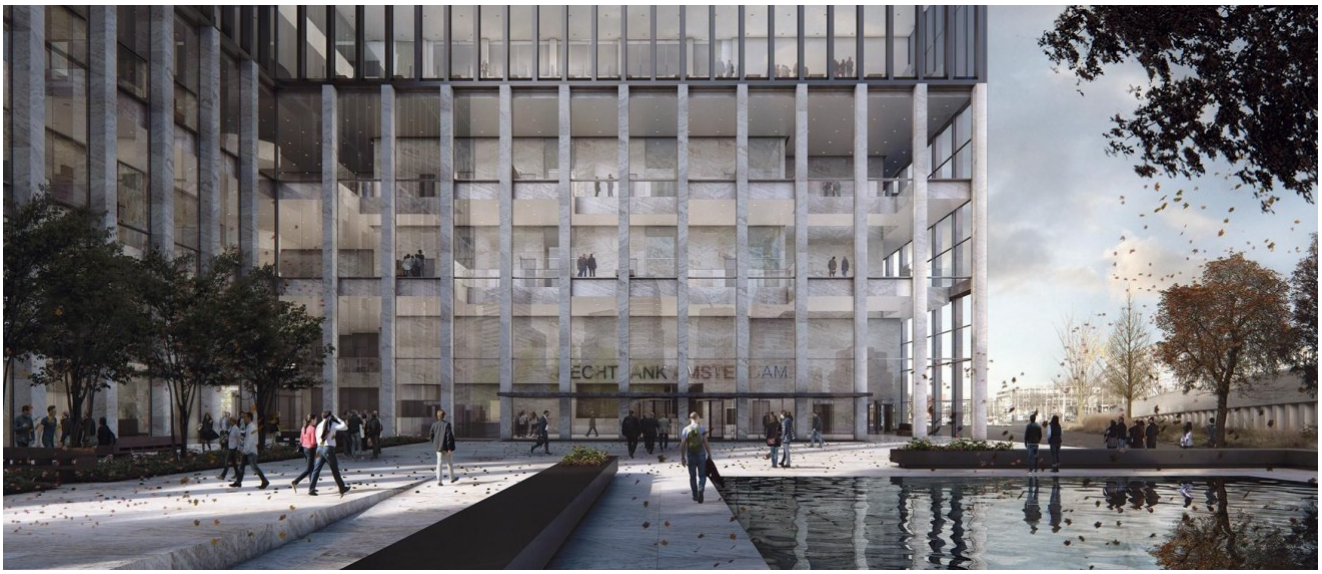
STATEMENT · Women's and Children's Rights

March 8: Symbol of the Struggle for Women's Rights and Equality

8 March 2025 · Updated 24 March 2025 · Amsterdam Law Center · 3 min read



March 8 is one of the most significant symbols worldwide in the struggle for women's rights and gender equality. While significant legal and social steps have been taken in Turkey concerning women's rights, numerous critical issues remain unresolved. Issues such as inequality in education opportunities, violence against women, femicides, conditions of women in prisons, and workplace discrimination remain pressing concerns in today's struggle for women's rights.

Equality in Education: Key to Women's Empowerment

Although legal arrangements in Turkey have improved women's access to education, regional and socioeconomic differences continue to impact girls' enrollment rates. Particularly in rural areas and economically disadvantaged families, girls are often forced into early marriage or face disruptions in their education due to financial difficulties. Yet education is crucial for women's empowerment in society and

economic independence. It is essential, within the framework of the Constitution and international treaties, to ensure equal opportunities in education and secure every girl's right to education, which is indispensable for societal advancement.

Femicides: Violation of the Right to Life

Violence against women and femicides in Turkey continue to escalate and must be addressed seriously within a human rights framework. Murders committed by ex-partners, partners, or family members violate women's fundamental right to life. Following the withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention, the need for strengthening legal grounds against gender-based violence has become even more evident. Hence, it is imperative to enact deterrent legal measures, ensure accessible legal and psychological support mechanisms, and implement social policies aimed at preventing violence.

Conditions of Women in Prisons

Women in prisons face significant difficulties concerning physical conditions and social exclusion. Ensuring humane living conditions, especially for mothers incarcerated with their children, is critically important. In accordance with constitutional rights and international conventions, women's right to humane treatment in prisons must be safeguarded, rehabilitation processes enhanced, and effective measures implemented to reintegrate women into society.

Women in the Workforce: The Ongoing Struggle for Equality

Women's labor force participation rates remain significantly lower compared to men. Women in the workplace face numerous obstacles such as the glass ceiling, wage inequality, insufficient maternity leave rights, and workplace discrimination. In line with the constitutional principle of equality and labor law regulations, it is necessary to implement policies that strengthen women's roles in professional life, enforce the principle of equal pay for equal work, and rigorously oversee regulations designed to protect women in workplaces.

Women's Rights Movement: Stronger Together

In Turkey, the struggle for women's rights continues through the efforts of legal professionals, women's organizations, civil society institutions, and conscientious individuals. However, building a genuinely equal society requires more than just legislative changes. Effective implementation of these regulations, increased social awareness, and collective responsibility regarding women's rights are crucial.

March 8 is not merely a day to advocate for women's rights but a significant opportunity to raise awareness and amplify the struggle for gender equality. Our wish is that someday March 8 will no longer be just a day of struggle but one of celebrating achieved equality.

Video: https://youtu.be/_lMvHVBkEGI

Downloaded from amsterdamlawcenter.com on 23 November 2026. Current version: https://amsterdamlawcenter.com/march-8-symbol-of-the-struggle-for-womens-rights-and-equality/