

ANNEX O: Survey Administration Protocol (ESPAD Standardised Procedure)

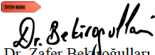
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Survey Administration Protocol (ESPAD Standardised Procedure)

*Substance Abuse Among Adolescents in Northern Cyprus:
Trends, Risks, and Preventive Responses*
RESEARCH ETHICS DOCUMENTATION

Data collection followed the standardised administration procedure of the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD), ensuring cross-national comparability and methodological consistency.

- Instrument: the standardised ESPAD 2019 Master Questionnaire, with items adapted at the national level only as permitted by ESPAD guidelines.
- Setting and mode: the questionnaire was completed individually, independently, and anonymously by students on digital devices via Google Forms, in line with the standardised ESPAD self-completion procedure.
- Privacy configuration: the digital interface was configured to ensure privacy, collecting no personal identifiers or tracking metadata, thereby eliminating observer bias and interpersonal influence during the response process.
- Voluntariness and withdrawal: participation was entirely voluntary; students were free to decline to take part or to stop at any time without giving a reason and without consequence.
- No incentives: no financial or material incentives were offered for participation, consistent with ESPAD standards.
- Anonymity safeguards: the digital interface was configured to collect no personal identifiers or tracking metadata, ensuring that no response could be linked to any individual (see Annex M).
- Completeness: mandatory-response settings were applied so that submitted questionnaires contained no missing items (consistent with the data-screening results reported in Chapter 3).


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On behalf of the Northern Cyprus Prime Minister's Anti-Drug Commission
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