırıldı. Polis ekipine olayla ilgili bağıştığı soruşturmayı sürdürürken, emniyetin tutukladığı geyiklerin emniyet kâğıtlarıyla yarıdan ipodolu tırakı olduğu öğrenildi.

trigger after a while. Hearing the sound of a gunshot, the mother immediately went out of the house. Upon the shouting of the mother who saw her daughter in blood, her relatives went upstairs and took the injured child to the hospital.

<https://www.haber3.com/guncel/3-sayfa/kendisini-vuran-8-yasindaki-cocugun-hayati-tehlikesi-suruyor-haberi-6010826>

Disclosure of the child's identity in such news items constitutes an obstacle to the child's right to be forgotten. Even if it is thought that the news does not cause a clear violation of the child's rights at the time of its publication, it may lead to consequences such as "embarrassment", "shaming", ridicule and stigmatisation by peers in the future. However, the reason why we chose the news report below as an example is that the language of the news report points to the child as the one responsible for the injury of the child with a gun.

The news item attributes the responsibility for the injury to the child from the title with the words "who shot himself". The news item includes the sentence "it is claimed that he shot himself" and it is stated that the police are investigating whether the incident was really an accident or not. However, the news report does not include any information on who the gun found in the house belonged to or whether it was licensed or not. The sentence structure "Police found the pistol that was kidnapped after the incident" also conceals the information on who kidnapped the pistol. Thus, it can be stated that the sentence structures used in the title and in the news article function to conceal the perpetrator and to attribute the responsibility for the violation to the child. For example, in a sentence structure such as "shot with the gun of his father/grandfather/uncle etc." instead of "shot himself", the responsibility of the parent who left the gun in a place accessible to the child and did not take adequate security measures for the child for this violation of the child's right to life would have been revealed.

In another example of a news item that conceals the negligence of the parent, it is reported that a 2-year-old refugee child, who was sleeping in the same bed with 3 other refugee children,

Kendisini vuran 8 yaşındaki çocuğun hayati tehlikesi sürüyor



20 Nisan 2021 Salı Saat: 18:56 Güncelleme: 20 Nisan 2021 Salı Saat: 19:02

Evide kimse yokken bulunduğu tabancayla oynayan 8 yaşındaki kızın kendi kendisini vurduğu iddia edilirken hastaneye kaldırılan kızın hayati tehlikesi sürüyor.

Evide bulunduğu tabancayla oynayan 8 yaşındaki çocuğun kendi kendisini vurduğu iddia edildi. Polis olayla ilgili soruşturma başlattı.

Adana'da evde kimse yokken tabancayla oynayan 8 yaşındaki kızın kendi kendisini vurduğu öne sürüldü. Hastaneye kaldırılan kız çocuğunun hayati tehlikesi devam ederken, annesi sinir krizleri geçirdi.

Edinilen bilgiye göre, olay, Yüreğir ilçesine bağlı Akıncılar Mahallesi'nde iki katlı bir evin ikinci katında meydana geldi. İddiaya göre, [S.Ş.](#) (9), evde kimse yokken tabanca ile oynamaya başladı. Kız çocuğu bir süre sonra tetiğe dokununca kafasından yaralandı. Tabanca sesi duyan anne [S.Ş.](#) hemen eve çıktı. Kızın kanlar içinde gönen annenin feradı üzerine yakınlardan yakan çıkarak yaralı çocuğu Yüreğir Devlet Hastanesine götürdü. Burada kız çocuğuna ilk müdahale yapıldıktan sonra Adana Şehir Hastanesine sevk edildi. Kız çocuğunun durumunun kritik olduğu öğrenildi.

Adana Emniyet Müdürlüğü Asayiş Şube Müdürlüğüne bağlı Cinayet Büro Amirliği ekipleri olayla ilgili inceleme başlattı. Polis olaydan sonra kaçırılan tabancayı buldu. Polis olayın gerçekleşen kaza olup olmadığını belirleyebilmek için çok sayıda kişinin ifadesine başvurdu. Kız çocuğunun annesi ise hastane önünde sinir krizleri geçirip gözyaşlarına boğuldu.

caused the death of his 3-month-old sibling in his sleep. In the news report, as in many news items about Syrian children, the child's full name and surname were not included, thus violating the child's right to be forgotten. The statement "The child who caused the death of his brother, albeit accidentally, was not taken into custody because he was younger than 12 years old" in the news article both violates the presumption of innocence of the child and leads to a prejudgement about the child, and contains a judgement that the incident should result in the child being taken into custody if the child is older than 12 years old. However, the violation of rights caused by the news report is not limited to the disclosure of the child's identity and violation of the presumption of innocence. In the video included in the news report, the scene that caused the death of the baby was "re-enacted" by using a 4-year-old child, accompanied by the image of a 2-year-old child sleeping in his bed, and the sleeping child was woken up and his iced image was displayed. This mise-en-scene, which was prepared to add a dramatic element to the news report, caused both children to experience a violation of rights. There is no mention of parental negligence in the news report.

The tragic death of a 3-month-old baby who fell under his older brother while sleeping.

In Adana, a 3-month-old baby died by suffocating under his 2-year-old brother with whom he shared the same bed while sleeping.

According to the information obtained, the incident occurred in the central Yüreğir district. According to the allegation, the family who came to Turkey from Aleppo 7 years ago fleeing the civil war in Syria settled in Adana. The mother and her 3-month-old child Abdülselem slept with her 2 and 4-year-old children. Since they slept on the floor bed, he lay on his 3-month-old brother while sleeping at night. When the mother woke up in the morning, she lifted her other child lying on her baby. However, when she realised that her 3-month-old baby was asphyxiated, she called an ambulance. The teams arriving at the scene took the baby to hospital. However, it was understood that the baby died of suffocation because he could not breathe.

<https://www.sabah.com.tr/video/yasam/uyurken-agabeyinin-altinda-kalan-3-aylik-bebegin-feci-olumu-video>



Video / Yaşam / Uyumken ağabeyinin altında kalan 3 aylık bebeğin feci ölümü | Video



Uyumken ağabeyinin altında kalan 3 aylık bebeğin feci ölümü | Video

18.02.2021 11:32



Adana'da 3 aylık bebek uyurken aynı yatağı paylaştığı 2 yaşındaki kardeşinin altında kalıp boğularak hayatını kaybetti.

VIDEO DEVAM EDİYOR

Edinilen bilgiye göre, olay, merkez Yüreğir ilçesinde meydana geldi. İddiaya göre, Suriye'deki iç savaştan kaçarak 7 yıl önce Halep'ten Türkiye'ye gelen [redacted] ailesi Adana'ya yerleşti. Anne [redacted] çocukları 3 aylık Abdülselem, 2 yaşındaki [redacted] ve 4 yaşındaki [redacted] birlikte yattı. Yer yatağında yan yana yattıkları için gece uyurken [redacted] 3 aylık kardeşinin üzerine yattı. Anne, sabah kalktığı anda kardeşinin üzerinde uyuyan [redacted] yi kaldırdı. Ancak 3 aylık bebeğinin nefessiz kaldığını fark edince ambulans çağırıldı. Olay yerine gelen ekipler bebeği Adana Şehir Hastanesine kaldırdı. Ancak bebeğinin nefes alamadığı için boğularak hayatını kaybettiği anlaşıldı.

Polis olayla ilgili anne ve babanın ifadesini aldı. Yasa gereği kardeşinin ölümüne kazara da olsa neden olan çocuğun yaşı 12'den küçük olduğu için gözaltına alınmadı. Adli tıp kurumu morguna kaldırılan bebek otopsinin ardından ailesi tarafından toprağa verildi.

RESULT

With the fact and acceptance that children are individuals who are subjects of rights, we aimed to make violations of rights visible with this study in which we monitored news and posts, which is one of the areas where their rights are violated the most. When we concluded our study, we determined that this area of monitoring requires a much more comprehensive study. Another aim of this study was to see how the rights and standards regulated in the ÇHS are reflected in the media through news reports and to evaluate the extent to which Turkey fulfils its responsibilities arising from the Convention in this context. As a result, we have determined that the violations reflected in the news, the language and discourses used are far from being based on the interests of children.

However, within the scope of its positive obligations, the state should establish various measures and mechanisms to ensure that all children benefit equally from the rights in the ÇHS and to eliminate the conditions that cause discrimination. In addition to this, the necessity for media organs and actors to prepare news with the perception and awareness of children's rights and childhood, taking into account their power both at the political level and in creating and changing social perception, continues to maintain its importance.

Effective protection of the child is only possible through the realisation of a holistic approach within the framework of the ÇHS, the Lanzarote Convention of the Council of Europe, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Istanbul Convention. States must take the necessary legal, administrative, social and educational measures against all forms of abuse and ill-treatment by guaranteeing the protection of children against all forms of sexual exploitation as stipulated by international conventions. Our 2021 monitoring study highlights the inadequacy of preventive, protective and criminal law in combating all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children and the lack of comprehensive, effective and accessible mechanisms in these areas.

It should be reminded that these data, which we can only access through media monitoring, are much lower than the actual data. However, these data alone are enough to emphasise the state's responsibility regarding the measures to be taken against these violations and crimes. The importance of effective intervention mechanisms, information, awareness-raising and consciousness-raising activities both for the public and especially for children is clearly seen. The need for effective sanctions and legal regulations against these violations and practices such as good behaviour discounts and impunity for perpetrators continue to maintain their importance in the fight against child sexual abuse and exploitation. Again, the development of state policies to prevent violations of rights, the creation of child-participatory programmes based on their age and development reveals the necessity of carrying out all these precautionary and prevention-based activities in partnership with non-governmental organisations.

Torture, violence, ill-treatment and acts and discourses against human dignity are prohibited in all international regulations, especially the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Constitution

and at the national level. In particular, the paradigm of the ÇHS on childhood shows itself in the perspective it adds to the thoughts and practices that should be approached to the child. While the principles and standards developed within the juvenile justice system emphasise the obligations of states, international conventions and regulations remind the principle of the best interests of the child. It is clear that cases of violence against children can develop within the family, in closed environments such as prisons, care centres, schools and health centres.

It is an obligation on the state to establish mechanisms that include all kinds of preventive and protective measures and precautions regarding the safety of children, and to create a system that will operate effective sanction processes against violations of rights such as violence and ill-treatment against children. However, public authorities do not carry out monitoring and reporting activities on torture and ill-treatment violations, and even if they do, these activities are not shared with the public.

The importance of a holistic and comprehensive approach to children's rights necessitates a very broad approach specific to childhood. In such a way that the violation of one area of rights (with its negative and positive aspects) violates more than one area of rights and freedoms of the child.

States are under the obligation to take the necessary measures against the economic exploitation of children, not to employ them in hazardous work, and not to employ them in a way that harms their education, health, physical, mental, spiritual and social development, both at the legal level and in administrative and social terms, and to take educational and awareness-raising mechanisms. The state, which is responsible for protecting the child against all forms of neglect and abuse, must establish effective measures and policies to protect the child with the basic principle that the employment of children is prohibited.

When we look at the main reasons why children are exposed to hazardous work and economic exploitation all over the world and in our country, poverty comes first. The fact that the family is poor and cannot make a living at all or sufficiently pushes the child into labour life most of the time. Unemployment caused by poverty is one of the reasons for child labour, the educational level of the family, lack of adequate professional equipment, the economic crisis in the country, the inability of parents/caregivers to work/work due to reasons such as high unemployment rate constitute the reasons for the child to work/be made to work.

It is clear that there are many factors that directly or indirectly affect children, their rights and development, and it is possible to minimise violations of rights by creating laws, policies and programmes. It should be kept in mind that the state, media organs and actors, rights-based civil society organisations and, of course, children can come together.

ANNEX 1

Identification of child rights violations - coding form

1. Date of the news

7. JANUARY
8. FEBRUARY
9. MART
10. APRIL
11. MAY
12. JUNE
13. JULY
14. AUGUST
15. SEPTEMBER
16. OCTOBER
17. NOVEMBER
18. DECEMBER

2. The name of the internet channel where the news is published:

3. Title of the news:

4. News Content

5. Has there been a violation of rights through the news?

1. Yes
2. No

6. If the city where the event in the news item took place is specified, please write: (if not, skip to question 7)

7. Is the number of children affected by the violation of rights in the news article known?

1. Yes
2. No (If you have ticked this option, skip to question 8)

8. Is the gender of the child/children in the news report known?

1. Yes
2. No (If you have ticked this option, skip to question 9)

8.a) Write the number of girls affected by the violation of rights in the news report:**8.b) Write the number of boys affected by the violation of rights in the news:****8.c) Write the number of LGBTI+ children affected by the violation of rights in the news article:****9. Does the news report indicate the nationality of the child affected by the violation of rights (multiple coding is possible)?**

1. Turkish
2. Refugee/asylum seeker/migrant (if you have ticked this option, please answer question 10. If not, skip to question 11)
3. Not specified

10. If the child is a refugee/asylum seeker/migrant, which nationality is the child? (Multiple coding is possible)

1. Syrian
2. Iraqi
3. Afghan
4. Iranian
5. African
6. Other

11. Does the news report specify the age of the child affected by the violation of rights (multiple coding is possible)?

7. 0-24 months
8. 2-6
9. 7-14
10. 15-18
11. 5Not specified

12. Which right/rights of the child are violated in the incident subject to the news? (Multiple coding can be done)

1. Right to life
2. Right to protection against sexual exploitation
3. Right to protection against torture, ill-treatment, violence and the death penalty
4. Right to protection from hazardous work and economic exploitation
5. Right to Education
6. Right to security and integrity of person

13. What is the subject of the news? (Multiple coding can be done)

1. Death by negligence
2. Negligent injury
3. Homicide
4. Child maltreatment/violence/injury
5. Torture and ill-treatment
6. Domestic violence
7. Child abduction
8. Deprivation of liberty of the child
9. Child trafficking
10. Child labour
11. Injury as a result of work accident

12. Death due to work accident
13. Children employed in street labour
14. Discrimination
15. Suicide
16. Inequality of opportunity in education
17. Education in mother tongue
18. Sexual harassment
19. Rape
20. Early and forced marriages
21. Other (specify)

14. Is the perpetrator of the violation of the right subject to the news item specified?

1. Yes
2. No (if you have ticked this option, skip to question 16)

15. Who is the perpetrator of the event subject to the news? (multiple coding can be done)

1. Child/Peer
2. Parent (including foster parents)
3. The person the parent is related to (partner, friend, relative, neighbour)
4. Politicians (Hate speech, discrimination, abuse)
5. Security forces (police, military, rangers, private security, watchmen)
6. Public authorities (all units of the central government Corporate)
7. Local Governments (municipalities and affiliated organisations at policy level)
8. Teacher
9. Religious officer
10. Vehicle Drivers
11. Employer
12. Carer (person cared for by the family)

13. Police
14. School administrators
15. Nursery Staff (staff in child care centres)
16. Prison staff (guards and administrators)
17. Healthcare Worker (doctor, nurse, carer, etc.)
18. Laws (in case the violation is directly caused by the law, but think about it, the decision is yours)
19. Other :Write.....

16. The link address of the internet channel where the news was published

17. Where in the news is the violation of children's rights through the news? (multiple coding can be done)

1. News title
2. Spot (subheadings)
3. News text
4. Visual (photo-video)
5. Photo (video) caption

18. Which right of the child does the news violate? (multiple coding can be done)

1. It portrays the child as guilty without a final judgement.
2. Reveals the child's identity/violates the child's privacy by using the child's name, surname or both.
3. Explicitly or implicitly mentioning the place where the child lives, the names of relatives, etc. in the news report reveals the child's identity/violates the child's privacy.
4. Reveals the child's identity/violates the child's privacy by using the child's photograph -in a recognisable way- in the news.
5. Blames the child for the violation of the child's rights (Produces justification-excuse for the violation)
6. (an example of this is when the press uses a language that blames the victim, underlines the victim's share in the incident/violation of rights, thus trying to create a mitigating circumstance for the perpetrator, and creates an impression for the

reader as if “he should not have gone there at that time, he should not have dressed like that, he should not have acted like that”)

7. It pornographises the violence/brutality experienced by the child by describing it in detail (Pornographisation of violence:
 8. (when the press covers events such as wars, murders, massacres, accidents, etc., it exposes images of violence in order to attract the reader’s attention, and includes the details of how the violence was committed – even though it does not contribute to the reader’s understanding of the truth)
 9. pornographises the sexual abuse experienced by the child by describing it in detail
 10. (Pornographisation of abuse: When the press covers incidents of sexual violence, rape and abuse in order to attract the attention of the reader or to arouse pleasure in the reader, it includes details that do not contribute to the understanding of the truth by the reader)
 11. Using a language that protects/hides the perpetrator or covers up the offence and ignores the abuse/rights violation.
 12. (Although it is clear who the real or potential perpetrator of the violation of rights is, it uses a news language that hides, protects the perpetrator, denies that there is a crime, covers up the crime, and assigns the crime to someone else. For example, writing that the violation of the rights of a child labourer who had a work accident occurred due to his/her own carelessness. It does not pronounce that this is a work accident or does not mention that it is the result of the employer’s lack of precaution. Or showing the mother as the only responsible for the abuse experienced by the child, hiding the real perpetrator or perpetrators)
 13. Instead of identifying the violation of rights experienced by the child and revealing the structural reasons and background information behind the violation, it uses a language that over-dramatises and stereotypes the incident.
 14. Praises the offence
 15. Targeting the child
 16. Using the child, childhood as an element of humiliation
 17. Although it does not contribute to the news, it causes the reader to establish a relationship between the violation of rights experienced by the child and this identity, which is not directly related to the event conveyed in the news by stating the religious, sexual, ethnic identity or belonging of the child.
 18. Discriminates against the child due to the child’s religious, sexual, ethnic identity or affiliation, and uses hate speech.
 19. It trivialises/ trivialises the child’s experience

ANNEX 2 SAMPLE NEWS LINKS

<https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/sulama-kanalina-dusen-cocuk-yasamani-yitirdi-41836060>

<https://www.karar.com/sehir-haberleri/serinlemek-icin-havuz-giren-cocuklar-boguldu-1622858>

<https://www.internethaber.com/trabzonda-feci-olay-terastan-dusen-gorme-engelli-9-yasindaki-cocuk-hayatini-kaybetti-2192477h.htm>

<https://www.birgun.net/haber/bekcilerin-darp-ettigi-genclere-su-bile-vermemisler-345795>

<https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/batmanda-polis-ve-bekciler-bir-cocugu-darp-etti-haber-1522326>

<https://www.karar.com/sehir-haberleri/serinlemek-icin-havuz-giren-cocuklar-boguldu-1622858>

<https://www.karar.com/yasam/dogal-gazi-odeyemedikleri-icin-elektrikli-soba-kullanmislar-1643075>

<https://beyazgazete.com/haber/2021/4/21/adana-da-tabancayla-basindan-vurulan-cocuk-yasamini-yitirdi-6062966.html>

<https://www.birgun.net/haber/adana-da-sokakta-oynarken-silahla-vurulan-iki-cocuk-agir-yaralandi-356945>

<https://www.yenisafak.com/gundem/adanada-maganda-kursunu-ensesinden-cikti-minik-vildan-felc-kaldi-3637411>

<https://beyazgazete.com/haber/2021/4/21/adana-da-tabancayla-basindan-vurulan-cocuk-yasamini-yitirdi-6062966.html>

<https://www.birgun.net/haber/adana-da-sokakta-oynarken-silahla-vurulan-iki-cocuk-agir-yaralandi-356945>

<https://www.yenisafak.com/gundem/adanada-maganda-kursunu-ensesinden-cikti-minik-vildan-felc-kaldi-3637411>

<https://t24.com.tr/haber/meb-raporu-suriyeli-cocuklarin-yuzde-35-i-okula-gidemiyor,1024611>

<https://www.milliyet.com.tr/gundem/avcilar-da-balkon-faciyasi-1-yasindaki-lina-duserek-oldu-6540130>

<https://www.haberturk.com/sanliurfada-posette-curumus-bebek-cesedi-bulundu-3058258>

<https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/cocuk-evleri-koordinasyon-merkezinde-istismar-iddiasina-3-gozalti-41885267>

<https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/istanbulda-suriyeli-cocuklari-dilendirenlere-operasyon-yapildi-21-cocuk-kurtarildi-41725411>

ANNEX 3: SAMPLE NEWS

NEWSPAPER NAME	DATE	CONTENT	LINK
KARAR NEWSPAPER	JUNE 2021	"Two of 3 children drowned in the pool used for extinguishing fires in Osmaniye." ²	https://www.karar.com/sehir-haberleri/serinlemek-icin-havuz-agiren-cocuklar-boguldu-1622858
KARAR NEWSPAPER	DECEMBER 2021	Poverty emerged from the house where 4 Syrian children died in Esenyurt. It was revealed that the family was using an electric stove because they could not pay the natural gas bill and the fire started because of this reason.	https://www.karar.com/yasam/dogal-gazi-odeyemedikleri-icin-elektrikli-soba-kullanmislar-1643075
BEYAZ NEWSPAPER	APRIL 2021	"Child Shot in the Head with a Pistol in Adana Died", "Two children who were shot with a gun while playing on the street in Adana were seriously wounded", "In Adana, a bullet came out of his neck: Tiny V. paralysed"	https://beyazgazete.com/haber/2021/4/21/adana-databancayla-basindan-vurulan-cocuk-yasamini-yitirdi-6062966.html
DERİK SESİ NEWSPAPER	APRIL 2021	The students of the hamlet without a school stayed away from distance education and face-to-face education	http://deriksesigazetesi.com/haber/okulu-olmayan_mezranin_ogrencileri_uzaktan_egitime_de_yuz_yuze_egitime_de_uzak_kaldi-4779.html
HÜRRİYET NEWSPAPER	MAY 2021	In a house in Şanlıurfa, a decomposed baby corpse was found in a bag, presumed to have died about 2 months ago.	https://www.haberturk.com/sanliurfada-posette-curumus-bebek-cesedi-bulundu-3058258
MİLLİYET NEWSPAPER	JUNE	Balcony tragedy in Avclar! 1 year old L. fell to his death	https://www.milliyet.com.tr/gundem/avcilar-da-balkon-faciyasi-1-yasindaki-lina-duserek-oldu-6540130
BEYAZ NEWSPAPER	FEBRUARY 2021	An example of news protecting the perpetrator: A 16-year-old boy who fell from the 9th floor of a construction site in Kahramanmaraş lost his life.	https://beyazgazete.com/haber/2021/2/27/insaatin-9-uncukatindan-dusen-isci-hayatini-kaybetti-5983442.html

NEWSPAPER NAME	DATE	CONTENT	LINK
BEYAZ NEWSPAPER	JUNE 2021	Example of news protecting the active: 8-Year-Old Child Injured by Hoe Machine	https://beyazgazete.com/haber/2021/6/12/capa-makinesine-ayagini-kaptiran-8-yasindaki-cocuk-yaralandi-6093116.html
HÜRRİYET NEWSPAPER	SEPTEMBER 2021	3 detentions for alleged abuse in Children's Homes Coordination Centre	https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/cocuk-evleri-koordinasyon-merkezinde-istismar-iddiasina-3-gozalti-41885267
CUMHURİYET NEWSPAPER	NOVEMBER 2021	According to TİHEK's report on Sincan Women's Prison, a 5-year-old child staying with her imprisoned mother was subjected to sexual abuse.	https://www.cumhuriyet.com.tr/turkiye/sincan-kadin-cezaevinde-cocuga-istismar-1888088
NEWSPAPER DUVAR	NOVEMBER 2021	In Mersin, 13-year-old Syrian child labourer U. K., who was caught in a citrus packing machine in which his scarf was caught, died.	https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/paketleme-makinesine-kapilan-13-yasindaki-cocuk-isci-oldu-haber-1542116
NEWSPAPER DUVAR	MAY 2021	In Batman, police and watchmen forced a 15-year-old boy to the ground and beat him for minutes. It was claimed that the police insulted those who reacted to the violence and opened fire in the air.	https://www.gazeteduvar.com.tr/batmanda-polis-ve-bekciler-bir-cocugu-darp-etti-haber-1522326
HÜRRİYET NEWSPAPER	JANUARY 2021	21 children were rescued while the suspects who were detained for begging children they illegally brought from Syria in Istanbul were detained	https://www.hurriyet.com.tr/gundem/istanbulda-suriyeli-cocuklari-dilendirenlere-operasyon-yapildi-21-cocuk-kurtarildi-41725411



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Huzurevleri District. 53. Street. Number:8 Kayapınar/Diyarbakır
t: (0412) 223 00 90 e: g.vakfi@gmail.com w: gocvakfi@gmail.com