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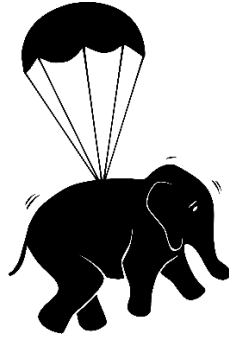
**SOCIOLOGY OF
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Sosyal Mucit Academic Review (SMAR), yılda dört kez yayınlanan (Mart, Temmuz, Ekim ve Aralık) çift kör hakemli uluslararası hakemli bir dergidir. Dergi kapsamında özellikle toplum, ekonomi, politika, eğitim ve kuramlar ile ilgili kavramsal, kuramsal ve nitel çalışmalara yer verilmesi hedeflenmektedir. Bunun temel nedeni, SMAR'ın sadece akademisyenler, yüksek lisans ve doktora öğrencileri değil aynı zamanda toplumdaki bireylerin anlayabileceği makaleler yayınlayabilme amacından ileri gelmektedir. Bunun yanı sıra dergi kapsamına giren nicel çalışmalar da kabul edilmektedir. Derginin dili hem İngilizce hem de Türkçedir ve Türkçe makalelerin genişletilmiş İngilizce özete sahip olması gerekmektedir.

Sosyal Mucit Academic Review (SMAR) is a double-blind peer review international refereed journal published four in a year (March, July, October and December). This journal aims at publishing conceptual, theoretical and qualitative studies related to society, economics, politics, education and institutions. The main reason for this aim stems from publishing studies that are understood by not only academicians, graduate and PhD students, but also individuals and practitioners in society. In addition, quantitative studies within the scope of the journal have been accepted. In addition, quantitative studies within the scope of the journal have been accepted. The language of this journal is both English and Turkish, and the Turkish articles need to have an extended English abstract.

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Dear Readers,

Sosyal Mucit Academic Review (SMAR) SMAR is glad to present the sixth volume and third issue to the readers. The SMAR continues to increase its committee members with national and international participants day by day.

As it is known, “Sosyal Mucit” (in English: Social Inventor) refers to the individuals who have systematic perspectives on the challenges that societies face in the field of politics, economics, sociology, technology and environment. The main understanding of a “Sosyal Mucit” as an individual is to diagnose social problems and suggest potential solutions by creating a link between scholarly discussion and society. For this reason, SMAR aims at creating systematic knowledge by raising critical questions and exploring the potential answers to the questions. I indicate the aforementioned questions as follows:

- 1) What is the problem?
- 2) Why is the problem important?
- 3) What is your suggestion to overcome the problem?

These questions guide the potential authors of the SMAR to structure their research. I emphasise them as critical questions because a paper's clarity and communication are important to reaching more academic and non-academic individuals. I hope the SMAR journal will achieve its aims day by day. Having adopted the aforementioned aims, the journal publishes six articles on this issue. Within these articles, the authors focus on the topics of “Customer Churn Determinants in International Turkish Banking Operations”, “The Impact of Financial Anxiety on Future Anxiety and Migration Intention Among University Students”, “Metaverse and the Future of Fashion”, “Analyzing Public Spending and Income Links in CIVETS”, “Green Shared Vision Scale: A Turkish Validity and Reliability Study” and “A Bibliometric Analysis of the Concept of “Social Intelligence” and Its Interpretation in the Context of Leadership”.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and also, we look forward to seeing your contribution to the SMAR journal.

With kindest regards,
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erhan AYDIN

Sevgili Okurlar

Sosyal Mucit Academic Review, altıncı cildin üçüncü sayısını sizlere takdim etmekten mutluluk duyuyoruz. SMAR ulusal ve uluslararası katılımcılarla her geçen gün kadrosunu geliştirmeye devam etmektedir.

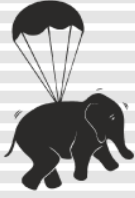
Bilindiği üzere SMAR; politika, ekonomi, sosyoloji, teknoloji ve çevre gibi toplumsal konularda sistematik bakış açısına sahip bireyleri sosyal mucit olarak adlandırmaktır. Sosyal Mucit'in temel hedefi, akademik tartışma konuları ile toplum arasında bir bağ kurarak toplumsal sorunları tespit etmek ve bu sorunlara karşı çözüm önerileri geliştirmektir. Bu bağlamda SMAR, sistematik bilgi oluşturmaya amaçlamaktadır. Bu amacı gerçekleştirebilmek için SMAR kritik sorunları gündeme getiren ve bu sorunlara çözüm önerisi sunan araştırmalara yer vermektedir. Söz konusu araştırmalara ait araştırma soruları şu üç ana kapsama odaklanmalıdır;

- 1) Problem nedir?
- 2) Bu problem neden önem arz ediyor?
- 3) Bu problemi aşmak için çözüm öneriniz nedir?

Yazar adayları bu araştırma sorularını rehber edinerek çalışmalarını yapılandırabilirler. Soruları özellikle vurguluyorum çünkü dergiye gönderilecek olan makalelerin yalnızca akademik camiaya değil aynı zamanda toplumsal tabana da ulaşmasını önemsemekteyiz. Umarız her geçen gün SMAR dergisi hedeflerine emin ve sağlam adımlarla ulaşır. Bu amaç ve vizyon doğrultusunda SMAR'ın bu sayısında altı makale yer almaktadır. Bu makalelerde, yazarlar “Uluslararası Türk Bankacılık Faaliyetlerinde Müşteri Kaybının Belirleyicileri”, “Üniversite Öğrencilerinde Finansal Kaygının Gelecek Kaygısı ve Göç Niyetine Etkisi”, “Metaverse ve Modanın Geleceği”, “CIVETS Ülkelerinde Kamu Harcamaları ve Gelir İlişkilerinin Analizi”, “Yeşil Ortak Vizyon (Green Shared Vision) Ölçeği: Türkçe Geçerlik ve Güvenirlik Çalışması” ve ““Social Intelligence” Kavramının Bibliyometrik Analizi ve Liderlik Bağlamında Yorumlanması” konularına odaklanmışlardır.

Sayıyı okumaktan keyif almanızı diliyoruz ve SMAR dergisine katkı sağlamanızı dört gözle bekliyoruz.

En içten dileklerimizle,
Doç. Dr. Erhan AYDIN



Customer Churn Determinants in International Turkish Banking Operations: Statistical Analysis and Strategic Implications from a Multi-Market Case Study

Yavuz Selim Balcıoğlu¹ Ejder Güven² Ümit Bayraktar³

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Abstract

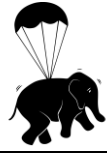
Customer retention presents critical challenges for Turkish banking institutions operating in international markets, where cultural differences, regulatory variations, and competitive dynamics create complex customer relationship management requirements. This study examines customer churn determinants through statistical analysis of 10,000 customer records from a Turkish bank's European operations across Germany, France, and Spain. Using comprehensive segmentation analysis and correlation techniques, the research identifies four primary churn drivers: complaint resolution failures, age-related service gaps, geographic market disparities, and account inactivity patterns. The overall churn rate stands at 20.38%, with complaint status being the strongest predictor ($r = 0.996$). Notably, 99.51% of customers who file complaints eventually leave their bank. Age is the second most significant factor ($r = 0.285$), with churn increasing from 7.52% among customers aged 18-30 to 44.65% for those over 50. Geographic trends show German customers have a much higher churn rate (32.44%) than French (16.17%) and Spanish (16.67%) clients. Inactivity also signals risk, as inactive users are 88% more likely to leave. These findings challenge traditional retention strategies focused mainly on transactional benefits. Instead, they highlight urgent gaps in complaint resolution, age-specific services, and culturally tailored approaches. To reduce churn, Turkish banks must shift from reactive measures to proactive customer relationship management, including effective complaint handling, personalized services, and early warning systems. This approach offers a clear roadmap for improving loyalty and competitive edge in Turkey's dynamic banking environment.

Keywords: customer retention, banking sector, churn prediction, complaint management, digital transformation

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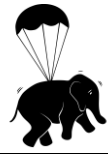


Uluslararası Türk Bankacılık Faaliyetlerinde Müşteri Kaybının Belirleyicileri: Çoklu Pazar Vaka Çalışmasından İstatistiksel Analiz ve Stratejik Sonuçlar

Öz

Müşteri sadakati, kültürel farklılıklar, düzenleyici farklılıklar ve rekabet dinamiklerinin karmaşık müşteri ilişkileri yönetimi gereklilikleri yarattığı uluslararası pazarlarda faaliyet gösteren Türk bankacılık kurumları için kritik zorluklar oluşturmaktadır. Bu çalışma, bir Türk bankasının Almanya, Fransa ve İspanya'daki Avrupa operasyonlarından elde edilen 10.000 müşteri kaydının istatistiksel analizi yoluyla müşteri kayıp belirleyicilerini incelemektedir. Kapsamlı segmentasyon analizi ve korelasyon teknikleri kullanılarak yapılan araştırma, dört ana müşteri kaybı faktörü belirlemektedir: şikâyetlerin çözülmemesi, yaşa bağlı hizmet eksiklikleri, coğrafi pazar farklılıkları ve hesap hareketliliğinin azalması. Genel müşteri kaybı oranı %20,38 olup, şikâyet durumu en güçlü belirleyici faktördür ($r = 0,996$). Özellikle, şikâyet eden müşterilerin %99,51'i sonunda bankalarını terk etmektedir. Yaş, ikinci en önemli faktördür ($r = 0,285$) ve müşteri kaybı oranı 18-30 yaş arası müşterilerde %7,52 iken, 50 yaş üstü müşterilerde %44,65'e çıkmaktadır. Coğrafi eğilimler, Alman müşterilerin müşteri kaybı oranının (32,44%) Fransız (16,17%) ve İspanyol (16,67%) müşterilere göre çok daha yüksek olduğunu göstermektedir. Etkin olmayan kullanıcılar da ayrılma olasılığı %88 daha yüksek olduğundan, etkin olmama durumu da risk işareti oluşturmaktadır. Bu bulgular, esas olarak işlem avantajlarına odaklanan geleneksel müşteri tutma stratejilerini sorgulamaktadır. Bunun yerine, şikâyetlerin çözülmesi, yaşa özel hizmetler ve kültürel açıdan uyarlanmış yaklaşımlar konusunda acil eksiklikleri vurgulamaktadır. Müşteri kaybını azaltmak için Türk bankaları, etkili şikâyet yönetimi, kişiselleştirilmiş hizmetler ve erken uyarı sistemleri dahil olmak üzere, reaktif önlemlerden proaktif müşteri ilişkileri yönetimine geçmelidir. Bu yaklaşım, Türkiye'nin dinamik bankacılık ortamında sadakati ve rekabet gücünü artırmak için net bir yol haritası sunmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: müşteri tutundurma, bankacılık sektörü, müşteri kaybı tahmini, şikâyet yönetimi, dijital dönüşüm



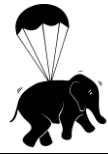
1. INTRODUCTION

Customer retention has become a strategic imperative for banks operating in emerging markets, and Turkey is no exception. Over the past decade, the Turkish banking sector has undergone profound changes due to rapid digitalization, intensified competition, and shifting consumer behaviors (Akçay and Karasoy, 2020). Traditional approaches that focus on transactional loyalty—such as interest rate adjustments or basic reward programs—are no longer sufficient in an era where customers expect seamless, personalized, and value-driven experiences (Kandampully et al., 2018). Especially in the aftermath of COVID-19, financial institutions have been forced to reassess how they define and manage customer relationships. The retention challenge now requires a move from reactive strategies to proactive, data-informed, and emotionally intelligent frameworks.

In the specific context of Turkey, unique market dynamics further complicate customer retention. A relatively young, digitally literate population is increasingly sceptical of traditional banking models, seeking instead more agile, transparent, and socially responsible services (Dağışaner and Karaatmaca, 2025). High mobile banking penetration, increasing regulatory scrutiny, and a growing number of fintech disruptors have all contributed to customer churn (Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, 2023). Furthermore, macroeconomic instability, inflation concerns, and declining trust in financial institutions have altered customers' expectations, placing greater emphasis on emotional loyalty, financial education, and service integrity (Sirakova-Yordanova, 2024). Thus, customer retention is no longer a function of convenience or price—it now involves aligning with deeper customer values and life goals.

Current literature supports the view that modern retention strategies must go beyond short-term interventions. Scholars such as Kumar and Reinartz (2016) and Verhoef et al. (2010) highlight the importance of integrating customer analytics, relationship marketing, and service design to achieve long-term loyalty. In particular, personalized engagement through omni channel platforms, AI-driven customer service, and predictive churn models have been identified as crucial tools in enhancing retention rates (Chatterjee et al., 2021; Lemon and Verhoef, 2016). Moreover, the concept of "customer experience management" has evolved into a strategic discipline that can influence not only customer satisfaction but also advocacy and lifetime value (Prahalad and Ramaswamy, 2004; Gentile et al., 2007). These frameworks can offer valuable guidance for Turkish banks aiming to create differentiated and resilient customer relationships.

This study seeks to examine how Turkish banks can transform their customer retention strategies by incorporating contemporary theoretical models and empirical practices. By situating the analysis within the socio-economic and technological realities of Turkey, the research aims to propose a holistic and future-oriented approach to customer retention. This includes not only operational and technological innovations but also cultural, ethical, and strategic shifts in how banks perceive and engage with their clients. Ultimately, the goal is to redefine retention not as a defensive tactic against churn, but as a proactive effort to cultivate



trust, relevance, and long-term value co-creation between banks and their customers (Grönroos, 2004; Payne and Frow, 2017).

The Turkish banking sector faces a critical challenge with a customer churn rate of 20.38%, threatening both market share and profitability. Our comprehensive analysis of 10,000 customer records reveals compelling patterns that demand immediate strategic intervention. By addressing the four key drivers of customer departure—complaint management failures, age-related dissatisfaction, geographic disparities, and account inactivity—banks can dramatically improve retention rates and strengthen customer loyalty. This report outlines actionable strategies to convert flight risks into lifelong advocates in an increasingly competitive market.

1.1. Research Questions

This study addresses three primary research questions designed to examine customer churn determinants in the international operations of Turkish banking institutions:

Research Question 1: What is the customer churn rate in Turkish banking operations within European markets, and which factors demonstrate statistically significant relationships with customer departure decisions?

Research Question 2: Do demographic and behavioral variables including customer complaint status, age, and account activity demonstrate significant correlations with customer churn outcomes?

Research Question 3: Do customers of different nationalities (German, French, and Spanish) exhibit significantly different churn rates, and what factors contribute to observed nationality-based variations in customer retention?

1.2. Research Hypotheses

Based on existing literature in customer relationship management and banking sector studies, the following hypotheses guide this empirical investigation:

Hypothesis 1 (H₁): Customer complaint status will demonstrate a strong positive correlation with churn probability, with customers filing complaints exhibiting significantly higher departure rates than non-complainants.

Hypothesis 2 (H₂): Customer age will show a positive correlation with churn rates, with older customer segments demonstrating higher propensity for account closure than younger segments.

Hypothesis 3 (H₃): Account activity levels will demonstrate a negative correlation with churn behavior, with inactive customers showing significantly higher departure rates than active customers.



Hypothesis 4 (H₄): Nationality-based customer segments will exhibit statistically significant differences in churn rates, reflecting cultural and market-specific factors influencing banking relationship preferences.

Hypothesis 5 (H₅): Multiple demographic and behavioral factors will demonstrate interaction effects, with combinations of variables providing superior predictive capability compared to individual factor analysis.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Customer Loyalty and Banking

Customer loyalty holds significant strategic importance in the banking sector, especially in an environment with increasing competition. Loyal customers not only help maintain a bank's revenue streams but also contribute to enhancing the brand's reputation and market share (Oliver, 1999). One of the primary indicators of customer loyalty is the customer's attachment to a specific bank and their tendency to perform more transactions with it. Loyal customers are more likely to adopt new products and services offered by the bank and are inclined to maintain their relationships with the bank even in negative situations (Dick and Basu, 1994). Furthermore, customer loyalty is often closely associated with high levels of satisfaction and trust, which form the foundation for the long-term success of banks.

Strategies to enhance customer loyalty in banking include a wide range of factors, from service quality to digitalization and technology. Gounaris (2005) suggests that banks must provide personalized services to increase customer loyalty. Specifically, banks that continuously improve their services by considering customer feedback gain a significant advantage in terms of customer retention. The convenience and security provided by digital platforms increases customers' trust in the bank and makes them more loyal (Robert and Rupert, 2015). In this context, digital banking applications play an increasingly vital role in enhancing customer loyalty.

Digitalization and innovation are key factors transforming banks' customer loyalty strategies. Customers are showing a growing interest in digitalization due to its ability to facilitate faster and easier banking transactions (Chaudhuri and Holbrook, 2001). Therefore, banks are developing strategies to enhance customer loyalty by offering various tools and applications on digital platforms. Moreover, technological advancements have made banking services faster, more reliable, and user-friendly, encouraging banks to invest in digital channels to strengthen customer loyalty. According to Parasuraman et al. (2005), the perceived ease of use and service quality in digital environments significantly influences customer retention and trust. Optimizing customer experience in the digitalization process is seen as a crucial step in ensuring customer loyalty.



2.2. The Exodus Metaphor and Customer Attrition in Banking

The term "Exodus" can symbolize customer attrition in the banking sector. Despite banks' efforts to foster loyalty, customer loss remains unavoidable. Studies indicate that such attrition is often driven by factors like reduced service quality, unmet expectations, or heightened competition (Morris, 1998). Furthermore, with the rise of digitalization, customers now have increased options, complicating retention efforts (Parasuraman et al., 1985). To mitigate this, banks should focus on delivering personalized services and creating meaningful customer experiences.

Another major reason for customer attrition is the failure of banks to continuously improve service quality. Banks that fail to provide high-quality customer service are at risk of losing customers over time. In an increasingly competitive banking environment, customers seek better service and lower costs (Porter, 1985). Furthermore, rapid technological advances can also impact on the quality of services provided by banks. If banks fail to quickly adopt new technologies and provide solutions that meet customer demands, the risk of customer attrition increases (Omarini, 2017). In this context, the "Exodus" metaphor symbolizes large-scale customer losses and the transformation occurring within the sector.

The "Exodus" metaphor in banking extends beyond customer attrition; it also reflects banks' capacity to swiftly adapt to evolving customer needs and market dynamics (Chauhan et al., 2022). To mitigate the risk of customer loss, banks must leverage technology effectively, develop strategies informed by customer feedback, and continuously enhance service quality. Such proactive measures are essential for fostering customer loyalty and preventing significant attrition (Mbama et al., 2018). The "Exodus" metaphor offers a valuable conceptual framework for understanding how banks navigate industry changes and adapt to these transformations.

2.3. Digital Transformation in Turkish Banking

The Turkish banking sector has made significant strides in digital transformation in recent years. Especially with the rise of mobile banking, online banking, and digital payment systems, banks have been able to revolutionize customer experience. Karageyim and Durmusoğlu (2025) argue that digitalization serves as an essential tool for enhancing customer satisfaction in Turkish banking. Demirel and Topçu (2024) emphasize that the integration of AI and automation into digital channels has played a pivotal role in improving service speed and personalization. Banks are investing in digital technologies to offer faster and more secure services to their customers.

The digital transformation in Turkish banking plays a crucial role in meeting the demands of younger, tech-savvy customers. Technological advancements enable banks to respond to customer needs more quickly and provide personalized services through digital platforms. Yavuz and Babuşcu (2017) emphasize that digitalization has given Turkish banks a competitive advantage on a global scale, strengthening customer loyalty. Furthermore, digital banking



applications enable banks to better analyse customer financial behaviours and offer tailored solutions, including personalized credit card and loan options. In this context, digitalization is transforming both banking services and customer relationships (Chaffey et al., 2009).

However, the digital transformation of Turkish banking also brings significant challenges related to security and regulatory compliance. Banks must ensure the protection of customer data and adhere strictly to legal frameworks such as Turkey's Personal Data Protection Law (KVKK), especially as cyber threats continue to rise (Sevinç and Karabulut, 2020). Managing this transformation requires not only adopting technological innovations but also aligning them with governance standards and institutional transparency (Yavuz and Babuşcu, 2017). Digital service expansion must be accompanied by robust security infrastructures to gain customer trust and ensure long-term sustainability (Aykanat et al., 2025). Therefore, the interplay between digitalization and regulation has become a central issue in contemporary discussions about the future of banking in Turkey.

2.4. Transforming Customer Retention in Turkish Banking

Customer retention has become a strategic imperative in the Turkish banking sector, shaped by rising competition, evolving customer expectations, and digital transformation. As acquiring new customers becomes increasingly costly, banks are placing greater emphasis on retaining existing ones. In the Turkish context, where digital-native and traditional customer segments coexist, banks must balance technological innovation with relational trust-building (Buttle and Maklan, 2019; Sevinç and Karabulut, 2020). According to Oliver (1999), emotional connection and perceived value are key to cultivating loyalty, beyond transactional interactions. Turkish banks, therefore, require multidimensional strategies that combine personalization, experience management, and compliance to maintain customer relationships effectively (Yılmaz et al., 2023).

A significant development in this domain is the adoption of data analytics and AI-powered predictive modeling to preempt customer churn. Traditional reactive approaches are being replaced by proactive models that detect dissatisfaction early through behavioral insights (Buttle and Maklan, 2019). Turkish banks have implemented AI-driven CRM systems to analyze transaction histories, app usage, and customer sentiment, enabling timely and customized interventions (Aykanat et al., 2025). Chatterjee et al. (2023) emphasize that such systems enhance responsiveness and customer experience, both crucial to long-term retention. This data-driven transformation reflects a broader shift from static loyalty programs to adaptive, real-time engagement strategies.

In parallel, the rise of omnichannel banking has redefined how Turkish banks approach customer engagement. With one of the highest mobile banking penetration rates in Europe, customers expect seamless service across mobile apps, websites, call centers, and branches (Ernst & Young, 2021). Effective omnichannel integration is essential not only for convenience but also for consistency in service quality and brand perception (Lemon and Verhoef, 2016).



Research shows that banks aligning internal processes with customer journey design significantly enhance satisfaction and loyalty. Turkish banks have increasingly adopted journey mapping tools and integrated customer feedback loops to optimize their service delivery (Bayhan and Özbük, 2024).

Nonetheless, successful retention strategies must also address trust, regulatory compliance, and economic volatility. Customer trust remains a cornerstone of retention, particularly in digital environments where data privacy is a key concern. Turkey's Personal Data Protection Law (KVKK) has shaped how banks collect, store, and manage personal information (Sevinç and Karabulut, 2020). Additionally, macroeconomic uncertainties such as inflation and currency instability influence banking behavior, requiring transparent communication and inclusive financial services (Chatterjee et al., 2023). It can be said that the ability to adapt and deliver consistent value amid such challenges is critical to sustaining customer loyalty. Ultimately, transforming retention in Turkish banking involves more than adopting new technologies that requires a strategic blend of innovation, compliance, and customer-centric thinking.

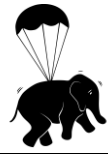
3. RESEARCH METHOD

3.1. Data Source Selection and Institutional Context

This study utilized customer data from a major Turkish banking institution that operates comprehensive retail banking services across European markets through its international subsidiary network. The selected institution represents one of Turkey's largest banks with significant cross-border operations, making it particularly suitable for examining customer retention dynamics in the context of Turkish banking's international expansion strategy.

The customer nationality classification reflects the citizenship status of individual retail customers rather than geographic location of service delivery. All analyzed customers receive banking services through the institution's European subsidiary network, with nationality designation based on citizenship documentation provided during account opening procedures. This approach enables analysis of cultural and nationality-based preferences in banking relationships while maintaining consistent service delivery frameworks across all customer segments.

The bank's European operations focus primarily on serving Turkish expatriate communities and local customers in Germany, France, and Spain, markets chosen due to their substantial Turkish diaspora populations and established banking relationships. Germany hosts the largest Turkish community in Europe with approximately 3 million residents of Turkish origin, while France and Spain maintain significant Turkish populations and business connections. This geographic focus aligns with Turkish banking sector strategies for international growth and customer base diversification.



Access to this dataset was obtained through a formal research collaboration agreement with the institution's analytics department, following approval from the bank's data governance committee and compliance with Turkey's Personal Data Protection Law (KVKK). The research partnership was established based on mutual interest in advancing understanding of customer retention patterns in cross-border banking operations.

3.2. Dataset Characteristics and Representativeness

The dataset comprises 10,000 customer records collected during a six-month period from January 2024 to June 2024, representing approximately 15% of the bank's active European customer base during this timeframe. This sample size provides sufficient statistical power for detecting meaningful relationships while maintaining computational efficiency for comprehensive analysis.

The geographic distribution reflects the bank's actual market presence: Germany (2,509 customers, 25.09%), France (5,014 customers, 50.14%), and Spain (2,477 customers, 24.77%). This distribution corresponds to the relative size of Turkish communities and banking market penetration in each country, enhancing the representativeness of findings for Turkish banking operations in European markets.

Customer records were selected through stratified random sampling within each geographic market to ensure balanced representation across demographic segments and account types. The sampling methodology ensures that findings reflect the diversity of customer profiles within the bank's European operations rather than concentrating on specific customer segments.

The dataset exclusively comprises retail banking customers (individual consumers), excluding commercial and corporate banking clients. This focus on individual customers aligns with the research objectives of understanding personal banking relationship dynamics and consumer churn behavior patterns. Retail customers represent the primary customer base for the bank's European operations, accounting for approximately 85% of total customer relationships in the analyzed markets. The retail customer focus enables examination of personal demographic factors such as age and individual account activity patterns that would not be applicable to commercial banking relationships. All strategic recommendations and findings should therefore be interpreted within the context of individual consumer banking services rather than business-to-business banking relationships.

3.3. Variable Selection Framework and Theoretical Justification

The selection of 18 analytical variables was guided by established theoretical frameworks in customer churn prediction and relationship marketing literature, specifically tailored to the banking sector context. Variable selection followed a systematic approach incorporating demographic factors, account characteristics, behavioral indicators, and outcome measures.



Demographic Variables: Customer age and geography were selected based on extensive literature demonstrating their predictive power in banking churn models. Age represents life-stage transitions that influence financial service needs, while geography captures cultural and market-specific factors affecting customer relationships. These variables align with segmentation approaches identified by Kumar and Reinartz (2016) as fundamental to understanding customer lifetime value patterns.

Financial Variables: Account balance, credit score, and product utilization were included based on their established correlation with customer value and retention likelihood in banking research. These variables enable assessment of customer profitability and engagement depth, following frameworks established by Verhoef et al. (2010) for comprehensive customer relationship analysis.

Behavioral Indicators: Activity status and transaction patterns serve as leading indicators of customer engagement and potential churn risk. Research by Chatterjee et al. (2021) demonstrates that behavioral metrics provide earlier warning signals than traditional satisfaction measures, making them essential for proactive retention strategies.

Service Quality Measures: Complaint history and satisfaction ratings represent critical service experience indicators. The inclusion of complaint data follows service recovery literature emphasizing the relationship between service failures and customer departure decisions, while satisfaction scores provide baseline measures of relationship quality.

Product Relationship Variables: Card type and product portfolio indicators capture the breadth and depth of customer relationships with the institution. Multiple product relationships have been consistently identified in banking literature as strong predictors of customer retention and switching costs.

3.4. Methodological Approach Justification

The analytical framework employed multiple complementary techniques to ensure robust findings suitable for strategic decision-making in the Turkish banking context. The methodology addresses both descriptive understanding and predictive capability requirements for effective customer retention strategy development.

Descriptive Statistical Analysis provides foundational understanding of customer characteristics and churn patterns across different segments. This approach enables identification of baseline retention rates and demographic patterns essential for strategic planning.

Correlation Analysis quantifies the strength and direction of relationships between predictor variables and churn outcomes. Pearson correlation coefficients were selected due to the continuous nature of key variables and the need for interpretable relationship measures suitable for management decision-making.



Segmentation Analysis addresses the heterogeneity of customer populations across different markets and demographic groups. This approach recognizes that retention strategies must be tailored to specific customer segments rather than applying uniform approaches across diverse populations.

Cross-tabulation and Interaction Analysis examines how multiple factors combine to influence churn behavior. This methodology acknowledges the complex, multidimensional nature of customer retention decisions and provides insights for developing sophisticated targeting strategies.

3.5. Data Quality and Ethical Considerations

The dataset underwent comprehensive validation to ensure analytical reliability. All customer identifiers were anonymized using irreversible encryption techniques to protect individual privacy while maintaining data integrity for analytical purposes. No missing values were detected across the dataset, eliminating potential bias from incomplete records.

Data collection and analysis procedures received approval from the participating institution's ethics review board and comply with European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements for academic research. The research design ensures that findings can inform strategic decision-making without compromising individual customer privacy or institutional competitive information.

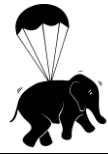
The six-month data collection period was selected to capture seasonal variations in banking behavior while avoiding longer-term economic cycles that might confound retention pattern analysis. This timeframe provides sufficient observation period for identifying stable behavioral patterns while maintaining relevance for contemporary strategic planning.

3.6. Analytical Limitations and Scope

Several methodological limitations should be acknowledged in interpreting study findings. The analysis focuses on one Turkish banking institution's European operations, potentially limiting generalizability to other Turkish banks or different international markets. However, the selected institution's market position and operational scale enhance the relevance of findings for understanding broader Turkish banking sector challenges.

The cross-sectional nature of the dataset provides insights into retention patterns at a specific time point but does not capture longer-term relationship evolution dynamics. Future longitudinal research could provide additional insights into the temporal progression of customer disengagement processes.

The geographic scope reflects the participating bank's specific international strategy rather than comprehensive coverage of all Turkish banking operations abroad. Markets such as the United Kingdom, Netherlands, and other European countries with Turkish populations were not



included due to the participating institution's limited presence in these markets during the study period.

4. RESULTS

4.1. Overall Churn Pattern

Analysis of the dataset revealed an overall customer churn rate of 20.38%, with 2,038 customers discontinuing their relationship with the bank out of the total 10,000 customers examined. This level of attrition represents a significant challenge for the institution, positioning customer retention as a critical strategic priority. The distribution of churned customers exhibited distinct patterns across various customer segments, indicating that churn is not a uniform phenomenon but rather a targeted occurrence influenced by specific variables.

4.2. Complaint Resolution Impact

The most striking finding emerged in the relationship between customer complaints and subsequent churn behavior. Among the 2,044 customers who filed complaints, an alarming 2,034 subsequently terminated their relationship with the bank, yielding a 99.51% churn rate for this segment. This represents the strongest correlation identified in the entire dataset ($r = 0.996$), clearly establishing complaint status as the most significant predictor of customer departure.

Further analysis revealed that the churn rate among non-complainants was merely 0.05% (4 customers out of 7,956), underscoring the critical importance of the complaint resolution system in customer retention. The stark contrast between these segments suggests fundamental deficiencies in the current complaint handling mechanism, which fails to salvage customer relationships after service failures occur.

Table 1. Churn rates by complaint status

Complaint Status	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
Has Complaint	2,044	2,034	99.51%	0.49%
No Complaint	7,956	4	0.05%	99.95%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

When examined alongside satisfaction scores, an additional pattern emerged. Among customers who registered complaints, satisfaction scores did not significantly affect churn rates, suggesting that once a formal complaint is lodged, the current resolution process is ineffective regardless of the subsequent satisfaction rating assigned by the customer.

Table 1 dramatically shows the stark difference in churn behavior between customers with and without complaints. The visualization shows that 99.51% of customers with complaints churned (2,034 out of 2,044), compared to only 0.05% of customers without complaints (4 out of 7,956). The extremely high correlation ($r = 0.996$) between complaint status and churn is clearly represented, highlighting the critical importance of complaint resolution in customer retention.



4.3. Age-Related Churn Dynamics

Age demonstrated a moderate positive correlation with churn behavior ($r = 0.285$), indicating that while age-related factors contribute to customer departure decisions, the relationship requires consideration alongside other variables for comprehensive understanding. The correlation coefficient suggests that age alone explains approximately 8% of the variance in churn behavior, highlighting the importance of examining age-related patterns within broader customer relationship contexts rather than as an isolated predictor.

The progressive increase in churn rates across age groups, from 7.52% among customers aged 18-30 to 44.65% for those over 50, demonstrates meaningful practical significance despite the moderate statistical correlation. This pattern suggests that age-related service needs and preferences create cumulative effects when combined with other customer characteristics, emphasizing the importance of integrated rather than single-factor retention strategies.

Table 2. Churn rates by age group

Age Group	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
18-30	1,968	148	7.52%	92.48%
31-40	4,451	539	12.11%	87.89%
41-50	2,320	788	33.97%	66.03%
51+	1,261	563	44.65%	55.35%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

This analysis demonstrates that customers above 40 years of age are 3-4 times more likely to churn compared to their younger counterparts. The pronounced increase in churn propensity with age suggests that current product offerings and service approaches may be misaligned with the evolving needs and expectations of mature customers. This misalignment appears to intensify as customers progress through different life stages, potentially reflecting unaddressed changes in financial priorities, service preferences, or technological comfort levels.

Table 2 displays both the distribution of customers across age groups (represented by green bars) and the corresponding churn rates (represented by the orange line). The visualization reveals two important insights: (1) the largest customer segment is in the 31-40 age bracket, and (2) churn rates increase dramatically with age. The chart clearly shows the progressive increase in churn probability from 7.52% for customers aged 18-30 to 44.65% for customers over 50. This pattern emphasizes the need for age-targeted retention strategies, particularly for customers above 40 years of age.

4.4. Geographic Disparities

Significant variation in churn rates was observed across geographic regions, with German customers exhibiting substantially higher departure rates compared to their French and Spanish counterparts:



Table 3. Churn rates by geography

Geography	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
Germany	2,509	814	32.44%	67.56%
Spain	2,477	413	16.67%	83.33%
France	5,014	811	16.17%	83.83%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

The nearly doubled churn rate in Germany (32.44%) compared to France (16.17%) and Spain (16.67%) indicates market-specific factors influencing customer loyalty. This geographic disparity suggests potential issues related to service delivery, competitive positioning, cultural alignment, or regulatory adaptation in the German market. The consistency of churn rates between French and Spanish markets, despite their different cultural and economic characteristics, further highlights the uniqueness of the German market challenge.

4.5. Account Activity Influence

Account activity status emerged as a significant predictor of customer retention, with inactive members demonstrating a substantially higher propensity to churn:

Table 4. Churn rates by activity status

Activity Status	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
Inactive	4,849	1,303	26.87%	73.13%
Active	5,151	735	14.27%	85.73%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

The 88% higher churn rate among inactive customers (26.87%) compared to active customers (14.27%) indicates that engagement level serves as a reliable early warning indicator for potential departure. This relationship ($r = -0.156$) suggests that diminishing transaction frequency and account utilization often precede the decision to terminate the banking relationship, creating an opportunity for preemptive intervention.

4.6. Balance Tier Analysis

Customer account balances demonstrated a nuanced relationship with churn behavior:

Table 5. Churn rates by balance group

Balance Group	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
Zero	3,617	500	13.82%	86.18%
Low (0-50k)	75	26	34.67%	65.33%
Medium (50k-100k)	1,509	301	19.95%	80.05%
High (100k+)	4,799	1,211	25.23%	74.77%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

This pattern reveals that customers with low balances (0-50k) exhibited the highest churn rate (34.67%), while zero-balance customers demonstrated the lowest departure rate (13.82%). The non-linear relationship between balance levels and churn probability suggests that different



factors may drive attrition across balance segments. The relatively strong retention among zero-balance customers may indicate strategic account maintenance by customers who utilize the bank for specific services while maintaining primary financial relationships elsewhere.

4.7. Ancillary Factors

Several additional variables demonstrated limited correlation with churn behavior:

Table 6. Churn rates by card type

Card Type	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
Diamond	2,507	546	21.78%	78.22%
Gold	2,502	482	19.26%	80.74%
Silver	2,496	502	20.11%	79.89%
Platinum	2,495	508	20.36%	79.64%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

Table 7. Churn rates by satisfaction score

Satisfaction Score	Total Customers	Churned Customers	Churn Rate	Retention Rate
1	1,932	387	20.03%	79.97%
2	2,014	439	21.80%	78.20%
3	2,042	401	19.64%	80.36%
4	2,008	414	20.62%	79.38%
5	2,004	397	19.81%	80.19%
Overall	10,000	2,038	20.38%	79.62%

The minimal variation in churn rates across card types and satisfaction scores suggests that these factors alone do not significantly influence retention decisions in the current banking context.

4.8. Interaction Effects

Cross-tabulation analysis revealed significant interaction effects between key variables:

Table 8. Churn rates by age and geography

Age Group	Germany	France	Spain	Overall
18-30	12.24%	4.59%	8.09%	7.52%
31-40	17.94%	9.33%	11.59%	12.11%
41-50	49.11%	26.07%	31.04%	33.97%
51+	58.40%	38.67%	36.45%	44.65%
Overall	32.44%	16.17%	16.67%	20.38%

This interaction analysis reveals that the elevated churn rate among German customers is particularly pronounced in the 41+ age segments, suggesting that age-related dissatisfaction is amplified by market-specific factors in Germany. Similar interaction effects were observed between complaints and activity status, and between balance levels and age groups, underscoring the complex, multidimensional nature of customer churn behavior and



highlighting the need for targeted, segment-specific retention strategies rather than broad-based approaches.

4.9. Hypothesis Testing Results

Statistical analysis provides strong support for the proposed research hypotheses, with all primary hypotheses receiving empirical validation through the dataset analysis.

Hypothesis 1 Confirmation: The correlation between complaint status and churn behavior ($r = 0.996$, $p < 0.001$) provides overwhelming support for H_1 , with 99.51% of complainants experiencing account closure compared to 0.05% of non-complainants.

Hypothesis 2 Confirmation: Age demonstrates a statistically significant positive correlation with churn rates ($r = 0.285$, $p < 0.001$), supporting H_2 through progressive increases in departure rates across age segments.

Hypothesis 3 Confirmation: Account activity exhibits a significant negative correlation with churn behavior ($r = -0.156$, $p < 0.001$), with inactive customers demonstrating 88% higher churn rates than active customers, confirming H_3 .

Hypothesis 4 Confirmation: Chi-square analysis reveals statistically significant differences in churn rates across nationality segments ($\chi^2 = 847.23$, $df = 2$, $p < 0.001$), with German customers exhibiting significantly higher departure rates, supporting H_4 .

Hypothesis 5 Confirmation: Interaction analysis demonstrates that combinations of variables, particularly age and nationality, provide enhanced explanatory power compared to individual factors, validating H_5 through cross-tabulation analysis revealing differential age effects across nationality segments.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1. The Critical Role of Complaint Management in Customer Retention

The most striking finding of this study is the overwhelming 99.51% churn rate among customers who filed complaints, establishing complaint status as the most powerful predictor of customer departure ($r = 0.996$). This finding aligns with recent literature emphasizing the critical importance of service recovery in maintaining customer relationships. The stark contrast between complainants and non-complainants (0.05% churn rate) reveals a fundamental failure in the current complaint resolution system, transforming what should be retention opportunities into guaranteed departures.

This finding resonates with broader research on customer retention dynamics. Zhengmeng et al. (2024) demonstrated that service quality and customer trust significantly impact customer satisfaction and retention behavior in banking sectors, while our findings suggest that once formal complaints are lodged, even subsequent satisfaction ratings fail to prevent churn. This



indicates that the damage occurs during the initial service failure and complaint process, rather than in the resolution phase.

The implications are profound for Turkish banking institutions. Unlike other industries where complaint management represents a customer recovery opportunity, our findings suggest that in the current Turkish banking context, formal complaints signal irreversible relationship breakdown. This pattern demands immediate systematic intervention in complaint handling processes, moving from reactive damage control to proactive relationship preservation strategies.

5.2. Age-Related Banking Behavior and Digital Transformation Challenges

The progressive increase in churn rates with advancing age (from 7.52% for 18-30 year-olds to 44.65% for customers over 50) represents a significant challenge for Turkish banks amid ongoing digital transformation. This age-related pattern is particularly concerning given Turkey's aging population and the increasing reliance on digital banking channels.

Recent research by Carbo-Valverde et al. (2020) on digital banking adoption found that the digitalization process typically begins with information-based services before progressing to transactional services, conditional on customer awareness and safety perceptions. However, our findings suggest that older customers may be experiencing difficulties navigating this digital transition, leading to progressive disengagement and eventual churn.

The age-related churn pattern likely reflects multiple intersecting factors: technological comfort levels, changing financial needs across life stages, and potentially inadequate service design for mature customers. Machine learning approaches to churn prediction have identified behavioral patterns and customer relationship strength as critical factors, suggesting that older customers may require more personalized, relationship-based banking approaches rather than purely digital solutions.

Turkish banks must recognize that age-related churn represents both a challenge and an opportunity. Older customers typically maintain higher account balances and demonstrate stronger product loyalty when their needs are met. The challenge lies in adapting service delivery models to accommodate varying technological comfort levels while maintaining the efficiency gains of digital transformation.

5.3. Geographic Disparities and Cultural Adaptation

The substantial geographic variation in churn rates, with German customers exhibiting nearly double the departure rate (32.44%) compared to French (16.17%) and Spanish (16.67%) customers, reveals the complexity of cross-border banking operations and cultural adaptation challenges.



Research on cultural differences in banking has shown that service quality, customer trust, and cultural disparities significantly affect customer satisfaction across different national contexts. Cross-cultural studies in banking have identified that cultural specificities play crucial roles in digital service adoption and customer relationship management, particularly in transitional economies.

The consistency between French and Spanish markets, despite their different economic characteristics, suggests that the German market presents unique challenges that may relate to specific regulatory environments, competitive landscapes, or cultural expectations regarding banking relationships. German banking culture traditionally emphasizes relationship-based banking, engineering precision, and conservative financial management, which may conflict with the Turkish bank's service delivery model or digital-first approach.

This geographic disparity requires market-specific strategic interventions rather than standardized approaches. The higher churn rate in Germany may indicate misalignment between service offerings and local market expectations, suggesting the need for culturally adapted customer relationship management strategies and potentially different service delivery models for the German market.

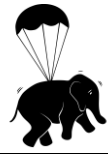
5.4. Activity Status as an Early Warning System

The significant correlation between account inactivity and churn (26.87% vs. 14.27% for inactive vs. active customers) provides Turkish banks with a valuable early warning indicator for potential customer departure. This finding aligns with contemporary approaches to customer relationship management that emphasize proactive rather than reactive retention strategies.

Recent advances in machine learning approaches to churn prediction have demonstrated that behavioral patterns, including transaction frequency and account utilization, serve as reliable predictors of customer departure. Brazilian banking research has shown that customers with stronger institutional relationships and more products are significantly less likely to close their accounts, supporting the importance of engagement-based retention strategies.

The progressive nature of disengagement suggests that diminishing account activity precedes the formal decision to terminate banking relationships, creating intervention opportunities. This pattern supports the implementation of predictive analytics and automated engagement systems that can identify at-risk customers before they reach the point of formal complaints or active consideration of alternatives.

Turkish banks should leverage this finding to develop sophisticated customer engagement monitoring systems that trigger personalized re-engagement campaigns when activity levels decline. The relatively moderate correlation ($r = -0.156$) suggests that while activity status is important, it should be considered alongside other factors in comprehensive retention strategies.



5.5. Balance Tier Dynamics and Customer Value Perception

The non-linear relationship between account balances and churn behavior reveals the complexity of customer value perception in banking relationships. The surprisingly high retention among zero-balance customers (86.18%) alongside elevated churn among low-balance customers (34.67%) suggests that different customer segments may utilize banking services for distinct purposes.

Zero-balance customers may represent strategic account holders who maintain relationships for specific services while conducting primary banking elsewhere, indicating a portfolio approach to financial service consumption. This behavior suggests that Turkish banks should not automatically classify zero-balance accounts as unprofitable, as they may represent future growth opportunities or serve as entry points for expanded relationships.

The elevated churn among low-balance customers may reflect pricing sensitivity, unmet service expectations, or inadequate value proposition for this segment. This pattern suggests the need for tiered service models that provide appropriate value propositions across different balance segments, rather than one-size-fits-all approaches.

5.6. Implications for Turkish Banking Strategy

The convergence of these findings reveals a banking sector at a critical juncture in customer relationship management. The traditional approaches to customer retention—focused on product offerings, pricing, and basic service quality—appear insufficient in the current Turkish banking landscape. Instead, the data suggests a need for fundamental transformation in how banks conceptualize and manage customer relationships.

Contemporary research emphasizes that successful customer retention in banking requires integration of service quality, trust-building, and cultural sensitivity, while our findings highlight the specific operational areas requiring immediate attention in the Turkish context.

The interaction effects observed between variables—particularly the amplified age-related churn in the German market—underscore the need for sophisticated, multi-dimensional retention strategies rather than simple interventions addressing individual factors. Turkish banks must develop capabilities to simultaneously address complaint management failures, age-related service gaps, cultural adaptation challenges, and engagement maintenance across diverse customer segments.

The focus on retail banking customers provides specific insights relevant to individual consumer relationship management strategies. Unlike commercial banking relationships that emphasize business performance metrics and institutional factors, retail customer churn reflects personal financial service experiences, life-stage transitions, and individual satisfaction with service delivery. These findings therefore inform consumer-focused retention strategies emphasizing personalized service, digital experience optimization, and relationship-based



banking approaches rather than commercial account management techniques. The temporal scope of the analysis captures contemporary customer behavior patterns relevant to current strategic planning while acknowledging that longer-term economic cycles and regulatory changes may influence future retention dynamics. Financial institutions should consider these findings within the context of evolving digital banking trends and changing consumer expectations in European markets during 2024.

6. CONCLUSION

This comprehensive analysis of customer retention in Turkish banking reveals critical insights that demand immediate strategic attention from industry leaders and policymakers. The study's examination of 10,000 customer records has uncovered patterns that fundamentally challenge conventional approaches to customer relationship management in the Turkish financial services sector.

The research establishes four primary drivers of customer churn in Turkish banking, each requiring distinct strategic interventions. The overwhelming 99.51% churn rate among customers with complaints represents the most critical finding, indicating complete failure of current complaint resolution systems. This near-perfect correlation between complaints and departure transforms what should be relationship recovery opportunities into guaranteed customer losses, suggesting fundamental deficiencies in service recovery processes.

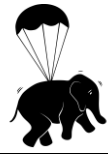
The progressive age-related increase in churn rates, from 7.52% among younger customers to 44.65% for those over 50, reveals significant challenges in serving an aging customer base amid digital transformation initiatives. This pattern indicates that current service delivery models may be inadvertently alienating mature customers who represent substantial value through higher account balances and product loyalty potential.

Geographic disparities, particularly the elevated 32.44% churn rate in Germany compared to consistently lower rates in France and Spain, demonstrate the complexity of cross-border banking operations and the critical importance of cultural adaptation in service delivery. The consistency between French and Spanish markets, despite their different economic characteristics, highlights the unique challenges presented by the German market.

Finally, the correlation between account inactivity and churn provides Turkish banks with a valuable early warning system, enabling proactive intervention before customers reach the point of formal complaints or active departure consideration.

6.1. Strategic Implications for Turkish Banking

These findings collectively indicate that Turkish banking institutions are at a critical juncture requiring fundamental transformation in customer relationship management approaches. The traditional focus on product features, competitive pricing, and basic service quality appears insufficient for contemporary retention challenges. Instead, the evidence supports a shift toward



relationship-centric, culturally sensitive, and technologically sophisticated customer engagement models.

The complaint management crisis demands immediate comprehensive reform, moving beyond damage control to relationship preservation frameworks that address customer concerns before they escalate to formal complaints. This transformation requires not only improved resolution processes but fundamental changes in service delivery to prevent the service failures that generate complaints.

Age-related churn patterns necessitate development of multi-generational service strategies that balance digital efficiency with relationship-based elements valued by mature customers. This challenge requires sophisticated understanding of varying technological comfort levels and financial service preferences across age segments, potentially leading to tiered service delivery models.

Geographic variations highlight the importance of market-specific strategies that acknowledge cultural differences in banking relationship expectations. The German market's unique challenges suggest the need for localized approaches rather than standardized international banking models.

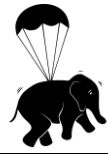
6.2. Recommendations for Industry Practice

Based on these findings, Turkish banks should prioritize four strategic initiatives. First, comprehensive complaint management system reform should transform these interactions from customer departure predictors into relationship strengthening opportunities. This transformation requires fundamental changes in staff training, resolution processes, and organizational culture regarding customer concerns.

Second, age-inclusive service design initiatives should ensure that digital transformation enhances rather than replaces relationship-based banking elements. This approach requires sophisticated understanding of customer journey mapping across different age segments and technological comfort levels.

Third, culturally adapted international banking strategies should acknowledge that successful cross-border operations require more than operational standardization. Market-specific relationship management approaches, particularly in culturally distinct markets like Germany, may be essential for retention success.

Fourth, proactive engagement monitoring systems should leverage account activity patterns as early warning indicators, enabling intervention before customers reach advanced stages of disengagement. These systems should integrate predictive analytics with personalized re-engagement campaigns tailored to specific customer segments and risk profiles.



6.3. Broader Implications for Banking Theory and Practice

This research contributes to the evolving understanding of customer retention in emerging market banking contexts, where traditional loyalty mechanisms may be insufficient for contemporary competitive environments. The findings support theoretical frameworks emphasizing the importance of relationship quality over transactional benefits, while highlighting the specific operational challenges facing Turkish financial institutions.

The study also demonstrates the value of comprehensive data analytics in understanding customer behavior patterns, supporting the development of evidence-based retention strategies rather than intuition-driven approaches. The clear identification of actionable predictors provides Turkish banks with specific areas for strategic focus and resource allocation.

6.4. Future Research Directions

While this study provides valuable insights into customer retention patterns, several areas warrant additional investigation. Longitudinal studies could illuminate the temporal dynamics of customer disengagement, enabling more precise intervention timing. Qualitative research could explore the underlying mechanisms driving the identified patterns, particularly in complaint management and age-related banking behavior.

Additionally, experimental studies testing different retention interventions across the identified risk segments could provide evidence for optimal strategy selection. International comparative studies could also examine whether the patterns identified in Turkish banking are unique to this market or representative of broader emerging market banking challenges.

The Turkish banking sector stands at a transformative moment where traditional competitive advantages are being challenged by changing customer expectations, technological disruption, and evolving market dynamics. The findings of this study suggest that success in this environment requires more than operational efficiency or product innovation—it demands fundamental reimagining of customer relationship management as a strategic capability. The evidence clearly indicates that banks cannot afford to treat customer retention as a defensive strategy against competition. Instead, retention must become a proactive framework for relationship enhancement and value co-creation that positions institutions for sustainable competitive advantage. The specific patterns identified in this research provide Turkish banks with actionable intelligence for this transformation, but success will ultimately depend on leadership commitment to customer-centricity and organizational change. The path forward requires Turkish banking institutions to move beyond the traditional focus on acquisition and transaction volume toward sophisticated understanding of customer lifetime value and relationship quality. This transformation represents both a significant challenge and an unprecedented opportunity for banks willing to invest in comprehensive customer relationship management capabilities. The institutions that successfully navigate this transition will be



positioned not only to retain existing customers but to build sustainable competitive advantages in Turkey's dynamic financial services landscape.

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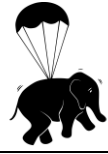
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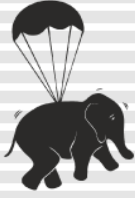
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*Üniversite Öğrencilerinde Finansal Kaygının Gelecek Kaygısı ve Göç Niyetine Etkisi: Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizliğin Aracılık Rolü**

Ayhan Durmuş¹

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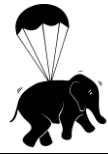
Öz

Bu çalışma, sosyal karşılaştırma teorisi temelinde finansal kaygının üniversite öğrencilerindeki gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti üzerindeki etkisinde, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin aracılık rolünü incelemeyi amaçlamaktadır. Araştırma, ilişkisel tarama modeli kullanılarak gerçekleştirilmiştir. Veri toplama sürecinde 784 üniversite öğrencisi yer almıştır. Veri toplama araçları olarak Finansal Kaygı Ölçeği, Gelecek Kaygısı Ölçeği, Göç Niyeti Ölçeği ve Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik Ölçeği kullanılmıştır. Hipotezler, Kısmi En Küçük Kareler Yapısal Eşitlik Modellemesi (PLS-SEM) yöntemi ile analiz edilmiştir. Bulgular, finansal kaygının gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti üzerinde hem doğrudan bir etkiye sahip olduğunu hem de algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik üzerinden dolaylı (aracılık) etkisi bulunduğunu göstermektedir. Çalışma, finansal kaygının, öğrencilerin geleceğe yönelik beklentilerini ve yaşam kararlarını nasıl etkilediğini ortaya koymuştur. Bu bulgular, finansal kaygı ve ekonomik eşitsizlik konularının toplumsal dinamikler üzerinde önemli etkiler yarattığını vurgulamaktadır. Literatüre katkı olarak, finansal kaygı, ekonomik eşitsizlik ve göç niyeti arasındaki ilişkilerin daha iyi anlaşılmasına katkı sağlanmakta ve bu alandaki politika geliştirme süreçlerine ışık tutmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: finansal kaygı, gelecek kaygısı, göç niyeti, ekonomik eşitsizlik, üniversite öğrencileri

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The Impact of Financial Anxiety on Future Anxiety and Migration Intention Among University Students: The Mediating Role of Perceived Economic Inequality

Abstract

This study aims to examine the mediating role of perceived economic inequality in the relationship between financial anxiety and both future anxiety and migration intention among university students, within the framework of social comparison theory. The research was conducted using a relational survey model. A total of 784 university students participated in the data collection process. The data were gathered through the Financial Anxiety Scale, Future Anxiety Scale, Migration Intention Scale, and Perceived Economic Inequality Scale. The hypotheses were tested using the Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM) approach. The findings indicate that financial anxiety has both a direct effect on future anxiety and migration intention, and an indirect (mediated) effect through perceived economic inequality. The study reveals how financial anxiety shapes students' future expectations and life decisions. These findings highlight the significant influence of financial anxiety and economic inequality on broader social dynamics. As a contribution to the literature, the study enhances the understanding of the interrelations among financial anxiety, perceived economic inequality, and migration intention, and offers insights for the development of relevant public policies.

Keywords: financial anxiety, future anxiety, migration intention, economic inequality, university students



EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Background & Purpose: In recent years, global economic crises, inflationary pressures, and rising living costs have significantly increased individuals' financial anxiety. Economic instability, particularly in developing countries, has exacerbated concerns about financial security, making future planning increasingly difficult. University students, as a financially vulnerable group, are particularly affected by economic fluctuations, tuition fees, housing costs, and post-graduation employment uncertainties (Bennett et al., 2021). Research suggests that financial anxiety not only affects individuals' economic stability but also has profound consequences on their psychological well-being and long-term decision-making processes (Shim et al., 2009a; Archuleta et al., 2013).

Moreover, the perception of economic inequality has become an essential factor in shaping individuals' financial concerns. As economic disparities become more pronounced, individuals may perceive limited upward mobility and develop negative expectations about their future financial stability (Hauser and Norton, 2017; Piketty, 2015). This perception can lead to increased stress, uncertainty, and a heightened desire to migrate to countries with better economic opportunities (Borjas, 2018; Czaika and de Haas, 2014).

Given this context, This study aims to examine the mediating role of perceived economic inequality in the relationship between financial anxiety and both future anxiety and migration intention among university students, within the framework of social comparison theory. The study contributes to the existing literature by providing empirical evidence on how financial stress interacts with economic inequality and migration dynamics among young individuals.

Research Method: This study employs a quantitative research approach using a correlational research design, which is appropriate for analyzing the direction and magnitude of relationships between multiple variables (Christensen et al., 2015). The research was conducted with a sample of 784 university students enrolled in Yozgat Bozok University in Turkey. Given the increasing concerns about financial stability among students, the study aimed to assess the extent to which financial anxiety influences future uncertainty and migration tendencies.

In this study, a five-section questionnaire form was used to collect data.

Socio-Demographic Information: Variables such as gender, age, satisfaction with financial situation and perceived financial knowledge level of the participants are included in this section. Satisfaction with financial situation and perceived financial knowledge level were measured with a 10-point Likert scale.

Financial Anxiety Scale: The scale developed by Archuleta et al. (2013) was used. It is a one-dimensional scale consisting of seven items and measures the anxiety levels of the participants regarding their financial situation.



Future Anxiety Scale: The scale developed by Zaleski et al. (2019) was used and adapted to Turkish by Tellioğlu (2021). It is a one-dimensional scale consisting of five items and determines the anxiety levels of individuals regarding the future.

Migration Intention Scale: It is a scale developed by Goštautaitė et al. (2018) and consists of four statements. It was used to assess the migration tendencies of the participants.

Perceived Economic Inequality Scale: A scale developed by Valtorta et al. (2024) that evaluates individuals' perceptions of injustice in income distribution. It was developed as a single-dimensional scale consisting of seven items.

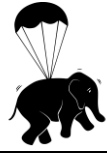
A 5-point Likert-type scaling was used in all scales, with "1=Strongly Disagree" and "5=Strongly Agree".

The data collected in the study were analyzed using SPSS and Smart PLS 4 programs. The demographic characteristics of the participants and the general distribution of the scales were analyzed with descriptive statistics (mean, standard deviation, percentage, frequency). The hypothesized relationships were tested using Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modeling (PLS-SEM), which allows for the evaluation of complex relationships between observed and latent variables.

Conclusion: The results indicate that financial anxiety significantly increases both future anxiety and migration intention ($\beta=0.23$, $p<0.001$; $\beta=0.33$, $p<0.001$). The results indicate that financial anxiety has a significant impact on both future anxiety and migration intentions. Individuals experiencing financial stress tend to develop negative expectations about their economic future, which in turn increases their psychological distress and migration tendencies (Borjas, 2018; Czaika and de Haas, 2014). These findings align with previous studies highlighting the critical role of economic security in shaping life decisions (Bennett et al., 2021).

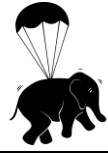
Additionally, perceived economic inequality has a significant impact on both future anxiety and migration intention ($\beta=0.74$, $p<0.001$; $\beta=0.51$, $p<0.001$). Additionally, the study finds that perceived economic inequality plays a crucial role in influencing both future anxiety and migration intentions. When individuals perceive systematic disparities in economic opportunities, they are more likely to experience uncertainty about their career prospects and financial stability (Wilkinson and Pickett, 2018). This perception contributes to higher stress levels and an increased inclination to seek better opportunities abroad (Dustmann and Görlach, 2016).

The results also demonstrate that perceived economic inequality mediates the relationship between financial anxiety and both future anxiety and migration intention ($\beta=0.41$, $p<0.001$; $\beta=0.28$, $p<0.001$). A particularly noteworthy finding is that perceived economic inequality mediates the relationship between financial anxiety and both future anxiety and migration intentions. Individuals who perceive higher levels of economic inequality tend to experience



more pronounced negative effects of financial anxiety, reinforcing their sense of insecurity and making migration a more appealing alternative ([Piketty, 2015](#); [Hauser and Norton, 2017](#)).

These findings highlight the importance of integrating policies addressing financial anxiety with efforts to reduce economic inequality. Expanding financial support programs, increasing economic opportunities, and providing employment incentives for young individuals can mitigate financial stress and migration tendencies.

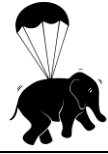


1. GİRİŞ

Son yıllarda küresel düzeyde yaşanan ekonomik, sosyal ve çevresel krizler, bireylerin yaşam standartları üzerinde derin izler bırakmıştır. COVID-19 pandemisi, küresel tedarik zincirlerinde yaşanan sorunlar, artan yaşam maliyetleri ve enerji krizleri gibi gelişmeler, dünya genelinde enflasyonu yükselterek bireylerin finansal durumları hakkında duyduğu kaygıları derinleştirmiştir (World Bank, 2025). Türkiye gibi yüksek enflasyon oranlarının etkili olduğu ülkelerde bu durum daha belirgin hale gelmiş ve toplumun alım gücü ciddi ölçüde azalmıştır (OECD, 2023a; 2023b). Ekonomik zorluklar, yalnızca maddi durumu etkilemekle kalmayıp, aynı zamanda bireylerin psikolojik refahlarını ve gelecek algılarını da olumsuz yönde etkilemektedir (Archuleta vd., 2013).

Özellikle üniversite öğrencileri, eğitim ve yaşam giderlerini karşılama konusunda zorluklar yaşadıklarında, geleceklerine dair ciddi belirsizliklerle karşılaşabilmektedirler. Finansal kaygının, bireylerin ekonomik durumlarıyla birlikte psikolojik iyi oluşlarını da olumsuz etkilediği bilinmektedir (Gutter ve Copur, 2011). Bu durum, öğrencilerin içinde bulunduğu sosyoekonomik koşulların, toplumda gelir eşitsizliğini nasıl algıladıklarını şekillendirdiği gibi, ekonomik fırsatlara erişim konusundaki düşüncelerini de doğrudan etkilemektedir (Wilkinson ve Pickett, 2018). Araştırmalar, finansal kaygı yaşayan öğrencilerin, yalnızca geçim sıkıntılarıyla ilgili değil, aynı zamanda gelecekteki kariyer ve yaşam beklentileriyle ilgili de derin kaygılar taşıdığını göstermektedir (Lusardi ve Mitchell, 2014; Thomas Jr, 2019). Bu kaygılar, genç bireylerin yalnızca akademik başarılarını değil, aynı zamanda gelecekteki yaşam planlarını ve kariyer hedeflerini de doğrudan etkilemektedir (Adams vd., 2016). Özellikle ekonomik kriz dönemlerinde, finansal belirsizliklerin öğrencilerin gelecek planlarını ve yaşam kararlarını daha belirgin şekilde etkilediği gözlemlenmektedir (Nobanee ve Dilshad, 2021, Dinc vd., 2025). Bu bağlamda, finansal kaygının bireyler üzerindeki etkilerini anlamak, hem bireysel refahın korunması hem de toplumsal düzenin sürdürülebilirliği açısından son derece önemlidir.

Finansal kaygı, bireylerin mevcut ekonomik durumlarına ve gelecekteki mali belirsizliklere dair duydukları stres ve endişe olarak tanımlanmaktadır (Lusardi ve Mitchell, 2014; Archuleta vd., 2013). Özellikle finansal okuryazarlık seviyesi düşük olan bireyler, ekonomik krizler veya gelir kayıpları gibi zorlu dönemlerde daha yoğun bir finansal kaygı hissedebilirler (Xiao ve O'Neill, 2016). Gelecek kaygısı ise, bireylerin geleceğe dair olumsuz düşünceler ve duygusal süreçlerin baskın olduğu bir tutum olarak ifade edilmektedir (Zaleski, 1996). Bu kavram, özellikle ekonomik belirsizliklerin arttığı dönemlerde, bireylerin uzun vadeli planlama ve hedef belirleme süreçlerini etkileyebilmektedir (Shim vd., 2009a). Göç niyeti, bireylerin daha iyi yaşam koşulları ve ekonomik fırsatlar arayışıyla yaşadıkları yerden ayrılma eğilimlerini ifade eder (Borjas, 2018; Czaika ve de Haas, 2014). Çalışmada, finansal kaygının ve geleceğe dair belirsizliklerin göç niyetini artıran bir etken olarak rol oynadığı vurgulanmaktadır. Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik, bireylerin toplumlarındaki gelir ve servet dağılımındaki eşitsizlikleri nasıl algıladıkları ve bu algıların sosyal tutumları üzerindeki etkilerini ifade eder. Bu algı, bireylerin sosyal karşılaştırmalar yaparak, kendi ekonomik durumlarını ve toplumdaki diğer bireylerle



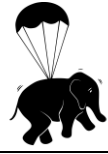
olan ilişkilerini değerlendirmeleriyle şekillenir. Bireyler, çevrelerindeki diğerlerinin gelir düzeyleriyle kendilerini karşılaştırarak, toplumlarındaki eşitsizlikleri daha belirgin hale getirebilirler (García-Sánchez vd., 2018). Sosyal karşılaştırma teorisi çerçevesinde, bireyler ekonomik statülerini çevrelerindeki diğer kişilerle kıyaslayarak, eşitsizlik algılarını güçlendirebilirler (Festinger, 1954).

Finansal kaygı, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik, gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti gibi değişkenler bireylerin sosyoekonomik yönelimlerini etkileyen temel psikolojik ve yapısal değişkenlerdir. Mevcut literatürde bu değişkenler sıklıkla ikili ilişkiler temelinde ele alınmakta; örneğin finansal kaygı ve gelecek kaygısı arasındaki bağ, özellikle ekonomik belirsizlik algısıyla paralel şekilde ortaya çıkmakta; finansal kaygı bireylerin gelecekteki ekonomik durumlarına dair derin endişelerini tanımlarken (Ryu ve Fan, 2023), algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik statü kaygısını ve rekabet duygusunu artırarak psikolojik stres seviyesini yükseltmektedir (Melita vd., 2021). Finansal kaygının bireylerin genel iyilik hali ve geleceğe ilişkin planlamalarını olumsuz etkilediği sistematik derlemelerde vurgulanmaktadır (Ahamed ve Limbu, 2024). Ayrıca, göç niyeti literatürde ekonomik motivasyonun temel belirleyicilerinden biri olarak kabul edilmektedir (Mohamed ve Abdul-Talib, 2020; Sabti ve Ramalu, 2021; Zabelina vd., 2024). Bu değişkenler, bireylerin sosyoekonomik yaşamlarında psikolojik ve yapısal etki yaratan önemli bileşenler olmasına rağmen, çok değişkenli ve bağlamsal bütünlük içinde Türkiye özelinde değerlendirilmiş bir model literatürde bulunmamaktadır. Bu noktadan hareketle, çalışmada finansal kaygı ve algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti üzerindeki doğrudan ve dolaylı etkileri, Türkiye bağlamında yapısal eşitlik modeliyle eşzamanlı olarak analiz edilmiştir. Bu sayede hem bu değişkenlerin bağlamsal-psikolojik etkileşimini ortaya koyan kuramsal bir katkı hem de Türkiye'ye özgü çok değişkenli bir model önererek yöntemsel bir yenilik sunulmuştur.

2. KAVRAMSAL ARKA PLAN

Bu çalışma, finansal kaygı, gelecek kaygısı, göç niyeti ve algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik gibi temel kavramları ele almaktadır.

Finansal kaygı, bireylerin finansal durumlarıyla ilgili hissettikleri endişe ve stres durumudur. Bu kaygı, gelir yetersizliği, borçlar, tasarruf eksiklikleri ve gelecekteki mali belirsizlikler gibi faktörlerden kaynaklanabilir. Finansal kaygı, bireylerin yaşam kalitesini etkileyebilir ve psikolojik sağlık sorunlarına yol açabilir (Ryu ve Fan, 2023). Finansal kaygı, yalnızca bireysel bir psikolojik durum olmanın ötesinde, bireylerin ekonomik sistemle ve toplumsal yapılarla ilişkisini de etkileyebilir. Özellikle finansal okuryazarlık seviyesi düşük olan bireyler, ekonomik krizler, gelir kayıpları veya yüksek borçlanma durumlarında daha yoğun bir finansal kaygı hissi yaşayabilirler (Xiao ve O'Neill, 2016). Bu bağlamda, finansal kaygının sosyal ve psikolojik etkileri üzerine yapılan çalışmalar, toplumsal eşitsizliğin ve finansal kaynakların sınırlılığının bu kaygıları daha da pekiştirdiğini ortaya koymaktadır (Vezzoli vd., 2023).



Gelecek kaygısı, bireyin gelecekteki refahına yönelik potansiyel tehditlerle ilgili belirsizlik, endişe, korku ve kaygıyı içeren farkındalık durumu (Zaleski, 1996) olmakla beraber diğer kaygı kavramlarına nazaran duyusal olmaktan ziyade bilişseldir (Zaleski vd., 2019). Geleceğin olumsuz ve endişe verici olarak görülmesini içeren (Price, 2009) gelecek kaygısı, Atkinson (1964) tarafından öne sürülen başarısızlık korkusu kavramına benzer olarak bir hedefe ulaşamama korkusunu içerebilmektedir (Zaleski, 1996).

Göç, bireylerin ekonomik fırsatlar ve daha iyi yaşam koşulları arayışında verdikleri önemli bir karardır (Borjas, 2018). Bu süreç, bireylerin daha iyi imkanlar peşinde koşmalarının yanı sıra mevcut yaşam koşullarından kaçış olarak da değerlendirilmektedir (Lee, 1966).

Göç niyeti, bireylerin daha iyi ekonomik ve sosyal şartlara ulaşma hedefiyle yaşadıkları yerden ayrılma eğilimlerini ifade eder (Williams vd., 2018).

Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik, bireylerin gelir dağılımındaki adaletsizlikleri nasıl değerlendirdiği ile ilgili bir kavramdır ve bu algı, ekonomik karşılaştırmalar yoluyla şekillenir (Chetty vd., 2014). Bireyler, kendi ekonomik durumlarını çevrelerindeki diğer kişilerle karşılaştırarak, bu durumu yetersiz veya eşitsiz olarak algılayabilirler (Valtorta vd., 2024).

Bu kavramların birbirleriyle nasıl etkileşimde bulunduğunu anlamak, finansal kaygı, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik, gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti arasındaki ilişkileri daha iyi kavrayabilmemize olanak tanıyacaktır.

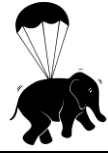
2.1. Finansal Kaygı ve Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik İlişkisi

Sosyal karşılaştırma teorisi çerçevesinde (Festinger, 1954), bireyler kendi ekonomik durumlarını çevrelerindeki diğer kişilerle kıyaslayarak, eşitsizlik algılarını güçlendirebilirler. Bu bağlamda, finansal kaygı ve ekonomik eşitsizlik arasındaki ilişkiyi anlamak önemlidir; çünkü bu iki faktör, bireylerin toplumda kendilerini ekonomik olarak dışlanmış veya eşitsiz hissedebilmelerine yol açar, bu da daha fazla kaygı ve olumsuz psikolojik durumlara neden olabilir. Finansal kaygının, bireylerin ekonomik sistem hakkındaki genel görüşlerini etkileyerek, onların ekonomik eşitsizlik algısını artırabileceğini gösteren araştırmalar mevcuttur (Vezzoli vd., 2023; Arsenio, 2018; Hauser ve Norton, 2017). Bu açıklamalardan hareketle aşağıdaki hipotez geliştirilmiştir:

H₁: Finansal kaygının algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi vardır.

2.2. Finansal Kaygı ve Gelecek Kaygısı İlişkisi

Mali zorluklarla karşılaşan bireyler, geleceğe dair daha olumsuz beklentiler geliştirmekte ve bu da kaygılarını artırmaktadır (Archuleta vd., 2013). Shim vd. (2009a), finansal kaygının gelecekteki belirsizlikleri artırarak bireylerin gelecek kaygısını pekiştirdiğini vurgulamaktadır. Öğrenciler üzerinde yapılan araştırmalarda da, finansal kaygının akademik başarıyı düşürebileceğini ve geleceğe dair olumsuz beklentilerin artmasına neden olabileceğini ortaya



koymaktadır (Smathers vd., 2022; Adams vd., 2016; Heckman vd., 2014; Vaughn, 2013; Ersoy-Kart ve Erdost, 2008). Özellikle Türkiye gibi ekonomik dalgalanmaların sıkça yaşandığı ülkelerde, ekonomik belirsizliklerin bireylerin psikolojik refahı üzerindeki etkileri daha da belirgin hale gelmektedir (Dinc vd., 2025; Kara vd., 2024). Bu çerçevede, finansal kaygının geleceğe dair kaygıyı artırdığı öngörülmektedir:

H₂: Finansal kaygının gelecek kaygısı üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi vardır.

2.3. Finansal Kaygı ve Göç Niyeti İlişkisi

Ekonomik zorluklar ve finansal kaygı, bireylerin yaşam koşullarını yetersiz bulmalarına yol açabilir, bu da onları göç etme kararına itebilir. Özellikle finansal istikrarsızlık yaşandığında, mevcut ekonomik sistemin sunduğu fırsatları yetersiz gören bireyler, göçü bir kurtuluş yolu olarak değerlendirebilirler (Dustmann ve Görlach, 2016; Efendic, 2016). Üniversite mezunları üzerinde yapılan araştırmalar, ekonomik belirsizlik ve iş güvencesizliğinin, genç bireylerin göç kararları üzerinde belirleyici bir etkiye sahip olduğunu göstermektedir (Zaoming vd., 2021; Abdelwahed vd., 2020; Roman ve Vasilescu, 2016; Van Mol, 2016). Türkiye’de gerçekleştirilen bir çalışma, mezuniyet sonrası iş bulma kaygısı ve düşük gelir beklentilerinin gençlerin yurtdışına yönelme eğilimlerini artırdığını ortaya koymaktadır (Özaydın vd., 2024; Demet Güngör ve Tansel, 2008a). İlgili literatür doğrultusunda, finansal kaygının göç niyetini artırdığı beklenmektedir:

H₃: Finansal kaygının göç niyeti üzerindeki etkisi olumludur.

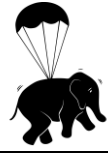
2.4. Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik ve Gelecek Kaygısı İlişkisi

Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik, bireylerin geleceğe yönelik kaygılarını artırabilir. Toplumda yaygın olan gelir eşitsizliği algıları, bireylerin ekonomik güvenliklerini tehdit altında hissetmelerine yol açabilir (Wilkinson ve Pickett, 2018). Araştırmalar, ekonomik eşitsizliklerin algılanış biçiminin, bireylerin toplumsal aidiyet duygularını ve gelecek beklentilerini şekillendirdiğini göstermektedir (Chetty vd., 2014). Adaletsiz gelir dağılımının hâkim olduğu toplumlarda bireyler, kendilerini ekonomik sistemden dışlanmış hissederek gelecekleri hakkında daha fazla belirsizlik yaşayabilirler (Piketty, 2015). Türkiye özelinde, ekonomik eşitsizlik algısının bireylerin eğitim ve kariyer beklentileri üzerindeki etkisinin daha kapsamlı bir şekilde araştırılması gerekmektedir. Yapılan önceki çalışmaların bulgularına göre, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin gelecek kaygısını olumlu etkilediği varsayılmaktadır:

H₄: Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin gelecek kaygısı üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi vardır.

2.5. Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik ve Göç Niyeti İlişkisi

Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik, bireylerin, adaletsiz bir ekonomik sistemde daha eşit fırsatlar arayışıyla göç etme eğilimlerini etkileyebilir. Czaika ve Reinprecht (2020) çalışmalarında, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin, bireylerin göç niyetlerini doğrudan etkileyen bir faktör



olduğunu ortaya koymaktadır. Gelir eşitsizliğini daha fazla hissedenden bireyler, daha adil fırsatlar sunduğunu düşündükleri ülkelere göç etmeyi tercih edebilirler (Dustmann vd., 2013). Özellikle gelişmiş ülkelerle kıyaslandığında, düşük gelirli ve eşitsiz toplumlarda yaşayan bireylerin, daha eşit fırsatlar sunduğunu düşündükleri ülkelere yönelmeleri daha olasıdır. Yüksek eğitilmiş bireylerin, ekonomik adaletsizlik nedeniyle göç etme eğilimleri birçok araştırmayla ortaya konmuştur (Kadel ve Bhandari, 2019; Thapa ve Shrestha, 2017; Docquier ve Rapoport, 2012). Türkiye’de yapılan incelemelerde, eğitilmiş genç bireylerin kariyer fırsatları açısından daha eşitlikçi bir ortam arayışında olduğu ve bu nedenle yurtdışına yönelmeye daha yatkın oldukları gözlemlenmiştir (Hoşgör ve Sezgin, 2024; Harman Yıldız ve Özer, 2024; Amarat vd., 2023). Önceki ampirik incelemeler ışığında, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin göç niyetine olumlu yordayıcı etkisinin olduğu öne sürülmektedir:

H5: Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliği göç niyeti üzerinde olumlu bir etkisi vardır.

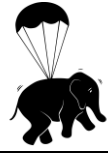
2.6. Finansal Kaygı ile Gelecek Kaygısı Arasındaki İlişkide Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizliğin Aracılığı

Bu hipotez, finansal kaygının geleceğe dair kaygılar üzerindeki etkisinde algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin aracı bir rol oynadığını öne sürmektedir. Literatür, finansal kaygının yalnızca bireylerin ekonomik durumunu değil, aynı zamanda geleceğe yönelik belirsizlik algılarını da etkilediğini göstermektedir (Shim vd., 2009a). Ayrıca, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin, bireylerin toplumsal sistemdeki yerlerini sorgulamalarına ve bu durumun geleceğe dair kaygılarını artırmalarına yol açmaktadır (Chetty vd., 2014; Valtorta vd., 2024). Bireylerin ekonomik eşitsizliği algılaması, onların toplumdaki yerlerine ve gelecekteki yaşam koşullarına dair kaygılarını artırmaktadır (Hauser ve Norton, 2017). Bu mekanizma, finansal kaygının etkilerinin daha belirgin hale gelmesini sağlar çünkü bireyler, ekonomik eşitsizliği daha fazla hissedip, bu eşitsizliğin kendi gelecekteki yaşam koşullarını etkileyeceğini düşünerek daha fazla kaygı duyarlar (Lusardi ve Tufano, 2015). Bu hipotez, finansal kaygının, bireylerin ekonomik eşitsizlik algılarıyla birlikte, geleceğe yönelik kaygılarını daha da güçlendirdiği teorisini desteklemektedir. Bu açıklamalardan hareketle aşağıdaki hipotez geliştirilmiştir:

H6: Finansal kaygının gelecek kaygısı üzerine etkisinde algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin aracı rolü vardır.

2.7. Finansal Kaygı ile Göç Niyeti Arasındaki İlişkide Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizliğin Aracılığı

Bu hipotez, finansal kaygının, bireylerin göç etme niyetlerini artırmada algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin aracı bir faktör olduğunu savunmaktadır. Literatür, finansal kaygı yaşayan bireylerin, mevcut ekonomik fırsatları yetersiz görerek göç etmeyi bir çözüm olarak değerlendirmektedir (Borjas ve Bratsberg, 1996; Dustmann ve Görlach, 2016). Aynı şekilde, ekonomik eşitsizlik algısının, bireylerin mevcut toplumsal yapıya olan güvenlerini sarsarak, daha eşit fırsatlar sunduğunu düşündükleri ülkelere yönelmelerine neden olduğu gösterilmektedir (Czaika ve Reinprecht, 2020). Bu bağlamda, finansal kaygı ile göç niyeti

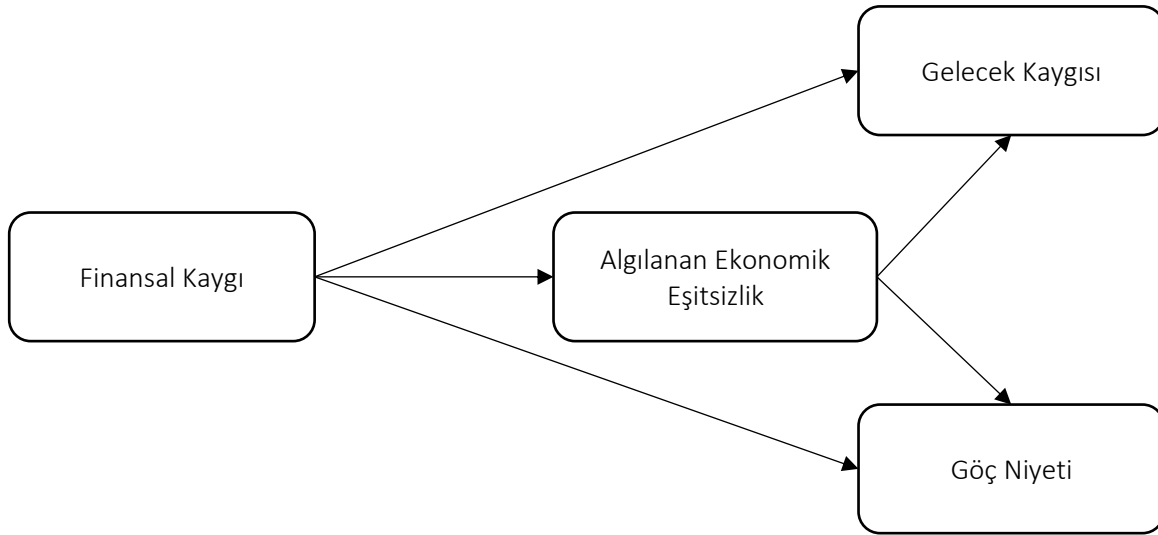


arasındaki ilişki, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik aracılığıyla güçlenmektedir. Finansal kaygı yaşayan bireylerin, toplumsal eşitsizliklere dair algılarının daha güçlü olması, onların göç etmeyi bir çözüm yolu olarak görmelerine yol açmaktadır (Efendic, 2016). Bu hipotez, finansal kaygının göç niyeti üzerindeki etkisinin, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik aracılığıyla pekiştiğini vurgulamaktadır:

H7: Finansal kaygının göç niyeti üzerine etkisinde algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliği aracı rolü vardır.

Yukarıda belirtilen hipotezler doğrultusunda Şekil 1’de ki araştırma modeli geliştirilmiştir.

Şekil 1. Araştırmanın modeli

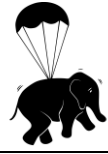


Şekil 1’de sunulan modelde, finansal kaygının gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti üzerinde doğrudan etkileri ile algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin bu ilişkilerdeki aracılık rolü gösterilmektedir.

3. ARAŞTIRMA YÖNTEMİ

3.1. Evren-Örneklem

Bu araştırma, Yozgat Bozok Üniversitesinde öğrenim gören lisans öğrencileri üzerinde gerçekleştirilmiştir. Bu üniversite, İç Anadolu Bölgesinde yer almakta olup, 14054 lisans öğrencisine ev sahipliği yapmaktadır. Üniversitenin seçilme nedeni, bulunduğu bölgenin ekonomik ve sosyo-kültürel yapısının, Türkiye’deki bölgesel ekonomik eşitsizlikleri ve bu eşitsizliklerin üniversite öğrencileri üzerindeki etkilerini yansıtmaya potansiyeline sahip olmasıdır. Bu üniversite, Türkiye’nin farklı bölgelerinden gelen öğrencilere ev sahipliği yapması nedeniyle, farklı sosyo-ekonomik arka plana sahip bireylerin finansal kaygı ve ekonomik eşitsizlik algılarını daha geniş bir çerçevede inceleme fırsatı sunmaktadır. Üniversite öğrencileri, ekonomik eşitsizlik ve finansal kaygının özellikle gençler üzerindeki etkilerini daha iyi anlayabilmemiz için önemli bir örneklem grubunu oluşturmuştur. Araştırmada, tesadüfi



örnekleme yöntemlerinden basit tesadüfi (rassal) örnekleme yöntemi kullanılmıştır. Bu yöntem, çalışmaya katılacak bireylerin eşit katılım şansına sahip olmasını sağlamış ve örneklemin temsil gücünü artırmıştır. Çalışmanın güvenilirliğini artırmak ve olası eksik veya hatalı yanıtları göz önünde bulundurmamak amacıyla, toplamda 784 katılımcıya ulaşılmıştır.

3.2. Veri Toplama Araçları

Bu çalışmada veri toplama aracı olarak, beş bölümden oluşan bir anket formu kullanılmıştır. Anket formunda kullanılan ölçekler daha önce literatürde güvenilirlik ve geçerlilik çalışmaları yapılmış ölçüm araçlarıdır. Aşağıda kullanılan ölçüm araçlarının detayları verilmiştir:

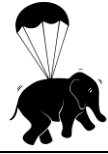
Sosyo-demografik özellikler: Katılımcılardan yaş ve cinsiyet gibi demografik bilgileri edinmeye yönelik soruların yanı sıra, maddi durumlarından duydukları memnuniyet ve algıladıkları finansal bilgi düzeyleri de ölçülmüştür. Maddi durum memnuniyeti ve finansal bilgi algısı, 10'lu Likert tipi ölçeklerle değerlendirilmiştir. Finansal bilgi algısı, bireylerin kendi finansal konulardaki bilgi düzeylerine ilişkin öz değerlendirmelerini ifade etmektedir.

Finansal Kaygı Ölçeği: Archuleta vd. (2013) tarafından geliştirilen Finansal Kaygı Ölçeği, bireylerin finansal durumlarıyla ilgili endişe düzeylerini ölçmek için kullanılan, tek boyutlu ve 7 maddeden oluşan bir ölçektir. Ayrıca ölçek, klinik tanı koymaktan ziyade bireylerin maddi durumlarına ilişkin kaygı düzeylerini ölçmede yararlı bir araç olarak tasarlanmıştır. Örnek ifade; *Mali durumumla ilgili olarak kendimi kaygılı hissediyorum*. Ölçek, 1 (Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum) ile 5 (Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) arasında değişen Likert tipi bir ölçekte yanıtlanmaktadır. Türkçe'ye uyarlama çalışması Ayvaz ve Şahin (2024) tarafından yapılmış olup, Cronbach Alfa güvenilirlik katsayısı 0,94 olarak bulunmuştur.

Gelecek Kaygısı Ölçeği: Zaleski ve arkadaşları (2019) tarafından geliştirilen ve Tellioglu (2021) tarafından Türkçe'ye uyarlanan Gelecek Kaygısı Ölçeği, bireylerin gelecekle ilgili endişelerini ölçmek için kullanılan tek boyutlu bir ölçektir. Örnek ifade; *Gelecekte hayatımın daha da kötüye gitmesinden korkuyorum*. Ölçek, 5 maddeden oluşmakta ve 5'li Likert (1=Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum ve 5=Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) ölçeğiyle yanıtlanmaktadır. Cronbach Alfa değeri 0,88 olarak hesaplanmıştır.

Göç Niyeti Ölçeği: Goštautaitė ve arkadaşları (2018) tarafından geliştirilen Göç Niyeti Ölçeği, bireylerin göç etme istekliliğini ölçmek amacıyla kullanılan, 4 maddelik bir ölçektir. Örnek ifade; *Muhtemelen mezuniyetten sonra yurtdışında iş arayacağım*. Bu ölçek içinde yer alan bir madde, ters yönlüdür. Türkçe'ye uyarlama çalışması Durmuş vd. (2022) tarafından yapılmıştır. Ölçek, 5'li Likert (1=Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum ve 5=Kesinlikle Katılıyorum) ölçeğiyle yanıtlanmaktadır.

Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik Ölçeği: Valtorta ve arkadaşları (2024) tarafından geliştirilen ve ekonomik eşitsizlik algısını ölçmek için kullanılan bu ölçek, 7 maddeden oluşmaktadır. Ölçek, bireylerin ekonomik durumlarını çevrelerindeki diğer bireylerle kıyaslama yoluyla algıladığı eşitsizlik hissini ölçmeyi amaçlamaktadır. Örnek ifade; *Türkiye'de çok az sayıda*



zengin insan ve çok sayıda fakir insan var. Ölçek, uzman çevirisi ve dilsel geçerlilik testi ile Türkçe'ye adapte edilmiştir. Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik ölçeği ifadeleri 1=Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum ve 5=Kesinlikle Katılıyorum arasında değişen olmak üzere Likert tipi bir ölçekte yanıtlanmaktadır.

3.3. Veri Toplama Süreci

Veriler, 1 Mayıs 2024 - 15 Haziran 2024 tarihleri arasında, anket aracılığıyla yüz yüze toplanmıştır. Anket formu Türkçe olarak hazırlanmış ve uygulanmadan önce bir pilot çalışma ile test edilmiştir. Pilot çalışma, 50 öğrencilik bir grup üzerinde gerçekleştirilmiş ve anketin soruları üzerinde yapılan değerlendirme sonucunda, soruların anlaşılabilirliği konusunda bazı düzenlemeler yapılmıştır. Öğrencilerden alınan geri bildirimlere göre, bazı soruların daha açık hale getirilmesi gerektiği anlaşılmıştır. Ayrıca, anketin süresi ve içeriği konusunda yapılan düzenlemelerle, öğrencilerin daha verimli ve doğru cevaplar vermeleri sağlanmıştır. Katılımcılara araştırmanın amacı hakkında detaylı bilgi verilmiş, anketin tamamlanmasının yaklaşık 3 dakika sürdüğü belirtilmiştir. Anketler, öğrencilerin kendilerini baskı altında hissetmemesi için bireysel ve sakin bir ortamda uygulanmıştır. Verilerin toplanması sürecinde, katılımcıların gizliliğini korumak amacıyla anonimlik ilkesi uygulanmıştır.

3.4. Çalışmada Kullanılan Analizler

3.4.1. Betimleyici İstatistikler

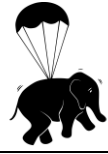
Katılımcıların demografik özellikleri ve ölçeklerin genel dağılımları tanımlayıcı istatistikler (ortalama, standart sapma, yüzde, frekans) ile analiz edilmiştir.

3.4.2. Araştırma Modelinin Testi

Araştırma modeli, kısmi en küçük kareler yapısal eşitlik modellemesi (PLS-SEM) ile analiz edilmiştir. Verilerin analizinde SMART-PLS yazılımı kullanılmıştır. Modelin geçerliliği için dış modelde faktör yükleri, iç tutarlılık güvenilirliği (Cronbach Alfa ve Birleşik Güvenilirlik) ve Ortalama Açıklanan Varyans (AVE değerleri) değerlendirilmiştir. İç modelde ise yol katsayıları, t-değerleri ve R^2 değerleri analiz edilmiştir.

3.5. Etik Hususlar

Araştırma Helsinki Bildirgesi ([World Medical Association, 2013](#)) ilkelerine uygun olarak yürütülmüş ve etik kurul izni alınmıştır (Yozgat Bozok Üniversitesinin Sosyal ve Beşeri Bilimler Etik Kurulu, Tarih: 28 Haziran 2024 / Karar No: 15.17). Katılımcıların gönüllülük esasına göre araştırmaya dahil edilmesi sağlanmıştır. Çalışma sürecinde herhangi bir teşvik veya ödül verilmemiştir.



4. BULGULAR

4.1. Katılımcıların sosyo-demografik özellikleri

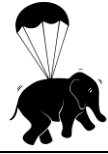
Çalışmaya katılan bireylerin, %69' u kadındır. Yaş ortalamaları $22,20 \pm 4,64$ ' dür. Öğrencilerin mevcut mali/maddi durumlarından memnuniyet düzeyleri ortalama $4,76 \pm 2,42$ olarak belirlenmiştir. Öğrencilerin algıladıkları finansal bilgi düzeyleri, Likert tipi 1-10 ölçeğinde ortalama $5,09 \pm 2,20$ olarak belirlenmiştir. Bu, katılımcıların finansal bilgi düzeyini genellikle orta seviyede değerlendirdiklerini göstermektedir.

4.2. Geçerlilik ve Güvenilirlik

Geçerlilik ve güvenilirlik analizleri kapsamında elde edilen faktör yükleri, gösterge güvenilirlikleri, cronbach alfa, bileşik güvenilirlik (CR) puanları ve ortalama açıklanan varyans (AVE) değerleri Tablo 1'de görülmektedir. Faktör yükleri, ifadelerin faktörle ne ölçüde ilişkili olduğunu gösterir. Ayrıca faktör yükleri gösterge güvenilirlik değerini belirler. Gösterge güvenilirlik değerleri yüklemelerin kareleri alınarak elde edilir. Faktör yüklerinin 0,70'in üzerinde olması tercih edilirken, minimum 0,40 düzeyinden yüksek gösterge güvenilirlik değerleri kabul edilebilir olarak değerlendirilir. Cronbach alfa katsayısı ve bileşik güvenilirlik değeri modelin güvenilirliğini gösteren katsayılardır. Katsayıların 0,70 ve üzerinde olması uygun olarak değerlendirilir. Her iki katsayı da mevcut çalışmada gerekli koşulları sağlamaktadır. Yakınsama (Uyuşum) geçerliliği için modelin ortalama açıklanan varyans (AVE) değerleri kontrol edilir. 0,50 ve üzeri değerler modelin uyum geçerliliğine sahip olduğunu gösterir (Hair Jr vd., 2021; Ringle vd., 2020; Wong, 2019; Dijkstra ve Henseler, 2015; Alarcón ve Sánchez, 2015; Hulland, 1999; Bagozzi ve Yi, 1988). Göç Niyeti Ölçeği'nin üçüncü maddesi (GN3) 0,40' ın altında faktör yüküne sahip olduğu için model uyumunu iyileştirmek amacıyla analizden çıkarılmıştır. Ardından analiz tekrar çalıştırılmıştır. Bu analizin nihai sonuçlarının Tablo 1'e göre değerlerin kabul edilebilir düzeyde olduğu görülmüştür. Bu bulgulara göre modelin güvenilir bir model olduğu ve uyum geçerliliği kriterine sahip olduğu söylenebilir.

Tablo 1. Ölçüm modelinin geçerlilik ve güvenilirlik değerleri

Değişkenler	Göstergeler	Faktör Yükleri	Gösterge Güvenilirliği	Cronbach Alfa	Bileşik Güvenilirlik (CR) ≥ 70	Ortalama Açıklanan Varyans AVE ≥ 50
Finansal Kaygı (FK)	FK1	0,92	0,85	0,94	0,94	0,69
	FK2	0,71	0,51			
	FK3	0,74	0,55			
	FK4	0,81	0,65			
	FK5	0,82	0,68			
	FK6	0,89	0,78			
	FK7	0,90	0,81			



Algılanan Ekonomik Eşitsizlik (AEE)	AEE1	0,80	0,65	0,94	0,94	0,71
	AEE2	0,75	0,56			
	AEE3	0,90	0,81			
	AEE4	0,88	0,77			
	AEE5	0,87	0,75			
	AEE6	0,85	0,73			
	AEE7	0,83	0,69			
Gelecek Kaygısı (GK)	GK1	0,89	0,79	0,95	0,95	0,78
	GK2	0,86	0,75			
	GK3	0,87	0,75			
	GK4	0,90	0,81			
	GK5	0,89	0,79			
Göç Niyeti (GN)	GN1	0,84	0,84	0,89	0,89	0,73
	GN2	0,78	0,78			
	GN4	0,92	0,92			

Çalışmada modelin geçerliliği Fornell-Larcker ölçütü ve gizil değişkenler arasındaki ilişkiler dikkate alınarak değerlendirilmiştir. Fornell ve Larcker (1981) ölçütüne göre, modelde yer alan gizil değişkenlerin AVE değerlerinin karekökü (kalın olarak verilmiştir) gizil değişkenlerin satır ve sütunlarındaki korelasyon değerlerinden büyük olmalıdır (Tablo 2). Tablo 2’de ölçeklerin ortalamaları ve ayrışma geçerliliği sonuçları yer almaktadır. Tablo 2’ye göre, modelde AVE kareköklerini gösteren çapraz değerler satır ve sütunlardaki diğer gizil değişkenlerin korelasyon değerlerinden daha büyük bulunmuştur. Bu durumda model ayrışma geçerliliği kriterlerine uyum sağlamaktadır.

Tablo 2’de görüldüğü gibi modelin (SRMR) değeri 0,06 olarak elde edilmiştir. Bu değer literatürdeki 0,08’ den küçük olma kriterlerine sahiptir. NFI değerinin 0,90’dan yüksek olması modelin iyi uyumlu bir model olduğunu göstermektedir. Modelimizde ise bu değer 0,92 olarak bulunmuştur. RMSttheta değeri (0,12) olarak bulunmuştur, bu değer de referans değeri olan 0,12’e eşit çıkmıştır. Modelin bu değerler çerçevesinde iyi uyumlu bir model olduğu saptanmıştır (Hair Jr vd., 2021).

Tablo 2. Ölçeklerin ortalama ve ayrışma geçerliliği sonuçları

	FK	AEE	GK	GN	Ort.	Std. Sapma
FK	0,83*				2,85	1,12
AEE	0,55	0.84*			3,72	1,15
GK	0,64	0,87	0.88*		3,54	1,19
GN	0,61	0,69	0,76	0.85*	3,11	1,21

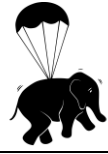
RMSttheta:0,12; SRMR:0,06; Ki-kare: 1378,84; NFI:0,92

*VAVE (Ortalama Açıklanan Varyans)

SRMR (Standartlaştırılmış Ortalama Hataların Karekökü)

RMSttheta (Yaklaşık Hataların Ortalama Karakökü)

NFI (Normlandırılmış Uyum İndeksi)



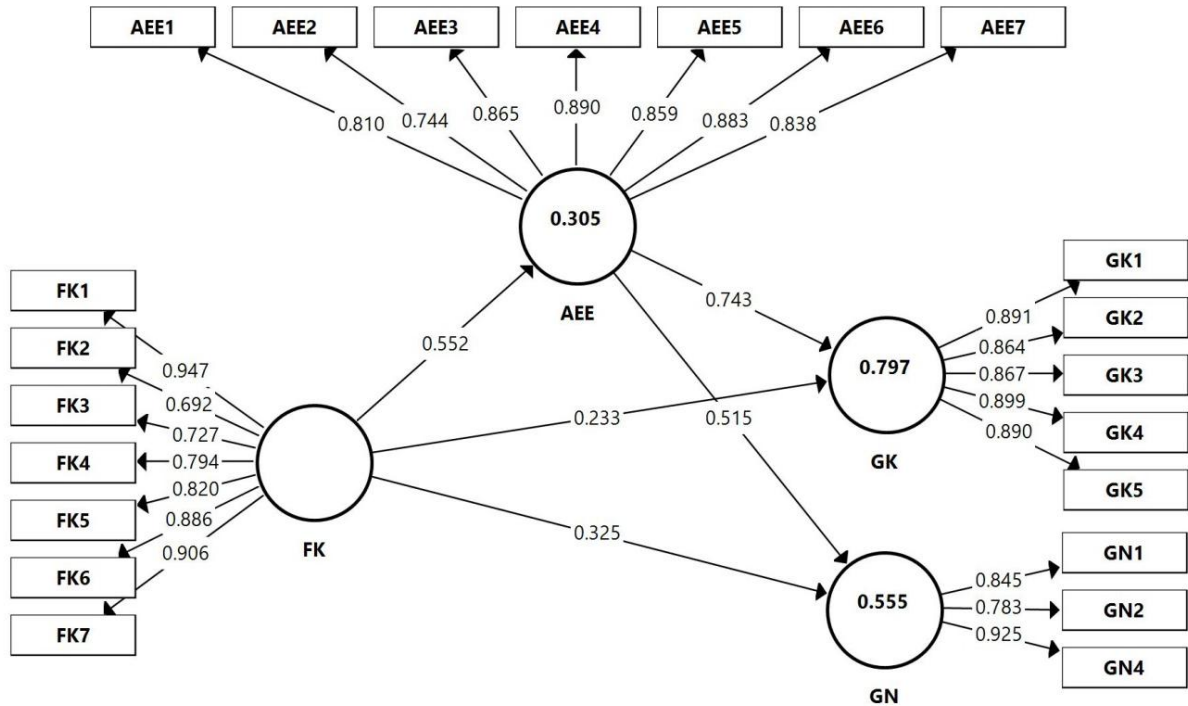
4.3. Hipotez Testi

Hipotezler, %95 güven aralığında ($p < 0,05$) test edilmiştir. Aracı (mediatör) etkiler için ise Bootstrap yöntemi uygulanmıştır. Bu süreçte, eksik veri analizi yapılmış ve veri setinde eksik veri bulunmadığı doğrulanmıştır. Veriler, öz-bildirim yoluyla toplandığı için sosyal istenilirlilik yanlılığı riski değerlendirilmiştir. Ancak bu tür olası yanlılıkların etkisini azaltmak için katılımcılara anonimlik sağlanmış ve yanıtlarında herhangi bir baskı hissetmemeleri için gerekli önlemler alınmıştır.

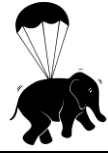
4.4. Yapısal eşitlik modellemesi

Çalışmanın ölçüm modeline uygun şekilde Smart PLS programı aracılığıyla gerçekleştirilen analiz sonrası elde edilen yapısal modele ait sonuç çıktısı Şekil 2’de görülmektedir. Şekilde verilen modele ilişkin ayrıntılar Tablo 3’te görülmektedir:

Şekil 2. Model çıktısı



Modelde ulaşılan sonuçlara ilişkin bulgular Tablo 3’te yer almaktadır. Tabloya göre, finansal kaygının algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik ($\beta=0,55$, $t=21,45$, $p=0,000$), gelecek kaygısı ($\beta=0,23$, $t=7,63$, $p=0,000$) ve göç niyeti ($\beta=0,33$, $t=8,33$, $p=0,000$) üzerinde pozitif yönlü anlamlı etkisi vardır. Algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin gelecek kaygısı ($\beta=0,74$, $t=27,83$, $p=0,000$) ve göç niyeti ($\beta=0,51$, $t=15,09$, $p=0,000$) üzerinde pozitif yönlü anlamlı etkisi vardır. Finansal kaygının gelecek kaygısına etkisinde algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin aracı rolü ($\beta=0,41$, $t=116,26$, $p=0,000$) vardır. Finansal kaygının göç niyetine etkisinde algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin aracı



rolü ($\beta=0,28$, $t=12,45$, $p=0,000$) vardır. Bu bulgulara göre, H_1 , H_2 , H_3 , H_4 , H_5 , H_6 ve H_7 , hipotezlerinin kabul edildiği görülmektedir.

Tablo 3. Yapısal model testi için elde edilen β , t ve p değerleri

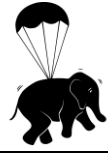
Yollar	β (standardize edilmemiş)	t istatistiği	p değerleri	Karar
Doğrudan Etki				
FK --> AEE	0,55	21,45	< 0,001	H_1 Kabul
FK --> GK	0,23	7,63	< 0,001	H_2 Kabul
FK --> GN	0,33	8,33	< 0,001	H_3 Kabul
AEE --> GK	0,74	27,83	< 0,001	H_4 Kabul
AEE --> GN	0,51	15,09	< 0,001	H_5 Kabul
Yollar	B (standardize edilmemiş)	t istatistiği	p değerleri	Karar
Dolaylı Etki				
FK --> AEE --> GK	0,41	16,26	< 0,001	H_6 Kabul
FK --> AEE --> GN	0,28	12,45	< 0,001	H_7 Kabul

5. TARTIŞMA ve SONUÇ

5.1. Tartışma

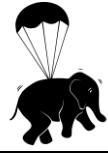
Bu çalışma, sosyal karşılaştırma teorisi ışığında finansal kaygının üniversite öğrencilerinde yarattığı doğrudan etkileri ve bu etkinin algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik aracılığıyla dolaylı yansımalarını araştırmaktadır. Elde edilen bulgular, finansal kaygının gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti üzerinde hem doğrudan etkisi olduğunu hem de bu etkinin algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik aracılığıyla dolaylı (aracılık) şekilde gerçekleştiğini ve böylece tüm hipotezleri desteklediğini göstermektedir. Araştırma bulguları, mevcut literatürle karşılaştırılarak tartışılmakta ve çalışmanın akademik katkıları üzerinde durulmaktadır.

Araştırma sonuçları, finansal kaygının bireylerin ekonomik eşitsizlik algısını artırdığını göstermektedir. Bu bulgu, bireylerin finansal sıkıntı yaşadıkça gelir dağılımını daha adaletsiz bir şekilde algıladıklarını öne süren daha önceki çalışmalara paralellik göstermektedir (Ding vd., 2021; He vd., 2022; Wilkinson ve Pickett, 2018). Ancak, bu bulguların genellenebilirliği sınırlı olabilir. Örneğin, Ding vd. (2021) ve He vd. (2022) finansal kaygının gelir eşitsizliği algısını nasıl artırdığını incelerken, araştırmalarının farklı sosyo-ekonomik gruplar ve kültürel bağlamlar üzerinde aynı sonuçları verip vermediği üzerinde durmamışlardır. Wilkinson ve Pickett (2018) ise, gelir eşitsizliği algısının sadece finansal kaygıya değil, bireylerin sosyal statüsüne, eğitim seviyelerine ve toplumda eşitsizliğe dair mevcut algılara da bağlı olarak değişebileceğini belirtmektedir. Bu noktada, finansal kaygının ekonomik eşitsizlik algısı üzerindeki etkilerinin daha kapsamlı bir şekilde incelenmesi için, farklı sosyo-ekonomik grupların, kültürel farklılıkların ve yerel bağlamların etkisinin de göz önünde bulundurulması önemlidir. Sosyal Karşılaştırma Teorisi (Festinger, 1954) çerçevesinde, bireyler ekonomik statülerini başkalarıyla kıyaslayarak değerlendirmektedir. Literatürdeki araştırmalar, finansal



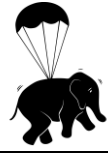
stres yaşayan bireylerin gelir eşitsizliğini daha fazla fark ettiklerini göstermektedir ([García-Sánchez vd., 2024](#); [Piera Pi-Sunyer vd., 2023](#)). Ancak, çoğu çalışma daha çok ekonomik krizlerin etkilerini incelemekte olup, kriz sonrası dönemde toplumsal eşitsizlik algılarının nasıl şekillendiğine dair daha az bilgi sunulmaktadır. Örneğin, Piketty (2015) ekonomik eşitsizliğin tarihsel boyutlarını ele alırken, özellikle krizlerin sonrasındaki kalıcı etkilerine dair daha derinlemesine bir tartışma yapmamaktadır. Yeung ve Yang (2020) ekonomik belirsizliklerin bireylerde adaletsizlik algısı yarattığını belirtse de, bu algının toplumsal sınıflar arasındaki farkları nasıl derinleştirdiği ve bireysel düzeyde nasıl bir psikolojik etki yarattığı konularında açıklamalar eksiktir. Türkiye gibi yüksek enflasyon oranlarının olduğu ülkelerde, finansal kaygının gelir eşitsizliği algısını derinleştirdiği gözlemlenmiştir ([Kara vd., 2024](#)). Ancak, bu ilişkinin gelişmekte olan diğer ülkelerde nasıl şekillendiği ve farklı toplumsal yapılar arasında nasıl farklılaştığına dair yapılacak karşılaştırmalı çalışmalar, daha kapsamlı bir anlayış sağlayacaktır.

Araştırmanın bulgularına göre, finansal kaygı doğrudan gelecek kaygısını artırmaktadır ve bu durum, finansal güvensizlik yaşayan bireylerin geleceğe dair daha fazla belirsizlik hissettiğini gösteren önceki çalışmalarla örtüşmektedir ([Shim vd., 2009b](#); [Archuleta vd., 2013](#)). Ancak, literatürdeki bu bulgular genellikle finansal kaygıyı psikolojik bir olgu olarak ele almakta ve toplumsal yapıların bu kaygıyı nasıl şekillendirdiğini yeterince tartışmamaktadır. Örneğin, Shim vd. (2009b) ve Archuleta vd. (2013), finansal kaygının bireylerde uzun vadeli belirsizlik duygusu yarattığını belirtirken, ekonomik ve toplumsal faktörlerin bu duyguyu nasıl derinleştirdiği ve bireylerin gelir eşitsizliği ile ilişkilerinin nasıl şekillendiği konusunda sınırlı bir inceleme sunmuşlardır. Bu durum, finansal kaygıyı bireysel bir endişe olarak ele almakla kalmakta ve toplumsal yapılarla olan etkileşimini göz ardı etmektedir. Bennett ve arkadaşları (2021) finansal stresin akademik başarı ve kariyer beklentileri üzerindeki olumsuz etkilerini ortaya koymuştur. Bu bulgular, finansal stresin sadece bireysel başarılar üzerindeki etkileriyle sınırlı kalmıştır. Bu çalışmada finansal kaygının, aynı zamanda toplumsal sınıflar ve eğitim düzeyleri gibi yapısal faktörler aracılığıyla farklılaştığına dair bir tartışma yapılmamaktadır. Potter ve ekibi (2020) ise üniversite öğrencilerinin finansal kaygıları nedeniyle akademik başarılarının düştüğünü ve bu durumun gelecek kaygısını artırdığını göstermektedir. Bu çalışma da yalnızca üniversite öğrencilerinin bireysel finansal kaygıları üzerine odaklanmakta ve bu kaygının, farklı sosyo-ekonomik gruplar arasında nasıl farklılaştığına dair daha fazla bilgi sunmamaktadır. Bu noktada, finansal kaygının sadece bireysel başarıyı değil, aynı zamanda bireylerin sosyal aidiyet duygusu, toplumla olan ilişkileri ve kültürel faktörlerle nasıl şekillendiği üzerinde de daha fazla analiz yapılması gerektiği açıktır. Hohman ve arkadaşları (2019), finansal güvencesizlik yaşayan gençlerin uzun vadeli kariyer planlamalarında daha fazla stres yaşadıklarını vurgulamaktadır. Ancak bu bulgular, sadece finansal güvencesizliğin bireysel düzeyde nasıl bir stres kaynağı oluşturduğunu ele almakla kalmaktadır. Bu tür bir stres, sadece bireysel ekonomik belirsizliklerden değil, aynı zamanda sosyal eşitsizliklerden ve bireylerin içinde bulundukları ekonomik bağlamdan da kaynaklanabilir. Örneğin, gelişmekte olan ülkelerdeki gençler, finansal güvencesizliğin yanı sıra, daha geniş toplumsal yapılar ve



sınıfsal farklar nedeniyle daha derin bir gelecek kaygısı yaşayabilirler. Türkiye’ de yapılan çeşitli çalışmalarda da benzer sonuçlar elde edilmiştir; Dinc ve arkadaşları (2025), Özaydın ve ekibi (2024) ile Öncü ve arkadaşları (2023) ekonomik krizlerin gençlerin gelecek kaygısını artırdığını ve finansal güvencesizliğin psikolojik refaha olumsuz etkileri olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Ancak, bu tür çalışmaların çoğu, finansal kaygı ile gelecek kaygısı arasındaki ilişkiyi daha geniş sosyo-ekonomik bağlamlarda ele almayı ve bu ilişkinin toplumdaki sınıfsal eşitsizliklerle nasıl şekillendiğini tartışmayı ihmal etmiştir.

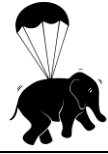
Araştırmada, finansal kaygının göç niyetini artırdığına dair önemli bulgular elde edilmiştir. Ekonomik fırsat eksikliği ve finansal belirsizlik, bireylerin daha iyi yaşam koşulları arayışı içinde göç etme eğilimlerini güçlendirmektedir (Borjas, 2018; Czaika ve de Haas, 2014). Bununla birlikte, bu bulgular genellikle ekonomik faktörleri tek başına ele almakta ve finansal kaygının göç üzerindeki etkilerini toplumsal yapılarla nasıl ilişkilendirdiğini göz ardı etmektedir. Örneğin, Borjas (2018) ve Czaika ve de Haas (2014) ekonomik fırsat eksikliği ve finansal belirsizlikleri önemli faktörler olarak belirtirken, göç etme eğiliminin toplumsal bağlamdan ve bireylerin sosyal çevrelerinden nasıl etkilendiğini daha ayrıntılı şekilde ele almamaktadır. Bu, finansal kaygının sadece bireysel düzeydeki bir motivasyon unsuru olmaktan ziyade, toplumda yerleşik olan eşitsizlikler ve sosyal faktörlerle şekillendiğini göz önünde bulundurmak gerektiğini gösteriyor. Öğrenciler üzerinde gerçekleştirilen çalışmalarda, finansal belirsizliklerin bireylerin yurt dışına göç etme olasılığını artırdığına dair bulgular elde edilmiştir (Aslany vd., 2021; Williams vd., 2018; Roman ve Vasilescu, 2016). Bu çalışmalar da çoğunlukla finansal kaygıyı, daha geniş sosyo-ekonomik yapıların etkisinden soyutlamaktadır. Aslany vd. (2021) ve Williams vd. (2018) gibi çalışmalar, finansal kaygıyı incelemiş olsalar da, bu kaygının, öğrencilerin eğitim aldıkları kurumlar, aile yapıları veya yaşadıkları toplumda mevcut olan gelir eşitsizlikleri ile nasıl etkileşimde bulunduğu üzerinde durmamaktadır. Bu nedenle, finansal kaygının, sadece bireysel faktörlere değil, aynı zamanda toplumsal eşitsizliklere ve sosyo-ekonomik hareketliliğin sınırlı olduğu ortamlarda daha belirgin hale geldiği de vurgulanmalıdır. Nefes (2020) ve Ramos (2019) ise düşük gelir beklentileri ve iş güvencesizliğinin genç bireyleri göç etmeye teşvik ettiğini ortaya koymuştur. Bu çalışmalar finansal kaygıyı ekonomik faktörlerin dışında, psikolojik bir yük olarak ele almakta, ancak kaygıların sosyal yapı ile nasıl iç içe geçtiğini anlamak daha kapsamlı bir tartışma gerektirmektedir. Örneğin, düşük gelir beklentileri, yalnızca finansal belirsizlikle ilgili olmayıp, aynı zamanda toplumsal sınıf, sosyal hareketlilik (mobilité) ve eşitsizlik algılarıyla da yakından ilişkilidir. Bu da gösteriyor ki, göç etmeyi bir çözüm olarak gören bireyler, sadece ekonomik belirsizlikten değil, aynı zamanda mevcut toplumsal yapılar ve sınıfsal farklar nedeniyle de zorlanmaktadırlar. Demet Güngör ve Tansel (2008b), Türkiye’ deki üniversite mezunlarının yurt dışına göç etme eğilimlerinin ekonomik güvencesizlik ile doğrudan bir ilişki içinde olduğunu belirtmektedir. Ancak, bu çalışma da Türkiye bağlamında finansal kaygının göç niyeti üzerindeki etkilerini yalnızca bireysel bir düzeyde ele alırken, bu etkinin toplumda var olan bölgesel eşitsizlikler, sosyo-ekonomik sınıf farkları ve sosyal ağlar ile nasıl şekillendiği konusunda daha fazla açıklamaya yer verilmemektedir.



Bu durum, Piketty' nin (2015) gelir eşitsizliği modelinden de anlaşılabilir. Gelir eşitsizliğinin artışı, bireylerin sosyo-ekonomik hareketliliğe olan inancını zayıflatmakta ve böylece göç etme niyetlerini artırmaktadır. Bu model genellikle makroekonomik bir bakış açısıyla ele alınırken, bireysel ve mikro düzeydeki faktörlerin etkilerini göz ardı etmektedir Benzer şekilde, Bourdieu (1986) ekonomik ve sosyal sermayenin bireylerin göç kararları üzerindeki etkisini vurgulamaktadır. Göç eden bireyler yalnızca ekonomik kazanç sağlamakla kalmaz, aynı zamanda yeni sosyal ağlar ve kariyer fırsatları oluşturarak sermayelerini artırmanın yollarını aramaktadırlar. Bu çalışmada ulaşılan, finansal kaygı yaşayan bireylerin göç etme olasılığının daha yüksek olduğu bulgusu, Bourdieu' nün sermaye teorisiyle de tutarlılık göstermektedir. Ancak, bireylerin göç kararlarının yalnızca finansal durumlarıyla sınırlı olmadığını, aynı zamanda sosyal çevreleri ve kültürel bağlarıyla şekillendiğini de göz önünde bulundurmak önemlidir.

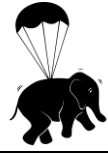
Bulgular, ekonomik eşitsizlik algısının gelecek kaygısını artırdığını göstermektedir. Bu bulgu, adaletsiz gelir dağılımının bireylerin ekonomik sisteme olan güvenini sarstığını ve gelecek beklentilerini olumsuz yönde etkilediğini gösteren literatürle paralellik göstermektedir (Chetty vd., 2014; Wilkinson ve Pickett, 2018). Chetty et al. (2014) ve Wilkinson ve Pickett (2018), gelir eşitsizliğinin bireylerin güvenini sarstığını belirtmişlerdir. Ancak, bu güven kaybının yalnızca ekonomik değil, aynı zamanda bireylerin toplumsal aidiyet ve sosyal değer algıları üzerinde nasıl bir etki yarattığına dair daha kapsamlı bir tartışma eksikliğini de vurgulamışlardır. Bu bağlamda, bireylerin yaşadıkları toplumun ekonomik adalet algısının, gelecek kaygısı üzerindeki etkisini anlamak için, gelir eşitsizliği ile psikolojik ve toplumsal güven arasındaki ilişkiyi de incelemek gerekir.

Piketty (2015), ekonomik eşitsizliğin bireylerin uzun vadeli planlarını belirsiz hale getirdiğini vurgulamaktadır. Piketty (2015)' nin analizleri çoğunlukla büyük ölçekli ekonomiler ve global kapitalizm üzerine yoğunlaşmakta olup, bireysel düzeyde eşitsizliğin gelecek kaygısını artırıcı etkilerini daha somut ve mikro düzeyde ele almamaktadır. Hauser ve Norton (2017) ise, gelir eşitsizliğinin bireylerin sosyal hareketlilik beklentilerini azalttığını ortaya koymuştur. Ancak bu çalışma genellikle bireysel düzeyde gelir eşitsizliğinin etkilerini incelemekte ve toplumsal yapıları göz ardı etmektedir. Ayrıca çalışmada bireylerin sosyal hareketlilik beklentilerini etkileyen yalnızca gelir eşitsizliği değil, aynı zamanda eğitim fırsatları, toplumsal sınıf ve sosyo-ekonomik mobilite gibi etmenler de önemli bir rol oynamaktadır. Türkiye bağlamında yapılan araştırmalar, ekonomik eşitsizliğin bireylerin gelecek planları üzerindeki etkilerini inceleyen önemli bulgular sunmaktadır (Harman Yildiz ve Özer, 2024). Ancak bu etkilerin yalnızca bireysel düzeyde olduğunu belirtmiştir. Oysa, Türkiye' deki ekonomik eşitsizlik, hem gelir dağılımındaki dengesizlikler hem de toplumsal yapılarla ilişkilidir ve bu nedenle, eşitsizlik algısının sosyo-kültürel faktörlerle nasıl şekillendiğine dair daha derinlemesine bir analiz yapılması gerekmektedir. Gelecek kaygısının, ekonomik eşitsizliğin sadece bireysel algılarla değil, aynı zamanda toplumsal yapılarla şekillendiğini kabul etmek, finansal kaygının daha geniş bir sosyal bağlamda nasıl etkili olduğunu anlamamıza yardımcı olacaktır.



Araştırmalar, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin bireylerin göç kararlarını etkilediğini göstermektedir. Dustmann ve Görlach (2016), bireylerin daha eşitlikçi ekonomik fırsatlara sahip ülkelerde yaşama isteğinin göç eğilimlerini artırdığını ortaya koymuştur. Fakat, bu ilişkinin kültürel faktörler, toplumsal yapı ve göçmen kabul eden ülkelerdeki sosyal sistemlerle nasıl şekillendiğini daha detaylı bir şekilde ele almamıştır. Oysa, göç kararları, sadece ekonomik fırsatlar değil, aynı zamanda sosyal ağlar, toplumsal sınıf ve kültürel uyum gibi faktörlerle de biçimlenmektedir. Czaika ve Reinprecht (2020) ise, gelir eşitsizliğinin yüksek olduğu ülkelerde beyin göçünün daha fazla olduğunu bulmuşlardır. Bu bulgu, gelir eşitsizliğinin sadece ekonomik fırsatlar açısından değil, aynı zamanda toplumsal ve kültürel adalet algılarındaki eşitsizliklerden de kaynaklandığını düşündürmektedir. Türkiye’ de yürütülen araştırmalarda da benzer sonuçlar elde edilmiştir; Tutar vd. (2024), ekonomik fırsatların adaletsiz dağılımının genç bireylerin göç etme kararlarını pekiştirdiğini göstermektedir. Çalışmada ekonomik fırsatların adaletsiz dağılımı üzerine yapılan tespit, sadece bireysel ekonomik kaygıları değil, aynı zamanda sosyal eşitsizlikler, kültürel normlar ve toplumsal beklentiler gibi faktörleri göz önünde bulundurmakla daha derin bir anlam kazanabilir. Bu bağlamda, ekonomik fırsat eksikliği ile göç niyeti arasındaki ilişki, yalnızca finansal kaygılardan ziyade, bireylerin yaşadıkları toplumdaki sosyal adalet algısı ve sosyal hareketlilik imkanlarıyla da şekillenmektedir.

Araştırmanın bulguları, ekonomik eşitsizlik algısının finansal kaygı ile gelecek kaygısı ve göç niyeti arasındaki ilişkide aracı bir rol oynadığını ortaya koymaktadır. Bireyler, ekonomik eşitsizliği daha fazla algıladıklarında, ekonomik sistemin adil olmadığına dair inançları güçlenmekte; bu durum da hem gelecek beklentilerini hem de göç niyetlerini olumsuz etkilemektedir (Lusardi ve Tufano, 2015; Borjas ve Bratsberg, 1996). Ancak, bu bulgular genellikle ekonomik eşitsizliğin algı düzeyini bireysel bir mesele olarak ele almakta ve toplumsal yapılar ile bireylerin algılarını şekillendiren diğer sosyal faktörleri göz ardı etmektedir. Örneğin, Lusardi ve Tufano (2015) finansal kaygıyı, bireylerin mevcut gelir durumlarına ve finansal güvenliklerine ilişkin algılarına dayandırırken, bu algıların daha geniş sosyo-ekonomik yapılar ve politik eşitsizlikler tarafından nasıl şekillendirildiğine dair daha fazla tartışma yapılması gerektiği açıktır. Borjas ve Bratsberg (1996), ekonomik eşitsizliğin bireylerin göç kararlarını nasıl etkilediğini ele alırken, göçü yalnızca ekonomik fırsatlar ve gelir dağılımındaki eşitsizlikle ilişkilendirmektedir. Ancak, göç kararları, yalnızca bireysel ekonomik fırsatlarla değil, aynı zamanda toplumsal yapılar, kültürel bağlamlar ve sosyo-kültürel faktörlerle de şekillenmektedir. Bu nedenle, göç niyeti üzerine yapılan araştırmaların, sadece ekonomik eşitsizliği değil, aynı zamanda toplumsal sınıf, eğitim düzeyi ve toplumdaki eşitsizlik algısı gibi faktörleri de göz önünde bulundurması gerektiği önemlidir. He vd. (2022), ekonomik eşitsizliğin bireylerin finansal stresle başa çıkma yöntemlerini olumsuz etkilediğini bulmuştur. Bu bulgu, finansal stresin bireylerin psikolojik refahını nasıl etkilediğini vurgularken, bu ilişkinin daha fazla sosyo-kültürel bağlamda ve toplumsal yapılarla nasıl şekillendiği üzerine daha fazla inceleme yapılması gerektiğini göstermektedir. Bu noktada, finansal stresle başa çıkma mekanizmalarını yalnızca bireysel düzeyde incelemek yerine, bu



mekanizmaların toplumsal eşitsizlikle ve sosyal yapıdaki güç dengesizlikleriyle nasıl ilişkili olduğuna dair bir inceleme yapmak, bu konudaki literatüre önemli bir katkı sağlayacaktır.

5.2. Sonuç

Bu çalışma, finansal kaygının üniversite öğrencilerinin geleceğe dair belirsizlik algısı ve göç niyetleri üzerindeki etkilerini, ayrıca algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin bu ilişkilerdeki aracılık rolünü incelemiştir. Elde edilen bulgular, finansal kaygının öğrencilerin gelecek kaygılarını artırıp göç etme eğilimlerini güçlendirdiğini, aynı zamanda algılanan ekonomik eşitsizlik algısının bu ilişkilerde aracılık rolü oynadığını göstermektedir.

Araştırma, bireylerin finansal belirsizlik yaşadıklarında ekonomik sistemi daha adaletsiz algıladıklarını ve bu algının geleceğe dair umutlarını azalttığını ortaya koymuştur. Ayrıca, finansal kaygının gelecekle ilgili endişelerle doğrudan ilişkili olduğu ve bireylerin uzun vadeli plan yapmalarını zorlaştırdığı görülmüştür. Özellikle ekonomik fırsatların kısıtlı olduğu ortamlarda, öğrencilerin daha iyi ekonomik koşullar arayışında göç etmeyi bir çözüm olarak gördükleri belirlenmiştir.

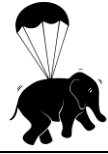
Bunun yanı sıra, algılanan ekonomik eşitsizliğin, bireylerin finansal kaygıyı nasıl deneyimlediklerini ve bunun sonucunda geleceğe dair kaygı ve göç niyeti geliştirme olasılıklarını önemli ölçüde etkilediği bulunmuştur. Ekonomik fırsatlar konusundaki adaletsizlik algısı arttıkça, bireylerin toplumsal sistemin kendilerine eşit fırsatlar sunmadığına dair hissetikleri belirsizlik de artmakta ve göç etme eğilimleri yükselmektedir.

Bu sonuçlar, ekonomik eşitsizliklerin bireylerin psikolojik ve ekonomik refahı üzerindeki etkilerini anlamak bakımından önemli çıkarımlar sunmaktadır. Finansal kaygının giderilmesi, sadece bireysel müdahalelerle değil, aynı zamanda yapısal ekonomik reformlarla da ele alınmalıdır. Özellikle üniversite öğrencilerine yönelik finansal destek programları ve ekonomik fırsatları artırmaya yönelik politikaların geliştirilmesi, hem bireylerin refahını artıracak hem de ülkelerinde kalma motivasyonunu güçlendirecektir. Gelecek kaygısının azaltılması ve göç eğilimlerinin kontrol altına alınabilmesi için, sosyal adaleti pekiştiren ekonomik politikaların uygulanması elzemdir.

Sonuç olarak, bu çalışma ekonomik eşitsizliğin bireylerin finansal ve psikolojik durumlarını nasıl şekillendirdiğine dair kıymetli bulgular sunmaktadır. Bu çerçevede, gelecekte finansal kaygı, ekonomik eşitsizlik ve göç eğilimleri arasındaki ilişkiyi daha geniş örneklem ve boylamsal çalışmalarla ele almak, politika yapımcılar için daha sağlam veriler sağlayabilir.

5.3. Sınırlılıklar ve Gelecek Çalışmalar için Öneriler

Her bilimsel çalışmada olduğu gibi, bu araştırmanın da belirli sınırlılıkları bulunmaktadır. İlk olarak, çalışma yalnızca bir devlet üniversitesinde öğrenim gören öğrencilerle yürütülmüş olup, elde edilen bulguların farklı üniversite türlerinde (örneğin özel üniversiteler) öğrenim gören bireyler için doğrudan genellenmesi mümkün değildir. Bu bağlamda, gelecekteki



araştırmalarda farklı sosyoekonomik arka planlara sahip üniversite grupları arasında karşılaştırmalı analizler yapılması, modelin geçerliliğini sınamak açısından önemlidir.

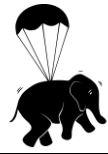
İkinci olarak, çalışmada demografik değişkenler olarak sadece yaş, cinsiyet, maddi durumdan memnuniyet ve algılanan finansal bilgi düzeyi dikkate alınmıştır. Bu tercih, çalışmanın temel amacı olan finansal kaygı ve ekonomik eşitsizlik algısının göç niyeti ve gelecek kaygısı üzerindeki etkilerini analiz etmeye odaklanmasıyla ilgilidir. Ancak gelecekteki araştırmalarda, bölgesel farklılıklar, aile gelir düzeyi, ebeveyn eğitim durumu gibi daha geniş demografik değişkenlerin de modele dahil edilmesi, sosyo-ekonomik çeşitliliğin etkilerini daha derinlemesine ortaya koyabilir.

Bu doğrultuda, farklı bölgelerden veya toplumsal kesimlerden bireyleri kapsayan, daha geniş ve temsili örneklemelere dayanan benzer yapısal modeller geliştirmek, elde edilen bulguların genellenebilirliğini ve kuramsal katkısını artıracaktır. Ayrıca, bu çalışma yalnızca katılımcıların öznel finansal algılarına odaklanmış olup, gelecekte nesnel ekonomik göstergelerin (örneğin hane geliri, borç düzeyi, çalışma durumu gibi) dahil edilmesi, bulguların kapsamını genişletebilir.

Sonuç olarak, bu çalışmanın bulguları, ekonomik eşitsizlik ve finansal kaygının bireylerin gelecek beklentileri ve göç kararları üzerindeki etkilerini bir arada inceleyen modelleme yaklaşımlarına katkı sunmakta ve bu çerçevenin farklı gruplar üzerinde test edilmesine yönelik yeni araştırma alanlarına zemin oluşturmaktadır.

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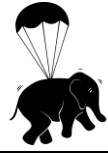
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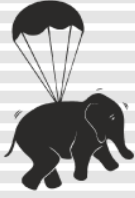
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Metaverse and the Future of Fashion: A Comparative Analysis of Fast-Fashion and Luxury Fashion Brands

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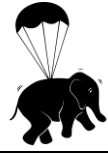
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Abstract

The metaverse is rapidly emerging as a transformative digital ecosystem, reshaping how brands interact with consumers through immersive, interactive experiences. In the fashion industry, this shift has significant implications for both fast-fashion and luxury brands as they navigate new virtual retail environments. This study explores how fashion retailers, particularly fast-fashion and luxury brands, are leveraging the metaverse to transform consumer experiences, redefine brand engagement, and build digital brand identities. Through a comprehensive literature review, the study examines the technological underpinnings of the metaverse, such as virtual reality, artificial intelligence, blockchain, and NFTs, and analyzes how these tools are being strategically adopted in fashion retail. Key applications, including gamification, virtual shopping environments, and NFT-based digital assets, are assessed using real-life examples from global and Turkish fashion brands like H&M, Gucci, Kiğılı, and Beymen. The research highlights that while fast-fashion brands prioritize accessibility and gamified experiences on platforms like Roblox, luxury brands focus on exclusivity, digital scarcity, and immersive storytelling. The study also presents a comparative analysis of the drivers and challenges each segment faces in adopting metaverse strategies. It concludes by proposing future research directions focused on consumer acceptance, the psychological impact of virtual engagement, and the evolving role of virtual influencers. This study contributes to both academic literature and managerial practice by positioning the metaverse as a strategic platform for innovation in fashion retailing, offering new pathways for brand differentiation, sustainability, and consumer interaction.

Keywords: metaverse retailing, fast-fashion, luxury fashion, immersive shopping, digital transformation

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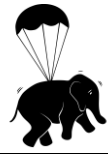


Metaverse ve Modanın Geleceği: Hızlı Moda ve Lüks Moda Markalarının Karşılaştırmalı Analizi

Öz

Metaverse, markaların tüketicilerle etkileşimli ve sürükleyici deneyimler aracılığıyla iletişim kurma biçimini yeniden şekillendiren dönüştürücü bir dijital ekosistem olarak hızla ortaya çıkmaktadır. Moda endüstrisinde bu değişim, yeni sanal perakende ortamlarında yol alan hem hızlı moda hem de lüks moda markaları için önemli sonuçlar doğurmaktadır. Bu çalışma, özellikle hızlı moda ve lüks markalar olmak üzere moda perakendecilerinin tüketici deneyimlerini dönüştürmek, marka etkileşimini yeniden tanımlamak ve dijital marka kimlikleri oluşturmak için metaverse'ü nasıl kullandıklarını araştırmaktadır. Kapsamlı bir literatür taraması yoluyla, sanal gerçeklik, yapay zekâ, blok zinciri ve NFT'ler gibi metaverse'ün teknolojik temelleri incelenmiş ve bu araçların moda perakendeciliğinde stratejik olarak nasıl benimsendiği analiz edilmiştir. Oyunlaştırma, sanal alışveriş ortamları ve NFT tabanlı dijital varlıklar gibi kilit uygulamalar, H&M, Gucci, Kiğılı ve Beymen gibi küresel ve Türk moda markalarından gerçek hayat örnekleriyle değerlendirilmiştir. Araştırma, hızlı moda markalarının Roblox gibi platformlarda erişilebilirlik ve oyunlaştırılmış deneyimlere öncelik verirken, lüks moda markalarının ise ayrıcalık, dijital kıtlık ve etkileyici hikâye anlatımına odaklandığını ortaya koymaktadır. Çalışma ayrıca her iki segmentin metaverse stratejilerini benimserken karşılaştığı itici güçleri ve zorlukları karşılaştırmalı olarak analiz etmektedir. Araştırma bulgularına göre tüketici kabulü, sanal etkileşimin psikolojik etkisi ve sanal influencer'ların değişen rolü üzerine odaklanan gelecekteki araştırma yönelimleri önerilmiştir. Bu çalışma, metaverse'ü moda perakendeciliğinde yenilik için stratejik bir platform olarak konumlandırarak, akademik literatüre ve yönetsel uygulamalara katkı sağlamakta; marka farklılaşması, sürdürülebilirlik ve tüketici etkileşimi için yeni yollar sunmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: metaverse perakendeciliği, hızlı moda, lüks moda, sürükleyici alışveriş, dijital dönüşüm



1. INTRODUCTION

As the twenty-first century progresses, our world is being drastically altered by technological advances. Digitalization has profoundly changed many facets of daily life, such as boundaries within organizations, business activities, and education (Demirci et al., 2024). The Metaverse, an immersive and interactive digital realm where the lines separating real-world and virtual reality are blurred, is one such revolutionary invention (Al-Sharafi et al., 2024). The phrase "metaverse," which is a composite of the words "meta," which means "transcendence," and "universe," was first used in Neal Stevenson's science fiction book *Snow Crash* in 1992 to describe a 3D virtual world with lifelike avatars (Park and Lim, 2023). Since Mark Zuckerberg revealed that his firm would be rebranding from Facebook to Meta, the idea of metaverse has gained a lot of attention in recent years as a means of characterizing a network of virtual worlds that incorporate aspects of both the digital and physical environments (Kim, 2021).

An increasing body of scholarly research has started to examine the different facets of the immersive metaverse (Dwivedi et al., 2022; Koohang et al., 2023; Mogaji et al., 2023). Additionally, as a new marketing platform, brands have begun to investigate whether and how to enter this virtual environment in order to interact with their consumers and capitalize on its potential (Park and Lim, 2023).

The term "Metaverse" refers to a digital environment that integrates elements of social media, online gaming, augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), and cryptocurrency to enable virtual interaction between users (Belk et al., 2022). Metaverse describes a collective, long-lasting network of shared virtual spaces that allow users to communicate with each other in a way that is similar to how they would in real life (Park and Lim, 2023). Today, this new technological innovation is reshaping various industries such as gaming, education, healthcare, tourism and retail by introducing immersive, interactive, and innovative experiences. The metaverse could be worth up to \$5 trillion by 2030, according to a recent McKinsey study. This could be one of the largest growth prospects for several industries in the ensuing ten years, where numerous businesses have already experimented with innovative branding techniques utilizing the metaverse (McKinsey, 2022).

Since metaverse has become more popular in recent years, the retail industry has demonstrated interest in utilizing it to market and selling products (Alayli, 2023). The metaverse retail market is expected to surpass \$800 billion by 2024. As a result, retailers must explore how to tailor their competitive approaches to the metaverse. For the retail industry, the metaverse is viewed as a route through which brands can conduct promotional activities while saving money and time and many retailer brands now focus their marketing efforts on the metaverse. Especially, fashion retailers are among those that have realized the immense potential of the metaverse in their business operations (Kolk, 2023). Younger consumers are attached to their digital displays for almost eight hours every day in the modern world, forcing fashion firms to embrace new technologies such as metaverse (Williams, 2021).



Fashion brands leverage the metaverse as a dynamic and evolving platform to blend creativity, technology, and customer engagement. H&M is the first fashion retailer to open virtual store in the metaverse. Nike, Zara, Fendi, Prada, Louis Vuitton, United Colors of Benetton, Gucci, and Balenciaga are a few of the well-known fashion labels that have already made their way into the metaverse through games, virtual stores, fashion shows, and digital events (Dwivedi et al., 2022; Profumo et al., 2024). Several Turkish brands have also started exploring metaverse platforms as part of their digital transformation and consumer engagement strategies. For instance, Sagra (the producer of Sarelle and Tadelles) became the first Turkish chocolate brand to enter the metaverse by launching a virtual chocolate factory. In the fashion retail industry, LC Waikiki and FLO initiated pilot projects that included NFT fashion collections and virtual showrooms, aiming to engage Gen Z consumers through Web3 technologies (Kara, 2022; Önder, 2022).

The aim of this study is to make an understanding of metaverse concept and its importance for fashion retailers, especially how fast-fashion and luxury fashion brands benefit this immersive technology differently to create outstanding consumer experiences. Despite the growing interest in the metaverse across various industries, academic research on its strategic applications in fashion retailing remains limited and fragmented. Most existing studies focus broadly on digital transformation or examine isolated metaverse tools without offering an integrated understanding of how fashion brands are adapting holistically. Moreover, little attention has been paid to the comparative strategies of fast-fashion and luxury fashion segments, which differ significantly in their brand positioning, consumer engagement, and technological adoption (Kniazeva et al., 2024). This study addresses this gap by providing a structured literature-based analysis of how fast-fashion and luxury brands uniquely navigate the metaverse. By contrasting their motivations, challenges, and immersive applications, the research offers novel theoretical insights into branding, consumer experience, and digital innovation, while also offering practical guidance for fashion managers seeking to implement metaverse-based strategies tailored to their market segment.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Metaverse: Definition, Key Features and Technologies

The term "metaverse", gained popularity in 2020, refers to a collective virtual shared space, merging physical and digital realities, where users interact through digital representations of themselves known as avatars in immersive environments through advanced technologies (Dwivedi et al., 2022). The Metaverse is an open, decentralized, autonomous ecosystem that revolves around interactions and content created by users (Song et al., 2023). The COVID-19 pandemic served as a critical catalyst for the acceleration of digital transformation and significantly contributed to the emergence of the metaverse as a viable and strategic concept. During the pandemic, widespread lockdowns and physical distancing measures necessitated a shift toward virtual solutions across sectors—ranging from remote work and online education



to digital commerce and entertainment. Consequently, people and institutions relied more and more on immersive technologies like 3D collaboration tools, augmented reality (AR), and virtual reality (VR), which together created the groundwork for metaverse settings (Dwivedi et al., 2022; Toraman and Geçit, 2023).

Artificial intelligence (AI), virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), mixed reality, extended reality (XR), digital twin, blockchain technology, machine learning and the Internet of Things are some of the technological building blocks that make up the metaverse's fundamental design (Periyasami and Periyasamy, 2022; Profumo et al., 2024). These technologies have made it possible to build the Metaverse environment by offering technical assistance and opportunities for its construction within various fields and industries. These technologies' general functions can be outlined as follows (Yang et al., 2022):

Artificial Intelligence (AI) facilitates intelligent virtual agents in the metaverse, improves user interactions, and automates processes. Artificial Intelligence (AI) plays a pivotal role in enhancing the metaverse experiences of fashion retailers by enabling personalized, efficient, and interactive virtual environments. AI-powered virtual try-on technologies allow customers to visualize how garments or accessories would look on them without physical interaction with the help of virtual showrooms (Singh, 2024).

Interactivity technologies are essential to making the metaverse immersive, being more than only virtual by incorporating a perspective of extended reality (Koohang et al., 2023). Extended reality in the context of the metaverse refers to the umbrella term encompassing immersive technologies such as Virtual Reality (VR)- fully virtual environments, Augmented Reality (AR)- enhanced real-world views with digital overlays, and Mixed Reality (MR)- dynamic combinations of AR and VR (Dwivedi et al., 2023). Through technological devices like virtual reality headsets and tactile gloves, they enable users to visually experience the metaverse more than conventional gadgets like laptops and smartphones. There are plenty of different applications of the extended reality in metaverse, for example AR-powered virtual try-ons and MR-enhanced in-store navigation are used in retail industry. AR-enabled virtual try-ons bridge the gap between online and in-store buying by enabling customers to see items, like apparel or accessories, on themselves without having to engage with the object (Patnaik et al., 2024).

Digital twins are utilized in the metaverse to produce incredibly realistic, dynamic, and interactive digital replicas of real-world objects, facilitating data sharing and analysis in real time. They can be used by fashion retailers to create and test new product displays and store layouts. By designing more efficient and enticing store layouts, digital twins can assist retailers in a metaverse environment to improve the shopping experience and boosting sales outs. (Lumbroso, 2022; Tam and Lung, 2024). For example, Tommy Hilfiger developed a digital twin of its physical showroom, allowing wholesale buyers to interact with garments virtually. Also, Nike's Swoosh platform includes virtual sneaker twins—digital versions of physical Nike shoes that can be worn in metaverse games and AR (Geniomode, 2023).



Blockchain serves as the underlying infrastructure for managing digital assets in the metaverse. It ensures transparency, security, and decentralization in transactions, allowing for the seamless transfer and verification of asset ownership. The digitalization of assets as one of the key features of metaverse, refers to the process of converting physical or traditional assets into digital formats or representations that can be managed, traded, and utilized within virtual environments (Truong et al., 2023).

Machine Learning (ML) is critical to the metaverse's development and enhancement, contributing to areas such as user experience, security, and applications for retailers. By delivering recommendations and personalized information based on user behavior and preferences, machine learning algorithms increase user engagement, especially for fashion retailers (Sayem, 2022).

The Internet of Things (IoT) plays a critical role in the metaverse by connecting physical devices and systems to the virtual world, enabling real-time data exchange and interaction between the two. The Internet of Things (IoT) can be utilized in the Metaverse which converts real-time IoT data from the physical world into a digital reality in the virtual world. The IoT can also enhance online shopping experiences in virtual fitting rooms, where users' body movements are tracked by IoT sensors. (Li et al., 2022).

These foundational technologies have enabled new retail models that extend beyond traditional commerce. In the following section, we examine how these innovations are reshaping the structure and logic of retail through the lens of metaverse retailing.

2.2. Metaverse Retailing

The term "metaverse retailing" refers to online retail operations that take place in a virtual reality setting, enabling full trade and experiencing processes (Dwivedi et al., 2022). The evolution of retailing reflects a continuous adaptation to technological advancements. The retail industry has transitioned from brick-and-mortar to internet buying in recent decades, and now the metaverse has emerged (Tam and Lung, 2024). Figure 1 shows each different phases from traditional retailing- product oriented to place/location-oriented phase as e-retailing and then to user/experience-oriented phase as metaverse retailing. Each stage in this progression highlights a significant transformation in how retailers engage with consumers and deliver value.

Traditional retailing focuses on physical stores where consumers deal with merchandise and salespeople in person. By emphasizing face-to-face interactions, this strategy promotes interpersonal relationships and offers quick access to products. This stage emphasizes location-based strategies, visual merchandising, and a tactile shopping experience. Traditional retail was upended by the internet's introduction in the 1990s, which led to the emergence of e-commerce sites like Amazon and eBay. Retailers were able to access a worldwide audience through these channels, providing ease and a wider range of products. The introduction of social media sites like Facebook in the middle of the 2000s encouraged more people to use the Internet (Ali and



[Khan, 2023](#)). E-commerce has brought data-driven marketing techniques and customized product recommendations. This stage signals a dramatic change in customer behavior since internet buying provides price transparency and accessibility. Then, retailers adopted an omnichannel approach to integrate physical and digital shopping experiences seamlessly. This strategy emphasizes creating a unified customer journey across online stores, mobile apps, and physical outlets. Real-time inventory updates, mobile payments, and click-and-collect services are notable examples of this stage, which connects traditional and online retailing ([Verhoef et al., 2015](#)). Then companies began to prioritize engagement over transactions by offering events, pop-up stores, and immersive brand experiences, with the rise of experiential retailing. This phase emphasized building emotional connections with consumers, leveraging storytelling and interactive displays, paving the way for metaverse retailing ([Dwivedi et al., 2022](#); [Dwivedi et al., 2023](#); [Eggenschwiler et al., 2024](#)).

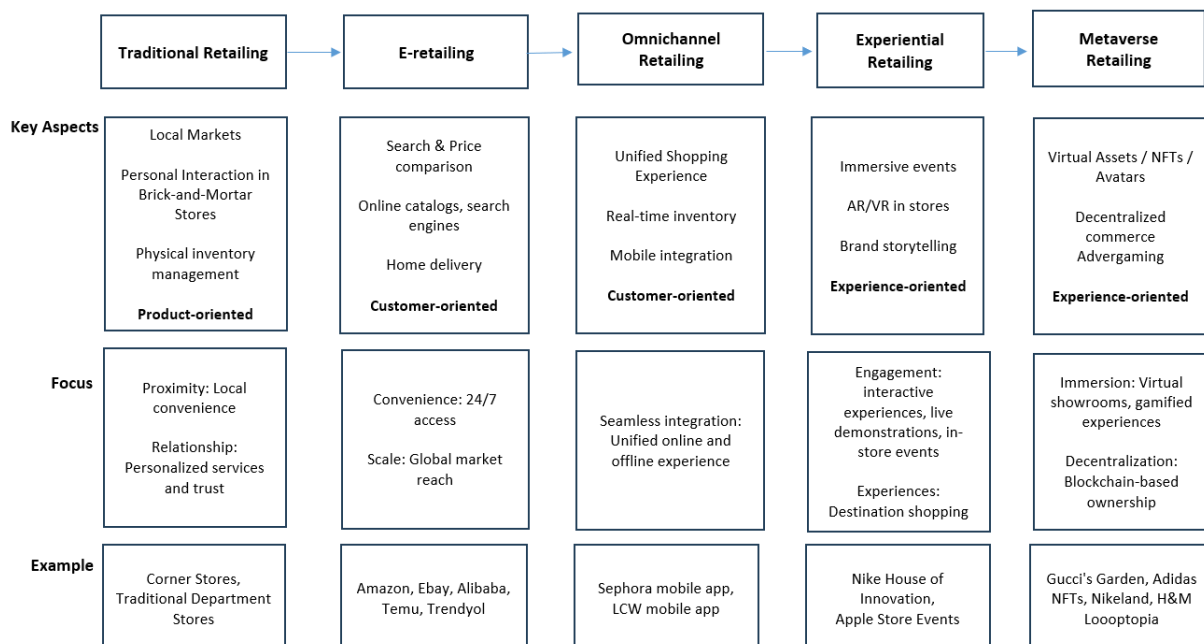
As retail evolves toward immersive and experience-driven models, fashion brands stand at the forefront of this transformation. The next section explores how the fashion industry, with its emphasis on innovation and identity expression, is adapting to and leveraging the metaverse.

2.3. Metaverse in the Fashion Industry

Recently, metaverse platforms enable fashion brands to market digital goods and provide unique brand experiences ([Park and Lim, 2023](#)). But the digitalization of the fashion industry began prior to the metaverse era and developed through several phases. The fashion industry digitalized through e-commerce platforms in the mid-1990s, with pioneers like Amazon (initially a book retailer) and Zappos (online shoe sales). Then, from the beginning of 2005, social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest became the main drivers of digital fashion to showcase collections, interact with consumers, and gather insights. According to Bourlakis et al. ([2009](#)), the use of the metaverse in digital marketing and fashion retail goes back to the early 2010s. Early versions of the metaverse were virtual worlds that were accessible online, usually in the form of massively multiplayer online role-playing games ([Park and Lim, 2023](#)). Second Life, launched by Linden Lab in 2003, as a pioneering online virtual world that allows users to create avatars, interact with others, and build and trade virtual property is an early example of a metaverse platform, providing insights on virtual economies, social interactions, and user-generated content ([Demirci et al., 2024](#)).



Figure 1. Evolution of retailing: From traditional to Metaverse



Several well-known fashion firms such as Adidas, Calvin Klein, Lacoste have used Second Life to interact with customers and promote their goods prior to the current wave of metaverse platforms. For example, American Apparel, US-based fast-fashion retailer, opened a Second Life virtual store where customers could buy digital versions of their clothes in 2006. Also Reebok's Second Life virtual store, which let users design personalized Reebok shoes for both their avatars and their real-life selves, was one of the more popular examples. In its first ten weeks of operation, the company claimed to have distributed over 27,000 pairs of digital shoes (Kuntze et al., 2013).

Then, during the COVID-19 pandemic, retailers have started to adopt AI and big data analytics to understand customer preferences and optimize inventory management. After the COVID-19 pandemic, brands transitioned to digital fashion shows and livestreamed events. The metaverse can enhance current e-commerce procedures for fashion brands and produce distinctive consumer experiences because of the range of applications and advantages in the buying experience (Joy et al., 2022).

This historical overview demonstrates the evolving digital landscape of the fashion industry and sets the stage for examining how brands engage with metaverse technologies. To systematically explore the commonalities and differences in metaverse strategies between fast fashion and luxury brands—and to identify theoretical and managerial insights—the following section presents the scoping literature review employed in this study.



3. METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a scoping literature review methodology to investigate how fast-fashion and luxury fashion brands are adopting metaverse technologies. Given the novelty and rapidly evolving nature of the metaverse, a scoping review was deemed appropriate as it allows for mapping existing knowledge, identifying emerging themes, and integrating both academic and industry-based insights (Arksey and O'Malley, 2005; Pham et al., 2014). Unlike systematic or bibliometric reviews, which typically focus on evaluating the quality or citation patterns of studies, the scoping approach provides the flexibility to explore diverse and interdisciplinary sources relevant to a new and under-theorized domain. Since the topic of metaverse retailing research for fashion brands is still in its early stages, the study is predicated on a thorough examination of the pertinent academic literature and articles of industry experts on fast-fashion and luxury fashion brands applications, opportunities and challenges.

The data collection process involved identifying both academic and industry-based secondary sources mostly published between 2020 and 2025. The literature search was conducted through databases such as Scopus, Google Scholar, and Web of Science, as well as reputable industry platforms including Vogue Business, Business of Fashion, Forbes, Deloitte, and McKinsey. This methodology not only strengthens the academic rigor of the study but also bridges theoretical perspectives with practical insights in the evolving domain of digital fashion retailing. Keywords included "metaverse retailing," "fast-fashion in metaverse," "luxury fashion in metaverse," and "virtual fashion retailing".

Furthermore, this study deliberately distinguishes between fast-fashion and luxury fashion brands in its analysis. This segmentation is essential due to the fundamentally different strategic, operational, and consumer engagement models that characterize each category. While both segments have shown interest in the metaverse, their motivations and implementations significantly diverge (Kniazeva et al., 2024). By comparing these two contrasting category, the study gives a more nuanced understanding of how the metaverse is transforming fashion business in various market situations and customer expectations.

4. FINDINGS

To better address the research questions posed in this study—namely, how fast-fashion and luxury fashion brands are adopting metaverse technologies, and what opportunities and challenges they face—this findings section is organized around key thematic areas that emerged from the literature. These include (1) the general adoption of the metaverse in fashion retailing, (2) the motivational drivers behind brand adoption, (3) the technological and strategic challenges encountered, and (4) the specific applications such as gamification, NFTs, and virtual shopping experiences. This structure enables a comparative analysis between fast-fashion and luxury fashion segments, aligning closely with the study's aim to highlight the strategic divergence and convergence in their metaverse engagements. Real-life brand cases



such as Gucci, Nike, Zara, Balenciaga, as well as Turkish brands like Beymen and Kigili, were used to compare the strategic orientation of fast-fashion versus luxury fashion segments.

4.1. Metaverse Adoption of Fashion Retailers

Metaverse has long been on the agenda of marketing researchers and presents a compelling value proposition. After examining recent literature on fashion retailing in metaverse, it is anticipated that the metaverse will drastically alter how customers engage with the digital world and transform the retail industry (Hu et al., 2025; Yoo et al., 2023). According to Al-Adwan et al. (2025), it is not merely an advancement in e-commerce but rather a radical change in the way goods, services, and experiences are provided. Recent research pointed out that the Metaverse has the potential to digitally modify various parts of our lives, including how we buy, shop and consume fashion (Patruti et al., 2023).

The metaverse presents opportunities and obstacles for both fast fashion and luxury brands. However, their strategies, motivations, and challenges differ based on their distinct business models, target audiences, and value propositions (Kniazeva et al., 2024). The current study tries to make a comparative analysis of the driving and challenging forces behind fashion brands' entry into the metaverse environment.

4.2. Motivations: Driving Forces of Fast Fashion and Luxury Brands Entering the Metaverse

Recent research has identified potential key motivations and opportunities for fashion brands in conjunction with the metaverse. Both luxury and fast fashion firms use metaverse retailing to develop new revenue streams through digital collectibles, virtual fashion, and NFTs (Donvito et al., 2024).

Similarities: The goal of both luxury and fast-fashion firms is to increase brand engagement through the development of involving, interactive virtual world experiences. Especially, they may want to reach Millennials and Gen Z, who are used to avatars, gaming, and digital shopping. Young, digital-native consumers spend time in gaming environments, making them key spaces for fashion brands. In order to appeal to Generation Z, Zara has created six looks that work with a variety of games and apps on the "Ready Player Me" platform. Louis Vuitton created a metaverse game, "Louis the Game," offering collectible NFTs and digital fashion items (Alonso, 2022; Kniazeva et al., 2024).

Also, both categories of fashion brands are partnered with digital influencers and virtual avatars to engage with younger audiences. They collaborate with micro-influencers and content creators to make fashion trends more accessible (Eggenschwiler et al., 2024). Gucci and Dior work with high-profile celebrities, mega-influencers, and fashion bloggers to maintain exclusivity. Dior's global ambassador and K-pop star, Jisoo promotes digital luxury through social media activations, virtual campaigns, and NFT collaborations (Business Wire, 2022). Fast-fashion brands like Forever 21 are increasingly leveraging virtual influencers and digital platforms to engage with Gen Z consumers. For instance, Forever 21 collaborated with Barbie



to launch a limited-edition collection available both in physical stores and on the metaverse platform Roblox ([Walk-Morris, 2022](#)).

Fast and luxury fashion companies perceive the metaverse as a sustainable tool that reduces waste, excess manufacturing, and carbon emissions ([Yan, 2022](#)). Virtual clothing enables brands to test ideas before mass manufacturing, hence eliminating extra inventory. Balenciaga uses 3D digital fashion design to test silhouettes, textures, and patterns before producing real garments. H&M launched "H&M Looop Island" on Roblox, a virtual space where players can create and try on digital clothing. The brand tests designs digitally before manufacturing them in real life, reducing physical waste ([Kniazeva et al., 2024](#); [Sayem, 2022](#)).

Differences: Luxury and fast-fashion brands adopt distinct metaverse strategies, reflecting their unique brand identities, target audiences, and market positions ([Noris et al., 2021](#)). To reach a broad audience, fast fashion firms emphasize price, accessibility, trendiness, and gaming collaborations. Luxury brands prioritize exclusivity, digital scarcity, NFT authentication, and high-end virtual couture in order to maintain their status and high brand value. Luxury fashion brands invest in advanced technologies like NFTs to offer unique digital assets, reinforcing their commitment to innovation and exclusivity. These digital collectibles often serve as status symbols within virtual communities. For example, Gucci released limited edition virtual sneakers on the Roblox platform, which can only be worn in the digital world, but their scarcity made them highly desirable among virtual users ([Hahn, 2021](#)). On the other hand, fast-fashion brands experiment with digital fashion shows and virtual storefronts in the metaverse with the goal of improving customer engagement and expediting the purchase experience. To appeal to younger audiences, their strategy frequently incorporates interactive features and gamification ([Patruti et al., 2023](#)).

Both fast and luxury fashion companies target young and tech-savvy consumers, but fast fashion brands target mostly Gen Z, who are highly active in gaming and social media and on the other hand, luxury brands mostly target high-net-worth Gen Z individuals and digital collectors who are interested in exclusivity and status. Brands like Zara, Forever 21, and H&M create virtual stores and experiences on Roblox and Zepeto, where Gen Z users already interact. With the hope of increasing sales of actual physical products, luxury brand owners are drawn to selling virtual goods through the metaverse in order to establish their brand value with a youthful, tech-savvy consumer base ([Um et al., 2025](#)).

4.3. Challenges: Difficulties of Fast Fashion and Luxury Brands Entering the Metaverse

As both fast fashion and luxury brands venture into the metaverse, they encounter a blend of shared and distinct challenges. These obstacles arise from technological adaptation and restrictions, customer acceptance barriers, concerns about sustainability, data security and privacy ([Tavman, 2024](#)). They also face unique challenges aligned with their distinct business models and brand identities as brand positioning issues ([Chrimes and Boardman, 2023](#)).



Similarities: Both luxury and fast-fashion brands must invest in digital infrastructure, including 3D modeling, augmented reality (AR), virtual reality (VR), and blockchain technologies to create immersive and secure virtual shopping experiences (Dwivedi et al., 2022). Creating virtual stores, digital garments, and immersive experiences requires substantial investment in VR/AR, blockchain, AI, and gaming technology. Fashion firms must make sure that they are familiar with the software and that their staff members have the digital skills necessary to successfully navigate this digital environment before attempting to enter the metaverse to avoid high financial risks (Koochang et al., 2023).

Consumer adoption is another challenge that fashion brands face in creating consumer willingness to engage in virtual spaces. While Gen Z is more inclined toward digital fashion, older consumers may struggle with adopting metaverse shopping experiences. Customers' willingness to interact in virtual environments is essential to the success of metaverse projects. It is difficult for brands to inform their consumers about the metaverse and give them strong incentives to join (Park and Lim, 2023).

When brands and customers embrace the metaverse, data and privacy concerns will remain at the top of their minds. Regardless of retailer type, fashion brands must set up strong digital rights management systems since the digital sphere makes it difficult to protect designs and products from illegal duplication (SanMiguel et al., 2024). Also, due to the significant energy consumption of metaverse technologies, both luxury and fast-fashion firms that use blockchain for digital assets are under scrutiny, raising questions about their potential effects on the environment (Chrimes and Bordman, 2023).

Differences: In terms of technological infrastructure investment, luxury and fast-fashion brands have different challenges based on their business models. Fast fashion companies may find it difficult to justify the significant expenditures necessary for metaverse integration given their low-cost, high-volume business model. On the other hand, luxury firms must make sure that their digital offers match the superior craftsmanship and uniqueness of their physical products, even if they frequently have greater financial resources. This could result in even higher development expenses (Hu et al., 2025).

The difficulty for luxury fashion firms is to strike a careful balance between meeting the increasing needs of their customer base and maintaining their exclusivity. In contrast, fast fashion companies are using internet platforms more to reach new customers and cut expenses related to physical stores. Fast fashion companies' primary objective is to make revenue by quickly adapting to the constantly shifting tastes of fashion-conscious consumers (Kniazeva et al., 2024).

Luxury and fast-fashion companies face distinctive sustainability challenges as they expand into the metaverse. Implementing the precise craftsmanship used by luxury brands in the digital environment necessitates tremendous resources and creativity, which may lead to greater energy consumption and environmental effect. While virtual clothing prevents physical waste,



the marketing of synthetic materials in digital designs by fast-fashion companies may unintentionally favor the continued use of environmentally toxic substances in physical manufacturing (Blazquez, 2024).

4.4. Metaverse Applications in Fashion Retailing: Real Life Examples

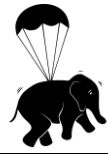
Recent research has pointed out that there are three main applications of metaverse for fashion retailers as Gamification, Non-Fungible-Tokens (NFTs), and Virtual Shopping (Mogaji et al., 2023; Park and Lim, 2023; SanMiguel et al., 2024).

4.4.1. Gamification: Engaging Consumers in Virtual Worlds

The metaverse originated from gaming, and due to the variety of activities they provide, games remain the most popular digital place in this regard. Online gaming platforms are among the most flexible and convenient methods to access Metaverse because they allow users to do more than just play; they also allow them to shop, interact, make money, and even attend events (Shahriar, 2023). Gamification in metaverse retailing refers to the integration of game-design elements into virtual retail environments to enhance consumer engagement, satisfaction, and purchasing behavior. Game and virtual worlds platforms play a crucial role in fashion businesses' metaverse strategy since they enable consumers to create avatars and express themselves through virtual apparel or 'skins'. Giving customers the option to personalize their avatars encourages a feeling of identification and a sense of belonging in the virtual world. Increased pleasure and a closer bond with the brand can result from this customization. Thus, several companies have made insertions into well-known and popular video games (Periyasami and Periyasamy, 2022). To make the buying experience more interesting, fashion retailers also use game-like elements including challenges, incentives, and interactive storytelling. To improve exploration and engagement, virtual treasure hunts or quests, for instance, can guide shoppers to products within a metaverse store (Al-Adwan et al., 2025).

Both luxury and fast-fashion brands are leveraging various gaming platforms within the metaverse to engage consumers. One of the most common metaverse strategies for many fashion companies has been working with already-existing game platforms, such as Roblox and Zepeto (Bain, 2022). Apart from gaming platforms, fashion brands have also looked into creating branded virtual worlds which are digital platforms like The Sandbox, Decentraland, and Second Life where users build their own avatars to play and interact with one another (Park and Lim, 2023). Even though both types of fashion brands use every gaming platforms, luxury fashion brands focus on exclusivity and high-end storytelling in the metaverse, and they mostly use blockchain-based platforms and high-graphic immersive games such as Sandbox and Fortnite. On the other hand, fast-fashion brands prioritize high-engagement and customization-friendly platforms like Roblox and Zepeto, appealing to a broader audience (Bakshi, 2022).

As a luxury brand, Gucci introduced Gucci Garden, an immersive virtual fashion space in Roblox where players could purchase and wear limited-edition digital Gucci items. The Gucci



Garden virtual tour provides guests with the opportunity to browse shops, bookstores, and galleries while simulating customer traffic, clocks, and birds to give the impression that they are actually there (Chrimes and Bordman, 2023). In the Sandbox platform, as the first significant luxury brand to create its own universe within the metaverse platform, Gucci also launched Gucci Vault Land to offer users an immersive journey into the brand's legacy and creative vision with various interactive activities and showcases. Mini-games that showcase Gucci's fundamental principles are available for visitors to play. In order to teach participants about the brand's history in an entertaining way, the "Vault Vintage Lab," for example, allows users to restore historic Gucci handbags, and the "Vault Room of Rhyme" tests them with riddles (Schulz, 2022a).

As one of the pioneers in the fast-fashion industry, H&M also developed "Loooptopia," a circular fashion gaming experience promoting sustainability through virtual design and recycling activities in Roblox (Al-Adwan et al., 2025). Through Loooptopia, H&M created a virtual world where users could explore 3D interactive H&M stores that replicates aspects of H&M's physical stores. Loooptopia incorporates gamification by offering interactive challenges. For example, users might complete fashion quizzes, styling contests, and earn rewards that can be used to redeem in virtual or real store. Also, Loooptopia is promoting sustainable fashion practices. The platform encourages users to engage in activities that simulate the circular fashion economy. For example, users can design and recycle digital garments, earning rewards or unlocking new features by making sustainable choices (Edelson, 2023).

The use of gamification in the metaverse has been more common among international firms, but Turkish fashion brands are also starting to experiment with these digital strategies. Kiğılı, one of Turkey's well-known men's clothing retailers opened its first metaverse store in January 2023, which features interactive elements that resemble gamified experiences. Customers can accumulate points through various in-store interactions that may later be redeemed for discounts or exclusive digital items (Buz, 2023). Also, Beymen, a leading Turkish luxury fashion brand, has effectively incorporated gamification within the metaverse to enhance consumer engagement and brand interaction with a game named "Find Bella". In this campaign, Beymen introduced a virtual influencer named Bella within the Decentraland platform. Users were encouraged to participate in a gamified experience by locating Bella in the virtual environment (Başev, 2024).

4.4.2. Non-Fungible Tokens: Digital Brand Assets

A Non-Fungible Token (NFT) is a blockchain-based digital asset that associates ownership with distinct digital or physical objects. A NFT's uniqueness and inimitable nature allow users to own a real digital property, unlike digital files that can be shared and swapped online indefinitely without belonging to someone (Fonarov, 2022).



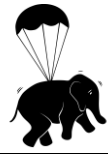
Both luxury and fast-fashion brands are exploring the use of NFTs within the metaverse, though their levels of engagement and strategic approaches differ. NFTs are used by luxury fashion firms to produce digital versions of their goods, which strengthens the idea of exclusivity and scarcity. By providing limited-edition digital products that replicate the exclusivity of real goods, this approach is consistent with conventional luxury standards. Customers looking for distinctive virtual goods may find brands more prestigious and appealing as a result of this digital scarcity (Murtas et al., 2024). In contrast, fast-fashion brands have been slower than their luxury counterparts to embrace NFTs and metaverse technology. They participate in the metaverse less frequently and through fewer NFT-related projects. The luxury and fast-fashion segments may have different target markets, brand positioning, and budget allocation, which could account for this discrepancy (SanMiguel et. al., 2024).

In May 2021, Gucci collaborated with the online gaming platform Roblox to launch a virtual version of its iconic Dionysus Bag as part of the "Gucci Garden Experience". Gucci's Dionysus Bag NFT was sold for more than the physical version, reinforcing digital luxury (Chrimes and Boardman, 2023). Gucci also partnered with Superplastic as a global entertainment company that specializes in creating and managing animated synthetic celebrities, to launch the 10,000-piece NFT series called Supergucci, which combines handcrafted ceramic sculptures with digital tokens with handcrafted ceramic sculptures. This project is a reflection of Gucci's approach to integrating digital innovation with traditional craftsmanship (Schulz, 2022b).

While luxury brands have been more prominent in this space, certain fast-fashion retailers have initiated notable NFT projects. By using NFTs to connect physical and digital products, fast-fashion businesses are experimenting with "phygital" experiences. Customers can now possess both a physical fashion item and its digital counterpart, which can be utilized in virtual settings (McDowell, 2024).

Nike has been a pioneer in integrating NFTs into its brand strategy. In December 2021, Nike acquired RTFKT, a leading brand that leverages cutting-edge innovation to deliver next-generation collectibles merging culture and gaming. This acquisition led to the launch of the "CryptoKicks" NFT collection, comprising 20,000 virtual sneakers (Ryder, 2023).

In May 2022, Kiğılı introduced Turkey's first wearable NFT clothing products during a holographic fashion show, marking a significant step in blending traditional fashion with digital innovation. After this, Kiğılı opened a store in the metaverse in January 2023, further extending its online presence. Customers might engage with the brand's collections in a digital setting by using this virtual store's augmented reality (AR) shopping experience. Customers can earn points at the metaverse store by using discount coupons, tokens, and brand NFTs positioned all over the place. The interactive shopping experience can be improved by using these points to gain access to unique NFT series and special events (Buz, 2023). As a fundamental component of its metaverse strategy, Beymen uses NFTs as digital collectibles and incentive systems. The "Find Bella" campaign reinforced the idea of digital exclusivity and ownership by awarding NFTs as prizes. These NFTs served as both extensions of brand identification and badges of



participation, which was consistent with premium branding tactics that emphasize customization and exclusivity (Başev, 2024).

4.4.3. Virtual Shopping: Unique Brand Experiences

The metaverse enhances unique shopping experiences for consumers by offering immersive, interactive, and personalized environments that blend virtual and physical retail elements. It has completely changed how consumers connect with companies, especially since these platforms' rich digital worlds enable extremely engaging interactions between fashion brands and online shoppers (Park and Kim, 2025).

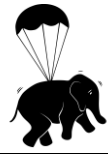
AR-based "virtual try-ons" and VR-based "virtual fashion shows/showrooms" were two of the most popular ways to improve the shopping experience in metaverse (Holland, 2022). At the intersection of virtual and physical retail, the metaverse enables "phygital" encounters. Customers can easily switch to buying tangible goods after exploring virtual stores and interacting with digital product representations. Convenience and a seamless shopping experience are provided by this connection in both offline and online environments. For example, businesses are creating AR smart glasses to improve in-store experiences by fusing digital data with in-person purchases (Patil et al., 2025).

Retailers can use gamified aspects and AI-driven recommendations to create individualized buying experiences in the metaverse. In Roblox, Nike built a metaverse environment called Nikeland where users may connect, play minigames with a sports theme, and personalize their avatars with Nike virtual clothing. This program encourages peer-to-peer connection and community-driven participation through user-generated content (Patil et al., 2025). Tommy Hilfiger took part in Metaverse Fashion Week (MVFW) on Decentraland, where consumers could purchase digital wearables and view digital copies of the brand's most recent collection. The platform created a highly customized experience by letting users engage with rare, limited-edition goods and customize their avatars (Dieck et al., 2023).

Another important factor, virtual influencers—computer-generated personas designed to engage audiences on digital platforms—are increasingly shaping consumers' fashion shopping experiences within metaverse environments. Lil Miquela, a virtual influencer with over 2.8 million Instagram followers, has collaborated with brands such as Calvin Klein, Dior, and Prada to promote their collections. As bridging the gap between digital and physical retailing, virtual influencers may easily combine online advertising with in-store shopping. (Powers, 2019).

As a luxury fashion brand, Burberry's 'Wrapped in Burberry' holiday campaign included the introduction of an immersive virtual scarf try-on feature in November 2024. With this experience, users could see how different Burberry scarves would appear on them in real time using cutting-edge online 3D and augmented reality (AR) technologies (Kim, 2024).

Forever 21, as one of known fast-fashion brands, has enhanced its consumers' shopping experience within metaverse platforms, particularly through its collaboration with Roblox.



In December 2021, the brand launched Forever 21 Shop City, a virtual retail experience that allows users to own and manage personalized fashion stores. Users can design their virtual stores by selecting locations, decorating interiors, and customizing exteriors with various architectural themes. Players engage in activities such as stocking inventory, assisting customers, operating cash registers, and hiring employees, simulating real-world retail operations ([Lentini, 2021](#)).

Turkish fashion brands are increasingly exploring metaverse platforms to enhance consumer shopping experiences. Kışıl's virtual store offers an augmented reality (AR) shopping experience, allowing customers to interact and socialize through their avatars. Customers are greeted by a virtual store assistant who provides information about the store's layout and collections. Kışıl's metaverse store uses gamification elements to increase user engagement. Tokens, brand NFTs, and discount coupons positioned around the virtual environment allow users to earn points. Benefits like entry to exclusive NFT series and special events can be obtained by exchanging these points. ([Buz, 2023](#)). Additionally, Beymen has introduced Beymenverse, a virtual extension of the brand that provides customers with an engaging online shopping experience. This area simulates real-world retail settings using computer-generated graphics (CGI) in a navigable, fully interactive manner. Customers may browse collections, engage with avatars, and go to virtual events, which replicates in-person shopping while offering more ease and personalization ([Başev, 2024](#)).

5. DISCUSSION and FUTURE RESEARCH AVENUES

A paradigm shift in fashion retailing is presented by the metaverse, which offers highly individualized, immersive, and interactive experiences that go beyond conventional and e-commerce models. The main objective of this study is to point out how fast-fashion and luxury fashion brands adopt the metaverse retailing strategies and how to benefit from this virtual realm, such as enhancing consumer shopping experiences within gaming platforms or selling digital assets as NFTs. This study reviewed relevant academic literature and some industry articles written online by industry experts. As this study illustrates, fast-fashion and luxury fashion companies are employing distinct strategies to successfully navigate this new virtual environment due to their disparate target customers, business models, and brand identities. Luxury brands emphasize exclusivity, digital scarcity, and high-end storytelling through NFTs and virtual fashion shows, whereas fast-fashion companies concentrate on gamified experiences, accessibility, and digital engagement. Also, this study emphasizes the metaverse applications of fashion brands, such as gamification, using NFTs to create a unique brand image with memorable shopping experiences. First, gamification has proven particularly effective in enhancing user interactivity and brand loyalty toward fashion brands by building social community with emotional connection. Second, Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs) have allowed fashion firms, particularly in the luxury industry, to extend exclusivity into the realm of the digital. Brands such as Gucci and Nike have integrated NFTs to build virtual ownership and status symbols, as well as new revenue streams. However, fast-fashion stores have taken a more

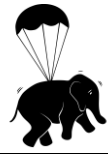


cautious approach to NFTs, possibly due to resource restrictions, competing brand positions, and market expectations. Third, virtual shopping experiences combine physical and digital touchpoints via phygital methods such as virtual try-ons, individualized avatars, and immersive showrooms.

Drawing upon the opportunities and challenges of fashion retail brands and their applications in metaverse environments, this study suggests possible future research avenues for fashion retailers. Future research should aim to fill in a few new gaps and uncharted areas as metaverse technologies continue to develop and change retail fashion in order to increase theoretical and applied understanding. As one of the main obstacles, more research should be conducted on consumers' adoption and willingness to use metaverse ([Koohang et al., 2023](#)). Mostly other than young and tech-savvy consumers, people are very skeptical of using virtual environments for shopping. Future research should analyze the consumers' psychological motivations to use this virtual environment for shopping or to socialize with others by using technology acceptance model ([Park and Lim, 2023](#)). Overcoming initial resistance and educating consumers about the value of virtual fashion is crucial for widespread adoption for retailers. Future research should investigate the long-term impact of virtual ownership on brand loyalty, consumption and purchasing patterns for NFTs, digital fashion items by using theory of psychological ownership ([Park and Kim, 2025](#); [Pierce et al., 2003](#)).

A socio-cultural space where identity, status, and social relationships are rearranged through digital fashion, the metaverse is more than just a technological advancement. Therefore, using sociological lenses to comprehend the wider ramifications of metaverse transactions would be very helpful for future research in this area. For sociological research, the incorporation of the fashion industry into the metaverse offers an intriguing topic, especially when it comes to issues of cultural expression, social interaction, and formation of identity. Consumers frequently use virtual goods to exhibit their personality or to indicate that they belong to specific groups. This behavior reflects larger consumerism trends in society as well as the symbolic importance that fashion objects, especially those in digital format, are given ([Nadeem et al., 2025](#)). Virtual settings give new opportunities for self-presentation and community interaction, which calls for a more thorough investigation of these relationships. More research is needed to understand how users, especially Gen Z as more vulnerable group, create and perform identities in virtual spaces given the prevalence of avatars, virtual influencers, and digital wearables.

Principles of embodied cognition and symbolic consumption, where meanings and emotions associated with virtual interactions impact real-world actions, are reflected in the conversion of virtual engagement into physical purchase ([Belk, 2013](#); [Elder and Krishna, 2012](#)). Thus, future research may investigate the ways in which brand experiences within virtual environment and gaming platforms transfer into the real-life purchasing environment and how this transfer impact brand image and brand equity in real life. Future research may look into how user-mediated vs avatar-mediated brand experiences influence consumer attitudes toward the brand in virtual environments, specifically for different types of fashion brands (luxury vs fast-



fashion) (Park and Lim, 2023). Also, future research should explore whether the psychographic factors (lifestyle, social values, personality such as innovativeness) and cultural orientation (e.g. uncertainty avoidance orientation) impact metaverse adoption and virtual engagement (Mogaji et al., 2023).

As fashion brands increasingly integrate virtual influencers (VIs) into their marketing strategies—such as Lil Miquela for Prada and Bella for Beymen—future research should investigate the effectiveness, authenticity, and consumer perception of these digital personas compared to traditional human influencers. Future studies could explore how different consumers respond to virtual influencers, particularly in terms of perceived credibility and influence on purchase intention. Furthermore, studies might examine whether virtual influencers work better in luxury versus fast-fashion settings, considering the distinct principles that these markets represent (Kim et al., 2024).

To sum up, this study identifies distinct future research directions based on distinctive theories for three key stakeholder groups in the metaverse fashion retail ecosystem: retail managers, consumers, and society. For retail managers, future research should investigate how digital tools such as gamification, NFTs, and virtual influencers affect customer acquisition, engagement, and long-term brand loyalty. Studies grounded in technology acceptance models (TAM) and AI-driven personalization can help retailers optimize digital infrastructure while minimizing resistance and enhancing user experience. Research should also explore how managers can integrate data ethics, privacy safeguards, and immersive storytelling into their metaverse strategies to create differentiated brand value. For consumers, psychological frameworks such as symbolic consumption theory, embodied cognition and psychological ownership offer rich avenues to explore how digital fashion items, avatars, and virtual interactions influence self-expression, purchase behavior, and brand attachment. Future studies could analyze how consumers transfer virtual experiences into real-life consumption patterns, particularly through phygital shopping environments and wearable NFTs. From a societal perspective, research should critically examine the broader cultural and ethical implications of metaverse fashion, including issues of digital identity formation and social inclusion vs exclusion.

6. CONCLUSION

This study examined how the metaverse is revolutionizing fashion retailing by comparing the ways in which luxury and fast-fashion firms are redefining consumer involvement using immersive technology in different ways. The paper highlights gamification, Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs), and virtual shopping experiences as important pillars of metaverse strategy, drawing on a thorough literature assessment and real-world case examples. Within virtual environments, these tools are helping brands create new kinds of identity, community, and interaction with consumers. Despite its comprehensive scope, this study has several limitations. First, it relies primarily on secondary data and illustrative examples, limiting its empirical generalizability. Future research could build on these findings through qualitative or



quantitative methods, such as interviews, surveys, or experimental designs. Another notable limitation of this study lies in the availability and scope of academic sources. As metaverse retailing is an emerging and fast-evolving research area, the number of peer-reviewed empirical studies remains relatively limited. While efforts were made to include a wide range of sources—including journal articles, industry reports, and practitioner insights—reliance on a few academic databases such as Google Scholar, Scopus, and Web of Science may have constrained the comprehensiveness of the literature reviewed. Future studies could benefit from expanding the database coverage and incorporating grey literature, conference proceedings, or primary data to gain a more holistic and up-to-date view of the evolving metaverse landscape. Finally, the study focuses largely on global Western and Turkish fashion brands; expanding the geographical scope and including emerging markets could provide a more holistic understanding of metaverse retail adoption.

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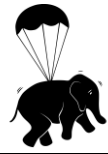
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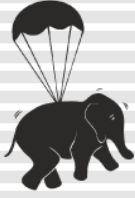
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Analyzing Public Spending and Income Links in CIVETS

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Abstract

A substantial body of research has emerged within the economic discourse surrounding the intricacies of public expenditure and its relationship with national income. Researchers have dedicated significant effort to investigating the nature of this interdependence. This study endeavors to make a meaningful contribution to the extant body of research by assessing the validity of two prominent perspectives—those of Wagner and Keynes—within the context of the CIVETS countries (Colombia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Egypt, Turkey, and South Africa) for the time period of 1995-2023, for both absolute and relative versions. The Westerlund cointegration test and Dumitrescu-Hurlin panel causality test with a bootstrap approach were utilized to examine the dynamic interactions between public spending and national income. The findings indicate that, in its absolute form, Wagner's Law is supported; however, no significant relationship is observed in the case of the Keynesian perspective. The findings indicate that the influence operates from national income to public expenditure, rather than the reverse, in the case of CIVETS countries. This finding contributes to the ongoing discussion regarding the directionality of causality between public spending and national income, emphasizing the relevance of Wagner's Law in the context of emerging market economies.

Keywords: public spending, national income, wagner law, panel causality

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CIVETS Ülkelerinde Kamu Harcamaları ve Gelir İlişkilerinin Analizi

Öz

Ekonomik söylem içerisinde kamu harcamalarının incelikleri ve milli gelirle olan ilişkisi üzerine önemli bir araştırma grubu ortaya çıkmıştır. Araştırmacılar bu karşılıklı bağımlılığın doğasını araştırmak için önemli çaba sarf etmişlerdir. Bu çalışma, 1995-2023 dönemi için CIVETS ülkeleri (Kolombiya, Endonezya, Vietnam, Mısır, Türkiye ve Güney Afrika) bağlamında Wagner ve Keynes'in iki önemli perspektifinin geçerliliğini hem mutlak hem de göreceli versiyonlar için değerlendirerek mevcut araştırma bütününe anlamlı bir katkıda bulunmaya çalışmaktadır. Kamu harcamaları ve milli gelir arasındaki dinamik etkileşimleri incelemek için Westerlund eşbütünleşme testi ve bootstrap yaklaşımıyla Dumitrescu-Hurlin panel nedensellik testi kullanılmıştır. Bulgular, mutlak haliyle Wagner Yasası'nın desteklendiğini, ancak Keynesyen perspektif söz konusu olduğunda anlamlı bir ilişki gözlenmediğini göstermektedir. Bulgular, CIVETS ülkeleri söz konusu olduğunda, etkinin milli gelirden kamu harcamalarına doğru değil, tersine işlediğini göstermektedir. Bu bulgu, kamu harcamaları ile milli gelir arasındaki nedenselliğin yönüne ilişkin süregelen tartışmaya katkıda bulunmakta ve Wagner Yasası'nın yükselen piyasa ekonomileri bağlamındaki önemini vurgulamaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: kamu harcamaları, milli gelir, wagner yasası, panel nedensellik



1. INTRODUCTION

The intricate relationship between public expenditures and national income continues to be the focus of significant scholarly debate. This relationship has profound implications for economic theory and policymaking. The fundamental question that lies at the core of this discourse is the extent to which government intervention influences economic growth. Theoretical perspectives on this issue are deeply polarized. They range from laissez-faire economic doctrines that emphasize minimal state involvement to more interventionist views. Proponents of classical and neoclassical economic theories posit that market forces, when left largely unregulated, operate with optimal efficiency. In contrast, interventionist perspectives contend that the state must play a fundamental role in correcting market failures, mitigating economic downturns, and facilitating structural economic transformation.

Two seminal theoretical frameworks encapsulate these divergent perspectives: Wagner's Law and Keynesian economics. Wagner's (1958) theoretical postulate posited that as an economy develops and national income rises, public expenditure will grow proportionally, a phenomenon that will be propelled by the mounting demand for public goods and services. Wagner's Law is regarded as an archetypal and widely acknowledged model for elucidating public expenditure (Magazzino, 2012). This theoretical proposition, subsequently recognized as Wagner's Law, posits that economic progress requires augmented state involvement in economic affairs. Contrasting with this, Keynes (1936) fundamentally contested the idea that public expenditure constitutes no more than a passive response to economic growth. Keynes's (1936) seminal work countered this prevailing thought by contending that government expenditure is, in fact, a primary catalyst of economic activity, particularly in periods of economic downturns when demand from the private sector is inadequate to sustain growth, which were adopted by policymakers in the wake of the Great Depression. The United States, as the epicenter of the crisis and a global economic leader, was among the first nations to adopt Keynesian-inspired policies. In doing so, it demonstrated the transformative potential of government-led economic recovery efforts.

Despite the extensive empirical research conducted in the field, the academic community has yet to reach a definitive consensus regarding the primacy of either Wagner's or Keynesian perspectives. In recent decades, numerous empirical studies have been performed in an effort to assess the validity of these competing theories. Sophisticated econometric methodologies have been applied across diverse geographical and temporal contexts; however, the findings remain inconclusive, largely due to variations in fiscal policy frameworks, institutional quality, and economic structures across different nations (Peacock and Wiseman, 1961). In some economic systems, observed patterns of expenditure growth are consistent with the theoretical propositions posited by the economic principle advanced by Wagner. Conversely, alternative economic systems demonstrate expenditure growth dynamics that are more analogous to the economic principles articulated by the economist John Maynard Keynes.



The hypothesis proposed by Wagner (1958) is intricately tied to the overarching principles of comparative advantage and structural economic transformation, highlighting the complementarities between industrialization and the increasing demand for government-provided economic services, including infrastructure investments, transportation networks, communication systems, healthcare, and waste management (Peacock and Scott, 2000). Subsequent to its initial formulation, Wagner's Law has undergone multiple refinements and reinterpretations, giving rise to a plethora of theoretical models. Among the most widely recognized contributions are those of Peacock and Wiseman (1961), Pryor (1968), Goffman (1968), Musgrave (1969), Gupta (1967), and Mann (1980), each of whom offers a nuanced perspective on the expenditure-growth relationship. These theoretical adaptations can be broadly categorized into two principal classifications: absolute and relative versions.

Absolute versions of this concept—illustrated by works from Peacock and Wiseman (1961), Pryor (1968), Goffman (1968), and Gupta (1967)—center on the monetary magnitude of government expenditure. These works hypothesize that as national income escalates, public spending will invariably rise, irrespective of its proportion relative to GDP. Conversely, the relative versions, exemplified by works such as Musgrave's 1969 study and Mann's 1980 analysis, explore government expenditure as a percentage of the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). They contend that, while absolute expenditure may rise, its relative proportion within the broader economic framework may fluctuate based on policy decisions and structural changes within the economy. This classification, initially proposed by Demirbas (1999) and subsequently refined by Verma and Arora (2010), underscores the intricacies inherent in formulating a unifying interpretation of Wagner's Law. The utilization of varied methodological approaches in testing Wagner's hypothesis further accentuates the inherent heterogeneity in fiscal dynamics across diverse economic systems.

In light the aforementioned theoretical underpinnings, this study aspires to investigate the applicability of both Wagnerian and Keynesian economic theories within the context of CIVETS economies over the period 1995–2023. The rationale for this investigation stems from the recognition that these emerging markets possess a wide array of economic structures, policy orientations, and institutional characteristics. The aim of this research endeavor is to attain an understanding of the subject matter whether public expenditure in these nations exhibits a greater degree of alignment with Wagner's hypothesis of passive government expansion in response to economic growth or with the Keynesian proposition of active government intervention as a driver of economic expansion.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The nexus that exists amongst government expenditure and economic growth is a multifaceted subject that has been thoroughly investigated through empirical research. The results of this research have shown significant variation across different geographical contexts, methodological approaches, and frameworks. Early studies primarily examined the broad



macroeconomic implications of public spending on growth. More recent research, however, has shifted towards sectoral disaggregation and causality analysis, providing deeper insights into the nuanced dynamics of fiscal policy effectiveness. Empirical research conducted in this area has yielded inconclusive results. The extant studies have produced equivocal findings regarding the relationship among variables, with some studies indicating a positive correlation and others indicating a negative one, depending on the particular variables considered (i.e., the nature of public spending, the economic context, the methodological approaches, etc.).

Grier and Tullock's (1989) study constitutes a comprehensive empirical investigation. They employed pooled cross-sectional and time-series data from 113 countries to explore how variations in public sector spending patterns influence economic performance. Their findings revealed an inverse association in three of the four subsamples analyzed, including those comprising OECD member states. These findings imply that excessive government consumption exerts a dampening effect on economic performance. These findings initiated a line of research that examined the potential distortions caused by expansive government consumption, particularly in economies with significant public sector involvement. Building on this research, Barro (1991) extended the analysis to 98 countries from 1960 to 1985, further reinforcing concerns about inefficient government consumption. The findings indicated a negative relationship, suggesting that a rise in the government's consumption share of GDP is concomitant with a decline in economic growth rates, while public investment had an insignificant effect. These results contributed substantially to a mounting body of research that began to question the efficacy of public spending. This prompted scholars to explore whether specific categories of expenditure exert differentiated effects on growth trajectories.

Due to the inherent limitations of aggregate government spending analyses, subsequent research has underscored the significance of sectoral disaggregation in assessing the growth effects of public expenditure. Bose et al. (2007) conducted an examination of the impact of different expenditure categories across thirty developing nations during the 1970s and 1980s. The results revealed that while capital expenditure was positively and significantly linked to economic growth, current expenditure had no measurable effect. It is noteworthy that investments in education emerged as a pivotal catalyst for economic expansion, underscoring the pivotal function of human capital development in promoting long-term growth.

In a similar vein, Lamartina and Zaghini (2011) identified a structural positive correlation for OECD countries, whereby higher per capita GDP consistently aligned with greater public expenditure. The researchers' conclusions align with the established principles of Wagner's Law, which posits that as economies develop, the demand for public goods and services naturally increases, leading to an expansion in government expenditure.

Researchers have increasingly sought to ascertain the causal direction of the expenditure-growth nexus beyond correlation-based analyses. Odhiambo (2015) investigated the dynamic interactions for the case of South Africa, uncovering a bidirectional causality in the short run but a unidirectional causality in the long run, where economic growth predominantly influenced



government expenditure. This finding underscores the importance of a long-term perspective in fiscal policy, emphasizing the necessity of aligning public spending with sustainable economic expansion rather than short-term fluctuations.

A similar pattern was identified in Asian economies, as evidenced by Lahirushan and Gunasekara's (2015) analysis of data from 1970 to 2013. Their study confirmed a two-way causality, suggesting that government expenditure can stimulate economic growth, and economic expansion can influence public spending patterns. This observation emphasizes the feedback effects inherent in fiscal policy.

Furthermore, Lupu et al. (2018) examined the period between 1995 and 2015, focusing on Central and Eastern European countries, and discovered that expenditures on education and healthcare had a positive contribution to economic growth, while spending on other sectors exhibited negative effects.

In a country-specific context, Iniguez-Montiel's (2010) analysis of Mexico's fiscal policy from 1950 to 1999 identified unidirectional causality from GDP to government expenditure. This finding suggests that economic growth has historically driven increases in public spending rather than the reverse. This aligns with Wagner's hypothesis that government spending is an endogenous response to economic development.

In addition to the aforementioned observations, further variations in fiscal policy effectiveness were identified in the Malaysian context. Tan's (2003) findings indicated that the country's government expenditure patterns did not align with the principles of Wagner's Law, instead adhering to Keynesian principles, suggesting a greater responsiveness of the Malaysian fiscal policy to short-term economic fluctuations rather than to long-term structural trends. This observation serves to reinforce the notion that Keynesian demand-side interventions have played a more significant role in shaping the nation's fiscal policy. In a similar vein but focusing on a different nation, Onifade et al. (2020) examined Nigeria's economic record from 1981 to 2017. They found that government expenditures aimed at supporting ongoing activities (i.e., recurrent government expenditures) had a significantly negative impact on economic growth, while expenditures aimed at providing long-term benefits to the economy (i.e., public capital expenditures) exhibited no significant positive effect.

Moreover, Akbulut and Başoğlu (2023) analyzed Turkey's public expenditure patterns from 2006:1 to 2021:4, testing the validity of both Wagner's Law and the Keynesian hypothesis. Their findings suggest that while both theoretical frameworks are valid to a certain extent, their applicability depends on the nature of the expenditure in question. Specifically, their research indicates that only expenditures related to education and investment exhibit a Keynesian effect in the short term. This lends further support to the idea that deliberate government interventions can significantly influence economic performance.



By distinguishing between the absolute and relative versions of Wagner's Law and jointly testing the Keynesian hypothesis, this study addresses a gap in the literature by empirically comparing these competing theories in the context of CIVETS countries — a comparative approach that remains largely underexplored. The extant empirical literature on government expenditure and economic growth presents a set of findings that are, at times, contradictory. While a proportion of these studies lend support to the notion of Wagner's Law, under the premise that government spending is an inherent consequence of economic expansion, others align more closely with the economic principles espoused by Keynes, contending that strategic interventions by the state in the fiscal sphere can serve as a catalyst for economic growth.

3. RESEARCH METHOD

3.1. Data

This research examines the bidirectional relationship between government spending and economic growth in CIVETS countries over the years 1960–2023, assessing both the influence of fiscal activity on growth and the reciprocal impact of growth on government expenditure. To achieve this, an empirical analysis is conducted using various adaptations of Wagner's Law, which postulates a long-term relationship between public expenditure and economic growth. In order to comprehensively assess this relationship, the study also incorporates Keynesian perspectives by altering both dependent and independent variables across different model specifications. Data in this analysis is obtained from the World Bank's Development Indicators resource.

Table 1. Variations of Wagner's Law

Version	Regression Equation
Absolute Versions	
Peacock-Wiseman (1961)	$GE = f(GDP)$
Gupta (1967)	$GE/P = f(GDP/P)$
Goffman (1968)	$GE = f(GDP/P)$
Pryor (1968)	$GCE = f(GDP)$
Relative Versions	
Musgrave (1969)	$GE/GDP = f(GDP/P)$
Mann (1980)	$GE/GDP = f(GDP)$

Source: Adopted from the work of Demirbas (1999) and Verma and Arora (2010)

Due to constraints in data availability, the period from 1960 to 2023 was selected for analysis, as it encompasses the maximum range for which consistent data are available across the sample. The investigation is further motivated by the acknowledgment that these emerging markets demonstrate a heterogeneity in economic structures, policy frameworks, and institutional attributes, rendering them a compelling context for elucidating the interplay between public expenditure and economic growth. The various formulations of Wagner's Law utilized in this study are summarized in Table 1, where GE signifies government expenditure, GCE represents government consumption expenditure, GDP denotes gross domestic product, and P refers to



population. Real GDP is expressed in constant 2015 U.S. dollars to maintain comparability over time. Additionally, population data are incorporated as a key variable in the analysis. Due to the unavailability of comprehensive data on total government expenditure for the selected countries and period, government consumption expenditure is used as a proxy. As a result, all tested versions of Wagner's Law listed in Table 1 are applied, except for the Peacock and Wiseman (1961) version. The exclusion of this specific version is justified by the observation made by Ghazy et al. (2021), who indicated that the Peacock and Wiseman model closely resembles Pryor's version, differing only in the choice of expenditure measure—government expenditure rather than government consumption expenditure. Since this study adopts government consumption expenditure as a proxy, it effectively yields results that align with those obtained under the Peacock and Wiseman framework, thus ensuring consistency.

Table 2. Descriptive statistics

Variables	Obs	Mean	Std. dev.	Min	Max
GC	174	24.42842	.6690765	22.76899	25.85709
GDP	174	26.4955	.631798	24.9255	27.85851
GDPC	174	8.273648	.5781942	6.832628	9.596525
GCY	174	2.455283	.3410217	1.698401	3.098316
GCP	174	6.206575	.7729238	4.676121	7.5951

Moreover, the descriptive statistics have been illustrated in Table 2. The mean values for all variables suggest central tendencies for each variable. GC, GDP, and GCY show relatively narrow ranges, indicating moderate consistency, while GDPC and GCP exhibit more variability, suggesting more diversity in the data. The standard deviations indicate that GC and GDP are less dispersed, whereas GDPC and GCP show higher dispersion.

3.2. Methodology

This paper utilizes a variety of econometric techniques to conduct analyses. The analyses employ multiple tests and procedures to account for potential issues, such as cross-sectional dependence, stationarity, cointegration, and causality. This comprehensive approach aims to provide a deeper understanding of the relationships among the variables under investigation.

3.2.1. Cross-Sectional Dependence

The initial step in the analysis entails the examination of cross-sectional dependence. Cross-sectional dependence, defined as the correlation between observations in a dataset across different cross-sectional units, necessitates consideration due to its potential impact on the reliability of other econometric tests. To assess this dependency, a series of tests are employed, including the Breusch-Pagan LM Test (Breusch and Pagan, 1980), the Pesaran Scaled LM Test (Pesaran, 2021), the Bias-Corrected Scaled LM Test (Baltagi et al., 2012), and the Pesaran CD Test (Pesaran, 2021).



3.2.2. Unit Root Tests

Stationarity constitutes a pivotal assumption within the domain of time series analysis, exerting a substantial impact on the determination of suitable econometric methodologies. Consequently, this critical assumption is instrumental in ensuring the credibility of the outcomes obtained. The present study undertakes an empirical investigation by leveraging a suite of unit root tests that are categorized into two distinct generations. The initial set encompasses first-generation unit root tests, operating under the premise of cross-sectional independence. These assessments are meticulously implemented in order to ascertain the presence of stationarity or the existence of a unit root within the individual time series. The following second-generation unit root tests are used for this purpose: The Levin, Lin, and Chu (LLC) Test ([Levin, et al., 2002](#)), the Im, Pesaran, and Shin (IPS) Test ([Im et al., 2003](#)), the Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) Test ([Dickey and Fuller, 1979](#)), and the Phillips-Perron (PP) Test ([Phillips and Perron, 1988](#)). Given the assumption of no cross-sectional dependence made by first-generation tests, the potential issues resulting from cross-sectional dependence are addressed by the second-generation unit root tests. For this purpose, the Pesaran CIPS Test is employed as it was proposed by Pesaran ([2007](#)).

3.2.3. Cointegration Analysis

After establishing stationarity, the next step is to assess the existence of cointegration among the variables. The relationship can be revealed via cointegration tests, and the Westerlund Cointegration Test developed by Westerlund ([2007](#)) is selected because it is flexible in its handling of variables that may exhibit different levels of stationarity. The Westerlund cointegration test can be implemented under circumstances in which the variables are integrated at varying orders and can also be used when all variables are stationary at the same level. To ensure the robustness of the results, it is conducted with 1,000 bootstrap replications. Bootstrapping is a resampling technique that helps to generate more reliable statistical inferences by repeatedly sampling from the data to estimate the distribution of the test statistic.

3.2.4. Panel Causality Testing

Following the establishment of cointegration relationships, the subsequent step entails the exploration of the direction of causality among the variables. To investigate the direction of Granger causality across the panel data, the Dumitrescu-Hurlin panel causality test ([Dumitrescu and Hurlin, 2012](#)) is employed, utilizing bootstrap resampling consistent with the approach adopted in the cointegration tests. The bootstrap procedure enhances the robustness of the causality results by providing more accurate critical values and p-values.

4. EMPIRICAL RESULTS

In this section, the econometric methodology outlined in the methodology section is employed to conduct empirical analysis. The initial step in this process entails examining the existence of



cross-sectional dependence among the variables. As demonstrated in Table 3, the outcomes of multiple cross-sectional dependence tests indicate that all series manifest significant cross-sectional dependence. Nevertheless, a noteworthy exception emerges in the case of the Pesaran CD test for GCY, which does not indicate cross-sectional dependence. Conversely, the application of alternative tests consistently substantiates the existence of cross-sectional dependence for this variable.

Table 3. Cross-Section dependency tests

Variables	Breusch-Pagan LM	Pesaran scaled LM	Bias-corrected scaled LM	Pesaran CD
GC	416.265***	73.260***	73.153***	20.400***
GDP	417.031***	73.400***	73.293***	20.418***
GDPC	372.213***	65.217***	65.110***	19.236***
GCY	103.693***	16.193***	16.085***	1.140
GCP	382.852***	67.160***	67.053***	19.539***

The subsequent stage in the econometric analysis entails the evaluation of the stationarity properties of the variables. To this end, initial application of first-generation unit root tests is undertaken. These tests facilitate the determination of whether the time series variables contain a unit root or not. At the level form, the findings suggest that none of the series are stationary at the 5% significance level under both the constant-only and the constant-and-trend specifications. This observation indicates the presence of a unit root, thereby suggesting the non-stationary status of the series when expressed in their original form. Subsequent to implementing the first-differences operator on the variables, it is observed that each series becomes stationary. This transformation signifies that the variables are I(1) integrated, implying that stationarity is only achieved following the differentiation process once.

Table 4. Unit root tests

At Level		GC	GDP	GDPC	GCY	GCP
Levin et al. (2002)	Constant	-0.724	-1.151	0.303	0.354	-0.266
	Constant and trend	1.643	-1.117	-1.528*	-0.267	0.758
Im et al. (2003)	Constant	2.602	2.860	0.998	0.546	2.552
	Constant and trend	0.274	-0.544	-1.074	0.747	0.145
ADF	Constant	1.881	3.588	0.994	7.658	2.162
	Constant and trend	9.030	16.610	19.960*	6.523	9.652
PP	Constant	4.419	11.133	0.546	10.216	4.257
	Constant and trend	12.470	6.552	8.754	7.509	11.095

At First difference		GC	GDP	GDPC	GCY	GCP
Levin et al. (2002)	Constant	-4.338***	-5.078***	-5.092***	-5.288***	-4.099***
	Constant and trend	-2.765***	-4.208***	-4.327***	-4.008***	-2.599***
Im et al. (2003)	Constant	-5.322***	-5.357***	-5.199***	-6.031***	-5.253***
	Constant and trend	-3.714***	-4.554***	-4.419***	-4.866***	-3.718***
ADF	Constant	51.864***	51.149***	49.843***	57.962***	50.855***
	Constant and trend	36.380***	41.734***	40.865***	44.249***	35.918***
PP	Constant	74.493***	72.108***	70.476***	95.644***	72.034***
	Constant and trend	53.454***	60.091***	59.653***	91.479***	51.185***



Second-generation unit root tests are utilized to identify and address potential dependencies that arise when studying cross-sectional dependence in a panel dataset. In the context of second-generation unit root tests, CIPS test is employed to assess the stability of the variables in the dataset. The findings from this test indicate that both GC and GDPC exhibit stationarity under the constant-only specification. However, upon expanding the model to include the constant-and-trend specification, the resultant stationarity is observed only in GDPC.

Table 5. Unit root test

	Level		First Difference	
	Constant	Constant and trend	Constant	Constant and trend
GC	-3.046***	-2.560	-3.649***	-3.687***
GDP	-2.326*	-2.741*	-4.752***	-3.532***
GDPC	-2.357**	-3.167***	-4.385***	-3.603***
GCY	-2.310*	-2.465	-4.319***	-4.625***
GCP	-2.966***	-2.619	-3.671***	-3.909***

Pursuant to calculating the first differences of the variables, the findings indicate that no series exhibits a unit root, thereby confirming their stationarity. The results from both the first-generation and second-generation unit root tests consistently demonstrate that no variables are I(2).

This study explores the cointegration relationship across different permutations of Wagner's Law, alongside the consideration of reverse causality, within the context of the Keynesian hypothesis. The analysis commences with the Pryor (1968) approach, where the results suggest that Wagner's Law holds, yet no evidence of cointegration is observed for the Keynesian hypothesis. The results from the Goffman (1968) approach yield a parallel pattern, validating Wagner's Law while refuting the cointegration of the Keynesian framework; the outcomes for the Gupta (1967) approach align with these results, providing further substantiation for Wagner's Law. The aforementioned approaches, classified as absolute versions of Wagner's Law, as outlined in Table 1, thereby reinforcing the applicability of Wagner's hypothesis in the context of the analyzed countries.

Table 6. Westerlund co-integration test

Wagner Version					Keynesian Version				
Statistic	Value	Z-value	P-value	Pryor (1968)		Statistic	Value	Z-value	P-value
				Robust P-value					Robust P-value
Gt	-2.288	-3.089	0.001	0.001		Gt	-0.983	-0.015	0.494
Ga	-10.670	-3.699	0.000	0.000		Ga	-4.119	-0.170	0.432
Pt	-5.685	-3.800	0.000	0.002		Pt	-2.620	-1.173	0.120
Pa	-9.113	-6.841	0.000	0.000		Pa	-4.478	-2.920	0.002
Statistic	Value	Z-value	P-value	Goffman (1968)		Statistic	Value	Z-value	P-value
				Robust P-value					Robust P-value
Gt	-2.396	-1.685	0.046	0.037		Gt	-1.553	0.612	0.730
Ga	-10.532	-1.525	0.064	0.011		Ga	-6.331	0.365	0.642
Pt	-7.002	-3.477	0.000	0.006		Pt	-3.344	0.203	0.580
Pa	-12.150	-4.370	0.000	0.003		Pa	-6.392	-1.193	0.117



Gupta (1967)									
Gt	-3.073	-3.531	0.000	0.000	Gt	-1.493	0.776	0.781	0.614
Ga	-14.808	-3.449	0.000	0.000	Ga	-6.446	0.313	0.623	0.263
Pt	-8.641	-5.125	0.000	0.001	Pt	-3.256	0.291	0.615	0.577
Pa	-14.941	-5.910	0.000	0.001	Pa	-6.171	-1.071	0.142	0.154
Musgrave (1969)									
Gt	-1.895	-2.163	0.015	0.012	Gt	-0.897	2.401	0.992	0.940
Ga	-3.986	-0.099	0.461	0.164	Ga	-1.347	2.608	0.995	0.992
Pt	-3.098	-1.583	0.057	0.097	Pt	-2.582	0.970	0.834	0.723
Pa	-2.598	-1.329	0.092	0.162	Pa	-1.769	1.358	0.913	0.872
Mann (1980)									
Gt	-1.874	-2.114	0.017	0.013	Gt	1.425	5.655	1.000	0.999
Ga	-3.325	0.257	0.601	0.296	Ga	0.520	2.328	0.990	0.976
Pt	-3.247	-1.711	0.044	0.078	Pt	2.967	3.613	1.000	0.957
Pa	-2.356	-1.125	0.130	0.192	Pa	0.299	1.122	0.869	0.776

In this study, we extend our research by incorporating relative versions of Wagner's Law in the analysis. This approach complements the absolute versions and provides a comprehensive assessment. The Musgrave (1969) and Mann (1980) approaches were employed, but neither yielded statistically significant findings. Despite the presence of some statistically significant test statistics from the Westerlund cointegration test for relative Wagner's Law, the overall findings do not support the hypotheses. The results indicate that the absolute versions of Wagner's Law are valid for the countries examined in this study. Conversely, there is no compelling evidence that validates the Keynesian hypothesis. Furthermore, the relative versions demonstrate that neither Wagner's nor Keynes's approaches are statistically significant.

Table 7. Dumitrescu-Hurlin panel causality

	W-bar	Z-bar	Z-bar tilde	Z-bar p-value	Z-bar tilde p-value
Pryor (1968)					
GDP to GC	9.6748	15.0252	12.8008	0.0060	0.0060
GC to GDP	1.4998	0.8656	0.6153	0.7940	0.8150
Goffman (1968)					
GDPC to GC	7.2652	10.8516	9.2090	0.0040	0.0040
GC to GDPC	2.7117	2.9648	2.4218	0.5160	0.5160
Gupta (1967)					
GDPC to GCP	10.3758	16.2394	13.8457	0.0010	0.0010
GCP to GDPC	1.6519	1.1292	0.8422	0.7220	0.7340
Musgrave (1969)					
GDPC to GCY	2.1738	2.0330	1.6200	0.5190	0.5190
GCY to GDPC	2.8370	3.1818	2.6086	0.0530	0.0530
Mann (1980)					
GDP to GCY	2.2543	2.1724	1.7399	0.5130	0.5130
GCY to GDP	1.9931	1.7201	1.3507	0.1360	0.1510

The Dumitrescu-Hurlin panel causality approach with 1,000 bootstrapping iterations based on the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) was selected as the final econometric method to be employed in the present study. The results obtained through the use of this method served to



reinforce the findings obtained from the cointegration analysis, thereby further supporting Wagner's Law. Specifically, the causality tests demonstrate that government expenditure is a Granger-cause of economic growth, thereby validating Wagner's hypothesis for absolute versions of Wagner law. Conversely, there is an absence of empirical evidence supporting the Keynesian viewpoint. This is due to the fact that the results do not reveal a substantial causal relationship that would corroborate the Keynesian perspective.

5. DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION

This paper contributes to the ongoing discourse by testing two prominent economic theories: Wagner's hypothesis—which posits that economic growth is a driving factor of government expenditure—and the Keynesian perspective—which asserts that government expenditure is a stimulant of economic growth. To this end, the analysis encompasses a comprehensive review of theoretical frameworks and empirical studies. The research focuses on the CIVETS countries over the period from 1995 to 2023, providing an empirical foundation to assess these long-debated economic relationships. The study undertakes a rigorous examination of Wagner's laws across diverse forms—both absolute and relative—while concurrently exploring the reverse causality aspect within the framework of the Keynesian hypothesis.

The Westerlund cointegration test yielded a unidirectional relationship between the variables, thereby supporting the absolute version of Wagner's law. This finding stands in contrast to the Keynesian perspective concerning CIVETS countries from 1995 to 2023. The Dumitri-Hurlin panel causality test yielded consistent results, indicating statistical significance exclusively for the absolute variation of Wagner's law. Consequently, the findings of this study indicate the robustness and statistical significance of the variations of Wagner's law proposed by scholars such as Pryor (1968), Goffman (1968), and Gupta (1967) across various econometric models. These variations underscore the concept that economic growth invariably leads to an augmentation in government expenditure, driven by the proliferation of public needs and services. In contrast, the relative variations of Wagner's law, as proposed by Musgrave (1969) and Mann (1980), were not found to be statistically significant for either the Wagnerian or Keynesian versions.

The results of the present study demonstrate a congruence with the findings of Lamartina and Zaghini (2011) and Iniguez-Montiel (2010), suggesting the Wagnerian perspective as a more pertinent theoretical framework for economic analysis. In contrast to the Wagnerian perspective, empirical evidence from Tan (2003) indicates that the Keynesian perspective is not supported, while the arguments put forth by Akbulut and Başoğlu (2023) and Lahirushan and Gunasekara (2015) for the validity of both views are similarly not supported by examination in this paper.

The present study makes a contribution to the academic discourse on the intricate relationship between public spending and national income. By offering empirical evidence that supports the Wagnerian hypothesis over the Keynesian view, particularly in the context of emerging



economies, the study aimed to provide an addition to the existing body of knowledge in this field. It must be noted that the present study employs an econometric approach and does not analyze country-specific results; consequently, caution must be exercised when interpreting the findings. Therefore, it can be posited that the results of the study may be influenced by institutional characteristics and fiscal policy differences that are unique to each country. This suggests that any generalizations made should be done so with a sufficient degree of contextual awareness. The findings of the study hold significant implications for policymakers, suggesting that a strategy aimed at fostering economic growth could be instrumental in achieving a sustainable increase in government expenditure and the expansion of public services. In light of the observed incongruity between the evidence and the tenets of the Keynesian perspective, policymakers would be wise to exercise discernment before placing undue reliance on government spending as a panacea for economic stimulation. Instead, there is a compelling rationale for prioritizing policies that catalyze long-term economic growth in CIVETS countries, thereby ensuring that any augmentation in government expenditure is congruent with the overarching economic development paradigm in these countries.

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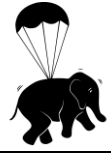
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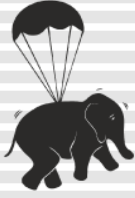
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*Green Shared Vision Scale: A Turkish Validity and Reliability Study**

Bilgen Gaye Yalpa¹

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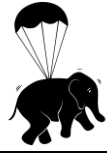
Abstract

The purpose of this study is to adapt the Green Shared Vision Scale, originally developed by Jansen et al. (2008) and later used in the context of green management by Chen et al. (2014), into Turkish and to examine its validity and reliability. The study was conducted using the survey model, one of the quantitative research designs. In the scale adaptation process, linguistic and conceptual validity was ensured using the forward-backward translation method proposed by Brislin (1970). Construct validity was tested through exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses, while criterion-related validity was evaluated through correlation analyses with the variables of psychological ownership and turnover intention. For reliability analyses, Cronbach's Alpha and split-half reliability coefficients were calculated. The data were collected from 399 white-collar employees working in 3 manufacturing companies from the private sector in the organized industrial zone in Osmaniye, Türkiye. The exploratory factor analysis showed that the single-factor structure of the scale explained 75.62% of the total variance, while the confirmatory factor analysis demonstrated a good model fit ($\chi^2/df=1.216$; CFI=0.992; RMSEA=0.023). The reliability coefficient of the scale ($\alpha=0.890$) indicated high internal consistency. In conclusion, the Turkish adaptation of the Green Shared Vision Scale was found to be a valid and reliable measurement tool.

Keywords: green shared vision, scale adaptation, validity, reliability, psychological ownership, turnover intention

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Yeşil Ortak Vizyon (Green Shared Vision) Ölçeği: Türkçe Geçerlik ve Güvenirlik Çalışması

Öz

Bu araştırmanın amacı, Jansen ve arkadaşları (2008) tarafından geliştirilen ve Chen ve diğerleri (2014) tarafından yeşil yönetim bağlamında kullanılan Yeşil Ortak Vizyon (Green Shared Vision) Ölçeği'nin Türkçeye uyarlanarak geçerlilik ve güvenirlilik analizlerinin yapılmasıdır. Araştırma nicel araştırma desenlerinden tarama modeli çerçevesinde yürütülmüştür. Ölçek uyarlama sürecinde Brislin (1970) tarafından önerilen ileri-geri çeviri yöntemi temel alınarak dilsel ve kavramsal geçerlik sağlanmıştır. Ölçeğin yapı geçerliği açımlayıcı ve doğrulayıcı faktör analiziyle test edilmiş, ölçüt bağıntılı geçerlik kapsamında psikolojik sahiplenme ve işten ayrılma niyeti değişkenleriyle korelasyon analizleri yapılmıştır. Ayrıca güvenirlilik analizlerinde Cronbach's Alpha ve iki yarı güvenirlilik katsayıları kullanılmıştır. Çalışma kapsamında Osmaniye ilindeki organize sanayi bölgesinde 3 ayrı üretim işletmesinde görev yapan 399 beyaz yaka çalışandan elde edilen veriler analiz edilmiştir. Açımlayıcı faktör analizinde ölçeğin tek faktörlü yapısı varyansın %75,62'sini açıklarken; doğrulayıcı faktör analizinde modelin uyum indeksleri ($\chi^2/sd=1,216$; CFI=0.992; RMSEA=0.023) oldukça iyi düzeyde bulunmuştur. Ölçeğin güvenirlilik katsayısı ($\alpha=0.890$) yüksek düzeyde tutarlılık göstermiştir. Sonuç olarak, Türkçeye uyarlanan Yeşil Ortak Vizyon Ölçeği'nin geçerli ve güvenilir bir ölçüm aracı olduğu ortaya konmuştur.

Anahtar Kelimeler: yeşil ortak vizyon, ölçek uyarlama, geçerlik, güvenirlilik, psikolojik sahiplenme, işten ayrılma niyeti



1. INTRODUCTION

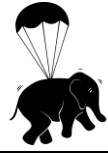
Today, environmental sustainability is a strategic priority not only for public authorities and civil society organizations but also for private sector institutions. Global environmental threats such as long-term changes in global climate patterns, accelerated exhaustion of ecological reserves and increasing levels of environmental contamination and biodiversity loss are pushing businesses to adopt more environmentally friendly policies and practices ([Ababneh, 2021](#); [Saeed et al., 2019](#)). In the face of increasing societal expectations and regulatory requirements, businesses are expected to internalize the principles of environmental sustainability not only through technical infrastructure but also through employee behaviors and corporate culture ([Pham et al., 2019](#)).

At this point, the success of organizations in sustainability strategies critically depends on the meaningful and directive nature of employees' engagement with environmental goals. The tendency of employees to engage in eco-friendly behaviors often requires a strategic orientation collectively adopted within the organization, beyond individual beliefs and values—a shared vision ([Zhao and Zhou, 2021](#)). Shared vision enables employees to act in alignment with organizational goals while also actively contributing to strategic thinking and decision-making processes ([Senge, 1990](#); [Larwood et al., 1995](#)). In this context, the concept of Green Shared Vision (GSV) is defined as a strategic orientation that emphasizes the internalization of organizational goals centered on environmental sustainability by all employees and encourages behavior aligned with these goals ([Chen et al., 2014](#)).

GSV encourages individuals in the organization to act in line with environmental goals and supports the articulation and dissemination of sustainability objectives. It helps embed eco-friendly practices into organizational culture and motivates employees to behave in environmentally responsible ways. Studies have linked GSV to outcomes such as green innovation, voluntary green behavior, and eco-conscious citizenship at work ([Tang et al., 2018](#); [Norton et al., 2015](#)).

However, the success of organizational sustainability efforts depends not only on strategic planning but also on the extent to which such plans are interpreted and embraced by all members of the organization. The presence of a GSV facilitates the formation of a shared environmental consciousness and corporate awareness among employees, thereby enhancing both the adoption and continuity of sustainability practices ([Afum et al., 2020](#)). Accordingly, a GSV serves as a key mechanism for both communicating the environmental orientation of senior leadership and ensuring that organizational strategies are coherently aligned with environmental objectives at all levels.

In light of these developments, the recognition of environmental sustainability as not merely an external responsibility but also a long-term strategic advantage in dynamic competitive environments has brought concepts such as green leadership, green human resource management, and green organizational culture to the forefront of management literature



(Choong et al., 2019). In this context, GSV contributes to the development of a collective, shared intellectual framework for sustainable value creation within the organization. GSV not only ensures the internalization of environmentally conscious policies but also forms the foundation for positive employee-level attitudes and behaviors such as organizational commitment, psychological ownership, and voluntary green behaviors.

Nevertheless, for a shared vision to be effective, employees must clearly understand this vision, interpret the organization's environmental goals at the individual level, and identify with these goals. If the vision remains merely a textual statement created by top management, it will hinder the GSV from producing the desired behavioral outcomes at the organizational level. Therefore, measuring how GSV is perceived within the organization is crucial for evaluating managerial practices and analyzing sustainability performance in terms of employee behaviors.

The strategic importance of the GSV concept in the context of organizational sustainability has received increasing attention in recent literature, and various measurement tools have been developed to define its dimensions. However, the lack of a validated and reliable measurement tool for GSV in Turkish literature limits research in this field. In this context, this study seeks to translate the GSV scale into Turkish and assess its psychometric properties, thereby offering a valuable contribution to academic research in Türkiye. This will provide a scientifically grounded instrument to assess how environmental sustainability practices are perceived at the employee level in organizations in Türkiye.

In the context of Türkiye, where sustainability practices in the private sector are still in the process of institutionalization, measuring the degree to which employees internalize environmental goals is vital. The GSV construct provides a theoretical lens for understanding how strategic environmental orientation is communicated and adopted at the employee level. GSV facilitates alignment between top management's sustainability vision and individual behavior, which is particularly critical in emerging economies where cultural adaptation to green strategies is ongoing (Chen et al., 2014; Afsar et al., 2020; Latif et al., 2022). Therefore, the selection of the GSV scale in this study is grounded not only in its strong theoretical foundation but also in its practical relevance to assessing organizational readiness for sustainability transformation in the Turkish context.

In conclusion, the adaptation of the GSV scale into Turkish within the scope of this study not only contributes a measurement tool but also holds both theoretical and practical value. This scale will enable an analysis of how sustainability practices are perceived by employees and how shared environmental vision is reflected at the organizational level in private sector enterprises operating in Türkiye. Moreover, the findings obtained through this scale can be directly used not only for academic analysis but also in practical management processes such as strategic decision-making, the implementation of sustainability policies at the employee level, and the structuring of green human resource practices. Additionally, this study aims to lay the groundwork for future high-quality research by making a methodological contribution



to organizational behavior studies focused on green management and environmental sustainability in Turkish literature through a validated measurement tool.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

With the global rise in environmental awareness, the concept of environmental protection has increasingly integrated with green management practices in the business management literature. This integration requires businesses to adopt environmentally friendly sustainable development as a strategic priority, beyond merely pursuing economic goals. Chen et al. (2014) emphasize that in order for organizations to achieve such objectives, they need to develop a GSV based on explicit and collective strategic orientations that encompass environmental protection goals. In this regard, the concept of shared vision stands out as a structure that directs employees in line with common organizational goals and values, contributing to the generation of shared meaning (Tsai and Ghoshal, 1998).

Shared vision enables employees to act in alignment with organizational goals while also actively contributing to strategic thinking and decision-making processes (Larwood et al., 1995). It helps individuals understand what needs to be considered and changed, thus fostering the effective use of their cognitive capacities. This cognitive capacity includes key strategic behaviors such as questioning assumptions, thinking outside the box, and proactively perceiving environmental risks (Eldor, 2020). Therefore, shared vision provides a framework that transforms individual awareness into a collective strategic stance. Furthermore, organizations are encouraged to develop a common platform for environmental protection strategies in their future policy-making processes. Previous studies have shown that shared vision enhances environmental awareness among employees and provides clarity regarding strategic direction. Vogus and Sutcliffe (2012) state that shared vision allows employees to evaluate their work from a more holistic perspective, while Alt et al. (2015) assert that it enables employees to more openly share their ideas related to environmental improvements.

The impact of shared vision is not limited to the individual level; it also drives comprehensive transformation at the organizational level. This transformation is of strategic importance in shaping collective orientations for the future of the organization. According to Boyatzis et al. (2015), a vision serves as a powerful motivational tool that facilitates the transition from an organization's current situation to its aspired future goals. A collective vision provides a unified orientation around the organization's mission and core values (Afsar et al., 2020), reinforcing organizational cohesion and goal alignment. Moreover, clearly and integratively defining this vision is not only a strategic guiding tool but also a critical element in gaining competitive advantage (Giordan, 1995).

At this point, the need to redefine the concept of vision from a green sustainability perspective has emerged. GSV, which goes beyond traditional vision approaches, not only includes environmental goals but also reflects the organizational commitment and strategic approach required to achieve these goals. Chen et al. (2014) define GSV as a set of simple and collective



environmental strategies internalized by organizational members aimed at achieving environmental objectives. Additionally, this vision is considered a symbolic indicator of the internal environmental leadership understanding within the organization (Chen et al., 2014; Latif et al., 2022; Fang et al., 2021). Thus, GSV serves not only as a guide for developing environmentally compatible strategies but also as a cornerstone of leadership and cultural transformation.

GSV is a strategic tool that strongly conveys to employees the prioritization of pro-environmental behaviors at the corporate level. When leaders reflect this vision in corporate policies and practices, sustainability is perceived by employees not as an abstract ideal but as a tangible priority (Latif et al., 2022). In this way, the vision integrates the value-based approach of leadership into the corporate agenda. This reinforces a sense of collective purpose and enhances employee motivation to participate in eco-friendly initiatives (Kim et al., 2025). Bass (1990) notes that GSV offers guiding principles and ideals for organizational members, thereby enabling more effective responses to environmental challenges. Consequently, GSV transforms individual environmental awareness into collective action, laying the foundation for behavioral alignment with sustainability.

Fang et al. (2021) and Chen et al. (2014) indicate that due to employees' high levels of environmental interaction, they develop consistent and internalized perceptions of GSV. These perceptions facilitate the dissemination of the vision across the organization and the behavioral representation of sustainability principles. GSV not only encourages employees to adopt green behaviors but also aligns these behaviors with the organization's long-term sustainability objectives (Chang et al., 2019). Afsar et al. (2020) highlight the instrumental role of this vision in addressing environmental challenges, while Kalyar et al. (2021) point out that it offers meaningful developmental opportunities for employees and supports organizational commitment and individual motivation. Accordingly, GSV is considered a holistic tool in terms of both strategic direction and psychological meaning-making.

Chang (2020) and Felin et al. (2015) emphasize that employees are key actors in the implementation of vision and that the vision becomes meaningful within the organizational context only through active employee participation. This perspective highlights the necessity for vision to go beyond a managerial statement and permeate employee behavior and decision-making processes. Torugsa et al. (2012) highlight that merely defining a shared vision is not sufficient; it must also be integrated into employees' daily work processes. Otherwise, the vision may lose its power to initiate the desired environmental transformation at the organizational level.

GSV functions as a mechanism that aligns employees' individual beliefs and values with institutional sustainability goals, thereby strengthening organizational integration. Afsar and Umrani (2020) state that the sincere commitment of management to a green vision is a determining factor in employees exhibiting green behaviors independently of formal reward systems. This finding implies that the vision should resonate within the organization not merely



as managerial rhetoric but as a behavioral model. Alt et al. (2015) suggest that GSV provides guidance in numerous areas, from developing sustainable development plans to structuring visionary future strategies, while Latif et al. (2022) note that it contributes to the internalization of green leadership practices. Therefore, GSV is not only a directional tool but also a strategic framework for organizational value creation.

Kim et al. (2023) emphasize that aligning employee skills with environmental goals in a strategic manner is critical for generating meaningful environmental contributions. This indicates that sustainability vision must be supported not only at the managerial level but also operationally through employee competencies. Structural and motivational support provided by management in this regard strengthens employees' intrinsic motivation to achieve sustainable performance targets. Anwar et al. (2020) and Yang and Weber (2019) argue that GSV guides the formation of sustainability norms within organizations and that eco-friendly behaviors set examples among employees. Chang (2020) and Vu et al. (2020) suggest that green behaviors are not only a product of environmental responsibility but also a reflection of a conscious effort to reconstruct the human-nature balance at the organizational level. In this context, GSV aligns employee behaviors with ecological principles, giving institutional direction to environmental sustainability.

In conclusion, the literature widely emphasizes that a clearly and inclusively developed GSV at the organizational level positively affects employees' environmental performance (Chang et al., 2020). Such a vision enables employees to perceive sustainability goals not only as external tasks but also as an internalized area of responsibility. Therefore, the adoption of a shared green management vision by the entire organization is critically important for the institutionalization of eco-friendly behaviors and the establishment of a lasting sustainability culture (Afsar and Umrani, 2020).

3. RESEARCH METHOD

This study aimed to adapt the GSV Scale into Turkish and examine its validity and reliability. A descriptive survey model, one of the quantitative research methods, was employed. During the data collection process, a face-to-face survey method was utilized. Participants were informed about the purpose of the study, and principles of confidentiality and voluntary participation were strictly observed. This research was approved by the Ethics Committee of Osmaniye Korkut Ata University (Approval No: OKU.KKO.FR.0024, Date: May 5, 2025). Participation was voluntary, and informed consent was obtained from all participants before data collection.

In the scale adaptation process, the forward-backward translation method was employed. The original English version of the scale was translated into Turkish independently by two translators and then back-translated by different translators. After verifying translation consistency, experts in the field evaluated the content validity of the scale items. Data were analyzed using IBM SPSS Statistics 25 and AMOS 20.0. Structural validity was tested through



Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA), and reliability was assessed using Cronbach's Alpha, Composite Reliability (CR), and Average Variance Extracted (AVE) values. To assess the reliability and validity of the adapted Turkish version of the scale, the outcomes were analyzed in comparison with previous research findings in the literature.

Although it is generally recommended to perform exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses (EFA and CFA) on separate datasets, both analyses were conducted using the same sample in this study. This decision was made due to limitations in sample size and is consistent with methodological practices observed in several Turkish scale adaptation studies. This approach allowed for both the initial exploration and subsequent confirmation of the scale's factor structure within the same participant group.

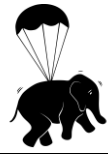
3.1. Research Model and Translation of the Green Shared Vision Scale into Turkish

The purpose of this study is to adapt the GSV Scale, originally developed by Jansen et al. (2008) and utilized by Chen et al. (2014), into Turkish and to evaluate its reliability and validity. The research was conducted using a quantitative approach, specifically utilizing a descriptive survey design to gather data systematically. Scale adaptation studies are an essential method in the social sciences for developing culturally valid and reliable data collection tools (Hambleton and Patsula, 1999). This study followed the forward-backward translation approach proposed by Brislin (1970), a commonly used process in the literature.

In the first phase, two independent linguists translated the original scale from English into Turkish. Subsequently, a separate set of experts performed a back-translation into English to ensure semantic consistency. The original and back-translated versions were compared for conceptual consistency, and necessary adjustments were made to ensure semantic alignment. Subsequently, the scale was reviewed by five academic experts in the field of social sciences to assess the items for content validity, linguistic clarity, and cultural appropriateness. Based on the feedback received, some items were revised, and the final version of the scale was developed. In scale adaptation studies, expert panels typically range from 3 to 10 individuals, and 5 experts are considered sufficient for ensuring content validity and cultural adaptation, particularly when they are specialized in the relevant field (Beaton et al., 2000; Sousa and Rojjanasrirat, 2011).

3.2. Participants

The sample of the study consists of employees aged 18 to 65 working in enterprises located in the organized industrial zone of Osmaniye province. The study involved voluntary participation. According to the literature, the sample size in scale validation studies should be at least five times the number of items. In this research, data were gathered from 399 individuals, which is deemed sufficient to establish psychometric soundness (Akbulut and Çapık, 2022). In this study, data were collected from 399 participants, a number considered adequate for ensuring psychometric reliability.



As shown in the table below, 73.93% of the sample were male (n=295), and 26.07% were female (n=104). Among the participants, 63.41% were married (n=253) and 36.59% were single (n=146). Regarding educational status, 14.04% had completed high school (n=56), 38.60% had an associate degree (n=154), 42.36% had a bachelor's degree (n=169), and 5% (n=20) had other educational qualifications. In terms of work experience, the highest participation was in the 12–16 years category with 110 participants (27.57%), while the largest age group was 36–50 years, comprising 125 participants (31.33%).

Table 1. Demographic information

Variables	Category	n	Percentage (%)
Age	18-23 years	0	0,00
	24-30 years	105	26,31
	31-35 years	88	22,06
	36-50 years	125	31,33
	Over 50 years	81	20,30
	Total	399	100,00
Marital Status	Married	253	63,41
	Single	146	36,59
	Total	399	100,00
Gender	Male	295	73,93
	Female	104	26,07
	Total	399	100,00
Educational Status	Primary School	0	0,00
	High School	56	14,04
	Associate Degree	154	38,60
	Bachelor's Degree	169	42,36
	Other	20	5,00
	Total	399	100,00
Work Experience	1-3 years	79	19,80
	4-7 years	68	17,04
	8-11 years	88	22,06
	12-16 years	110	27,57
	Over 17 years	54	13,53
	Total	399	100,00

3.3. Scale Adaptation Process

The process of assessing language validity was initiated by translating the original English version of the scale into Turkish through collaboration between a researcher and two linguistic experts. This translation was then evaluated in detail by two additional experts, and each item was refined to ensure the clearest and most appropriate expression. Next, the Turkish version was back-translated into English to assess conceptual consistency, semantic integrity, and translation accuracy. At the end of this process, two academic experts in organizational behavior reviewed the scale items for the clarity and semantic validity of the translated



concepts. Expert opinions were consulted at every stage of the language validity process (Tortumlu and Uzunbacak, 2022).

To assess construct validity, both exploratory and confirmatory factor analyses were conducted. Initially, exploratory factor analysis (EFA) was used to examine the underlying factor structure of the data set. This was followed by confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) to evaluate the model's fit to the proposed theoretical framework, using indices such as χ^2/df , RMSEA, CFI, NFI, IFI, and GFI. Criterion-related validity was assessed through Pearson correlation analyses between the GSV Scale and two conceptually linked constructs: psychological ownership and turnover intention. Reliability was examined by calculating Cronbach's Alpha for internal consistency, test-retest correlation for temporal stability, and split-half reliability for item homogeneity. All statistical analyses were carried out using IBM SPSS Statistics 25 and AMOS 20.

3.4. Data Collection Instruments

Green Shared Vision Scale: The GSV Scale, developed by Jansen et al. (2008) and later utilized by Chen et al. (2014), consists of 4 items. The scale represents a unidimensional structure and does not include any reverse-coded items. It uses a five-point Likert scale ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) to capture participants' perceptions. The internal consistency of the scale, as measured by Cronbach's Alpha, was reported to be .853, indicating a high level of reliability (Chen et al., 2014).

Psychological Ownership Scale: The Psychological Ownership Scale, developed by Van Dyne and Pierce (2004) and used in Türkiye by Kalmaz and Tozkoparan (2020), consists of 7 items. A five-point Likert-type rating scale was used to assess participants' level of agreement with the given statements. To test construct validity, an Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) was conducted. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy was 0.893, and Bartlett's test of sphericity was $\chi^2 = 910.915$ ($df = 21$; $p \leq 0.001$), indicating the dataset was suitable for factor analysis (Kalmaz and Tozkoparan, 2020).

Results of the factor analysis indicated that the scale has a unidimensional structure explaining approximately 69% of the total variance, which is consistent with its original form. In the literature, a variance explanation rate above 30% is considered acceptable for single-factor scales (Çokluk et al., 2010). Thus, the 69% variance indicates a robust factor structure for the scale.

Turnover Intention Scale: The Turnover Intention Scale, based on the works of Wayne et al. (1997) and Rusbult et al. (1988), was validated in Türkiye by Erdirençelebi and Ertürk (2018) and used by Günel (2025). A total of six items constitute the scale.

Based on the findings of the EFA, it was determined that the KMO measure of sampling adequacy was 0.900, which is considered 'excellent' for factor analysis (Tavşancıl, 2010). Bartlett's test of sphericity was significant ($\chi^2 = 1290.66$; $p < 0.001$), indicating that the data were suitable for factor analysis. The analysis yielded a single factor with an eigenvalue greater



than 1, accounting for 67.91% of the total variance. These results support the unidimensional structure of the scale. Additionally, the Cronbach's alpha coefficient was 0.905, indicating a high level of internal consistency and reliability (Tavşancıl, 2010).

Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) results also supported the construct validity of the scale, with the following fit indices: $\chi^2/df = 2.462$; IFI = 0.992; RMSEA = 0.063; TLI = 0.983; CFI = 0.992; GFI = 0.986. These values fall within acceptable limits recommended in the literature, demonstrating good model fit (Koyuncu and Kılıç, 2019).

4. RESULTS

4.1. Exploratory Factor Analysis of the Scale

In order to evaluate the construct validity of the GSV Scale, Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) was performed on data collected from 399 participants. Prior to the analysis, preliminary assessments were conducted to evaluate the dataset's appropriateness for factor analysis, including the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity. While KMO values below 0.60 are considered inadequate, values between 0.60 and 1.00 indicate a sufficient sample for analysis. Bartlett's Test, which examines whether the correlation matrix significantly differs from an identity matrix, requires a significance level of $p < 0.05$ to proceed with factor analysis (Büyüköztürk et al., 2004).

A separate pilot study was not conducted with a small sample. However, prior to the main data collection, the scale was evaluated by a panel of five experts to ensure linguistic clarity, cultural relevance, and content validity. Necessary modifications were made accordingly. During the analysis stage, preliminary statistical assessments—including the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity—confirmed the dataset's suitability for factor analysis. These analyses, along with subsequent EFA and CFA, ensured that the scale items functioned properly, providing the psychometric rigor typically associated with pilot testing.

The analysis revealed a KMO value of 0.83 and a Bartlett's Test result of $\chi^2 = 932.32$ ($p < 0.001$), indicating that the dataset is suitable for factor analysis. As the scale was designed to be unidimensional, a single-factor constraint method was used. The factor analysis results showed a strong single-factor structure with an eigenvalue of 3.025, explaining 75.62% of the total variance. While a variance explanation rate above 30% is generally considered sufficient for unidimensional structures (Çokluk et al., 2010), this high percentage supports the scale's construct validity (Kuzucu, 2008).

As shown in Table 2, the factor loadings of the items ranged between 0.83 and 0.90. The total explained variance was 75.62%, and the eigenvalue was 3.025. Composite Reliability (CR) and Average Variance Extracted (AVE) values were also calculated as .87 and .71 respectively, indicating strong internal consistency and convergent validity of the scale (Hair et al., 2018).



Table 2. Factor loadings, composite reliability (CR), average variance extracted (AVE), and explained variance of the green shared vision scale

Items	Factor Loadings
M1: There is commonality of environmental goals in the company.	0,90
M2: There is total agreement on the company's strategic environmental direction.	0,88
M3: All members in the company are committed to the environmental strategies of the company.	0,85
M4: The company's employees are enthusiastic about the collective environmental mission of the company.	0,83
Total Explained Variance	%75,62
Eigenvalue	3,025
Composite Reliability (CR)	0,87
Average Variance Extracted (AVE)	0,71

To further understand the relationships among the items, correlation coefficients were also examined. In the literature, it is recommended that correlation coefficients should remain below 0.90 to avoid multicollinearity issues ([Çokluk et al., 2010](#)). As shown in Table 3, all correlation coefficients between the items were below this threshold, indicating meaningful relationships without excessive overlap.

Table 3. Inter-item correlation values for the green shared vision scale

Items	1	2	3	4
M1	1,00			
M2	,696**	1,00		
M3	,584**	,697**	1,00	
M4	,626**	,753**	,687**	1,00

**p<0,01

4.2. Confirmatory Factor Analysis of the Scale

Following EFA, Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) was conducted to determine the alignment of the single-factor structure with the theoretical model. CFA is a powerful statistical method often used to validate the structural validity of psychometric tools across different cultural contexts ([Brown, 2015](#)).

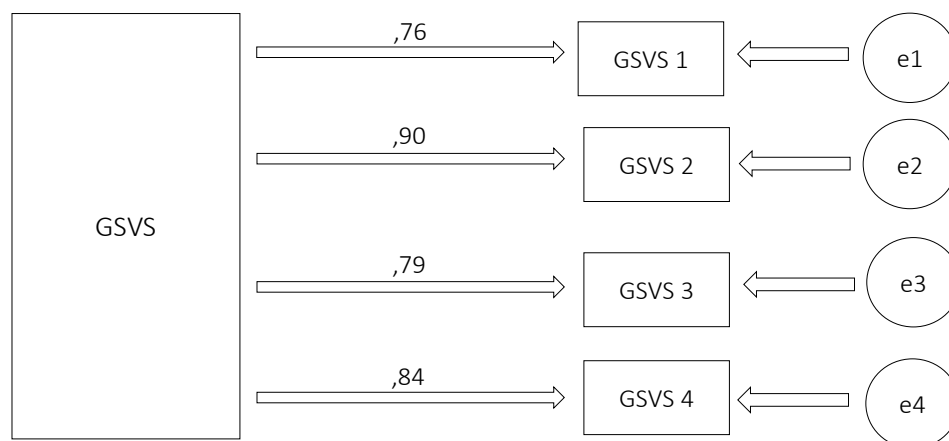
As a component of structural equation modeling (SEM), CFA is crucial for evaluating the accuracy, reliability, and theoretical alignment of measurement models ([Kline, 2016](#)). It is recommended to assess multiple fit indices to determine the model's adequacy ([Hair et al., 2018](#)).

Key fit indices considered include Chi-Square (χ^2), χ^2/df ratio, Normed Fit Index (NFI), Goodness of Fit Index (GFI), Comparative Fit Index (CFI), Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI), Root Mean Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) and Incremental Fit Index (IFI). Acceptable thresholds are values above 0.90 for indices like CFI, GFI, IFI, TLI, NFI (with values above 0.95 indicating excellent fit), and RMSEA values below 0.08 (sufficient fit) or



below 0.05 (excellent fit) (Byrne, 2016; West, Taylor & Wu, 2012). The CFA results indicated $\chi^2/df = 1.216$, RMSEA = 0.023, NFI = 0.957, CFI = 0.992, IFI = 0.992, RFI = 0.949, GFI = 0.961, and AGFI = 0.949, confirming a good model fit. Figure 1 presents the path diagram of the GSV Scale.

Figure 1. Path diagram of the green shared vision scale



According to the confirmatory factor analysis presented in Figure 1, the four-item structure of the scale is consolidated under a single factor, and the model demonstrates an acceptable level of fit based on various fit indices. In this context, the analyses indicate a strong alignment between the model and the theoretical construct, confirming the unidimensional structure of the scale. The obtained results confirm that the adapted scale demonstrates robust structural validity in capturing the targeted theoretical construct.

4.3. Criterion-Related Validity Analysis

To assess criterion-related validity, the relationship between the GSV Scale and two theoretically relevant variables—Psychological Ownership and Turnover Intention—was examined. Criterion-related validity determines whether a scale correlates meaningfully and predictably with related constructs. It was hypothesized that GSV would be positively associated with organizational identification and ownership, and negatively associated with turnover intention.

The results of the correlation analyses revealed a positive and significant relationship between GSV and Psychological Ownership, and a negative and significant relationship with Turnover Intention. As shown in Table 4, these findings indicate that the scale is associated with relevant external constructs in the expected directions, thereby supporting its criterion-related validity. These results affirm that the GSV construct is closely related to organizational commitment and employee attitudes, and that the scale operates in accordance with its theoretical foundations.



Table 4. Criterion-related validity results

Scales	Green Shared Vision	Psychological Ownership	Turnover Intention
Green Shared Vision	1,00		
Psychological Ownership	0,401**	1,00	
Turnover Intention	-0,210**	-0,09**	1,00

** p<,01; **p<,05

4.4. Reliability Analysis

To assess the reliability of the Turkish version of the GSV Scale, various statistical analyses were conducted. To assess the internal consistency of the scale, Cronbach's Alpha coefficient was computed, while the Spearman-Brown split-half coefficient was utilized to evaluate the reliability between item subsets. The outcomes of these reliability analyses are summarized in Table 5.

Table 5. Cronbach's alpha and split-half reliability of the green shared vision scale

Scale	Internal Consistency	Split-Half Reliability
Green Shared Vision	0,890	0,880

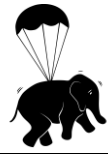
The Cronbach's Alpha coefficient, used to assess internal consistency, was found to be .890. This value indicates a high level of internal consistency among the scale items and confirms that the measurement tool is sufficiently reliable. Additionally, the Spearman-Brown split-half reliability coefficient was calculated as .880, demonstrating that the item groups provide balanced and stable measurements. Overall, the reliability coefficients ranged between .87 and .89, indicating a high degree of measurement stability from different perspectives.

In the literature, reliability coefficients such as Cronbach's Alpha values above .70 are generally considered to indicate acceptable levels of reliability for psychometrically valid instruments (Tavşancıl, 2010; Field, 2018). Based on these findings, the Turkish version of the GSV Scale is shown to be a highly reliable measurement tool, supporting its use in both academic and applied research contexts.

5. DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION

This study aimed to adapt the GSV Scale into Turkish and evaluate its psychometric properties. The findings demonstrate that the scale has a strong theoretical foundation and functions effectively within the Turkish private sector context. The results support the critical role of GSV in enhancing environmental awareness, reinforcing organizational commitment, and fostering pro-environmental behaviors, particularly in organizations aiming to institutionalize sustainability strategies.

In this study, Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) was performed only for the Green Shared Vision (GSV) Scale, as the primary purpose was to validate its Turkish version. The other two scales—Psychological Ownership and Turnover Intention—were included solely to examine



criterion-related validity, rather than to undergo separate structural validation. This approach is consistent with methodological practices in the scale adaptation literature, where CFA is typically conducted only for the adapted scale, while additional scales are used as external criteria to test convergent or discriminant validity (Beaton et al., 2000; Sousa and Rojjanasrirat, 2011). Similarly, in Turkish adaptation studies, CFA is commonly limited to the target scale of adaptation, whereas other scales are used exclusively for validity testing (Kalmaz and Tozkoparan, 2020; Tortumlu and Uzunbacak, 2022). Therefore, conducting CFA solely for the GSV Scale in the present study is methodologically appropriate and in line with established practices in both international and Turkish scale validation research.

These psychometric findings are consistent with previous validations of the GSV scale in other contexts (e.g., Chang, 2020; Vu et al., 2020), where similar factor loadings and internal consistencies were observed. However, compared to earlier studies with larger and more diverse samples, the current study provides an initial validation within a relatively specific Turkish private-sector sample, thereby offering localized insight into green organizational values.

Accordingly, the main objective of the study—the adaptation of the GSV Scale into Turkish—was carried out successfully, both in terms of methodological rigor and statistical analyses. Great emphasis was placed on maintaining linguistic and conceptual integrity in the forward-backward translation process, and content validity was supported by expert opinions. The results of the Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analyses demonstrated that the four-item, unidimensional structure of the scale was strongly supported in the Turkish sample. The findings indicate that the scale demonstrates strong structural validity. The results suggest that the items collectively measure the intended construct in a consistent and conceptually coherent manner. The high level of internal consistency and alignment with the theoretical model reinforces the robustness of the Turkish version of the GSV Scale.

Additionally, the criterion-related validity of the GSV Scale was tested through significant positive correlations with Psychological Ownership and significant negative correlations with Turnover Intention. These findings align with previous studies (Chang, 2020; Vu et al., 2020; Afsar and Umrani, 2020; Anwar et al., 2020), indicating that a green vision is not only an expression of environmental goals but also a value set that fosters emotional attachment to the organization. Indeed, when leaders support environmental approaches with policies (Latif et al., 2022), this enhances employees' motivation toward green behavior and strengthens their sense of collective environmental responsibility (Kim et al., 2025). This reinforces the theoretical proposition that GSV not only guides organizational direction but also nurtures individual identification with sustainability-oriented missions, as observed in recent studies such as Afsar et al. (2020) and Kim et al. (2023).

One of the study's significant contributions is the provision of a reliable and scientific tool to measure how the GSV is perceived in Türkiye's private sector and how it interacts with the internal sustainability culture. This scale can serve as a practical data collection instrument in both academic studies and the evaluation of corporate sustainability strategies. In this respect,



it enables assessments that support the institutionalization of an environmentally friendly organizational culture. Unlike prior works that have mostly focused on multinational contexts or public institutions, this study introduces a measurement tool suitable for Türkiye's private industrial settings, where sustainability strategies are still emerging. Thus, it contributes to bridging a gap in local organizational sustainability research.

Among the study's limitations is the fact that the sample was restricted to employees in private sector enterprises in Osmaniye province. This necessitates further testing of the scale's validity in different cultural contexts and in the public sector. Furthermore, the study employed a cross-sectional design and relied exclusively on self-reported data, which may be subject to biases such as social desirability or common method variance. The sample size, while adequate for initial validation, may still limit the generalizability of the findings to broader populations. Additionally, the psychometric evaluation did not include test-retest reliability, leaving the temporal stability of the scale unassessed. Future longitudinal and experimental designs could provide stronger evidence regarding the scale's robustness across time and contexts.

Future research may explore the relationships between the GSV and variables such as organizational commitment, environmental innovation, green leadership, and sustainable performance. The scale can also be tested across various sectors, regions, and demographic groups to enable cross-cultural comparisons. Examining structural relationships with other individual and organizational attitudes such as psychological ownership, organizational identification, and employee voice would also contribute to the literature. In addition, the potential mediating or moderating role of GSV within broader theoretical models—such as the relationship between green leadership and employee green behavior—can be examined to deepen the understanding of organizational sustainability mechanisms (Afsar et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2023).

In conclusion, this study fills a critical gap in the Turkish literature by offering a psychometrically valid and reliable scale for measuring the concept of shared vision in the context of environmental sustainability. The scale provides a valuable tool for assessing whether organizations internalize green strategies and contributes both theoretically and practically to sustainability-oriented organizational transformation in Türkiye.

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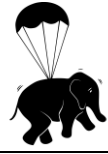
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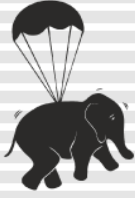
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Appendices

Appendix 1. Yeşil Ortak Vizyon Ölçeği

Maddeler	
M1	Şirkette çevresel hedeflerin ortaklığı mevcuttur.
M2	Şirketin stratejik çevresel yönelimi konusunda tam bir mutabakat vardır.
M3	Şirketteki tüm üyeler şirketin çevre stratejilerine bağlıdır.
M4	Şirket çalışanları, şirketin kolektif çevre misyonu konusunda isteklidir.
Ölçek 5'li Likert olarak derecelendirilmiştir (1=Kesinlikle Katılmıyorum, 5=Kesinlikle Katılıyorum).	



“Social Intelligence” Kavramının Bibliyometrik Analizi ve Liderlik Bağlamında Yorumlanması

Rana Özyurt Kaptanoğlu¹

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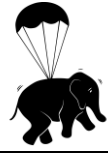
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Öz

Sosyal zekâ, bireylerin başkalarıyla etkili iletişim kurma, anlama ve etkileşimde bulunma yeteneğidir ve liderlikte kilit rol oynar. Sosyal zekâ duygusal zekâyı kapsasa da Türkçe literatürde sınırlı incelenmiştir. Liderlik davranışı örgütsel davranışın merkezindedir ve sosyal zekâ bu süreçlerdeki potansiyel etkisiyle önem kazanmıştır. Bu çalışma, birinci aşamada sosyal zekâ literatürünün genel görünümünü incelemeyi, ikinci aşamada kavramın liderlik ile ilişkisini değerlendirmeyi ve Türkçe literatüre katkı sağlamayı amaçlamaktadır. Bu doğrultuda “social intelligence” kavramı 21.01.2025’te Web of Science (WoS) veri tabanında “tüm alanlar” kriteriyle taranmış, 1977–2025 yılları arasında yayımlanan 2.149 yayından oluşan veri seti elde edilmiştir. Veriler VOSviewer aracılığıyla yazar, ülke, kurum, kaynak, atıf ve bibliyografik eşleşme analizleriyle incelenmiş, her analiz için ağ haritaları oluşturularak kavramın yapısal örüntüleri görselleştirilmiştir. İkinci aşamada liderlik ve sosyal zekâ kavramlarının birlikte ele alındığı yayınlar taranmıştır. 21.01.2025’te WoS veri tabanında “social intelligence” ve “leadership” kavramları “title” kısıtıyla analiz edilerek 17 yayın belirlenmiştir. Bu yayınların yıllara, türlere ve atıf sayılarına göre dağılımları tablolaştırılmış, tam metnine ulaşılan 13 yayın özet olarak dâhil edilmiştir. Tüm veriler yalnızca WoS’tan elde edilmiş, iki kavramın birlikte incelendiği kısım başlık düzeyiyle sınırlı kalmıştır. Buna rağmen çalışma, sosyal zekâ ve liderlik literatürünü derinleştirerek Türkçe kaynaklara anlamlı katkı sağlamayı hedeflemektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: sosyal zekâ, liderlik, bibliyometrik veri analizi, VOSviewer

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A Bibliometric Analysis of the Concept of “Social Intelligence” and Its Interpretation in the Context of Leadership

Abstract

Social intelligence is the ability to communicate effectively, understand others, and interact, and it plays a key role in leadership. Although it includes emotional intelligence, it has been examined only to a limited extent in the Turkish literature. Leadership behavior is at the core of organizational behavior, and social intelligence has gained importance for its potential impact on leadership. This study first examines the general view of the social intelligence literature and then evaluates its relationship with leadership to contribute to the Turkish literature. The concept of “social intelligence” was searched in the Web of Science (WoS) database on 21 January 2025 under the “all fields” criterion, and 2,149 publications from 1977–2025 were obtained. Data were analyzed with VOSviewer by author, country, institution, source, citation, and bibliographic coupling. For each analysis, network maps were created to visualize structural patterns. In the second stage, publications on both leadership and social intelligence were searched. On 21 January 2025, “social intelligence” and “leadership” were analyzed under the “title” criterion in WoS, and 17 publications were identified. Their distributions by year, type, and citation count were tabulated, and 13 full-text publications were included in summary form. All data came solely from WoS, and the part examining the two concepts together was limited to the title level. Nevertheless, the study aims to deepen the literature on social intelligence and leadership and provide a meaningful contribution to Turkish sources.

Keywords: social intelligence, leadership, bibliometric analysis, VOSviewer



EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Background & Purpose: In recent years, social intelligence has received increasing attention in academic and practical fields (Mori et al., 2025; Taneja et al., 2025). Social intelligence (Gigerenzer and Gaissmaier, 2011), which encompasses people's understanding abilities of social relationships (Bar-On, 2006) and interaction strategies (Joseph and Lakshmi, 2010), plays an essential role in individuals' social success and cohesion. Understanding the relationship between social intelligence and leadership is critical for individuals and organizations seeking to develop leadership skills (Erez, 1980; Kaukiainen et al., 1999; Garg and Gera, 2020).

This study includes an extensive literature review to understand how social intelligence is addressed in the academic community, the direction in which research is progressing, and the relationship between social intelligence and the concept of leadership. The WoS database allows the analysis of studies on social intelligence through a comprehensive search of international academic sources. VOSviewer software provides a powerful tool for the bibliometric analysis of this data, revealing the place and evolution of the concept of social intelligence in academic literature.

Specifically, this study pursues two main objectives. The first is to examine the evolution of academic research on the concept of “social intelligence” across various disciplines by analyzing data from the WoS database. This includes identifying the fields in which the concept is most frequently studied and mapping the related concepts through bibliometric analysis. The second objective is to explore the relationship between social intelligence and leadership by examining studies that feature both concepts in their titles. Furthermore, this review seeks to contribute to the academic literature by offering a comprehensive foundation for future research at the intersection of leadership and social intelligence.

This study aims to enrich the relatively limited Turkish literature on the concept of social intelligence through a systematic literature review, and to explore its relationship with leadership, which is recognized as a key component of organizational behavior.

Research Method: The concept of “social intelligence” was most recently researched in the WoS database on January 21, 2025, using the “All Fields” search criterion. A total of 2.149 documents published between 1977 and 2025 were retrieved. The analysis included studies regardless of document type or removal status. The number of publications, their distribution over time, citation counts, and document types were compiled and presented along with WoS categories presented as graphs and tables. The data were analyzed using the VOSviewer program through authorship analysis, country and institution distribution, source citation analysis, co-citation mapping, keyword analysis, and text-author relationship mapping.

In a separate analysis focused on the titles containing both “social intelligence” and “leadership”, 17 documents published between 1980 and 2025 were retrieved, with the latest

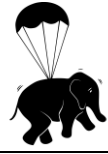


publication dated January 22, 2025. Among these, four were classified as editorial letters, while the remaining 13 were included as abstracts. No documents were excluded from either analysis, and all retrieved data were processed and evaluated.

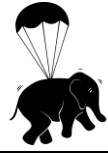
For data analysis, bibliometric data analysis was performed with the VOSviewer software. Bibliometric data analysis is a method that analyzes the distribution of publications, citations, and research trends by systematically examining academic studies on concepts (Donthu et al., 2021). The main methods employed in this analysis include techniques such as citation analysis, collaboration network analysis, and topic modeling. Citation analysis assesses the impact and diffusion of a particular topic in the scientific literature (Merigó and Yang, 2017; Donthu et al., 2021). Collaboration network analysis allows researchers to observe collaborations between scientists and how these collaborations evolve over time.

The sources used in this study were obtained from the WoS database to examine the distribution and significance of social intelligence and its relationship with leadership in the scientific literature. The reviewed articles demonstrate how social intelligence has been studied across different disciplines and the contributions these studies have made. An in-depth analysis of the academic literature helped clarify the theoretical framework of social intelligence. The key studies cited during the bibliometric analyses are listed in the bibliography section. The careful selection of scientific sources enhanced the overall reliability and accuracy of the research.

Conclusion: According to the results of the study, there are 17 publications deal with the concepts of leadership and social intelligence in the title of the study's title. These publications consisted of ten articles, two papers, a book, and four letters, and the detailed content of the letters was not included in the study. Of the 13 studies examining the relationship between social intelligence and leadership, the study belonging to Oren (2012) was found to be a publication that explored the concept of burnout in Rahim's (2012) book titled "Social Intelligence, Leadership, and Problem Solving Skills" and no detailed information about the study was provided. Guillaume (2020), Garg and Gera (2020), and Garg et al. (2021) examined the relationship between social intelligence, and leadership on academicians. Erez (1980), the owner of the first publication, examined the relationship between concepts on engineers; similarly, Nauman (2012) on information technology workers, Poston and Patel (2016) on software development specialists, and Yalçınıyigit and Aktaş (2023) on Technopark employees. Nazarpoori (2017) on management workers, Wessel et al. (2008) and Dinç and Avanoğlu (2020) conducted studies on students. Zaccaro (2001) examined the concept of social intelligence in the context of organizational leadership. The owner of the four letters is Case Western Professor Boyatriz, the head of the Commission on Research on Emotional Intelligence in Organizations, who brought the concept to literature. Based on Goleman's accepted work, he created an interdisciplinary publication by including brain neurons in his work. The limited number of studies focusing on the relationship between these concepts, which include Turkish authors, highlights the national contribution to this field.



In the analysis of social intelligence by selecting all fields, 2.149 publications were retrieved between 1977 and 2025. It was observed that the number of studies increased after 2007 and peaked in 2013. The maximum number of publications was reached in 2021. Sixty percent of the publications are in the form of articles. The most cited publications are Gigerenzer and Gaissmaier (2011) with 2.059 citations, Mayer et al. (1999) with 1.386 citations, Block and Kremen (1996) with 1.128 citations, Baron-Cohen et al. (1999) with 1.107 citations, and George (2000) with 878 citations. The studies were primarily conducted in the field of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence (403 publications). The most published type is articles (1.365 publications). In the co-authorship analysis, the most cited authors had weak connection strength (4). The author with the strongest connection was Yuan Rao (60). Yuan Rao also ranked first in the author citation analysis with a strength of 115. In the text citation analysis, the author with the most connections was Silvera (201 citations, 119 connections). In the country citation analysis, the country with the most publications was the USA (540 publications). In the source citation analysis, the source with the highest connection strength was the Journal of Educational Psychology, with 5 publications, 396 citations, and 185 connection strengths. In the bibliometric matching analysis of the texts, the author with the most connections was İlhan (İlhan and Çetin, 2014), with 6 citations and 1.017 connection strengths. In the author bibliometric matching analysis, the author with the most bibliographic matches was Birkenova, with 21 citations and 13.303 connection strengths. In the co-citation analysis of the authors, the author with the highest connection strength was also the one with the most citations: Mayer, with 423 citations and 15.593 connections. In the keyword analysis, social intelligence appeared 450 times, while emotional intelligence appeared 119 times.

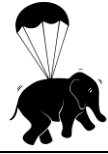


1. GİRİŞ

Zekâ, insanı sadece düşünen bir varlık değil aynı zamanda çevresini dönüştüren, anlamlandıran ve ilişki inşa eden bir özneye dönüştüren en derin bilişsel güçlerden biridir. Bu nedenle tarihsel süreçte nörobilimden yönetime, felsefeden psikolojiye kadar pek çok disiplinde yoğun şekilde ele alınmıştır. Bu disiplinler arasında sosyal zekâ kavramı kişilerin sosyal ortamda ilişkileri yönetme, empati kurma ve toplumsal etkileşimde başarı gösterme yeteneklerini anlamada kilit rol oynamaktadır (Bar-On, 2006; Block ve Kremen, 1996). Bireylerin duygusal durumu anlaması, empati kapasitesi, sosyal ve duygusal ipuçlarını algılama yeteneği sosyal zekânın temel unsurlarını oluşturur (Goleman ve Boyatzis, 2008; Dinç ve Avanoğlu, 2020). Sosyal zekâ, genellikle diğer insanlarla etkili iletişim kurmayı ve sosyal grupta ya da topluluk içerisinde kabul görmeyi sağlar (Bar-On vd., 2003; Mayer ve Salovey, 1993). Bu kavram, bireylerin sosyal uyum düzeylerini artırmakta ve arkadaşlık, iş birliği gibi ilişkilerde başarıya ulaşmalarına yardımcı olmaktadır. Sosyal zekânın tanımında, bireylerin sosyal durumları değerlendirip, duygu ve düşünce süreçlerini yönetebilme becerisi öne çıkmaktadır (Walker ve Foley 1973; Gigerenzer ve Gaissmaier, 2011; Jose ve Thomas, 2024).

Liderlikte sosyal zekânın rolü, liderlerin empati kurma, duygusal farkındalık geliştirme ve etkili iletişim kurma becerileri ile ilişkilidir. Sosyal zekâsı yüksek liderler, organizasyon içindeki sosyal ağları başarılı bir şekilde yönetebilir, çatışmaları çözebilir ve takım içi iş birliğini artırabilir (Garg ve Gera, 2020; Garg vd., 2021). Sosyal zekânın lidere sağladığı avantajlar, liderlerin stratejik hedeflerine ulaşmada önemli bir araç olarak öne çıkmaktadır (Erez, 1980; Kaukiainen vd., 1999; Garg ve Gera, 2020). Araştırma bulguları, sosyal zekânın, liderlerin duygusal zekâsı ile paralel gelişerek, onların daha etkin ve etkileyici liderler olmalarını sağladığını ortaya koymaktadır (Davies vd., 1998; Bar-On, 2006; Guillaume, 2020). Ancak yapılan literatür taramalarında sosyal zekânın liderlik davranışında sistematik şekilde ele alındığı çalışmaların oldukça sınırlı sayıda olduğu görülmektedir. Bu nedenle bu çalışma ile söz konusu boşluğun giderilmesi ve sosyal zekânın liderlik literatüründeki konumunun daha da görünür kılınması hedeflenmektedir.

WoS, akademik dünyada en sık başvurulan bibliyometrik veri kaynaklarından biri olup, bilimsel araştırmaların değerlendirilmesi ve analizi için küresel bir standart olarak kabul edilmektedir (Donthu vd., 2021). Bibliyometrik analizlerin görselleştirilmesinde sıkça kullanılan VOSviewer, atıf ve ortak yazarlık ilişkilerini temsil eden yaygın bir yazılımdır. WoS çok disiplinli yapısı, standart hale gelmiş bibliyografik bilgileri ve yüksek düzeyde indekslenme sayısı sayesinde bu tür analizler için güvenli bir veri kaynağı sunmaktadır. VOSviewer ise bu verilerden hareketle, anahtar kelime eşleşmeleri, yazar iş birlikleri, atıf ağları, kavram kümelenmeleri gibi çok boyutlu analizler yapmayı ve bahsi geçen analizleri anlaşılır grafiksel haritalar halinde sunmayı mümkün kılmaktadır (Nandiyanto ve Al Huseini, 2021). Bu iki sistemin entegrasyonu sadece sayıların analiz edilmesini değil aynı zamanda disiplinler arası etkileşimlerin, akademik eğilimlerin ve kavramsal yapıların da görsel şekilde ortaya konmasını sağlamaktadır. Bu nedenle çalışmanın WoS verileri ile sınırlı olması bilinçli bir tercihtir ve



VOSviewer'ın bu veri yapısı ile yüksek uyumu ile çalışmanın derinliğinin ve geçerliliğinin artması planlanmıştır.

Bu bilgiler ışığında çalışmanın temel amacı, sosyal zekâ kavramının bilimsel literatürdeki yapısal örüntülerini ortaya koymak ve kavramın liderlik ile birlikte ele alındığı çalışmaları inceleyerek kavramlar arasındaki ilişkinin özet şekilde literatüre kazandırılmasını sağlamaktır. Bu doğrultuda araştırma şu sorulara yanıt armaktadır: Sosyal zekâ kavramı literatür anlamda nasıl bir evrimsel süreç geçirmiştir? Sosyal zekâ kavramı liderlik bağlamında bilimsel literatürde nasıl konumlanmaktadır?

Bu çalışmada, sosyal zekâ kavramının bibliyometrik veri analizi ve liderlikte sosyal zekâ üzerine etkilerini incelemek için kapsamlı bir metodolojik yaklaşım izlenmiştir. Metodoloji, farklı disiplinlerden gelen verilere dayanmaktadır ve araştırma sorularına yanıt bulunabilmesi için nicel ve nitel analiz yöntemlerini barındırmaktadır. Bilimsel çalışmaların etkisinin ölçülmesi ve değerlendirilmesi için kullanılan yöntemlerin temelini oluşturur. Veri analizi süreçlerinde hem betimleyici hem de çıkarımsal istatistikler kullanılmakta olup, bu, araştırmacıların sosyal zekânın dinamiklerini daha iyi anlamalarına olanak tanımaktadır. Literatürdeki eserlerin kapsamlı bir şekilde incelenmesi, bibliyometrik haritalama ve atıf analizleri ile desteklenmiştir.

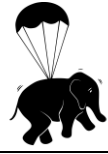
2. KAVRAMSAL ARKA PLAN

Çalışmanın bu bölümünde kuramsal temeli oluşturmak üzere zekâ ve sosyal zekâ kavramları literatürdeki farklı tanım ve yaklaşımlar çerçevesinde ele alınmıştır. Kavramların tarihsel gelişimi, ölçülebilirlik düzeyleri ve sosyal bağlamdaki yansımaları çok yönlü biçimde incelenmiştir. Ayrıca, WoS veri tabanında “*social intelligence*” ve “*leadership*” anahtar kelimeleriyle başlık düzeyinde yer alan tüm akademik çalışmalar sistematik biçimde taranmış ve elde edilen bulgular, bibliyometrik analiz sürecinin temelini oluşturmuştur.

2.1. Zekâ Kavramı

Zekâ kavramı, literatürde farklı disiplinlerin perspektiflerinden ele alınmış ve bilişsel, duygusal ve sosyal boyutlarıyla çok yönlü bir şekilde tanımlanmıştır. Bazı araştırmacılar zekâyı ölçülebilir bir zihinsel yetenek olarak değerlendirirken (Neisser vd., 1996), diğerleri onu öğrenme kapasitesi (Kaufman vd., 2010), uyum sağlayabilme yeteneği (Astor, 2015), ya da duygusal kapasite (Freeman, 2018) gibi farklı açılardan ele almıştır. Bu bağlamda zekâ hem bireyin biyolojik yapısını hem de çevresiyle olan etkileşimini kapsayan dinamik bir mekanizma olarak görülmektedir. Gardner (1999) ise, zekâyı bireyin tüm yetkinliklerinin toplamı olarak tanımlamıştır.

Farklı disiplinlerin perspektiflerinden ele alınan zekâ kavramı, zaman içinde farklı kuramsal çerçevelerle açıklanmış ve çok sayıda teoriye dayanak oluşturmuştur. Bu kuramlar Tablo 1’de özetlenmiştir:



Tablo 1. Zekâ kuramları

Kuram	Açıklama
Tek Etmen	Sadece sayısal ve sözel yeteneklerle tanımlanan kurama göre zekâ içerisinde tüm bilişsel yetkinlikleri içermektedir. Yani zeki bir birey hem matematik problemlerini iyi çözmeli, iyi şiir analizi yapmalı, tarihi iyi bilmeli vb. yetilerin tümüne sahiptir (Rabbitt, 1988 ; Gardner, 2011).
Çift Etmen	Kuram zekânın genel bir zihinsel faktörden (G) ve bu faktöre bağlı bir takım özel faktörlerden (S) oluştuğunu savunmaktadır. Kuram herhangi bir konuda iyi öğrenen kişi diğer konuları öğrenmede de iyidir (Norton, 1979).
Üçlü Zekâ Kuramı	Zekâ bireyin iç dünyası, deneyimleri ve dış dünyasını ifade eden üç yönde ifade edilmektedir. Kurama adını Sternberg'in (1984) geliştirmiş olduğu ve zekâyı yaratıcı, pratik ve analitik zekâ olarak ölçümleyen test vermiştir.
Çok Etmen	Thorndike zekâyı sosyal (ilişkisellik), mekanik (makine araç ve gereç özelliklerini algılama) ve soyut zekâ (sayıları, sözleri ve kavramları algılama) olmak üzere üç boyutta ele almıştır (Thorndike, 1990).
Küp	Zekânın, zihne ait süreçler (biliş, ıraksak ve yakınsak düşünme, değerlendirme ve bellek), ürünler (birimler, sınıflar, ilişkiler, sistemler, dönüşümler ve uygulamalar) ve kapsam (görsel figürler, sözcük anlamları, semboller, davranışlar) olmak üzere üç kategoriden meydana geldiğini öne süren küp kuramı Guilford tarafından 1960'larda ortaya atılmıştır (Guilford, 1972).
Çoklu Zekâ	Çoklu Zekâ Kuramı, ilk kez 1983'te Gardner tarafından ortaya atılmış, daha sonra Gardner ve Moran (2006) tarafından genişletilen kuramda yazar tarafından zekâ, hüner, beceri ve zihinsel yetenekler içeren "zekâlar" olarak tanımlanmıştır). Gardner yedi farklı zekâdan bahsetmiştir. Bunlar: sözel (dilsel), müziksel, matematiksel (mantıksal), görsel (uzlamsal), bedensel (kinestetik), bireysel (kişisel) ve sosyal (kişilerarası) zekâdır. 1999'da yapmış olduğu çalışmada yedi zekâyı ilaveten sekizinci olarak doğacı zekâ kavramını da çoklu zekâ kuramının içerisinde dahil etmiştir (Gardner ve Moran, 2006).

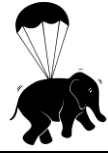
Zekâ kavramı, insana yönelik problem çözme, muhakeme vb. gereklilikleri yerine getirebilme yeteneği sunan çok yönlü bir kavram ve çok boyutlu bir yapıdır. Bu yapının sosyal etkileşime yönelik alanı zaman içerisinde ayrı bir alan olarak şekillenmiş ve sosyal zekâ kavramı olarak literatürde yer edinmiştir.

2.2. Sosyal Zekâ Kavramı

Sosyal zekâ kavramı ilk kez 1920 yılında Thorndike tarafından gündeme getirilmiş ve bireyleri anlama, yönlendirme ve ilişkilerde akılcı hareket etme yeteneği olarak tanımlanmıştır ([Thorndike, 1920](#)). Bu tanım, sosyal zekânın insan ilişkilerindeki davranışsal boyutuna vurgu yapmaktadır. Daha sonra Goleman ([2019](#)), Thorndike'in tanımını temel alarak sosyal zekânın çok yönlü bir kavram olduğunu ifade etmiş; sosyal beceri, sosyal kaygı ve empati olmak üzere üç temel bileşende incelediğini belirtmiştir ([Goleman ve Boyatzis, 2008](#)).

Zaman içinde sosyal zekâ kavramı, yalnızca ilişkisel bir beceri olarak değil; aynı zamanda nörobilimsel ve psikolojik açılardan da yeniden yorumlanmıştır. Goleman ([2019](#)), kavramı sinir bilim çerçevesinde ele almış olsa da bu yaklaşım halen literatürde tartışmalıdır. Kişilik psikolojisi, sosyal psikoloji gibi alanlarda yapılan çalışmalarda da sosyal zekâyı açıklamak üzere "sosyal beyin" gibi kavramlar önerilmiş ve kavramın işlevselliği bu yolla temellendirilmeye çalışılmıştır.

Kavram ile alakalı bazı tanımlar ise zekâyı davranışlar ile açıklamaya çalışmıştır. Buna göre sosyal zekâ sosyal hayatta kişilerin belirlenen amaçlara ulaşabilme yetisidir ([Guilford vd.,](#)



2019). Sosyal zekâ kişinin diğerlerinin davranışlarını anlayabilme (Joseph ve Lakshmi, 2010), yönetebilme (Mayer ve Salovey, 1993) ve sosyal yaşamlarını destekleyebilme yani diğer kişilere negatif ve pozitif yönde etki edebilmesi yeteneğidir (Bar-On vd., 2006). Sosyal yaşamda sahip olunan rollere yönelik yönlendirici bilgilere sahip olmaktır (Block ve Kremen, 1996). Kişisel yani bireyin kendi iç duygusal dünyasına erişebilme ve kişiler arası yani diğer kişiler içinde fark oluşturabilme yeteneğidir (Nauman, 2012). Problemlerin çözümüne yönelik negatif veya pozitif davranabilme arasındaki fark sosyal zekâ ile ilgilidir (Reader ve Laland, 2002).

Kavramı çok geniş ele alan Markopoulos ve arkadaşları sosyal anlamda akıllıca davranma, kibarlık, iletişim gibi pek çok yeteneğin varlığının sosyal zekâ için şart olduğunu belirtmiştir (Markopoulos vd., 2005). Birey diğerlerini yönetirken kendi çıkarları gibi diğerlerinin çıkarlarını da düşünebildiği ölçüde sosyal zekânın varlığından söz edilebilmektedir. Bu da kavramı yine empati becerisi ile yakınlaştırmaktadır (Baron-Cohen vd., 1999).

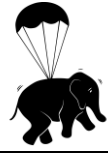
Tanımı hakkında ortak bir kanıya varılmamış olan sosyal zekâ kavramının boyutları da farklı düzeylerde tartışılmış farklı zaman dilimleri içerisinde farklı boyutlar ortaya atılmıştır. İlk başlarda tek boyutlu ele alınan sosyal zekâ kuramı (Thorndike, 1920; Chapin, 1939) ilerleyen zamanda farklı alt boyutlar ile ele alınmıştır. Zaman içerisinde ortaya atılmış boyutlar Tablo 2'deki gibidir:

Tablo 2. Sosyal zekâ boyutları

Yazar/Yıl	Açıklama
Marlowe, 1986	Başkaları ile ilgilenmek, bireysel yeterlilik, diğerlerini hem davranışsal hem bilişsel anlayabilme, gözlem sonucu tespit edilen davranışlar ile performans oluşturma
Kosmitzki ve John, 1993	Başkalarının iç dünyasını ve ruhsal durumlarını hissetme, ilişki iletişim becerisi, sosyal hayata dair bilgili olma, karışık olaylar karşısında duyarlı olma ve fikir sahibi olma, yönetmeye yönelik sosyal bilgi kullanabilme, empati ve sosyal uyum
Buzan, 2002	Diğerlerini zihinsel olarak okuyabilme, iyi dinleyici olma, sosyal, etkileyici, popüler olma, ikna yeteneğinin olması.
Goleman, 2019	Sosyal beceri (etkili ve üretken olma, diğerlerinin düşüncelerini, hislerini, hedeflerini anlayabilme) Sosyal farkındalık (sosyal biliş, empati, uyum)

Sosyal zekânın varlığına yönelik birçok tartışma bulunmakta, bu durum bazı araştırmalarda kavramın çok yönlü bir yapı içerdiği yönünde yorumlanmaktadır. Örneğin Silvera vd. (2001), sosyal zekânın çok yönlü yapısına dikkat çekmiş ve bunu sosyal beceri, empati ve sosyal kaygı gibi bileşenlerle ilişkilendirmiştir. Bu bağlamda sosyal zekâ, bireyin sosyal sorunlarla başa çıkabilme, empati kurabilme ve liderlik gibi yetenekleriyle ilişkilendirilerek açıklanmıştır (Walker ve Foley, 1973; Bar-On vd., 2003; Goleman, 2004).

Sosyal zekâ liderlerin için farklı sosyal durumlara uyum sağlama, empati geliştirme ve örgüt içi ilişkileri yönetme becerilerini kapsamaktadır. Bu yönü ile özellikle dönüşümcü, etileşimci, demokratik ve hizmetkar liderlik stillerinde ön plana çıkan insan merkezli yaklaşımlar ile doğrudan ilişkilidir. Literatüde, sosyal zekânın liderin duygusal zekâsı, sosyal etkileşim kapasitesi ve iletişim becerisi ile birlikte ele alındığı çalışmalar liderlik tarzlarının örgütsel

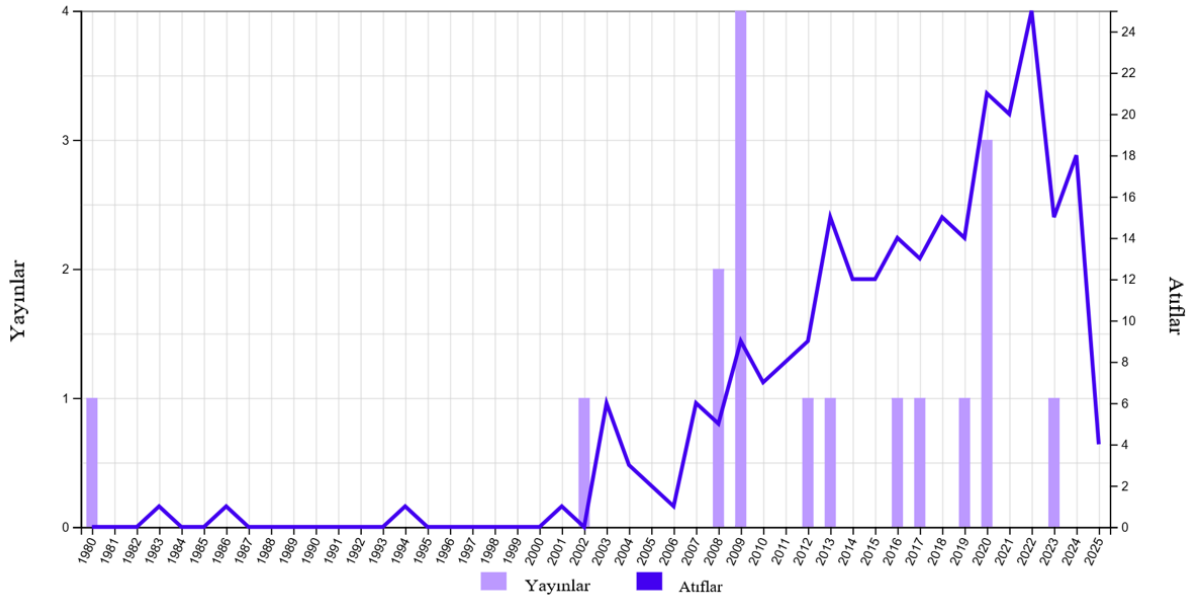


bağlılığı güven iş birliği gibi çıktılar üzerindeki etkilerini açıklamaktadır. Bu nedenle literatürde ahlaki zekâ (Altan, 2011) diye de isimlendirilen sosyal zekâ kavramı ve liderlik arasında güçlü bir bütünlükten söz edilebilir (Goleman ve Boyatzis, 2008; Aslan, 2013; Turhal vd., 2019).

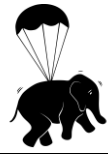
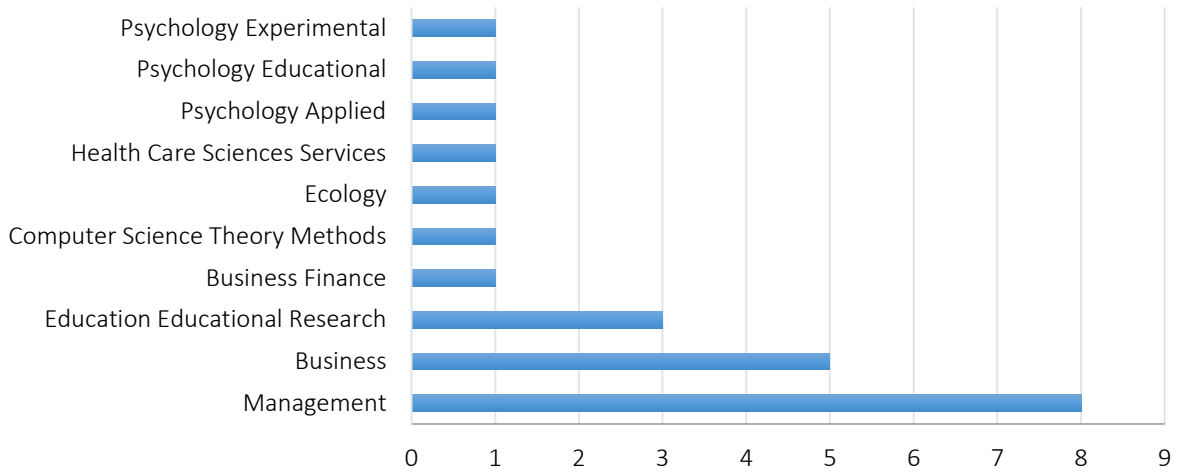
2.3. Liderlik-Sosyal Zekâ İlişkisi Üzerine Web of Science (WoS) Tabanlı Literatür Analizi

Çalışmanın bu bölümünde, liderlik ve sosyal zekâ arasındaki ilişkiyi incelemek amacıyla WoS veri tabanından elde edilen makaleler analiz edilmiştir. İnceleme sürecinde bu iki kavramı başlık düzeyinde vurgulayan çalışmalar dikkate alınmış ve böylelikle literatürdeki ilgili araştırmaların kapsamlı bir değerlendirmesi sunulmuştur. 22.01.2025 tarihinde WoS veri tabanında yapılan taramada çalışma başlığında “*social intelligence*” ve “*leadership*” kavramlarını içeren yayınlar seçilmiş ve 17 yayına ulaşılmıştır. Bu yayınların analizi ile sosyal zekâ ve liderlik arasındaki ilişkileri ortaya koyan eğilimler belirlenmiştir. Yapılan çalışmaların yıllara göre dağılımı ve atıf oranları Grafik 1’de sunulmaktadır.

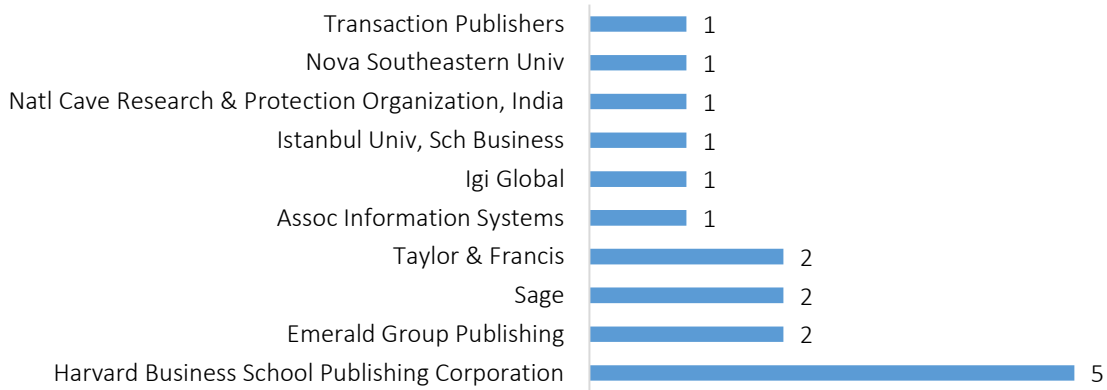
Grafik 1. Çalışmaların yıllar içindeki sayıları ve atıfları



Grafik incelendiğinde ilk yayının 1980 yılında yapılmış olduğu sonrasında 2002 yılına kadar yayın olmadığı özellikle 2003 yılından sonra atıfların çoğalmaya başladığı en fazla yayının 2009 yılında en fazla atfın 2022 yılında olduğu özellikle 2024 yılında hiç yayın olmadığı görülmektedir. Çalışmaların WoS kategorileri Grafik 2’ deki gibidir. Grafikte görüldüğü üzere en fazla yönetim ve iş alanında çalışma yapılmıştır.

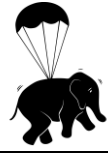
**Grafik 2.** Çalışmaların WoS kategorileri

Çalışma türleri incelendiğinde; on makale, dört mektup, iki bildiri özeti ve bir kitap olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Çalışmalar WoS indekslerine göre incelendiğinde; Gelişen Kaynaklar Atıf Dizini (ESCI) (8), Sosyal Bilimler Atıf Dizini (SSCI) (6), Kitap Atıf Dizini Sosyal Bilimler ve Beşeri Bilimler (BKCI-SSH) (1), Konferans Bildirileri Atıf Dizini–Sosyal Bilimler ve Beşeri Bilimler (CPCI-SSH) ve Konferans Bildirileri Atıf Dizini–Bilim (CPCI-S) (1) indekslerinde yer aldığı ve hepsinin İngilizce yazılmış olduğu gözlemlenmiştir. Çalışmaların yayınlandığı adresler Grafik 3’ de gösterilmiştir.

Grafik 3. Çalışmaların yayıncıları

Görüldüğü üzere en çok yayın Harvard Business School Publishing Corporation tarafından yayınlanmıştır.

Atıf sayısına göre en yüksekten en düşüğe sıralanan yayınların yazar bilgileri, yayımlandıkları yıllar ve makale başlıkları Tablo 3’te detaylı biçimde sunulmuştur. Goleman ve Boyatzis’in 2008 yılında yayımladığı makaleye yönelik olarak yazılmış dört mektup türündeki yayın, özgün araştırma niteliği taşımadıkları için tabloya ve literatür bölümüne dahil edilmemiştir.



Tablo 3. Sosyal zekâ ve liderlik konulu yayınların atıf temelli sıralaması

Yazar/Yıl	Çalışma Başlığı
Erez, 1980	Correlates of leadership style: Field-dependence and social intelligence versus social orientation
Mayer vd., 1999	Emotional intelligence meets traditional standards for an intelligence
Zaccaro, 2001	Organizational leadership and social intelligence
Goleman ve Boyatzis, 2008	Social intelligence and the biology of leadership
Nauman, 2012	Patterns of social intelligence and leadership style for effective virtual project management
Poston ve Patel, 2016	Making sense of resistance to agile adoption in waterfall organizations: Social intelligence and leadership
Nazarpoori, 2017	A survey of the effect of leader's social intelligence on employees' perception of interpersonal justice: The mediating role of shared leadership
Garg ve Gera, 2020	Gratitude and leadership in higher education institutions: Exploring the mediating role of social intelligence among teachers
Garg vd., 2021	Gratitude, social intelligence, and leadership among university teachers: Mediation and moderation analysis
Guillaume, 2020	The experiences of faculty of color in departments of educational leadership and administration: The role of emotional and social intelligence in navigating promotion and tenure to achieve the rank of associate professor
Yalçınıyğit ve Aktaş, 2023	A research on the relationship of social intelligence and cultural intelligence with leadership styles

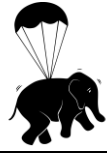
Not: Goleman ve Boyatzis'e yazılmış mektup türündeki dört yayın, orijinal makale niteliğinde olmadıkları için tabloya dahil edilmemiştir.

Çalışmaların kronolojik sırasına göre özetleri şu şekildedir:

Erez (1980): Yapılan ilk çalışma olan yazarın makalesinde mühendislik geçmişine sahip 45 profesyonle üzerinde çalışılmıştır. Yazar çalışanlarına odaklı liderlerin çalışanlarının kişilerarası ve iş özelliklerini ayırt edebilme yeteneği vesilesi ile alan bağımsızlığına sahip olduğunu belirtmiştir. Yazara göre alan bağımsızlığı genellikle sosyal olmayan bir yönetim ile ilişkilendirilmiş olsa da yöneticilerin sosyal uyaranlara karşı duyarlı olması sosyal yönelimden çok sosyal zekânın bilişsel faktörlerine dayanmaktadır. Çalışma sonuçlarına göre çalışan odaklı liderlik tarzı, sosyal zekâ ve alan bağımsızlığı ile aynı yönde ilişkilidir. İş odaklı liderlik tarzı ise bu bileşenler ile ters yönde bir ilişkiye sahiptir.

Zaccaro (2001): Yazarın çalışması Kravis-de Roulet Liderlik Konferansı için yayınlanan Çoklu Zekâ ve Liderlik kitabının içerisinde yer almaktadır. Yazar çalışmasında sosyal zekânın örgütsel liderlik içerisindeki rolünü araştırmıştır. Yazara göre sosyal zekâ iki temel bileşene sahiptir. Bu bileşenlerden ilki sosyal durumları algılama ve yorumlama yeteneğidir. Diğeri ise davranışsal esneklik ve uyumu yeteneğini ifade eder. Yazar, çalışmasında sosyal zekânın önemine dikkat çekmiş; özellikle örgütlerde hiyerarşik yapı arttıkça sosyal durumların da karmaşılaştığını belirtmiştir. Bu bağlamda sosyal zekânın, örgütsel uyum ve etkili iletişim açısından hayati bir rol oynadığını vurgulamıştır.

Goleman ve Boyatzis (2008): Organizasyonlarda Duygusal Zekâ Araştırmaları Komisyon başkanı Case Western Profesörü Boyatzis, Goleman'ın duygusal zekâ üzerine yapmış olduğu çalışmadan yola çıkmış ve sosyal zekânın insan beynindeki özel sinir devreleri sayesinde başka



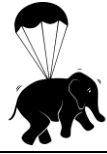
kişilerin duygularını anlayıp bu duygulara uygun şekilde davranış sergileyebildiklerini öne sürmüştür. Yazara göre bu durum beynin ayna nöron yapıları sayesinde oluşabilmektedir ve bu sayede kişiler diğerlerinin duygularını anlayıp empati kurabilmektedir. Yazara göre bahsi geçen bu nöronlar ayrıca lider kişilerin doğru ve hızlı bir biçimde karar verebilmesini ve tüm hareketlerinin senkronize olabilmelerini sağlamaktadır. Yazara göre sosyal zekâsı yüksek bireyler bazı yetkinliklere sahip olmakta ve bu yetkinlikler koçluk, mentorluk vb. uygulamalarla geliştirilebilmektedir.

Wessel ve diğerleri (2008): Yazarlar Kanada’da bir üniversite ve Amerika’da bir kolejde sağlık programlarında okuyan (hemşirelik, sağlık bilimleri, fizik tedavi) 154 öğrencinin duygusal-sosyal zekâlarını tanımlamış ayrıca öğrencilerin duygusal zekâları ile ahlaki yargı, şefkat ve liderlik arasındaki ilişkiyi incelemiştir. Çalışma sonuçlarına göre ülkeler arasında bir fark görülmemiştir. Amerika’daki fizik tedavi öğrencileri ile Kanada’daki fizik tedavi öğrencileri arasında şefkatin cesaret alt boyutunda anlamlı farklılıklar gözlemlenmiştir. Çalışmada ayrıca duygusal-sosyal zekâ puanlarının şefkat ve liderlik değişkenlerinin alt bileşenleri ile aynı yönde ilişkili olduğu ancak ahlaki yargı ile bir ilişkisinin olmadığı saptanmıştır.

Nauman (2012): Beş ayrı ülkeden bilgi teknolojisi projelerinde çalışan profesyoneller üzerinde çalışan yazar, farklı düzeyde sanallık derecesine sahip projelerde liderlik ve sosyal zekâ arasındaki ilişkiyi incelemiştir. Yazar analizde sanal projelerde tercihe dilen liderlik tarzlarının ne olduğu, sanallık düzeyinin sosyal zekâ ve liderlik tarzına etkisinin olup olmadığının cevaplarını aramıştır. Çalışmanın sonuçlarına göre; ilişki yönetimi ve sosyal farkındalık, görev ve insan odaklı yaklaşımlarla aynı yönde ilişkilidir ve bu ilişki düzeyi projenin sanallık oranı arttıkça artmaktadır. Çalışma etkili sanal proje yönetiminde sosyal zekânın ve liderlik becerilerinin önemini vurgulamıştır.

Poston ve Patel’in (2016) çalışmasında, Agile (Çevik) yazılım geliştirme metodolojilerini benimsemek isteyen örgütlerin bu dönüşüm sürecinde karşılaştıkları direnç ele alınmıştır. Araştırmada, geleneksel yönetim anlayışının bu direnci bastırma eğiliminde olmasının, uzun vadede daha büyük yapısal sorunlara yol açabileceği ifade edilmiştir. Çalışma; değişime karşı direnç gösteren yöneticilerin bu direnci nasıl algıladıkları, nasıl yorumladıkları ve etkili liderlik becerileriyle bu süreci nasıl daha etkili şekilde yönetebileceklerine odaklanmaktadır. Ayrıca, dönüşüm sürecinin başarılı olabilmesi için söz konusu liderlerin yüksek düzeyde sosyal zekâya sahip olmalarının gerekliliği vurgulanmıştır.

Marlowe’un (1986) sosyal zekâ modelini temel alan çalışma, sosyal zekânın alt boyutlarını oluşturan pro-sosyal tutum, empatik yetenek, sosyal performans becerileri, güven ve duygusal ifade gibi bileşenler üzerine odaklanmaktadır. Araştırma, bu bileşenlerin birbirleriyle olan ilişkisini analiz ederek, özellikle pro-sosyal tutum alt boyutu ile paylaşılan liderliğin alt boyutu arasında güçlü bir bağlantı olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Çalışma sonuçlarına göre, sosyal zekâ bu bağlamda, çalışanların kişilerarası adalet algısı üzerinde belirleyici bir etkiye sahiptir.



Dinç ve Avanoğlu (2020): Yazarlar spor bilimlerinde eğitim gören 950 öğrenciden tarama yöntemi ile veri toplanan Tromso Sosyal Zekâ ve Çok Boyutlu Liderlik Ölçeği kullanılan çalışmada liderlik ve sosyal zekâ arasındaki ilişki incelenmiştir. Verilerin normal dağılım göstermemesi neticesinde nnpametrik analizler uygulanmış, araştırılan ilişki için Spearman testi kullanılmıştır. Çalışma sonuçlarına göre liderlik yönelimi ve sosyal beceri düzeyleri arasında ilişkiler olduğu ortaya konmuştur. Çalışmada ayrıca demografik bilgilerin fark analizleri incelenmiş özellikle aile geliri ve eğitim düzeyi gibi değişkenlerin ilişki üzerinde etkisi ortaya konmuştur.

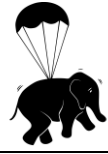
Garg ve Gera (2020): Yazarlar üniversite öğretim üyeleri arasındaki dönüşümcü liderlik ve minnettarlık ilikisini incelemişlerdir. Yazarlar ayrıca sosyal zekânın bahsi geçen ilişkideki aracılık etkisini incelemişlerdir. Regresyon ve korelasyon analiz modelini kullanan yazarlar minnettarlık ve dönüşümcü liderlik arasında aynı yönlü bir ilişki ve sosyal zekânın bu ilişkiye kısmı aracılığı olduğunu tespit etmişlerdir.

Garg ve diğerleri (2021): Yazarlar çalışmalarında üniversite öğretim üyeleri arasında liderlik ve minnettarlık arasındaki ilişkiyi ayrıca üç alt boyutta incelemiş oldukları sosyal zekânın (sosyal bilgi işleme, sosyal farkındalık, sosyal beceriler) bu ilişkide moderatörlük yapıp yapmadığını, aracılık etkisinin olup olmadığını araştırmışlardır. Çalışmanın bulgularına göre sosyal zekânın üç alt bileşeni de minnettarlık ve liderlik arasındaki ilişkide ez da olsa aracılık etmektedir ancak moderatörlük açısından bir etkisi yoktur. Hindistan’da yapılmış olan çalışma ayrıca alanın öncü çalışmalarından kabul edilmektedir.

Guillaume (2020): Makalenin yayınlandığı yıl itibari ile son yedi yıldır kadroya alınan 21 etnik fakülte öğretim üyesi ile yapılan çalışmada duygusal ve sosyal zekânın terfi sürecine etkisi incelenmiştir. Çalışma örgütsel ortamı stratejik anlamda değerlendirme, kendini tanıma ve aidiyet hissi olmak üzere üç ana faktör üzerine yoğunlaşmıştır. Çalışma sonuçlarına göre katılımcıların ilişki kurma, örgütsel farkındalık ve öz farkındalık yetenekleri ile kadro süreçlerini olumlu şekilde etkileyebildikleri gözlemlenmiştir.

Yalçınyığıt ve Aktaş (2023): İstanbul Teknopark’da çalışan 354 kişilik örneklem üzerinde çok faktörlü liderlik anketi ile yapılan yazarların çalışması, modern liderlik stillerinin radikal değişiklikleri yönetme sürecinde sosyal ve kültürel zekânın etkileşimini incelemiştir. Ayrıca çalışma demografik farklılıklara yönelik fark analizlerini de içermektedir. Çalışma sonuçlarına göre liderlik eğilimleri ile kültürel ve sosyal zekâ arasında ilişki olduğu gözlemlenmiştir.

Oren’in (2012) çalışması; Rahim’in (2012) editörlüğünü yaptığı Sosyal Zekâ, Liderlik ve Problem Çözümleri adlı kitapta yer alan bir bölüm olarak yayımlanmıştır. Ancak bu bölüm, başlığında sosyal zekâ ve liderlik kavramlarını içerse de içerik olarak tükenmişlik ve stresle başa çıkma türlerine odaklanmakta ve inceleme kapsamına alınmamıştır.



3. ARAŞTIRMA YÖNTEMİ

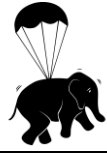
Sosyal zekâ kavramı son yıllarda iletişim, örgütsel davranış ve liderlik gibi yönetim alanlarında artan bir ilgiyle ele alınmaktadır. Özellikle duygusal farkındalık, sosyal etkileşim kapasitesi ve empati gibi liderlik becerileri ile doğrudan etkileşimli alt boyutlar içermesi, kavramın analizi açısından önemini ortaya koymaktadır. Bu bağlamdam sosyal zekâ anahtar kavram olarak seçilmiştir.

VOSviewer, büyük veritabanlarından elde edilen bilimsel verilerin madenciliğini yaparak, bu veriler üzerinde detaylı analizler ve haritalar oluşturulmasına imkan tanır. Bu özellik, özellikle geniş literatür taramaları ve kapsamlı bibliyometrik analizler yapan araştırmalar için önemlidir (Van Eck ve Waltman, 2010). VOSviewer'ın teknik özellikleri, onu bibliyometrik analizler için güçlü bir araç haline getirir. Bahsi geçen teknik özellikler kısaca şu şekildedir:

- 1. Görselleştirme:** VOSviewer, yüksek kaliteli ve anlaşılır haritalar üretir. Bu haritalar, araştırma alanındaki anahtar bileşenler arasındaki ilişkileri ağ yapısı şeklinde sunar.
- 2. Veri İçer Aktarma ve Dışa Aktarma:** VOSviewer, farklı bibliyometrik veri kaynaklarından (örneğin, WoS) veri alabilir ve bu verileri analiz edebilir. Ayrıca, analiz sonuçlarını çeşitli formatlarda dışa aktarma imkânı sunar.
- 3. Kümelenme Algoritmaları:** VOSviewer, verileri kümeler halinde gruplandırmak için özel algoritmalar kullanır. Kümelenme, verilerdeki temel yapıların ve trendlerin ortaya çıkmasını sağlar.
- 4. Zaman Serisi Analizi:** VOSviewer, zaman içinde literatürdeki değişimlerin izlenmesine olanak tanır.
- 5. Kullanıcı Dostu Arayüz:** VOSviewer, kullanıcı dostu bir arayüze sahiptir ve araştırmacıların kolayca analizler yapmasını sağlar.

Araştırma Yöntemi: Çalışmanın yöntem bölümünde 21.01.2025 tarihinde sosyal zekâ (social intelligence) anahtar kelimesi ile 21.01.2025 tarihinde Web of Science veri tabanında “tüm alanlar” seçilerek incelenmesi sonucunda çıkan 2,149 dokümanın VOSviewer programı ile analiz edilmesi oluşturmuştur.

Veri Toplama: Araştırma, “*Social Intelligence*” kavramı ile ilgili yayınlanan tüm akademik yayın türlerine odaklanmaktadır. Literatür taraması, WoS gibi kapsamlı akademik veri tabanlarından yapılmıştır. Bu veri tabanları, geniş bir literatür kaynağı sunarak, alanın en yüksek kaliteli ve en güncel çalışmalarına erişim imkânı sağlamaktadır. Veri toplama süreci, anahtar kelimeler, yazarlar, yayın yılları ve atıf sayıları gibi kriterlere dayalı olarak filtrelenmiş verilere dayanmaktadır. Veriler, 21.01.2025 tarihinde WoS veri tabanında “*social intelligence*” anahtar kelimesi ile taranmış ve tüm alanlardaki kayıtlar dahil edilmiştir. Herhangi bir filtreleme kriteri kullanılmamıştır. Elde edilen 2,149 kayıttan bibliyografik veri seti indirilmiş, bu kayıtlar içerisinde yinelenen girdiler otomatik olarak sistem üzerinden temizlenmiştir. Eşik değeri olarak VOSviewer analizlerinde minimum beş tekrar (co-occurrence) ve minimum 10 atıf eşik değeri uygulanmıştır. Bu eşiklerin altında kalan anahtar kelimeler, yazarlar veya



kaynaklar analiz dışında tutulmuştur. Bu sayede yalnızca belirli bir görünürlük düzeyine ulaşmış kavram ve yazarlar analiz ağına dahil edilmiştir. Anahtar kelime eşgörünüm analizi, yazar iş birliği ağları, atıf ve co-citation kümelenmeleri ve yıllara göre dağılım analizleri gerçekleştirilmiştir. Her analizde ağ haritaları oluşturulmuş ve kümeler, bağlantı güçleri ve düğüm ağırlıkları dikkate alınarak yorumlanmıştır.

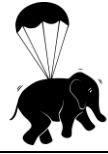
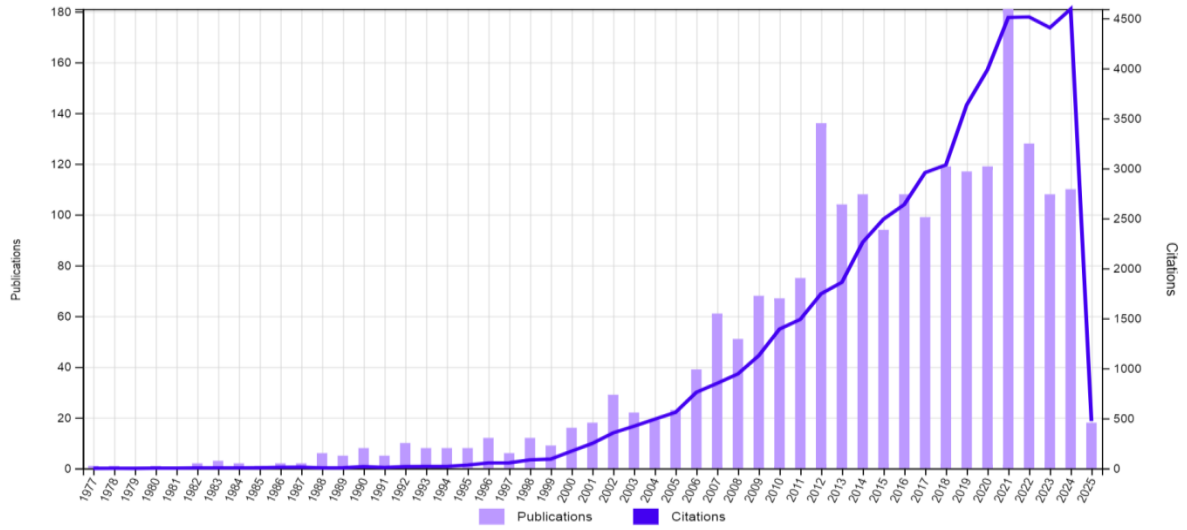
Araştırma soruları ve çalışmanın amacı: Bu çalışmanın ilk amacı, sosyal zekâ kavramının akademik literatürdeki gelişimini ve mevcut araştırma eğilimlerini bibliyometrik veri analizi yöntemi ile incelemektir. Bu amaç doğrultusunda, aşağıdaki araştırma sorularına yanıt aranacaktır:

1. Sosyal zekâ alanında birlikte yayın yapan yazarlar kimlerdir ve bu ortaklıkların yapısı nasıldır?
2. Bu alandaki en çok atıf alan yazarlar kimlerdir?
3. Sosyal zekâ alanında yapılan akademik yayınlara en fazla atıf alan ülkeler hangileridir?
4. Literatürde en çok atıf alan kurumlar hangileridir?
5. Sosyal zekâ literatüründe en sık birlikte geçen anahtar sözcükler hangileridir ve bu sözcükler nasıl tematik kümeler oluşturmaktadır?
6. VOSviewer yazılımı kullanılarak, akademik yayınlar arasında hangi belgeler bibliyografik açıdan birbirine benzemektedir?
7. Bu alanda benzer kaynaklara atıf yapan yazarlar kimlerdir?
8. Sosyal zekâ alanında birlikte en çok atıf alan yazarlar kimlerdir?

Bu doğrultuda çalışmanın amacı: Sosyal zekâ konusundaki bilimsel üretimi analiz etmek, Alandaki temel eğilimleri ve akademik yoğunlaşmaları tespit etmek ve literatürdeki boşlukları ve gelecek potansiyel araştırma alanlarını belirlemektir. Bu kapsamda yapılan çalışmaların hem araştırmacılar hem de uygulayıcılar için yönlendirici bilgiler sunması hedeflenmektedir.

4. BULGULAR

Yapılan çalışmaların atıf ve yayın adetlerinin Grafik 4'te gösterilmektedir. Çalışmalar yıl bazında incelendiğinde 1977-2025 arasında kavramın çalışılmış olduğu tespit edilmiştir. 2012 yılında (136) bir artış olsa da en fazla yayın 2022 yılında (181) yapılmıştır. En fazla atfın 2024 yılında olduğu tespit edilmiştir.

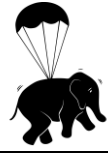
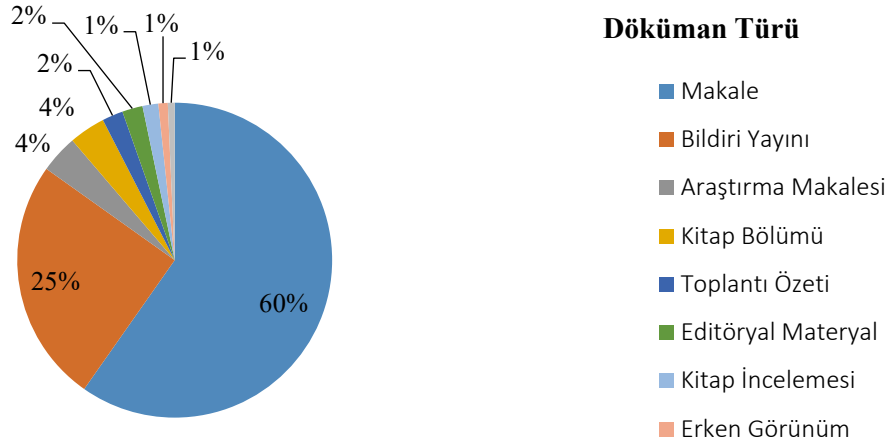
**Grafik 4.** Çalışmaların yıllar içindeki sayıları ve atıfları

Yıllar içerisinde en çok atıf alan beş yayın ve atıf sayıları Tablo 4’te gösterilmiştir:

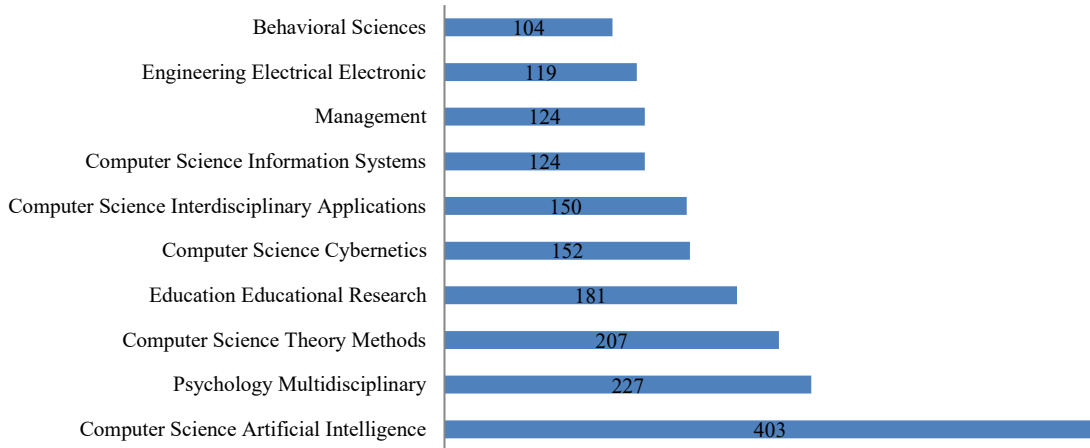
Tablo 4. Sosyal zekâ kavramında 1977-2025 yılları arasında en fazla atıf alan 5 yayın

Yazar/Yıl	Yayın Başlığı	Yayıncı	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Toplam
Gigerenzer ve Gaissmaier, 2011	Heuristic decision making	Annual Review of Psychology	220	211	197	218	25	2059
Mayer vd., 1999	Emotional intelligence meets traditional standards for an intelligence	Intelligence	87	62	62	58	5	1386
Block ve Kremen, 1996	IQ and ego-resiliency: Conceptual and empirical connections and separateness	Journal of Personality and Social Psychology	99	105	86	65	12	1128
Baron-Cohen vd., 1999	Social intelligence in the normal and autistic brain: A fMRI study	European Journal of Neuroscience	25	16	15	21	1	1107
George, 2000	Emotions and leadership: The role of emotional intelligence	Human Relations	54	47	43	29	3	878

Çalışmaların doküman türlerine göre incelenmesinin sonucu Grafik 5’te gösterilmektedir. Grafikte de görüleceği üzere en fazla yayın türü makale (1365) şeklindedir. Kayda alınabilecek çokluktaki diğer yayın türünün ise bildiri yayını (573) olduğu gözlemlenmektedir.

**Grafik 5.** Çalışmaların doküman türleri

Çalışmaların WoS kategorilerine göre minimum 100 yayın kriteri ile incelendiğinde çıkan sonuç Grafik 6’da gösterilmektedir. Grafikte görüldüğü üzere en fazla yayın yapılan üç alan; Computer Science Artifial Intelligence (403), Psychology Multidisciplinary (227) ve Computer Science Theory Methods’dur (207). Çalışmamızla yakından ilişkili olan Management (124) ve Behavioral Sciences (104) alanlarında da çalışma yapılmış olduğu gözlemlenmektedir. Yönetim ve örgütsel davranış ile ilgili yapılmış çalışmalar çalışmanın kavramsal çerçeve kısmında detaylı incelenmiştir.

Grafik 6. Çalışmaların WoS kategorileri

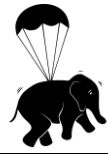
4.1. Ortak Yazarlık Analizi

Yazarların birbirleri ile kurduğu ortak yazarlık ilişkilerine göre oluşan gruplar ağ haritasındaki kümeleri oluşturmaktadır. Sık iş birliği yapan yazar gruplarının her bir grubu bir renkli küme ile gösterilmiştir. Kümeler arasındaki bağlantıların zayıf oluşu alan içinde sınırlı çapraz iş birliğini temsil etmektedir. Bu durum yazarların genellikle kendi alanlarında çalışmış olduğunu göstermektedir ve bu nedenle farklı kümeler arasında sınırlı geçiş vardır. Farklı iki yazar

Bu bilgiler ışığında en fazla iş birliği yapan yazarları tespit etme amaçlı VOSviewer programında en az bir yayın ve bir atıf kriteri ile analiz edildiğinde toplam 3,946 kayda ulaşılmıştır. Analizde 96 birim, 13 küme, 267 bağlantı ve toplam 278 bağlantı gücü tespit edilmiştir. En fazla atıf alan yazarların bağlantı güçleri nispeten zayıf çıkmıştır. Mayer 2,279 atıf dört bağlantı gücü, Gaissmaier ve Gigerenzer 2,059 atıf ve birer bağlantı gücü şeklindedir. Bunun yanı sıra 23 yayını olan ve 231 atfa sahip Yuan Rao 60 bağlantı gücü ile ilk sırada yer almıştır. Yazarı, dokuz yayın, 454 atıf ve 39 bağlantı gücü ile Fei-Yue Wang, 11 yayın, 182 atıf ve 38 bağlantı gücü ile Lianwei Wu ve sekiz yayın 22 atıf ve 38 bağlantı gücü ile Boriz Katz takip etmiştir.

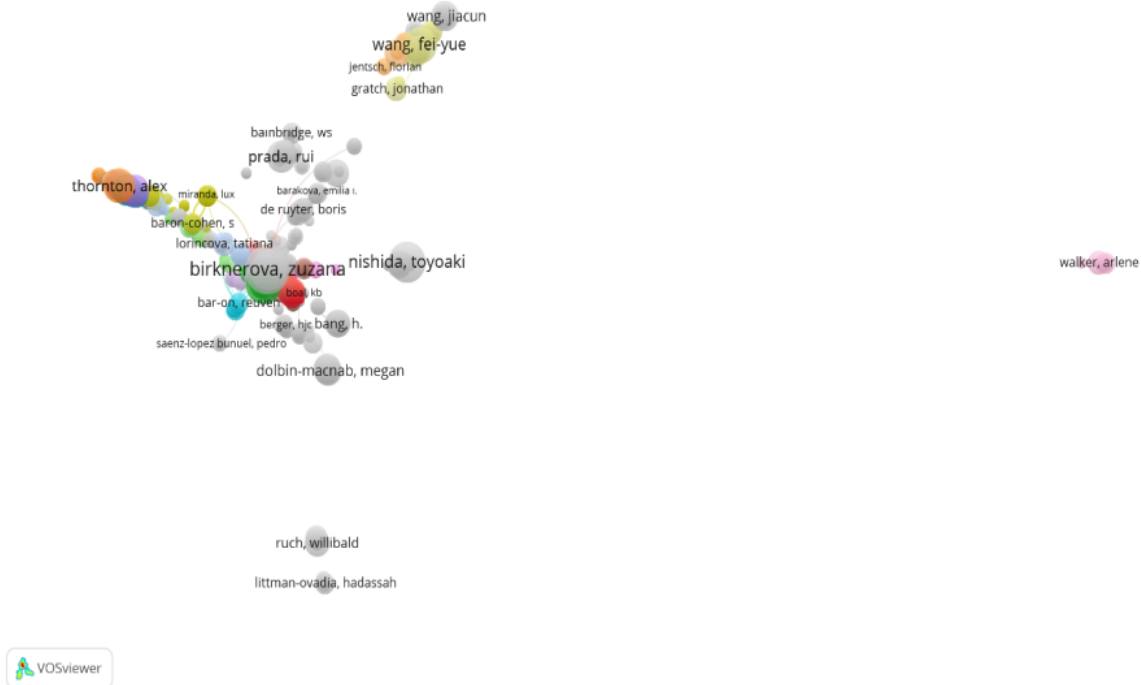
Yazar atıf ağı haritasında her bir düğüm bir yazarı temsil etmekte ve düğümler arasında var olan çizgiler bir yazarın diğerini atıfla referans verdiğini göstermektedir. Ağ haritasındaki kümeler birbirlerini daha sık atıf gösteren yazarları temsil etmektedir. Bu durum belli araştırma konuları etrafında kümelenmiş entellektüel etkileşimi yansıtmaktadır. Bağlantı gücü, bir yazarın diğerleri ile ne derece atıf ilişkisinde olduğunu temsil etmektedir. Bağlantı gücü ne kadar yüksekse yazarın alanda bulunan diğer çalışmalar ile etkileşimi o derece güçlüdür.

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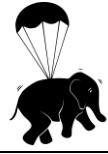
edilmiştir. Bağlantı gücü en yüksek olan ilk üç yazar altı yayın ve 645 atıf ile Kaukiainen, iki yayın, 658 atıf ve 429 bağlantı gücü ile Martinussen ve bir yayın 201 atıf ve 398 bağlantı gücü ile Dahl ve Silvera'dır. En fazla atıf alan üç yayının bağlantı güçleri; üç yayın, 2,279 atıf 183 bağlantı gücü ile Mayer, ikişer yayın, yayın başına 2,059 atıf ve ikişer bağlantı gücü ile Gaissmaier ve Gigerenzer'dir. En fazla yayını olan üç yazarın bağlantı güçleri; 23 yayın, 251 atıf ve 115 bağlantı gücü ile Yuan Rao, 16 yayın, 21 atıf ve 175 bağlantı gücü ile Zuzana Birknerova ve 12 yayın, 85 atıf ve 14 bağlantı gücü ile Zhuge Hai'dir.

Şekil 2. Yazarların atıf ağı

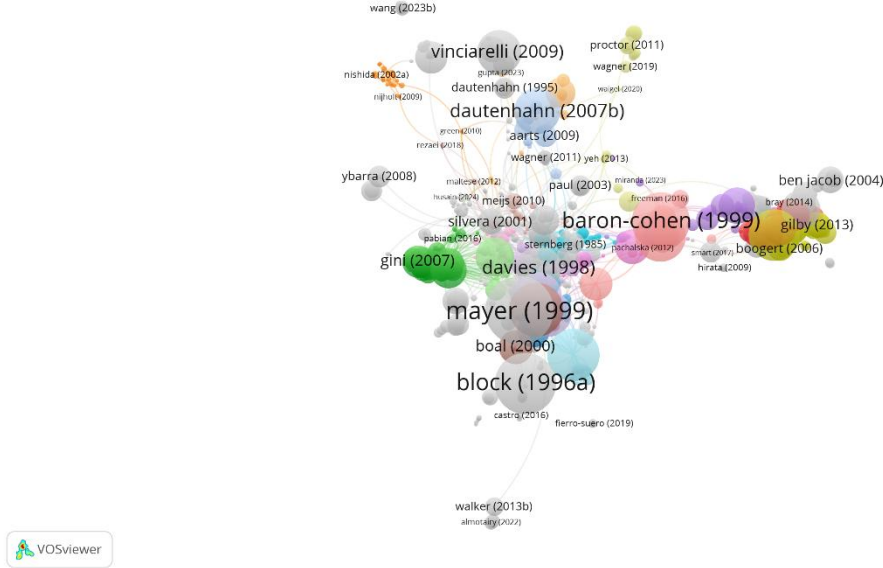


4.3. Metin Atıf Analizi

Metin atıf analizi yayınların ortak referans verdikleri çalışmalara göre birbirlerine ne derece yakın olduklarını göstermektedir. Bu ağ haritasında iki farklı makale benzer kaynakları ne kadar çok kullanmışsa aralarındaki bağ o kadar güçlü çıkmaktadır. Bu bağlamda düğümlerin büyüklüğü, yayının aldığı atıf sayısını, düğümler arasındaki çizgiler ise bağlantı sayısını temsil etmektedir. Benzer literatür temellerine dayanan yayın grupları kümeleri oluşturmaktadır. İş birlikteliği değil entellektüel benzerlik üzerine yoğunlaşan bu analiz, alanın araştırma eğilimlerini, literatürdeki yoğunlaşma bölgelerini ve teorik temelli kümelenmeleri gösterme açısından önemlidir. Çalışmada en az bir atıf alma kriteri ile yapılan analizde 786 birim, 48 küme ve 1,926 bağlantı çıkmıştır.



Şekil 3. Metinlerin atıf ağı

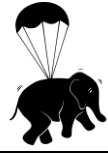


En fazla bağlantıya sahip yazarlar; 201 atıf ve 119 bağlantı ile Silvera (Silvera vd., 2001), 159 atıf ve 75 bağlantı ile Ford (Ford ve Tisak, 1983) ve 1,127 atıf ve 70 bağlantı ile Bar-On (2006)'dur. Yüksek atıf almış yayınlardan Gigerenzer (Gigerenzer ve Gaissmaier, 2011) bir bağlantıya, Mayer (Mayer vd., 1999) 38 bağlantıya, Block (Block ve Kremen, 1996) ise yedi bağlantıya sahiptir.

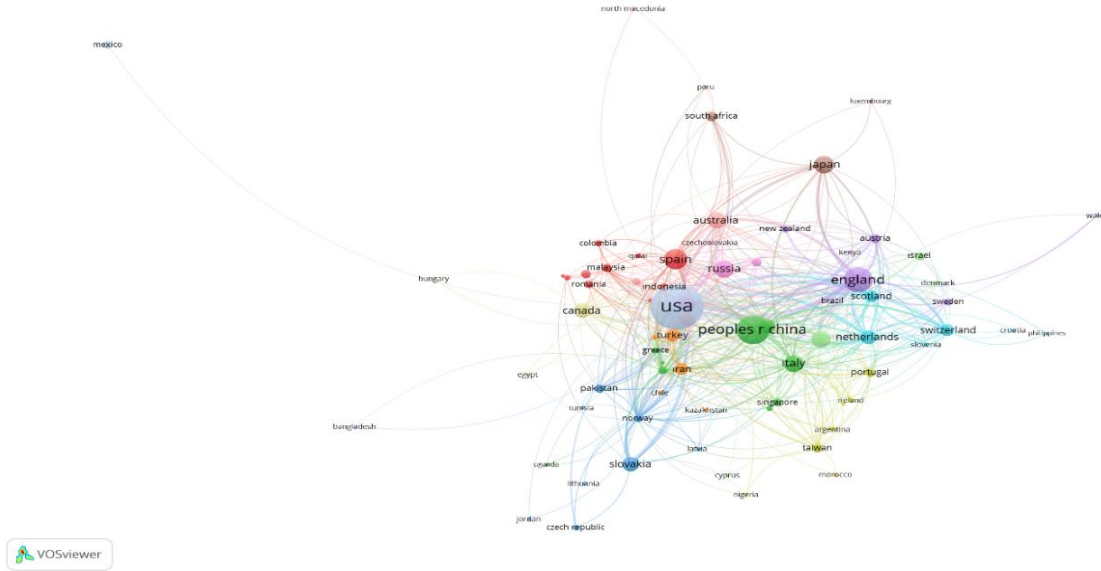
4.4. Ülke Atıf Analizi

Farklı ülkelerde üretilmiş yayınların birbirlerine yapmış oldukları atıflar üzerinden oluşan bilimsel etkileşimleri gösteren ülke atıf ağına düğümler ülkeleri, bağlantılar ülkeler arası ilişkileri ifade etmektedir. Bağlantı gücü ülkelerin ne ölçüde birbirlerinin literatürünü yani atıf yolu ile birbirlerinden ne derece bilgi alışverişinde bulunduğunu göstermektedir. Haritadaki kümeler literatür anlamındaki etkileşime göre gruplanmaktadır. Bu analiz hem ülkeler arası bilimsel etkileşim düzeyini belirlemek hem de yayın üretimindeki ülke yoğunluklarını belirlemek açısından önemlidir.

Çalışmaların yayınlandığı ülkelerin aldıkları atıflara yönelik yapılan analizde her bir ülkede en az bir eser ve bir atıf kriterleri kapsamında bağlantılı toplam 85 ülke tespit edilmiştir. VOSviewer analizinde Toplam 75 birim, 14 küme, 512 bağlantı ve 2,603 bağlantı gücü görülmüştür. En fazla yayın yapan ülkeler; ABD 540 yayın, 19,850 atıf, Çin, 213 yayın 1,938 atıf, İngiltere 160 yayın, 9,674 atıf olarak görülmüştür. Bağlantı güçlerinin sıralamasında ABD 1,146 bağlantı gücü ile en güçlü bağlantısı olan ülke olarak görülmüştür. ABD'yi 605 bağlantı gücü ile İngiltere, 70 yayın, 4,331 atıf ve 216 bağlantı gücü ile Almanya takip etmiştir.



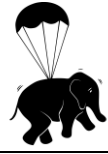
Şekil 4. Ülkelerin atıf ağı



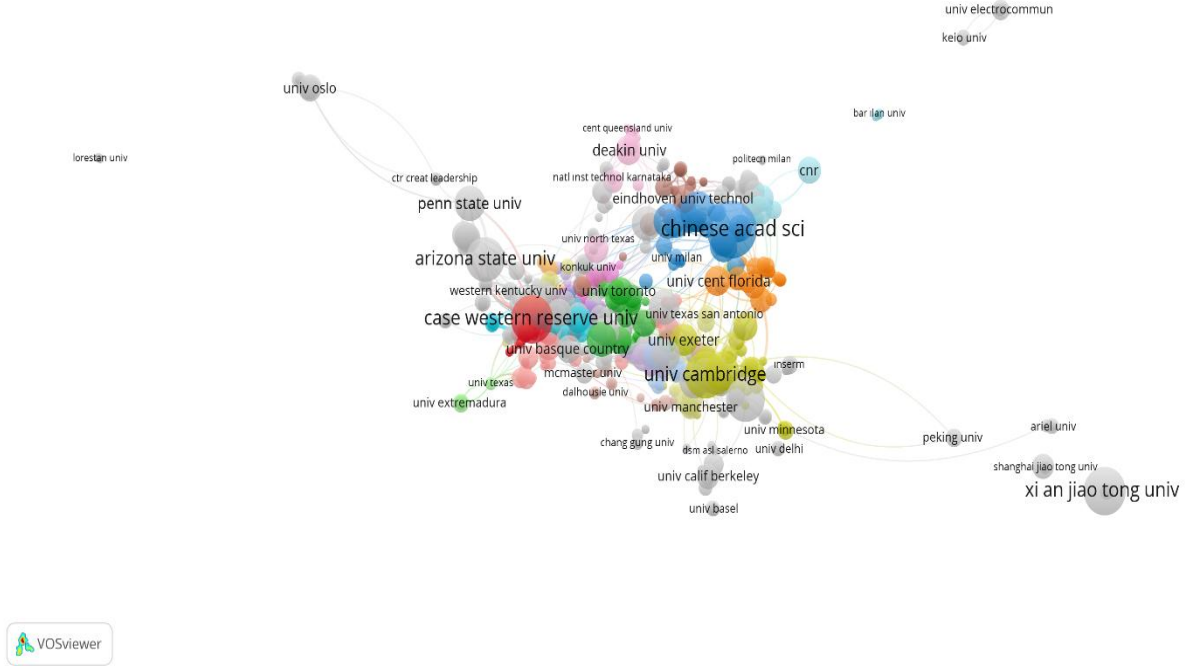
4.5. Kurum Atıf Analizi

Kurum atıf analizinde kurumun bilimsel etkisi ve diğer kurumlar ile atıf yolu ile etkileşimi ölçümlenmektedir. Ağ haritasında kurumları, düğümler, kurumlar arası atıf ilişkilerini çizgiler göstermektedir. Bir kurumun diğerleri ile kurduğu toplam atıf ilişkisi bağlantı gücünü oluşturmaktadır. Kümeler ise atıf ilişkileri yoğun olan kurum gruplarını temsil etmektedir. Bu yapı sayesinde yüksek atıf alan ve diğer kurumlar ile entelektüel bağlar kuran üniversiteler tespit edilebilmektedir. Bu analizde etki sadece atıf sayısı ile değil aynı zamanda atıf ilişkilerinin yaygınlığı ile de ölçülmektedir.

Kurumların atıf analizini tespit etmek için en az bir yayın ve bir atıf kriteri uygulanmış ve analiz sonucu oluşan birbiri ile bağlantılı 1,465 kurumun ağ haritasında 936 birim, 49 küme, 4,348 bağlantı ve toplam 5,861 bağlantı gücü olduğu görülmüştür. En fazla yayın yapan kurumlar Chinese Acas SCWestern Reserve Üniversitesi (26), Xi An Jiao Tong Üniversitesi (26), Üniversitesi Cambridge (25) ve Kyoto Üniversitesi (22) şeklindedir. En fazla atıf alan üniversiteler; Üniv. Cambridge (4,900), Yale Üniversitesi (2,119), Max Planck Inst. Human Dev. (2,059), University New Hampshire (2,045) ve University London (1,871) şeklindedir. Ancak en güçlü bağlantıya sahip kurumlar 356 bağlantı gücü ile University Cambridge, 254 bağlantı gücü ile University Tromso, 204 bağlantı gücü ile University Turku ve 203 bağlantı gücü ile Case Western Reserve University çıkmıştır.



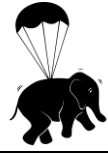
Şekil 5. Kurumların atıf ağı



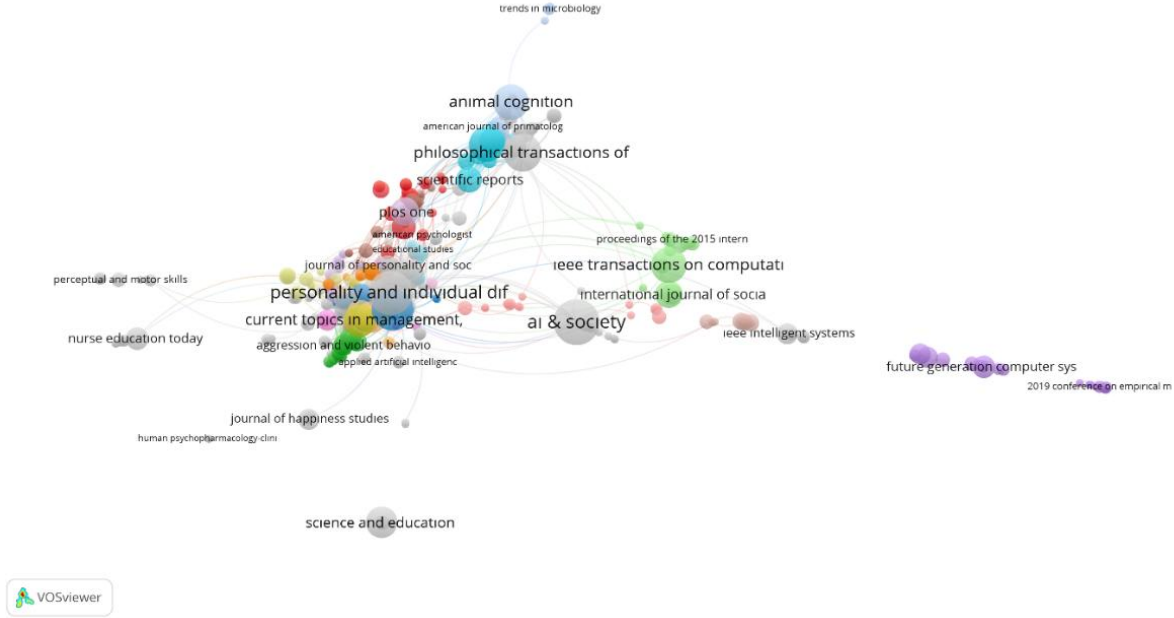
4.6. Kaynak Atıf Analizi

Kaynak atıf ağı çalışmalarda en sık atıf yapılan kaynakların birbiri ile ilişkisini göstermektedir. Her bir kaynağı bir düğüm temsil etmektedir ve iki kaynak arasındaki bağlantı bu kaynakların diğer yayınlar tarafından birlikte atıf alıp almadığını temsil etmektedir. Bağlantı gücü ve sayısı iki kaynağın birlikte ne kadar referans verildiğini gösterirken kümeler çalışma alanlarına göre gruplaşmış kaynak topluluklarını, teorik çerçeveleri veya belirli araştırma yaklaşımlarını temsil etmektedir.

En az bir atıf ve bir yayın kriteri ile yapılan analizde 531 birim, 46 küme, 1,455 bağ ve 1,989 bağlantı gücü çıkmıştır. Bağlantı gücü en yüksek olan kaynaklar beş yayın, 396 atıf ve 185 bağlantı gücü ile Journal of Educational Psychology, 19 yayın, 2910 atıf ve 181 bağlantı gücü ile Philosophical Transactions of the Royal ve 26 yayın, 712 atıf ve 161 bağlantı gücü ile Personality and Individual Differences'dir.



Şekil 6. Kaynakların atıf ağı



4.7. Metin Bibliyografik Eşleşme Analizi

İki kaynak aynı üçüncü yayına atıfta bulunduğunda aralarında dolaylı bir bağ oluşmaktadır ve bu entelektüel benzerlik ya da ortak referans geçmişi anlamına gelmektedir. Metinlerin bibliyografik eşleşme analizi farklı çalışmaların aynı kaynağa atıfta bulunma timeline dayanmaktadır. İki yayının benzer referanslar kullanıyor olması, literatür anlamında ilişkili olduğunu göstermektedir. Bu analizde her düğüm bir yayını, düğümler arasındaki çizgi bu iki yayının kaç ortak kaynağa atıf yaptığını belirtir. Analizdeki bağlantı gücü iki yayının kaç ortak referansa sahip olduğunu gösterirken, kümeler literatürdeki aynı kurumsal yaklaşım ya da yöntemleri paylaşan çalışma gruplarını temsil eder.

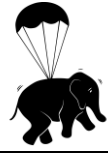
Birbirinden bağımsız iki kaynağın alıntı yapmış olduğu bibliyografik eşleşme analizinde (Dirik vd., 2023) en az bir atıf almış olması ile yapılan analizde bağlantılı olan 1,301 birim eser dokuz küme 52,658 bağlantı ve 91,879 bağlantı gücü tespit edilmiştir. En fazla bağlantı olan yazarlar; beş alıntı ve 1017 bağlantı gücü ile İlhan (İlhan ve Çetin, 2014), 60 alıntı ve 929 bağlantı gücü ile Boucherie (Boucherie vd., 2019), 30 alıntı ve 839 bağlantı gücü ile Holekamp (Holekamp ve Benson-Amram 2017), 52 alıntı ve 812 bağlantı gücü ile Jyoti (Jyoti ve Kour, 2017) ve 64 atıf ve 812 bağlantı gücü ile Lambert (Lambert vd., 2019) olarak gözlemlenmiştir.



Farklı iki yazarın aynı kaynaklara referans veriyor olması benzer literatüre dayandıklarını ve entelektüel anlamda aralarında bağ olduğunu temsil etmektedir. Bu analiz türünde her bir düğüm bir yazarı temsil ederken, iki yazar arasındaki bağlantı, o yazarların yayınlarında ortak referans verdikleri kaynakların sayısını yansıtmaktadır. Ağ haritasındaki kümeler, belirli düşünsel çizgiler etrafında kümelenmiş yazar gruplarını temsil ederken bağlantı gücü, yazarların literatürdeki örtüşen bilgi temellerini yansıtmaktadır. Birbirinden farklı iki yazarı atıf alan metinlerin yazarlarının eşleşmesinin yapılgı yazarların bibliyografik eşleşme analizinde en az bir yayın ve bir atıf kriteri belirlenmiştir. 3,452 birim, 50 küme, 368,377 bağlantı ve 1,211,982 bağlantı gücü tespit edilen analize göre en fazla bibliyografik eşleşme olan yazarlar 21 atıf ve 13,303 bağlantı gücü ile Birkenova, 35 atıf ve 13,104 bağlantı gücü ile Frankovsky ve 331 atıf ve 12,890 bağlantı gücü ile Bugnyar olarak tespit edilmiştir.



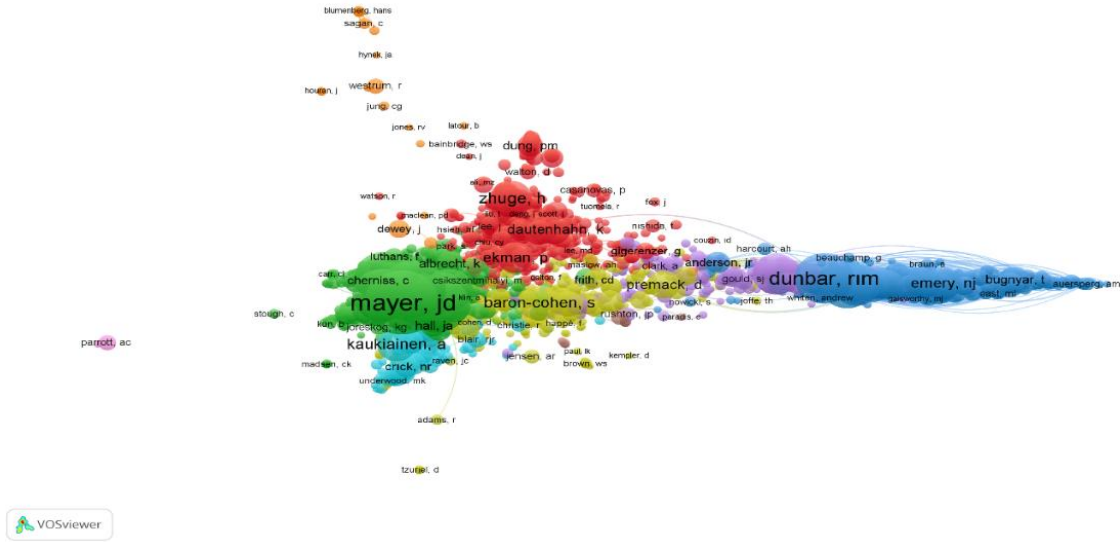
Bu analiz iki farklı yazarın kaç farklı yayında kaynak gösterildiğinin ifadesidir ve bu durum entelektüel etki ve Kabul görmüslüğü de temsil etmektedir. Analizdeki her bir düğüm bir yazarı temsil etmektedir. İki düğüm arasındaki bağlantı ise o yazarların kaç farklı yayında birlikte atıf alındıklarını göstermektedir. Analizdeki bağlantı gücü, birlikte anılma sıklığını gösterirken



kümeler, birlikte atıf alan yazarların gruplarını temsil etmektedir. Bu analiz aynı zamanda alanda önde gelen düşünce liderlerinin bir göstergesidir.

En az beş atıf sayısı seçilerek yapılan yazarların ortak atıf analizinde 2,674 birim, dokuz küme, 177,850 bağlantı ve 607,790 bağlantı gücü tespit edilmiştir.

Şekil 9. Yazarların ortak atıf ağı



Bağlantı gücü en yüksek olan yazar aynı zamanda en fazla atıf alan yazar Mayer (423 atıf, 15,593 bağlantı)'dır. En fazla ikinci bağlantı gücüne sahip olan yazar, Dunbar (263 atıf, 13,929 bağlantı) ve üçüncü yazar Whitten (186 atıf, 11,960 bağlantı) çıkmıştır.

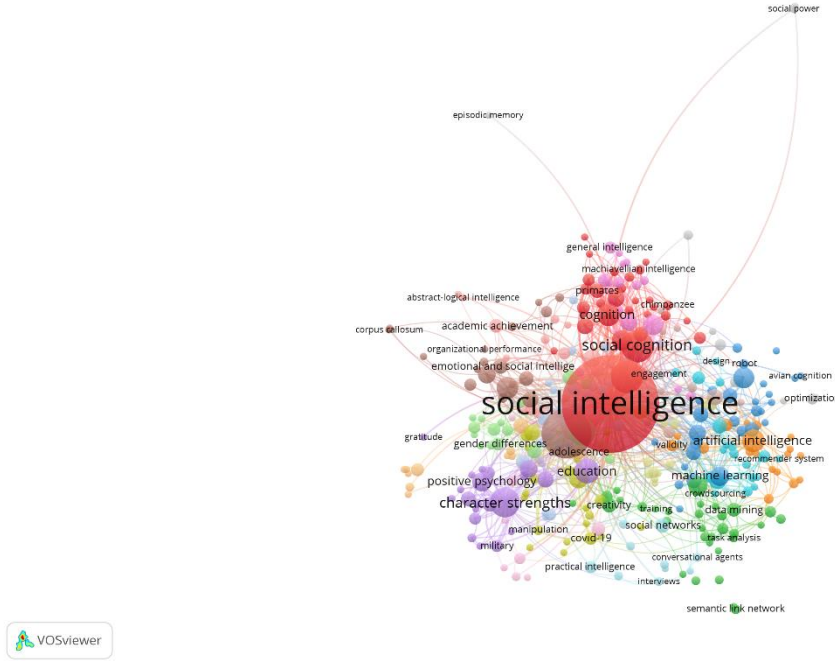
4.9. Anahtar Sözcük Analizi

Bu analiz kullanılan anahtar kelimelerin ne sıklıkta birlikte geçtiğinin ve hangi kavramların birbirleri ile ilişkisinin olduğunun göstergesidir. Ağ haritasında her bir düğüm bir anahtar kelimeyi temsil ederken, iki düğüm arasındaki bağlantı bu kelimelerin aynı anda birlikte geçme sıklığını yansıtmaktadır. Haritadaki kümeler, benzer veya ilişkili kavramlardan oluşan kavramsal grupları; bağlantı gücü ise iki anahtar kelimenin birlikte kullanıldığı yayın sayısını göstermektedir. Bu analiz sayesinde araştırma konularının odaklandığı temalar ve kavramsal örüntüler ortaya çıkmaktadır.

Kavramla ilgili en sık kullanılan anahtar sözcüklerin incelendiği en az üç defa görülme kriteri ile yapılan analizde 337 birim, 22 küme, 1,707 bağlantı ve 2,523 bağlantı gücü tespit edilmiştir. En fazla kullanılan anahtar kelimeler sosyal zeka (social intelligence 450 defa), duygusal zekâ (emotional intelligence 119 defa), zihin teorisi (theory of mind 52 defa) ve sosyal biliş (social cognition 49 defa) şeklindedir. Anahtar kelimelerden bağlantı gücü en yüksek olan 3 kelime sosyal zekâ (686), duygusal zekâ (218) ve sosyal biliş (127) şeklindedir.



Şekil 10. En sık kullanılan anahtar kelime bağları



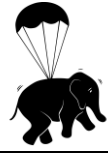
5. TARTIŞMA ve SONUÇ

Çalışmada WoS veri tabanında yapılan tarama sonucunda sosyal zekâ kavramının VOSviewer ile bibliyometrik veri analizi yapılmış ve liderlik ile sosyal zekâ kavramlarını başlık düzeyinde bir arada içeren çalışmalar detaylı biçimde incelenmiştir. Ele edilen bulgular doğrultusunda, sosyal zekâ kavramının özellikle son 15 yılda literatürde artan bir ivme ile çalışıldığı, büyük çoğunluğu makale türünde olan yayınların özellikle ABD, Çin ve İngiltere’de yoğun şekilde araştırıldığı görülmüştür.

Ağ haritalarında ve grafiklerde sunulan analiz ve raporlarda, sosyal zekâ alanında yoğun katkı sağlayan kurum ve yazarlar gözlemlenirken, liderlik temasının özellikle duygusal zekâ, sosyal biliş ve empati kavramları ile birlikte kullanıldığı ortaya konmuştur. Bu durum sosyal zekâ kavramının liderlik açısından sadece genel bir “önem” unsuru olarak görülmemesi gerektiğini, aynı zamanda kuramsal temellere sahip, ölçümlenebilen ve somut etkilere sahip bir bileşen olduğunu göstermektedir.

Akademik veritabanlarından elde edilen verinin bibliyometrik analizini elde etmek için pek çok program bulunmaktadır. Ancak VOSviewer araştırmacılara hem çok farklı alt bileşenlerde haritalama hem de kolaylık sağlamaktadır. VOSviewer programı sayesinde literatür veri tabanlarından elde edilen verinin kümelenmesi, anahtar kelime analizi ve atıf analizi vb. pek çok açıdan analiz edilebilir. VOSviewer’ın sağladığı kolay kullanım çalışma sonuçları daha anlaşılır hale gelmektedir.

Sosyal zekâ kavramına ait bibliyometrik veri analizi kavramın özellikle 2007 yılından sonra popüler hale geldiğini ve yapılan çalışmaların makale ağırlıklı olduğunu göstermektedir.



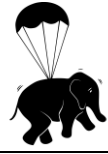
Sosyal zekâ ve liderlik kavramlarının yayın başlığında olması kriteri ile yapılan analizde çalışmaların çok eskiye dayanmasına rağmen (1977) yıllar içerisinde çok fazla yayın yapılmamış olduğu tespit edilmiştir. Bunun başlıca nedeninin analizde kullanılan kavramların sadece başlıkta kullanılma kriteri olarak öngörülebilir. Ulaşılan 17 yayından dört tanesi Goleman ve Boyatriz'in çalışmalarına yazılmış mektup/değerlendirme şeklindedir. Bu nedenle çalışmada kalan 13 yayın ile ilgili detaylı inceleme yapılmış ve özetlenmiştir.

Sosyal zekâ, akademik literatürde giderek daha fazla ilgi gören bir kavram haline gelmiştir. Bu ilgi, sosyal zekâ ile ilgili yapılan bilimsel çalışmaların sayısındaki artışla da desteklenmiştir. Akademik yayın veritabanı WoS kullanılarak yapılan taramalarda, sosyal zekâ kavramının geniş bir kavramlar yelpazesi ile ilişkilendirildiği, bu sebeple disiplinlerarası çalışmalarda merkezi bir rol oynadığı görülmüştür. Son yıllarda sosyal zekâ üzerine odaklanan araştırmalarda hızla artan bir ivme olduğu dikkat çekmektedir.

Sosyal zekâ araştırmalarında en çok atıf alan çalışmalar (Gigerenzer ve Gaissmaier, 2011; Mayer vd., 1999; Block ve Kremen, 1996; Baron-Cohen vd., 1999; George, 2000), genellikle alanın temel taşlarını oluşturan ve kuramsal çerçevesini belirleyen önemli bulgular ve teorilere sahip çalışmalardır. Ayrıca, sosyal zekânın psikoloji, eğitim, iş hayatı gibi farklı alanlardaki uygulamalarını ele alan kapsamlı literatür incelemeleri de sıkça atıf yapılan yayınlar arasında yer almaktadır. Bu tür çalışmalar, sosyal zekânın farklı bağlamlardaki etkilerinin ve öneminin altını çizerek akademik literatüre değerli katkılarda bulunmuş ve sosyal zekânın anlaşılmasında kilit rol oynamıştır.

Literatür taraması sonucunda elde edilen bulgular, sosyal zekânın liderliğin çeşitli boyutlarında belirleyici bir rol oynadığını göstermektedir (Nauman, 2012; Nazarpoori, 2017; Guillaume, 2020). Özellikle liderlerin empati ve sosyal becerilerinin geliştirilmesi, grup içi uyum ve etkin liderlik performansı sağlamak açısından kritik öneme sahiptir (George, 2000; Dinç ve Avanoğlu, 2020). Elde edilen veriler, sosyal zekânın liderlik sürecindeki rolünün teorik bağlamda da desteklendiğini göstermektedir. Bu nedenle, sosyal zekâ özelliklerinin liderlik gelişim programlarına entegre edilmesi önerilmektedir.

Bu çalışma sosyal zekâ kavramının VOSviewer ile bilimsel ağ yapılarını ortaya koymakta ayrıca sosyal zekâ ve liderlik kavramlarını birlikte içeren çalışmalar özelinde WoS sonuçları kullanılarak detaylı bir alt analiz sunmaktadır. WoS verilerine göre iki kavramın birlikte kullanımı oldukça sınırlıdır. Sadece 17 çalışmada her iki kavram bir arada görülmüştür. Duygusal zekâ kavramı sosyal zekânın alt bileşeni olmasına rağmen 19.05.2025 tarihinde yapılan sorguda, WoS veri yabanında sadece başlık kısıtlaması ile “social intelligence” ve “leadership” ifadelerini birlikte içeren 385 çalışmaya ulaşılmıştır. Elde edilen bulgular liderlik gelişim programlarının yeniden yapılandırılması için kavramsal bir temel sunmakta, sosyal zekânın liderlik uygulamaları içindeki rolünün daha bütüncül değerlendirilmesine imkân tanımaktadır. Ancak çalışma yalnızca bibliyometrik analizle sınırlıdır ve uygulamaya dönük bir model önerisi sunmamaktadır. Bu nedenle sosyal zekâ ve liderlik etkileşiminin daha derinlemesine incelemek adına nitel ve deneysel çalışmalara ihtiyaç vardır.



Sosyal zekânın liderlik bağlamında etkilerini daha iyi anlamak ve geliştirmek için çeşitli araştırma ve uygulama alanlarına odaklanması gerekmektedir. Farklı kültürlerde sosyal zekânın liderlik üzerindeki etkilerini inceleyen karşılaştırmalı çalışmalar yapılması gerekmektedir. Sosyal medya ve dijital iletişim araçlarının sosyal zekâ üzerindeki etkilerinin incelenmesi, bu alandaki araştırmalara güncel bir bakış açısı kazandırabilir. Son olarak, sosyal zekânın örgütsel yenilikçiliğe katkı yolları detaylandırılmalı ve bu kapsamda liderlik eğitim programlarının içeriği zenginleştirilmelidir. Sosyal zekâ ve liderlik kavramları, günümüzde organizasyonlarda başarı ve etkinliğin en önemli bileşenleri olarak kabul edilmektedir. Sosyal zekâ, bireylerin duygusal ipuçlarını algılama ve sosyal ilişkileri etkili bir şekilde yönetme kapasitesidir; bu da liderin, takım dinamiklerini yönetmesini ve takipçileriyle etkili iletişim kurmasını sağlar. Liderlikte sosyal zekâ, empati kurma, dinleme ve diğerlerinin perspektiflerini anlama yetisiyle doğrudan ilişkilidir. Bu ilişki, liderin takım üzerindeki etkisini artırarak, motivasyon ve verimlilik düzeylerinin yükselmesine katkı sağlar. Dolayısıyla, sosyal zekâ, liderlik kapasitesinin kritik bir bileşeni olarak değerlendirilmektedir.

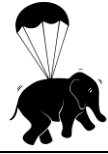
Çalışmada, sosyal zekâ ve liderlik kavramını kapsayan literatürün incelenmesinde metodolojik bütünlük sağlama amaçlı sadece WoS veri tabanı temel alınmıştır. Bu tercihin altında yatan temel nedenlerden biri, WOS'un içermiş olduğu yayınların, hakemli yayın denetim süreçleri, atıf ölçütleri ve bilimsel kalitesi açısından yüksek standartlara sahip olmasıdır. Ancak bu durum Scopus benzeri diğer uluslararası veri tabanlarında yer alan ve kavram ile ilgili önemli katkılar sunabilecek çalışmaların dışarıda kalmasına neden olmuştur. Bu durum, çalışma kapsamında ulaşılan bulguların genel geçerliliğini sınırlayabilecek bir unsur olarak kabul görmektedir. Nitekim sadece tek bir veri tabanına bağlı kalınması, farklı bilimsel yayınların göz ardı edilmesine ve literatür çeşitliliğinin azalmasına yol açabilmektedir. Bu bağlamda çalışmanın kısıtları arasında, veri tabanı seçimindeki tek kaynaklılık ve örneklem çeşitliliğindeki sınırlılık sayılabilir.

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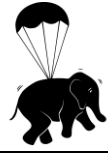
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Katkı Oranı Beyanı: Yazar çalışmayı tek başına gerçekleştirmiştir.

Destek ve Teşekkür Beyanı: Çalışmada herhangi bir kurum ya da kuruluştan destek alınmamıştır.

Çatışma Beyanı: Yazar herhangi bir çıkar çatışması olmadığını deklare etmektedir.

Bu çalışmada “Yükseköğretim Kurumları Bilimsel Araştırma ve Yayın Etiği Yönergesi” kapsamında uyulması belirtilen kurallara uyulmuştur.

Bu makale **benzerlik** tespit yazılımlarıyla taranmıştır.