

# LEADER & RELIABLE HIV INFORMATION SOURCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY

[www.kirmizikurdele.org](http://www.kirmizikurdele.org)  
#HearPreventProtect #AllAboutHIV

## ONLINE HIV COUNSELLING

Anonymous and non-stop online HIV counselling in Turkish and English via two websites which are Turkey's most visited web sources on HIV\* and messaging service on Facebook

\*Source: Google Analytics

## FREE AND ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING

Providing free and anonymous HIV testing\*\* opportunity in collaboration with local municipalities for especially LGBTI+ individuals and also for everybody in the society in Turkey where anonymous testing still has legal barriers

## NON-STOP PUBLISHINGS ON HIV

Informative publishings on HIV including  
-Treatment  
-Safe sex  
-PrEP  
-TaSP  
-ChemSex  
-B = B (U = U)  
and more...

## THEMED EVENTS

Themed events like #redribongala, #redribbonparty and #redribbonfootball organized for the first time in Turkey by #redribbonistanbul! Now we are preparing new themed events that will make a deep impact to attract the attention to HIV



## HIV TALK SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS ABOUT SAFE SEX

HIV talk sessions based on scientific facts and interactions in between attendees, for everyone, structured for general society, or specially for companies, universities and different subgroups

## FIRST HIV COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD IN TURKEY

TKCAB (Turkish HIV Comm. Adv. Board) organized under the leadership of RRI for the first time with participants from different civil society groups such as local municipalities, LGBTI+, sexual health, sex workers organizations

## POSITIVE ACADEMY

HIV education academy which lasts all year long for the activists working on HIV, to support capacity building, open to participants from Turkey and also people from Turkish speaking countries

## ATTENDANCE TO INT. CONFERENCES AND COLLABORATIONS

Collaboration with international organizations like EATG, AIDS ACTION EUROPE, HIV I-BASE, NAM-AIDSmap, U=U and more as a local partner. Presentations in international conferences on behalf of Turkey's HIV community

\*\*Number of testing requests (people who asked code for anonymous testing for the first 8 months of project): 1165  
Number of code users (people who used their codes and get tested): 874 (75%)  
Number of confirmed new diagnoses:  
42 (4.81%)



**B = B**

## Who is Red Ribbon Istanbul (RRI)

Red Ribbon Istanbul is the leading NGO in Turkey operating in the HIV field, founded back in 2016 with a focus to bring the reliable HIV information from abroad to Turkey and has been the Turkey's most referenced HIV information source with its website that reaches around +160.000 visits in a month now and Online HIV Counseling platform which answers around +2500 questions from the general public every month. Also, the organization has been recognized with its branded events organized for the first time in Turkey and took a long ride in a short time like 3 years.

Back in 2018, Mr. Arda Karapınar ([www.ardakarapinar.me](http://www.ardakarapinar.me)), Founder and Chairperson of RRI, was invited to the USA by the State Department to get together with CDC, NIH in Atlanta and other NGOs in seven different states, including San Francisco, Sacramento, Washington, New York, to share local experiences from the region.

Also, the organization was selected as one of the most pioneering NGOs in Turkey and took place in the exhibition Faces of Turkey organized by the European Parliament where the Chairperson Arda Karapınar gave a speech on HIV facts of Turkey.

Arda Karapınar's EP Speech: [bit.ly/rriepspeech](http://bit.ly/rriepspeech) (English)

Red Ribbon Istanbul's Interview with MEP Miltiadis KYRKOS: [bit.ly/rriep](http://bit.ly/rriep) (English)

For Further Information about Red Ribbon Istanbul, please visit: [www.kirmizikurdele.org/english](http://www.kirmizikurdele.org/english)

## Detailed Works

**HIV Information Provision:** Red Ribbon Istanbul's website has become the most referenced and reliable HIV information source with over 160K visits per month.

**Online HIV Counselling:** A new practice of HIV counseling provided by the organization became a pioneering operation for PLHIVs and non-PLHIVs in Turkey to reach immediate and anonymous response to their inquiries on HIV.

**U=U (B=B) Turkey:** Red Ribbon Istanbul is one of the first signing organizations of the U=U Campaign launched by the Prevention Access Campaign from the U.S. and since the beginning of the campaign Red Ribbon Istanbul operated to spread the message in the country as the local official representative.

**HIV Talks/Red Ribbon Talks:** Red Ribbon Istanbul provides open and closed talk sessions in the companies, universities and other organizations and moderates the conversations to make awareness about HIV.

**Positive Academy:** A 3 modules 9-month academical and medical training program run by Red Ribbon Istanbul with the EATG's technical assistance (European AIDS Treatment Group) for the first time in the country and region with a professional structure that Turkey's well-known infectious diseases doctors and activists take place as trainers.

**Red Ribbon Week/Turkey's Joint Declaration for WAD:** A new HIV activism and celebrating concept for the first week of December including the World AIDS Day. [www.hivcokdegisti.org/bildiri2017](http://www.hivcokdegisti.org/bildiri2017) (English)

**Free and Anonymous HIV Testing:** And automated web application that provides applicants to access to free and anonymous HIV testing for the individuals living in most crowded seven cities of the country. [www.ucretsizhivtesti.com](http://www.ucretsizhivtesti.com)

**Red Ribbon Party/Red Ribbon Gala:** A World AIDS Day party concept takes place on December 1, that is celebrated at the same time in different cities in Europe including Istanbul. [bit.ly/rrigala](http://bit.ly/rrigala)

**TKCAB (Turkish Community Advisory Board):** A HIV community decision making advisory board took place in 2017 for the first time in Turkey and continues to be organized every year by the participating organizations for those policy makers and state bodies.

**Conference Attendances:** Since the foundation, the organization Red Ribbon Istanbul has attended to many different conferences as the local representative HIV organization, including IAS Conferences, EACS, PrEP in Europe, Glasgow HIV Drug Conferences and so...

**AIDS 2018 March:** A marching organization took place in Amsterdam as the opening event of IAS World AIDS Conference 2018, organized by the 25 NGOs from the field in different countries with the leadership of HIV Vereeniging from the Netherlands, the Prevention Access Campaign from the U.S. and Red Ribbon Istanbul from Turkey. <https://youtu.be/m2DxNkjrp4g>