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### Araştırma Makalesi | Research Article

# İngilizce Öğretmen Adaylarının COVID-19 Salgını Sırasında ve Sonrasında Web Semineri Deneyimlerine İlişkin Keşifsel Bir Çalışma

## An Exploratory Study of EFL Teacher Candidates' Webinar Experiences During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic<sup>1</sup>

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#### Özet

Çevrimiçi öğretmen mesleki gelişimi, dijital öğrenme teknolojilerinin yaygınlaşması ve COVID-19 salgınından da etkilenen gelişen eğitim ortamının kritik bir bileşeni haline gelmiştir. Bu araştırma, COVID-19 salgını sırasında ve sonrasında çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim web seminerlerine katılan İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının deneyimlerini keşfetmeyi amaçlamaktadır. Çalışmaya, çeşitli küresel ve yerel kurumlar tarafından sunulan mesleki gelişim web seminerlerine katılan 15 İngilizce öğretmeni adayı katılmıştır. Veriler, bireysel ve odak grup yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmeler yoluyla toplanmış ve tematik analiz kullanılarak analiz edilmiştir. Çalışma, web seminerlerinin İngilizce öğretmeni adaylarının mesleki gelişimleri üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi olduğunu ve örgün eğitimlerine ek destek sağladığını ortaya koymuştur. Bununla birlikte, web seminerlerine katılmak öğretmen adayları için çeşitli zorlukları ve sorunları da ortaya çıkarmıştır. Bu çalışmanın bulguları, İngilizce öğretmeni adaylarının mesleki gelişim ihtiyaçlarını karşılamak için potansiyel bir platform olarak web seminerlerinin kullanımına ilişkin içgörü sağlamakta ve öğretmen eğitimi programları için öneriler sunmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim, İngilizce öğretmen adayları, Web seminerleri

#### Abstract

Online teacher professional development has become a critical component of the evolving educational landscape, which has been further impacted by the proliferation of digital learning technologies and the COVID-19 pandemic. The present research reports on a study that aimed to explore the experiences of pre-service EFL teachers who attended online professional development webinars during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. The study involved 15 EFL teacher candidates who participated in professional development webinars offered by a variety of global and local institutions. Data were collected through individual and focus group semi-structured interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis. The study found that webinars had a positive impact on the professional growth of English language teacher candidates, providing additional support to their formal education. However, attending webinars also presented several challenges and issues for teacher candidates. The findings of this study provide insights into the use of webinars as a potential platform to address the professional development needs of EFL teacher candidates, with implications and recommendations for teacher education programs.

Keywords: Online professional development, EFL teacher candidates, Webinars

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#### 1. Introduction

Online professional development (OPD) activities, referred to as any type of internet-mediated professional growth or learning process, have become increasingly common among teachers due to their convenience and flexibility (Elliott, 2017). These activities can take many forms, such as online courses, digital conferences, webinars, and online discussions. Given the proliferation of digital technology for remote learning has dramatically altered the delivery of education, online teacher professional development and learning is a critical component of this evolving educational landscape (Bragg et al., 2021). It is expected that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a substantial effect on the further adoption of online professional development for teachers.

The use of digitally-enabled distance learning has grown exponentially for people with access to connected digital devices in 2020, and this is likely to have permanently changed the way education is delivered (Bragg et al., 2021). A recent systematic review of research indicates that OPD activities can effectively improve instructional practice, content knowledge, and participant satisfaction, as well as they boost confidence in the classroom (Bragg et al., 2021). For instance, online courses and webinars provide access to new teaching strategies and techniques and the chance to engage in interactive discussions with teachers globally (Shin et al., 2022). Moreover, online activities and courses offer teachers the chance to network and collaborate with peers and learn from experts in the field, leading to a more supportive professional community and a greater sense of connectedness among language teachers (Bragg et al., 2021; Yıldırım et al., 2022).

The COVID-19 pandemic created a pressing need for OPD activities, and as a result, many teachers and teacher educators took a quick approach to professional development, putting everything on digital platforms (e.g., Zoom) and offering just-in-time OPD webinars to prepare teachers for remote teaching (Alvarez & Corcuera, 2021; Shin et al., 2022; Toquero & Talidong, 2020). The initial phase of the pandemic witnessed teachers taking this approach due to the necessity and relying on webinars for their continued professional growth and sharing of information and concepts during the pandemic (Silvhiany, 2022).

However, despite their advantages, research has shown that online professional development activities have some limitations. These limitations include unreliable internet access, lack of support leading to teacher demotivation, navigating the steep learning curve for effective learning and teaching online, and incorporating online learning into both online and in-person teaching practices. (Bragg et al., 2021; Chin et al., 2022). To overcome such challenges, successful OPD programs need to feature certain elements. These elements encompass accommodating different learning styles, promoting participant engagement, designing a supportive program, focusing on the development of content knowledge, acknowledging the context, being flexible, and offering support to learners, providing technical support to instructors, and introducing policies and guidelines for effective programs (Al-Naabi et al., 2021; Bragg et al., 2021; Philipsen et al., 2019). Nonetheless, online professional development activities are regarded as a valuable resource for language teachers, offering convenient and flexible opportunities for improvement and professional growth (Alvarez & Corcuera, 2021; Elliott, 2017; Khanna & Thakarar, 2021).

The majority of previous research has mostly focused on asynchronous professional development activities for in-service teachers. However, there is a lack of research on the professional development experiences of pre-service language teachers in digital contexts. Therefore, this study aims to understand the impact of technology on English language teacher candidates' engagement in online professional development activities and to explore the perceived benefits and limitations of such activities for them during the pandemic.

#### 2. Literature Review

The literature on online professional development (OPD) for teachers has delved into a range of topics, including perspectives and needs of teachers towards OPD, benefits and challenges of OPD through multiple platforms, and OPD activities during COVID-19 pandemic. In this section, we aim to provide a concise yet comprehensive overview of the aforementioned research.

To begin with, a primary focus of recent research has been the perspectives and needs of teachers with regard to online professional development activities. Both Chin et al. (2022) and Yıldırım et al. (2022) conducted studies examining the perspectives and professional development needs of teachers in the Philippines and Turkey, respectively. Chin et al. (2022) found that teachers primarily focused on professional development related to online teaching, information technology, and research, but faced challenges such as financial constraints, lack of motivation, and logistical support. Yıldırım et al. (2022), on the other hand, discovered that teachers held positive perceptions of online teacher professional development programs that were flexible, interactive, and provided quality content for group work and convenient access.

Benefits and challenges of OPD activities through multiple platforms has been explored in the previous literature as well. The study by Liu and Kleinsasser (2014) explored the benefits and disadvantages of web-based asynchronous discussion boards EFL teachers and teacher candidates' professional development. They revealed that this form of professional development facilitated knowledge construction and professional growth, leading to positive impacts on teachers' instructional ideas and practices through collaboration, reflection, and emotional support. Another study by Kim and Lee (2022) introduced the SMART Teacher Lab (STL), an online platform that provides EFL teachers with various educational resources and was designed to be an open-access, mobile-based platform for sustainable professional development.

Social media and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) have also been utilized as tools for professional development. Luo et al. (2020) conducted a review focused on the use of social media in in higher education professional development and found that while social media-supported learning networks and communities of practice have potential, they also present challenges in terms of maintaining faculty participation and navigating the platform, especially for new users. Rossel-Aguilar (2018) studied language teachers' use of Twitter for professional development and reported that most users tried the suggestions and ideas they found on the network, leading to positive changes in their teaching practices. More recently, Uştuk (2022) employed a netnographic research design to examine the use of MOOCs as digital professional development for language teachers. The study showed that MOOCs can be effective if they foster self-regulation, learning assessment, and reflective practice. However, MOOCs can present learning challenges when the content does not align with individual needs and teaching contexts.

Finally, webinars have been recognized as a viable medium for addressing the professional development needs of EFL teachers, along with other online resources and platforms. Several studies have demosntrated their usefulness in enhancing teachers' knowledge of new teaching methodologies and techniques, as well as keeping them up-to-date with current trends and resources in the field (e.g., Rao, 2019; Silvhiany, 2022).

Another strand of research has investigated OPD activities of pre-and in-service teachers during the COVID-19 pandemic, which necessitated a shift to remote education. For instance, Ersin et al. (2020) explored e-practicum experiences of pre-service English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teachers in Turkey, where they gained positive experiences and overcame initial anxieties with support from peers and the e-mentor. Al-Jarf (2021) examined the professional development of ESL teachers

through Facebook and found it beneficial for networking and gaining information. Similarly, Atmojo (2021) reported that EFL instructors in Indonesia gained significant knowledge from participating in online professional development (OPD) activities despite facing challenges such as inadequate internet connection and limited time. Examining both pre- and in-service teachers in Mexico, Juárez-Díaz and Perales (2021) highlighted the prevalence of stress during the Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT) period. The study emphasized the need for stress management and digital competence training for both teachers and students. Along the same lines, the qualitative case study by Tafazoli (2021) found that online education for pre- and in-service English language teachers should include adequate training and empower teachers to engage in their professional development with an agency.

Amidst the pandemic, a significant body of scholarly research has centered on webinars and their utilization in facilitating professional development. Toquero and Talidong (2020), for example, contributed to the field during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic by emphasizing the potential of webinars for teacher education programs. Although they did not focus specifically on language teachers, they regarded webinars as useful tool that provides flexible and accessible opportunities for professional development and worldwide networking. Studies conducted during the COVID-19 outbreak further reinforced the notion of using webinars for professional development. One such study investigated the effectiveness of webinars attended by EFL teachers in India (Khanna & Thakarar, 2021) and found that the webinars positively impacted teachers, leading to new subject knowledge, improved course-design skills, and better-informed lecture planning and presentation. In a global study involving 601 EFL teachers (Shin et al., 2022), a significant number of participants reported that webinars positively impacted their professional development during the crisis period and transformed the way they taught in both face-to-face and online settings. Teachers noted benefits such as engaging learners, providing student feedback, establishing an online presence, and creating online-specific activities. A separate quantitative study of 265 English language teachers in Indonesia (Silvhiany, 2022) found that over half of the teachers relied on webinars for professional development and resource and idea exchange during the emergency remote learning phase.

Previous studies on the professional development of EFL teachers have shown positive attitudes towards continuous professional growth among both pre-service and in-service teachers in various contexts (e.g., Ersin et al., 2020). However, the COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges for teachers, including limited access to professional development opportunities in traditional face-to-face settings. To overcome these challenges, some teachers have turned to online professional development events, which adhere to social distancing guidelines imposed by local authorities, while also allowing them to continue their professional growth. Despite the increasing body of research on online professional development, there is a gap in research specifically examining the participation of EFL teacher candidates in online professional development webinars during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. The aim of the present study is to examine the experiences of pre-service English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teachers participating in online professional development webinars during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### 3. Methodology

The purpose of this qualitative study was to examine the potential of professional development webinars for EFL teacher candidates and explore their experiences attending online professional development webinars during the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. The study also sought to uncover the effectiveness of professional development webinars for EFL professionals and

determine their contribution to the professional development of teacher candidates at different stages of their university studies.

To be eligible for participation in the study, participants were required to have attended a minimum of two professional development webinars during the COVID-19 pandemic. The qualitative research process involves purposeful participant selection to ensure that the chosen individuals provide the most insightful and informative responses to the research questions (Creswell, 2009). With this in mind, we utilized online community groups for EFL teacher candidates enrolled at a state university to seek volunteers for the study. Of the 18 pre-service teachers who met the criteria, three were unable to participate in the interviews due to scheduling conflicts. Ultimately, 15 EFL teacher candidates, comprising 9 females and 6 males, from the English Language Teaching Department at a state university in southeastern Turkey, were included in the study (Table 1). The participants, whose average age was 21.46, featured sophomore, junior, and senior teacher candidates.

Participant	Gender	Year of Study	Number of	Type of
			events attended	interview
P1	М	Sophomore	2	Individual
P2	F	Sophomore	3	Focus Group #1
P3	Μ	Sophomore	6	Focus Group #1
P4	F	Sophomore	2	Focus Group #1
P5	F	Junior	11	Individual
P6	F	Junior	8	Individual
P7	F	Junior	10	Individual
P8	F	Junior	5	Focus Group #2
P9	Μ	Junior	5	Focus Group #2
P10	Μ	Junior	4	Focus Group #2
P11	Μ	Senior	3	Individual
P12	F	Senior	5	Focus Group #3
P13	F	Senior	4	Focus Group #3
P14	F	Senior	4	Focus Group #3
P15	Μ	Senior	2	Focus Group #3

**Table 1.** Participants' Demographics and Other Information

All participants in the study participated in professional development webinars offered by a variety of global and local institutions, which included British Council's webinars, American English webinars by the U.S. Department of State, INGED (English Language Association in Türkiye) Zoom series. They also took part in digital events organized as part of the Virtual Professional Learning Network Project, the overarching goal of which was to support and enhance the professional development of EFL teachers and teacher candidates during a time when face-to-face events were significantly restricted. The webinar topics ranged from incorporating popular movies into English classes to the utilization of virtual reality platforms, and the adoption of literary resources for pedagogical purposes.

After obtaining approval from the Institutional Ethical Review Board (Ethical Review Board of Social Sciences and Humanities at Dicle University, dated 27.06.2022, with decision number 313240) and recruiting participants through a call by researchers, teacher candidates were invited for the interviews. Due to COVID-19-related restrictions and measures, as well as the participants'

preferences, the interviews were conducted online via the Zoom platform. Three focus groups, each comprising 10 participants representing their respective study years (sophomores, juniors, seniors), were formed based on the teacher candidates' availability at the time of the interview. Focus Group 1 consisted of 3 sophomores (2 female and 1 male), Focus Group 2 had 3 juniors (2 male and 1 female), and Focus Group 3 consisted of 4 seniors (3 female and 1 male). In addition to the focus group interviews, individual semi-structured interviews were carried out with 5 students (1 male sophomore, 3 female juniors, and 1 male senior). The first author conducted the interviews and posed questions related to their experiences participating in online professional development activities. The semi-structured nature of the interview questions (as seen in the Appendix) allowed for a more flexible process that was driven by responses, rather than being limited to previously determined questions.

The data collected through both individual and focus group semi-structured interviews provided participants' reflections on their experiences of attending online activities for professional development during the pandemic outbreak. The recorded interviews were transcribed verbatim after each individual and focus group interview. The collected self-reported data were analyzed qualitatively using the principles of thematic analysis (Glesne, 2011). Both researchers independently analyzed the data to identify the main themes emerging from the transcribed data through an iterative process that involved recategorizing the codes and discourse strands. The aim of multi-coding was to improve data quality, allowing both researchers to address instances of coding disagreement and engage in discussions, resulting in new insights into the analyzed data. The study aimed to ensure the validity and reliability of the data by collecting data from multiple sources and participant groups, as well as employing inter-coder reliability checks. This approach aimed to enhance the credibility of the study findings by reducing the potential influence of individual biases or interpretations on the results.

#### 4. Findings

The results of the study revealed three key themes that emerged from the data analysis: contributing to professional growth, supplementing formal education, presenting challenges and other issues. The findings for each of these themes are presented in the following section.

#### 4.1. Contributing to Professional Growth

The first major theme emerging from the data was the potential contribution of webinars to English language teacher candidates. All 15 participants reported that the webinars they attended during the pandemic aided in enhancing their professional development by providing opportunities for learning from other teachers, staying current with trends in English language teaching (ELT), gaining access to more resources for professional development, and reflecting on their teaching skills.

The participants frequently reported an increased self-awareness of their field of expertise as a result of participating in the webinars. Some of the teacher candidates expressed that the webinars helped them immerse themselves more fully in their chosen field, becoming more familiar with it:

"I think that it is difficult for us to develop ourselves, but participating in the webinars has helped us understand our future jobs better, so I can say that it has a positive effect on our awareness", (P4).

They further noted that the webinars enabled them to become aware and learn about the latest approaches, methods, and techniques employed by ELT experts. Some participants (e.g., P5) mentioned taking notes during the webinars to remember and apply the teaching methods they learned in their future roles as teachers. One teacher candidate summarized his experience:

It is vitally important for us to continuously gain diverse perspectives throughout our careers, and the webinars offer many great opportunities to do so. They allow us to learn from others and become aware of the different approaches to teaching English as a foreign language in different parts of the world. (P3)

Teacher candidates also reported that participating in the webinars was relatively convenient and required minimal effort, especially during the pandemic. Several teacher candidates mentioned during semi-structured interviews that webinars allowed the pre-service EFL teachers to engage with native English speakers, thus exposing them to diverse cultures and perspectives, as highlighted by one participant:

...it is easy and takes almost no effort to watch and join the webinars, and the other great thing about those webinars is that it is created in an environment where you can interact with so many different cultures. There were so many native English speakers providing many materials, and it really helps me to get the different points of view on teaching English as a foreign language. (P15)

In addition, pre-service EFL teachers emphasized the importance of webinars for their professional development, as they provided access to a broad network of colleagues for sharing knowledge and experiences. Although teacher-to-teacher interaction was mainly limited to the comment section of the digital tool, webinars were considered crucial for communicating with teachers from different parts of the world. For some participants, it was a valuable opportunity to learn from the experiences of their colleagues to improve their teaching methods, create teaching materials, and develop other skills:

"...They are vital to us because we need to interact as teachers to improve ourselves, learn from each other's experiences, and it affects our teaching style, attitudes towards students, and even our skills in designing activities", (P8).

Finally, some participants reported that attending webinars and receiving certificates of attendance had a positive impact on their resumes, which they considered important for their future careers as English language teachers. One participant stated:

"You get certificates after the webinars. You can print them, add them to your CV to make it stronger and more effective", (P12).

#### 4.2. Supplementing Formal Education

The second major theme that emerged from the data was related to the impact of webinars on teacher candidates' formal education. Teacher candidates often reported that participating in webinars led to improvements in their formal education and academic success. Some of them indicated that they were more successful in their theory-oriented classes and were able to integrate their theoretical knowledge more effectively into their field experiences as a result of their participation in these online events. One teacher candidate, for example, said in the semi-structured interview that attending a webinar on integrating fan practices and literary materials into the language classroom helped him realize that in addition to the classic textbooks used in the classroom, many fictional materials can be used in the classroom:

Through the webinars, I just figured out how fictional things could be used in the classes, and so, it helped me improve my theoretical knowledge and apply it better in the

classroom. It was a great opportunity for me to enhance my skills in the field, and they showed me how to do it. I loved it, it was really good for me. (P9)

Furthermore, some of the EFL teachers emphasized the role of webinars in helping them to become more active participants in their university classes, suggesting that webinars have the potential to support teacher candidates in becoming more confident. One participant remarked that he felt more knowledgeable as an EFL teacher candidate as a result of participating in webinars:

"Well, thanks to what I learned from the webinars, I was able to take part in class discussions about the topics that my professors were discussing, and it made me a more knowledgeable student in the language area", (P11).

In addition to the theoretical classes attended by the pre-service EFL teachers at the university, it is suggested that participating in webinars also affected their performance in practicum, as they integrated ideas from the webinars into their classes. One participant (P12) reported that she integrated digital tools and concepts she learned from the webinars, combined with other teaching platforms and ideas, to introduce her learners to diverse and engaging teaching methods. Similarly, one participant (P13) mentioned how she successfully met the needs and requests of young learners during her internship by implementing digital activities she learned from the webinars she attended. Another senior student mentioned:

"I used the information I learnt from the webinars to design my lesson plans during my internship at a school. They were very useful, and I actually used some of them, and the students love them. They were very effective." (P14)

#### 4.3. Presenting Challenges and Other Issues

Teacher candidates additionally reported some challenges in attending webinars during the interviews. While webinars were found to positively impact their professional development, academic success, and exposure to different perspectives, some participants felt that their impact was perceived to be less permanent than face-to-face events, as they lacked the same level of interaction and collaboration:

I prefer face-to-face events over online ones because the more collaborative and interactive you are, the more permanent your learning will be. That's why I would prefer the face-to-face one, but this doesn't mean that online webinars are bad. (P12).

Some participants noted that the length of the webinars could sometimes hinder their ability to fully benefit from the online event for their professional development. One participant mentioned, "... when they take too long, participants can become distracted, which can be negative for us", (P4). To overcome this challenge, one teacher candidate (P8) preferred recordings of sessions whenever possible due to her relatively short attention span, which sometimes made it difficult for her to keep up with the speaker. Having access to the recordings allowed her to take breaks as needed and revisit specific parts of the webinar that needed additional attention. This not only helped her stay engaged, but also allowed her to better retain and utilize the information that was presented.

Two participants reported that they struggled with self-discipline during online webinars, which impacted their ability to focus effectively on the material. As a result, they expressed a preference for face-to-face events over webinars when possible. One participant pointed out, "I find it difficult to concentrate and discipline myself when studying on the computer, so I would prefer face-to-face events", (P11). Few participants preferred face-to-face events due to their personal learning style

and comfort in expressing their feelings and opinions in person. One teacher candidate noted, "I am a face-to-face type of person and would prefer in-person activities whenever possible", (P15). One participant, however, emphasized that online opportunities were more suitable for introverted individuals as it allowed them to maintain their comfort zone and access resources that align with their preferences. He stated, "These students may prefer learning from the comfort of their home or another location, where they feel more at ease and can learn more effectively", (P9). It is understood that while online opportunities may be more convenient for some, face-to-face events still hold appeal for those who struggle with self-discipline or prefer to connect with others in person.

Overall, it was found that webinars offer the benefits of accessibility and flexibility, allowing participants to attend from anywhere with an internet connection and at their convenience. However, webinars may lack the interactive and collaborative atmosphere that face-to-face events provide, which could hinder the learning experience for some individuals. Another factor that may impact the effectiveness of webinars is their length, which can lead to distractions and reduced concentration, particularly for teacher candidates who may already have busy schedules. Moreover, disciplinary differences among participants pose a challenge to maintaining self-discipline during online events, and this could further reduce the effectiveness of webinars. Nevertheless, despite these challenges, teacher candidates reported watching recorded webinars afterward, mainly due to scheduling conflicts or short attention spans. This suggests that webinars can still be a useful tool for teacher candidates, especially when they are in their comfort zone. Overall, while webinars may not be as effective as face-to-face events in terms of providing an interactive and collaborative learning environment, they still offer many benefits, such as accessibility and flexibility. By taking measures to address distractions and maintaining self-discipline, EFL professionals can maximize the benefits of webinars for improving their teaching skills.

#### 5. Discussion and Conclusions

The aim of this study was to explore the experiences of pre-service EFL teachers who attended online professional development webinars during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on understanding the role of digital technologies in the reported benefits and limitations of these activities. The in-depth analysis of the gathered data indicated that webinars had a positive impact on the professional growth of English language teacher candidates and also provided additional support to their formal education. However, the study also found that attending webinars presented several challenges and issues for teacher candidates.

The study showed that attending webinars contributed to the professional growth of English language teacher candidates during and after the pandemic. Participants reported that webinars enhanced their knowledge and awareness of the field of ELT, exposed them to diverse cultures and perspectives, provided access to a broad network of colleagues, and added value to their resumes. These findings align with previous research, which demonstrated that webinars positively impacted teacher professional development (Khanna & Thakarar, 2021), online activities aided in instructional practices and gaining information online (Liu & Kleinsasser, 2014), social media provided opportunities for improved teaching practices and networking (Al-Jarf, 2021; Rossel-Augilar, 2018). The study also supported previous literature by showing that pre-service English language teachers found webinars to be flexible and accessible tools for professional development (Atmojo, 2021). It also demonstrated that, like in-service English language teachers, teacher candidates' subject knowledge improved through webinars, leading to better recognition of the professional field (Shin et al., 2022; Silvhiany, 2022).

The findings also showed that participating in webinars helped pre-service EFL teachers to improve their theoretical knowledge and integrate it more effectively into their field experiences, become more active participants in their university classes, and improve their performance in practicum by integrating ideas from the webinars into their classes and lesson plans. Given the overwhelming focus of the previous research on teachers, there is not a directly comparable study concerning teacher candidates' experiences of attending webinars during and after the pandemic. Nonetheless, these findings concur well with those reported in the literature, which showed that online experiences helped pre-service teachers gain positive experiences (Ersin et al., 2020), led to improvement in teachers' knowledge (Khanna & Thakarar, 2021), transformed the ways teachers taught in face-to-face and digital contexts (Shin et al., 2022). In general, the primary unique outcome of the current investigation was that webinars offered possibilities for EFL teacher candidates to supplement their formal education.

Despite the positive impact of webinars on EFL teacher candidates' professional development, they reported challenges related to webinar length, self-discipline, and personal learning styles. Previous studies focusing on teachers found different challenges, such as financial constraints, logistical support, lack of time and motivation, navigating the digital platform, and a misalignment between individual needs, instructional context, and content (e.g., Atmojo, 2021; Chin et al., 2022; Luo et al., 2020; Uştuk, 2022). The differences in reported challenges across studies may be attributed to differences in participant groups. In this study, EFL teacher candidates participated voluntarily, therefore they did not report any lack of motivation or financial constraints. Their digital competence may also have helped them successfully navigate the Zoom platform utilized for the webinars. Regardless of the nature of the challenges, it is essential to recognize the potential problems teachers and teacher candidates may face in digital professional development activities.

Given the shift to distance education and the continued emergence of educational technologies, it is imperative to provide EFL professionals with opportunities to access online professional development resources. Consistent with previous research (e.g., Juárez-Díaz & Perales, 2021; Tafazoli, 2021, 2022), it is recommended that programs that address the professional development needs of pre-service and in-service teachers include courses or materials to develop their digital competencies and autonomy. Professionals with higher levels of digital literacy may be able to engage in professional development activities across different online platforms more efficiently than others. In addition, successful professional development opportunities should consider areas highlighted in the literature, such as teacher needs, content knowledge, pedagogical context, and individual differences (Bragg et al., 2021; Philipsen et al., 2019). One way to address this is through the development of online platforms such as the SMART Teacher Lab (STL), which was created for EFL teachers in South Korea (Kim & Lee, 2022). These venues can provide different professional development resources for professionals in a systematic and sustainable way, as well as fostering a supportive environment for teachers and teacher candidates to exchange ideas and best practices, keeping them up-to-date with the latest developments in their field. To effectively leverage webinars and other digital sources, stakeholders in teacher education, such as teacher educators and institutions, can establish collaborations with relevant institutions and organizations to create online communities for professionals in the field.

There are several limitations associated with this study. First, the study relies on self-reported data from teacher candidates, although efforts were made to strengthen the data through semi-structured interviews. Therefore, future research should examine the role of webinars, as well as other digital resources, in the professional development experiences of EFL teacher candidates using mixed

methods approaches. Second, the study is limited to the experiences of teacher candidates in a Turkish state university context. Therefore, the findings should be interpreted with caution. Nevertheless, the findings may be useful for practitioners and stakeholders in private or state institutions worldwide who aim to develop effective professional development opportunities as part of pre-service teacher education programs. Finally, the study does not examine the performance or achievements of teacher candidates in a formal context, and it is limited to the experiences of voluntary participants who sought online professional development activities during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, future research should examine the integration of EFL professionals' professional development activities into formal contexts. Despite these limitations, this study provides insights into the use of webinars as a potential platform to address the professional development needs of EFL teacher candidates, with implications for teacher education programs, among others.

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#### **Appendix (Sample Semi-Structured Interview Questions)**

- What motivated you to participate in professional development webinars during the pandemic?
- How did you balance your academic workload with attending the professional development webinars?
- What specific topics were covered in the professional development webinars you attended?
- Can you provide an example of a new teaching method or approach you learned from the webinars?
- How did the professional development webinars impact your current and/or future teaching practices?
- Did you have any difficulty adjusting to the online format of the professional development webinars?
- Have you shared any of the knowledge or skills you gained from the professional development webinars with your colleagues?
- Do you think professional development webinars are more effective than traditional forms of professional development?
- If you have been teaching, have you noticed any changes in your students' learning outcomes since attending the professional development webinars?
- What advice would you give to other teachers and teacher candidates considering participating in professional development webinars?

#### Geniş Özet

#### 1. Giriş

İnternet tabanlı her türlü mesleki gelişim ve öğrenme süreci olarak adlandırılan çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim (ÇMG) faaliyetleri, sunduğu kolaylık ve esnekliği sayesinde öğretmenler arasında giderek yaygınlaşmaktadır (Elliott, 2017). Bu faaliyetler çevrimiçi kurslar, dijital konferanslar, web seminerleri ve çevrimiçi tartışmalar gibi pek çok şekilde gerçekleştirilebilir. Uzaktan eğitim için dijital teknolojinin yaygınlaşmasının eğitimin sunumunu önemli ölçüde değiştirdiği göz önüne alındığında, çevrimiçi öğretmen mesleki gelişimi ve öğrenimi, bu gelişen eğitim ortamının kritik bir bileşenidir (Bragg vd., 2021). COVID-19 salgınıyla birlikte, öğretmenler için çevrimiçi mesleki gelişimin daha fazla benimsenmesi üzerinde önemli bir etkiye sahip olması ve yeni küresel eğitim ortamının önemli bir parçası olması beklenmektedir. Nitekim, salgınla birçok öğretmen ve öğretmen eğitimcisi, mesleki gelişime hızlı bir yaklaşım benimseyerek her şeyi dijital platformlara taşımış ve web seminerlerinden faydalanmışlardır (Shin vd., 2022; Toquero ve Talidong, 2020).

Yakın zamanda yapılan araştırmalar, ÇMG faaliyetlerinin öğretim uygulamalarını, içerik bilgisini ve katılımcı memnuniyetini önemli derecede geliştirebileceğini göstermektedir (Bragg vd., 2021). Örneğin, çevrimiçi kurslar ve web seminerleri yeni öğretim stratejileri ve tekniklerine erişim ve küresel çapta öğretmenlerle etkileşimli tartışmalara katılma şansı sağlamaktadır (Shin vd., 2022). Benzer şekilde, çevrimiçi etkinlikler ve kurslar öğretmenlere meslektaşlarıyla ağ kurma ve iş birliği yapma ve

alandaki uzmanlardan öğrenme şansı sunarak dil öğretmenleri arasında destekleyici bir mesleki topluluk ve bağlılık duygusu oluşturur (Bragg vd., 2021; Yıldırım vd., 2022). Ancak, avantajlarına rağmen, araştırmalar çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim faaliyetlerinin güvenilir olmayan internet erişimi, öğretmen motivasyonunun düşmesine yol açan destek eksikliği ve çevrimiçi öğrenmeyi hem çevrimiçi hem de yüz yüze öğretim uygulamalarına dahil etme konularında bazı sınırlamaları olduğunu göstermiştir. (Bragg vd., 2021; Chin vd., 2022). Bu tür zorlukların üstesinden gelmek için, nitelikli ÇMG programlarının farklı öğrenme stillerini dahil etmek, katılımı teşvik etmek, destekleyici bir program tasarlamak, içerik bilgisinin geliştirilmesine odaklanmak, esnek olmak ve teknik destek sunmak gibi belirli unsurları içermesi gerekir (Al-Naabi vd., 2021; Bragg vd., 2021; Philipsen vd., 2019). Bununla birlikte, çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim faaliyetleri, dil öğretmenleri için değerli bir kaynak olarak görülmekte, gelişim ve mesleki gelişim için uygun ve esnek fırsatlar sunmaktadır (Elliott, 2017; Khanna ve Thakarar, 2021).

Öğretmenlerin çevrimiçi mesleki gelişimine (ÇMG) ilişkin mevcut araştırmalar; bu aktivitelerin potansiyelini, faydaları ve zorluklarını, öğretmenlerin tutumları ve algılarını, teknoloji kullanımları ve COVID-19 salgınının ÇMG faaliyetleri üzerindeki etkileri gibi çeşitli açılardan incelemiştir. Örneğin Chin vd. (2022) öğretmenlerin öncelikle çevrimiçi öğretim, bilgi teknolojileri ve araştırma konularında mesleki gelişime odaklandıklarını, ancak mali kısıtlamalar, motivasyon eksikliği ve lojistik destek gibi zorluklarla karşılaştıklarını göstermiştir. Yıldırım vd. (2022) ise Türkiyedeki öğretmenlerin esnek, etkileşimli, grup çalışması ve kolay erişim için kaliteli içerik sağlayan ÇMG etkinliklerine ilişkin olumlu algılara sahip olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Sosyal medya ve kitlesel çevrimiçi açık derslerin (MOOC) mesleki gelişim faaliyetleri için araç olarak kullanımını inceleyen çalışmalarda ise, konuyla ilgili potansiyele sahip olmakla birlikte, katılımın sürekliliği ve özellikle yeni kullanıcıların adaptasyonu açısından zorluklar barındırdığı tespit edilmiştir (Luo vd., 2020). Öte yandan, Rossel-Aguilar (2018), yabancı dil öğretmenlerinin mesleki gelişim için Twitter kullanımını araştırmış ve kullanıcıların çoğunun ağda buldukları öneri ve fikirleri denediklerini ve bunun da öğretimleri üzerinde olumlu etkilere yol açtığını keşfetmiştir. Yabancı dil öğretmenlerinin MOOC kullanımını inceleyen Uştuk (2022) ise, bu araçların öğrenme için değerlendirmeyi ve yansıtıcı uygulamayı teşvik etmeleri halinde etkili bir mesleki gelişim biçimi olabileceğini göstermiştir.

Son zamanlarda yapılan çalışmalar, uzaktan eğitime geçişi zorunlu kılan COVID-19 salgını sırasında hizmet öncesi ve hizmet içi öğretmenlerin çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim faaliyetlerini de araştırmıştır. Örneğin, Ersin vd. (2020), Türkiye'deki İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının dijital öğretmenlik uygulaması deneyimlerini araştırmış ve katılımcıların olumlu deneyimler kazandıklarını ve akranları ile danışmanlarından aldıkları destekle başlangıçtaki endişelerinin üstesinden geldiklerini belirtmiştir. Al-Jarf (2021), Facebook aracılığıyla İngilizce öğretmenlerinin mesleki gelişimini incelemiş ve sosyal medyanın mesleki ağ oluşturma ve bilgi edinme açısından faydalı olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Benzer şekilde, Atmojo (2021) Endonezya'daki İngilizce öğretmenlerinin yetersiz internet bağlantısı ve sınırlı zaman gibi zorluklarla karşılaşmalarına rağmen ÇMG faaliyetlerine katılarak önemli bilgiler edindiklerini bildirmiştir. Meksika'daki İngilizce öğretmenleri ve öğretmen adaylarını inceleyen Juárez-Díaz ve Perales (2021) ise, katılımcılar için stres yönetimi ve dijital yetkinlik eğitimine duyulan ihtiyacı vurgulamıştır. Aynı doğrultuda, Tafazoli'nin (2021) nitel çalışması, çevrimiçi eğitimin yeterli eğitim desteğini içermesi ve öğretmenleri mesleki gelişimlerine aktif olarak katılmaları için güçlendirmesi gerektiğini ortaya koymuştur.

Benzer şekilde web seminerleri de öğretmenlerin mesleki gelişim ihtiyaçlarını karşılamak için alternatif platformlar olarak ele alınmış ve birçok çalışma, web seminerlerinin kullanımını desteklemiştir. Örneğin Rao (2019), İngilizce öğretmenlerinin yeni öğretim yöntemleri ve teknikleri

hakkındaki bilgilerini artırmalarının yanı sıra alandaki güncel eğilimler ve kaynaklarla güncel kalmaları için web seminerlerini tavsiye etmiştir. Toquero ve Talidong (2020) da web seminerlerini mesleki gelişim ve dünya çapında ağ oluşturma için esnek ve erişilebilir fırsatlar sunan yararlı bir araç olarak görmüştür. Buna paralel olarak, Khanna ve Thakarar (2021) web seminerlerinin öğretmenler üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi olduğunu, yeni konu bilgisi, gelişmiş ders tasarımı becerileri ve daha bilinçli ders planlama ve sunumuna katkıda bulunduğunu göstermiştir. Bir başka çalışmada ise, 601 öğretmenin önemli bir kısmı web seminerlerinin salgın döneminde mesleki gelişimlerini olumlu yönde etkilediğini ve hem yüz yüze hem de çevrimiçi ortamlarda öğretme biçimlerini değiştirdiğini ifade etmiştir (Shin vd., 2022). Bu çalışmalarla birlikte, COVID-19 salgını, öğretmenler için geleneksel yüz yüze ortamlarda mesleki gelişim fırsatlarına sınırlı erişim de dahil olmak üzere çeşitli zorluklar oluşturmuştur. Bu zorlukların üstesinden gelmek için bazı öğretmenler, salgın döneminde de mesleki gelişimlerini sürdürmelerine olanak tanıyan ÇMG etkinliklerine yönelmiştir. Bu alanda artan araştırmalara rağmen, COVID-19 salgını sırasında ve sonrasında İngilizce öğretmeni adaylarının, mesleki gelişimlerini sürdürmek için web seminerlerine katılımlarına odaklanan araştırmaların sayısı henüz yeterli değildir. Buradan hareketle, bu çalışmanın amacı COVID-19 salgını sırasında ve sonrasında çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim web seminerlerine katılan İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının deneyimlerini incelemektir.

#### 2. Yöntem

Bu nitel çalışma, Yabancı Dil Olarak İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının COVID-19 salgını sırasında ve sonrasındaki çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim (ÇMG) etkinliklerini incelemeyi amaçlamıştır. Ana hedef, İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının ÇMG aktivitelerinin etkinliğini analiz etmek ve üniversite eğitimlerinin çeşitli aşamalarındaki öğretmen adaylarının mesleki gelişimlerine ne ölçüde katkıda bulunduklarını belirlemektir.

Çalışmaya, Türkiye'nin güneydoğusundaki bir devlet üniversitesinin İngilizce Öğretmenliği Bölümü'nde öğrenim gören 9'u kadın, 6'sı erkek olmak üzere 15 İngilizce öğretmeni adayı katılmıştır. Katılımcılar, gönüllülük esasına göre ikinci, üçüncü ve son sınıf öğretmen adayları arasından seçilmiştir. Çalışmaya katılabilmek için öğretmen adaylarının COVID-19 salgını sırasında en az iki farklı dijital mesleki gelişim etkinliğine katılmış olmaları şartı aranmıştır. Bu yüzden, çalışmadaki tüm katılımcılar, çeşitli küresel ve yerel kurumlar tarafından organize edilen mesleki gelişim web seminerlerine katılanlar arasından seçilmiştir. Web semineri konuları, popüler filmlerin İngilizce derslerine dahil edilmesinden sanal gerçeklik platformlarının kullanımına ve edebi kaynakların pedagojik amaçlarla benimsenmesine kadar geniş bir yelpazede çeşitlilik göstermiştir.

Etik İnceleme Kurulundan onay alındıktan ve araştırmacılar tarafından yapılan bir çağrı ile katılımcılar toplandıktan sonra, öğretmen adayları görüşmelere davet edilmiştir. COVID-19 ile ilgili kısıtlamalar ve önlemlerin yanı sıra katılımcıların tercihleri nedeniyle görüşmeler Zoom platformu üzerinden çevrimiçi olarak gerçekleştirilmiştir. Her biri kendi eğitim yıllarını (ikinci, üçüncü ve son sınıflar) temsil eden 10 katılımcıdan oluşan üç odak grubu, öğretmen adaylarının görüşme sırasındaki uygunluk durumlarına göre oluşturulmuştur. Odak grup görüşmelerine ek olarak, 5 öğretmen adayıyla bireysel yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmeler yapılmıştır. Görüşmeler birinci yazar tarafından gerçekleştirilmiş ve öğrencilere çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim faaliyetlerine katılma deneyimlerine ilişkin sorular yöneltilmiştir. Görüşme sorularının yarı yapılandırılmış olması (bk. Ek), önceden belirlenmiş sorularla sınırlı kalmak yerine yanıtlara göre yönlendirilen daha esnek bir sürece olanak sağlamıştır.

Kaydedilen görüşmeler, her bir bireysel ve odak grup görüşmesinden sonra yazıya aktarılmıştır. Toplanan veriler tematik analiz ilkeleri kullanılarak niteliksel olarak analiz edilmiştir (Glesne, 2011). Her iki araştırmacı, kodları ve söylem dizilerini yeniden kategorize etmeyi içeren yinelemeli bir süreç

aracılığıyla verilerde öne çıkan ana temaları belirlemek için verileri bağımsız olarak analiz etmiştir. Çoklu kodlamanın amacı, her iki araştırmacının da kodlama anlaşmazlığı örneklerini ele almasına ve tartışmalara girmesine olanak tanıyarak veri kalitesini artırmak ve analiz edilen veriler hakkında yeni bir içgörü elde etmektir.

#### 3. Bulgular, Tartışma ve Sonuç

Bu çalışmanın amacı, COVID-19 salgını sırasında ve sonrasında çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim web seminerlerine katılan İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının deneyimlerini, bu etkinliklerin faydaları ve sınırlamalarında dijital teknolojilerin rolünü anlamaya odaklanarak araştırmaktır. Toplanan verilerin derinlemesine analizi, web seminerlerinin İngilizce öğretmeni adaylarının mesleki gelişimleri üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi olduğunu ve ayrıca örgün eğitimlerine ek destek sağladığını göstermiştir. Bununla birlikte çalışma, web seminerlerine katılmanın öğretmen adayları için çeşitli zorluklar ve sorunlar ortaya çıkardığını da tespit etmiştir.

Katılımcılar, web seminerlerinin İngilizce öğretmenliği alanındaki bilgi ve farkındalıklarını artırdığını, onları farklı kültürlere ve bakış açılarına maruz bıraktığını, geniş bir meslektaş ağına erişim sağladığını ve özgeçmişlerine değer kattığını ifade etmiştir. Bu bulgular, web seminerlerinin öğretmenlerin mesleki gelişimini olumlu yönde etkilediğini (Khanna ve Thakarar, 2021), çevrimiçi etkinliklerin öğretim uygulamalarına ve çevrimiçi bilgi edinmeye yardımcı olduğunu (Liu ve Kleinsasser, 2014), sosyal medyanın gelişmiş öğretim uygulamaları ve ağ oluşturma için fırsatlar sağladığını (Al-Jarf, 2021; Rossel-Augilar, 2018) gösteren önceki araştırmalarla uyumludur. Çalışma ayrıca, İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının web seminerlerini mesleki gelişim için esnek ve erişilebilir araçlar olarak bulduklarını göstererek önceki literatürü desteklemiştir (Atmojo, 2021). Ayrıca, hizmet içi İngilizce öğretmenleri gibi, öğretmen adaylarının da web seminerleri aracılığıyla alan bilgilerinin geliştiğini ve bunun da mesleki alanın daha iyi tanınmasına yol açtığını göstermiştir (Shin vd., 2022; Silvhiany, 2022).

Bulgular, web seminerlerine katılmanın İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının teorik bilgilerini geliştirmelerine ve bunları uygulamalı deneyimlerine daha etkin bir şekilde entegre etmelerine, üniversite derslerinde daha aktif katılımcılar olmalarına ve web seminerlerindeki fikirleri sınıflarına ve ders planlarına entegre ederek uygulamadaki performanslarını artırmalarına yardımcı olduğunu da göstermiştir. Önceki araştırmaların ağırlıklı olarak öğretmenlere odaklandığı göz önüne alındığında, öğretmen adaylarının salgın sırasında ve sonrasında web seminerlerine katılma deneyimleriyle ilgili doğrudan karşılaştırılabilir bir çalışma bulunmamaktadır. Bununla birlikte, bu bulgular, çevrimiçi deneyimlerin öğretmen adaylarının olumlu deneyimler kazanmasına yardımcı olduğunu (Ersin vd., 2020), öğretmenlerin bilgilerinde ilerleme sağladığını (Khanna ve Thakarar, 2021), öğretmenlerin yüz yüze ve dijital bağlamlarda öğretme biçimlerini dönüştürdüğünü (Shin vd., 2022) gösteren literatürdeki çalışmalarla uyumludur. Genel olarak, mevcut araştırmanın temel sonucu, web seminerlerinin İngilizce öğretmen adaylarına örgün eğitimlerine katkıda bulunma açısından çeşitli fırsatlar sunmasıdır.

Web seminerlerinin İngilizce öğretmeni adaylarının mesleki gelişimi üzerindeki olumlu etkisine rağmen, adaylar web semineri süresi, öz disiplin ve kişisel öğrenme stilleriyle ilgili zorluklar yaşadıklarını bildirmişlerdir. Öğretmenlere odaklanan önceki çalışmalar, finansal kısıtlamalar, lojistik destek, zaman ve motivasyon eksikliği, dijital platformda gezinme ve bireysel ihtiyaçlar, öğretim bağlamı ve içerik arasında yanlış uyum gibi farklı zorluklar bulmuştur (Atmojo, 2021; Chin vd., 2022; Luo vd., 2020; Uştuk, 2022). Çalışmalar arasında öne çıkan zorluklardaki farklılıklar, katılımcı gruplarındaki farklılıklara bağlanabilir. Bu çalışmaya, İngilizce öğretmen adayları gönüllü olarak katıldıkları için herhangi bir motivasyon eksikliği veya finansal kısıtlama bildirmemiştir. Katılımcıların dijital yeterlilikleri de web seminerleri için kullanılan Zoom platformunu başarılı bir şekilde kullanmalarına yardımcı olmuş olabilir.

Zorlukların niteliği ne olursa olsun, öğretmenlerin ve öğretmen adaylarının dijital mesleki gelişim faaliyetlerinde karşılaşabilecekleri potansiyel sorunları kabul etmek ve bu sorunlara çözümler geliştirmenin önemli olduğu söylenebilir.

Uzaktan eğitime geçiş ve eğitim teknolojilerinin sürekli gelişmesi göz önüne alındığında, İngiliz dili eğitimi profesyonellerine çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim (ÇMG) kaynaklarına erişim fırsatları sağlamak zorunlu hale gelmiştir. Önceki araştırmalarla tutarlı olarak (Juárez-Díaz ve Perales, 2021; Tafazoli, 2021, 2022), hizmet öncesi ve hizmet içi öğretmenlerin mesleki gelişim ihtiyaçlarını ele alan programların dijital yeterlilik ve özerk becerileri geliştirmeye yönelik kurslar veya materyalleri kapsaması önerilmektedir. Dijital okuryazarlık düzeyi daha yüksek olan profesyoneller, farklı çevrimiçi platformlardaki mesleki gelişim faaliyetlerine diğerlerine kıyasla daha verimli bir şekilde katılabileceği düşünülmektedir. Buna ek olarak, başarılı mesleki gelişim fırsatları, öğretmen ihtiyaçları, içerik bilgisi, pedagojik bağlam ve bireysel farklılıklar gibi literatürde vurgulanan alanlar dikkate almalıdır. Bunu ele almanın bir yolu, Güney Kore'deki İngilizce öğretmenleri için oluşturulan SMART Teacher Lab gibi çevrimiçi platformların geliştirilmesidir (Kim ve Lee, 2022). Bu platformlar, profesyoneller için sistematik ve sürdürülebilir bir şekilde farklı mesleki gelişim kaynakları sağlayabilir.

Bu çalışma ile ilgili birkaç sınırlama mevcuttur. İlk olarak, yarı yapılandırılmış görüşmeler yoluyla verileri güçlendirmek için çaba sarf edilmiş olmasına rağmen, çalışma öğretmen adaylarının kendi bildirdikleri verilere dayanmaktadır. Bu nedenle, gelecekteki araştırmalar, web seminerlerinin yanı sıra diğer dijital kaynakların İngilizce öğretmen adaylarının mesleki gelişim deneyimlerindeki rolünü karma yöntem yaklaşımları kullanarak incelemelidir. İkinci olarak, bu çalışma Türkiye'deki bir devlet üniversitesindeki öğretmen adaylarının deneyimleri ile sınırlıdır. Bu nedenle bulgular dikkatli bir biçimde yorumlanmalıdır. Bununla birlikte, bulgular, hizmet öncesi öğretmen eğitimi programlarının bir parçası olarak etkili mesleki gelişim fırsatları geliştirmeyi amaçlayan dünya çapındaki özel veya devlet kurumlarındaki uygulayıcılar ve paydaşlar için yararlı olabilir. Son olarak, bu çalışma öğretmen adaylarının performansını veya başarılarını resmi bir bağlamda incelememektedir. Çalışma, COVID-19 salgını sırasında ve sonrasında çevrimiçi mesleki gelişim aktivitelerine katılan gönüllü bireylerin deneyimleriyle sınırlıdır. Bu nedenle, gelecekteki araştırmalar, İngiliz dili eğitimi profesyonellerinin mesleki gelişim faaliyetlerinin okul gibi resmi bağlamlara entegrasyonunu da incelemelidir. Sınırlamalarına rağmen bu çalışma, web seminerlerinin İngilizce öğretmeni adaylarının mesleki gelişim ihtiyaçlarını karşılamak için potansiyel bir platform olarak kullanılmasına ilişkin içgörüler sunmakta ve öğretmen eğitimi programları için de çıkarımlarda bulunmaktadır.

#### Yayın Etiği Beyanı

Bu araştırmanın, Dicle Üniversitesi tarafından 27.06.2022 tarihinde 313240 sayılı kararıyla verilen etik kurul izni bulunmaktadır. Bu araştırmanın planlanmasından, uygulanmasına, verilerin toplanmasından verilerin analizine kadar olan tüm süreçte "Yükseköğretim Kurumları Bilimsel Araştırma ve Yayın Etiği Yönergesi" kapsamında uyulması belirtilen tüm kurallara uyulmuştur. Yönergenin ikinci bölümü olan "Bilimsel Araştırma ve Yayın Etiğine Aykırı Eylemler" başlığı altında belirtilen eylemlerden hiçbiri gerçekleştirilmemiştir. Bu araştırmanın yazım sürecinde bilimsel, etik ve alıntı kurallarına uyulmuş; toplanan veriler üzerinde herhangi bir tahrifat yapılmamıştır. Bu çalışma herhangi başka bir akademik yayın ortamına değerlendirme için gönderilmemiştir.

#### Araştırmacıların Katkı Oranı Beyanı

Bu araştırmaya araştırmacılar tarafından eşit oranda katkı sağlanmıştır.

#### Destek ve Teşekkür

Çalışmaya destekleri için Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Kurulu'na (TÜBİTAK) teşekkür ederiz.

#### Çatışma Beyanı

Araştırma kapsamında elde edilen sonuçlarda ya da görüşlerde dolaylı/dolaysız herhangi mali çıkar ya da bağlantı olmadığını, çıkar çatışması yaşanmadığını ve yanlılık bulunmadığını beyan ederiz.