

EMU BROUGHT EXPERT FIGURES TOGETHER AT THE 13TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) brought expert individuals together at the 13th International Congress on Curriculum and Instruction (ICCI-EPOK) organized in collaboration with the Turkish Association of Curriculum and Instruction (EPÖDER), on 25-28 October 2025 at EMU Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center. Organized with the main sponsorship of the Municipality of Famagusta and, Cyprus Turkish Teachers' Trade Union (KTÖS), the event saw participation from over 300 academics and scholars, as well as over 100 audience, especially from Türkiye and, Azerbaijan, Kosovo, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and various other countries.

The opening ceremony of the congress was attended by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, Famagusta Mayor Dr. Süleyman Uluçay, Chairperson of the Turkish Language Association (TDK) Prof. Dr. Osman Mert, Director of the Atatürk Teacher

Academy Prof. Dr. Güner Konedralı, Department of Curriculum and Instruction's Director Murad Aktuğ, EMU Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, EMU General Secretary Derviş Ekşici, Vice Rector of the Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" University Assoc. Prof. Dr. Serdan Kervan, and Honorary Chair of EPÖDER Prof. Dr. Özcan Demiral, as well as many academics and researchers.

Commencing with the moment of silence and the singing of the National Anthem, the congress proceeded with the screening of EMU's promotional video, followed by a musical performance by Specialist Maka Rothery from the Department of Fine Arts Education, Faculty of Education, and the opening speeches.

"Inclusive and Technology-Based Education Approach"

In his speech, Dean of EMU Faculty of Education

and Co-Chair of the Congress Organizing Committee, Prof. Dr. Ahmet Pehlivan highlighted that in an era of rapidly advancing digital technologies, educational programs should no longer serve merely as vehicles for knowledge transfer, but rather as frameworks that cultivate digital skills integrated with ethical values. Prof. Dr. Pehlivan noted that innovations such as artificial intelligence, big data, and augmented reality are profoundly transforming learning processes and emphasized that meaningful educational reform can only occur when inclusivity is central. Stressing that educational transformation is not just about keeping pace with technology but about embracing a human-centered way of thinking, Prof. Dr. Pehlivan affirmed that the EMU Faculty of Education will continue to advance national and international research, projects, and policies in alignment with its inclusive, technology-driven educational philosophy. > pg. 2-3

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR EMU LAW STUDENTS: COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH TÜRKİYE'S BAR ASSOCIATION AND INTRODUCTORY SEMINAR ORGANIZED

On Monday, 20 October 2025, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Faculty of Law, in collaboration with the Turkish Bar Association, held a promotional seminar titled "Pre-Internship Legal Training Support Program under Mentor Lawyer Guidance", following the signing of the protocols for the Pre-Professional Training of Young Lawyers with Mentor/Advisor Lawyer Support. The event was designed to support the professional growth of law students before entering the field and to offer them practical training opportunities during their preparation for the legal profession, guided by experienced mentor lawyers. > pg. 4-5



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“A Scientific Gathering held Face-to-Face”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Cem Babadoğan, Chair of EPÖDER, stated that the congress is held annually in collaboration with a different university. Highlighting their aim to expand events across various cities and platforms, he expressed his gratitude to EMU for hosting this year's event. Speaking about the association's founding, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Babadoğan emphasized that the congress is a longstanding, specialized event in the field of curriculum and instruction, and noted that its main distinction is being a face-to-face scientific meeting. He added that this year, with 171 papers and 230 participants, the congress provided a robust environment for academic exchange. He also mentioned that the 13th congress took place from 25-28 October, and that the traditional Republic Ball will be held on 29 October 29 on occasion of Republic Day.

Represented Both Türkiye and North Cyprus

In his remarks, Honorary Chair of EPÖDER Prof. Dr. Özcan Demirel recalled his experiences from 1979, sharing his admiration and fondness for the Turkish Cypriot community. Prof. Dr. Demirel highlighted that during his time at Hacettepe University and Gazi University, he had the opportunity to mentor numerous Turkish Cypriot students. One of these students, Şansen Edris Tuncay, pursued a successful academic path and received a doctoral scholarship in the UK. He was invited from Türkiye to serve as a jury member for her doctoral defense, an invitation he gladly accepted, and in 2001, he had the honour of representing both Türkiye and Northern Cyprus in the UK.

“Those who Transform Their Education, Transform the World”

Burak Maviş, General Secretary of the Cyprus Turkish Teachers' Trade Union, expressed his pleasure to be at the event to discuss the future of education. Pointing out the prominence of digitalization in congress' discussions, Maviş underscored that education serves as a powerful social framework that safeguards the past while shaping the future. He emphasized that the event's chosen theme conveys a significant message for the times ahead and noted that inclusive education is not merely a pedagogical principle but also a societal obligation, remarking: “Those who transform their education, transform the world. Knowledge holds great importance for us.”



“Famagusta – An Important Hub”

In his address, Dr. Süleyman Uluçay, Mayor of Famagusta, highlighted the city's cultural and urban richness, emphasizing its importance as a hub that unites people from various backgrounds. He mentioned that many visitors comment on experiencing living history in Famagusta and pointed out that Varosha (Kapalı Maraş) possesses a one-of-a-kind value in the world. Touching on regional issues, Dr. Uluçay spoke about the negative impacts of conflicts in the Middle East on communities, particularly in terms of education, using Palestine as an example. He underlined that lasting achievements cannot be gained through war and stressed that peace and education are essential for the future.

“A Bridge between Countries and Cultures”

In his address, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç shared his enthusiasm for educational congresses, highlighting that such events serve as both informative and guiding platforms. He expressed his satisfaction with the preparation of the congress, noting that with 171 papers and 230 participants, it provided a robust academic environment. Prof. Dr. Kılıç pointed out that the involvement of scholars from Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Kosovo, and numerous other countries added an international dimension to the event. He reminded attendees that EMU, as the first state university founded by law, has long played a leading role in education for both the country and the region. Beginning its academic journey in 1979 with roughly 100 students, EMU has grown



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Dr. Hasan Kılıç and EPÖDER Chair Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Cem Babadoğan. The program then continued with the presentation of gift books to retired educators.

Next, the congress's keynote speaker, David Crookall, presented "Transforming Curricula through Transforming Experience," providing key insights into the latest developments in education. The event also included panels, workshops, and scientific sessions. During the panel titled "Language Policies and Language Teaching Curricula in Turkic Republics," the speakers were Prof. Dr. Osman Mert, President of the Turkish Language Association (TDK); Prof. Dr. Güner Konedralı, Chair of the Atatürk Teacher Academy; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Serdan Kervan, Vice Rector of Prizren "Ukshin Hoti" University; and Prof. Dr. Sevinç Aliyeva from the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

On Sunday, 26 October 2025, the congress featured a keynote address by Dr. Khalid Arar titled "Global Imperatives for Inclusive Schooling: Leadership and Pedagogical Praxis for Social Justice in Diverse Contexts". On the same day, Dr. David Crookall led a workshop on "Meaningful Learning Experiences with Games and Debriefing." The program continued with panels and parallel sessions. In the panel "Basic Education Curricula in the Context of Educating 21st Century Individuals in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" the speakers were Prof. Dr. Ahmet Pehlivan, Dean of the EMU Faculty of Education; Prof. Dr. Canan Z. Perkan, Chair of the Department of Educational Sciences; Prof. Dr. Sıtkıye Kuter, Faculty Member; Prof. Dr. Müfit Kömleksiz, Faculty Member at European University of Lefke (EUL); Dr. Fazıl Küçük Faculty of Education; and Prof. Dr. Osman Cankoy, Faculty Member in the Guidance and Psychological Counselling Department at METU North Cyprus Campus.

On Monday, 27 October 2025, as part of the congress program, Dr. Soner Yıldırım delivered a presentation titled "Nature of Learning and Artificial Intelligence". Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Ali Yıldırım from University of Gothenburg delivered a presentation titled "Theory and Research in Curriculum and Instruction: An Analysis within the Framework of Educational Sciences Traditions". Moreover, Akın Kağan Akçalı, the Founder of Foramind/Mind Maps Association, carried out a workshop event titled "Use of Mind Maps in Transforming Curricula".

29 October Republic Day Themed Ball Held

The congress continued on Tuesday, 28 October 2025. As part of the program, Akın Kağan Akçalı led a workshop entitled "The Teacher's New Superpower: Mind Maps and Artificial Intelligence." Afterwards, participants had the opportunity to join city tours of Kyrenia and Famagusta. The event concluded with a Republic Day-themed ball on 29 October. Taking place at the EMU Beach Club, this special celebration allowed attendees to experience the festivities of Republic Day within a scientific and academic setting.

into a globally recognized institution with over 16,000 students and 78,000 alumni today. Prof. Dr. Kılıç further emphasized that the congress not only facilitates knowledge exchange but also acts as a cultural and international bridge, underscoring that scientific endeavour knows no borders and that shared values are nurtured through education.

"Goes Far Beyond Static Knowledge"

Speaking on behalf of Nazım Çavuşoğlu, Minister of National Education of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Murad Aktuğ, Director of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, emphasized that educational programs today go far beyond merely conveying static knowledge, and he underscored the importance of adapting to

digitalization in the context of a rapidly evolving world. Aktuğ highlighted that the knowledge and experiences shared during the congress would make valuable contributions to the nation's educational programs. He further stressed that inclusivity is a core requirement for an education system that ensures equal opportunities for all students, and he pointed out that although digitalization is transforming teaching processes, the teacher remains the fundamental component of education.

Following the opening speeches, certificates of appreciation were awarded to Dr. Süleyman Uluçay, Mayor of Famagusta, and to Burak Maviş, Secretary General of the Turkish Cypriot Teachers' Union, the main sponsors of the event by EMU Rector Prof.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM FOR EMU LAW STUDENTS: COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH TÜRKİYE'S BAR ASSOCIATION AND INTRODUCTORY SEMINAR ORGANIZED

The seminar held at EMU Mustafa Afşin Ersoy Hall was attended by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, EMU Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, EMU General Secretary Derviş Eksici, Acting Dean of EMU Faculty of Law Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arzu Alibaba, Vice Deans of EMU Faculty of Law Assoc. Prof. Dr. Demet Çelik Ulusoy and Assist. Prof. Dr. Emine Koçano Rodoslu, Türkiye Bar Association representatives, bar presidents, academics and students.

“A Project We Wholeheartedly Consider to Be Important and Essential”

In her speech, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arzu Alibaba, the Acting Dean of EMU Faculty of Law, noted; “As we approach the 30th anniversary of the EMU Faculty of Law, we take great pride and joy in initiating a project that we wholeheartedly consider to be important and essential”. Remembering the members of the faculty who sadly are not with us anymore, especially the Founding Dean of the Faculty of Law Prof. Dr. Aydoğan Özman, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alibaba conveyed her thanks and appreciation to all the academic team members of the faculty who have contributed to the development of the faculty throughout the years. Furthermore, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alibaba stated that collaboration protocols have been signed with 27 different bars with the purpose of reinforcing the professional knowledge and skills of the graduates prior their start to the professional. Thanking the Bar Association Presidents and representatives for providing such a significant opportunity to the students, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alibaba offered a special thanks to the Vice Dean of the Faculty, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Demet Çelik Ulusoy for her invaluable efforts in the making of the project. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alibaba concluded her speech by saying; “We also owe a special note of gratitude to our alumni. Guided by their sense of loyalty to our Faculty and their strong sense of responsibility toward future generations of legal professionals, they have provided us with remarkable support today”.

“A Clear Demonstration of Our University’s Contribution to Society and the Legal Profession”

Following Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alibaba, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç remarked that the signed protocol is designed to allow students to observe legal practices first-hand, become familiar with professional ethics, and prepare for the legal profession in a well-equipped manner. Prof. Dr. Kılıç underscored that for the Faculty’s students, receiving support from bar associations—esteemed representatives of the legal profession—is both a valuable asset and a very important step for their professional development. Prof. Dr. Kılıç also noted the significance of having Bar Association Presidents and representatives from 20 provinces present at the event, adding that EMU graduates are among the representatives and presidents of Turkish bar associations. He reminded the audience that this year marks the 30th anniversary of the EMU Faculty of Law and shared that the Faculty has produced more than 7,000 law graduates to date. Prof. Dr. Kılıç further stated that the signed protocol particularly aims to open new horizons for young lawyers in their professional careers.



Prof. Dr. Kılıç concluded his speech by saying: “This is not merely a cooperation protocol; it is also a clear demonstration of our university’s contribution to society and the legal profession”.

“An Opportunity to Advance Their Legal Skills”

As part of the program, EMU Faculty of Law Vice Dean, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Demet Çelik Ulusoy, provided students with information about the “Pre-Professional Training of Young Lawyers with Mentor/Advisor Lawyer Support Protocol” signed between EMU and the Turkish Bar Associations. Addressing the students, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çelik Ulusoy stated: “This protocol reflects the anxiety and uncertainty I experienced when I was a student like you, wondering how I would gain practical experience in the legal profession. It was created as a response to the question of how we can involve EMU Faculty of Law students in practice alongside the theoretical knowledge they receive”. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çelik Ulusoy explained that the project has been developed since 2023 and that she first shared the protocol with Ankara Bar Association President, Mr. Mustafa Koroğlu. She emphasized that the strong support from Ankara Bar Association provided the greatest motivation for the initiative. She noted that following this, discussions with other bar associations began, and that these associations regard the project not only as a benefit for students but also as a significant achievement for themselves. Under the said protocol, students will be paired with volunteer mentor lawyers registered with the bar association to which they apply through an online application form available on the



Faculty’s website. This will allow students to closely observe legal practice, examine case files, attend court hearings, and develop a variety of legal skills. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Çelik Ulusoy also highlighted that students eligible to participate in bar associations’ trainee attorney programs will receive guidance from mentor attorneys in their hometowns, combining the strength of the bar associations with that of the Faculty.

Following the opening remarks, Bar Association Presidents and representatives participated in a question-answer session, there they conducted discussions on the preparatory process for legal profession, professional development, importance of pre-internship, and the contributions to be offered by mentor lawyers. The event concluded with EMU Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe and Acting Dean of Faculty of Law Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arzu Alibaba presenting souvenirs to the Bar Association Presidents and representatives. Lastly, questions of the students were answered.

Protocols signed with 27 Bar Associations Within the scope of the program, the signing ceremony for the “Pre-Professional Training of Young Lawyers with Mentor/Advisor Lawyer Support Protocols” was also held. The ceremony took place at 02:30 p.m. in the EMU Senate Hall, where the protocols were signed by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and the respective Bar Association Presidents or their representatives.

The signing ceremony was attended by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, EMU Vice

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Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu, and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, as well as EMU Secretary General Derviş Ekşici, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Law Assoc. Prof. Dr. Arzu Alibaba, and Vice Deans of the Faculty of Law Assoc. Prof. Dr. Demet Çelik Ulusoy and Assist. Prof. Dr. Emine Koçano Rodoslu. Bar Association Presidents and representatives also attended from Ankara, Eskişehir, İzmir, Malatya, Diyarbakır, Artvin, Ağrı, Samsun, Sivas, Adana, Antalya, Burdur, Denizli, Tekirdağ, Mardin, Muğla, Gaziantep, Kahramanmaraş, İstanbul, and Edirne. Bar Association Presidents from Aydın, Şırnak, Bursa, Mersin, Batman, Isparta, and Kars, who could not attend the ceremony due to scheduling conflicts and court proceedings but had signed the protocol, expressed their intention to visit EMU at the earliest opportunity.

Making an address during the protocol signing, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that the collaboration protocol prepared by the EMU Faculty of Law in cooperation with the Turkish Bar Associations will enrich students' pre-professional practical experiences and better equip them for the legal profession. Prof. Dr. Kılıç expressed his pleasure at meeting the Presidents and board members from various bar associations across Türkiye and emphasized that within the Faculty, students will be paired with mentor attorneys through the bar associations, providing them with the opportunity to observe legal practice first-hand. Prof. Dr. Kılıç also conveyed his pride in the achievements of the Faculty of Law's graduates during its 30th year of education and in the support the project has received from the bar associations, expressing his hope that the protocols will be long-lasting and highly productive.

The Presidents and representatives of the Turkish Bar Associations shared their delight at visiting EMU. They highlighted their bar



associations' commitment to legal education and the support they offer to aspiring lawyers, stressing that the partnership between EMU

and the bar associations will provide students with valuable opportunities for hands-on pre-professional experience.

INNOVATIVE BLACK HOLE PROJECT DESIGNED IN COLLABORATIONS OF EMU AND SABANCI UNIVERSITY RECEIVES 2515 – COST R&D PROJECT SUPPORT FROM TÜBİTAK

The innovative black hole project, exploring astrophysics and quantum gravity and expected to make significant contributions to theoretical physics, being conducted in collaboration between Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and Sabancı University, has secured three years of funding through the TÜBİTAK 2515-Cost R&D program.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ali Övgün from EMU Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Physics, will contribute to the project as an international researcher, while it will be led by Dr. Beyhan Pulice from Sabancı University's Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences. The project draws attention for addressing one of the most captivating topics in contemporary science.

The project titled “Geometric and Thermodynamic Analysis of Magnetically Charged Black Holes within the Symmergent Gravity Framework” has been approved under



the TÜBİTAK 2515 – COST R&D Support Program, within the scope of COST Action CA23115 – Relativistic Quantum Information (RQI).

The project aims to examine the complex structure of black holes using the “Symmergent Gravity” model, one of the modern physics theories developed to understand the fundamental building blocks of the universe and the force of gravity. Within this theoretical framework, the researchers will analyse the geometric characteristics and



thermodynamic behaviours of black holes that possess a magnetic charge.

This important three-year international collaboration is supported by the COST program, which seeks to enhance Türkiye's integration into the European research area in the field of fundamental sciences. The project is expected to provide significant scientific contributions to understanding the relationship between gravity and quantum physics.

EMU ACADEMIC PROF. DR. HASAN KÖMÜRCÜGİL APPOINTED AS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF IN THE PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Engineering, Department of Computer Engineering Academic Staff Member Prof. Dr. Hasan Kömürcügil achieved a remarkable success in international field with his scientific work. Prof. Dr. Kömürcügil has been appointed as Editor-in-Chief / EiC in the IEEE Journal of Emerging and Selected Topics in Industrial Electronics, one of the most prestigious publications in the field. Attending the 51st Annual Conference of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IECON), held on 14-17 October 2025 in Madrid, Prof. Dr. Kömürcügil delivered his presentation titled “A New Three-Level Reduced Switch-Count Three-Phase F-type Rectifier and Its Control without Current Sensing”.

Highest Vote among Five Candidates At the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IES) Administrative Committee (AdCom) meeting organized during the conference, the society's technical activities and publications were evaluated, and the selection of editors-in-chief for its journals was addressed. Prof. Dr. Kömürcügil secured the highest number of votes among five candidates and was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Journal of Emerging and Selected Topics in Industrial Electronics, with the appointment taking effect in January 2026.

With an impact factor of 4, the journal features internationally recognized articles in the fields of Power, Energy, Industrial Applications, and Robotics. Alongside his



new position, Prof. Dr. Kömürcügil has been effectively serving as an Associate Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics since 2018.

EMU AND ROYAN INSTITUTE ORGANIZE A JOINT SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Within the scope of the academic collaboration conducted between Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and Iran-based Royan Institute, a joint scientific certificate program titled “Advancements in Molecular Biology, Genetics and NeoBio in Regenerative Medicine” was carried out. The program sought to combine the academic strengths of the two institutions in molecular biology, genetics, and regenerative medicine with the goal of promoting the exchange of knowledge and experience.

During the first session of the event, EMU Faculty of Dentistry member Prof. Dr. Şükrü Tüzmen delivered presentations titled “Nucleic Acids and Nuclear Genome Packaging” and “Regulation of Gene Expression,” and “Molecular Diagnostic Techniques.” Prof. Dr. Tüzmen provided participants with valuable scientific insights, particularly through his explanations of modern molecular methods for the early diagnosis of hereditary diseases such as beta-thalassemia and sickle cell anemia. In the following sessions, Dr. Massoud Vosough, Dr. Mohammad Hossein Ghanian, and Dr. Roudollah Fathi from the Royan Institute provided detailed insights into tissue engineering within regenerative medicine, the contribution of biomaterials to tissue regeneration, and advanced strategies in reproductive biomedicine. Attendees acquired a comprehensive understanding of research ranging from cellular mechanisms to embryological development.

“An Important Initiative Enhancing International Scientific Presence”

Making remarks at the end of the program, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç said; “The scientific certificate program, conducted in partnership with the Royan Institute, is an important initiative that enhances Eastern Mediterranean University’s international scientific presence. I would like to thank Prof. Dr. Şükrü Tüzmen, Dr. Massoud Vosough, Dr. Mohammad Hossein Ghanian, and Dr. Roudollah Fathi for their efforts in making the program a success. Collaborations like this broaden the horizons of knowledge production and sharing, offering our students and researchers new global learning opportunities. At EMU, we remain committed to advancing the scientific community through innovative research and strong collaborative partnerships”.

The collaborative program brought together EMU’s research capabilities and the Royan Institute’s cutting-edge expertise in



regenerative medicine, enhancing the academic connections between the two institutions.

An Appreciation Plaque to Prof. Dr. Şükrü Tüzmen

EMU Faculty of Dentistry member Prof. Dr. Şükrü Tüzmen was honoured with an appreciation plaque in recognition of his scientific contributions and valuable input during the program. The plaque was presented by Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, EMU Vice Rector for Promotion and Institutional Communication, who emphasized Prof. Dr. Tüzmen’s notable role in enhancing EMU’s international scientific visibility and noted that maintaining this collaboration is a significant achievement.

Who is Prof. Dr. Şükrü Tüzmen?

Prof. Dr. Şükrü Tüzmen is a Turkish Cypriot scientist recognized internationally for his research in Thalassemia and cancer genetics.

After completing his education at Boğaziçi University, he became the first Turkish Cypriot to be awarded the prestigious Fogarty Scientific Fellowship by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). With over 37 years of experience at leading research centers in the United States, Prof. Dr. Tüzmen possesses extensive multidisciplinary expertise in the early diagnosis of genetic diseases and continues his research at EMU. He has been instrumental in advancing EMU’s Molecular Biology and Genetics Program and played a key role in establishing and managing the Famagusta State Hospital–EMU Molecular Genetics Research Laboratory, created under a joint protocol between the Ministry of Health of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and EMU for COVID-19 testing. Furthermore, he served as the Founding Vice Dean of EMU Faculty of Dentistry until April 2025.

EMU FACULTY OF LAW ACADEMIC ASSIST. PROF. DR. CAN AZER DELIVERS A PRESENTATION AT ISPCAN 2025 CONFERENCE

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Law academic staff member Assist. Prof. Dr. Can Azer delivered an important presentation at the International Child Prevention Conference held this year at Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, by the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN).

With his presentation titled “Child Protection in De Facto States: Challenges and Lessons from Northern Cyprus”, Assist. Prof. Dr. Azer discussed the structural issues faced by children who live in internationally

unrecognized countries or de facto states. The presentation focused on the current state of the child protection system in Northern Cyprus, the impact of international isolation, and the potential for rights-based reforms.

“Children in De Facto States Are Excluded from the System”

In his speech, Assist. Prof. Dr. Azer underscored that, through the example of Northern Cyprus, children in unrecognized countries are excluded from the international protection mechanisms and said; “The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child ensures that every child, regardless of location or background, is entitled to fundamental rights. Nevertheless, children residing in de facto states are excluded from these systems, effectively rendering them invisible and marginalized”.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Azer’s study drew attention to a range of critical issues, including legal gaps, outdated regulations, absence of juvenile courts, insufficient professional personnel, and weaknesses in the psychosocial support infrastructure. The research also highlighted barriers that refugee and migrant children face in accessing their right to education, deficiencies in protecting children in digital environments, and the inadequacy of services provided for children with special needs.

“No Children Should be Rendered Invisible Due to the Place of Their Birth”

In his presentation, Assist. Prof. Dr. Azer

stated that children’s rights can be protected independently of issues related to recognition. He put forward reform proposals including aligning the definition of a child with international standards, raising the age of criminal responsibility, prohibiting corporal punishment, establishing child-friendly courts, and strengthening the capacity of field experts. Assist. Prof. Dr. Azer concluded his presentation by emphasizing: “The universality of children’s rights goes beyond discussions of political recognition. Children are rights-holders, not diplomatic entities. No child should be rendered invisible due to the place of their birth”.

About ISPCAN Conference

The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) encourages the exchange of scientific knowledge and experiences in addressing child abuse, neglect, and rights violations through its annual conferences held in different countries. The 2025 Vilnius Conference, themed “Child Protection in Complex Political Contexts,” focused on the challenges faced by children in conflict zones, migration contexts, and unrecognized states.

At this esteemed international forum, EMU Faculty of Law academic staff member Assist. Prof. Dr. Can Azer delivered a presentation that significantly contributed to bringing international visibility to child rights issues in Northern Cyprus.



“NAVIGATING UNIVERSITY LIFE” SEMINAR BY SOUTH CAMPUS PDRAM

In collaboration with Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) South Campus Psychological Guidance, Counselling and Research Center (PDRAM) and Foreign Languages and English Preparatory School, a seminar titled “Navigating University Life” was held for the students of Preparatory School. The seminar was conducted in two separate sessions, delivered by Halide Sarp, a Social Work Specialist at the South Campus PDRAM, in both English and Turkish.

The event, attended by a large number of participants, focused on helping new students

adjust to university life. The program covered the stages and signs of culture shock and offered valuable guidance on managing challenging experiences that students may face during their transition to university. Participants were also introduced to support services and both on-campus and off-campus resources to ease their adaptation process.

During the Fall Semester, further activities aimed at supporting the adaptation of Preparatory School students will continue, based on their needs and requests.



EMU RECTOR PROF. DR. HASAN KILIÇ MARKS 29 OCTOBER – REPUBLIC DAY

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kiliç released a message on 29 October – Republic Day. The message of Prof. Dr. Kiliç reads as follows:

“We celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Türkiye with great pride and joy. It was exactly 102 years ago today that our esteemed leader, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, established the Republic, honouring the independence flame ignited by him, his comrades, and the Turkish people. Defining the Republic as the ideal form of government for the Turkish nation, which refuses to submit to oppression and imposition, Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk declared the founding of the Republic of Türkiye on 29 October, 1923, with the principle that ‘Sovereignty belongs unconditionally to the nation’.

The principles of democracy, equality, justice, and freedom,

which form the very foundation of the Republic, continue to guide us both as individuals and as a society. As Eastern Mediterranean University, we remain committed to Atatürk’s vision of surpassing the level of contemporary civilizations. Guided by the values of science, research, freedom of thought, and social responsibility, we strive to



keep his principles alive and pass them on powerfully to future generations.

29 October – Republic Day also holds great importance for the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and is celebrated every year with joy as in the Republic of Türkiye. The Turkish Cypriot

community drew inspiration from the Republic of Türkiye’s struggle for independence and founded the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. As Turkish Cypriots, we will forever strive to follow the principles of our Great Leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

On this significant day, I honor with deep respect, gratitude, and remembrance Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of our Republic, together with his comrades-in-arms, our heroic martyrs, and veterans. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the great Turkish Nation and the people of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus on the occasion of the October 29th Republic Day.”

EMU FACULTY OF EDUCATION CONTINUES TO TRAIN FUTURE EDUCATORS



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Education, once again, continues to train the future educators during the 2025 – 2026 Academic Year. With its strong academic team, broad variety of programs and internationally recognized accreditations, EMU Faculty of Education is pleased to join its new students into the faculty.

Computer Education and Instructional Technology, Elementary Education, Foreign Languages Education, Mathematics and Science Education, Educational Sciences, Special Education, Fine Arts Education, Turkish and Social Sciences Education Departments offer training under the body of EMU Faculty of Education. Total of 10 undergraduate, 12 master’s and 2 doctoral programs provide training in the

field of teaching and educational sciences within the faculty.

With its AQAS and EPDAD accreditations, the EMU Faculty of Education has demonstrated its international standards of quality and strengthened its connections with the global academic community through memberships in prestigious organizations such as IATEFL and TESOL. The faculty continues its dedicated efforts to elevate the status of the teaching profession, contribute to the development of educational policies, and prepare competent educators who are equipped to meet the demands of today’s world.

A message issued by the Dean of EMU Faculty of Education, Prof. Dr. Ahmet Pehlivan regarding



the new academic year reads as follows:

“As EMU Faculty of Education, we adopt an innovative and practical educational approach that bridges the needs of modern education with the expectations of society. We aim to cultivate students who not only acquire knowledge but also teach, question, research, and contribute meaningfully to their communities. Guided by the core values of academic excellence, freedom, trust, equality, and devoted service, our faculty is dedicated to shaping individuals who are not only good people but also responsible citizens and accomplished professionals. I extend my best wishes for a productive and successful academic year to all new members of our Faculty of Education.”

PROF. DR. OSMAN M. KARATEPE RELEASES A MESSAGE ON BEHALF OF EMU-ATAUM ON THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE 29 OCTOBER – REPUBLIC DAY

On behalf of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Atatürk Research and Application Center (EMU-ATAUM), Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe released a 29 October – Republic Day message on the occasion of the 102nd anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Türkiye. The said message by Prof. Dr. Karatepe reads as follows:

“The Republic, proclaimed on 29 October 1923 with the declaration “The form of government of the Turkish state is a Republic,” and celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm across the country, can be regarded as the most significant achievement of the great struggle known as the War of Independence. In this way, sovereignty was transferred from a privileged few to the Turkish Nation, without condition or reservation.

The Republic represents the pinnacle of a nation’s revival following its occupation after World War I, highlighted by the War of Independence led by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. This significant day commemorates not only

Türkiye’s sovereignty and the independence of the Turkish people but also honours Atatürk’s leadership.

“My humble body will eventually return to the earth, but the Republic of Türkiye will live forever”

Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk emphasized the significance of the Republic, which he described as “my greatest work”, with his words: “My humble body will one day turn to dust, but the Republic of Türkiye will live forever.” The Republic stands as a guiding principle for Türkiye’s esteemed place in the modern world. It envisions a society where all citizens live free from discrimination or exclusion, where generations are raised with intellectual freedom, wisdom, and moral conscience, and where the nation maintains harmonious relations with its neighbors. For a brighter future, it is our shared duty — especially that of our youth, whom Atatürk regarded as the guardians and progressive force of the Republic — to embrace and safeguard



the values of the Republic for all generations to come.

On this significant day, we celebrate the 102nd year of our Republic and express our greatest gratitude to our veterans, commemorating all the martyrs, particularly Great Leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of Republic of Türkiye, and his comrades with immense longing and respect.”

EMU HEALTH SCIENCES FACULTY ISSUES A STATEMENT ON WORLD OSTEOPOROSIS DAY

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Health Sciences Faculty, Department of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation academic staff member Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sevim Öksüz released a statement on World Osteoporosis Day. The statement by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Öksüz reads as follows:

“Living without Fractures: Move for Stronger Bones!”

“Osteoporosis is a metabolic bone disease characterized by reduced bone mass and deterioration of bone tissue, which leads to an increased risk of fractures. It predominantly affects older adults. Globally, it is estimated that more than 200 million people are living with osteoporosis. Approximately 30% of women and 6% of men over the age of 50 are impacted by the condition. Moreover, around 9 million fractures related to osteoporosis occur annually.

Advanced age and menopause are among the primary contributors to the development of osteoporosis. Additionally, reduced physical activity, endocrine and gastrointestinal disorders, nutritional imbalances, and adverse effects of certain medications can also promote the development of the osteoporosis.

Osteoporosis is usually asymptomatic until a fracture occurs, which is why it is described as the ‘silent thief’. Fragility fractures and their complications may represent the first clinical manifestation of osteoporosis. With the occurrence of these fractures, significant declines in physical function, economic

burdens, and reductions in quality of life often follow.

Osteoporosis may cause pain whether or not fractures are present, and individuals may experience back pain even during brief activities, such as standing or walking. Alongside pain, patients may develop a reduction in height, postural abnormalities like kyphosis, muscle spasms in the back, and impaired balance. These balance issues elevate the risk of fractures and reduce both mobility and physical performance. Consequently, individuals may experience social isolation, a fear of movement, and diminished self-confidence.

To assess and monitor bone density, individuals in high-risk groups should undergo regular annual DEXA scans (bone scans) under the guidance of a physician. Following the screening, a multidisciplinary plan should be implemented, including medical treatment as recommended by the doctor, a nutrition plan advised by a dietitian, and a safe exercise program designed by a physiotherapist.

Prevention or slowing of osteoporosis onset requires addressing and eliminating risk factors. In cases where osteoporosis is already present, the goals are to enhance bone mass (e.g., via exercise and physical activity), minimize fall and fracture risk (through home safety adjustments and proper footwear), alleviate pain, strengthen muscles, and enhance overall quality of life.



Exercise and physical activity programs aimed at preventing osteoporosis or enhancing bone mass and physical function after diagnosis should be implemented under the guidance of a physiotherapist. It is recommended to perform strengthening exercises 2–3 times per week, aerobic exercises like walking 4–7 times per week, and to regularly practice balance, stretching, and posture exercises.

While exercises can be carried out individually under a physiotherapist’s guidance, they can also be performed in group settings. When appropriate, activities like nature walks and swimming may be recommended, preferably on sunny days to support vitamin D synthesis, and with proper terrain, footwear, and clothing.

The exercise regimen should be personalized, taking into account the patient’s preferences, health, and physical condition, and should include multiple components. It is important to emphasize that conducting exercises safely under physiotherapist supervision significantly reduces the risk of falls and injuries.”

STUDENT CLUBS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SOCIETIES WORKSHOP HELD AT EMU

Student Clubs and International Student Societies Workshop, organized by the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Student Development, Activities and Sport Affairs Directorate, was successfully held on 14-17 October 2025 at EMU Central Lecture Hall building and Mustafa Afşin Ersoy Hall. The said workshop was held in two separate sessions. On 14-15 October, sessions were held for student clubs and, sessions held on 16-17 October addressed international student societies. All sessions were held between 04:00 p.m. and 07:00 p.m. on the specified dates, receiving great participation.

Aim: Coexistence and Harmony

Aligned with this year's "Coexistence and Harmony" manifesto, the workshop seeks to make student clubs more effective, efficient, and sustainable, foster stronger collaboration among them, and develop new ideas that enrich university life with social and cultural diversity.

High Level of Participation and Effective Work

The workshop was attended by 500 board members from 50 Student Clubs and 55 International Student Societies. Dr. Jülide Erdal Üngör led and presented the workshop, while academic staff member Zehra Nalbantoğlu coordinated the training sessions.

Delivering the opening speech of the event, Cemal Kılıç –the Director of Student Development, Activities and Sports Affairs Directorate– stated that universities serve as spaces where local contexts meet global perspectives. Kılıç emphasized that at Eastern Mediterranean University, where students from diverse cultural backgrounds come together, they are moving forward toward creating a model of civilization in line with the vision of the Rector's Office.

Kılıç noted that the workshop aims to foster mutual learning and interaction by encouraging participants to understand cultural differences from each culture's own perspective. He emphasized that just as interdependence exists in nature, it also applies to human relationships, with the principle "I exist because you exist, you exist because I exist" forming the foundation of this approach. In this regard, Kılıç highlighted that initiatives such as collaborative projects among representatives of different cultures and activities promoting intercultural dialogue serve as tangible expressions of this vision.



Kılıç also highlighted that university students should go beyond simply understanding cultural differences and collaboratively discuss global challenges to create shared solutions. He pointed out that this approach naturally aligns with the mission of universities as spaces for thinking, sharing, and producing ideas that bridge the local and the global.

After Dr. Üngör's presentation, participants engaged in group activities in the classrooms of the Central Lecture Halls Building, focusing on enhancing and

sustaining student initiatives. During the interactive sessions, they examined the current structures of the clubs, the challenges they face, and the areas that require further development.

Results and Expectations

The final report from the workshop featured important recommendations for student clubs to build stronger communication networks, implement sustainable event planning, and promote cultural diversity. Overall, the workshop helped reinforce EMU's role as a "dialogue space" where diverse cultures, beliefs, and lifestyles intersect.



BLOOD DONATION CAMPAIGN HELD AT EMU

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Red Crescent Student Society operating under the EMU Student Development, Events and Sports Affairs Directorate held a blood donation campaign in collaboration with North Cyprus Turkish Red Crescent. The 3-day campaign held with "Bonded by Heart" slogan at EMU Atatürk Square attracted great interest from students and personnel members. Total of 121 units of blood were donated as part of the campaign.

During the campaign, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, EMU Board of Trustees Member Beyhan Gürgöze, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, and Vice Rector for Student Affairs Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu visited the blood donation vehicle, highlighting the critical importance of blood donation for

human life and expressing their gratitude to all donors.

Officials from the North Cyprus Turkish Red Crescent expressed their pleasure in

receiving EMU's support, as in previous years, emphasizing that the campaign not only contributes to raising public awareness but also enhances understanding and preparedness in the fight against diseases.



Last Week's Academic Publications | Source: Web of Science

1. E. Fidan and C. Gezer, "EATING BEHAVIOR, BODY IMAGE, OBESITY RELATION WITH MENOPAUSAL SYMPTOMS AND LIFE QUALITY," JOURNAL OF BASIC AND CLINICAL HEALTH SCIENCES, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 504-515, 2025, doi: 10.30621/jbachs.1661106.
2. E. Sucu and I. Sakalli, "Quantum tunneling and Aschenbach effect in nonlinear Einstein-Power-Yang-Mills AdS black holes," CHINESE PHYSICS C, vol. 49, no. 10, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.1088/1674-1137/add8fe.
3. H. I. Gules and G. S. Dag, "Adaptation of the basic resuscitation skills self-efficacy scale in nursing students to Turkish : a validity and reliability study," BMC MEDICAL EDUCATION, vol. 25, no. 1, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.1186/s12909-025-08011-y.
4. Eker et al., "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Sedative Drug Consumption in North Cyprus: Before and During the Early COVID-19 Pandemic," CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, vol. 10, no. 5, pp. 314-320, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.4274/cjms.2025.2025-15.
5. F. Bayraktar and D. Celik, "The Mediating Role of Social Comparison Between Parental Self-Efficacy and Sharenting," TURK PSIKIYATRI DERGISI, vol. 36, pp. 216-226, 2025, doi: 10.5080/ut7387.
6. O. Dinc, E. Akal Yildiz, G. Okburan, and Z. Buyuktuncer, "Validity and Reliability of the Turkish Version of the Mindful Eating Behavior Scale," NUTRIENTS, vol. 17, no. 19, Sep. 2025, doi: 10.3390/nu17193083.
7. B. Azgin and E. Kaymak, "The politics of gratitude versus defiance: failed emancipatory defiance and the restoration of asymmetric deference roles in Northern Cyprus," SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN AND BLACK SEA STUDIES, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.1080/14683857.2025.2566543.
8. C. Sofuoglu, Z. G. Topcu, and V. B. Tunay, "The effect of core stability training on ball-kicking velocity, sprint speed, and agility in adolescent male football players (vol 19, e0305245, 2024)," PLOS ONE, vol. 20, no. 10, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0334020.
9. C. E. Ozbilge, I. Deniz, and E. H. Yukseloglu, "The Impact of Psychoactive Substances on Fatal Traffic Accidents," CYPRUS JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, vol. 10, no. 5, pp. 295-300, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.4274/cjms.2025.2025-103.
10. Z. Ozat, M. A. Ozarslan, and B. Cekim, "Some properties of Appell type degenerate Bell polynomials," HACETTEPE JOURNAL OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS, vol. 54, no. 4, pp. 1371-1394, 2025, doi: 10.15672/hujms.1517317.
11. E. G. Lekesiz, B. Cekim, and M. A. Ozarslan, "Finite bivariate biorthogonal I-Konhauser polynomials," JOURNAL OF COMPUTATIONAL AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS, vol. 476, Apr. 2026, doi: 10.1016/j.cam.2025.117106.
12. S. N. Gashti, M. A. S. Afshar, M. R. Alipour, I. Sakalli, B. Pourhassan, and J. Sadeghi, "Weak gravity conjecture in ModMax black holes: weak cosmic censorship and photon sphere analysis," EUROPEAN PHYSICAL JOURNAL C, vol. 85, no. 10, Oct. 2025, doi: 10.1140/epjc/s10052-025-14890-8.



**Eastern
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