

# Defending Women's Legal Rights through Organizations in Turkey

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## Abstract

Turkey is a progressive country in defending women's rights. So to achieve equal rights they have to fight not easily. This research focuses on the renewal of women's rights to obtain the same rights as men through various women's movements. This study aims to find out the extent of the journey of the women's movement to get equal rights with men. This research uses an approach to the social movements integration, which is a theory that prioritizes rational attitudes so that an action is an organized collective. The results showed that the women's movement in Turkey are almost gave up because it was not considered by the State. They only considered to play a role in the household, so women had no other rights. It was this factor that eventually gave rise to various women's movements, confidently and supporting each other with a journey that was not easy, finally, women got equal rights as men had rights.

**Keywords:** *Defending, Rights, Women, Organizations, Turkey*

## Introduction

For hundreds of years, men took precedence in the life of Turkish society. So women are not valued at all and women have no right to choose. Many rulers assumed that a woman was not important in various

decisions, her job was limited to doing domestic affairs, and her position in social life was increasingly marginalized. This is the problem behind the emergence of various women's movements, and a large amount of support from other parties is what makes



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them stronger and more courageous in fighting for their position and rights as women.<sup>1</sup>

Women are considered very low-key even though they are people who come from the ataa, middle or lower circles, they are still considered to have no rights as men. Women do not have the right to education, to participate in politics, to property, or to work. Therefore, the position of women was not the same as that of men before the law at that time.<sup>2</sup>

In the middle of the 19th century in Turkey brought great changes and finally Turkey changed from a traditional country to a modern country. Modernization occurs because of such a large role of students studying in Turkey they have extraordinary abilities and are very modern. It was from then on that the law began to be very well regulated and laid out to harmonize the new legal system.<sup>3</sup> The change occurred because it was influenced by eastern culture that looked at the family side so that some of the other sides the woman was considered a mother in the household which was very contrary if she

obtained the freedom of rights in the modern family.<sup>4</sup>

Therefore, women's participation in the social and political spheres is considered a big mistake and can damage her role as a mother in the family. That way, the efforts made by the State to provide women's rights with men must create a good environment so that they get support from the family and of course not be held low anymore by women's status. Women have an important role that is not only limited to the social environment, but also in the economic and political sphere so that women's power in the labor market and political decision-making become equal to that of men.<sup>5</sup>

In the book "The Position of Women in Turkey and in the European Union: Achievements, Problems, Prospects", it is explained how the position of women in the existing area, the difference in having rights is very clearly carried out by Turkey. Women do not have rights like men. And women are only considered to have a role in domestic affairs and not for anything else.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Katharina Knaus, "Turkish Women: A Century of Change". *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, Vol. 6, No. 5, (2020), 48.

<sup>2</sup> Cici Afifatul Hasanah, Ayu Ferliana, Depict Pristine Adi, "Feminisme Dan Ketahanan Perempuan Dalam Dunia Kerja Di Indonesia Dan Islandia". *Jurnal An-Nisa Kajian Perempuan dan Keislaman*, Vol. 13, No. 1, (April 2020), 2.

<sup>3</sup> Chamim Tohari, "Reformasi dan Konstitusionalisasi Hukum Keluarga Islam di Turki". *Jurnal Penelitian*, Vol. 11, No. 2, (Agustus 2017), 239-240.

<sup>4</sup> Nukhet Kardam, "Social Transformation in Women's Human Rights (With a Focus on Turkey)". (International Studies Association (ISA) Human Rights Joint Conference Istanbul, Turkey 2014), 2

<sup>5</sup> Nukhet Kardam, "Social Transformation.", 2

<sup>6</sup> Fatmagül Berktaş, "The Position of Women in Turkey and in the European Union: Achievements, Problems, Prospects". (Maslak İstanbul: KA-DER Press, 2004), 7-8.

In an earlier study by Sefa fiimfiek, it was shown that the turning point of the Turkish women's struggle began in 1980. This women's movement has undergone changes due to being influenced by global feminist views and ideas. They have dared to be open to commenting on the state regarding the dominance of differences in rights over men in the social system and perpetuating patriarchal culture.<sup>7</sup>

In the Thesis owned by Ivan Yudha F.R stated that to get equal rights, women must fight for a long time, even the women together support each other and go down in line and make a petition for the government to give women decent rights. But this was not in vain, the government finally changed its mind to give women the opportunity to contribute to the State.<sup>8</sup>

Previous research by Carola Cerami on women in Turkey showed that because of the courage of Turkish women in voicing their rights that were once considered low and unimportant in the eyes of the State, finally everything turned into importance. In fact, women are now the main actors who encourage the government and society to pay

more attention to the fulfillment of human rights to women. And the Turkish government, which was not originally so interested in women's rights, has now ratified the CEDAW and signed the Istanbul Convention in 2011 which means women also have the right to help the government as men do.<sup>9</sup>

Research by Gizem Kaftan, who also raised concerns about women's rights in Turkey. And as a result of this issue of rights, women's movements have emerged to obtain their rights, which are often referred to as feminists and Kemalis women's organizations. In this case they with various Movements are trying to continue to contribute to obtaining their rights both in the social sphere and the political sphere.<sup>10</sup>

Esra Ozcan also discusses women's rights, here it is also explained about the impact of structural changes in Turkish politics and media on women's rights. In this paper also presented sections that show how the struggle to define gender equality and women's rights has been played out at

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<sup>7</sup> Sefa fiimfiek "New Social Movements in Turkey Since 1980". *Journal Turkish Studies*. Vol. 5, No. 2, (2005), 120.

<sup>8</sup> Ivan Yudha F.R. Skripsi. "Peran Non-Governmental Organizations dalam MeningkatkanPartisipasi Perempuan di Turki". (Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, 2018), 23.

<sup>9</sup> Carola Cerami.. "Rethinking Turkey's Soft Power in the Arab World: Islam, Secularism, and Democracy". *Journal of Levantine Studies*. Vol. 3 No. 2, (2013), 130.

<sup>10</sup> Gizem Kaftan, "The Turkish W urkish Women's Movement in Abe ement in Abeyance". *Journal of International Women's Studies*, Vol. 21, No. 6, (2020), 181-192.

different times and in different types of broadcast media.<sup>11</sup>

The focus of this research is on renewing women's rights to get the same rights as men through various women's movements. The author will also explain what efforts are being made by the women's movement to obtain equality of their rights to men. This research was conducted by the author with the aim of knowing how the renewal of the law on women's rights and the extent of the journey of the women's movement to obtain equal rights with men.

## Method

This research method is literature studies and Internet searching which is a data collection technique through the help of technology in the form of tools / search engines on the internet where all information from various eras is available in it. Literature studies are a list of references from all types of references such as books, journal papers, articles, and other scientific papers cited in this writing. Sources of literature studies used by researchers are research journals, books, and news from the internet<sup>12</sup>.

The research approach in this research is a historical approach, which is a research approach that is carried out by reconstructing the past to the present. This research is carried out objectively and systematically<sup>13</sup>.

Data Collection Techniques were a) Literature Study This researcher also conducts data searches through written sources to obtain information about the object of this study<sup>14</sup>, b) Literature Studies. In this literature study, the author adheres to an open literature system whereby collecting data or information through reading materials on the problems studied, c) Online Data Browsing / Internet Searching Internet searching is a data collection technique through the help of technology in the form of tools/search engines on the internet where all information from various eras is available in it. Internet searching is very easy in order to help researchers find a file/data where the speed, completeness and availability of data from various years are available. Searching for data on the internet can be done by searching, browsing, surfing or downloading<sup>15</sup>.

After the data is presented in the form of a description, it is then interpreted and then

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<sup>11</sup> Esra Ozcan, berjudul "Women's Rights and Gender Equality in Turkey: Struggles Over Media Representations and Discourses in the Past and Present", *Dalam International Journal of Communication*, No. 14 (2020), 5456-5460.

<sup>12</sup> Ruslan, *Metode Penelitian Public Relations dan Komunikasi*, (Jakarta: Raja Grafindo Persada, 2004), 31.

<sup>13</sup> U Maman, *Metodologi Penelitian Agama Teori dan Praktik*, (Jakarta: PT Raja Grafindo Persada, 2006), 127-128.

<sup>14</sup> Rosady Ruslan, *Metode Penelitian Public Relations Dan Komunikasi*, (Jakarta: PT. Raja Grafindo Persada, 2003), 21

<sup>15</sup> Burhan Bungin, *Analisis Data Penelitian Kualitatif "Pemahaman Filosofis dan Metodologis ke Arab Penguasaan Model Aplikasi"* (Jakarta: Raja Grafindo Persada, 2003), 148.

analyzed in a qualitative descriptive manner, namely by emphasizing the existing problems and relating one to another, so that the problem is clearer and makes it easier to draw conclusions. Conclusions are drawn by the inductive method, that is, thinking from specific conclusions in order to reach general conclusions through a process of abstraction to the existing realities.

## Discussion

### Legal Reform On Women's Rights In Turkey

In 1920 in Turkey there was a very drastic change, the governments began to think openly and democratically so that the government drafted a law that gave freedom to women. Women were given the right to vote and they were also given the right to file divorce claims. This open-ended western thinking was able to slowly improve the position of women in Turkey. Women are also given the opportunity to get a higher education and this is very influential to improve the quality of women in Turkey.<sup>16</sup>

A women's expert named Gerda Lerner is a pioneer in the field of Women's Studies who said that the history of the birth of women is a major tool in the process of

emancipating the progress of other women. So women must be able to educate themselves to make themselves strong. So as early as 1970, an international movement consisting of women historians published books such as *Hidden from History and Becoming Visible*, because from these books they began to have their own agenda, namely efforts to raise important information in history about the involvement and role of women that was not yet known by many people.<sup>17</sup>

The process of developing feminism in Turkey with the birth of various women-based organizations is a manifestation of a new social movement among society. Since the beginning of 1980 women in Turkey have struggled to uphold women's rights and they began to discuss and write about the importance of women's rights.<sup>18</sup>

The development of the women's movement in Turkey we can see from the following description:

1. The Early Period after the Formation of the Republic from 1923 to 1960.

The Republic of Turkey was officially established in 1923 which was then led by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. Turkey experienced a major change in the realm of learning that discussed the

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<sup>16</sup> *The World Book Encyclopedia*, Vol. 19, USA : World Book, Inc, (1987).

<sup>17</sup> Knaus, Katharina. "Turkish Women: A Century of Change". *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, Vol. 6, No. 5, 48.

<sup>18</sup> Hurriyet Daily News. "Women in Ottoman society". <https://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/> di akses pada hari Senin tanggal 23 Mei 2022 Pukul 23:11.

women's movement, but women's activities at that time were still limited to social issues related to women's problems.<sup>19</sup> However, the authorities did not give permission to establish women-based organizations.

At that time, a Turkish Women's Association movement began to emerge, they did not get a warm welcome from the ruler and even this women's movement received scathing criticism for being considered opposed to the ruling government. TKB is an association under the leadership of Nezihe Muhiddin. They demanded that the government grant women rights as much freedom as men. However, government officials hope that women will only carry out their role as a mother in the household.<sup>20</sup> It was because of this rejection that the women's movement finally disbanded in 1935 after giving a statement that the struggle for women's emancipation in Turkey could no longer be fought.

Deniz Kandiyoti in his book says that at that time women had already carried out the emancipation movement but they were not free to convey their aspirations. The women's movement at

that time had made various efforts in various aspects to achieve the same rights as men.<sup>21</sup>

## 2. The Transitional Period of the Feminism Movement from 1960 to 1990.

Turkey began to tolerate the existence of various organizations, such as the existence of Kurdish nationalist movements, Islamism, the environment, human rights and also feminism.<sup>22</sup> The feminism movement in Turkey underwent a significant change because it has gained great influence from global feminist ideas about the struggle and movement towards the liberation of women's rights. From these movements, there are many generations of women who are intellectuals, academics, the middle class and also the development of left-wing women<sup>23</sup>

In 1984, women experts and scholars who were members of the Kadın Cevresi study group (Women's Circle) initiated the publication of a journal called "Somut" in which various articles and discussion panels were published on issues related to women such as the right of women to get protection, health and consulting services for women in

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<sup>19</sup> Mercil, Ipek dan Osman Senemoglu. "The Historical Grounds of the Turkish Women's Movement", *Human and Social Studies*, Vol. .3, Issue 1 (March 2013), 16.

<sup>20</sup> Daily Sabah. "Nezihe Muhiddin: A Turkish suffragette". <https://dailysabah.com/> di akses pada hari Minggu Tanggal 22 Mei 2022 Pukul 01:14.

<sup>21</sup> Deniz Kandiyoti "Emancipated but Unliberated? Reflections on the Turkish Case", *Feminist Studies*, Vol.13, No.2 (Summer, 1987), 320.

<sup>22</sup> Sefa Simsek, "New Social Movements in Turkey since 1980". *Turkish Studies*, Vol.5, No.2, (Summer 2004), 112.

<sup>23</sup> Sefa Simsek, "New Social Movements..", 120.

Turkey.<sup>24</sup> In addition, women in Turkey also began to dare to organize seminars and symposia.<sup>25</sup> In 1990 the Turkish government through the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection finally established an institution called the General Directorate of Women's Status and Problems.<sup>26</sup>

3. The Revival period of Women-based Social Organizations in 1990 to the Present.

In 1990 the women's movement in Turkey began to look more lively, and they also demanded democratic freedom and equality among men and women.<sup>27</sup> Women's organizations in Turkey began to be recognized as their movements so that women were able to involve themselves in a wider arena in interacting with other actors both at national and international events. The women's movement in Turkey is divided into 4 (four) namely:<sup>28</sup>

- a. *Kemalist, this kemalis movement tends to oppose the indoctrination that the woman*

*should be hooded. In addition, the organization also has a priority to improve the quality of education levels to ground women away from illiteracy and assume women to actively participate in the market and labor.*

- b. *Islamist, the Islamist women's organization movement, encourages women to carry out their roles only as mothers and wives in family life.*
- c. *Leftist, a movement of left-wing women's organizations that fought to demand that the state give equal rights to women in the political sphere.*
- d. *Kurdish, a movement of women's organizations that sought to have ethnic discrimination against women in various fields removed. The organization also speaks out on specific issues such as domestic violence and deprivation of rights against women.*

Through these various movements, they hope to be able to get justice for women in various fields.<sup>29</sup> And in the end the women's movement in Turkey based on this organization has succeeded in bringing about great changes, especially on women's rights and being able to increase the capacity of a women's organization.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>24</sup> Yesim Arat, "Feminist Institutions and Democratic Aspirations: The Case of the Purple Roof Women's Shelter Foundation" dalam Arat, Fahma Zehra. "Deconstructing the Image of The Turkish Women". (London: Macmillan Press, 1998), 296.

<sup>25</sup> Sirin Tekeli, "Introduction: Women in Turkey in the 1980s". (London: Zed Books Limited, 1995), 14.

<sup>26</sup> Arat, Yesim. "Feminist Institutions and Democratic Aspirations: The Case of the Purple Roof Women's Shelter Foundation" dalam Arat, Fahma Zehra. "Deconstructing the Image of The Turkish Women". (London: Macmillan Press, 1998), 297.

<sup>27</sup> Fatmagul Bektay, "The Position of Women in Turkey and in European Union: Achievements, Problems, Prospects" (Turkey: Publish, 2004), 75.

<sup>28</sup> Diner, Cagla & Tokas, Sule. "Waves of Feminism in Turkey: Kemalist, Islamist and Kurdish Women's Movements in an Era of Globalization", *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies*. Vol. 12, No. 1, (March 2010), 41-57.

<sup>29</sup> Diner, Cagla & Tokas, Sule. "Waves of Feminism in Turkey...", 41-57

<sup>30</sup> Negron-Gonzales, Melinda. "The feminist movement during the AKP era in Turkey: challenges

## Women's Movement's Involvement in The Renewal of Women's Rights Law in Turkey

The involvement of the women's movement in the process of updating women's rights law in Turkey through 3 women's organizations that played an important role in encouraging such a large level of participation in women in Turkey.

Trois organisations de femmes Yanag jouent un rôle important en Turquie:

a. *Türkiye Kadın Girişimciler Derneği* (KAGIDER)<sup>31</sup>

This organization is a non-governmental organization that was officially founded in September 2007 by 37 women entrepreneurs who are actively involved in economic activities in Turkey. Now the movement is led by Sanem Oktar. This movement has a vision and mission to create a good environment, where women are able to produce and build their existence independently and can play an effective role in decision-making processes.<sup>32</sup>

This movement aims to strengthen women's rights, especially in terms of entrepreneurship in the economic field. This movement has a

mission to support entrepreneurship. They believe that women entrepreneurs can improve the economy. They believe that women entrepreneurs can have such an impact in improving the economy. This mission aims to realize attention to the social contribution of entrepreneurs and women business activists in defending their rights as women and being able to get gender equality in society.<sup>33</sup>

b. *Kadın Adayları Destekleme ve Eğitim Derneği* (KADER)<sup>34</sup>

The organization was founded on March 4, 1997 by a women's group. They created this organization in order to help prospective female candidates to actively participate in politics. KADER is a women's organization that makes efforts to rebuild the spirit of women in obtaining their rights and this organization also aims to provide a decent life in various aspects, especially in the political field. Because through the field of politics, women can improve their skills and advance to become candidates in local elections and general elections.<sup>35</sup>

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and opportunities”, *Jurnal Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 52, No. 2, (March 2016), 212.

<sup>31</sup> KAGIDER. “About KAGIDER: History”. <https://www.KAGIDER.org/en/corporate/about-KAGIDER/history>. Di akses pada Hari Minggu Pukul 01:12.

<sup>32</sup> KAGIDER. “About KAGIDER: History”. <https://www.KAGIDER.org/en/corporate/about->

[KAGIDER/history](#). Di akses pada Hari Minggu Pukul 01:12.

<sup>33</sup> KAGIDER. “About KAGIDER: History”

<sup>34</sup> K.A.DER. “About K.A.DER”. “About K.A.DER”. <https://ka.der.org.tr/en/about-us/>. Di akses pada Hari Minggu Pukul 01:14.

<sup>35</sup> Kadın Emegi ve İstihdami Girişimi. “Association For The Support of Women



KADER have principles that form the fundamental basis in the movement of their organization, namely:

1. To counter all kinds of forms of discrimination experienced by women.
  2. To keep the same distance from the various political parties that have been legally recognized by the government in established relations.
  3. To cooperate with various branches of women-based organizations and female MPs from various political parties within the same range.
  4. To expand public awareness about the potential of women in reflecting the principle of feminism in all their activities.
  5. To be able to integrate equal rights on all existing policies and various programs.<sup>36</sup>
- c. *Kadin ve Demokrasi Dernegi* (KADEM)<sup>37</sup>
- This organization is a women's organization that is now under the leadership of Sare Aydin Yilmaz. These organizations uphold democratic values and oppose all forms of violence and discrimination against women, and they also ensure that women can contribute to the social, cultural,

political and also economic spheres. KADEM has a variety of women's empowerment activities, including through activities such as workshops, training, promotion by conducting campaigns, social activities, participation in various conferences both at the national and international levels, discussion panels and seminars, research and research, as well as other programs that support progress for Turkish women.

### **Women's Movement Efforts in Voicing Women's Rights in Turkey**

Apart from the involvement of the above organizations, many efforts were also made to voice the implementation of legal reforms on women's rights. Turkey gained such a huge outside influence that it was able to revise immediately all existing laws and regulations in order to integrate with the agenda of granting equal rights.<sup>38</sup>

So the efforts made to voice women's rights include:

- a. Adjustments to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

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Candidates/KA.DER”.

<https://www.keig.org/?p=131&lang=en> Di akses pada Hari Minggu Tanggal 22 Mei 2022 Pukul 01:09.

<sup>36</sup> Kadin Emegi ve Istihdami Girişimi. “Association For The Support of Women Candidates/KA.DER”.

<https://www.keig.org/?p=131&lang=en> Di akses pada Hari Minggu Tanggal 22 Mei 2022 Pukul 01:09.

<sup>37</sup> KADEM. About us: KADEM”. <https://kadem.org.tr/en/about-us/about-kadem/> Di akses pada Hari Minggu Tanggal 22 Mei 2022 Pukul 01:00.

<sup>38</sup> Alçunur, Selma. “Gender and Development in Turkey”, *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, Vol. 11, No.4. Tahun 2013, 72.

In 1935 the Turkish state signed and approved the Beijing Treaty for the creation of an Action Plan. The government agreed to eliminate discrimination against women in 1985 in order to create equal rights.<sup>39</sup> The signing finally led to changes in the constitution that occurred in 2004 and 2010 into an important achievement, one of which was the addition of Article 10 in 2004 which said there was a commonality of the rights of men and women.<sup>40</sup> *On June 12, 2011, women finally gained access to the freedom to actively participate in the constitutional drafting process through Women's Platform for a New Constitution.*

b. Penal Code and Civil Code Reform

The government stated that it would be responsible for upholding equal rights between men and women through Article 10 of the code stipulated on May 7, 2004.<sup>41</sup> KUHP Turki (Turkish Penal Code) which has gone through a revision process came into force in 2004 as one of Turkey's efforts to give rights to women and crack down on all forms of crime or violence that harm women. This is in conjunction with the implementation of the latest Turkish Civil Law set on November 22, 2001 and then implemented on January 1, 2002. This regulation confirms the existence

of the principle of equal rights in the family. The passage of this law cannot be separated from the various efforts and support of 126 women's organizations and this is also inseparable from the support of the European Union.<sup>42</sup>

Laws and regulations relating to women's rights and their equality with men have been adapted to applicable international legal standards such as the CEDAW Convention and the European Union's Acquis. The government's efforts in dealing with women's issues can actually be seen from the inclusion of equal rights issues in the Turkish Fifth Five Year Development Plan development agenda from 1985 to 1990. One of the government's achievements related to women's issues through this agenda was the establishment of the Directorate General on Status and Problems of Women (DGSPW) in 1990.<sup>43</sup> In order to effectively implement the government's gender mainstreaming policy, the government established an Advisory Board on the Status of Women in 2004.

An amendment to the Political Parties Law and the Electoral Law has been under discussion over the past few years, requiring at least 1/3 of the quota of women in elections

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<sup>39</sup> Meltem Muftuler, "Gender Equality in Turkey: Policy Department C: Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs". (Brussels: European Parliament, 2012), 4.

<sup>40</sup> Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. "On the Way to a New Constitution in Turkey: Constitutional History, Political Parties and Civil Platforms", 4. <https://www.library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/tuerkei.pdf> Diakses Pada Hari Sabtu 21 Mei 2022 Pukul 09:10.

<sup>41</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "Political Reforms in Turkey". (Ankara: Secretariat General for EU Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2007), 212.

<sup>42</sup> Cakirca, Seda Irem. "Turkish Civil Code and CEDAW: Never Shall the Twain Meet?". *Annales* XLV, N.62, (2013), 145-192.

<sup>43</sup> Eylem Kaya, "An Overview of Turkish Women's Status in Turkey", *Jurnal Toplum ve Demokrasi Ocak-Nisan*, Vol. 2, No. 5. (2019), 214.

with special provisions to be able to ensure their placement in electable positions. This amendment proposal is at the top of the agenda for women in Turkey and has been recommended in eu commission reports in 2005 and 2006.<sup>44</sup>

c. Contribution and Status of the Women's Movement to the State in Turkey

Various efforts have been made to voice their rights as women, especially on matters related to applicable policies and laws and how women play a major role in the Turkish order of society. Even so, women still sometimes experience acts of discrimination in society. Here are some of the Contributions of the women's movement to the State:

1. Economics and Employment

Laws and regulations on labor in Turkey have been revised in accordance with the equal rights policy to increase the number of women's participation in the sector. Programs to increase the number of women working such as through vocational training and programs that support women entrepreneurs in the economic sector. However, the structure of the workers is still dominated by men.<sup>45</sup>

The growing markets in Turkey, this has affected the level of inequality of rights for women and men both in the economic and labor fields and this has also become a problem regarding the high low wages provided and the absence of social security for women. Government regulations regarding work related to the security of men's and women's rights have indeed been regulated, but this is often ignored by companies. Some laws still limit women's employment opportunities and are seen as an obstacle to their career development such as health care and education. The role and participation of women in Turkey in social, economic, and political life is a form of positive improvement towards equal rights, but the implementation of less concrete programs and projects ultimately makes it difficult to realize.

2. Political Field<sup>46</sup>

Women in Turkey's local government showed low numbers. Turkey shows that the representation of women in local political areas is lower than the level of representation in the national world. Women in Turkey actually have a better contribution than men because women have two elements of roles that they can do, namely in the economic field as actors in production activities and the

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<sup>44</sup> Eylem Kaya, "An Overview of Turkish..", 215.

<sup>45</sup> Mine Tan, "Towards Gender Equality: Education, Employment, Political Participation, *Jurnal Tusiad Istanbul*", Vol.7, No. 2, (2000), 2.

<sup>46</sup> Mine Tan, "Towards Gender Equality: Education, Employment..", 2.

family field as reproductive actors, but because the capacity of women in the political field is still low, this makes it more difficult for them to play a role in their role.

In 2004 and 2010 there was a demand for the government to take the necessary steps and actions to increase the representation of women in politics. In other words, they want article 10 to state the equal rights that men and women have, therefore the government is obliged to guarantee the rights it has. The active participation of women in the policymaking process means that there are equal opportunities and access to all things in society.<sup>47</sup>

Then came the women's movement called the Women Branch. This movement provides support for women to play an active role in politics.<sup>48</sup> This movement has always provided trainings around politics to women. They also always conduct evaluation surveys to find out how people think about various party policies. So that through this movement women are able to cooperate with foreign parties.<sup>49</sup>

From the above exposure, we can know that it is not easy for women to get the same rights as men, so long that they are willing to sacrifice a lot of time for the justice of all women in Turkey. Time continued to pass,

and finally all the patience was sweetly fruitful. Now, women have been given the full right to contribute in anything in Turkey, meaning that women also have the same rights as men. There are no more restrictions on voicing women's rights. Researchers also found that women have been given the freedom to choose every thing without any coercion from any party. This shows that women are also able to carry out their roles as good citizens even with the existence of these various women's movements until now it proves that women are able to uplift various sectors and fields of government in Turkey.

## **Conclusion**

The results of this study show that the process of forming public awareness of the rights that women have that are the same as men cannot be separated from the historical context of injustice that still occurs today. Then we can conclude the important points from the exposure above, namely: a) The establishment of various women's movements had a great impact, namely being able to improve the order of life both in terms of position and provide guarantees of protection for women and improve the fate of children in the future in various domains of life. Just like getting a proper education for women, this

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<sup>47</sup> Firman Maulana Noor, "Transformasi Gerakan Partai Berbasis Islam di Turki: Studi Kasus Perkembangan Adelet Ve Kalkinma Partisi (AKP)", *Jurnal Middle East and Islamic Studies*, Vol. 4 No. 2, (Juli – Desember 2017), 317.

<sup>48</sup> Firman Maulana Noor, "Transformasi Gerakan Partai Berbasis Islam di Turki:..", 317

<sup>49</sup> Banu Eligur, *The Mobilization of Political Islam in Turkey* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2010), 245.

then also becomes a very important thing for society, especially women in Turkey, where later a good education will lead them to such a big change in their lives and also the country, b) This legal reform succeeded in elevating the status of women so that they could get their rights as a woman who also had the right to be active in various fields, c) Eliminates descriptive attitudes towards women. Because women also have the same rights as men and women are given the freedom of choice, d) The emergence of the women's movement has become increasingly vocal in voicing her wishes and her rights as a woman through campaigns and demonstrations with the intention of raising public awareness of the importance of women's dignity and dignity

Based on the results of the research and the conclusions previously described, the researcher gave several suggestions, including the following: a) To the reviewers to be more intensive in conducting a study of a rule or teaching so that it can be proven that the rule or teaching is indeed in accordance with all situations and conditions, and is not outdated and even able to face the challenges of the times based on reasonable arguments, b) For the reviewers, especially those concerned with the issue of feminism and the rights that women have, to examine further the products of external law relating to women's issues and their rights so that it can be established that it

does not violate human rights, c) In order for governments in countries to be wise in formulating their rights and obligations that will be imposed on society so that it is not easy to simply accept legal products that come from other countries before conducting in-depth research on aspects of their suitability. Especially in women, to be seen in terms of the potential they have who also have advantages like men.

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