INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

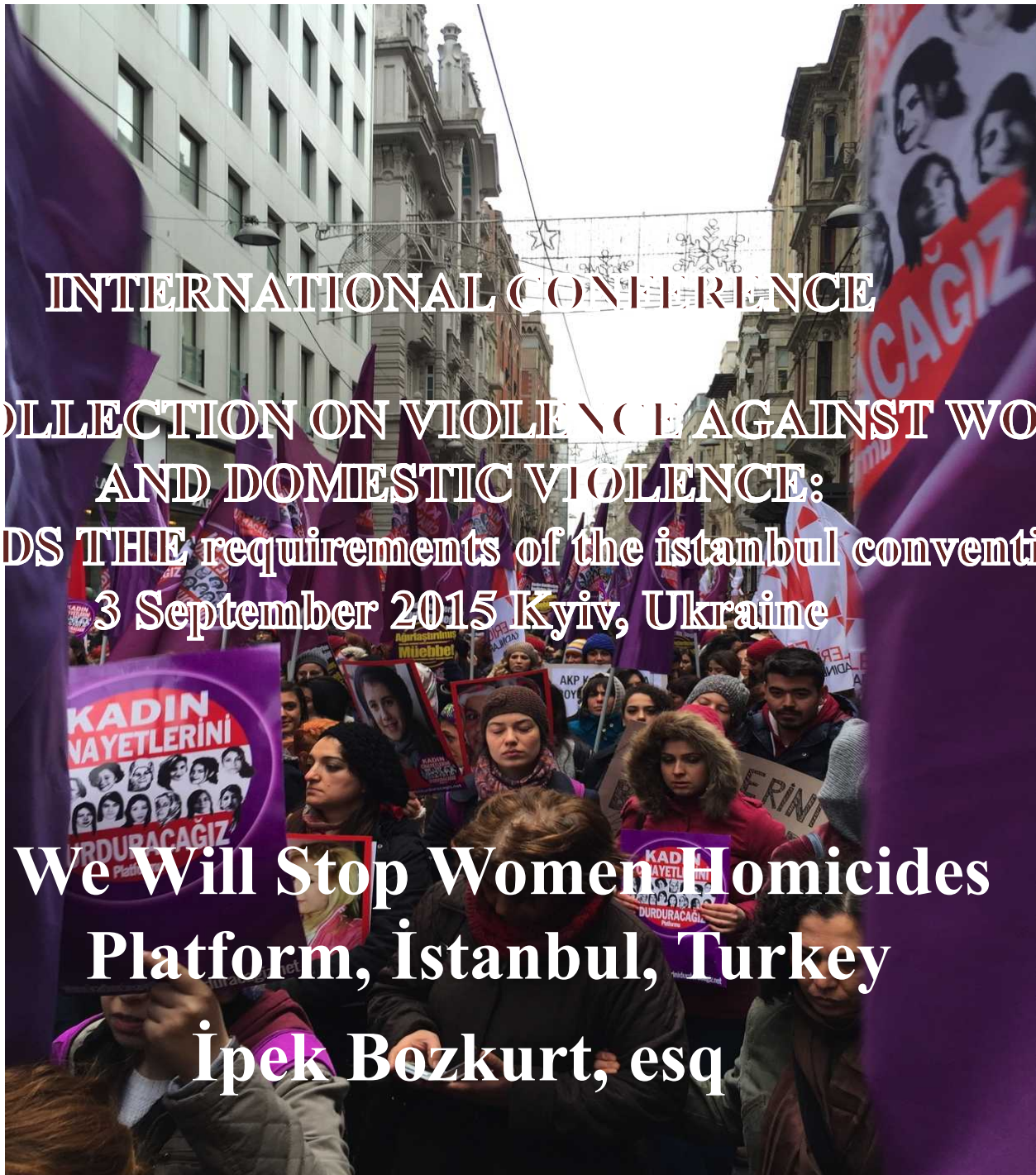"DATA COLLECTION ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:
TOWARDS THE requirements of the istanbul convention"
3 September 2015 Kyiv, Ukraine

We Will Stop Women Homicides
Platform, İstanbul, Turkey

İpek Bozkurt, esq

Raison d'etre of the Platform

- In 2010, Ministry of Justice officially announced that women homicides increased by 1400 % from 2002 to 2009
- Monstrous murder of Münevver KARABULUT by her boyfriend the same year
- "Right to life"

2002 YILINDAN BU YANA CİNAYET NEDENİYLE ÖLEN KADIN SAYISI									
KANUN NOSU VE MADDESİ	MAKTÜL/ÖLEN SAYISI								
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
5237 S.K. 82. MADDESİ	22	5	35	119	381	725	618	862
765 S.K. 448	17	40	49	77	137	75	72	41
766 S.K. 449	8	6	19	38	31	38	20	16
767 S.K. 450	19	32	61	83	114	173	96	34
TOPLAM	66	83	164	317	663	1011	806	953

Açıklama:
1-Dava açılış tarihi yukarıdaki yıllardan ibarettir.
2-2009 yılının 13.07.2009 tarihine kadar olan kısmı alınacaktır.
3-Dosyada ölen kişinin sıfatı MAKTÜL VE ÖLEN cinsiyeti de KADIN olanlar çıkartılacaktır.

Raison d'etre of the Platform

- Co-operates/supports with the families of women who have been murdered or subject to gender-based or domestic violence

- Organizes country wide street rallies and protests

- Lobbying activities at the Parliament for the rectification of Criminal Law parallel to the standards of Istanbul Convention

- Ensures immediate access to legal remedies

- Provides legal counselling at gender-based homicide cases *(pending 35 cases in different cities)*

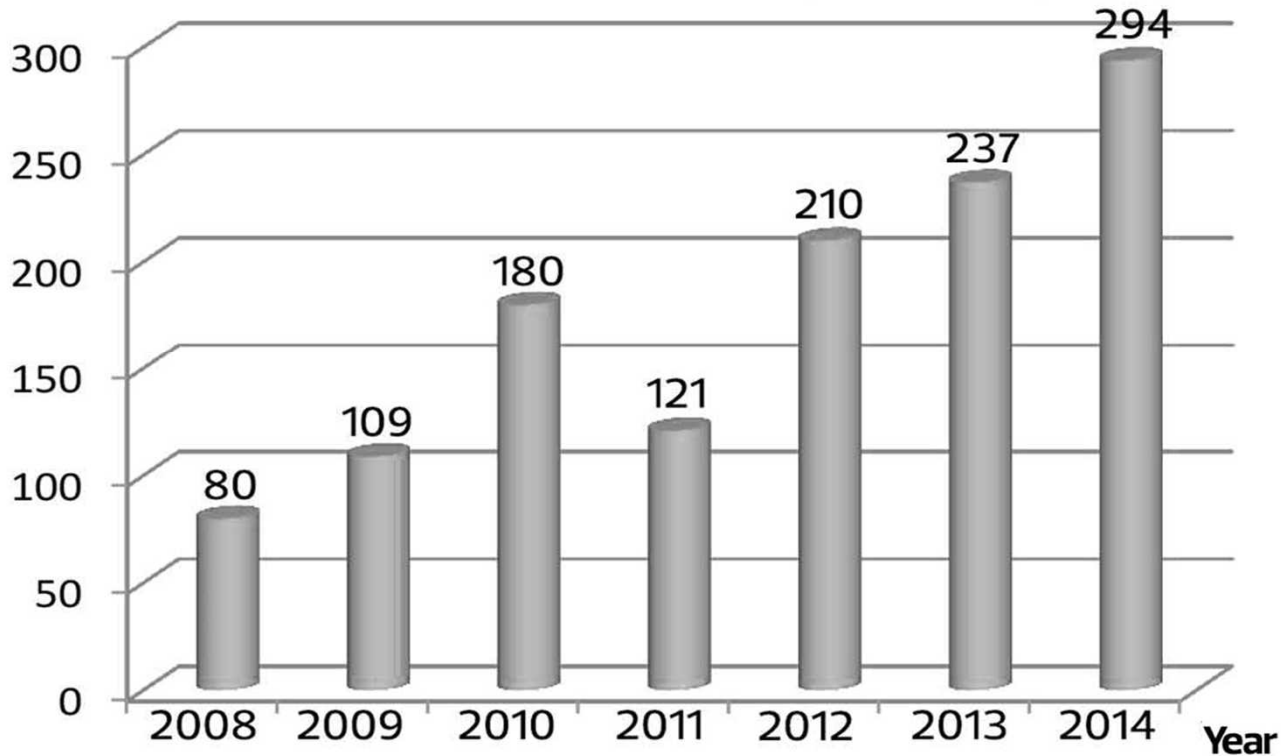- Collects data and prepares periodical reports on findings

Turkish Legal Framework on Preventing and Combatting Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence

- Turkey is the first country to sign the Istanbul Convention but the Convention only entered into force in August 2014

- Law No 6284 on Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence Against Women

- Implementation Regulation of Law No 6284

- Criminal Law No 5237 *(standard homicide provisions, no reference to gender based violence)*

- European Convention on Human Rights and European Court of Human Rights case-law

- Ministry of Family and Social Works *(before its amendment in2011, Ministry was formerly named as Ministry Responsible for Women and Family)*

- Advisory Committee on Evaluating Reasons for Violence Against Women that will provide Report on Measures to be taken
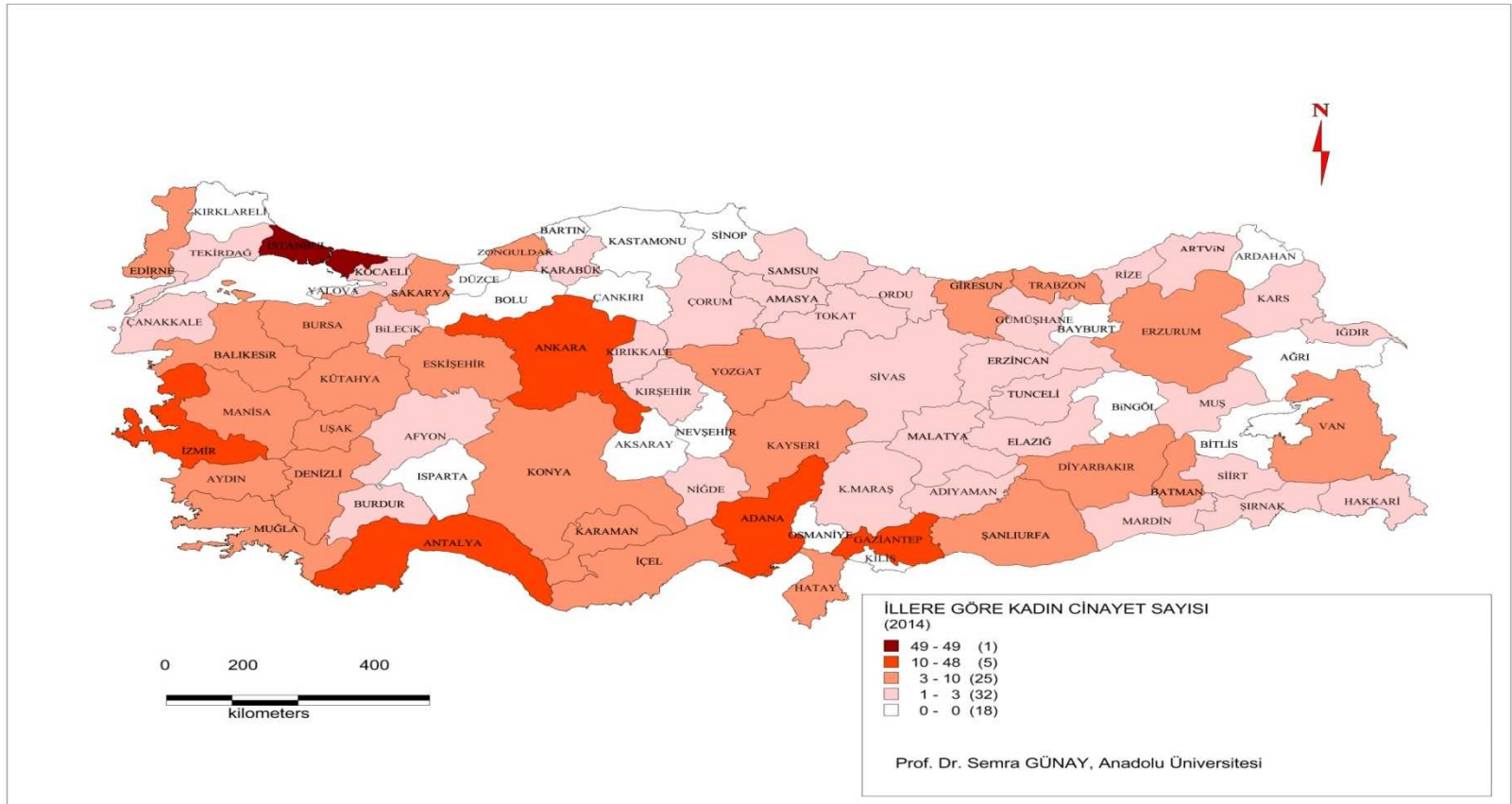
Gender-Based Women Homicide Figures (2008-2014)
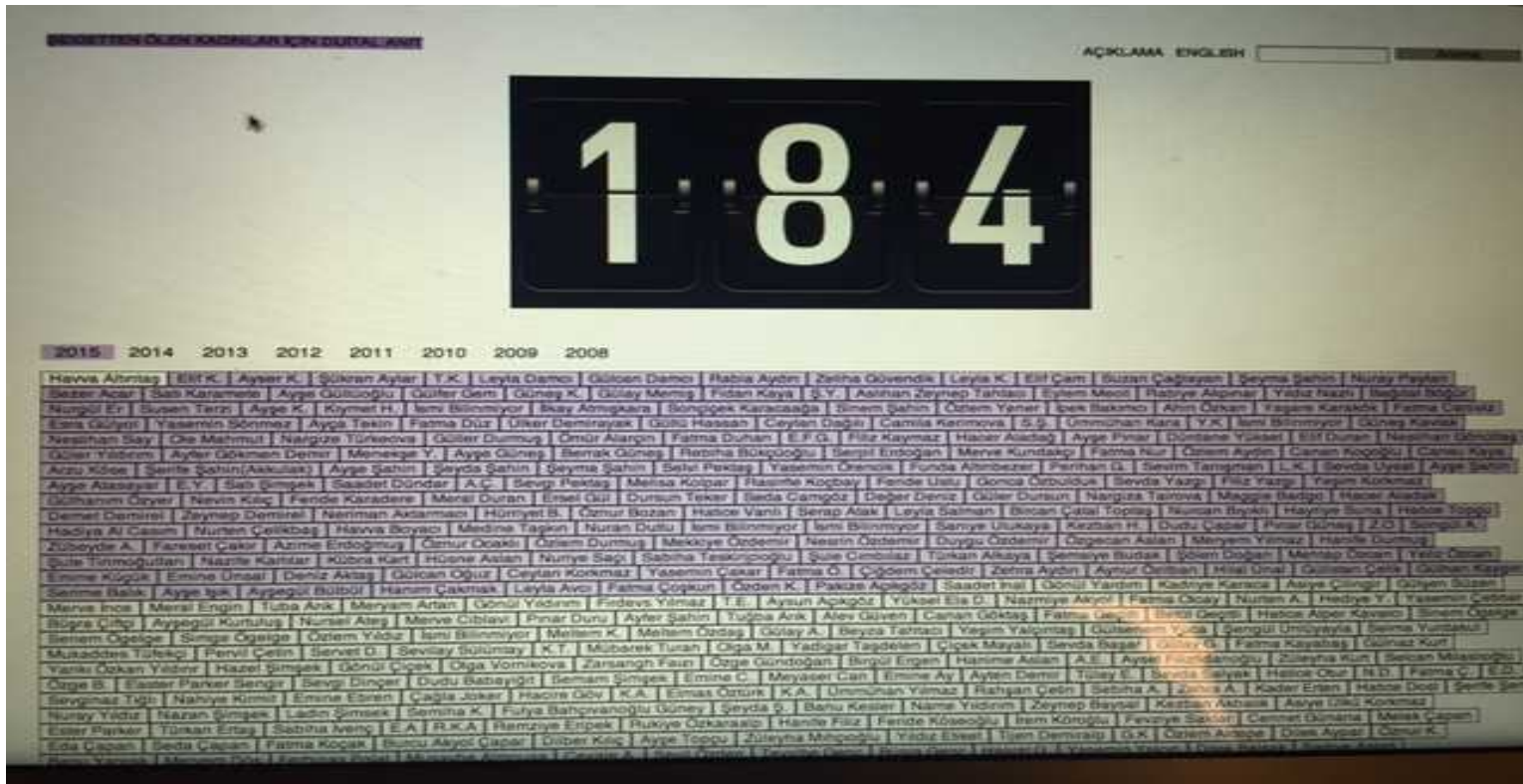

The number of femicide

Year	Number
2008	80
2009	109
2010	180
2011	121
2012	210
2013	237
2014	294

Overview of Dispersal of Gender-Based Women Homicides in 2014

İLLERE GÖRE KADIN CİNAYET SAYISI (2014)

- 49 - 49 (1)
- 10 - 48 (5)
- 3 - 10 (25)
- 1 - 3 (32)
- 0 - 0 (18)

Prof. Dr. Semra GÜNAY, Anadolu Üniversitesi

Gender Based Women Homicide Figure for 2015 *(8 months)*

The Monument Counter is an on line monument that is updated every day and designed to commemorate gender based women homicides.

Platform's Assessment of Gender-Based and Domestic Violence

PREVENTION   /   PROTECTION

- Insufficient implementation of Law No 6284 and Regulation
- Limited awareness of Istanbul Convention
- Reluctance of police officers' to carry out protection measures
- Delays in the legal system to issue necessary protection orders

Platform's Assessment of Gender-Based and Domestic Violence

PROSECUTION

• Lack of accountability: No policy to find responsible officials who fail to carry out their protection duty

• Attrition throughout investigation and litigation phases: Discrimination against women during criminal cases

•Legal system protects perpetrators through insufficient investigation process and sentence reductions *(ECHR case-law Opuz v. Turkey and Durmaz v. Turkey)*

• Sentence reductions pave way to prospective gender based violence

Platform's Assessment of Gender-Based and Domestic Violence

POLICY

- The Government prefers to ignore existence of gender-based violence

- Requests for data (as per applicable law enabling such requests) about gender-based violence is futile. The answer: "*There is no such concept under our laws to prepare such data*"

- Reminders to Ministry regarding Article 11 of Istanbul Convention

- Resistance to NGO involvement despite Articles 7, 9 and 13 of Istanbul Convention

Platform's Assessment of Gender-Based and Domestic Violence

POLICY /Data Collection

• Alternative methods of data collection:
(i) Nationwide network of volunteers,
(ii) Co-operation with local press,
(iii) Uninterrupted contact with families,
(iv) Periodical update on collected data and interpretation of such data

THANK YOU