

## 2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR FALL SEMESTER GRADUATES RECEIVED THEIR DIPLOMAS



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) 2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fall Semester Postgraduate, Undergraduate and Associate Graduation Ceremony was held on Friday, 31 January 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at the Lala Mustafa Paşa Sports Complex.

Present during the ceremony were; the President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) Ersin Tatar, TRNC Minister of National Education Nazım Çavuşoğlu, UBP Member of the Parliament and General Secretary Oğuzhan Hasipoğlu, CTP Member of the Parliament Teberriken Uluçay, Famagusta District Governor Özden Keser, Famagusta

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## EMU RECTOR'S OFFICE RELEASED A COMMEMORATORY MESSAGE ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR OF 6 FEBRUARY EARTHQUAKE DISASTER



reads as follows: "6th of February is a date that will forever remain in the hearts of the Turkish Cypriot people as a painful and unforgettable tragedy. The devastating earthquakes that struck Kahramanmaraş on 6 February 2023, at 04:17 Türkiye time caused immense suffering, claiming countless lives and shattering families in both our motherland, Türkiye, and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Among the many heartbreaking losses, the passing of 35 beloved individuals from a group of 39—comprising our bright, intelligent, hardworking, and respectful children, who embodied the future of our nation, along with their dedicated teachers and families—has left an indescribable void in the hearts of the Turkish Cypriot community. These individuals had been staying at the İsiyas Hotel in Adıyaman to participate in sports competitions, and their tragic loss has created wounds that will never heal. The grief of our Champion Angels, including

has closely followed the justice struggle led by the families of the Champion Angels. Despite expert technical reports from various universities, including our own, the legal proceedings for the İsiyas Hotel case concluded on 24 December 2024, bringing profound disappointment and sorrow, particularly for the grieving families. Ensuring that justice is served is crucial to preventing similar instances of negligence and errors, thereby avoiding future tragedies. While no legal ruling can bring back our beloved children and relatives or ease the immense sorrow of the Champion Angels' families, we strongly believe that the İsiyas case should set a legal precedent through a more robust judicial system, contributing to the prevention of future disasters. As we mark the second anniversary of this heartbreaking event, we reaffirm our unwavering support for the families in their pursuit of justice. Eastern Mediterranean University remains dedicated to honoring the memory of our Angels and is always prepared to contribute to keeping their legacy alive.

Our greatest wish is to prevent similar tragedies by increasing earthquake awareness, ensuring structural safety, and maintaining effective oversight mechanisms. On this occasion, we once remember those that we had lost in the 6 February earthquake, especially our beloved Champion Angels, with great longing and love. We extend our heartfelt condolences and strength to their families. We will never forget..."

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector's Office released a commemorative message on the 2nd year of the 6 February earthquake disaster and the 2nd passing anniversary of Champion Angels. The said message

of the children of our university staff, continues to weigh heavily on us, as deeply as it did on the very first day. From the beginning, Eastern Mediterranean University

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Consul General İlyas Çetin, Officials from International Embassies, EMU Board of Trustees (VYK) President Dr. Erdal Özçenk, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, Girne American University Rector Prof. Dr. Serdar Yurtsever, Famagusta Section Commander Colonel Anıl Yıldız, Higher Education Planning, Accreditation and Coordination Council (YODAK) Member Prof. Dr. Remziye Terkan, Department of Culture Director Şirin Zaimağaoğlu, Presidency Advisor and EMU VYK Members Özgür Yuca and Server Karabacak, EMU Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, Prof. Dr. Salih Katırcıoğlu, Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, EMU Acting General Secretary Derviş Ekşici, Senate Members, Faculty Members, graduates and their families.

With the graduates of the 2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fall Semester, EMU has now reached a total of 76,000 alumni, continuing to increase the number of graduates each year.

The ceremony commenced with the entrance of graduates to the ceremony area with Senate Members and Faculty Members. Then, a moment of silence and National Anthem took place followed by speech of Tourism Management PhD graduate Bakiye Yalınç on behalf of postgraduate graduates and, the top-ranked student of the Faculty of Tourism and Department of Tourism Management Raneem Abdulrazek on behalf of associate and undergraduate degree graduates. Symbolic tree planting took place following the speeches of the graduating students.

### “Success is not just a Destination, but an Ongoing Journey of Growth”

In his speech, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç shared the pride and excitement felt by the EMU family, expressing that witnessing the accomplishments of the graduates brought them immense joy. Emphasizing that every graduate is a source of pride for the EMU community and that they continue to create success stories around the globe, Prof. Dr. Kılıç proudly mentioned that EMU is celebrating its 46th year in education. Addressing the graduates, Prof. Dr. Kılıç said, “Today signifies the start of a new chapter. Over the years, you’ve been on a journey filled with lessons, projects, friendships, and experiences. Today, you stand here not just as graduates, but as individuals who will leave a lasting impact

on the future. Our goal at EMU has always been to develop individuals who are not only skilled and knowledgeable but also curious, creative, and solution driven. As you face challenges, remember that you are an EMU graduate. Never stop working, learning, and growing. The future will be shaped by those who can effectively harness knowledge and lead technological advancements. You will carry the abilities you’ve gained at EMU into the world of tomorrow. Don’t hesitate to push boundaries. Stay informed on new technologies and innovations. Success is not a destination, but an ongoing journey of development. Embrace risks and think big. You are the ones who will shape the future. Now is the time to cultivate your dreams. Your success is our greatest legacy. I wish you success in all your endeavors”.

### “Graduation is not an End; it is a Beginning”

Stating that they have gathered to celebrate the fruits of hardwork, ambition and determination, EMU VYK President Dr. Erdal Özçenk added that graduation from EMU does not only refer to receiving a diploma, but also to be a member of a rooted family, a global success and future.

Addressing the students, VYK President Dr. Özçenk said; “Graduation marks not an end, but a remarkable new beginning. You are now embarking on life with the identity of an EMU graduate. This identity represents being well-educated, self-assured, and a global citizen. No matter where you go, the values you gained from EMU will always be by your side. This university will remain your home. The friendships you built, the knowledge you gained, and the experiences you collected will serve as your lifelong guide. Always remember that being an EMU graduate is a privilege, and it will be the greatest strength in shaping your future. Chase your dreams courageously, face challenges without fear, and never forget that you are part of the EMU family. May your journey be bright, and may success accompany you always”.

### “Your Devotedness to Science, Innovation and Ethical Values will Light Up Your Path”

The TRNC Minister of National Education, Nazım Çavuşoğlu, began his speech by offering heartfelt congratulations to all the graduates, wishing them a prosperous and successful future. He pointed out that the achievements the students made were not

only their own, but also the result of the guidance provided by their professors and the unwavering support of their families. Minister Çavuşoğlu emphasized that education is the most powerful foundation in shaping the future of a nation. He also noted that the graduates did not leave Eastern Mediterranean University merely with academic knowledge, but also with the skills to understand life, think critically, and engage with different cultures. Çavuşoğlu stressed that the education they received would serve as their greatest guide in overcoming challenges. In his speech, Çavuşoğlu offered advice to the students, saying, “As you receive your diplomas today, you are not only closing one chapter but also embarking on a new journey. Our country is in great need of you. I am confident that your knowledge, determination, integrity, and hard work will greatly contribute to society. You will become the leaders, scientists, entrepreneurs, and artists of the future. The most important factors that will guide your path are your commitment to science, innovation, and ethical values. Congratulations once again. May your success be endless”.

### “I wish Success to All the Graduates”

In his speech, TRNC President Ersin Tatar expressed his pleasure at being present and wished all the graduates a bright and successful future. He pointed out that, while conflicts persist in different regions around the world, the graduates are beginning their life journeys with the valuable education they have received in the TRNC, and he extended his best wishes for their success. Highlighting the importance of lifelong learning, President Tatar encouraged the graduates to embrace not only the quality of their education but also the ever-evolving technologies and the values of modern civilization in the communication world. He concluded by congratulating all the students.

Following the speeches, top ranking students of the faculties and departments were presented with diplomas and awards. The ceremony continued with the presentation of diplomas to postgraduate students and awards to doctoral thesis supervisors. Then, undergraduate and associate degree program graduates received their diplomas. The ceremony concluded with a cap throwing session of students accompanied by Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and Vice Rector’s count down.

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## TRNC MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION NAZIM ÇAVUŞOĞLU'S MESSAGE FOR EMU GRADUATES



Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Minister of National Education Nazım Çavuşoğlu released a congratulatory message for the 2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fall Semester graduates of Eastern Mediterranean University. Minister Çavuşoğlu underscored that the graduates can overcome any challenges by the virtue of the education they have received at EMU. The message released by Minister Çavuşoğlu reads as follows: “Today marks the end of one

chapter in your life and the beginning of a new journey. Along with enhancing your academic knowledge, the education you have received at Eastern Mediterranean University also shaped your perspective on life, your problem-solving approach, and your sense of responsibility within society. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the academics who have guided you to this point, as well as to your families and all those who have selflessly contributed their efforts and support

during your studies. Bear in mind that each one of you is here with unique dreams and goals. However, the common ground that unites you together is your dedication and commitment to the future. While the future may bring challenges, we are confident that you will overcome such difficulties by using the skills you have acquired at EMU. You will not only shape your own future but also craft the legacy you will leave behind for society and the world. Wherever your future endeavors take you around the world, always uphold universal values like justice, transparency and human rights, and strive to be a source of hope for society.

As graduates of Eastern Mediterranean University, you will represent a source of great pride for us wherever you go. Today, you will be leaving here as graduates of Eastern Mediterranean University. But remember that this university will always be your home. You will always be a member of the EMU family. As you embark on the next phase of your life, I wish your journey to always be smooth, bright, and filled with achievements. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all our graduates and wish you everlasting success in all your endeavors.”

## FAMAGUSTA MAYOR DR. SÜLEYMAN ULUÇAY HAS FULL CONFIDENCE IN EMU GRADUATES



Famagusta Mayor Dr. Süleyman Uluçay released a congratulatory message for the 2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fall Semester Graduates of the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU). Wishing them success in their future lives, Dr. Uluçay

congratulated both the graduates and their families. The message of Dr. Uluçay reads as follows: “The home of Eastern Mediterranean University, the city of Famagusta, is the second largest city

in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The first university established in our country, Eastern Mediterranean University, is also the only state university in TRNC. Eastern Mediterranean University has great significance for both the city of Famagusta and our country, as it serves as the most important institution in the higher education sector in TRNC. Up to this day, over 75 thousand EMU graduates have had many achievements and carried out numerous research in their own countries, becoming the honorary representatives of both the city of Famagusta and EMU. I am confident that 2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fall Semester graduates will also achieve many successes in their future endeavors”.

Addressing the graduates in his message, Dr. Uluçay said; “Without a doubt, the education you have received at EMU will play a crucial role in your future life. I extend my most sincere wishes to you and your families, with love and respect. You are always welcome in Famagusta and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus”.

# DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS SIGNIFICANTLY CONTRIBUTES TO CA18108 COST PROJECT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION



Gravity Phenomenology in the Multi-Messenger Era”, published in Classical and Quantum Gravity, a prestigious journal of the Institute of Physics, was highlighted as the leading paper of the issue. This article, authored by R Alves Batista et al. (2025, Class. Quantum Grav. 42 032001), focuses on Quantum Gravity Phenomenology in the Multi-Messenger Era. Prof. Dr. İzzet Sakallı, Head of the Department of Physics, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ali Övgün from EMU Physics Department were among the authors, successfully placing the EM Department of Physics among the renowned institutions contributing to the European Union project.



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Physics Department Head Prof. Dr. İzzet Sakallı and faculty member Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ali Övgün have made valuable contributions to the European Union’s esteemed COST Action project, CA18108 - Quantum Gravity Phenomenology in the Multi-Messenger Approach (QG-MM). Through their efforts, they successfully represented EMU in European Union projects and made a significant contribution to the international scientific community. Their work further solidifies EMU’s active involvement in research aimed at better understanding the fundamental laws of the universe.

As part of COST Action CA18108, the article titled “Roadmap White Paper and Roadmap for Quantum

Through their academic contributions to the project, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Övgün contributed 30 papers, while Prof. Dr. Sakallı contributed 6 papers to support the COST Action. These papers have become a key resource for advancing both theoretical and experimental research in the field of quantum gravity phenomenology.

Prof. Dr. Sakallı was invited as a guest speaker and faculty member at the “Quantum Aspects of Spacetime and Gravity” conference, held from 5-9 September, 2022, at the Ruđer Bošković Institute in Croatia. This event was a key activity of COST Action CA18108, and Prof. Dr. Sakallı’s presentations garnered significant interest. Furthermore, Prof. Sakallı took part in the closing conference of CA18108, which took place in Rijeka, Croatia, from 11-14 July, 2023, where he delivered a scientific talk.

## What is CA18108 Project?

The CA18108 Project offers an innovative framework for investigating the universe through the multi-messenger approach. The project focuses on identifying physical phenomena in quantum gravity theories by examining cosmic particles (photons, neutrinos, cosmic rays) and gravitational waves. A primary goal is to develop phenomenological models that may incorporate effects at the Planck scale, a major objective in this emerging field of physics. The project aims to bring together theoretical and experimental research teams to predict and identify physical events linked to quantum gravity theories. Moreover, one of the project’s key objectives is to cultivate a new generation of experts in this specialized field.

# EMU RANKS AS THE FIRST IN TRNC IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION RANKINGS

Being among the most commonly referenced university ranking organizations all around the world, the England-based Times Higher Education (THE) announced the best universities of the world based subjects.

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) listed within the 301-400 band in the Business and Economics subject area which featured 850 universities from 85 countries. With this achievement, EMU secured the first band in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) and, the second band among universities from the Republic of Türkiye and the island of Cyprus.

EMU also listed within the top universities around the world in the field of Physical Sciences and Engineering. Ranking 1,447 universities from 107 different countries, the Physical Sciences list featured EMU in the 301-400 band. On the other hand, EMU ranked within the 501-600 band of the Engineering subject rankings which listed total of 1,488 universities from 97 countries.

**First in TRNC in the Fields of Medicine and Health**  
Being listed in the Medicine and Health subject rankings for the first time ever, EMU ranked within the 601-800 band of the list which featured 1,150 universities from 102 countries. With this success, EMU achieved to be one of the two universities from TRNC to appear on the list. EMU also shared the third band with the universities among the Republic of Türkiye.

**“EMU is a Prestigious Institution Worldwide”**  
Making remarks on the topic, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç stated that EMU, as a state university,



continues to demonstrate its quality through various global rankings, reaffirming its reputation as a prestigious institution worldwide and its consistent position among the top universities in the world. Adding more, Prof. Dr. Kılıç said; “This achievement serves as

clear evidence that EMU has a strong presence both in the TRNC and on the global stage”. Underscoring that such achievements are result of hard working EMU personnel’s efforts, Prof. Dr. Kılıç congratulated the EMU community, wishing them future success.

# FACULTY OF PHARMACY FALL SEMESTER GRADUATES TAKE THEIR OATHS



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Faculty of Pharmacy organized an oath taking ceremony for 2024-2025 Academic Year Fall Semester graduates on Monday, 27 January 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at Mustafa Afşin Ersoy Hall, where the graduates took their first steps into the profession.

Present at the ceremony were the President of EMU Board of Trustees (VYK) Dr. Erdal Özçenk, the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy Prof. Dr. Hayrettin Ozan Gülcan, the Dean of Faculty of Dentistry Prof. Dr. Hikmet Solak, the Dean of EMU Faculty of Health Sciences Prof. Dr. Mehtap Malkoç, the Vice Deans of Faculty of Pharmacy Assist. Prof. Dr. Emine Dilek Özyılmaz and Assist. Prof. Dr. Jale Yüzügülen, graduates and their families.

The ceremony commenced with a Moment of Silence and National Anthem followed by the speeches of 2024 – 2025 Academic Year Fall Semester top ranking student of Pharm-D program Etini Etido Useh and top ranking student of

M-Pharm program Sahar Waked. Then, the ceremony continued with presentation of awards to the said students by EMU VYK President Dr. Erdal Özçenk.

### “This Success Belongs to All of Us”

In his opening speech, the Dean of EMU Faculty of Pharmacy Prof. Dr. Gülcan said; “Today is a day of great pride for us. Thirty-five of our students will officially step into their professional careers, affirming their dedication to their profession in a special ceremony. This success belongs to all of us!”. Emphasizing the faculty’s academic and scientific accomplishments, Prof. Dr. Gülcan continued: “Since its establishment, our faculty has graduated over 1,100 students, boasts a distinguished academic team, has contributed more than a thousand research articles to scientific indexes, and offers top-tier facilities and high-quality education. We are not only home to the island’s most advanced pharmacy faculty but also a forward-thinking institution meeting the demands of the modern era”.

### Congratulatory Message from EMU

Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç who could not attend the event due to his busy schedule, sent a congratulatory message for the graduates, their families and the academic personnel. Prof. Dr. Kılıç’s message read as; “Our Faculty of Pharmacy is committed to training individuals who uphold universal standards of the pharmacy profession, serve society, and remain true to ethical principles. Today, our graduates are taking their professional oath, marking the beginning of their new paths”. Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that the graduates have been trained as highly skilled pharmacists and scientists with international qualifications, ready to provide health consultancy services. Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç underscored that this profession demands compassion, dedication, and technical expertise. Expressing his confidence in the graduates’ future achievements as proud ambassadors of EMU, Prof. Dr. Kılıç extended his best wishes, saying, “May your journey be smooth, your luck plentiful, and your success and happiness everlasting”.

### “Profession of Pharmacy is a Vital Duty of Serving the Humanity”

Taking the stage following the message of Prof. Dr. Kılıç, EMU VYK President Dr. Erdal Özçenk expressed that, as a physician, he shares the excitement and emotions of the students as they begin their pharmacy careers. He stated, “Today, we gather to witness a pivotal moment in your lives. As graduates of EMU Faculty of Pharmacy, your hard work and dedication over the years have prepared you to embark on your professional journey. My heartfelt congratulations to all of you,” celebrating this milestone with the students. Highlighting the significance of pharmacy as a profession that serves humanity, Dr. Özçenk remarked, “Your role as pharmacists will have a profound impact on society. I hope the education you acquired at EMU will illuminate your professional path,” offering his best wishes for success to the graduates and their families. The ceremony ended with the presentation of certificates to the graduating students and the recitation of their professional oaths.



# HEALTH SCIENCES FACULTY HOLDS AN OATH TAKING CEREMONY FOR ITS FALL SEMESTER GRADUATES



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Health Sciences and School of Health Services held an oath taking ceremony for the 2024-2025 Academic Year Fall Semester graduates. The event took place on Tuesday, 28 January 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at the Champion Angels Amphitheatre where nearly 100 healthcare professionals took their oaths.

Present during the ceremony were Famagusta Consul General İlyas Çetin, EMU Board of Trustees (VYK) President Dr. Erdal Özçenk, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, Director of the Department of Tourism, Promotion and Marketing Mine Emiroğlu, Chair of the Union of Turkish Cypriot Dieticians Assist. Prof. Dr. Hidayet Ağören, EMU Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, Dean of the Health Sciences Faculty Prof. Dr. Mehtap Malkoç, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy Prof. Dr. H. Ozan Gülcan, Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry Prof. Dr. Hikmet Solak, vice deans, faculty members, students and their families.

Following the observance of a moment of silence and the National Anthem, the ceremony commenced with speeches delivered by Tayseer Said Al-Tamimi, a graduate of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, representing the English-medium programs, and Remziye Kızılbora, the top graduate of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Exercise and Sports Sciences, who spoke on behalf of the graduates.

## “Always Adhere to Science and Ethical Values”

Prof. Dr. Malkoç, the Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, pointed out that the faculty offers an education that meets international standards and is grounded in a thoughtful approach. Providing details about both

the Faculty of Health Sciences and the School of Health Services, Prof. Dr. Malkoç emphasized the faculty’s distinguished academic team, modern facilities, and student-focused methodology, noting that they enhance both theoretical and practical knowledge for their students. Prof. Dr. Malkoç also mentioned that the faculty continues to be recognized as a reputable institution, known for its national and international accreditations in the field of health sciences.

Addressing the students, Prof. Dr. Malkoç said; “I wholeheartedly congratulate you all. This is not an ending, rather it is the first step of a new beginning. Throughout your career, everyone you meet will benefit from your knowledge, respect, and integrity. This profession is not merely a job; it is a life philosophy and a responsibility. Always stay true to the principles of science and ethics. Strive to improve and do your best at all times. Congratulations to all of you, and may your success be everlasting”.

## “Abide by Ethical Values and Always Improve Yourself”

Taking the stage following Prof. Dr. Malkoç, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç extended his congratulations to the graduates. Underscoring that EMU is the sole university in the Turkish Republic of

Northern Cyprus (TRNC) that is established by law, Prof. Dr. Kılıç added that the Faculty of Health Sciences and the School of Health Services graduated nearly 6,800 students. Stating that they take pride in their nearly 100 graduates with 9 different nationalities, Prof. Dr. Kılıç conveyed his pleasure to be sharing a such special day with them.”

Prof. Dr. Kılıç continued his speech by saying; “As you take on the responsibility and honor of working in the healthcare sector, always bear in mind the immense value of impacting human lives. The foundation of health services is built on love for humanity, compassion, patience, and dedication. May these values guide you throughout your career. We are confident that the knowledge and skills you have gained will enable you to provide the best service to others. Along your educational journey, you not only gained knowledge but also learned empathy, patience, dedication, and responsibility, which have brought you to where you are today. Adhering to the ethical standards of your profession, continually developing yourself, and staying open to innovation will be key to your success as a healthcare professional. Don’t be afraid to face challenges. Prioritize rest and make time for yourself. I wish you a career full of success. May your journey be smooth and your future bright”.

## “Empathy is the Cornerstone of Healthcare”

Conveying his contentment on attending such a special event, EMU VYK President Dr. Erdal Özçenk addressed students by saying; “Each of you is graduating with essential knowledge and expertise that plays a critical role in human health. You are now prepared to offer your skills to society. The healthcare field demands more than just scientific knowledge; it also requires compassion, love for humanity, and a commitment to ethical principles. Empathy is the cornerstone of healthcare. Always uphold your conscience and love for others. You will remain a part of EMU, and we will continue to take pride in your accomplishments. Wishing you a bright and successful future ahead”.

Following the opening speeches, the ceremony continued with the top-ranked graduate’s name being added to the name log and presentation of their award by Dr. Özçenk, Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, and Prof. Dr. Malkoç.

## Graduates Took Their Oaths to Uphold the Principles and Ethical Values

Students graduating from undergraduate programs of EMU Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Department of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, Department of Nursing, Department of Health Management, Department of Exercise and Sports Sciences and, students graduating from associate programs of Dental end Oral Health, Anesthetics, Surgical Services, Dialysis, Physiotherapy, First and Emergency aid, Radiotherapy, Medical Imaging and, Orthopedic Prosthetics Orthotics took their professional oaths in accompany of their Department Chairs and Program Coordinators. At the end of the ceremony, Graduates threw their caps into the air.



## “A JOURNEY THROUGH THE COSMOS” EXPLORATION EVENT HELD AT EMU



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Arts and Sciences Faculty, Departments of Physics, and the Astronomy and Space Sciences Club co-organized an exploration event within the scope of SCI 111 (Exploration of Universe) course. On 25 January 2025, participants of the event explored one of the most fascinating astronomical incidences of 2025, the “Planetary Parade”. The exploration session took place

between 07.00 p.m. and 08:00 p.m., the best time period when the planets were most visible on the western horizon.

During the event attended by nearly 200 students and space-enthusiasts, telescopes of EMU Department of Physics were used to observe the unique order of planets. While Mars, Uranus, Jupiter, and Saturn were visible in alignment

from our country through the EMU telescopes, Jupiter and its moons mesmerized everyone in attendance that night due to its position and the clear western sky. Participants had the rare chance to witness this astronomical event, which happens only once every 175 years. The event was highly praised for both its captivating ambiance and the valuable scientific insights it provided.

## THE ROLE OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY OVER THE CLIMATE CHANGE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PRESERVATION DISCUSSED IN COLLABORATIONS OF EMU AND MASDER



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Architecture, Department of Interior Architecture academic staff member Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hacer Başarır Dindiç and PhD student Tochukwu Nnaji carried out a presentation and a workshop titled “Climate Change and Society: Preservation of Famagusta’s Cultural Heritage Assests” hosted by Mağusa Suriçi Derneği (MASDER). The presentation addressed the relationship between climate change and the preservation of cultural heritage, with the goal of fostering cooperation to safeguard cultural heritage sites from the growing climate risks.

Famagusta Mayor Dr. Süleyman Uluçay, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, EMU Information Management and Services Unit Supervisor Cemal

Kılıç, MASDER officials and members attended the said event.

Famagusta boasts a rich cultural heritage, featuring historical artifacts from various civilizations. However, this heritage is threatened by the effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation. The event aimed to increase local awareness about the importance of preserving cultural heritage and encourage community involvement in safeguarding it.

### Interactive Sessions Held

The workshop provided participants with practical tools to help them better understand the connection between climate change and cultural

heritage. It included interactive sessions on climate vulnerability assessments, preservation of cultural heritage, and the development of strategies.

With the expertise and communication network of MASDER, the workshop aimed to merge scientific knowledge with the practical experience of the local community to create viable solutions for cultural heritage preservation. Participants explored climate change risks and protective measures with a shared sense of responsibility.

The presentation encouraged the creation of innovative solutions tailored to Famagusta’s unique situation, using examples from global cultural heritage sites. The workshop played a key role in aligning broader socio-economic goals with MASDER’s commitment to cultural protection and sustainable tourism.

### Collaboration between Local Community and University

At the event, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and Famagusta Mayor Dr. Süleyman Uluçay highlighted the importance of cooperation between universities and local communities, emphasizing the crucial role of this partnership in safeguarding Famagusta’s cultural heritage. They pointed out that the event was a vital step in ensuring that Famagusta’s cultural heritage serves as a source of pride and well-being for future generations.

## DEPARTMENT OF NURSING MAKES STATEMENTS ON 1-31 JANUARY CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Health Sciences Faculty, Department of Nursing academic personnel member Emine Temizkan Sekizler released a statement with the slogan of “One Test, One Vaccine, One Life!” within the scope of the 1-31 January Cervix Cancer Awareness Month. The statement reads as follows:

“Cervical cancer develops when the cells in the cervix, which is the lower part of the uterus connecting to the vagina, begin to grow uncontrollably. It is the fourth most common cancer in women worldwide, the tenth in Türkiye, and the ninth in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. To raise awareness, January 1-31 is observed as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.

Research into the causes of cervical cancer reveals that the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is responsible for over 99% of cervical cancer cases. Women infected with HPV have a 250–400 times greater risk of developing cervical cancer compared to those who aren’t infected. HPV is a sexually transmitted infection that can cause cancer and infections in areas such as the skin, external genital regions, anus, mouth, and throat. This makes HPV a threat not only to women but also to men. In women, persistent infections with high-risk HPV strains can lead to the development of abnormal cells that may eventually turn cancerous. Risk factors for cervical cancer include the oncogenic potential of the HPV type, immune health, the presence of other sexually transmitted infections, number



of childbirths, early pregnancy age, use of hormonal contraceptives, and smoking.

Cervical cancer is a type of cancer that progresses slowly, but before it develops, abnormal cells can appear in the cervix tissue. Detecting and treating these cells is crucial to prevent cancer. Key strategies for preventing and treating cervical cancer include HPV vaccination and regular screening of the cervical tissue.

HPV vaccines offer protection against HPV types 16 and 18, which are responsible for cervical cancer. The World Health Organization advises that both girls and boys receive the vaccine between the ages of 9 and 14, and for individuals aged 15 and older, a three-dose regimen should be followed if vaccination is needed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) further states that the vaccine can be given up to the age of 26, but it is most effective

when administered before sexual activity begins. In Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, despite some efforts, HPV vaccines remain optional and paid, and they are not yet included in the national vaccination program.

Cervical cancer screening programs are vital for early diagnosis. The screening protocols differ depending on the country and guidelines. The World Health Organization advises that all women who have been sexually active start getting Pap smear tests every 5-10 years from the age of 30 and have an HPV test at least twice before turning 35 and once more before reaching 45 to detect cervical diseases and cancer.

Cervical cancer is a major public health concern. To prevent sexually transmitted infections, it is important to use barrier methods like condoms, have a monogamous sexual relationship, delay the onset of sexual activity, plan for fertility, maintain a healthy diet, avoid smoking and alcohol, monitor for abnormal bleeding or discharge outside of the menstrual cycle, ensure regular Pap smear screenings, practice good personal hygiene, screen high-risk groups, and raise awareness about the early signs of cervical cancer and vaccination programs. Raising awareness, ensuring access to information and healthcare services, and promoting lifelong prevention and control are crucial for managing cervical cancer”.

“Cervical Cancer is Preventable; Early Diagnosis Saves Lives!”



# EMU SPRING SEMESTER 27<sup>TH</sup> ORIENTATION DAYS TO COMMENCE

Organized by the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Social and Cultural Activities Directorate at the beginning of each academic semester, with the aim of supporting the integration, welcoming and placement process of the newly registered students, Eastern Mediterranean University's 27th Orientation Days are about to commence. During the orientation period, 7-20 February 2025, students may consult the help desks set up around the campus and receive information about the social, cultural and academic life at the university. The 27th EMU Spring Semester Orientation Days are designed to ensure that new students are well-prepared for the start of the 2024-2025 Academic Year Spring Semester courses.

Within the scope of the EMU Orientation Days program, to be held under the communication sponsorship of North Cyprus Turkcell (KKTCELL), new students will be provided with the opportunity to settle in the dormitories at EMU following their arrival in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) until 20 February 2025. The English Proficiency Exam will be held on 11-12 February 2025. Ring bus services will be organized from the dormitories area and EMU-2 Dormitory to the EMU Foreign Languages and English Preparatory School to ease the transportation of students to the exam venue.

## Various Events to Take Place

Between 11 and 17 February 2025, cinema screenings, karaoke and game night events will be held at the Activity Center, which will provide enjoyable moments, allowing students to make new friends and adapt to university life more quickly.

## An Opportunity to Explore the City with the Famagusta Tour

The Famagusta Tour, which will take

place on 17 February 2025, will provide new students with an opportunity to explore the city. The tour will start at 10:00 a.m. with buses departing from the Activity Center.

## Campus Tour to be held

A campus tour will be held on 18 February 2025 at 10:00 a.m. The tour will begin from the Activity Center building and visit important spots around

## Welcoming Event for Students

A welcoming event will be organized at EMU Table d'Hote Restaurant on 18 February 2025 at 04:30 p.m., hosting the new students and their families. The said event will offer the new students an

opportunity to meet with fellow students and academic staff members.

## Life in North

### Cyprus Seminar

The Police General Directorate will host the 'Life in Northern Cyprus' seminar for new students, offering them essential information about life on the island.

## Adapting to

### University Life Seminar

To be presented by Psychologist Dr. Fatoş Özylem, Head of the Psychological Counseling,

Guidance, and Research Center (PDRAM), the 'Adapting to University Life' seminar is designed to help students transition smoothly into both academic and social aspects of university life.

Videos of the afore-mentioned seminars and detailed information on orientation days are accessible at <https://student.emu.edu.tr> and <https://orientation.emu.edu.tr> web pages.



## CIVIL AVIATION CABIN SERVICES PROGRAM STUDENTS COMPLETES EMERGENCY MOCK-UP TRAINING



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Civil Aviation Cabin Services Associate Program students successfully completed the “Emergency Mock-up Training” held at Istanbul Pegasus Airlines Training Center and Istanbul Airport (IGA).

The mock-up training in question which took place at Pegasus Airlines Training Center was delivered by Pegasus authorities and EMU Civil Aviation Cabin Services Program specialist academic staff member Aslı Akı and Sonuç Hacıoğlu. The training sessions included topics such as fire extinguishing, use of emergency equipment, emergency scenario training in flight simulator and life-saving in water. Within the scope of the training, possible situations that can be experienced in the case of a risk in the sky, a forced landing on the sea or on land and, steps to be taken in such circumstances were taught to students. In the mock-up training, the training of opening and closing the doors on the planes was carried out practically for students. Students also received training on how to react in emergency situations such as fire, discharge of pressure, forced landing, failure of landing gear or breakage during flight.

### “Contributing to the Professionalism of Our Students”

EMU Faculty of Tourism’s Acting Dean Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mine Haktanır stated that the mock-up training session held at the modern education facilities of Pegasus Airlines was completed successfully. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Haktanır expressed that the students received training through different scenarios against all kinds of emergencies



that may occur in the cabin. Moreover, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Haktanır added that cabin crew candidates receive practical training in addition to in-class theoretical training in the EMU Civil Aviation and Cabin Services program and stated that such training ensure the permanence of the knowledge they learn.

Emphasizing that the students had the opportunity to observe the practices and processes in the aviation industry closely with the technical visits they made at Istanbul Airport, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mine Haktanır extended her thanks to EMU Rector’s Office, Pegasus Airlines officials, IGA officials, Specialist Instructor Aslı AKI and Sonuç Hacıoğlu for enabling the Mock-Up training to take place.



# EMU GRADUATE KÜBRA SAPMAZ ÖZKAN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS DESIGN AWARD



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Architecture, Department of Interior Architecture graduate Kübra Sapmaz Özkan received an award at the 35th Anfaş Hotel Equipment Fair. Özkan, the founder of Mitos Project Interior Design, attracted great appreciation with her “The Room Where Future is Designed” themed innovative and sustainable project at the 5th Hotel Design Show event organized by the Antalya Branch of the Chamber of Interior Architects.

Referred as one of the leading events of the sector, the fair hosted over 25,000 visitors, from 70 different provinces of Türkiye as well as 50 different countries abroad.

## “The Room Where the Future is Designed” Themed Project

Kübra Sapmaz Özkan, designed the hotel room to cater to modern living needs, incorporating smart technology solutions. The smart assistant at the entrance enabled guests to adjust the lighting, temperature, and curtains through voice commands or mobile apps.

This hotel room, designed with a future-focused theme, uses recyclable and eco-friendly materials. Energy-efficient LED lighting and water-saving fixtures

are complemented by unique ceiling and wall lighting systems that serve both decorative and practical purposes. The plants placed within the room not only added a natural touch but also contributed to air purification. Moreover, the room’s ergonomic design created a comfortable space for both relaxation and work.

Kübra Sapmaz Özkan highlighted the significance of sustainability and innovation in the hospitality industry with her design, stating that it provides solutions tailored to modern demands.

## Last Week’s Academic Publications Source: Web of Science

### Faculty of Business & Economics

**1- Miba’am, Benjamin Walwai, and Hasan Gungor.** “Do Uncertainties in US Affect Bitcoin Returns? Evidence from Time Series Analysis.” COMPUTATIONAL ECONOMICS, 2025. (Early Access). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10614-024-10842-8>.

### Faculty of Education

**1- Kuter, Sitkiye, and Senem Sanal-Erginel.** “An Analysis of a Social Sciences Curriculum from the Perspective of Critical Peace Education.” COMPARE-A JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, 2025. (Early Access)

### Faculty of Arts & Sciences

**1- Gasimov, Jasarat J, and Nazim I Mahmudov.** “Second-Order Maximum Principle Controlled Weakly Singular

Volterra Integral Equations.” ARCHIVES OF CONTROL SCIENCES 34, no. 4 (2024): 863–80.

**2- Mazharimousavi, S Habib.** “Schwarzschild-Levi-Civita Black Hole.” PHYSICS LETTERS B 861 (February 2025).

**3- Guvendi, Abdullah, and Omar Mustafa.** “Fermion-Antifermion Pairs in Magnetized Spacetime Generated by a Point Source.” NUCLEAR PHYSICS B 1011 (February 2025). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nuclphysb.2025.116803>.

**4- Mustafa, Omar, and Abdullah Guvendi.** “Klein-Gordon Oscillators in Traversable Wormhole Rainbow Gravity Spacetime: Conditional Exact Solvability via a Throat Radius and Oscillator Frequency Correlation.” INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF GEOMETRIC METHODS IN MODERN PHYSICS, 2025. (Early Access).

**5- Guvendi, Abdullah, and Omar Mustafa.** “Investigating Quantum Criticality through Charged Scalar Fields near the BTZ Black Hole Horizon.” ANNALS OF PHYSICS 473 (February 2025). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aop.2024.169897>.

aop.2024.169897.

**6- Tangphati, Takol, Izzet Sakalli, Ayan Banerjee, and Anirudh Pradhan.** “Anisotropic Quark Stars in f(R, Lm, T) Gravity.” CHINESE PHYSICS C 49, no. 2 (February 2025). <https://doi.org/10.1088/1674-1137/ad99b2>.

### Faculty of Engineering

**1- Alibrahim, Bashar, Ahed Habib, and Maan Habib.** “Developing a Brain Inspired Multilobar Neural Networks Architecture for Rapidly and Accurately Estimating Concrete Compressive Strength.” SCIENTIFIC REPORTS 15, no. 1 (January 2025).

**2- Feng, Jigang, Anhao Li, Babak Safaei, Zhaoye Qin, and Fulei Chu.** “Revolutionary Coatings: Unlocking the Full Potential of Energy Dissipation and Mechanical Properties in Nickel Foam.” CHEMICAL ENGINEERING JOURNAL 505 (February 2025).



**Eastern  
Mediterranean  
University**

Management at Eastern Mediterranean University  
Famagusta, North Cyprus

On behalf of Eastern Mediterranean University  
Prof. Dr. Hasan KILIÇ, Rector

Supervisor  
Prof. Dr. Ali ÖZTÜREN, Vice Rector

Prepared by  
Public Relations and Media Directorate

General Coordinator  
Burcu Sultan BETİN, Director (a.)  
Public Relations and Media Directorate

### News

Burcu Sultan BETİN | Ülgen İNANÇ AMBER  
Banu ÇALIŞKANLAR

### Layout

Müge DEBRELİ | Yenilimez Ufuk YILMAZ

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Gözde ETİKAN SAGER

### Contact:

Famagusta, North Cyprus  
Phone: 0 392 630 1212  
E-mail: [dau.haber@emu.edu.tr](mailto:dau.haber@emu.edu.tr)  
Web: [pr.emu.edu.tr](http://pr.emu.edu.tr)



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