

## EMU AND TRNC MINISTRY OF TOURISM SIGN A COLLABORATION PROTOCOL



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and the Deputy Prime Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Environment signed a collaboration protocol for the establishment of a contemporary museum complex in Kaleburnu village in İskele district. The agreement was signed by Fikri Ataoğlu, TRNC Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism, Culture, Youth and Environment, and EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç.

The planned museum complex seeks to protect artifacts revealed through scientific archaeological excavations carried out at King's Hill since 2004, in line with Antiquities Law No. 60/94, and to display them to the public via permanent and temporary exhibitions.

Throughout the project process, the architectural design work will be carried out by Prof. Dr. Resmiye Alpar Atun. The museum's design,

and overall project processes will be undertaken by a project team to be formed under the leadership of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bülent Kızılduman, Chair of the EMU Eastern Mediterranean Cultural Heritage Research Center (EMU-DAKMAR). All activities to be carried out during the construction phase of the museum will be reviewed and approved by a commission to be established under the TRNC Department of Antiquities and Museums.

Making a statement on the matter, Prof. Dr. Kılıç said; "Today, we signed a very special protocol for the establishment of a dedicated museum complex in the Kaleburnu area, where historical artifacts uncovered through years of archaeological excavations conducted by EMU DAKMAR will be displayed. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Fikri Ataoğlu, TRNC Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism, Culture, Youth and, for his sincere support and valuable contributions. We also wish to express our appreciation to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bülent Kızılduman, Head of the Department of Archaeology and Art History, and to the DAKMAR team for their long-standing efforts in conducting the excavations at King's Hill".

## EMU GRADUATE ASİL ZİARA'S GLOBAL STORY FROM GAZA HIGHLIGHTED ON AL JAZEERA

Asil Ziara, 2023 graduate of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Business and Economics, Department of International Relations, shared not only the tragedy of Gaza but also personal reflections from her years as a student in Cyprus in a deeply moving article written for Al Jazeera English, one of the world's leading international news outlets.

The article titled "How do you carry a home that keeps breaking?" published on Al Jazeera's global platform, conveys, personal life of Ziara in Gaza, the experiences of war and displacement, and the struggle to reconstruct a sense of "home" while pursuing education abroad. In the piece, Ziara shares heartfelt reflections ranging from her arrival in Cyprus and academic journey at EMU to her memories of life on the island and experiences in the classroom.

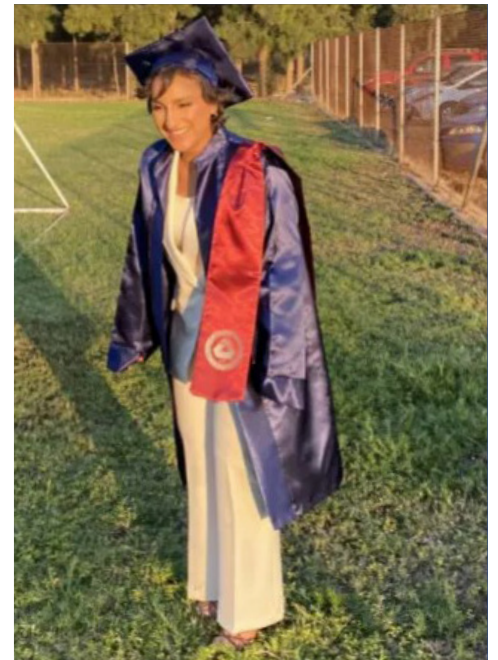
Ziara left Gaza at 17 years old in 2019 to study international relations, a moment she now describes as "the moment world called for me".

Ziara recalled that on her very first night in the TRNC, she experienced the deepest sleep of her life, noting that after years of living in Gaza amid the noise of war, uncertainty, and fear, her body encountered true silence for the first time in Cyprus.

### "EMU was like a Tiny World"

In her article, Ziara underlined that EMU represented far more than an academic institution, highlighting the friendships she built with students from various countries, the practical use of English in the classroom, and the meaningful memories formed during her preparatory studies. She noted that one of her most unforgettable memories in Cyprus was her first day in EMU's English preparatory class, which she described as a "tiny world" due to its multicultural environment. The article received significant international attention.

Prof. Dr. Ahmet Sözen, Head of Department of Political Science and International Relations at EMU Faculty of Business and > pg. 3



## EMU AND OĞUZ ÖZYALÇIN FOUNDATION SIGN STUDENT SUPPORT PROTOCOL

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and Oğuz Özyalçın Foundation signed a collaboration protocol on providing scholarships for students of EMU. Signed by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and Eser Özyalçın – Founding Board of Trustees Member of the Oğuz Özyalçın Foundation. The signing ceremony took place at EMU Rector's Office. As part of the protocol, successful EMU students who face financial struggles will receive "Oğuz Özyalçın Student Support Scholarship". Present during the signing session were, EMU Vice Rector for Student Affairs Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu, Chair of EMU Community Involvement Center (CIC) Assist. Prof. Dr. Nazenin Ruso Kandemir, EMU Rectorate Private Secretariat Director Kazım Hakverdi and, Oğuz Özyalçın Foundation Board of Trustees Member Eşber Andiroğlu.

### "An Investment for the Future"

In his speech, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç expressed his happiness at signing a highly significant protocol, emphasizing that the collaboration is rooted in a strong belief in youth and their future. Prof. Dr. Kılıç further stressed that supporting young people in any way is essentially an investment in the future, and noted that the protocol holds considerable value both materially and morally. Prof. Dr. Kılıç also shared his confidence that this partnership between the university and the foundation will greatly contribute to students' academic and social growth, and he thanked all those involved, wishing the protocol success.

### "Each Contribution to Education is to return as a Value to the Country"

Eser Özyalçın, Founding Board of Trustees Member of the Oğuz Özyalçın Foundation, explained that the scholarship program was launched for the first time in commemoration of her husband Oğuz Özyalçın's passing. She expressed her belief that all support for education ultimately benefits the country, added that this assistance will continue to expand in the future, and thanked the EMU administration for their valuable cooperation.

### "An Important Support for the Students"

EMU Vice Rector for Student Affairs Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu stated that, while honoring the memory of late Oğuz Özyalçın, the said scholarship program also serves as an important support mechanism for the students. Stressing that the educational outlook of today's youth is changing, Prof. Dr. Zorlu



stated that inclusive scholarships play an important role in reaching a wider range of students and enriching their academic paths. Prof. Dr. Zorlu expressed her hope that such support programs will continue to expand and extended her gratitude to everyone who contributed.

### "To Play an Important Role in Strengthening the Foundation"

In his speech, Eşber Andiroğlu, Oğuz Özyalçın Foundation Board of Trustees Member, noted that the signed protocol would play an important role in strengthening the foundation, describing it as a partnership built on mutual engagement. He stated that the foundation remains eager to offer its support

and underlined that shared contributions would enable more sustainable and impactful progress. Andiroğlu concluded by noting that they intend to carry these efforts forward in line with the legacy of Oğuz Özyalçın.

### "A Highly Valuable Collaboration"

Assist. Prof. Dr. Nazenin Ruso Kandemir, Chair of EMU CIC, commemorated Oğuz Özyalçın and described him as a remarkably charitable individual. Furthermore, she emphasized that the collaboration protocol holds great importance for CIC. Referring to the financial challenges experienced by students, Assist. Prof. Dr. Kandemir highlighted how meaningful and valuable this collaboration is in providing support.



## EMU AND İSKELE TRADESMEN AND CRAFTSMEN ASSOCIATION COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION PROTOCOL

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and İskele Tradesmen and Craftsmen Association (İEZB) reached a consensus on a collaboration protocol covering education, marketing, and technology under the Atatürk Vocational Training Center and the Famagusta Technology Development Center (GMTGB).

Within the scope of the said protocol, a comprehensive partnership was formed covering joint training initiatives, internship and work experience opportunities, technology commercialization activities, and digital marketing applications. The agreement also aims to raise the quality of vocational education in the region and help students establish closer links with the business community.

The protocol allows EMU students to complete internships and gain work experience at İEZB member enterprises. The protocol also covers the development of vocational training and certification programs aligned with sector needs, as well as the organization of career days, seminars, and workshops for students and industry professionals. Moreover, hands-on training in robotics and coding, hackathons, and technology-focused learning activities will be introduced.

Furthermore, the collaboration covers joint projects between İEZB and GMTGB for the marketing and commercialization of technological products. As part of these



efforts, technology fairs, demo days, and sales and marketing activities will be organized, bringing together İEZB member enterprises, and technology and R&D firms operating under the GMTGB. In addition, shared training and certification programs will be conducted on technology commercialization, product-market matching, digital marketing, and new production technologies.

### “A New Vision to the Vocational Education Understanding within the Region”

Serkan Kırmızı, Chairperson of İEZB, made remarks on the matter, stating that the said collaboration would bring a new vision to the

vocational education understanding within the region. Kırmızı also stressed that the initiative seeks to equip young people with skills aligned with modern technological needs and to facilitate the digital transformation of local businesses.

### “To Significantly Contribute to the Regional Economy”

In his remarks, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç emphasized that the cooperation framework will strengthen the link between education and production, stating that EMU’s academic expertise will contribute to the development of the regional economy.

## EMU GRADUATE ASİL ZİARA’S GLOBAL STORY FROM GAZA HIGHLIGHTED ON AL JAZEERA



Economics, stated that he was proud to see the voice and courage of his former student, Ziarra, resonate with a broad international audience through her impactful article published on Al Jazeera English. Noting that the article is a deeply impactful reflection of home, loss and resilience, Prof. Dr. Sözen underscored that it

was written with clarity, honesty and grace. Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Sözen added, “While reading, consider Gaza not as a news headline, but as a home shaped by millions of personal stories, including Ziarra’s”.

EMU Faculty of Business and Economics Dean Prof. Dr. Mustafa Besim highlighted that the powerful piece written by Asil Ziarra once again demonstrates that EMU is an institution that cultivates not only academic knowledge, but also conscience, freedom of expression, and a sense of global responsibility. Noting that Ziarra’s voice has evolved into a universal human call, Prof. Dr. Besim stated that they are proud of her.

### “We are Deeply Proud”

Making remarks on the topic, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç stated that while the

article represents a personal milestone for Ziarra, it also showcases the power, skill and dedication of EMU’s multicultural student body. Saying that EMU is deeply proud with the achievement of its alumna, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that Ziarra is recognized as a source of motivation for current and prospective students from TRNC, Türkiye and all around the world.

Prof. Dr. Kılıç underlined that as an international higher education institution in Northern Cyprus, EMU places strong emphasis on supporting students from diverse backgrounds, including those from regions impacted by conflict. He also noted that the visibility of Ziarra’s story in a major global news outlet has contributed to raising awareness about the impact of war on young people and their right to education.

## ACADEMICS FROM ULUDAĞ UNIVERSITY VISIT EMU RECTORATE



Prof. Dr. Çağatan Taşkın and Prof. Dr. Cem Okan Tuncel, academics from Uludağ University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Business, paid a visit to Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rectorate. During the visit, parties conducted discussion of the scientific research project in which both

the universities are stakeholders. EMU Department of Business Administration's Head Assoc. Prof. Dr. Burak Erkut was also present during the meeting.

The scientific research project titled "Kalkınma İktisadı Perspektifinden KKTC'de Turizm Sektörünün Analizi / An Analysis of the Tourism Sector in the

TRNC from a Development Economics Perspective," which is expected to last approximately two years, will include EMU's Faculty of Business and Economics, Department of Business Administration, and Faculty of Tourism as stakeholder institutions. The project aims to examine the economic, social, and regional development dimensions of the tourism sector in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and to assess the tourism potential of the Varosha (Kapalı Maraş) area based on scientific data.



As part of the visit, discussions focused on advancing academic cooperation between the two institutions and promoting bilateral knowledge exchange. The Uludağ University delegation gathered with EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and EMU Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, and presented detailed information on the planned project activities.

While stressing the importance of EMU's contribution to scientific output, the meeting also emphasized the collaboration to be initiated between two institutions would serve as a sustainable bridge in education and research.

## REPORT OF THE ASSESSMENT, STRATEGY, AND ACTION PLAN FOR THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM OF THE TRNC WORKSHOP HOSTED BY EMU RELEASED

The report on the “KKTC Giriřimcilik ve İnovasyon Ekosisteminin Durum Tespiti, Strateji ve Eylem Planı alıřtayı / Workshop on the Assessment, Strategy, and Action Plan for the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Ecosystem of the TRNC” hosted by Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) on Monday, 17 November 2025 at Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center, has been released by the EMU Advanced Technology Research and Development Institute (ATRDI).

The event, held with the aim of creating a sustainable future and a unified vision for entrepreneurship and innovation in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), had convened a diverse group of stakeholders from public sector, private sector, academia, and civil society.

The workshop report was compiled under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Mehmet Bařar and Ufuk Batum, with contributions from Chief Rapporteur Dr. Hülya Bulut, Chief Editor Prof. Dr. Ebru Oğuz, and Editor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Davut Solyalı.

The report addresses the current state of the TRNC entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem through a multidimensional analysis, assessing the structural factors that shape the country’s economic transformation capacity. A comprehensive evaluation was conducted across key areas including the financial structure, regulatory framework, digital infrastructure, human capital, commercialization processes, and international reach.

Findings from the SWOT analysis indicate that the TRNC benefits from a dynamic higher education ecosystem, a young and diverse population, and a notable readiness for digital transformation, all of which contribute to its growth potential. On the other hand, regulatory inconsistencies, restricted financing options, infrastructure gaps, weak commercialization processes, and limited international visibility were underlined as major structural challenges hindering the ecosystem’s ability to scale.

Moreover, the report presents a strategic framework and action plans developed in line with an innovation- and entrepreneurship-driven development approach. Priority intervention areas include the diversification of financial instruments, ensuring regulatory alignment through the Technology and Innovation Framework Law, strengthening digital and data infrastructure, institutionalizing university–industry–entrepreneur collaboration, and expanding international cooperation networks.

While highlighting the urgent need for the TRNC to adopt an innovation- and entrepreneurship-based development model to meet its sustainable growth goals, the report noted that this transition plays a critical strategic role in promoting economic diversification, strengthening integration into global value chains, and enhancing resilience to external shocks.

The published report is intended to contribute to positioning the TRNC as an innovative and competitive economic actor

at the regional level and to help shape the country’s long-term development vision.

### “EMU Aims to Serve as a Leading Actor in Transformation”

Making remarks on the matter, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç said; “Similar to global trends, entrepreneurship, innovation, and digital transformation constitute key strategic pillars in the development vision of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. With the objective of contributing scientifically and strategically to this transformation, the workshop organized by EMU addressed the country’s entrepreneurship and innovation potential from a comprehensive perspective.

The report aims to shed light on the TRNC’s objectives of establishing a competitive, sustainable, and internationally integrated innovation ecosystem. EMU considers it a core responsibility to actively contribute to transforming the recommendations outlined in the report into concrete and implementable policies, to strengthen collaboration among the public sector, private sector, and academia, and to guide entrepreneurial youth. In this transformation process, EMU aspires not to be a passive observer, but a leading actor that sets direction, develops models, and enables scaling”.



The said report is accessible at the link provided below:  
<https://itage.emu.edu.tr/tr/aktiviteler>



## MAYOR HAYRİ ORÇAN DELIVERS “ZERO WASTE” PRESENTATION TO EMU FACULTY OF MEDICINE STUDENTS



An informative presentation was delivered to students of the Dr. Fazıl Küçük Faculty of Medicine at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) by Tathisu Mayor Hayri Orçan within the scope of the “Zero Waste Target” Project, which is regarded as one of Northern Cyprus’s exemplary initiatives. The event was organized within the scope of “İklim Değişikliği: İnsan Sağlığına Etkileri ve Sürdürülebilir Yaşam / Climate Change: Its Impacts on Human Health and Sustainable Living” elective course carried out by EMU Dr. Fazıl Küçük Medicine Faculty Senior Instructor Özge Eker. By emphasizing the close link between environmental health and public health, the presentation sought to enhance awareness in this field. The event was attended by the Dean of the Dr. Fazıl

Küçük Faculty of Medicine, Prof. Dr. Nilüfer Güzoğlu, as well as academic staff and students.

### “Zero Waste Concept is not limited to Environmental Cleanliness”

In his presentation, Orçan underlined that the zero-waste concept is not limited to environmental cleanliness, stressing that effective waste management makes a vital contribution to protecting natural resources, enhancing environmental sustainability, and addressing climate change. He explained that the unit recycles 11 different waste categories, with plastic, glass, and paper being separated at the source, while used cooking oils are collected from households and managed in an environmentally responsible way. Orçan

emphasized that the reuse of kitchen and green waste in recovery systems helps both to decrease waste amounts and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He cautioned that improperly discarded vegetable oils can lead to severe water and soil pollution, and noted that there are plans to soon launch pet food production by making use of waste collected mainly from local restaurants.

Orçan explained that the financial revenue obtained from recycling activities allow the project to maintain itself independently, underscoring that the “Zero Waste Target” Project represents a durable and sustainable approach to environmental management. The presentation ended with a Q&A session with the students.

## EMU DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND FINANCE HOLDS “FINANCE DAY” EVENT



Eastern Mediterranean (EMU), Faculty of Business and Economics, Department of Banking and Finance organized an event titled “Finance Day”. Within the scope of the event held at the Faculty of Business and Economics, student debate competition with behavioral finance theme was carried out. The jury of the said competition consisted of faculty members Prof. Dr. Eralp Bektaş, Prof. Dr. Mete Feridun and Prof. Dr. Nesrin Özataç. The winning team of the competition who

showcased phenomenal performances, received a gift voucher sponsored by the EMU KOOPMAR.

The event introduced the semester-long activities of the Department of Banking and Finance and included an informative presentation on the initiatives organized by the EMU Financial Regulation and Risk Management Center. Moreover, the Economics and Finance Club was introduced by its President, and it was highlighted that active involvement and

participation in events play a vital role in shaping students’ career paths.

### Honor, High Honor and CFA Certificates Presented

As part of the Finance Day event, departmental faculty members presented certificates to students who qualified for Honor and High Honor recognition for their exceptional academic performance in the 2024–2025 Academic Year Spring Semester. Additionally, participation certificates were given to students who joined the research competition held in Istanbul by the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst).

In her remarks on the matter, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nigar Taşpınar – Head of EMU Department of Banking and Finance, highlighted that the students’ accomplishments bring them great pride and noted that such events will continue to be organized to foster both academic success and personal growth. The event concluded with a collective photo-taking session.

## “2<sup>ND</sup> LITERATURE DAY IN ELT” EVENT HELD AT EMU FACULTY OF EDUCATION



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Education, Department of Foreign Language Education organized an event titled “2nd Literature Day in ELT”. Organized with “You Are Invited to Celebrate the Symphony of Words in the Season of Change: An Autumn Gathering of Poetry and Song” theme, the event took place at Activity Hall.

As part of the event, the contribution of literature to foreign language education was highlighted, fostering an artistic setting that blended poetry with music. Guided by the motto “In a nutshell, literature is life,” participants explored the deep link between literature and everyday life through different viewpoints.

**“Strengthens both Academic and Social Interaction within the Department While Keeping Interest in Literature Vibrant”**  
Delivering the opening speech of the event, Assist. Prof. Dr. Fatoş Erozan, Head of EMU Department of Foreign Language Education, stated that bringing students and colleagues together around shared interests and dedication is a great source of happiness and pride for them. She noted that such events strengthen both academic and social interaction within the department while keeping interest in literature vibrant. Emphasizing that increasing participation each year reflects the value of their efforts, Assist. Prof. Dr. Erozan thanked all participants for their involvement.

**“Literature Enhances University Life by Fostering Imagination”**  
In his address, Student Development, Activities and Sports Affairs Director Cemal Kılıç emphasized that the university functions not only as a center for knowledge production but also as a cultural hub where intellectual thought, culture, aesthetic awareness, and artistic creativity develop together. He emphasized that scientific research reinforces the university’s foundation, while literature and the arts add richness, creativity, and deeper meaning. Kılıç added that literary work introduces a human perspective to scientific understanding and enhances university life by fostering imagination.



Ahmet Hıdıroğlu, a retired academic staff member of EMU Faculty of Education, Department of Foreign Language Education, also delivered a speech, conveying his pleasure and excitement on being at EMU. Noting that the EMU Department of Foreign Language Education feels like a large family to him, Hıdıroğlu shared that he continues to feel a strong sense of belonging even after retirement. He added that he is confident the event will be very successful.

**“A Life Experience That is Both Felt and Shared”**  
Assist. Prof. Dr. Yeşim Betül Oktay, a faculty member of the Department of Foreign Language Education, welcomed everyone attending the second Literature Day event and shared her joy in being part of a department she described as a family over many years. She emphasized that

literature goes beyond analysis, describing it as a lived experience that is both felt and shared, where words, sounds, and music come together to touch the soul. Noting that this year’s theme was “autumn,” she explained that poetry in various languages was combined with music, highlighted the dedication and effort invested by students and faculty, expressed gratitude to all supporters, and invited participants to experience together the rhythm of words and melodies.

Drawing considerable attention from both students and guests, the event included presentations, poetry recitals, and musical performances. Certificates of participation were awarded at the end of the program. It was emphasized that the event played an important role in supporting students’ artistic and academic growth, and that similar activities will be carried forward.

## EMU FACULTY OF PHARMACY WELCOMED NEW YEAR WITH A SERIES OF EVENTS

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Pharmacy welcomed the New Year with a rich academic and social events program. The New Year's celebration, "EMU Pharmacy Graduation Poster Event" and "Motivation: The Power Within" seminar were among the events held at the faculty.

### Welcoming 2026 Event

Academic and administrative personnel gathered together at the New Year's celebration party, welcoming the year of 2026 in unity and solidarity. Delivering a speech at the event, Prof. Dr. H. Ozan Gülcan, Dean of EMU Faculty of Pharmacy, noted that 2025 was a fruitful year in terms of education, research and serving the public. Prof. Dr. Gülcan expressed his hope that scientific output and international collaborations would continue to expand in the year ahead. The event concluded with the sharing of New Year wishes and the taking of photos.

### Graduation Posters Presented

Organized as part of the academic events, the "EMU Pharmacy Graduation Poster Event" exhibited poster presentations of students who are at graduation stage. Along with Prof. Dr. Gülcan, Vice Deans Assist. Prof. Dr. Mehmet İlktaç and Assist. Prof. Dr. Jale Yüzügülen also attended the event where the posters prepared by students were evaluated by faculty members in terms of scientific content and presentation techniques. The event significantly contributed to the development of research and presentation skills of the students.

### Importance of Motivation Stressed

"Motivation: The Power Within" event featuring Dr. Jülide Üngör was also among the events organized at the faculty. During



the seminar, impact of motivation on individual development and professional success were addressed, helping participants gain insight into inner strength and self-awareness. The seminar ended with a question-answer session which offered an interactive atmosphere, attracting interest from students and academics.

In a statement, Prof. Dr. H. Ozan Gülcan – Dean of EMU Faculty of Pharmacy - stated that the faculty will maintain its commitment in the upcoming period to offering activities that foster students' academic, personal, and professional growth through a contemporary education model and a strong academic semester.



## APPLIED TRAINING ON EARTHQUAKE AWARENESS HELD AT EMU

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Community Involvement Center (CIC) and EMU Search and Rescue Club (EMU-SAR) organized an “Earthquake Awareness Training” hosted at the Faculty of Tourism. The hands-on training program was attended by students and EMU personnel. The training aimed to spread disaster awareness throughout the university, drawing on the lessons learned from recent earthquakes in our country.

### “A Geographical Fact”

Making a speech at the opening of the event, EMU CIC Chairperson Assist. Prof. Dr. Nazenin Ruso Kandemir pointed out that earthquakes are a geographical fact rather than a possibility, emphasizing the importance of individual and social responsibility in preparedness efforts. Assist. Prof. Dr. Kandemir stated that the training delivered by EMU-SAR is not limited to theoretical knowledge, highlighting its significance in equipping individuals to safeguard both themselves and others. Representing EMU-SAR, Melisa Ulupınar later introduced the club’s activities and noted that prospective members could contact them.

As part of the program, EMU-SAR Instructor Muhammed Kağan Gür and his team provided hands-on training on



earthquake preparedness, correct behavior during an earthquake, and post-earthquake procedures. Visual and practical demonstrations were also conducted on emergency kits, life triangle methods, and identifying safe zones. Gür stressed that proper action during an earthquake is crucial, highlighting that the “drop–cover–hold on” method enhances survival, and warned against using elevators, stairs, and balconies while urging participants to stay calm.

Also addressing the devastating earthquakes that occurred in Türkiye on 6 February 2023, Gür stated that the country’s fault lines have become more evident since the disaster and that earthquake risk nationwide is significant and should not be underestimated. He

stressed the importance of enhancing disaster awareness throughout society. Following the training session, EMU-SAR teams guided participants to the Faculty of Tourism emergency assembly area, where the earthquake tent and search and rescue equipment were introduced. The program ended with Assist. Prof. Dr. Nazenin Ruso Kandemir, Chairperson of EMU CIC, presenting certificates of appreciation to EMU-SAR Instructor Muhammed Kağan Gür and his team.

Assist. Prof. Dr. İlkey Yorgancı, Acting Dean of Faculty of Tourism, noted that informative and practical training is essential in ensuring students’ preparedness for possible disasters and stated that the faculty will maintain its support for similar awareness activities.

## EMU DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ORGANIZES A WEBINAR ON “FAMILY BUSINESSES AND CHALLENGES”



Eastern Mediterranean University

Faculty of Business and Economics  
Department of Business Administration

### BUSINESS RESEARCH QUARTERLY

#### FAMILY BUSINESSES AND CHALLENGES

Speaker  
**Yusuf Tekinay**

Moderator  
**Sadaf Damirchi**



Within the scope of the “Business Research Quarterly” event series, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Business and Economics, Department of Business Administration organized a webinar titled “Family Businesses and Challenges”. Held for the students of the department and the faculty, the online event was delivered in English language, featuring Yusuf Tekinay.

Moderated by Sadaf Damirchi, the webinar covered topics such as structural characteristics of family businesses, generational leadership transition, professionalization, and managerial challenges. Tekinay drew attention to the role of institutional frameworks in sustaining family enterprises, emphasizing that well-designed strategic planning is vital for lasting success.

Enriched with the questions of the participants, the webinar included evaluations of the position of family businesses in the economy at both local and global scales. The event concluded with a formal expression of thanks to the speaker.

Making remarks, Head of EMU Department of Business Administration Assoc. Prof. Dr. Burak Erkut noted that family businesses constitute a major segment of the economic structure and, such academic events play a crucial role on exchange of knowledge and awareness raising. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Erkut stated that they will continue their efforts contributing academic and sectoral knowledge generation.

## EMU RECTOR PROF. DR. HASAN KILIÇ MAKES A STATEMENT ON THE TRANSFORMATION PROCESS OF THE UNIVERSITY



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç conducted an interview with Hasan Hastürer from Kıbrıs Newspaper and Ödül Aşık Ülker from Yeni Düzen. During the meeting Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç provided an extensive overview of the university's financial and institutional restructuring, implemented reforms, and strategic goals.

### “EMU is undergoing a Controlled Recovery Process”

In his statement to Kıbrıs Newspaper columnist Hasan Hastürer, Prof. Dr. Kılıç emphasized that EMU is not merely an institution that has overcome financial hardship, but a university that continues to advance through its institutional strength, academic reputation, and societal contributions. Prof. Dr. Kılıç noted that upon taking office, the institution was facing significant financial pressures accompanied by a loss of institutional trust. He explained that, instead of concealing these challenges, they chose to communicate them openly with all stakeholders. Stressing that short-term solutions were never his priority, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that a comprehensive medium- and long-term recovery plan was developed, and that the recently signed financial cooperation protocol forms the backbone of this process.

Prof. Dr. Kılıç noted that despite ongoing financial pressures, the university's value and resilience remain intact, adding that current risks have become “more predictable and manageable”, which he identified as a clear indication of EMU's strong institutional foundation.

According to Prof. Dr. Kılıç, EMU pursued a systematic and sustainable recovery strategy even during the crisis period, reflecting an institutional approach focused on long-term investment rather than short-term stabilization. He explained that financial measures were complemented by structural and organizational reforms, enabling the university to demonstrate comprehensive institutional resilience. Prof. Dr. Kılıç further noted that EMU maintained, and reinforced, its academic standards and international outlook through institutional trust, disciplined management, and strategic planning. Furthermore, Prof. Dr. Kılıç emphasized that institutional stability and a strong commitment to educational quality, rather than purely quantitative metrics, were the key factors sustaining the university during this period.

### “We Focused on 3 Key Areas”

Highlighting the university's approach to

financial sustainability, Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç explained that their efforts are centered on three main priorities: strengthening cost control, expanding and diversifying revenue streams, and enhancing operational efficiency. He added that a zero hiring policy has been introduced, a unit-based budgeting model has been put in place, and both administrative and academic workflows have been reorganized to ensure more effective use of available resources. Stressing that the focus is on systemic improvement rather than simple cost-cutting, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated, “Our aim is to correct the system, not merely reduce expenses”.

### “A Stronger EMU”

Highlighting a five-year vision, Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç said EMU aims to become financially stronger, academically more respected, digitally transformed, and more visible in global rankings. He stressed the importance of building a university that students are proud of and employees trust, explaining that their objective is not to manage short-term challenges but to secure EMU's future in a permanent and sustainable way.

Noting that real progress comes from stability and collective reasoning rather than controversy, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that EMU's future should be shaped by reforms, not short-lived debates.

### “Balanced Budget Target by the End of 2027”

In his remarks to Yeni Düzen, Prof. Dr. Kılıç said that EMU is acting in accordance with the four-year protocol signed with the government on 4 April 2024, aimed at building a sustainable and resilient institutional framework. Despite assuming office during a period marked by serious financial and administrative difficulties, he noted that “we have reached a positive stage within two years,” adding that trust and optimism have remained intact throughout the process.

Prof. Dr. Kılıç pointed to tangible financial improvements, stating that revenues increased from 29 million USD in 2023 to 34 million USD in 2024, and to approximately 45 million USD by the tenth month of 2025. Stating that the rise signals a more robust financial position for the university, Prof. Dr. Kılıç also drew attention to EMU's international visibility and accomplishments.

Prof. Dr. Kılıç underlined that expenditure control and budget discipline are among the university's foremost objectives, noting that nearly 27 percent

savings in overall expenses were realized in 2025. Pointing to long-standing pension liabilities and energy costs as major challenges, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that annual electricity expenditures exceed 150 million TL and announced that the groundwork for a solar energy initiative has been completed. Emphasizing a transition into a safer and more stable period, Prof. Dr. Kılıç said, “Our goal is to reach balanced budget by the end of 2027”.

### “The University with the Highest Scholarship Allocation for TRNC Citizen Students”

Addressing scholarship and tuition policies, Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç emphasized that EMU is the university providing the highest level of scholarships, discounts, and financial support to TRNC citizen students. He stated that claims suggesting TRNC citizens pay higher tuition fees than international students do not reflect the facts, noting that EMU offers substantial social support to its own citizens. Furthermore, he added that the discounts applied to international students should not be considered scholarships, but rather a marketing strategy commonly used in the international higher education market.

### Promotional Activities and Increase in International Students

Stating that increasing revenue is not an easy process, Prof. Dr. Kılıç noted that promotional activities have been restructured as part of this effort. He explained that targeted outreach initiatives conducted in many countries—particularly in Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Africa—have resulted in a 30–40 percent increase in the number of international students compared to the previous year. Prof. Dr. Kılıç emphasized that this growth reflects the success of well-designed policies and underlined that their objective is to expand international student enrollment in a sustainable and quality-focused manner rather than through unplanned growth.

### “EMU is a Leading Reference Institution”

Pointing to EMU's academic standing, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that EMU is the only university in the TRNC represented in all three of the world's leading ranking systems. Emphasizing the value of its 78,000 graduates, he remarked that the success of EMU alumni should be recognized and highlighted. He added that EMU's academic achievements and graduate profile position the university as a reference institution, and that its strengths deserve greater visibility.

## EMU DEPARTMENT OF NURSING ORGANIZES AN IMPORTANT EVENT ON CLIMATE CRISIS AND HEALTH



Senior year students of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Department of Nursing organized a tree planting event at the EMU Champion Angels Grove. The event that took place on Tuesday, 30 December 2025, aimed at raising awareness on the relation between climate crisis and health.

Prof. Dr. Sevinç Taştan – Head of the Department of Nursing, Vice Head of the Department Assist. Prof. Dr. Seda Cevheroğlu, academic personnel members of the department and many senior year students attended the event that concluded with a celebration party for the New Year.

Planned as part of the Nursing Profession Courses Practice course, the event was based on a literature discussion entitled “Climate Crisis, Its Effects on Health, and Preventive Measures”. Within this framework, students took an active role in a practical activity designed to promote awareness of environmental health. The initiative concluded meaningfully with the planting of olive saplings at the EMU Champion Angels Grove.

### **Nursing Profession Courses Practice**

The course is designed to help nursing students develop knowledge, practical skills, and awareness in diverse application areas related to protecting individuals, families, and communities from illness, promoting health, supporting recovery, and facilitating rehabilitation within primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare settings. It is carried out under the coordination of Assist. Prof. Dr. Seda Cevheroğlu and Senior Lecturer Dr. Sinem Dağ Canatan, with the involvement of the responsible academic staff.



## EMU RECTOR PROF. DR. HASAN KILIÇ ISSUES A NEW YEAR MESSAGE

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç released a New Year message. The said message by Prof. Dr. Kılıç reads as follows:

“As we conclude another year, we observe that 2025 was a period marked by rapid changes, uncertainties, wars, economic fluctuations, and new search for the geography we are part of, our country, and the wider world. With the awareness that each New Year brings fresh hopes, new beginnings, and opportunities for a brighter future, we welcome 2026 and open a new chapter in our lives and in our world. Our greatest wish is that this new chapter will be filled with health, happiness, peace, harmony, and beautiful memories.

As the Eastern Mediterranean University, we are filled with joy and happiness on welcoming the New Year with our hope, dedication and shared values. With its long-standing background, international vision and philosophy rooted in universal values, Eastern Mediterranean University continues to advance confidently toward its vision of being recognized among the world’s leading higher education institutions, not only in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus but internationally. Our initiatives spanning education, research, social



responsibility, and cultural advancement continue to gain momentum each year through the dedicated commitment of the EMU family.

I extend my wishes for the New Year to bring health, harmony, success, and well-being to our students, employees, graduates, stakeholders, and our country. I also hope that the year ahead will be one in which peace, solidarity, mutual respect, and shared human values resonate more strongly across the globe.

Guided by science and our commitment to modern, high-quality education, we will continue to shape the future with determination. Eastern Mediterranean University will persist in the New Year in its mission to educate individuals who contribute meaningfully to society and to support the future of our country.

May the New Year be one of growing hope, prevailing peace, and shared health and happiness for all.”

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

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- M. Ozgun, O. Akanyeti, F. V. Povina, R. Rahman, H. Saybasili, and D. Atalar, “CLASSIFYING STROKE RECOVERY PROFILES BASED ON LIVING ENVIRONMENT: A LATENT CLASS ANALYSIS,” *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF STROKE*, vol. 20, no. 2\_SUPPL, 2\_SUPPL, SI, Oct. 2025.



**Eastern  
Mediterranean  
University**

Management at Eastern Mediterranean University  
Famagusta, North Cyprus

On behalf of Eastern Mediterranean University  
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Supervisor  
Prof. Dr. Ali ÖZTÜREN, Vice Rector

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