

Kadir Has University Design, Arts and Communication Collective [DAC]

DAC promotes diversity and inclusivity through art, design, and communication. We combine unconventional thinking and different methods of research and analysis to increase the visibility, reach and impact of research and innovation projects. We are a unique multidisciplinary academic group joining design, visual arts, advertising, marketing, gender studies, conflict transformation, urban and historical research. Our core team consists of three PhDs from art, humanities and social sciences and two designers cooperating intensely with a widespread network of experts; hence DAC is a vibrant network of national and international universities, art institutions, and advertising agencies; and highly skilled and awarded researchers.

Our expertise is making impact! We are highly skillful in developing innovative and creative awareness-raising activities, dissemination strategies and action plans, organizing of events, exhibitions, workshops, trainings, competitions, and conferences. As well as in fundamental and applied research in a variety of scientific areas to achieve attitudinal and behavioral changes in the long run for diverse target groups. We specialize in reaching the right target groups and maximizing cost to impact ratio through innovations. Our team leads innovations in new media practices, visual communication, contemporary art, conflict transformation, cultural heritage, urban research, gender equality, consumption and consumer culture, and advertising strategies. We've created innovative approaches and methodologies for teaching art and design, especially effective approaches how to boost creativity of teams. We have outstanding cooperation with the advertising industry leaders, SMEs, NGOs in Turkey, academic and industry relations in Western European, North American and Mediterranean Regions.

Most recent successful projects where DAC contributed to project development and implementation include: *Mapping Gender Equality and Violence Discourses in Turkey and Sri Lanka*, *An Oral History with the Women Workers of Ex-Cibali Tobacco Factory*; We had research roles in *H2020: Perspectives of Conflict Transformation from the Middle East and Europe (CTMEE)*; *Inter-Continental Exchange of Leadership in Conflict Transformation*; production of visual communications, mobile and web platforms for H2020 funded project *SAGE (Systemic Action for Gender Equality)*, designed to seek stronger action on gender equality in higher education and research, *Horizontal Urban Design Projects* supported by Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Germany, foundation of self-initiated international networks of researchers and artists (TACT), implementing peer to peer learning environments in St. Petersburg, Berlin and Istanbul etc.

Role as partner in H2020 projects: Basic research, applied research, data gathering and intelligence; expertise in dissemination of knowledge to stakeholders, transfer of research results into the real sector, design of dissemination strategy or interventions to advance the project's impact and sustainability, production of visual communication while providing information and education and ensuring key stakeholder involvement in Turkey as well as Euro Asia. We would also be delighted to discuss specific project tasks if you see the interest in cooperation.

Topics of Interest: ICT-32-2018: STARTS – The Arts stimulating innovation (especially Coordination & support action [CSA]); related topics from Work Programs 13, 14, 16.

University Affiliation: Kadir Has University; City: Istanbul; Country: Turkey;

Contact persons: Dr. Ayşe Binay Kurultay; binaykurultay@khas.edu.tr; Dr. Ayşe Ereğ; ayse.erek@khas.edu.tr;

Dr. Eser Selen; eser.selen@khas.edu.tr.