

STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE AND FUTURE OF THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN DISCUSSED AT EMU WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF PROMINENT FIGURES

The “Strategic Importance of Eastern Mediterranean” summit hosted by Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and organized by the International Social,

Cultural and Academic Relations Association (USKAID) was held on Friday, 27 March 2026 at the Rauf Raif Denktaş Culture and Congress Center, receiving strong participation. During

the summit, prominent names who are experts in their respective fields, discussed topics such as the geopolitical, economic and strategic dynamics of the region. > pg. 2-3



EMU ACCOMPLISHES SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS BY SUBJECT 2026

London-based Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) announced the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026 on Wednesday, 25 March 2026, at 12:00 p.m. The ranking, which evaluated over 1,900 universities across 55 subject areas, became the most extensive ranking QS has conducted to date. Having entered the ranking for the first time last year in the field of “Economics and Econometrics”, EMU succeeded this year in being ranked among the world’s best universities in a total of four scientific fields. Certificates of achievement were presented to EMU with the signature of QS Senior Vice President Ben Sowter. > pg. 4



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The event was attended by Olgun Amcaoğlu, the Minister of Economy and Energy of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus; CTP Members of Parliament Teberükten Uluçay and Şifa Çolakoğlu; Prof. Dr. Yüksel Yalova, former Minister of State and former Deputy Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (TBMM) and Faculty Member at EMU Faculty of Law; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hulki Cevizoğlu, Istanbul Member of Parliament and Head of the Turkish Group of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (AIBPA); Prof. Dr. Mehmet Akalın, Edirne Member of Parliament; Şamil Ayrım, 28th Term Istanbul Member of Parliament, Chair of the Türkiye–Azerbaijan Friendship Group, and Chair of the AIBPA Economic Committee; Orhan Erdem, Konya Member of Parliament and Chair of the Türkiye–Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Interparliamentary Friendship Group; Şemi Bora, President of the EMU Board of Trustees; EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç; Attorney Selman Yaray, President of USKAİD; EMU Board of Trustees Members Anıl İmre, Özdiñç Akdel, and Turan Büyükyılmaz; EMU Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu, and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren; EMU Secretary General Derviş Ekşici; Attorney Selman Yaray, President of USKAİD; President of the International Academic, Social and Economic Relations Federation (USKEF) Dr. Umut Elbir; Chair of The London Energy Club, former diplomat and former executive of the International Energy Agency Mehmet Ögütçü; as well as academics and students.

“The Eastern Mediterranean Has Been a Crossroads of Civilizations throughout History”

In his address, Attorney Selman Yaray, President of USKAİD, underscored that such meetings should not be regarded merely as academic gatherings, emphasizing that the Eastern Mediterranean has historically functioned as a crossroads of civilizations, a zone of strategic competition, and a route for the transit of energy resources. He noted that increasing energy demand, new resource discoveries, and evolving security dynamics have rendered the region critical for both Türkiye and global actors. Emphasizing that energy, security, economy, and politics are now deeply interconnected, Attorney Yaray stated that the objective of the meeting is not only to carry out evaluations, but also to develop concrete proposals and generate strategic outputs that will contribute to decision-makers.

“EMU Is Conscious of Its Responsibility as a Scientific Institution Situated in This Important Geography”

In his remarks, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç underlined that the Eastern Mediterranean possesses strategic importance at a global level with its geopolitical, economic, energy, and legal dimensions. Stating that the region holds a critical position in terms of international balances, Prof. Dr. Kılıç expressed that EMU, as a scientific institution situated in this important geography, is fully conscious of its responsibility. He noted that they aim to contribute to the peace, stability, and prosperity of the region

through the production of academic knowledge and international cooperation. Prof. Dr. Kılıç further stated that he believes the summit will bring together scientists and decision-makers, generating significant outcomes. Prof. Dr. Kılıç concluded his speech by conveying his wish for the program to be productive.

“The Eastern Mediterranean Holds Limited yet Strategic Global Importance in Energy”

In his remarks, Mehmet Ögütçü, Chair of The London Energy Club, former diplomat, and former executive of the International Energy Agency, underlined that the world is passing through a critical period characterized by multidimensional crises. He stated that the key issue is the accurate anticipation of the new order that will emerge following the end of wars. Noting that the Eastern Mediterranean holds limited yet strategic importance in terms of energy on a global scale, Ögütçü pointed out that geopolitical tensions in the region, particularly the disputes along the Cyprus, Türkiye, Greece, and Israel axis, constitute risks for energy investments. Emphasizing that security and stability are determining factors in energy projects, Ögütçü highlighted the importance of communicating the data and evaluations obtained to decision-makers and the international public.

“The Region’s Importance Has Further Increased Today within the Context of Energy Resources, Geopolitical Balances, and International Relations”

Prof. Dr. Yalova, former Minister of State and faculty member of the EMU Faculty of Law, emphasized

that the Eastern Mediterranean has historically been a strategic center, noting that the importance of the region has further increased today within the context of energy resources, geopolitical balances, and international relations. He also referred to the studies conducted in the field of energy law within the EMU Faculty of Law, stating that the courses offered, the research centers established, and international collaborations in this area carry significant strategic value. Expressing his satisfaction with the high level of student interest, Prof. Dr. Yalova stated that he believes the event will produce important outcomes thanks to its strong group of speakers, and extended his thanks to all those who contributed.

“The World Order Will Be Reshaped Following This Process”

Also delivering a speech, Edirne Member of Parliament Prof. Dr. Akalın underlined that the Eastern Mediterranean has historically possessed strategic importance owing to its position at the intersection of Africa, Asia, and Europe. He stated that Cyprus, and in particular the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, is located at the center of this geography, noting that the region has become more critical today with the impact of energy resources. Highlighting that the world is passing through a period characterized by economic, political, and social crises on a global scale, Prof. Dr. Akalın stated that the world order will be reshaped following this process, and emphasized that Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus should be prepared for this new era.

“The Situation of Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Is Critical Today in a Region Affected by Wars and Crises”

In his remarks, Şamil Ayrım, Chair of the Türkiye–Azerbaijan Friendship Group, Chair of the AIBPA, and 28th Term Istanbul Member of Parliament, underlined that the Eastern Mediterranean is a strategic region where civilizations meet, trade routes intersect, and global power balances are shaped in the present day. He stated that the situation of Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is critical today in a region affected by wars and crises. Emphasizing that energy, security, and geopolitical dynamics are intertwined in the Eastern Mediterranean, Ayrım noted that lasting stability can only be ensured through dialogue, mutual respect, and commitment to international law. He further provided information to participants regarding the friendship group established to enhance the recognition of Northern Cyprus and to strengthen Türkiye–Azerbaijan cooperation, as well as the upcoming meetings.

“The Rule of Law and Human Rights Are Being Frequently Violated”

Orhan Erdem, Chair of the Türkiye–TRNC Interparliamentary Friendship Group and Konya Member of Parliament, underlined that the world is passing through a critical period and that the rule of law and human rights are being frequently violated. He drew attention to the tragedies affecting civilians in the region, particularly in Gaza and Iran, and stated that Northern Cyprus should be safeguarded as a secure region under Türkiye’s guarantorship. Emphasizing the importance of sustaining a culture of negotiation despite the increasing militarization on the island, Erdem stated that they closely monitor the statements made by the relevant countries and their leaders in this regard.

“A Proper Understanding of the Mediterranean and Cyprus Issues Requires the Accurate Reading of History and Current Crises”

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hulki Cevizoğlu, Head of the Turkish Group of AIBPA and Istanbul Member of Parliament, underlined that understanding the Mediterranean and



Cyprus issues requires the accurate reading of both history and current crises. He noted that Cyprus is not only an island, but also a center of a cause that was governed with justice for approximately 350 years since 1571. Referring to the fact that energy rights are reshaping geopolitical balances in the present day, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cevizoğlu stated that the interventions of superpowers directly impact global energy flows and security. He further emphasized that media and debate programs do not sufficiently analyze these issues and are frequently repetitive in nature.

“Ensuring the Preservation of the Turkish Cypriot People and Securing the Turkish Population and Their Interests on the Island Is of Critical Importance”

In his remarks, the Minister of Economy and Energy of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Olgun Amcaoğlu, highlighted the importance of governance and the ability to foresee developments, emphasizing the strategic significance of the island of Cyprus. Amcaoğlu stated that ensuring the preservation of the Turkish Cypriot people and securing the Turkish population and their interests on the island is of critical importance. He noted that the war economy and regional developments should be taken into account, and, after thanking the participants, stated that they will closely monitor the outcomes of the meeting and that they value the perspectives shared at the forum.

Following the opening speeches, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and President of USKAİD and Attorney Selman Yaray presented plaques to the guest speakers. Furthermore, members of Parliament who delivered speeches at the event, presented EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç a souvenir on behalf of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye.

The first session, entitled “Geopolitics and International Relations,” was conducted under the moderation of Security Expert and Star Newspaper columnist Coşkun Başbuğ. Presentations were delivered by Prof. Dr. Nurşin Ateşoğlu Güney, Prof. Dr. Hasan Ünal, Prof. Dr. Yalçın Sarıkaya, and Prof. Dr. Uğur Özgöker.

The second session, entitled “Energy, Economy and Law,” was conducted under the moderation of Prof. Dr. Yüksel Yalova, former Minister of State of the Republic of Türkiye and faculty member of the EMU Faculty of Law. Presentations were delivered by Prof. Dr. Vedat Yorucu, Prof. Dr. Cemal Zehir, Assist. Prof. Dr. Aylin G. Gürzel Aka, Gökhan Güler, Secretary General of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Mediterranean Strategic Research Center, and Dr. Ekrem Teymur, Probabilistic Modeling Expert, who evaluated the region’s energy and legal strategies. The forum concluded with a Plaque Ceremony.

EMU ACCOMPLISHES SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS IN QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS BY SUBJECT 2026



EMU Featured Among Global Top 200 in the Field of “Hospitality and Leisure Management”

Ranked for the first time in the field of “Hospitality and Leisure Management” in the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2026, EMU achieved a significant success by being listed among the world’s top 200 universities in this field. Placed in the 151–175 band in “Hospitality and Leisure Management,” EMU became the only university from the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) to enter the rankings and be listed among the top 200 in this field.

Following its first appearance in the “Economics and Econometrics” subject area, EMU once again succeeded to be featured on the said list for the second time, moving up to the 501-550 band compared to last year being ranked within the 551-700 band.

Moreover, EMU achieved success by entering the rankings for the first time in the fields of “Electrical and Electronic Engineering” and “Computer Science and Information Systems.” Placed in the 501–550 band in “Electrical and Electronic Engineering,” EMU became the only university from the TRNC to be ranked in this field. EMU was also ranked in the 751–800 band in “Computer Science and Information Systems”.

“EMU Will Sustain Its Strong Rise”

In his statement regarding the achievement, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç underlined that EMU’s consistent inclusion among the world’s leading universities each year by various independent global ranking organizations is not coincidental. He noted that while EMU was ranked only in the field of “Economics and Econometrics” last year, it achieved a significant success this year

by being included not only in “Economics and Econometrics” but also in “Hospitality and Leisure Management,” “Electrical and Electronic Engineering,” and “Computer Science and Information Systems,” despite the fact that this year marked QS’s most extensive evaluation, with more than 300 new universities added to the list. Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that these results demonstrate that EMU continues to sustain its strong rise. Emphasizing that EMU’s placement among the world’s top 200 in “Hospitality and Leisure Management” is a great source of pride, he further noted that EMU has advanced by one band in “Economics and Econometrics” compared to the previous year and expressed satisfaction with achieving strong initial rankings in “Electrical and Electronic Engineering” and “Computer Science and Information Systems.” Prof. Dr. Kılıç concluded by congratulating all EMU staff who contributed to these achievements and wishing them continued success.

NOWRUZ AT EMU: COMMON LANGUAGE OF CULTURES

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) celebrated Nowruz with a vibrant and festive event that brought together different cultures. The event created a multicultural atmosphere with the participation of student associations from various countries.

Organized by Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan Student Societies, the event highlighted the strong contribution of these communities in bringing their cultural heritage into the university environment.

Recognized as one of the oldest festivals, Nowruz means “A New Day” and symbolizes the awakening of nature, renewal, and peace. Celebrated across different regions, this special occasion brings communities together around shared values and stands out as a strong reflection of cultural diversity and coexistence. During the event, representatives of the student societies emphasized the messages of unity, solidarity, and togetherness associated with Nowruz, extending their greetings to all participants. In their remarks, they stressed the importance of different cultures coexisting in



harmony and noted that multiculturalism is one of the fundamental elements of social richness.

One of the Finest Examples of the Multicultural Environment

Vice Rector for Student Affairs Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu and Vice Rector for Promotion and Institutional Communication Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren delivered speeches during the event, underscoring that such events represent one of the finest examples of the multicultural environment at Eastern Mediterranean University. Vice Rectors also stated that the coming together of diverse cultures around shared values reflects the University’s core vision.

The event also drew attention to EMU’s international structure, with it being noted that the University’s inclusive environment, which brings together students from diverse

nationalities, is further strengthened through such events.

Cultures Met and Shared

As part of the program, student societies showcased traditional music and dance performances, while participants added color to the event by wearing traditional attire from their respective countries. In addition, a variety of traditional foods from different cultures were offered to visitors.

The Nowruz event, held with strong participation, once again demonstrated that bringing together different cultures around shared values makes a significant contribution to the development of mutual understanding and tolerance. It was emphasized that EMU will continue to support cultural diversity and strengthen its multicultural structure through such events.

“EMU IS MORE THAN A UNIVERSITY — IT IS A GLOBAL SCHOOL OF THOUGHT”

Unwavering Trust Passed Down Through Generations

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) continues to be a center of attraction for international students, while also hosting yet another meaningful story that reflects how the trust placed in the University, as a school of thought, is passed down through generations without hesitation

Seth Quarcoo, a 2006 graduate of Banking and Finance program within the EMU Faculty of Business and Economics, is now a senior executive in international banking in Africa. His success represents not only a personal achievement but also a strong example of EMU’s impact as a globally recognized educational tradition.

Having personally experienced the quality of education at EMU, Quarcoo later chose the University for his children without hesitation, seeing it as the continuation of a trusted educational tradition. His wife, Lydia Quarcoo, shared this confidence and, after her own

assessment, also chose EMU, where she began her PhD studies in International Relations.

The couple’s children are also continuing their education at the same institution. Zoe Quarcoo is studying Nursing, while Daniel Quarcoo is enrolled in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. The family members emphasize their satisfaction with EMU’s academic opportunities and international environment

“This Trust Is No Coincidence — It Is the Result of a Tradition”

Commenting on the matter, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç stated: “We take great pride in being chosen by students from different countries. EMU is not just a university; it is a strong educational tradition that continues through its graduates. The fact that our alumni share their experiences with their families, and that they choose EMU with the same confidence and without hesitation, is a clear reflection of our educational quality. The story of Seth Quarcoo and his family is a global example of this tradition”.



Quarcoo’s journey with EMU, which began years ago, has now taken on a new meaning with his family. It stands as a powerful example of how trust in the EMU tradition is passed on from generation to generation.

AI AND FUTURE DISCUSSED AT EMU

A recent event organized by Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Student Development, Events and Sports Affairs Directorate, has shown that artificial intelligence (AI) is not just a technological transformation, rather it is a breaking point that revolutionizes

the relation between human and information. The opening ceremony of the said event was attended by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, EMU Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu, EMU Secretary General Derviş Ekşici, EMU Student Development, Events and Sports Affairs Director

Cemal Kılıç, many academic and administrative staff as well as students. The event offered participants the opportunity to re-evaluate their approaches of thinking, learning, and making sense of the world, extending beyond the scope of technological progress.





Experts in Their Fields Met with Students

At the event, Prof. Dr. Diğdem Müge Siyez, educator and mentor Onur Önel, and technology strategist Cem Tokbay met with the students.

The guest speakers underscored that higher education should not be regarded as the simple acquisition of knowledge, serving instead as a means to cultivate analytical thinking, enhance communication skills, and develop a more profound understanding.

Emphasizing artificial intelligence as a “working partner,” the speakers noted that it cannot substitute human thinking. They cautioned against using AI to hide individual limitations, advocating instead for its use as a tool that enriches thinking, increases productivity, and contributes to personal growth.

The discussions underscored the importance of envisioning possibilities and shaping one’s own path in career planning. A career was described not simply as a profession, but as something defined by the value one adds, the transformation one brings, and the progress one

achieves. In this regard, a career was defined not as a title, but as an ongoing process of development and value creation.

Furthermore, emphasis was placed on the effective and appropriate use of professional communication platforms. It was noted that students should be able to represent themselves accurately in digital environments, consciously expand their professional networks, and actively incorporate these platforms into their career journeys.

Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç: “We Cultivate Individuals Who Question”

In his speech, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç underlined that the University aims to nurture individuals who question, pose meaningful inquiries, and contribute to knowledge production. He noted that in today’s world, mere access to information is insufficient; rather, the key lies in critically engaging with information, analyzing it, and developing the intellectual competence to interpret change effectively.

Emphasizing that students should not be passive recipients of information but active producers of thought, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated that universities play a critical role in this transformation process. He further noted that EMU has adopted an educational approach that goes beyond merely delivering knowledge, focusing instead on developing students’ abilities to think, question, and create.

Prof. Dr. Kılıç also stated that significant importance is placed on career services to enable students to take more informed steps in their career journeys, emphasizing that the initiatives carried out in this field aim to contribute to both academic and professional development. Addressing the changing dynamics of professions in the age of artificial intelligence, Prof. Dr. Kılıç highlighted the importance of continuous self-development and the ability to interpret change effectively.

The event concluded with discussions underscoring that, in the age of artificial intelligence, the meaning of knowledge must be reconsidered alongside knowledge itself.



HAYKO CEPKİN AND PELİN AKİL DRAW STRONG INTEREST



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Theatre Community continues to organize events aimed at supporting the culture and artistic development of students. In this regard and within the scope of the 4th Duvar Workshop Days and the World Theatre Day, a talk event was held with Hayko Cepkin and Pelin Akil, both of whom are famous artists from Türkiye.

EMU Theatre Community Executive Board Member Furkan Sırakaya and, Istanbul State Theatres Artist and former member of EMU Theatre Community Vehbi Akıntürk coordinated the event that took place at Mustafa Afşin Ersoy Hall. EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu, academic and administrative staff as well as many students attended the event.

role of art in individual development. The talk concluded with a question-and-answer session, followed by the presentation of plaques by Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu.

“Provides Significant Contributions to Students’ Personal Development”

Prior to the event, Hayko Cepkin and Pelin Akil paid a courtesy visit to the EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, in his office. During the



During the talk, which attracted significant participation, Hayko Cepkin and Pelin Akil offered sincere and inspiring reflections on their artistic careers. Sharing the challenges they faced and the experiences they acquired throughout their professional journeys, the guests speakers highlighted that art demands discipline, patience, and passion.

The guests also provided remarks on the theatre play “Jekyll & Hyde,” which they have recently brought to the stage, offering insights into their perspectives on theatre and detailing the behind-the-scenes efforts and production process. During the talk, Hayko Cepkin and Pelin Akil advised young people to pursue their own paths with confidence and emphasized the





visit, which was also attended by EMU Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu, the importance of cultural and artistic activities held at the university was emphasized.

Expressing his satisfaction with the visit, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç stated that EMU is an institution that supports its students not only academically but also in the fields of art and culture, emphasizing that such events make significant contributions to students' personal development. Prof. Dr. Kılıç also underlined that the university will continue to bring together distinguished figures in their respective fields with students.

Moreover, Hayko Cepkin and Pelin Akil expressed their great pleasure at being at EMU, noting that meeting with students is also an

inspiring experience for them. The guests stated that the value the university places on art is truly commendable and thanked the audience for the interest shown. At the end of the visit, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç presented Cepkin and Akil with Cyprus-specific gifts.

“Everything Begins with Imagination”

In an interview with EMU TV, Hayko Cepkin expressed his great pleasure at being at EMU and shared insights into the latest project he performed together with Pelin Akil. Explaining that he experimented with integrating his own music into the theatre stage, combining both music and theatre to create a contemporary performance, Cepkin noted that the feedback they received indicated their success in this endeavor. Speaking about his goal of writing his

own musical, Cepkin emphasized that success comes from the combination of many factors such as discipline, achievement, talent, and luck. Addressing EMU students, he advised: “Set goals, work towards them, pursue realistic and attainable dreams, and if things do not work out, have the courage to move on and take a different path.”

In her interview with EMU TV, Pelin Akil stated that she greatly admired Cyprus and EMU, expressing her sincere happiness at being there. She also noted that she was delighted to be together with EMU students and shared that, throughout her career journey, she has trusted her heart and followed the path it has shown her. Addressing the students, Akil said: “They should not lose sight of their goals. They should dream. Everything begins with imagination.”



“AKMAN DİNÇYÜREK STUDY HALL” LAUNCHED AND BOOK READING EVENT HELD AT EMU AS PART OF THE 62ND LIBRARY WEEK



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Özay Oral Library organized a series of events within the scope of the 62nd Library Week, celebrated between 30th of March and 5th of April 2026. In this regard, “Akman Dinçyürek Study Hall” has been launched at Özay Oral Library to honour the memory of Akman Dinçyürek who was a personnel member at the library. The opening ceremony of the study hall was held on 1 April 2026 at 10:30 a.m. Later on the same day, a book reading event titled “Reading Heals” also took place in the library garden area.

The said event was attended by Dr. Hakan Dinçyürek, Minister of Health in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus; EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, Prof. Dr. Sonuç Zorlu and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, Secretary General Derviş Ekşici, EMU Health Sciences Faculty Dean Prof. Dr. Mehtap Malkoç, Özay Oral Library Director Osman Soykan, Karakol Elementary School Principal Remzi Elbruz Atalay, Karakol Elementary School students as well as many EMU staff and students.

Delivering a speech during the opening ceremony of the Akman Dinçyürek Study Hall, Library Director Osman Soykan emphasized the devoted service of the late Akman Dinçyürek, who worked in the library for many years with great commitment. Sharing his personal memories, Soykan noted that Dinçyürek was a cherished figure for the library and would forever be remembered with deep respect and gratitude.

In his address, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç highlighted the late Akman Dinçyürek’s many years of devoted service to the library, noting that he will always be remembered for the meaningful relationships he built with his colleagues and the lasting contributions he made to the institution. Expressing profound sorrow over his early passing, Prof. Dr. Kılıç remarked that naming a study hall in his honor is of great significance both in keeping his memory alive and in offering students and library users an inspiring example of dedication and commitment.

EMU Faculty of Architecture academic staff Prof. Dr. Özgür Dinçyürek whom is also brother of late Akman Dinçyürek, delivered a speech on behalf of Dinçyürek family. Prof. Dr. Dinçyürek expressed that his brother had served the library with great devotion for many years and had come to see the University as his second home. He shared that he was always there whenever needed and remained closely connected with his colleagues even after retirement. Prof. Dr. Dinçyürek underlined that the respect and loyalty shown by the University in honoring late Dinçyürek are a great source of comfort and pride for their family.

Following the opening ceremony, a book reading session was held at the EMU Library garden area.

In his remarks, EMU Özay Oral Library Director Osman Soykan stated that libraries are not only places where books are kept, but also important centers that provide access to information, support lifelong learning, and encourage free thinking. He noted that the EMU Özay Oral Library is one of the leading libraries in the region with its extensive print and electronic resources, further strengthened by recent infrastructure and database investments. Soykan added that the library is open to the public and invited everyone to benefit from its services. He also congratulated the students receiving the “Those Who Read More Know More” awards and wished all participants enjoyable reading as part of the “Reading Heals” event.

Also speaking at the event, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç drew attention to the importance of reading in an individual’s intellectual development, emphasizing that every book offers a new perspective. Stating that libraries are important centers reflecting a society’s cultural heritage and facilitating access to knowledge, Prof. Dr. Kılıç noted that, with advancing technology, libraries have become more accessible and stronger structures. Referring to the University’s investments in the library, he underlined that it is an indispensable component of education and research, and that





efforts to further develop it will continue. He also stated that naming the study hall after late Akman Dinçyürek is a significant indication of the University's sense of loyalty. Lastly, Prof. Dr. Kılıç thanked those who contributed to this meaningful initiative, and wished all participants a life enriched with reading.

As part of the program, the "Those Who Read More Know More" awards were presented to the students who borrowed the highest number of books from the library in 2025 by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and Özyay Oral Library Director Osman Soykan. At the award ceremony,

third place was shared by Emin Gencer Aydın from the Faculty of Law and Kübra Birer from the Department of Business Administration, Faculty of Business and Economics. The second prize was awarded to Batuhan Çavuş from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Faculty of Engineering. The first prize was awarded to Teslime Turna from the Department of Primary School Mathematics Teaching, Faculty of Education.

Furthermore, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and Özyay Oral Library Director Osman Soykan presented a plaque to Remzi Elbruz Atalay,

Principal of Karakol Elementary School in recognition of their participation in the event.

The event continued with a reading session held under the theme "Reading Heals". The 30-minute silent reading session, organized in the library garden, aimed to draw attention to the importance of cultivating reading habits in society. Organized by the Turkish Librarians' Association, the event was held simultaneously throughout Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, with students from Karakol Elementary School attending as special guests.



STUDENTS OF EMU 60+ SENIOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM / UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE PLANT SAPLINGS



In collaboration with the Association of Elderly Rights and Mental Health, students of Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) 60+ Senior Development Program / the University of the Third Age held a sapling planting event on the occasion of "18-24 March Respect for Elderly Week". The event took place on Tuesday, 24 March 2026 at the garden area of Health Sciences Faculty located in EMU South Campus. Organized under the slogan 'Taking Root for the Future!', the event aimed to

contribute to the greening of the campus while raising environmental awareness and promoting the goal of leaving a more livable environment for future generations.

Health Sciences Faculty Dean Prof. Dr. Mehtap Malkoç, Vice Dean Assist. Prof. Dr. Asiye Güngör Başaran, Chair of the Association of Elderly Rights and Mental Health Prof. Dr. Hatice Jenkins, 60+ Coordinator Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zehra Güçhan Topçu,

representatives of the Advisory Board and students attended the event.

Following the sapling planting, the afforested area was named with a plaque titled 'EMU 60+ Senior Development / University of the Third Age – First Students', prepared under the sponsorship of the Association of Elderly Rights and Mental Health.

The event concluded with a photo shoot.

EMU COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CENTER'S SPECIAL VISIT ON 'RESPECT FOR ELDERLY WEEK'

Within the scope of 18-24 March Respect for Elderly Week, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Community Involvement Center (CIC) paid a visit to Özen Elderly Care Center. EMU-CIC Chair Assist. Prof. Dr. Nazenin Ruso Kandemir and EMU-CIC Research Assistant Ceren Damla Yılmaz accompanied a group of EMU students consisted of Ayşe İrem Kaya, Melike Bilgen,

Can Aydoğan and Nezihe Nur Kalender, paying a special visit to the elderly care center where they meet with nearly 30 seniors. Held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, the event featured refreshments prepared for the elderly, while enjoyable conversations took place accompanied by a guitar recital, creating pleasant and memorable moments. During the visit, organized with the aim of

enhancing the morale and motivation of elderly individuals, participants shared the joy of togetherness. In the warm and heartfelt atmosphere of the event, the smiles on the faces of the elderly emerged as its most meaningful outcome.

Meryem Bilginerler, owner and responsible director of Özen Elderly Care Center, expressed her appreciation for the visit and drew attention to the importance of promoting social interaction among elderly individuals. Emphasizing that such visits contribute to helping seniors feel valued, she conveyed her thanks to the EMU Community Involvement Center team.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Kandemir, Chair of the EMU Community Involvement Center, emphasized that the elderly should be remembered and visited not only on certain occasions but at all times, and stated that social responsibility activities aimed at strengthening solidarity with different segments of society will continue.



COMMEMORATION PROGRAM HELD AT EMU ON THE 111TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ÇANAKKALE VICTORY



Within the scope of the 111th anniversary of the Victory of Çanakkale, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Atatürk Research and Application Center (ATAUM) and EMU Atatürk Ideology Club (ADK) jointly organized a commemoration event titled “18 March Commemoration of Çanakkale Victory and Martyrs’ Day”. Said event took place on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 at 10:30 a.m. at Rector’s Office building.

Present during the event were EMU Board of Trustees (VYK) President Şemi Bora, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç, EMU VYK Members Turan Büyükyılmaz and Özdiç Akdel, EMU Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe, EMU Vice Rector for Promotion and Institutional Communication Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, academic and administrative staff, and students.

The ceremony commenced with a moment of silence followed by the National Anthem. Speaking at the event, EMU ADK President Görkem Topçu highlighted that, during the Battle of Çanakkale, the Turkish nation demonstrated to the world its unwavering commitment to independence, declaring “Çanakkale is impassable” despite all adversities. Topçu noted that this historic legacy—shaped by the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and the selfless sacrifices of the Mehmetçik—is not merely a victory, but also a profound responsibility to be conveyed to future generations. He also paid tribute to Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı, who recently passed away,



emphasizing the significance of cultivating historical awareness. Stressing that it is essential not only to know the past but also to truly understand and preserve it, Topçu underlined that the youth of the Republic must keep this spirit alive in all areas and continue to follow in the footsteps of Atatürk.

“Spirit of Unity and Solidarity Revived with This Victory”

In his speech, Dr. Devran Kaya from EMU-ATAUM underlined that Çanakkale was not only a military achievement but also a pivotal moment that reshaped the course of world history. He noted that, as one of the most critical fronts of the First World War, Çanakkale became the setting where the major powers’ efforts to sideline the Ottoman Empire ultimately failed due to the determined resistance of the Turkish army. Dr. Kaya described this victory as a powerful reflection of the nation’s devotion to its homeland, its spirit of sacrifice, and its determination to preserve independence. Emphasizing the decisive influence of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk’s leadership and military genius, Dr. Kaya referred to Atatürk’s well-known command during the battle—“I am not ordering you to attack, I am ordering you to die”—as a historic expression of determination that has endured through time. Pointing out that Çanakkale laid the foundations for the path leading to the War of Independence, Dr. Kaya stated that the spirit of unity and solidarity was revived through this victory, ultimately paving the way for the establishment of the Republic of Türkiye. He concluded by honoring all martyrs and veterans—especially Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk—with respect, gratitude, and remembrance.

One of the Most Powerful Symbols of Extraordinary Sacrifice, Perseverance and Heroism

In his speech delivered on the occasion of the 111th anniversary of the March 18 Çanakkale Victory, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç highlighted that Çanakkale remains one of the most powerful symbols of the Turkish nation’s extraordinary sacrifice, perseverance, and heroism in defense of its homeland. He underlined that 18 March 1915 should be regarded not only as a military success but also as a crucial milestone in the nation’s pursuit of independence and freedom. Prof. Dr. Kılıç further emphasized that this remarkable victory—secured against powerful colonial empires with formidable naval strength—sent a profound message to the world. He noted that this historic resistance, which demonstrated the strength of unity and solidarity, also laid the foundation for the process leading to the War of Independence under the leadership and military brilliance of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. Acknowledging the meaningful contributions of Turkish Cypriots to this struggle, Prof. Dr. Kılıç concluded by honoring all martyrs and veterans, particularly Gazi Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, with deep respect and gratitude.

The event, which also featured an exhibition of various munitions used in Çanakkale, concluded with a musical performance by Deniz Özkalay and Yiğit Çakır, students of the Music Teaching Program at the EMU Faculty of Education, Department of Fine Arts Education.



EMU STUDENT DEVELOPS MOBILE MATH GAME WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

The mathematics-based mobile game called “Calrace” developed by Yahya Helvacioğlu, a master’s student at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences, Information Technologies Master’s Program, is now accessible to users in around 175 countries. Helvacioğlu introduced his application to EMU Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences Dean Prof. Dr. Ahmet Rizaner and Vice Dean Assist. Prof. Dr. Hüsni Bayraktaroğlu.

“Aimed at Improving Mathematics Skills”

Released on Apple’s App Store platform and Google’s Google Play Store, “Calrace” aims to enhance users’ practical mathematics skills with its content tailored to different age groups and its availability in eight language options. In addition to questions based on addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, the game features various modes with different levels of difficulty that combine multiple types of operations. This allows users to focus on specific operations for targeted practice or to improve their overall mathematical skills through comprehensive question sets.

Furthermore, the game’s “play with friends” feature allows users to engage in real-time competition, solving mathematical problems with speed and accuracy. Designed for both children and adults, the inclusion of tournament and league systems enhances the platform, offering a well-rounded experience that is both educational and socially engaging.

Helvacioğlu, who graduated from the EMU Information Systems and Technologies Undergraduate Program in 2022, emphasized that the academic knowledge he acquired during his studies, as well as the contributions of his instructors, played

a significant role in his professional development. He noted that the education he received at EMU provided a strong foundation for the projects he has worked on. Helvacioğlu also stated that he took an active role in social and technological communities throughout his undergraduate studies. In this context, he was among the founding members and served in a leadership role in the first Google Developer Student Club established in Cyprus, highlighting that these experiences contributed to both his social and technical development.

Helvacioğlu, who has been working for approximately three years as a Software Support Specialist in the R&D Department of the IT division at Dr. Hit Fertility Group, operating under U.K.C.F.A IVF Center, continues to develop various software projects for centers both domestically and internationally.

Prof. Dr. Ahmet Rizaner, Dean of EMU’s Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences, reviewed the system developed by Helvacioğlu and expressed satisfaction with students and graduates producing projects that contribute to society. Stating that the faculty delivers education in line with international quality standards, Prof. Dr. Rizaner added that the faculty’s programs have successfully passed three evaluation processes conducted by international reviewers within the scope of ASIIN accreditation and the EuroInf Quality Label.

A statement released by Prof. Dr. Rizaner stated; “Such innovative projects developed by our students serve as concrete outcomes of the education we deliver at the faculty. It is a great source of pride for us to see our internationally



CALRACE

accredited academic foundation reflected in the success of our students”.

Prof. Dr. Rizaner also noted that the faculty will continue to encourage students to actively engage in research and development activities, adding that ongoing academic work contributes to enhancing students’ ability to produce technology and develop innovative solutions.

EMU ÖZAY ORAL LIBRARY DIRECTOR OSMAN SOYKAN RELEASES A STATEMENT ON 62ND LIBRARY WEEK

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Özay Oral Library Director Osman Soykan released a statement on the 62nd Library Week. The statement reads as follows:

“The 62nd Library Week is being celebrated this year, between the 30th of March and 5th of April 2026, in Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The “Library Week” is observed in the week commencing with the last Monday of March every year, with various different events. The celebration of the week as “Library Week” was officially recognized by the Ministries of National Education in Türkiye in 1964 and in our country in 1996. The aim of this week is to emphasize the value of books and reading and, to raise awareness about the importance of libraries for societies.

Information is an irreplaceable value of our era. Societies that place importance on knowledge, adhere to scientific principles, and embrace science as their compass are consistently progressing in the realms of



science and technology. This progress has a beneficial impact on both the quality of intellectual life and economic well-being.

Today, the university libraries, especially with the utilization of internet technology, have evolved beyond being mere repositories of information to also serve as information portals that connect researchers with new sources of information whether within the close environment or far beyond. University libraries are focused more on facilitating users’ access to information rather than physically possessing it, emphasizing knowledge organization. Consequently, interlibrary collaboration and document sharing play significant importance. This new library policy grants academics and researchers unrestricted access to information, transcending spatial constraints. The new mission of the 21st century university library is to guide users in accessing information in all formats without limitations.

As it is an important week for all libraries, the 62nd Library Week also holds a special place for EMU Özay Oral Library. Our library is one of the prominent libraries, offering extensive printed and electronic information services with the widest academic collections in our region. With its approximately 170,000 hard copy books, 10,000s of electronic journal memberships and nearly 400,000 full text e-book collections, our library serves in the center of the Eastern Mediterranean University, a prominent higher education institution in both our region as well as all around the world, reach its educational goals.

Thanks to our library’s memberships in online



databases, along with thousands of electronic journals and books, online copies of conference papers, thesis, reports, evaluation records, statistical data, study journals, standards, bibliographic records and similar materials can be accessed by our researchers. With its efficient information services and extensive collections, our library remains as an indispensable source supporting our university’s contemporary, innovative, progressive and student-oriented educational approach.

Alongside with our University’s academic personnel members and students, our library opens its doors to world researchers and members of the society. In this context, we invite and encourage our community to read books and benefit from the services offered by our library.

On this occasion, I extend my best wishes to all librarians and library enthusiasts.”

A COLLABORATION PROTOCOL SIGNED BETWEEN EMU AND ARUCAD



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) and Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) have signed a collaboration protocol aiming to develop, strengthen and encourage relations between the two institutions. The protocol was signed on Tuesday, 24 March 2026 at 12:00 p.m. by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and ARUCAD Rector Prof. Dr. Asım Vehbi, during a signing session held at EMU Rector's Office.

Present during the signing session were EMU Vice Rectors Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe and Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, and Rectorate Office Private Secretariat Director Kazım Hakverdi.

Delivering his speech, ARUCAD Rector Prof. Dr. Vehbi thanked EMU for its warm

hospitality and highlighted that universities across the globe actively pursue international partnerships. He remarked that cooperation among universities on the island has long been insufficient, adding that EMU has taken a leading role in addressing this gap and initiating meaningful collaboration efforts. Expressing pride in partnering with EMU, the country's most established university, Prof. Dr. Vehbi noted that ARUCAD looks forward to realizing numerous joint projects in the fields of art, design, and communication.

EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç remarked that the University has been striving to foster collaboration and strengthen relations with other institutions, describing the protocol signed today as the product of these efforts.

Prof. Dr. Kılıç added, "As universities, we all share the same journey. For this reason, it is imperative that we build strong and sustainable collaborations among ourselves. Making meaningful contributions to our goals and to the development of higher education is of utmost importance. ARUCAD stands out as a distinguished institution in the country, particularly in the fields of creative arts and design. We firmly believe that this significant collaboration will yield successful results and valuable initiatives. I extend my best wishes for this partnership to both institutions".

At the end of the signing ceremony, Prof. Dr. Vehbi and Prof. Dr. Kılıç exchanged gifts, with Prof. Dr. Kılıç presenting a Cyprus-themed souvenir.





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

- Errehmy, A., Guvendi, A., Dogan, S. G., Mustafa, O. (2026).** Null geodesics and shadows of slowly rotating wormholes immersed in dark matter halos. *The European Physical Journal C*, 86(2), 124.
- Elrehail, H., Behraves, E., Abubakar, A. M., Obeidat, S. M., Alsaad, A., Cizreliogullari, M. N., Alatailat, M. (202).** High-performance work systems, psychological capital and future time perspective: a cross-nations study. *European Journal Of International Management* (28)3.
- Sahlahji, R., Coşkun, A. (2026).** Embodied Sensory Experience and Spatial Mapping in Damascene Courtyard Domestic Architecture. *Buildings*, 16(3), 555.
- Fernandez, A. (2025).** Fractional Integrals as Contraction Mappings. *IFAC-PapersOnLine*, 59(37), 63-68.
- Gasimov, J. J., Mahmudov, N. I. (2026).** Necessary first and second order optimality conditions for a fractional order differential equation with state delay. *Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications*, 208(3), 95.
- Arici, H. E., Köseoglu, M. A., Saydam, M. B. (2026).** Do Sustainability Compensation Incentives Matter for the Social Reputation of Global Hospitality Firms? A Machine Learning Approach. *Business Strategy and the Environment*.
- Aydin, M., Mahmudov, N. (2026).** Controllability of semi-linear piecewise fractional delayed dynamical systems. *International Journal of Systems Science*, 1-23.
- Pantig, R. C., Övgün, A. (2026).** Josephson's effect in the Schwarzschild background. *Journal of High Energy Physics*, 2026(2), 6.
- Saleh, I. A., Fernandez, A. (2025).** On the Possibility of Mikusinski's Operational Calculus for the Fractional Laplacian. *Jordan Journal of Mathematics and Statistics*, 18(1), 127-138.
- Guvendi, A., Dogan, S. G., Mustafa, O., Hassanabadi, H. (2026).** Charged particle dynamics in singular spacetimes: hydrogenic mapping and curvature-corrected thermodynamics. *International Journal of Geometric Methods in Modern Physics*.
- Sucu, E., Sakalli, İ., Sucu, Y. (2026).** Spin-dependent quantum corrections to Schwarzschild black hole thermodynamics with barrow entropy and GUP. *International Journal of Geometric Methods in Modern Physics*, 2650116.
- Güran, M., Tuncay, H. A., Dalokay, F., Özkaloğlu, M., Özel, E. K., Acaban, D., Akkaya, H. (202).** Face Mask-Related Skin Conditions and Microbial Findings Among University Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Advances in Skin & Wound Care*, 39(1) 49-55.
- Aram, R., Alibaba, H. Z. (2026).** Daylight, Glare, and Student Study Behavior in a University Library a Mixed Methods Case Study at Eastern Mediterranean University. *Journal of Architectural and Planning Research*, 39(1), 3-12.
- Tunc, H., Feridun, M. (2026).** Impact of fintech on central bank digital currency (CBDC) implementation: an empirical investigation on the development stages. *Applied Economics Letters*, 1-7.
- Kotrasova, K., Al Mahmoud, Z., Safaei, B., Kormanikova, E. (2026).** Sloshing frequency of liquid in movable rectangular tank in various approaches supported with machine learning prediction. *Physics of Fluids*, 38(2).
- Bahmani, E., Kordbacheh, H., Eslami, S., Lotfiazar, A., Bybordi, S., Banhashem, S., ... & Irani, M. (2026).** Antitumor activity of polycaprolactone/magnetic MIL-88 (Fe)/doxorubicin nanofibers-paclitaxel/magnetic MIL-88 (Fe)-loaded gelatin/chitosan 3D printed hybrid scaffold. *Carbohydrate Polymer Technologies and Applications*, 101105.
- Sarihan, T., Ergün, C. (2026).** CrammedBERTurk: Pretraining/Finetuning a New Language Model for Turkish Question Answering on Limited Budget: Pretraining/Finetuning a New Language Model for Turkish Question Answering on Limited Budget. *ACM Transactions on Asian and Low-Resource Language Information Processing*, 25(1), 1-23.
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- Mustafa, O., Guvendi, A., Dogan, S. G. (2026).** Optics in the Gödel universe: Effects of global rotation and Planck-scale corrections. *Nuclear Physics B*, 1024, 117347.
- Ahmed, F., Al-Badawi, A., Sakalli, İ., Javed, F., Kanzi, S. (2026).** Imprints of ModMax electrodynamics on particle dynamics and thermodynamic properties of Kalb-Ramond AdS black holes. *International Journal of Geometric Methods in Modern Physics*, 2650130.



**Eastern
Mediterranean
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Management at Eastern Mediterranean University
Famagusta, North Cyprus

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

Supervisor
Prof. Dr. Ali ÖZTÜREN, Vice Rector

Prepared by
Institutional Communication and
Media Relations Office

General Coordinator
Burcu Sultan BETİN, Section Chief

News

Ülgen İNANÇ AMBER
Banu ÇALIŞKANLAR

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Müge DEBRELI
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Contact:

Famagusta, North Cyprus
Phone: 0 392 630 1212
E-mail: dau.haber@emu.edu.tr
Web: pr.emu.edu.tr



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