

Supplementary File

Appendix. Semi-Structured Interview Guide

The following thematic guide structured the interviews. It was used flexibly: questions were adapted to the flow of each conversation, follow-up probes were added, and participants were encouraged to introduce issues they considered important. Interviews were conducted in Turkish; the items are translated here.

A. Digital re-entry and the “digital shock”

- How would you describe your relationship with technology before you went to prison? When you were released, how did you experience the pace of technological change outside?
- What difficulties do you currently face in obtaining a device or internet access, including any related to your neighbourhood?

B. E-government and public e-services

- Are you able to use systems such as e-Devlet and MHRS? Has being unable to use them—or being blocked because of your criminal record—caused you to lose access to a right?
- Does the digitalization of public services make life easier for you, or does it build a new “wall” between you and the state?
- After release, did you use e-Devlet for criminal-record, health (MHRS), or social-assistance applications? Did the complexity of the system make you feel you had lost a right?

C. Devices, connectivity, and cost

- Do you currently have your own smartphone and a regular internet connection? How did your financial situation or neighbourhood conditions constrain obtaining them?

- How do the costs of a device or data plan affect your budget? Has there been a time you could not deal with something because you had no internet?

D. Sources of support

- When you have to carry out a digital transaction you do not know how to do, whom do you turn to (family, neighbours, officials)?
- When you cannot complete something digitally (an e-Devlet password, an online application), how do you solve it through neighbourhood networks (the grocer, relatives, children)?

E. Stigma, surveillance, and self-expression

- Online (social media, job postings, comments), have there been moments you felt a “double exclusion” because of both your Roma identity and your incarceration history?
- Can you express yourself freely online, or do you restrain yourself for fear of being “watched” or judged because of your identity?
- How have your digital skills (or their absence) affected your job search? Have you developed any particular methods to get past obstacles such as the criminal-record check or your neighbourhood name?

F. Rights, policy, and expectations

- Do you think you can claim your rights or file complaints through digital platforms (e.g., CIMER)?
- What should municipalities or Roma associations do so that people like you are not “left behind” digitally? Should this be a matter of “charity” or of “right”?