

**PRESS RELEASE**

**April 13, 2022**

**HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING REPORT**  
**MATERIAL OBSTACLES TO ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN THE**  
**STRUGGLE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE KAZ**  
**MOUNTAINS REGION**

Kazdağları region, with all current and upcoming thermal power plants, metallic mining sites (gold, copper, uranium, etc.), stone and sand quarries, wind power plants (WPP), geothermal power plants (GPP), increased construction, eco-tourism, agricultural lands, wetlands are under a free-for-all ecological attack with the destruction of historical and natural structures, new coastal development plans and aggressive urban development schemes.

**The associations operating in the Kazdağları region, which is spread over a part of Çanakkale and Balıkesir provinces, have difficulty in dealing with the legal fees, expert witness and discovery fees, and litigation expenses for the cases they file for the prevention of environmental violations.**

The amount of litigation expenses that exceed their own budgets cause many associations to abandon their justified lawsuits or to have to allocate their time, energy and resources to litigation expenses instead of developing themselves, and to face the threat of foreclosure through legal enforcement due to unpaid litigation expenses. All of these make it difficult or hinder access to justice and the right to the environment, which are all basic human rights.

**The aim of this report is;** To carry out and report human rights monitoring (HCR) studies on financial obstacles to access to justice in this region through similar associations operating in the Kazdağları region.

We hope that through this report we will be able to convey to a wide audience the voices and problems of associations seeking to live in a better environment and a better world which, despite their very limited budgets consisting mostly of members' fees and donations, undertake the task of supervising the administration by filing very important environmental court cases that bring the licences it grants before the judiciary, and so generate public benefit.

**Gülpınar Sustainable Living Association**  
**Chair of the Board**

To access the full report: <https://gulpinardernek.org/2023/03/31/adalete-erisimin-onusinde-maddi-engeller-raporumuz-yayinlandi/>

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