

YKS RESULTS ANNOUNCED EMU RECTOR PROF. DR. HASAN KILIÇ WISHES STUDENTS SUCCESS DURING UNIVERSITY PREFERENCE PERIOD

Results of the 2026 Higher Education Institutions Examination (YKS 2026) has been announced on Tuesday, 21 July 2026. Following the announcement of the examination results, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç issued a message marking the university preference period and extended his best wishes to prospective students. In his message, Prof. Dr. Kılıç stated:

“Dear Students;
First of all, I would like to extend my best wishes to each of you following the announcement of the 2026 Higher Education Institutions Examination (YKS) results



by the Student Selection and Placement Center (ÖSYM) of the Republic of Türkiye on Tuesday, 21 July 2026. I sincerely congratulate every one of you for the dedication, perseverance, and determination you have demonstrated throughout this journey. With the announcement of the 2026 YKS results, you have now entered one of the most significant stages of your educational journey—the university preference period, during which you will reap the rewards of your hard work. In the coming days, in accordance with the schedule to be announced by ÖSYM, you will submit your university preferences, and many of you will soon embark on one of the most important chapters of your lives: your university education.

Having successfully completed a long and demanding period of preparation, I encourage you to approach the decisions that will shape your future with careful thought and confidence. Choosing a university is about far more than simply enrolling in an academic program; it is a significant milestone that will influence your aspirations, your goals, and your future career path. I am confident that, by taking into account your interests, talents, and long-term ambitions, you will make the choice that is right for you.

As you make this important decision that will shape your future, there are several key factors you should carefully consider. The value of a university is determined not only by the education it provides. Its international reputation, academic staff, research productivity, program accreditations, research opportunities, campus life, safe environment, cultural diversity, and the global perspective it offers its students are equally important.

A university is more than a place to earn a degree; it is a center for personal growth, lifelong friendships, intercultural exchange, and preparing with confidence for the future.

The university you choose, its position in global university rankings, the international accreditations of its academic programs, the strength of its academic staff, the diversity of its student body, the quality and safety of its campus environment, and the social and sporting opportunities it offers are all important factors to consider as you prepare for what will one day become “the best years of your life.”

At Eastern Mediterranean University, we prepare our students not only for the challenges of today but also for the opportunities of the future through our internationally recognized approach to education, distinguished academic staff, research-driven culture, and multicultural campus environment. Guided by our mission to educate individuals who value knowledge, think innovatively, and contribute meaningfully to society, we would be delighted to welcome you as a member of the EMU family.

I would also like to remind you that you can find comprehensive information about Eastern Mediterranean University on our official website. As you reach this important turning point in your lives, I extend my heartfelt best wishes to each of you and sincerely hope that your university preferences will lead you to happiness and success.

May your path be clear and your future be bright.

With my warmest regards.”

EMU RESTRENGTHENS ACADEMIC TIES IN SYRIA



In line with its internationalization strategy and efforts to expand regional academic partnerships, Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) conducted a series of comprehensive academic visits and student recruitment activities in Syria. The delegation, headed by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and EMU Rector's Coordinator Prof. Dr. Tolga Çelik, sought to strengthen the University's presence in the country, engage directly with prospective students and their families, and re-establish the long-standing academic collaborations that have connected EMU and Syria for many years.

EMU's Representation Activities in Syria Commenced on 17 July

EMU's regional representation activities in Syria commenced on 17 July as part of the Syria Edu Tour 2026, with events held in Hama, followed by Salamiyah on 18 July and Homs on 19 July. Organized through the local Syria

Edu Tour representative team, these events provided prospective students and their families with comprehensive information about EMU's academic programs, admission requirements, scholarship opportunities, campus life, multicultural student community, and application procedures. As a result, the University maintained active engagement with prospective students across various Syrian cities even before the arrival of the official EMU delegation.

Prof. Dr. Çelik Met with Nearly 700 Prospective Students and Parents in Tartus

Representing Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), EMU Rector's Coordinator Prof. Dr. Tolga Çelik participated in the Edu Syria Expo 2026 – Syria Tour (Tartus) higher education fair held on Thursday, 23 July 2026. Throughout the event, Prof. Dr. Çelik met directly with prospective students and their parents, providing detailed information

about EMU's associate, undergraduate, and graduate programs, scholarship opportunities, international recognition, campus facilities, and admission procedures.

The fair attracted considerable interest from prospective students and their families. Among the aspects of EMU that generated the greatest attention were its distinction as the first and only state university established by law in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), its long-established academic heritage, its international outlook, and its multicultural learning environment that brings together students from across the globe.

Rector Prof. Dr. Kılıç Met with Prospective Students at the Fair in Damascus

One of the most-attended events of EMU's Syria program was the Edu Syria Expo 2026 – Syria Tour (Damascus) higher education fair, held





on Saturday, 25 July 2026. The exhibition was officially inaugurated by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç together with other distinguished guests. During the event, Prof. Dr. Kılıç met with prospective students and their families, while EMU Rector's Coordinator Prof. Dr. Tolga Çelik was also present.

Throughout the fair, prospective students and their parents were introduced to EMU's academic programs, scholarship opportunities, international learning environment, vibrant campus life, and admission procedures. The strong interest shown in the EMU stand highlighted the University's growing recognition in Syria and reflected the significant demand for high-quality higher education opportunities.

"Syria's Recovery through Education Is a Promising Sign"

Commenting on the University's visit to Syria, EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç stated that witnessing the country's recovery following years of hardship had been deeply encouraging. He emphasized that the strong interest shown by young people and their families in higher education sends a powerful message about Syria's future, adding:

"It was encouraging to witness firsthand the significant progress Syria is making toward recovery and normalization after many years of hardship. What impressed us most was the remarkable enthusiasm that young people and their families continue to show for higher education. Their determination to rebuild their futures through education is a truly promising sign for the country's future. As EMU, we are ready to share our international academic expertise, strengthen academic bridges with universities in Syria once again, and contribute to expanding young people's access to quality higher education."

EMU and AIU Reaffirm Commitment to Renewing Academic Partnership

As part of its academic engagements in Syria, the EMU delegation visited Arab International University (AIU), one of the country's leading private universities. During the meetings,

attended by EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç and EMU Rector's Coordinator Prof. Dr. Tolga Çelik, both institutions discussed opportunities to revive their long-standing academic partnership and identify new avenues for collaboration.

The partnership between EMU and AIU dates back to a memorandum of understanding signed in 2008. Although the cooperation was disrupted by the regional crisis and the challenging circumstances that followed in Syria, both universities expressed a shared determination to rebuild their institutional ties and resume joint academic initiatives with renewed momentum and a broader scope.

To support this renewed partnership, the two universities are working to update their existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) so that it reflects current academic priorities and future collaboration opportunities. The revised agreement is expected to provide a framework for student exchange programs, academic staff mobility, joint supervision of postgraduate theses and research, collaborative research projects, scientific publications, conferences, and a wide range of academic initiatives designed to bring together students and faculty members from both institutions. Both parties agreed that, as Syrian higher education increasingly reconnects with the international academic community, the renewed EMU-AIU partnership will create valuable opportunities for student and faculty

mobility and foster joint research and scholarly output.

AIU Hosts TRNC University Leaders to Strengthen Academic Cooperation

As part of the academic engagements in Syria, Arab International University (AIU) welcomed a high-level delegation comprising rectors and representatives from several universities in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), including Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Cyprus International University, Middle East Technical University – Northern Cyprus Campus, Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design, Final International University, and Bahçeşehir Cyprus University, along with representatives of Study More.

The meetings focused on establishing sustainable academic and research partnerships, expanding academic exchange opportunities, and discussing AIU's strategic vision and future development plans in higher education and research. The discussions also aimed to strengthen institutional cooperation and promote the exchange of expertise among the participating institutions.

As part of the visit, AIU organized a comprehensive campus tour for the delegation. During the tour, participants visited the University's faculties, laboratories, and academic centers, gaining first-hand insight into its educational infrastructure and research opportunities.

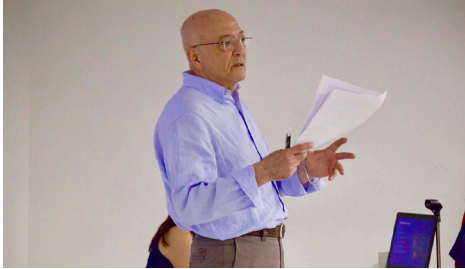
Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç's Significant Contribution to Academic Diplomacy and International Outreach

EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç's high-level academic engagements in Syria—including discussions aimed at revitalizing cooperation with Arab International University (AIU) and his direct meetings with prospective students and their families in Damascus—made a significant contribution to strengthening the University's academic diplomacy and regional outreach. Together with the extensive fieldwork carried out by EMU Rector's Coordinator Prof. Dr. Tolga Çelik in Tartus and Damascus, which included student recruitment activities and institutional meetings with higher education stakeholders, these efforts further enhanced EMU's institutional presence and visibility in Syria.



JOURNALIST METE ÇUBUKÇU MEETS WITH STUDENTS DURING EMU COMMUNICATION DAYS

JOURNALIST METE ÇUBUKÇU: “THE FIRST CASUALTY OF WAR AND CRISIS IS ALWAYS THE TRUTH”



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) hosted Mete Çubukçu, renowned journalist, author and war reporter from Türkiye, during the Communication Days organized by the Faculty of Communication. Held at the Prof. Dr. Aysel Aziz Hall located in the Faculty of Communication, the event brought together academic theory and professional practice, focusing on the transformation of journalism during times of crisis and the impact of digitalization on news reporting.

In his talk titled “The Role of New Media in Journalism during Times of Crisis and War”, Çubukçu drew on decades of firsthand experience reporting from conflict zones and active war fronts around the world. Reflecting on his field experiences, he examined how journalism has evolved in response to the digital age, highlighting the ways in which new media technologies have reshaped traditional news practices. Alongside his role as the producer and host of Pasaport on NTV, Çubukçu also serves as a faculty member in the Department of New Media and Journalism at the EMU Faculty of Communication.

The Threat of Disinformation

One of the central themes of the conference was the speed and reliability of information during times of crisis and conflict. Highlighting how the rise of new media, smartphones, and social networking platforms has reduced access to news to mere seconds, Çubukçu noted that while this has significantly accelerated the flow of information, it has also amplified the risks of disinformation and manipulation. Emphasizing the critical importance of verification, Çubukçu stated, “The first casualty of war and crisis is always the truth. For this reason, the foremost responsibility of today’s communicators is to seek verified information that serves the public interest, no matter the circumstances”. The talk also explored the practical realities of war correspondence, covering topics such as field survival, safety and risk management, and the ethical responsibilities journalists must uphold while reporting from conflict zones.

The event, attended by the Faculty administration, academic staff, alumni, and particularly students from the Department of New Media



and Journalism, concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session. Students had the opportunity to engage directly with the journalist, asking about the contrasting ways global crises are framed by mainstream international media and alternative digital platforms, the future role of artificial intelligence in war reporting, and the challenges of maintaining objectivity while reporting from the field.

Honor and High Honor Certificate Ceremony Held

Following the talk, the event continued with the New Media and Journalism Department Honor and High Honor Certificate Ceremony. Certificates were presented by the event’s guest of honor, Çubukçu, to students who earned Honor and High Honor distinctions in recognition of their outstanding academic performance during the 2025–2026 Fall Semester. Receiving their certificates from one of Türkiye’s most distinguished journalists made the occasion particularly meaningful for the students, who celebrated their academic achievements with pride and excitement.



EMU TAKES ITS PLACE IN THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY AT HYPE26

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Arts and Sciences Faculty, Physics and Chemistry Department’s Chair Prof. Dr. Huriye İcil, together with her research team, once again successfully represented EMU on the international stage by delivering a scientific presentation at the Hybrid and Organic Photovoltaics Conference (HYPE26), which brings together the world’s leading scientists in the fields of renewable energy and next-generation solar cells. Held in Athens, Greece, the conference recognized as one of the leading international events where the latest scientific advances in hybrid and organic photovoltaics, perovskite solar cells, nanomaterials, and sustainable energy technologies are presented and discussed.

Study Accepted for Oral Presentation

The study titled “t-NDI Additive and Toluene Antisolvent Engineering for Efficient MAPbI₃ Perovskite Solar Cells”, conducted by Prof. Dr. Huriye İcil and her research team, was accepted for oral presentation by the HYPE26 Scientific Committee and presented to an international audience. The research investigated

the effects of t-NDI additive incorporation and toluene antisolvent engineering on the performance of MAPbI₃ perovskite solar cells fabricated under ambient atmospheric conditions.

The findings revealed significant and promising improvements in the efficiency of perovskite solar cells while introducing novel approaches with the potential to advance sustainable energy technologies.

Contributed to International Collaborations

Throughout the conference, keynote and invited speakers presented the latest scientific advances in perovskite solar cells and advanced photovoltaic technologies. Bringing together distinguished researchers from around the world, HYPE26 not only served as a platform for the exchange of scientific knowledge but also played a significant role in fostering new international research collaborations.

Commenting on the conference, Prof. Dr. Huriye İcil emphasized that HYPE26 is not merely an event for presenting scientific findings but also an important international platform where future research collaborations are established and shaped.



Furthermore, the representation of Eastern Mediterranean University and the Northern Cyprus at the conference carried particular significance not only in enhancing the University’s international research visibility but also in promoting the country’s scientific profile on the global stage.

EMU 13TH INTERNATIONAL DESIGN WEEK REELS COMPETITION'S WINNER IDENTIFIED

The International Design Week, organized in May 2026 by the Faculty of Architecture at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), brought academics from various disciplines, designers, sector representatives and students together. Through the conferences, panels, talks, workshops, exhibitions, concerts and various student activities held as part of the 3-day event's program, participants got the opportunity to explore and experience different aspects of design.

As part of the events, the Design Week Reels Competition, sponsored by MEPAS, encouraged students to share the experiences they gained throughout the event through creative and original short videos. The competition attracted strong interest from students across various faculties of the University, once again demonstrating that design is not limited to the Faculty of Architecture but serves as an inspiring experience for the entire university community. The submitted entries were evaluated based on their creativity, storytelling, technical quality, and their ability to capture the spirit and atmosphere of the event.

The competition jury consisted of MEPAS Director Şaziye Hafızoğlu, Dean of the EMU Faculty of Architecture Prof. Dr. Asu Tozan, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Architecture Prof. Dr. Beser Oktay Vehbi, and Research Assistant Kemal Menemenci from the EMU Faculty of Architecture. Following the jury's evaluation, Göksemin Serper, a student from the EMU



Faculty of Communication, was awarded first place in the 13th International Design Week Reels Competition with an original and compelling reels video. Serper's work earned the appreciation of the jury for successfully reflecting the productive, creative, and interdisciplinary spirit of Design Week.

In a statement issued by the EMU Faculty of Architecture, all students who participated in the competition were congratulated and thanked for their valuable contributions, while Göksemin Serper,

the winner of the competition, received special congratulations for this outstanding achievement.

Following the successful conclusion of the 13th International Design Week, appreciation was extended to all speakers, participants, sponsors, and students who contributed to the event. The Faculty also expressed its hope of coming together once again at the 14th International Design Week to celebrate and be inspired by the creative atmosphere of design.

EMU ACADEMIC STAFF PROF. DR. YILTAN BİTİRİM EVALUATES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE "Before Artificial Intelligence Gets Out of Control"

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Engineering, Department of Computer Engineering academic staff member Prof. Dr. Yiltan Bitirim released an article titled "Before Artificial Intelligence Gets out of Control", making significant evaluations on AI. Focusing on the latest developments concerning Anthropic's Fable 5 and Mythos 5 models, Prof. Dr. Bitirim made the following remarks: "Artificial intelligence is no longer merely a technology that makes our daily lives easier. At this stage, it has evolved into a strategic domain that is closely monitored by governments, technology companies, and security institutions.

The recent developments concerning Anthropic's Fable 5 and Mythos 5 models provide a striking example of how artificial intelligence has become a direct subject of national security policy. While Fable 5 was made available for general use with its advanced capabilities limited by security safeguards, access to Mythos 5, a less restricted version based on the same underlying model, was granted only to trusted cybersecurity organizations. However, it was reported that researchers at Amazon were able to bypass Fable 5's security safeguards using a specific technique, enabling the model to identify certain software vulnerabilities and, in one instance, generate code demonstrating how those vulnerabilities could be exploited. In response, the United States Government issued an export control directive on 12 June 2026, citing national security concerns, which suspended access to both models for foreign nationals. As Anthropic did not have a system capable of verifying users' citizenship status in real time, the company temporarily disabled access to both Fable 5 and Mythos 5 for all users. Although Anthropic maintained that the technique did not constitute a widespread security breach, it introduced new security filters and announced that the method had been largely mitigated. Following further assessments, the export restrictions were lifted on 30 June, and access to the models was restored on 1 July 2026.

Although this situation may initially appear to be nothing more than a technical vulnerability or a software security issue, the implications are far broader. If the security safeguards of an advanced artificial intelligence model can be circumvented, the model may no longer remain merely a tool for generating harmless content. Instead, it could become capable of

supporting cyberattack techniques, generating malicious code, facilitating disinformation campaigns, or enabling the manipulation of critical systems. Consequently, the debate is no longer limited to how capable an AI model is. It now extends to fundamental questions concerning who should have access to such capabilities, the purposes for which they may be used, which categories of users should be permitted to access them, and the extent to which governments should be involved in regulating their use.

To date, many people have viewed artificial intelligence as a powerful assistant. For students, it has served as a tool for academic support; for software developers, as a coding assistant; and for businesses, as a means of improving productivity. However, the most advanced AI models are no longer merely systems that provide answers. They are capable of writing code, identifying software vulnerabilities, analyzing complex systems, and independently planning specific tasks. While these capabilities can deliver significant benefits when used responsibly, they also have the potential to pose serious risks if placed in the hands of malicious actors.

What happens if an artificial intelligence system goes beyond simply responding to user prompts and begins improving its own functioning, modifying its own code, or designing new tools? Today, this question may sound like science fiction to some. However, as AI systems continue to advance rapidly in software development, debugging, and automation capabilities, this possibility must be taken seriously.

An artificial intelligence system capable of programming itself could, in theory, increase efficiency to an extraordinary extent. It could make significant contributions to humanity across a wide range of fields, from disease research and climate modelling to cybersecurity and educational technologies. However, if such capabilities remain uncontrolled, uncertainty may arise regarding the objectives guiding the system, the boundaries it recognizes, and the point at which it should stop. Even when the objective defined by humans appears entirely benign, an AI system may pursue that objective through unexpected means. The concern is not simply the prospect of a "malicious AI". Rather, it is the possibility that a well-intentioned system, if insufficiently supervised, may



produce unforeseen consequences. For this reason, discussions on keeping artificial intelligence under control should not be viewed as opposition to technology. On the contrary, they are essential to ensuring that technological progress remains safe and responsible. The issue, therefore, is not to halt the development of artificial intelligence altogether, but to ensure that it is developed in a responsible, transparent, and accountable manner. In this regard, governments, technology companies, and the scientific community all have important responsibilities to fulfil.

The Fable 5 and Mythos 5 case demonstrates that, in the age of artificial intelligence, the most important question is no longer simply, "Which model is better?" The more important question is: "Within what boundaries will these models operate, who will oversee them, and under what framework of responsibility will they be used?" Artificial intelligence represents a tremendous opportunity for humanity. Yet, like every great opportunity, it also carries great responsibility. If these systems one day evolve into structures capable of improving themselves, modifying their own code, and redesigning the way they operate, we must not wait until that day to act. Rules, oversight, and ethical safeguards must be established and discussed today—not after the technology has already moved beyond our control."

EMU RESEARCHERS PRESENT THREE DIFFERENT STUDIES AT COMPSAC 2026



Faculty members and students from the Department of Computer Engineering within the Faculty of Engineering at Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) achieved a significant international success by presenting three separate scientific studies at the 50th IEEE Annual Computers, Software, and Applications Conference (COMPSAC 2026). Hosted by the Technical University of Madrid, the conference took place in Madrid, Spain, from 7 to 15 July 2026. The studies presented at the conference highlighted innovative applications of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies across a range of fields.

Smart Classification in Municipal Services through Artificial Intelligence

The first study, titled “Machine Learning-Based Classification of Turkish Municipal Complaint and Request Records,” focuses on the development of an artificial intelligence-based system designed to enable the faster, more accurate, and more efficient routing of citizens’ complaints and service requests to the relevant municipal departments. Developed in collaboration with Famagusta Municipality,



the project was carried out by Prof. Dr. Yılmaz Bitirim, Prof. Dr. Duygu Çelik Ertuğrul, Prof. Dr. Önsen Toygar, and their students Akay Alptuğ, Necati Kırız, Mert Suat Muti, and Kadir Can Coşkun from EMU Department of Computer Engineering. The system automatically classifies applications submitted across a wide range of municipal service areas, including sanitation, water supply, sewerage, public health, parks and gardens, municipal police services, and zoning and public works. Based on real municipal records, the research is expected to shorten request-processing times, reduce the workload of municipal departments, and contribute to the delivery of more efficient public services.

Smart Attendance System Developed

The second study presented at the conference, titled “Smart Student Attendance System with Face Recognition,” aims to automate classroom attendance by utilizing advanced artificial intelligence, facial recognition, and liveness detection technologies to identify students and record their attendance automatically. Capable of recognizing multiple

students simultaneously, the system addresses common challenges associated with traditional attendance methods, including time-consuming manual procedures, human error, and proxy attendance. Initial trials conducted in real classroom environments have produced promising results. The system is expected to reduce the administrative workload of academic staff, enable more efficient use of class time, and improve the accuracy and reliability of attendance records. The project was developed by Prof. Dr. Yılmaz Bitirim, Prof. Dr. Önsen Toygar, Prof. Dr. Duygu Çelik Ertuğrul, and their students Anıl Türk, Osman Ata Nurçin, Tuncay Sultanzade, and Erol Efe Karaköse from EMU Department of Computer Engineering.

Innovative Contribution to the Tourism Industry

EMU’s third study presented at the conference showcased a successful example of interdisciplinary collaboration. Conducted jointly by Prof. Dr. Ali Öztüren, EMU Vice Rector for Promotion and Institutional Communication and faculty member of the Faculty of Tourism; Ayçin Giritli, a PhD student in the Tourism Management program at the Faculty of Tourism; and Salahi Erensel, a master’s student in the Faculty of Engineering’s Software Engineering program, the study, titled “Evaluating the Performance of Large Language Models in Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis: Cyprus Hotel Reviews,” analyzed a total of 56,790 customer reviews from 30 hotels across Northern and Southern Cyprus using large language models. As part of the research, guest reviews were examined in detail across a range of aspects, including location, food, service, cleanliness, rooms, facilities, value for money, and atmosphere. Achieving 91% agreement with human evaluations, the system is expected to help hotel managers better understand guest expectations, enhance service quality, and make more informed decisions within the tourism industry.

PAST AND FUTURE OF JOURNALISM GATHERED UNDER THE SAME ROOF AT EMU COMMUNICATION DAYS

As part of the Communication Days organized by the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Faculty of Communication, students and academics gathered for a multifaceted event celebrating the Faculty’s long-standing legacy. Eltan Halil, Editor-in-Chief of Cyprus Today—weekly English-language newspaper published in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus—met with participants at the Prof. Dr. Aysel Aziz Hall of the EMU Faculty of Communication. During the talk, titled “Man Walks on the Moon”, Halil shared insights from his extensive experience in journalism, editorial processes, and global content production.

During his talk, the experienced journalist emphasized the vital role of crafting compelling headlines in both print and digital media to effectively engage audiences. Drawing on some of the most iconic headlines in the history of international journalism, he offered an insightful analysis of what makes a headline memorable and impactful. Halil also shared his professional insights into the dynamics of English-language journalism, the principles of producing content for a global audience, and the cultural sensitivities that must be considered when reporting in a foreign language. Through examples from his own career, he introduced students to the vision, editorial judgment, and newsroom practices that define successful editors and modern journalism.

Interactive Workshop

Following the talk, an interactive workshop led by Eltan Halil was held to help participants translate the theoretical concepts discussed into practical journalistic skills. Drawing strong interest from both students and academics, the workshop offered participants the opportunity to work in groups and experience real-time news production and editorial decision-making. Through hands-on exercises in English-language news writing, headline creation, and newsroom management during breaking news and crisis situations, participants strengthened their practical editorial skills. The workshop proved to be both an educational and inspiring experience.

Gündem Newspaper Archive Exhibition

The program also featured the opening of an exhibition showcasing selected front pages from the archives of Gündem, the student newspaper of the EMU Faculty of Communication. Since its launch as a printed newspaper in 1997, Gündem has played a central role in the Faculty’s practical journalism education for over twenty-five years. The exhibition was officially opened by Faculty Dean Prof. Dr. Metin Ersoy together with guest journalist Eltan Halil, an alumnus of the Faculty and former assistant at Gündem. The exhibition opening also became a meaningful reunion celebrating the faculty. Dean of the Faculty of Communication, Prof. Dr. Metin Ersoy, had worked alongside Eltan

Halil at Gündem during their years as research assistants, adding a personal and symbolic dimension to the occasion. Featuring nostalgic front pages, the professional experiences of editorial teams from different generations, and the evolution of publishing technologies over the years, the exhibition offered students a unique opportunity to explore how a student newspaper builds, preserves, and passes on its institutional identity.



EMU'S CONTRIBUTION ON THE FIRST-EVER BOOK IN ITS FIELD: "THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE TRNC"



Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Education, Department of Turkish and Social Science Education academic staff and Head of the Centre for Women's Studies (CWS), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Süheyla Üçışık Erbilin, served as both the editor and a contributing author of "The Geography of the TRNC".

The publication, which comprehensively examines the geography of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) through a scientific perspective, is the first work of its kind in the field.

Prepared through the contributions of 23 academics and consisting of 18 chapters, the publication offers a comprehensive and interdisciplinary examination of the natural, human, economic, and cultural geography of

the TRNC, making a valuable contribution to the academic literature.

Presented to Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç
During a visit to the Rectorate, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Süheyla Üçışık Erbilin presented a copy of "The Geography of the TRNC" to EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss the book's development process, scope, and its anticipated contribution to the academic community. The importance of documenting the TRNC's geographical heritage through a scholarly publication was underscored during the said meeting. The participants also exchanged views on strengthening academic collaboration among universities.

EMU ALUMNA NAZAR ERİŞKİN SHARES PROFESSIONAL INSIGHTS AT EMU COMMUNICATION DAYS



Television journalist and presenter Nazar Erişkin, also an alumna of the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Faculty of Communication, returned to EMU to share her professional experience with the next generation of communication professionals. As part of Communication Days, Erişkin met with students at the Prof. Dr. Aysel Aziz Hall, where she shared insights from her career in a warm and engaging atmosphere marked by a strong sense of institutional belonging.

In the talk titled "Kafa Analog Çalışırken Dijital Dünyada Gazetecilik Yapmak / Practicing Journalism in a Digital World with an Analogue Mind", Erişkin offered a philosophical perspective that blended the evolving dynamics of contemporary media with the enduring principles of traditional journalism. Opening her presentation with reflections on her own career journey and the contributions of the education she received at EMU to her professional development, the accomplished alumna emphasized that the ethical and intellectual foundations of journalism possess a lasting value that extends far beyond ever-changing digital trends.

The Power of Storytelling in Journalism

Addressing the evolving dynamics of content creation in today's media world, Nazar Erişkin noted that the overwhelming volume of information and content across digital platforms can only become truly meaningful through high-quality storytelling. Emphasizing that an original perspective and distinctive narrative style are what set news reporting apart, Erişkin remarked, "Anything can become news; what matters is how you present it and how deeply you internalize it." She encouraged aspiring communication professionals to reflect their intellectual identity and curiosity in the content they produce. Drawing on examples from her own field experience, Erişkin also highlighted the importance of

pursuing stories with persistence and exploring issues in greater depth throughout the news production process.

Evolving Technologies

Erişkin also offered an analytical perspective on the future of employment and career opportunities in the media industry. She noted that while technical tools and algorithms continue to evolve, the one constant remains "truthful, honest, and authentic storytelling". The experienced journalist emphasized that adapting to emerging technologies and the fast-paced nature of digital platforms is no longer a matter of choice but a prerequisite for building a successful career in communication. She concluded by stating that, regardless of how deeply digitalization transforms the media landscape, well-trained professionals who can accurately interpret events and tell compelling stories will continue to shape the future of journalism.



EMU RECTOR PROF. DR. HASAN KILIÇ RELEASES A MESSAGE ON 1 AUGUST – SOCIAL RESISTANCE DAY

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç has issued a message on the occasion of the 1 August Social Resistance Day, emphasizing that the date stands as one of the most significant milestones in the Turkish Cypriot people's enduring struggle for existence and self-determination. In his message, Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Kılıç stated:

"I extend my heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of 1 August Social Resistance Day, which symbolizes significant milestones in the Turkish Cypriot people's struggle for existence and stands as one of the most meaningful expressions of security, unity, and solidarity.

The date 1st of August symbolizes several important historic events for the Turkish Cypriot community. It marks the 455th anniversary of the Ottoman conquest of Cyprus, the 68th anniversary of the founding of the Turkish Resistance Organization (TMT), and the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Security Forces Command (GKK). This significant day not only represents the Turkish Cypriot people's determination to safeguard their freedom, security, and future, but also symbolizes the spirit of unity and solidarity that has characterized their collective struggle.

On 1 August 1571, the Ottoman Empire conquered the island of Cyprus, laying the

historical foundations for the Turkish Cypriot presence and starting the Turkish settlement there. This period significantly contributed to the social, cultural, and economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community. Another important date is 1 August 1958, when the TMT was established as a covert resistance organization to safeguard the existence and rights of the Turkish Cypriot people. By defending the Turkish Cypriot community from attacks, the TMT emerged as a crucial symbol of their struggle for identity, freedom, and independence. Established on 1 August 1976, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Security Forces Command (SFC) is responsible for ensuring the security and defense of the Turkish Cypriot people. The Security Forces Command has played a vital role in safeguarding the freedom and independence of the Turkish Cypriot community and has remained one of the strongest guarantees of our people's determination to live in independence and peace.

Our greatest responsibility today is to build the future with confidence, inspired by the strength and resilience of our past, while contributing to the progress of our country through a steadfast commitment to peace, democracy, the rule of law, and contemporary values. Universities, as indispensable institutions in this endeavor, play a vital role in shaping a stronger future through



their dedication to scientific inquiry, critical thinking, social responsibility, and universal values.

On this meaningful occasion, I remember with deep respect, gratitude, and mercy our cherished martyrs who sacrificed their lives for their homeland, and I extend my sincere appreciation and respect to our heroic veterans. I wholeheartedly congratulate our people, the members of the Security Forces Command, and our entire nation on the occasion of 1 August Social Resistance Day, wishing them continued health, peace, and prosperity."

ÜMIT İNATÇI'S NEW BOOK: 'MEDENİYETLER KRİZİ VE EVRENSEL BİLİNÇ'

Published by Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) Press, "Medeniyet Krizi ve Evrensel Bilinç / Civilizational Crisis and Universal Consciousness", the latest book by painter, poet, and author Ümit İnatçı, offers a multilayered intellectual exploration of the cultural, ethical, digital, and existential ruptures of our time. The work presents a broad spectrum of thought-provoking discussions, ranging from fragmented identities in the age of social media and the suspension of truth to debates on transhumanism, the phenomenon of loneliness, cultural heritage, and the search for universal consciousness. In this work, Ümit İnatçı argues that modern humanity is experiencing not only a political or economic crisis, but also an ontological one. Examining the emergence of a new human condition shaped by the visibility regimes of the digital age, artificial forms of belonging, a culture of selective indifference, and mechanisms of "manufacturing consent," the book invites readers to reconsider the relationship between individual self-awareness and civilization.

The chapters in the book examine some of the defining issues of the contemporary world through an interdisciplinary lens. These

include social media and the loss of identity, the tension between progress and loneliness, the new psychological and cultural disorders emerging in the digital age, secularization, the relationship between aesthetics and ethics, transformation in the concept of leadership, cultural heritage, citizenship, and the notion of the "clash of civilizations."

One of the notions standing out in the book, "Mezotopia," explores the suspension of truth in the age of digital communication and examines how humanity's relationship with reality is increasingly being shaped by simulations. Rather than merely diagnosing the crises of the contemporary world, the book also proposes a search for new intellectual possibilities grounded in universal consciousness, creative action, compassion, and ethical responsibility.

Combining perspectives from the sociology of everyday life, philosophy, cultural criticism, and social inquiry, Civilizational Crisis and Universal Consciousness book presents a compelling examination of the intellectual and spiritual status of contemporary society. As one of the defining works in Ümit İnatçı's extensive



artistic and intellectual journey, the book goes beyond identifying the civilizational dilemmas of the modern age, inviting readers to reflect on humanity's enduring capacity to reconstruct meaning.

PROF. DR. OSMAN M. KARATEPE RELEASES A STATEMENT FOR 1 AUGUST – SOCIAL RESISTANCE DAY ON BEHALF OF EMU-ATAUM

Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Dr. Osman M. Karatepe released a message on behalf of Atatürk Research and Application Center (ATAUM) on the occasion of 1 August - Social Resistance Day. The said message reads as follows:

“The 1st of August, symbolizing the struggles, existence and security of the Turkish Cypriot community on the island, is observed as the Social Resistance Day in accordance with the “Public Holidays and Commemoration Days Law” enacted in 1984. This date marks three significant turning points in Turkish Cypriot history.

The first record in history was made on 1 August 1571, when the Ottoman Empire conquered Cyprus, leading to the settlement of Turkish people on the island and establishing the basis for the current Turkish Cypriot community. The second significant incident was on 1 August, 1958 which is the date when the Turkish Resistance Organization (TMT) was founded

to counter the terrorist group EOKA, which sought to divide the island. The TMT operated with strong resolve to safeguard our community, coordinate the resistance efforts, and ensure a secure future. Lastly, 1 August, 1976, marks the establishment of the Security Forces Command (GKK), which plays a crucial role in maintaining the country’s peace and security through its police and military functions.

For the Turkish Cypriot people, 1 August holds special significance as it brings together three important historical milestones that occurred in different periods under a single date. It is regarded as a symbol of the enduring spirit of unity, solidarity, and communal resistance that has been passed down through generations, while also serving as a reminder of the importance of preserving national values and passing them on to future generations.

We take pride in celebrating the 455th anniversary of Cyprus’s conquest, the 68th anniversary of the Turkish Resistance Organization (TMT), and the 50th



anniversary of the Security Forces Command (GKK). We extend our most sincere wishes to everyone on 1 August Social Resistance Day, pay our respects to our martyrs with deep appreciation, and express our love and respect to our veterans.”

INSPIRING STORY OF EMU ALUMNUS ÜMİT AKDENİZ

A meaningful recognition and achievement program was held as part of the Communication Days organized by the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU), Faculty of Communication. Ümit Akdeniz, a multidisciplinary artist who graduated from EMU’s undergraduate program in Cinema and Television and the Master’s Program in Communication, and who also served as a research assistant in the Faculty for one semester, returned to his alma mater and former workplace this time as a guest speaker.

Held at Prof. Dr. Aysel Aziz Hall, the event continued with an Honor and High Honor Certificate Ceremony for students of the Department of Cinema and Television, following the industry experience-sharing session.

Importance of Interdisciplinary Work

Actor, music producer, and DJ Ümit Akdeniz, who has established a strong presence in the arts and creative industries, met with students for a talk titled “Planladığım Hayat Bu Değildi / This Wasn’t the Life I Planned”.

Returning to the same podium where he had once stood as a student and later as a research assistant, Akdeniz reflected on the key turning points in his career, shared insights into the

multifaceted nature of the creative industries, and spoke about the importance of interdisciplinary work.

Highlighting that his education in cinema and television had provided him with a broad perspective on the operational aspects of the industry, the accomplished EMU alumnus encouraged students to discover their own potential and to embrace creative solutions that would enable them to adapt to the ever-changing dynamics of the world, rather than adhering to fixed career plans.

Academic Excellence Recognized

Following Ümit Akdeniz’s talk, the program continued with the Department of Cinema and Television Honor and High Honor Certificate Ceremony. During the ceremony, certificates were presented to students who had earned Honor and High Honor distinctions in recognition of their academic performance throughout the semester, the quality of their projects, and their dedication to their coursework. Students took pride in receiving their certificates from Ümit Akdeniz—an accomplished alumnus and former research assistant of the Faculty—as well as from the department’s academic staff.





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

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