

New Members Elected at TÜBA's 63rd General Assembly



The Academy's 63rd General Assembly and General Assembly Conference were held with the participation of TÜBA members, university rectors, and heads of institutions.

TÜBA elected new members.

As a result of the voting, TÜBA Associate Members Prof. Dr. Önder Metin and Prof. Dr. Ali Adnan Hayaloğlu, along with nominee Prof. Dr. Erdal Çelik, were elected as Full Members; Prof. Dr. İhsan Kaya, Prof. Dr. İmren Hatay Patır, and Prof. Dr. Mehmet Gürdal were elected as Associate Members. Additionally, at the Academy Council meeting held in June 2026, Prof. Dr. Feridun Hamdullahpur, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary, Prof. Dr. Mohannad Furjan, and Prof. Dr. Muazzam A. Khan Khattak were elected as Honorary Members, while Prof. Dr. Mehmet Zahmakıran's Associate Membership was renewed.

Presentation of Certificates to Academy Members

Certificates of Full Membership were also presented to Prof. Dr. Ali Koşar, Prof. Dr. Ali Ekber Akgün, Prof. Dr. Bayram Zafer Erdoğan, Prof. Dr. Sezai Ercişli, Prof. Dr. Selim Zaim, and Prof. Dr. Mustafa Oral Öncül, who were elected or had their membership statuses changed at the 62nd General Assembly meeting.

In his opening remarks, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker announced that the World Science Forum (WSF), to be hosted by TÜBA in Türkiye in 2027, had recently been placed under the patronage of the Turkish Presidency. Prof. Dr. Şeker highlighted the importance of the WSF for both the world and Türkiye. Noting that reports on Türkiye's science strategy and scientific publishing activities are ongoing, Prof. Dr. Şeker stated that reports on addictions,

the family and its future, youth and belonging, interactive studies on Türkiye's population policies, and the impacts of artificial intelligence on higher education and the future will be completed by 2026. In this regard, he emphasized that TÜBA continues to conduct studies on scientific issues in line with Türkiye's challenges and agenda, as well as to identify scientific priorities, and is working on strategy reports on these topics.

Prof. Dr. Özçelik discussed "The Perspective of Biosafety in the Age of Genomics," and Prof. Dr. Şahin discussed "New-Generation Bioactives" at the General Assembly Conference

TÜBA Full Member and Bilkent University Faculty Member Prof. Dr. Tayfun Özçelik stated in his presentation titled "Biosecurity in the Age of Genomic Sciences" that biosecurity is an integral part of



modern genomic sciences. He also noted that research on the origins of COVID-19 and infectious disease agents have once again come to the forefront at the highest levels of intelligence and national security in the U.S.” Noting that this current debate brings to mind an old but increasingly pressing question, Prof. Dr. Özgelik asked, “How can the scientific power to alter the genetic information of living organisms be used in the safest way possible for the benefit of humanity?”

“There is a historical trajectory stretching from the birth of recombinant DNA research in the 1960s to the Asilomar Conference, from the first gene cloning studies to insulin production and DNA repair, and from the deep concerns raised by the sequencing of the 1918 Spanish flu virus to today’s research that endows genes

with new functions. On one side of the scale of genomics lie healing, genetic diagnosis, biotechnological drugs, vaccines, the understanding of rare diseases and congenital immune deficiencies, and the alleviation of human suffering. On the other side lies the responsibility that comes with the necessity of considering public health, scientific transparency, and safety together—especially when working with infectious disease agents,” he said.

Emphasizing that Asilomar’s enduring lesson remains relevant today, Prof. Dr. Özgelik stated that advanced science must progress not through fear, but through moderation, oversight, and responsibility.

Prof. Dr. Fikrettin Şahin, a Full Member of TÜBA and a faculty member at Yeditepe University, delivered a lecture titled “From Idea to Clinic: The

Translational Journey of Next-Generation Bioactive Molecules in Regenerative Medicine.” In his talk, Prof. Dr. Şahin addressed the translational processes—from the laboratory stage to clinical applications—of new-generation bioactive molecules developed in the field of regenerative medicine, highlighting the importance of transforming scientific research into innovative treatments in healthcare. He also assessed the critical role of interdisciplinary collaboration and technology-focused R&D efforts in the future of regenerative medicine.

In his presentation, Prof. Dr. Şahin highlighted the potential of innovative approaches—such as stem cells, gene therapies, exosomes, and biomaterials—in repairing damaged tissues and organs. He specifically evaluated the new opportunities offered to the field of regenerative medicine by ongoing studies on plant-derived exosomes, synthetic peptides, and boron compounds. He also shared examples of how these technologies are being applied in various fields, such as cartilage regeneration, wound healing, the treatment of infections, and drug delivery systems.





The World Science Forum Directing Committee Met in Istanbul



be addressed as a common approach spanning all thematic areas of the forum. Meanwhile, science diplomacy and international cooperation will form another key pillar of the forum. Under this heading, the goal is to foster scientific collaborations among different countries and institutions and to strengthen science's role in addressing global challenges.

“It Will Strengthen Türkiye’s Role in the Global Science Agenda”

TÜBA President Muzaffer Şeker noted that the World Science Forum is one of the most important international platforms for strengthening the interaction between science and policy, and emphasized the strategic importance of Türkiye hosting the event.

Şeker said, “Hosting the World Science Forum is a powerful step that will enhance Türkiye’s effectiveness in the field of science diplomacy. This process will not only showcase our country’s scientific expertise to the international community but also enable us to actively contribute to the shaping of global science policies.”

Noting that the Forum brings together scientists and decision-makers from diverse regions, Prof. Dr. Şeker emphasized that Türkiye’s role in this platform will deepen international collaborations and create new opportunities for young researchers.

Preparations for the World Science Forum (WSF), which will be hosted by Türkiye, were finalized at a Directing Committee Meeting held in Istanbul and organized by TÜBA.

At the meeting, chaired by TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker and Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA) President Prof. Dr. Tamás Freund, fundamental decisions regarding the forum’s organization were made. Committee members—comprising representatives from the international scientific community, diplomatic circles, and global organizations—determined the scope, content, and organizational structure of the 2027 WSF.

“Science in Times of Global Crises: Transcending Boundaries in a Fragmented World”

It was agreed that the 2027 WSF would be organized under the theme “Science in Times of Global Crises: Transcending Boundaries in a Fragmented World” to emphasize science’s unifying role in the face of increasing geopolitical fractures and global challenges. As part of the meeting, committee members conducted site visits to the Atatürk Cultural Center, the Istanbul Congress Center, the Haliç Congress Center, universities, and public institutions, carrying out a comprehensive evaluation process.

Focus on Global Issues Under Four Main Headings

The scientific content of the forum was also discussed in broad terms at the meeting, and it was decided that the 2027 WSF would focus on enhancing resilience in the face of global crises. Topics such as the more effective integration of scientific knowledge into policy-making processes, disaster risk reduction, and strengthening the resilience of science systems will also be addressed.

Regarding sustainability, while scientific approaches are planned to be addressed in alignment with sustainable development goals, the ethical and responsibility dimension will focus particularly on new areas of debate arising from artificial intelligence and disruptive technologies. In this context, the global role and responsibility of science will





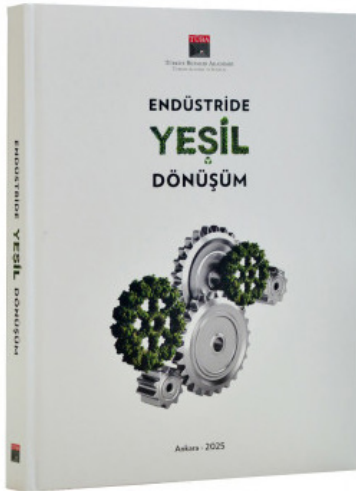
Global Science and Policy Platform

The WSF, which has been held since 2003, is organized by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Science Council (ISC), the American Association for the

Advancement of Science (AAAS), the World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), the European Academies' Science Advisory Council (EASAC), and the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP). The forum brings together scientists, government representatives, academies, universities, and international organizations on a single platform.

Addressing critical global issues such as climate change, artificial intelligence, sustainable development, health technologies, science diplomacy, and disasters and crises at the international level, the forum is recognized as one of the most important international platforms for science-based policy-making.

Scientific Guide for a Sustainable Future in Industry from TÜBA



Endüstriye Yeşil Dönüşüm (The Green Transformation in Industry), published by TÜBA, offers a comprehensive overview of sustainability, circular economy, and low-carbon production models in industry. Edited by TÜBA Member and Head of the TÜBA Environment, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Working Group Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Aydın and Prof. Dr. Eyüp Debik, the book contains 17 articles written by academics who are experts in their fields.

The main motivation behind the book is to provide a scientific, comprehensive, and applicable roadmap on how industry, production models, and resource use can be transformed within the framework of the European Green Deal and Türkiye's 2053 net-zero emissions target. In this respect, Endüstriye Yeşil Dönüşüm goes beyond being merely an academic compilation and serves as a guiding manual for policymakers, industry representatives, and practitioners.

The study was completed after approximately one year of work as the product of a long-term, planned, and multi-stakeholder academic preparation process. The sections, prepared with the contributions of experts from different disciplines such as climate change, industrial policies, energy, agriculture, transportation, water management, law, finance, and sustainability, took into account both the global literature and Türkiye's unique conditions. Rather than addressing green transformation and the circular economy at the level of abstract concepts, the work examines concrete sectors such as industry,

energy, agriculture, transportation, finance, and legal infrastructure through data-driven and comparative examples, thus distinguishing itself from similar works. Current and strategic topics such as European Union policies, the example of the United Kingdom, Türkiye's Green Deal Action Plan, preparations for an emissions trading system, virtual water, and the carbon economy are addressed within a comprehensive framework.

Low-carbon technologies in energy-intensive sectors, industrial symbiosis applications, the role of SMEs in the transformation process, and university-industry collaborations are among the book's prominent contributions. With this scope and depth, the book, one of the few studies addressing green transformation and the circular economy in industry in Türkiye, fills an important gap in the field. Endüstriye Yeşil Dönüşüm establishes a strong bridge between scientific knowledge and application and policy processes, serving as a unique and enduring reference source that contributes to Türkiye's sustainable development goals.



TÜBA Represented Türkiye at the G20-Science20 Summit



TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker represented Türkiye at the Science20 (S20) Meeting held in Washington, which brought together the national academies of sciences of the G20 countries. Hosted this year by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the meeting's main theme was "Strengthening Resilience to Natural Hazards Through Emerging Technologies and International Collaboration."

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker represented Türkiye at the Science20 (S20) Meeting, held in Washington, D.C., under the title "Strengthening Resilience to Natural Hazards Through Emerging Technologies and International Collaboration," which brought together the national academies of sciences of G20 countries.

The opening remarks at the meeting, which was also attended by TÜBA Full Member Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Elmas, were delivered by Marcia McNutt, President of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and John Hildebrand, its International Secretary.

In the program's first session, a total of 18 national academies, institutions, and organizations participated, including the U.S. National Academy of Sciences,

TÜBA, the African Union, the Argentine National Academy of Sciences, Physics, and Natural Sciences, the Australian Academy of Science, the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, the Royal Society of Canada, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the French Academy of Sciences, the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, the National Academy of Sciences of India, the Indonesian Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences of Italy (Accademia dei Lincei), the Science Council of Japan, the Mexican Academy of Sciences, the Russian Academy of Sciences, the King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia, the Korean Academy of Science and Technology, and the European Academy—discussed the main topic of the meeting.

"Natural Hazards Are Inevitable, but Disasters Are Not"

Speaking at the meeting, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker noted that Türkiye has experienced severe disasters over the past thirty years—such as the Marmara Earthquake, major forest fires, and the February 6 earthquakes—and emphasized that these events have provided Türkiye with valuable experience. "Natural hazards are inevitable. Disasters, however, are not.

This is the fundamental distinction that science makes possible," said Şeker, highlighting the importance of scientific knowledge, technology, and institutional capacity in disaster management. Noting that Türkiye updated its earthquake regulations, implemented mandatory earthquake insurance, and consolidated disaster management under the umbrella of AFAD following the 1999 Marmara Earthquake, President Şeker emphasized that urban transformation efforts also play a critical role in reducing disaster risks

First Recommendation: Common Data Standards Must Be Established

In his speech, Prof. Dr. Şeker evaluated the roadmap outlined in the S20 Declaration to enhance resilience against disasters and listed five fundamental tasks that science academies must undertake. He identified the first of these as data quality and open standards, noting that in a world where disasters know no borders, data must also transcend borders. President Şeker stated, "If one country uses seismic data in one format and its neighbor uses a different format, early warning systems will fail. Science academies must take the lead in establishing common data standards."

Second Recommendation: Technologies Must Function Under Real-World Conditions

Emphasizing that technologies used in disaster management must be functional not only in a laboratory setting but also during crises, Şeker highlighted the importance of developing systems capable of operating even when internet and energy infrastructure are damaged. Şeker stated that science academies are the most suitable institutions to bridge the gap between engineering solutions and the real needs of communities.

Third Recommendation: Local Knowledge Should Be Evaluated Alongside Scientific Data

Highlighting the importance of artificial intelligence and satellite technologies, Prof. Dr. Şeker said that the experience and knowledge possessed by local communities are also an integral part

of disaster management. Noting that while a satellite can show flood-prone areas, it is the local people who know which route a village should take to reach a safe area, Şeker emphasized the need to evaluate local knowledge alongside scientific data.

Fourth Recommendation: Inequalities in Disaster Resilience Must Be Reduced

Şeker pointed out that the countries most affected by natural disasters are often those that face the greatest challenges in accessing advanced technologies. He stated that a “world moving at two different speeds” regarding disaster resilience must not be allowed to emerge, and noted that science academies have a responsibility to highlight these inequalities and support open-access policies.

Fifth Recommendation: Technology Cannot Replace Human Reasoning

In the final section of his speech, Prof. Dr. Şeker emphasized that

technology is a tool and cannot replace people or institutions, noting that an unreliable early warning system or an ignored forecast has no meaning on its own. He underscored that science academies must not only research the development of technology but also investigate how societies trust risk information and act upon it.

“Resilience Is Not a Product, but a Process That Is Built Over Time”

Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker noted that Türkiye is ready to share the lessons it has learned from major disasters with the international scientific community, stating that resilience against disasters is not a product that can be purchased, but a process built over many years. Şeker concluded his speech by saying, “We have science. We have technology. We have this strong network of scientific academies. What we need now is willpower,” he said, concluding his remarks.

Research Ethics and Integrity Council Meeting in Berlin

The meeting of the Research Ethics and Integrity Council (REIC) of the Alliance of European Academies (ALLEA), of which TÜBA is a member, was hosted by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. Prof. Dr. Zeliha Koçak Tufan attended the meeting on behalf of TÜBA.

The meeting was opened by Prof. Dr. Maura Hiney, Chair of the REIC—established to develop policies and promote best practices in the fields of research ethics and scientific integrity across Europe—and a member of the Royal Irish Academy. Tatjana König, who has been appointed as ALLEA Director, also attended the meeting and shared her insights.

The agenda included a review of the work conducted by ALLEA’s former working group, the “Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics



(PWGE),” as well as discussions on the processes for updating the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, REIC’s mission, areas of activity, and future roadmap. During the meeting, a working group was established to update the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity, with Prof. Dr. Zeliha Koçak Tufan among its members. Prof. Dr. Tufan noted that

participants from various countries discussed a range of recommendations and opportunities for collaboration regarding research ethics, academic freedom, and scientific responsibility, and stated that TÜBA’s inclusion in the group is significant for strengthening Türkiye’s international contributions in the fields of research ethics and scientific integrity.

The Future of Science Depends on Freedom, Safety, and Trust: Reflections from UNESCO's Policy Dialogue

 Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker
TÜBA President

Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, President of TÜBA, and Prof. Dr. İlkey Erdoğan Orhan, TÜBA Council Member participated in UNESCO's Policy Dialogue on Freedom and Safety of Scientists held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 8-9 June 2026. In this article, Prof. Dr. Şeker reflects on the evolving challenges facing the global scientific community and the role of science academies in protecting trustworthy knowledge production.

This meeting provided an important opportunity to reflect on one of the most fundamental questions facing science today: under what conditions can knowledge continue to flourish, and how can we ensure that scientists are able to pursue their work freely, safely, and responsibly?

Scientific progress has never existed independently from the societies that support it. Throughout history, nations that have invested in scientific thinking, education, and research environments have strengthened their ability to overcome challenges and achieve sustainable development. Likewise, when scientific communities are weakened, societies lose not only knowledge but also their capacity for innovation, resilience, and future-oriented thinking.

For this reason, the freedom and safety of scientists should not be considered only as an academic issue. It is a fundamental pillar of human development and global cooperation.

Scientific Freedom in a Changing World

Today, scientists are working in an increasingly complex global environment. Geopolitical tensions, armed conflicts, disinformation,



digital threats, and concerns regarding research security have created new challenges for scientific communities worldwide.

The safety of scientists extends beyond physical protection. It also includes the freedom to ask questions, to conduct research independently, to collaborate internationally, and to contribute to society through evidence-based knowledge.

The destruction of universities, laboratories, libraries, and research infrastructures during conflicts represents a loss that goes far beyond physical damage. Every destroyed institution also means the disruption of education, research continuity, and the preservation of collective memory.

As members of the global scientific community, we have a shared responsibility to support researchers and academic institutions affected by crises and to help restore scientific capacity wherever it is threatened.

Academic Freedom as a Universal Principle

Academic freedom derives its meaning from its universality.

If freedom of science is to remain a genuine principle, it cannot be selectively applied according to geography, political circumstances, or prevailing opinions. Scientists must be able to engage with difficult questions and contribute to public discussions while maintaining the highest standards of scientific integrity and responsibility.

The credibility of the scientific community depends on consistency. Protecting academic freedom requires protecting it everywhere and for everyone.

Science and Artificial Intelligence: New Opportunities, New Responsibilities

The discussion on scientific freedom has gained a new dimension with the rapid development of artificial intelligence.

Artificial intelligence has opened extraordinary possibilities for research by accelerating discovery, strengthening data analysis, and creating new forms of collaboration. At the same time, it has introduced important questions regarding ethics, transparency, data security, algorithmic bias, and the reliability of scientific knowledge.

Science academies have an essential role in guiding this transformation. Their responsibility is not only to support scientific advancement but also to ensure that technological progress remains aligned with ethical principles and public benefit.

At TÜBA, we have been following these developments closely through our working groups and the Turkish Young Academy. We consider artificial intelligence, research integrity, and trustworthy knowledge production among the central issues shaping the future of science.

Trustworthy Knowledge in the Age of Disinformation

One of the greatest challenges of our era is that information can now spread faster than verification.

While digital technologies have strengthened communication and access to knowledge, they have also created new opportunities for

misinformation and disinformation. This requires a renewed commitment to evidence, expertise, and reliable sources.

Scientific institutions and academies have a special responsibility in this environment: to support societies in distinguishing verified knowledge from unsubstantiated claims and to strengthen trust in science.

This responsibility also applies to discussions about scientific freedom. Meaningful international dialogue must be based on accurate information, transparency, and engagement with competent institutions.

TÜBA's Contribution to Global Science Diplomacy

As Türkiye's national academy of sciences, TÜBA continues to contribute actively to international discussions on the future of science.

Through our engagement with global academy networks and scientific organizations, we work to strengthen cooperation in areas including research ethics, scientific integrity, responsible research assessment, science diplomacy, and sustainable development.

I believe that the freedom and safety of scientists should be understood as part

of a broader transformation in global science governance. The challenges we face today (e.g., climate change, artificial intelligence, geopolitical instability, and social transformation) require stronger cooperation between science, diplomacy, and policymaking.

In this regard, the upcoming World Science Forum 2027 in Istanbul, under the theme "Science in Times of Global Crises: Transcending Boundaries in a Fragmented World," will provide an important platform to continue these discussions.

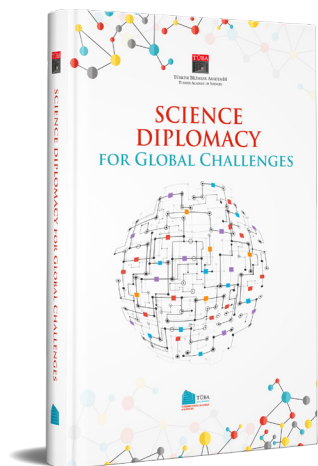
A Shared Commitment for the Future

The UNESCO Policy Dialogue in Paris once again demonstrated that protecting scientists means protecting the future of humanity.

Science advances when researchers can work freely, when institutions remain resilient, and when societies value knowledge as a common good.

As TÜBA, we will continue contributing to these efforts at both national and international levels, supporting science diplomacy, ethical governance, and the production of trustworthy knowledge.

The freedom, safety, and integrity of scientists are not only concerns of the scientific community; they are responsibilities shared by all humanity.



Science Diplomacy for Global Challenges

Science Diplomacy for Global Challenges brings together the insights of over 35 contributors in 21 thought-provoking chapters, divided into two sections: 'Foundations and Frameworks of Science Diplomacy' and 'Science Diplomacy in Sustainable Development and Global Challenges'. The book explores how science informs policy and serves as a powerful diplomatic tool in addressing shared global issues. It emphasises the crucial role of science and young academies in building trust and collaboration between researchers and policymakers across borders. In an era of urgent global challenges ranging from climate change to geopolitical tensions, the importance of diplomacy in/for science cannot be stressed enough. By integrating empirical research with practical insights, Science Diplomacy for Global Challenges is a valuable and distinctive resource for anyone interested in understanding how scientific collaboration can promote peace, drive innovation, and foster sustainable solutions in our increasingly interconnected world.

**TÜBA – SYMPOSIUM ON THE EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES ON FOOD
SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH
April 3–4, 2026 – Mersin University**

The “Symposium on the Effects of Pesticides on Food Safety and Public Health,” organized by the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) and hosted by Mersin University on April 3–4, 2026, evaluated the role of pesticide use in agricultural production and its impacts on food safety, public health, and environmental sustainability through a multidisciplinary perspective.

Scientific evidence presented during the symposium clearly demonstrated that pesticides are an important tool in modern agriculture for preventing yield losses and meeting the food demands of a growing population. However, their improper, excessive, and uncontrolled use poses significant risks to human health, the environment, and the economy. Although the magnitude of losses caused by pests in agricultural production necessitates pesticide use, it was emphasized that only approximately 1% of applied pesticides reach their target organisms, while the remaining portion disperses into the environment, creating a major inefficiency and risk factor.

It was noted that pesticide residues are widespread in food products, and in some cases, legal limits are exceeded, leading to important consequences for both public health and international trade. It was further highlighted that pesticide use in Türkiye has increased in recent years, and residue-related notifications in exports to the European Union have resulted in economic losses and reputational damage for the country.

The effects of pesticide exposure on human health were identified as multidimensional. In addition to acute effects, long-term exposure has been associated with endocrine disorders, neurodegenerative diseases, reproductive problems, and increased cancer risk. These effects are particularly pronounced in vulnerable groups such as children, pregnant women, and the elderly. Furthermore, the persistence of pesticides in the environment, their transport between soil, water, and air systems, and their accumulation in the food chain were reported to cause significant adverse impacts on ecosystem balance and biodiversity. In this context, pesticide persistence contributes to biodiversity loss and the disruption of ecological systems.

The symposium also concluded that although Türkiye has a strong legislative framework regarding pesticides, there is a need for more effective implementation of monitoring, control, and traceability systems. Moreover, it was emphasized that the pesticide issue is not solely a technical matter but is also closely related to public perception, risk communication, and behavioral change. Therefore, improving health literacy and ensuring accurate public awareness are of critical importance.

Based on the scientific evaluations, it was concluded that completely eliminating pesticide use is not feasible under current conditions; however, risks can be minimized through science-based, integrated, and sustainable approaches. In this regard, the implementation of a comprehensive “farm-to-fork” risk management strategy, ensuring proper dosage and timing of pesticide applications, compliance with pre-harvest intervals, and strengthening traceability systems were identified as priority actions. The widespread adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), the promotion of biological and cultural control methods, and the reduction of chemical dependency were highlighted as key strategic objectives.

In addition, it was emphasized that emerging Technologies, such as biopesticides, artificial intelligence, sensors, and drone Technologies, have significant potential to optimize pesticide use, enhance productivity, and reduce residue risks. The development of multi-residue analytical methods, the establishment of national biomonitoring programs, and the adoption of a One Health approach integrating human, animal, and environmental health were also recommended.

In conclusion, the fundamental principle that “food safety is directly linked to public health” has once again been reaffirmed. Türkiye has the potential to become a regional and global model by developing science-based policies, increasing investments in research and development, and strengthening multidisciplinary collaborations in this field. It is hoped that this symposium will contribute to increasing scientific awareness and to the establishment of a safer and more sustainable food system. We extend our sincere gratitude to all stakeholders who contributed to this important event.

8th Annual Summer School Applications Continues



In collaboration with TÜBA, the International Turkish Academy, the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), and the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB), the 8th Traditional Summer School, which will bring together young researchers, academics, and experts from various countries of the Turkic world, will be held in Konya, hosted by Selçuk University, from August 23 to 30, 2026. Applications for the Summer School will remain open until June 29, 2026. Applications can be submitted via <https://summerschool.tuba.gov.tr>.

Organized under the themes of Turkology, History of Art and Civilization, and Artificial Intelligence and Energy, the Summer School—like every year—has been established to strengthen scientific, cultural, and academic cooperation among Turkic states. Designed to serve as a scientific bridge for the Turkic world, the summer school is structured to promote joint knowledge production, foster sustainable academic networks among researchers, and contribute to the development of the shared intellectual heritage of the Turkic world.

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, stating that TÜBA's summer school programs make significant contributions to enhancing scientific and cultural



interaction within the Turkic world, helping young researchers forge stronger ties with international academic circles, and fostering joint research activities, continued as follows: "The participants of the Artificial Intelligence and Energy Summer School will have the opportunity to develop new approaches to the future of energy technologies, increase their awareness of sustainable energy solutions, and contribute to international academic collaborations. The Summer School on Turkology, Art, and the History of Civilization, on the other hand, aims to help participants enhance their knowledge of the shared historical and cultural heritage of the Turkic world and strengthen their interdisciplinary perspectives through a program led by expert academics in the field."

The Summer School Will Explore the Shared Heritage of the Turkic World

The "Summer School on Traditional Turkology, Art, and Civilization History," which will focus on evaluating the historical, cultural, and intellectual heritage of the Turkic world from an academic perspective, will feature courses and seminars on Turkic World Relations, History of Turkic States, Archaeology of the Turkic World, History of Art and Thought in the Turkic World, and Turkic Languages and Literatures. It will

provide a platform for young researchers working in the field of Turkology to share knowledge and experience, enhance their academic interactions, and establish international collaborations.

The program is open to applications from doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers under the age of 35 who are citizens of Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Albania, Montenegro, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, and Jordan; 35 applications will be accepted.

The Summer School On Artificial Intelligence & Energy to Focus on Future Technologies

The "Summer School On Artificial Intelligence & Energy" which aims to provide a multidisciplinary perspective on the current state and future of energy technologies, will feature courses and seminars covering artificial intelligence, human resources, education, energy, and infrastructure. These sessions will convey to participants the latest developments in energy technologies, the challenges encountered, and future opportunities. The program will address both traditional and contemporary approaches in the energy sector; energy production, energy management, sustainability, and technological transformation processes will be comprehensively evaluated. Additionally, the relationship between fundamental principles of energy production and innovative, sustainable solutions will be examined; the role and potential of AI-supported applications in the energy sector will be discussed.

Following an evaluation of doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers under the age of 35 with experience and interest in the energy sector; 35 participants from Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Albania, Jordan, Montenegro, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus will be admitted to the summer school.

President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences Prof. Dr. Tamás Freund: “Science Is Our Common Language in Global Crises”

“We have organized 11 conferences since 2003, and we are currently preparing for the 12th WSF, which will take place in Istanbul in 2027.”

 Interview: Asiye Komut

As part of the preparations for the World Science Forum (WSF), which Türkiye will host in 2027, we conducted an interview in Istanbul with Prof. Dr. Tamás Freund, President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA). Sharing his views on the WSF2027 process, which will be organized by TÜBA, Freund assessed the transformation the forum has undergone since its inception, its role in science diplomacy, and the responsibility science has assumed in the face of global crises. Prof. Dr. Freund also shared his perspective on the future of the World Science Forum, which aims to strengthen the interaction between science, politics, and society. He emphasized the importance of the 2027 gathering in Istanbul, particularly in terms of the participation of young scientists and the visibility of developing countries.



Could you tell us about the World Science Forum (WSF)? How did the idea come about? What is the purpose of the World Science Forum? What needs did this organization aim to address ?

The World Science Forum was initiated as a follow-up conference series of the UNESCO World Conference on Science (WCS) held in Budapest in 1999. WCS was the first intergovernmental conference dedicated to open discussion on the role of science. Although this 1999 event was a UNESCO intergovernmental conference, the International Council for Science, ICSU (now: International Science Council, ISC) was already involved in the organization and, since

the conference was held in Budapest, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences also took part in the preparations. The declaration issued by WCS laid down the foundations of the mission of WSF early on, highlighting the responsibility of scientists in the 21st century and the role of science in society and in promoting global peace and development. Among other recommendations, the declaration also called for follow-up events. A few years later, at the initiative of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, these three organisations founded the WSF as a biennial conference series and organised its first meeting in 2003 in Budapest with the support of the Hungarian government.

How has the forum's structure, scope, and mission evolved since the first WSF? Did global developments influence this change or transformation? What were the underlying dynamics driving these changes, and how did they shape the forum's current identity ?

Soon after the 2003 Forum, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) joined as a founding member, and in a couple of years, the Forum established itself as a regular biennial meeting of decision-makers of science and policy. This status was reinforced by the accession of major international organizations of science such as the InterAcademy



Partnership (IAP), The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), the European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) and more recently, the Global Young Academy (GYA) as organizing partners. In order to give the Forum an even more international character and also to provide an opportunity for other countries to host a WSF conference, the decision was made that on every other occasion, the Forum would be hosted in another continent, preferably by a developing country as the main organizer.

In your view, what role has the forum played in the realm of global science diplomacy since its inception? What role does the WSF play in international crises ?

On the last occasion in 2024 in Budapest, we had participants from 122 countries, and the editions of WSF in Brazil, Jordan and South Africa were all remarkably successful in bringing additional global attention to the host countries. WSF is also a great tool to demonstrate the commitment of these countries in promoting science and declare their firm will to take part as major stakeholders in the decisions shaping the way science is conducted globally and is used to underpin policy decisions. Science is probably one of the most international endeavours there ever could be; in fact, science is often the last domain in which nations continue to co-operate even under political distress. Collaboration and multilateralism lie at the heart of the

scientific enterprise. These values are increasingly important nowadays, when we live in an era of global crises affecting so many aspects of our lives. Issues of sustainability, economic and social instability, armed conflicts, just to name a few. These global challenges simply cannot be addressed without the use of scientific evidence. Moreover, it is not only the knowledge per se that science can add to these discussions, but also the method: the will for cooperation and the unquestionable respect for facts.

How many activities have been conducted under the forum's umbrella to date? What can you say about the impact of decisions or discussions held at the forum on national or international policies ?

Since 2003 we have had 11 conferences, and now we are preparing for the 12th WSF in Istanbul in 2027. Ever since 2011, each WSF edition has issued a declaration at the end of the conference highlighting the most important messages for scientists, policy-makers and other key stakeholders of society. To my knowledge, some of the recommendations proposed in these declarations have been used as reference material for national legislations, but obviously, it is very difficult to measure the direct impact of WSF. Our aim is to facilitate the discussions and convey a strong message that enables a more efficient interface between science and society, and science and policy.

What should the World Science Forum's priorities be for the coming years? What vision do you foresee, particularly regarding young scientists and developing countries ?

Young scientists and developing countries have always been a priority for WSF. We give preference to developing countries as hosts of the conference, and facilitate the attendance of participants registering from these countries by offering accommodation grants. Young scientists are already involved in the Steering Committee of the Forum and shape the agenda of the events, and we also take particular care that all sessions have a young scientist in the panel. Furthermore, we support special events dedicated to early-career scientists, who are also eligible for a limited number of accommodation grants. This is not merely a PR activity – we are convinced that young scientists and participants from developing countries provide a new and increasingly important perspective, and we truly need them to be present at these events if our aim is to remain relevant in addressing global challenges.

In your opinion, is there a decline in the authority of science or trust in scientific knowledge today? How do you assess the current state of scientific knowledge's use by governments and decision-makers?

While our lives are now unimaginable without science and the latest technologies, there is indeed a global trend questioning the authority of science, and often reducing it to just another opinion that may be contested by any other. It is even more dangerous if these conflicting opinions are represented by politicians or governments, which is, unfortunately, not uncommon nowadays. We must respond to these challenges; we need to explain that science is not infallible or faultless, but it is still the most reliable source of information about the world that surrounds us. There is no

alternative to scientific evidence when it comes to supporting policymaking. Our discussions in 2024 in Budapest were actually built around these topics, trying to highlight best practices in delivering scientific information in a way that they could be used to the greatest effect. Through honest communication, science can also help to make society accept and understand even less popular policy decisions, which is often the reason why policy makers shy away from making the right choices or much needed legislation.

In your view, how is the forum's role evolving in light of growing global crises such as climate change, health threats, and food insecurity ?

Our objective is to attract high level decision-makers and leading figures if science to these discussions and to make sure that the most relevant opinions are represented. We are aware

that a biennial conference series is not a magic cure: it will not solve any global crises alone, let alone several at once. What we can do, however, is to help disseminate effective solutions, issue a strong message through our declarations and mobilize decision-makers in science and policy from all over the world and mobilize them to take action towards the same goals.

Could you share your thoughts on the forum being hosted by TÜBA in Türkiye in 2027 ?

We look forward to the next WSF in Türkiye with great anticipation and excitement. Istanbul as a host city, a capital of such a rich, lively and diverse culture and a fascinating historical heritage will certainly add a most pleasant dimension to an already exciting programme. We are utterly grateful to the Turkish Academy of Sciences for assuming the immense

responsibility to host the 2027 conference. I am well aware that this is by no means an easy task, but I think we are definitely on the right track.

After our last and highly successful Steering Committee meeting, which we co-chaired with Professor Seker in Istanbul, I am happy to share with you the main title and theme of WSF2027: "Science in Times of Global Crises: Transcending Boundaries in a Fragmented World". Even though it may not be an overly optimistic title, it is I believe a true description of the challenges and obstacles our world is facing these days. Our task between 17-20 March 2027 will be to bridge these boundaries and repair some of the fragmentation. We look forward to welcoming participants to an exciting programme in Istanbul, so I strongly encourage you to join and follow the discussions of WSF2027 next spring.

Visit to TÜBA by Viktor Matis, Hungary's Ambassador to Ankara

Hungary's Ambassador to Ankara, Viktor Matis, paid a visit to TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker. President Şeker thanked Ambassador Viktor, who is preparing to bid farewell to Ankara upon completing his term, for his contributions to the friendship and scientific cooperation between Türkiye and Hungary, and wished him success in his new post.

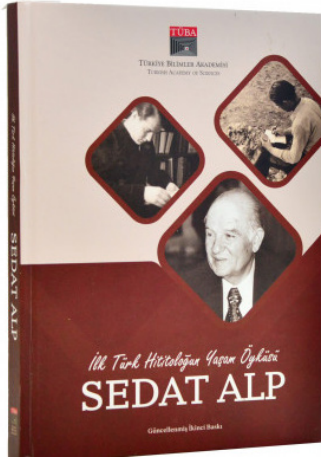
During the meeting, discussions focused on potential collaborations between Türkiye and Hungary in the fields of science, higher education, and academic cooperation, as well as on science diplomacy between the two countries. President Şeker emphasized that Ambassador Matis had made significant contributions to the development of relations between Türkiye and Hungary during his term



in Türkiye. The parties exchanged views on strengthening inter-academic cooperation, increasing joint scientific activities, and fostering contacts among researchers.

President Şeker presented Ambassador Matis with the work Science Diplomacy for Global Challenges, published by TÜBA.

Science History of Republic: Second Edition of Sedat Alp's Book is Published



TÜBA has republished the second edition of the biographical work titled “İlk Türk Hititoloğun Yaşam Öyküsü: Sedat Alp” (The Life Story of the First Turkish Hittitologist: Sedat Alp) which sheds light on the life of Ord. Prof. Dr. Sedat Alp, an Honorary Member of the Academy, and his contributions to the history of science during the Republican era.

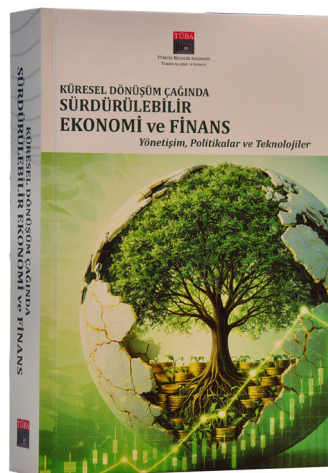
First published by TÜBA in 2004, Prof. Dr. Alp's life story was written in his own words, using the original text. Sedat Alp, who contributed directly to the

integrity of the text by even specifying punctuation marks during the narration, personally selected the photographs and documents included in the book. Two years after the first edition, Sedat Alp passed away in 2006. His biography has received considerable attention over the years and has been cited numerous times. After the first edition sold out, TÜBA initiated efforts for a second edition, which took approximately a year and a half to complete. The work was prepared for publication with the contributions of Sedat Alp's daughter, Mehpere Alp, and the book's editor, Fatma Sevinç Erbaşı. In the new edition, while preserving the originality of the first text, letters, official correspondence, and invitation documents from Alp's personal archive, which provide important data about both the scientific world of the period and his identity as an international scientist, were also added to the work. It was deemed appropriate to include correspondence with state officials, ambassadors, and foreign scientists, which demonstrates his scientific authority and his power to represent the Republic of Türkiye internationally. A special section was

dedicated to the lectures and conference invitations he received from various universities and scientific institutions. The second edition also included excerpts from the memorial program held at the Erimtan Archaeology and Art Museum on the 10th commemoration of his passing and news reports in the press. In addition, information and images about the “Sedat Alp Museum,” established with books and personal belongings donated to Bilkent University by his family on February 8, 2025, and serving as an important reference and source of inspiration, especially for archaeology and history students, were also shared with readers in the book.

Witnessing the founding years of the Republic, the difficult historical conditions between the two world wars, and how science was steadfastly pursued throughout this period, the work, now in its second edition, documents not only Sedat Alp's story but also the scientific understanding and academic idealism of an era.

New Publication from TÜBA: Sustainable Economy and Finance in the Age of Global Transformation



TÜBA has published a new work titled Sustainable Economy and Finance in the Age of Global Transformation: Governance, Policies, and Technologies, which addresses the sustainability agenda from an economic and financial perspective. Edited by Prof. Dr. Mehmet

Bulut and Prof. Dr. Cem Korkut, the book aims to contribute to current discussions on the economic and financial dimensions of sustainability within an interdisciplinary framework.

The work is a comprehensive study shaped by contributions from experts in different disciplines, evaluating theoretical approaches and empirical findings together. Focusing on the interdependent structure of environmental, economic, and social issues, the book aims to contribute not only to academic literature but also to decision-making and policy design processes with a data and analysis-based perspective. It covers a wide range of topics, from theoretical frameworks to macroeconomic policy discussions, green transformation and innovation-finance relationships to digital inclusivity and ethics-based approaches. In this respect, the work has the potential to

be an important reference source for researchers, public institutions, the financial sector, and all stakeholders working in the field of sustainability.

Stating that the work is a product of TÜBA's mission to encourage interdisciplinary scientific knowledge production and provide guidance to the public and decision-makers, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzafer Şeker emphasized that sustainability has become one of the most critical concepts of the 21st century. He emphasized that climate change, the depletion of natural resources, increasing social inequalities, fragile financial structures, and rapid technological transformations necessitate a reassessment of development strategies and governance approaches. He stressed that solving these problems requires global cooperation and comprehensive policy sets beyond national efforts.

International Symposium on “Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education” by TÜBA and AASSA



The International Symposium on “Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education,” jointly organized by Turkish Academy of Sciences and The Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia with the support of InterAcademy Partnership, was held at Ankara Social Sciences University.

Academic representatives, scientists, and researchers from Albania, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Romania, Serbia, and Türkiye attended the event. Organized to create an international platform by bringing together different disciplines, the symposium was designed to discuss the transformative role of artificial intelligence in higher education and to evaluate collaborative approaches to emerging challenges. Emphasizing interdisciplinary perspectives and regional collaborations to promote the responsible and effective use of artificial intelligence in universities and research institutions, the symposium focused on the various dimensions, including academic collaborations in the Euro-Mediterranean region, the transformation of higher education systems in Asia, the role of artificial intelligence in core scientific fields such as health, agriculture, risk, and environmental studies, as well as national policy perspectives on the integration of artificial intelligence in universities.

Four sessions explored various aspects of artificial intelligence in higher education

During the two-day symposium, four sessions were held under the titles “Governance, Policies, and Strategic

Alignment of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education,” “Training Artificial Intelligence Experts for the Knowledge Economy,” “Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Universities: Opportunities and Challenges, and Regional and Global Perspectives on Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education. Prof. Dr. Muazzam Khattak from Quaid-i-Azam University in Pakistan presented on “AI-Based Smart Teaching Systems for Students with ADHD and ASD Using Autism Support Technologies,” while Prof. Dr. Mohamed Hadi Habaebi from the International Islamic University of Malaysia spoke on “AI in Health Education and Biomedical Research: Building a Bridge Between Innovation and Clinical Applications,” Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alina Andreica from Babes-Bolyai University in Romania on “Artificial Intelligence Regulations – A Global Perspective,” and Prof. Dr. Alvin B. Culaba from the National Academy of Science and Technology in the Philippines on “The Synergy of Artificial Intelligence and Energy Transitions: A Roadmap for Sustainable Development in the Philippines.” The opening remarks of the symposium were delivered by TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker and TÜBA Full Member and AASSA President Prof. Dr. Ahmet Nuri Yurdusev.

“Artificial Intelligence: The Transformative Force of the New Era”

In his speech, Muzaffer Şeker stated that artificial intelligence is no longer merely a technological advancement confined to laboratories or industry; rather, it has become a transformative force reshaping societies, economies, governance structures, and, in particular, education

systems. Prof. Dr. Şeker: “Universities and higher education institutions are at the center of this rapid transformation. These institutions are not merely structures that adapt to new technologies; they also bear the responsibility of guiding the ethical, responsible, and beneficial use of these technologies for humanity. Artificial intelligence stands out as the transformative force of this era, and we need to examine in detail both the opportunities and the challenges it brings to higher education. In this symposium, we are addressing the topics of technology and its transformation through a multidisciplinary lens. “The program features sessions on AI-supported learning environments, governance and ethical dimensions, scientific discovery processes through data-intensive systems, AI literacy, accreditation, infrastructure, and the future of academic research and knowledge production, all conducted with the participation of experts in their fields,” he said.

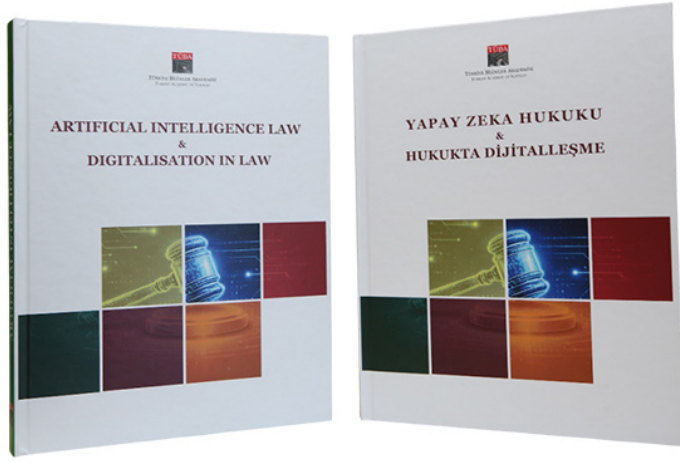
Noting that participation from different countries has further enriched the discussions, Şeker emphasized that the future of artificial intelligence in education is an area requiring global-scale shared responsibility and collaboration.

“The human aspect of science must not be forgotten”

Noting that the human aspect of science and the importance of international cooperation must not be overlooked when discussing scientific and technological advancements, Şeker also paid tribute to Dr. Finarya Legoh, a member of the Indonesian Academy of Sciences who passed away earlier this year, highlighting Legoh’s significant contributions to science communication, international cooperation, and AASSA activities.

AASSA President Prof. Dr. Ahmet Nuri Yurdusev noted that, like any technology, artificial intelligence technologies have significant impacts on society, and he pointed out that artificial intelligence also has its pros and cons.

A Pioneering Publication on Artificial Intelligence Law from TÜBA



TÜBA has published the book *Artificial Intelligence Law & Digitalization in Law*, which systematically examines the relationship between artificial intelligence and law. Edited by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sinan Okur, the book was prepared in two volumes—one in Turkish and one in English—and brings together contributions from national and international academics.

Rejecting the assumption that artificial intelligence is merely a technical subject, the work approaches the topic from the perspective that it is a transformative force affecting society, the economy, and all areas of law. It aims to preemptively discuss potential legal issues that may arise. In this regard, the study centers on a “preventive thinking” approach rather than a “post-crisis solution.”

Artificial intelligence is examined from various perspectives

While the scope and boundaries of the concept of “artificial intelligence

law” are systematically addressed in the book, the concept’s place within Turkish legal literature is discussed on a theoretical foundation. The Turkish volume examines the definition of artificial intelligence systems, the grounds for the need for regulation, issues in the contexts of banking and data protection, contract law, and criminal law, as well as discussions on copyright law. Additionally, the volume includes evaluations related to Islamic law to provide an interdisciplinary perspective. The English-language volume, meanwhile, addresses comparative topics such as debates on granting legal personhood to artificial intelligence, the insurance law dimension, the use of artificial intelligence in judicial activities, and certification obligations within the framework of European Union regulations. Copyright law is among the prominent topics in both volumes. In this study, which underwent a

rigorous scientific review, the Turkish academics contributing to the volume were selected from among those with direct academic output in the field of AI law. With contributions from researchers specializing in areas such as AI-insurance law, liability law, and criminal law from various European countries, the study embodies international academic collaboration.

Law must establish a balancing framework

Speaking about the work, editor Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sinan Okur stated, “Law faces two possibilities regarding artificial intelligence: either to play a role that creates uncertainty and slows down development, or to establish a balancing framework that manages risks while encouraging innovation. Artificial Intelligence Law advocates for the second approach and emphasizes that law must be a guiding actor rather than a passive one.” Noting that there is no similar work in Türkiye in this context—one that incorporates contributions from international scholars and is published in two languages—Okur described the book as a pioneering step in systematically establishing the concept of “AI law” within Turkish legal literature. In this regard, he noted that “Artificial Intelligence Law” claims to serve not only as a reference for today’s debates but also for the legal policies that will take shape in the coming years.

Workshop on Disasters and Preventive Measures



The “Workshop on Disasters and Preventive Measures,” organized by TÜBA, was hosted by Yıldız Technical University (YTÜ).

The workshop featured presentations aimed at building a safer and more resilient society, discussing roadmaps for steps to be taken before, during, and after disasters. Held over six sessions, the workshop saw leading experts in the field discuss past disasters and the current situation. Science-based approaches to enhancing Türkiye’s resilience to disasters were examined through an interdisciplinary lens. The first day of the program was attended by Istanbul Deputy Governor Hasan Gözen, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, YTÜ Rector Prof. Dr. Eyüp Debik, Uşak University Rector Prof. Dr. Ahmet Demir, as well as experts in the field and representatives from relevant institutions.

Disasters Are Not a Matter of Fate

President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker noted that the “Workshop on Disasters and Preventive Measures” provided an important platform for the multidimensional assessment of disaster risks and the development of solution-oriented policy recommendations. Prof. Dr. Şeker said, “We examined in detail the

crises and disaster situations that unfolded following the February 6 earthquake, particularly that event, from an interdisciplinary perspective, and discussed the steps that need to be taken for the future. We addressed these issues across six sessions. At the workshop, we evaluated a wide range of topics, from technological and industrial risks to the resilience of critical infrastructure, from the humanitarian and psychosocial dimensions of disasters to their economic impacts, and from AI-supported analyses to policy design and media policies. Through these multidisciplinary studies, we aim to guide policymakers as well. We have previously reported on studies addressing social issues alongside topics such as climate change, environmental problems, and food security. With the report to be produced at the conclusion of this study, we aim to enhance our social resilience. Disasters are not a matter of fate, and a science-based, holistic approach to addressing them is now an urgent necessity. Here, we have brought together numerous academics, researchers, and institutional representatives from various disciplines. There are many measures that can be taken and policies that can be developed under

the guidance of science. We must now take precautions against disasters; we are constantly paying the price. “First, we must put a stop to loss of life; the costs brought by disasters are many times greater than the budget we will allocate for the measures we take. As the scientific community, we are aware of our responsibility. We believe that the roadmap we will present will contribute to our country achieving a more resilient structure against disasters,” he said.

Special Emphasis on Technological and Industrial Risks

The implementation of the Regulation on the Control of Major Industrial Accidents (BEKRA) and Türkiye’s compliance with SEVESO were discussed in detail. The causes of mining accidents, necessary precautions, and early warning and evacuation systems were examined from the perspectives of various scientific disciplines. The causes of disruptions in energy, communication, and transportation infrastructure—the most common issues encountered during disasters—were evaluated. Steps required to become more resilient to disasters were assessed in the context of chemical dispersion and waste management.

The Importance of Post-Disaster Rehabilitation Was Emphasized

Attention was drawn to the management of social psychology after disasters, the steps taken and those that need to be taken to heal the wounds, and the management of social resilience and risk perception. It was emphasized that awareness regarding DASK and insurance must be raised. The current situation regarding local and global economic issues arising after disasters, as well as the selection, construction, and safety of residential areas, was discussed. Public health standards were emphasized, and the importance of proper communication and social media management during

crises was highlighted. Attention was drawn to how misinformation and disinformation complicate disaster management, and it was stated that a reliable flow of information plays a vital role. It was emphasized that legal regulations in this area are insufficient and that a social media law must be enacted urgently.

The Use of New Technologies in Disaster Preparedness and During Disasters Was Recommended

Projections for the future of disaster management were discussed. Particular emphasis was placed on topics such as remote sensing and artificial intelligence integration. While it was noted that

disaster analyses could be conducted more quickly and accurately, gaps in current legislation and current needs were evaluated. The importance of developing coordinated disaster risk reduction policies was emphasized. Attention was drawn to collective wisdom and collaboration. There was a consensus that the fight against disasters should focus not only on the crisis moment but also on risk reduction and preparedness processes.

TÜBA and YTÜ officials stated that the workshop outcomes would be documented in a report, shared with relevant institutions, and contribute to policy-making processes.

Call of Conscience from Science ‘Earthquakes, Urban Transformation, and Sustainable Cities’ Published



On the anniversary of the February 6, 2023 Kahramanmaraş earthquakes, one of the greatest disasters in Türkiye's recent history, the comprehensive scientific work titled “Earthquakes, Urban Transformation, and Sustainable Cities,” prepared by TÜBA, was published. The book examines not only the destroyed buildings but also the neglected policies, postponed responsibilities, and social conscience.

Published on the anniversary of February 6, “Earthquake, Urban Transformation, and Sustainable Cities” aims to go beyond commemorating those lost and to mobilize scientific reason and social

conscience together to prevent the same pain from being experienced again.

The result of approximately one year of planned and coordinated work, the book was prepared with contributions from academics in numerous disciplines, ranging from engineering to urban and regional planning, environmental sciences to law, public administration to health and social sciences. The fundamental aim of the work was to address earthquake-resistant cities and sustainable urbanization not as separate areas, but as integral parts of the same whole.

A scientific book, a social responsibility

In the book's foreword, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasizes that earthquakes cannot be treated solely as natural events; that failure to take precautions despite scientific knowledge turns disasters into catastrophes. This approach points to a fundamental principle that permeates the entire work: It is as much a responsibility to produce science as it is to reflect science in decision-making processes.

Within this framework, the book goes beyond structural safety and engineering solutions to address the strengths and weaknesses of existing legislation, the social and legal problems encountered in urban transformation applications,

energy efficiency and renewable energy integration, water-sensitive cities, waste management and environmental infrastructure, public health, transportation, food security, climate change, and smart cities.

Lessons that cannot be forgotten from February 6

The book analyzes the types of damage identified after the February 6 earthquakes, recurring structural errors, and the social costs of these errors. Supported by scientific data, these analyses provide clear answers to the question, “Why are we suffering the same pain again?” In this respect, the book is not merely an academic publication; it serves as a guiding reference for decision-makers, local governments, and practitioners.

Another noteworthy aspect of the work is that it does not ignore the moral impact of the earthquake. The earthquake causes damage not only to buildings but also to the sense of justice, equality, and understanding of public responsibility. The fact that safe housing is not a privilege but a fundamental right is particularly emphasized between the lines of the book. It is emphasized that post-disaster reconstruction processes are not only a technical issue but also an ethical one.

A Scientific Perspective on Strategic Resources from TÜBA



Organized in collaboration between TÜBA and Kütahya Dumlupınar University, the “Workshop on Rare Earth Elements: From the Past to the Future in Türkiye and the World” brought together representatives from academia, the public sector, and industry to examine rare earth elements—which hold strategic importance—from a multidimensional perspective.

Held in the Red Hall of the Rectorate at Kütahya Dumlupınar University, the workshop was attended by Kütahya Governor Musa Işın, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, Kütahya Dumlupınar University Rector Prof. Dr. Süleyman Kızıltoprak, Kütahya University of Health Sciences Rector Prof. Dr. Ahmet Tekin, Sivas Science and Technology University Rector Prof. Dr. Mehmet Kul, Uşak University Rector Prof. Dr. Ahmet Demir, Eti Maden Deputy General Manager Derya Maraşlıoğlu, President of the Rare Earth Elements Research Institute (NATEN) at the Turkish Energy, Nuclear, and Mining Research Institute (TENMAK) Dr. Belma Soydaş Sözer, TENMAK-BOREN President Dr. Berna Yüksel, MAM Vice President of Materials and Process Technologies Dr. Ersin Üresin, members of the TÜBA Rare Earth Elements Working Group and the TÜBA Science Council, as well as numerous academics, researchers, and students.

Rare Earth Elements: The Strategic Power of the Future

Kütahya Governor Musa Işın expressed his pleasure at participating in the workshop hosted by Kütahya during the opening ceremony. Noting that rare earth elements have reached a level of importance capable of influencing world politics, he reminded the audience that our country also possesses these elements. Governor Işın stated, “Kütahya is a region where numerous elements are mined. We are among the leading cities making a direct contribution to the national economy through this means. The path to our country’s strength in every field lies in our natural resources. I hope this workshop will be beneficial to our country, our province, and our academic community. I congratulate our esteemed Rector for hosting this event. I would like to express my gratitude to the scientists who contributed to the workshop with their academic expertise.”

Rare Earth Elements Determine the Technological and Strategic Power of the Future

Speaking during the opening ceremony, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasized that rare earth elements are not merely an economic resource today but have also become strategic factors that determine countries’ competitive strength in the fields of technology, defense, energy, and national security. President Prof. Dr. Şeker noted that these elements, which lie at the heart of the global technological transformation, have a wide range of applications—from electric vehicles to renewable energy systems, and from high-tech products to the defense industry—and made the following remarks: “Today, rare earth elements rank among the resources that grant strategic advantages on a global scale to the countries that possess them. Increasing scientific research in this field is of great importance for achieving the goals





of technological independence, high-value-added production, and sustainable development. To the extent that Türkiye combines its potential with scientific knowledge, it will have a say in this field on a global scale.”

Emphasizing that environmental sustainability must not be overlooked in the extraction and processing of rare earth elements, Prof. Dr. Şeker stated that the work carried out by TÜBA is grounded in the principles of a scientific approach, environmental responsibility, and social benefit. Prof. Dr. Şeker added, “We view our country’s natural resources not merely as an economic asset, but as a driving

force for scientific and technological advancement. As TÜBA, we bring together scientists from various disciplines under a common goal to support the generation of knowledge regarding Türkiye’s strategic resources. This workshop is a prime example of that approach. Every platform where academia, the public sector, and industry act with a shared vision represents a valuable investment in Türkiye’s future.”

Scientific Research Is the Key to Sustainable Development

DPU Rector Prof. Dr. Süleyman Kızıltoprak expressed his honor that

Kütahya Dumlupınar University was hosting the first workshop on rare earth elements and stated, “Rare earth elements are the minerals of strategic technological importance in our era. The scientific study of these minerals, which form the cornerstones of everything from renewable energy systems to electric vehicles and the defense industry, makes a significant contribution to our country’s sustainable development,” he said. At the end of his speech, Prof. Dr. Kızıltoprak expressed his gratitude to Kütahya Governor Musa Işın, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, and all stakeholders.

Speaking at the opening of the workshop, Prof. Dr. Zafer Evis, Coordinator of the TÜBA Rare Earth Elements Working Group, outlined the scientific framework of the workshop by providing information on the historical development, classification, production processes, and environmental impacts of rare earth elements.

Turkish Young Academy Visits the Young Scientists Network - Academy of Sciences Malaysia



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel Doğrul, President of the Turkish Young Academy paid a courtesy visit to the Young Scientists Network (ASM).

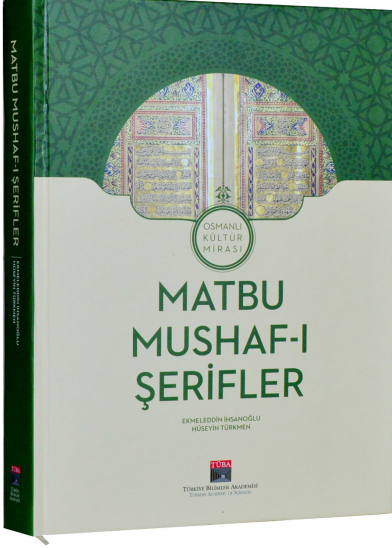
During the visit, which was conducted with the aim of strengthening international cooperation among young

academies, potential opportunities for collaboration between the Turkish Young Academy and the Young Scientists Network were discussed. The meeting, attended by the President of the Young Scientists Network - Academy of Sciences Malaysia, Prof. Dr. Mai Chun Wai; Board Member Prof. Dr.

Anwar P. P. Abdul Majeed; and academy staff, began with an opening address by Ms. Dharshene Rajayah, Head of the ASM International Relations and Communications Department. The session, which began with introductory presentations by both academies, featured an exchange of information regarding the structures, activities, and initiatives undertaken by the Young Academies of Malaysia and Türkiye.

Doğrul presented two significant TÜBA publications—“Science Diplomacy for Global Challenges” and “The Istanbul Museum of the History of Science and Technology in Islam”—to Mr. Hazami Habib, CEO of the Malaysian Academy of Sciences, accompanied by greetings from TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker.

A Major Contribution to Cultural Heritage by TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. İhsanoğlu



Published by TÜBA and authored by Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu and rare book specialist Hüseyin Türkmen, the book “Osmanlı Kültür Mirası Matbu Mushaf-ı Şerifler” has been released to the public as the culmination of a long-term research project spanning over twenty years. The study was prepared following extensive surveys conducted in libraries, archives, bookstores, and private collections, with both domestic and international sources meticulously examined.

“Osmanlı Kültür Mirası Matbu Mushaf-ı Şerifler” provides a solid foundation of data for historians, calligraphers, librarians, antiquarian booksellers, and researchers of Islamic arts, while also standing out as an important reference work for readers seeking to understand the cultural background of Mushaf printing. The book approaches the history of the printed Qur’an not merely as a technical publishing issue, but as an intersection of religious sensitivities, artistic sensibilities, state policies, and technological advancements. In

this regard, the book offers a multi-layered perspective that highlights the delicate balance between reverence for the sacred and modernization. For the first time, reservations, debates, and historical decisions regarding the printing of the Mushaf in the Ottoman world are presented in such a comprehensive, document-supported, and holistic manner.

The Process Spanning from the Ottoman Era to the Republic Is Examined in Detail

The book examines, in detail, the religious and administrative approaches to Mushaf printing in the Ottoman Empire—beginning with Qur’an printing initiatives in Europe—as well as unauthorized printings, the first official printings, and developments extending into the Republican era.

Additionally, a comprehensive bibliography is compiled by identifying 1,747 copies of the Mushaf-ı Şerif and its sections printed in Türkiye between 1872 and 2024. In this regard, the work offers not only a historical narrative but also a robust data source.

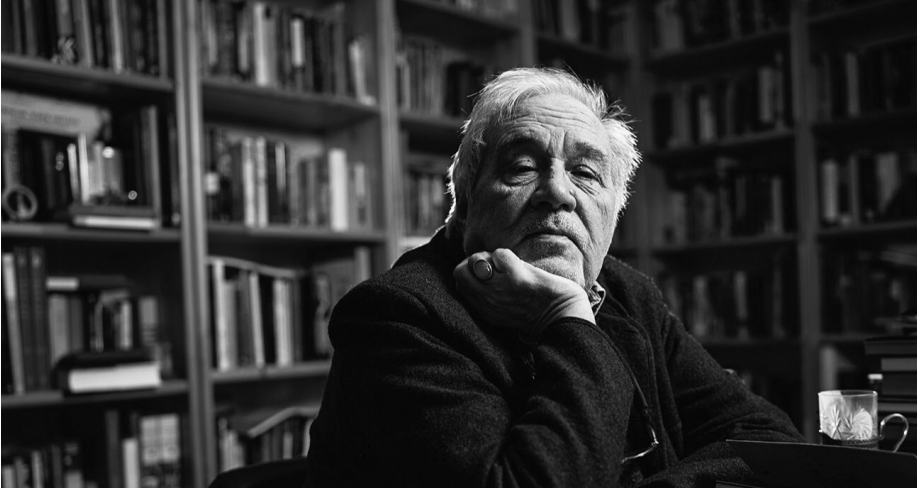
A First in Its Field: Comprehensive Inventory and Bibliometric Analysis

The study serves as a pioneering work in its field by presenting the first and most comprehensive inventory of Mushafs printed in Türkiye to date. The bibliography, compiled using data from libraries, museums, archives, book dealers, and private collections, is analyzed and evaluated using bibliometric methods. The work also includes comprehensive studies on calligraphers, publishing houses, and printing presses in the context of the Mushaf-ı Şerif.

Other notable features of the work include the examination of Qur’an printing not only from a technical perspective but also in terms of its religious, cultural, and political dimensions; as well as the presentation of previously unidentified editions and new information regarding the calligraphers who wrote the Qur’an. Enhanced with numerous illustrations and documents, the study serves as a unique reference source for researchers thanks to detailed tables organized by year, publishing house, and calligrapher.



TÜBA Honorary Member Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı Has Passed Away



Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı, one of Türkiye's most prominent historians and a TÜBA Honorary Member, has passed away. Ortaylı, who left a profound impact through his contributions to the field of Turkish history, his vast intellectual knowledge, and his compelling narrative style, has been deeply mourned by the academic and cultural communities.

Known for his decades-long work in the fields of Ottoman history, administrative history, and cultural history, Prof. Dr. Ortaylı inspired a love of history in a wide audience through his academic work, books, television programs, and lectures. Having taught at universities in Türkiye and around the world throughout his academic career, Ortaylı was remembered not only as a historian but also as a prominent intellectual and cultural figure. Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı, one of the most respected figures in the scientific community, enjoyed significant international prestige for his contributions to the discipline of history and his multilingual academic expertise.

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker expressed his sorrow over Ortaylı's passing and extended his condolences to all of Türkiye for the loss of such an intellectual treasure. President Şeker

stated: "Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı was one of the most exceptional figures not only in Turkish historiography but also in our country's intellectual life. Through his in-depth studies on Ottoman history, the history of administration, and our cultural heritage, he inspired generations of researchers. With his multifaceted knowledge, powerful memory, and unique narrative style, he was one of the rare scholars who made history appealing to a broad audience. We are deeply saddened by the loss of our esteemed professor, who made significant contributions to the scientific community as a member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences. I pray for God's mercy upon him and extend my condolences to his family, his students, the scientific community, and our country."

Who was Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı?

He was born in 1947 in a refugee camp in Bregenz, Austria, to a Crimean Tatar family as the son of Kemal Ortaylı, an aircraft engineer. He came to Türkiye at the age of two. He began his elementary education in Istanbul and completed it in Ankara. After attending Saint George High School in Istanbul for middle school, he returned to Ankara. He graduated from Ankara Atatürk High School (1965), the Faculty of Political Sciences at Ankara University, and the Faculty of

Language, History and Geography(DTCF) (1969). He studied Slavic and Oriental Studies at the University of Vienna. From a young age, in addition to Turkish, he learned German, French, English, and Russian at an advanced level; and Arabic, Persian, Latin, Hebrew, Serbian, and Greek at an intermediate level.

İlber Ortaylı began working as an assistant at the Faculty of Political Sciences (SBF) at Ankara University in 1973. In 1977, he went to Bonn to conduct archival research. He completed his master's thesis at the University of Chicago under Prof. Dr. Halil İnalcık. He earned his doctorate with his dissertation titled "Tanzimat Sonrası Mahalli İdareler" (Local Administrations After the Tanzimat) and was promoted to associate professor (1979) and then professor (1989) based on his study titled "Osmanlı İmparatorluğunda Alman Nüfuzu" (German Influence in the Ottoman Empire). During his years of higher education, he had the opportunity to travel to various countries and cities, visiting Aleppo, Damascus, Beirut, Jerusalem, and Amman.

In 1983, he resigned from the Faculty of Political Sciences (SBF), where he had worked for ten years, as a protest against the government's academic policies. During this period, he served as a visiting professor at the École des Hautes Études in Paris, Freie Universität Berlin, and Princeton University, as well as at universities in Vienna, Moscow, Rome, Munich, Strasbourg, Ioannina, Sofia, Kiel, Cambridge, Oxford, and Tunis, where he also delivered seminars and lectures. He published articles on Ottoman and Russian history from the 16th to the 19th centuries in domestic and international academic journals.

In 1988, he worked for a time as an associate professor at METU and returned to his position at SBF that same year. He was promoted to professor in 1989. From 1989 to 2002, he served as Chair of the Department of Administrative History at the Faculty of Political Sciences. In 2002, he moved to Galatasaray University. He later served as Director General of the Topkapı Palace Museums.

He hosted history talk shows on various television channels, including "İlber Ortaylı ile", "İlber Ortaylı ile Yakın Tarih Dersleri" ve "İlber Ortaylı ile Zaman Kaybolmaz" He has published articles on 16th- and 19th-

century Ottoman history and Russian history in domestic and international academic journals. In 2001, he received the Aydın Doğan Foundation Award; in 2006, the “Lazio Between Europe and the Mediterranean” award at the Italy Mediterranean Festival, and in 2007, the Pushkin Award, presented

by the Russian Federation with the signature of Russian President Vladimir Putin to individuals who promote the Russian language and cultural heritage and foster closer ties between nations and peoples.

Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı, who is fluent in Ottoman Turkish, Crimean Tatar, Arabic, Persian, German, French, Italian, Latin, Greek, Russian, Slovak, Romanian, Serbian, Croatian, and Bosnian, was elected a member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) in 2012.

A Farewell to TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı



TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker participated in the Executive Committee Meeting held in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, as part of the preparations for the World Science Forum (WSF) 2026. The two-day meeting was hosted by the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) of the Republic of Indonesia.

In addition to the invited Executive Committee Member Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, scientists from countries such as Japan, France, Canada, Jordan, Brazil, Hungary, and South Africa presented strategic recommendations for the 2026 Forum based on experiences from previous editions of the World Science Forum. Prof. Dr. Şeker emphasized that Türkiye is one of the countries making an active contribution to science diplomacy and highlighted the importance of addressing topics such as sustainable development, science-

society relations, scientific ethics, and open science as key items on the forum agenda.

The meeting also brought together representatives from numerous international organizations including UNESCO, ISC (International Science

Council), AASSA, TWAS, and IAP, as well as senior delegates from science academies of various countries.

Key elements such as the theme, program structure, organizational model, cultural events, and side sessions of WSF 2026 were discussed in detail. The program began with welcoming speeches by BRIN President Dr. Laksana Tri Handoko and President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences Prof. Dr. Tamás Freund, reaffirming the Forum's role in global science diplomacy. Comprehensive presentations were delivered on the event timeline, task distribution, proposed session formats, and the hosting infrastructure. In addition to the sessions held at BRIN's headquarters, the prospective venue areas for the Forum were also examined on-site.



TÜBA Brings 8 New Works to the Turkish-Islamic Scientific and Cultural Heritage



TÜBA has contributed 8 more significant works to the scientific community as part of its Turkish-Islamic Scientific and Cultural Heritage (TİBKM) Project. Launched in 2014 and continued under the patronage of the Presidency since 2018, the project has now published a total of 70 works.

In line with its responsibility as Türkiye's national science academy, TÜBA launched this project with the aim of promoting scientific thought in society and bringing young generations into contact with science. Under the project, classical works of the Turkic-Islamic world are being re-edited using facsimile, transliteration, and translation methods and made available to researchers and readers.

The project not only brings important works from the past into the present but also aims to strengthen Türkiye's scientific self-confidence, encourage academic research, and transmit cultural heritage to future generations. While the project aims to make the Turks' place in the history of science and thought more visible by adapting classical works written in various languages into modern Turkish, it also continues to serve as a powerful source of motivation for scientific production.

Works shedding light on the history of science

The newly published works span a wide range of fields, from the history of science to philosophy, and from

Ottoman history to literature. In particular, two significant works on mathematics by the great 15th-century scholar Ali Kuşçu stand out among these publications.



"Risâle der İlmi-i Hisâb" is one of Ali Kuşçu's foundational works, written in Persian in Samarkand and long forgotten. The work systematically addresses the calculation methods of the era under headings such as Indian arithmetic, tencîm, and mesâha. This study, which lays out the pedagogical and theoretical foundations of elementary mathematics education, also includes a textual edition based on the author's manuscript at the Süleymaniye Library, a Turkish translation, and modern mathematical analyses. In this regard, the work presents the 15th-century Islamic mathematical tradition in a comprehensible manner to the contemporary academic world. Another significant work by Ali Kuşçu, "er-Risâletü'l-Muhammediyye fî İlmi'l-Hisâb," is a comprehensive mathematics book written in honor of

Fatih Sultan Mehmed upon his arrival in Istanbul. The work thoroughly addresses topics such as computational operations based on the decimal and sexagesimal number systems, algebraic methods, techniques for solving for unknowns, series sums, and applied geometry. This work also holds historical significance as a concrete example of the transfer of scientific knowledge from Samarkand to Istanbul.

Contributions to Philosophy and the World of Thought

Published as part of the project, "Keşfu'l-Hakâik fî Tahrîrî'd-Dekâik" stands out as one of Esîrüddin el-Ebherî's most comprehensive works, encompassing his views on logic, metaphysics, and physics. With the critical edition and Turkish translation of the work, Ebherî's intellectual world is made more accessible to contemporary researchers.

Sources on Ottoman history and social life

"Mir'âtü'l-Kâinât," a work in the field of history, offers a broad perspective spanning from the history of the prophets to the Islamic states and the classical period of the Ottoman Empire. The work's section on the Ottomans examines in detail the period from the founding of the state to the reign of Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent. "Letâif-i Vekâyî-i Enderûniyye," meanwhile, reveals the daily practices,

traditions, and transformations of Ottoman court life through the observations of Hâfız Hızır İlyas Ağa, who served at Topkapı Palace.

Science, Literature, and Book Culture

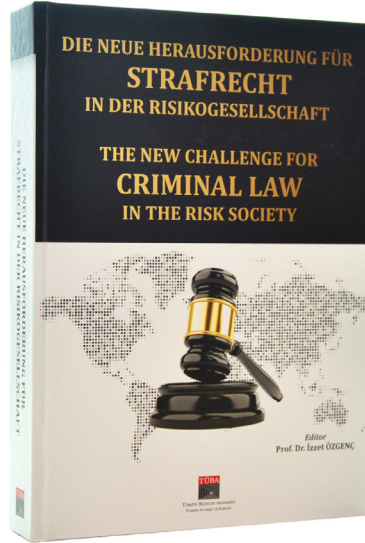
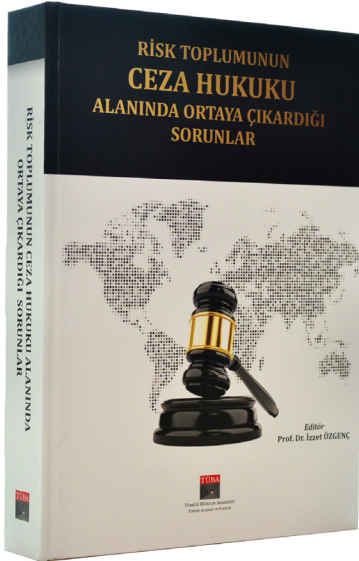
Reflecting the Ottoman scholarly tradition, Tuhfetü't-Tâlibîn, a religious manual written by Grand Vizier Lütü Pasha, sheds light on the religious life of the era. Filling a significant gap in the field of classical Turkish literature,

Bahrü'l-Evzân stands out as one of the most comprehensive works written in Turkish on the aruz meter (Aruz prosody) and makes a significant contribution to the literature in this field. The study titled Topkapı Palace III. Ahmed Library, published as part of the project, offers rich data on book and library culture, book circulation, and reading habits in the Ottoman Empire, thereby providing a new perspective for historical and bibliographical research.

Cultural heritage is being passed on to future generations

This collection, which bridges the depth of the past with today's academic world, represents a strategic step that reinforces Turkey's scientific confidence. With these new works, TÜBA once again reaffirms its commitment to preserving our ancient heritage and contributing it to the global scientific literature.

TÜBA Publishes Issues Raised by the Risk Society in the Field of Criminal Law



The sixth concrete product of the academic collaboration between the Korean Criminal Law Association and Turkish criminal law scholars has been published by TÜBA. The works titled Risk Toplumunun Ceza Hukuku Alanında Ortaya Çıkardığı Sorunlar and Die neue Herausforderung für Strafrecht in der Risikogesellschaft/ The New Challenge for Criminal Law in the Risk Society address the transformation of criminal law in the face of increasing and diversifying risks in contemporary society from a comparative perspective. Expected to fill an important gap in the field, the book, edited by Prof. Dr. İzzet Özgenç, was published in German, English,

and Turkish with contributions from 30 Turkish and Korean academics. Translated by young Turkish criminal lawyers and researchers, the book is not only a scientific compilation but also contributes to the transfer of intergenerational academic knowledge. The study, which examines the relationship between risk society and criminal law in Türkiye through a comparative approach, also concretely reveals the institutionalized structure of Turkish-Korean criminal law cooperation and serves as a reference source for academic circles and practitioners.

The book, which consists of German and English texts translated into

Turkish and addresses the problems posed by risks in modern society, was meticulously reviewed by TÜBA through scientific peer review and editorial evaluation processes, with intensive efforts made to ensure consistency between the texts. Furthermore, the Academic Cooperation Protocol signed on September 25, 2024, between the Intellectual and Industrial Property Law Center of the Northeast Asian Law Institute at Jeonbuk National University, the Turkish Criminal Law Application and Research Center at Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli University, and the Criminal Law and Forensic Sciences Foundation formed the institutional basis for the study. The study addresses the impact of current risk areas such as digitalization, artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, large-scale industrial accidents, environmental disasters, and organized crime on criminal law. While discussing the expansion of the preventive and regulatory role of criminal law within the framework of the "last resort" (ultima ratio) principle, topics such as adversarial criminal law, corporate criminal liability, compliance practices, artificial intelligence and crime prevention, autonomous vehicles, digital evidence, victim rights, and security measures are covered. Theoretical analyses are supported by court decisions and concrete examples.

TÜBA's Report on the Middle East



TÜBA continues its efforts to assess global and regional developments from a scientific perspective, in line with its mission to guide the formulation of science policies and provide direction regarding global developments. The TÜBA Working Group on International Relations has published a report titled "U.S. and Israeli Military Attacks Against Iran: Regional and Global Consequences."

Comprehensively addressing the historical background, security dimensions, international legal framework, and regional impacts of recent Iran-centered developments, the report was authored by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bayram Sinkaya, a faculty member at Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University. Published as part of the TÜBA Publications series, the study analyzes the new geopolitical landscape emerging in the wake of U.S. and Israeli military operations against Iran using a multidimensional approach. The report examines in detail the origins of historical disputes between the parties, the process leading to the conflict, the course of the military operations, Iran's defense strategies, the regional and global impacts of the conflict, and its implications for Türkiye.

Science Cannot Thrive Where There Is No Peace

Speaking about the report, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasized that international crises must be assessed not only in terms of their military and political aspects but also in terms of their historical, legal, economic, social, and humanitarian dimensions. Prof. Dr. Şeker stated: "War zones are the cause of many negative developments not only in terms of humanitarian issues but also on a scientific level. The scientific community must take steps that prioritize the benefit of humanity and the development of the environment and the entire universe, and the primary prerequisite for scientific progress is, first and foremost, an environment of peace. Where there is no peace, the advancement of science, the free pursuit of academic research, and the preservation of hope for humanity's shared future are not possible. The duty of scientists is not merely to explain events; it is also to contribute to creating a foundation that will bring humanity together around collective reason, common sense, and dialogue."

We, as an academy, both conduct numerous studies addressing the welfare of humanity, the environment, and international relations, and—as part of our role as a guiding force—share the results with relevant institutions and organizations. From time to time, we compile these findings into reports and present them to the global public. In recent years, the TÜBA Working Group on International Relations has consistently monitored developments related to global and regional crises and carried out significant research. For example, in a report published following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, our academy assessed the war's impact on the international system. We also conducted significant analyses regarding the Israel-Palestine conflict, addressing issues of international law, human rights, and the protection of civilians from a scientific perspective.

We have also compiled a report on the recent India-Pakistan crisis. "With our published report, 'U.S. and Israeli Military Attacks on Iran: Regional and Global Implications,' we provide a comprehensive assessment of the current situation, including its historical background, regional dynamics, and global impacts. I hope this work will serve as a guide for peace-oriented policies on a global scale," he said.

Regional and Global Consequences of the Conflict Examined

The report examines the developments following attacks in 2026 by the United States and Israel targeting Iran's nuclear facilities, military infrastructure, and political leadership. The study comprehensively assesses the conflict's impact on energy security, the strategic importance of the Strait of Hormuz, its effects on the global economy, and its implications for the balance of power in the Middle East. It also examines the conflict's consequences for Iran's domestic politics, security structure, and foreign policy. The study further addresses the diplomatic initiatives undertaken by Türkiye during the crisis. While evaluating Türkiye's efforts to preserve regional peace, secure a ceasefire, and prevent human casualties, the report highlights Türkiye's multifaceted diplomatic capacity and its role in crisis management.

Prepared with the contributions of the TÜBA International Relations Working Group, the report serves as an important reference source for academics, researchers, students, decision-makers, and all readers interested in the field of international relations, offering a scientific analysis of current developments. The study offers forward-looking assessments by highlighting the significance of the transformations taking place in the Middle East—not only from a regional perspective but also in terms of global security and the economy. The published report is now available through TÜBA Publications.

TÜBA STATEMENT ON THE ESCALATING CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The International Relations Working Group of the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA), at its meeting on March 12, 2026, examined the war that began following the attacks by the United States and Israel against Iran, the deepening of conflicts in the Middle East, the Gulf, and Lebanon, and the humanitarian crisis in its regional and global dimensions. Following the general situation assessment conducted at the meeting, it was unanimously decided to share the following declaration with the international academic community and the public.

TÜBA recalls that, pursuant to Article 2(4) of the UN Charter, no state may use force against another state. Under the claims of self-defense, no political, ideological, or security justification can legitimize the use of force against civilians or the violation of states' territorial integrity and sovereign rights.

The targeting of educational and research institutions, regardless of the country of origin, is unacceptable. The loss of lives of students and scientists, and the rendering of academic institutions dysfunctional across all conflict geographies of the Middle East, particularly in Iran, Lebanon, and the Gulf region, signifies the breaking of the chain of scientific continuity. Wars come to an end, yet rebuilding a destroyed educational institution and restoring a generation of researchers that has been impeded takes generations.

In this regard, we call upon the international community and all relevant parties to take collective action on the following points:

- Attacks on drinking water, energy, food, health, education, and civilian residential areas, healthcare facilities, and educational institutions in all conflict zones must cease immediately, and obligations arising from the Geneva Conventions must be complied with unconditionally.
- The sovereignty, territorial integrity, and internal affairs of all states in the region must be respected, and rights guaranteed under international law must be effectively protected across all geographies.
- Scientific research activities and the institutions in which these activities are conducted are protected against attacks within the framework of international law. In order for scientific activities to be sustained in conflict-affected areas, the conflicting parties must refrain from attacks that could affect these institutions.
- All parties must make effective use of diplomatic channels for a permanent ceasefire encompassing the entire region, and international scientific organizations must promote science and cooperation as a bridge in peace processes.
- Human life and dignity stand above all political considerations and disputes. Through this declaration, TÜBA draws attention to the common rights of all peoples living in the region, to the founding principles of the UN, and to the universal values of humanity. Our Academy will continue to defend the right to life with determination and to sustain its calls for the establishment of lasting peace.

Turkish Academy of Sciences Academy Council



The First Step Has Been Taken Toward the Publication of ‘Babur Shah and His Legacy’



The “Babur Shah and His Legacy Workshop,” organized as part of the book titled “Babur Shah and His Legacy”—whose preparations were initiated by TÜBA to mark the 500th anniversary spanning the years 1526–2026—was successfully held in Ankara.

Interdisciplinary Focus at the Opening

Held at the EBS Hotel, the workshop examined the military, political, and cultural legacy of Babur Shah from a multifaceted perspective. The program began at 12:30 p.m. with opening remarks. TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, in his speech, highlighted the historical and scientific significance of the project, emphasizing that Babur and the Mughal legacy must be comprehensively evaluated not only from the perspective of political history but also in terms of culture, literature, art, institutional history, and the history of thought. Pointing out the importance of addressing the subject within an interdisciplinary framework, President Şeker stated that new scientific meetings and publication projects,

serving as a continuation of this workshop, would also be implemented. He noted that this study, which serves as a continuation of TÜBA’s previous projects “Genghis Khan and His Legacy” and “Amir Timur and His Legacy,” aims to provide an academic perspective on the 500th anniversary of Babur’s rise to power in India.

The framework for the book project was established

The workshop session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Feridun M. Emecen, a Full Member of TÜBA and a faculty member at Istanbul University. Academics shared their views on the scope, main headings, and potential author roster of the planned book. A consensus was reached on addressing the political, administrative, foreign policy, economic, scientific, artistic, and cultural dimensions of Babur and the Mughal Empire. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was decided to organize a symposium themed “Babur Shah and His Legacy.” Additionally, a decision was made to initiate the necessary editorial

and administrative processes to ensure the book’s publication by 2026.

The workshop, which was attended online by Prof. Dr. Musa Şamil Yüksel from Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBÜ) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sherzodhon Mahmudov from the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, featured Prof. Dr. Hayrunnisa Alan from Istanbul Medeniyet University (IMU), Prof. Dr. Zeynep Tarım from Istanbul University (İÜ), Prof. Dr. Muhammed Bilal Çelik from Sakarya University; Prof. Dr. Necdet Tosun from Marmara University; Prof. Dr. Neslihan Durak from İnönü University; Prof. Dr. Tanju Seyhan from Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts (MSGÜ), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Murat Çelik from AYBÜ, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nilgün Dalkesen and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ertuğrul İsmail Ökten from İMÜ, and Dr. Mehmet Tuğrul from TÜBA.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the participating academics were presented with the works “Amir Timur and His Legacy,” “The Ottomans: From Beylik to Cihan State,” and “The Historical Atlas of Turkic States,” published by TÜBA.

The Timurid Legacy Is a Shared Treasure of All Humanity



TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker attended the international scientific conference titled “The Role and Importance of Amir Timur and the Timurid Civilization in World History and Culture,” held at the Uzbekistan Center for Islamic Civilization in Tashkent to commemorate the 690th anniversary of Amir Timur’s birth.

At this large-scale international conference, which brought together academic discussions, exhibition projects, and cultural programs, the legacy of Amir Timur and the Timurid era was comprehensively examined from a scientific perspective. Within the framework of the program, plans were made for international academic and cultural collaborations extending through the year 2030.

Science, History, and Culture Converged in the Timurid Legacy

The conference, which opened with the reading of a message from Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, featured speeches by Dr. Farhan Ahmad Nizami, Director of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies; Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, President of TÜBA; Coşkun Yılmaz, President of the Turkish Institution of Manuscripts; Sultan Raev, Secretary General of TÜRKSOY; and Shavkat Ayupov, President of the Uzbekistan Academy of Sciences.

In his speech, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasized that the Timurid legacy belongs not only to a specific region but to all of humanity, stating, “The scientific achievements, artistic splendor, and institutional heritage of the Timurid world are a common heritage of humanity.” Şeker emphasized that the observatories in Samarkand, the madrasas in Herat, and the libraries in Bukhara were not merely symbols of an empire but also centers of knowledge production.

Noting that the Timurid period was one of the golden ages in science and culture, Şeker stated that this legacy had a significant impact across a vast geography, from the Ottoman Empire to the Mughal Empire. He also noted that, in line with this understanding, TÜBA published a comprehensive academic work titled “Amir Timur and His Legacy,” which examines Timurid history through the dimensions of war, state administration, architecture, literature, and faith, and features contributions from 37 different researchers. In his speech, Şeker emphasized that throughout history, the Ottoman and Timurid civilizations played a shared role in the construction of civilization, going beyond mere competition, and noted that the two traditions produced structures that mutually enriched one another in the

fields of science, architecture, and governance.

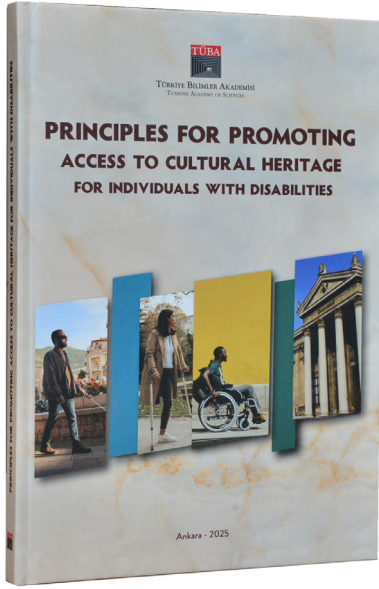
Referring to the present day, Şeker emphasized the need to address information alongside ethical values in the age of digitalization and artificial intelligence, stating, “Knowledge is a treasure entrusted to all of humanity. Technological progress gains meaning only within an ethical framework.”

The conference was attended by over 300 scientists, experts, university presidents, representatives of international organizations, as well as representatives from museums, libraries, and universities from Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and North America. International participants were introduced to the new exhibition spaces at the Uzbekistan Center for Islamic Civilization; works from the Timurid period returned to Uzbekistan and materials newly acquired by the scientific community were presented.

The program also included a visit to the renovated Amir Timur Museum; exhibitions focusing on themes such as manuscripts, book culture, the legacy of the Qur’an, numismatic works, Amir Timur’s place in European historiography, and folk arts were opened. In the evening, a screening of the historical documentary film “Amir Timur and Donna Maria” was held.

Thematic sessions were held on topics including Timurid-period architecture and archaeology, manuscript works and book culture, the Qur’anic tradition, the historiography of Amir Timur, science and education, art and miniatures, East-West interactions, and the preservation and digitization of the Timurid heritage. As part of the cultural program, a light and music show highlighting Uzbekistan’s historical and cultural heritage was staged.

A Comprehensive Guide to Cultural Heritage



TÜBA has published a work titled “Principles for Promoting Access to Cultural Heritage for Individuals with Disabilities – Easy-to-Read Book,” which stands out for its content focused on inclusivity in access to cultural heritage.

Prepared under the TÜBA-coordinated Erasmus+ INCLUSION project, supported by the Turkish National Agency, the publication serves as a scientific and practical guide aimed at facilitating access to cultural heritage for individuals with disabilities—a product of both national and international collaboration. Aiming to enhance inclusivity in cultural heritage fields, the study seeks to contribute to Türkiye’s institutional capacity in this area by combining scientific knowledge with practical application.

Inclusive Access is Addressed as a Right

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasizes in the book’s foreword that cultural heritage is not merely a reflection of the past but also the identity and shared memory of societies. Prof. Dr. Şeker stated that equal access to this heritage goes beyond being a technical issue; it is directly a matter of human rights and social participation. In this context, he highlighted that accessibility must be approached as a multi-layered process encompassing physical, sensory, cognitive, and communication dimensions.

Şeker noted that the work was prepared based on scientific research, international standards, and principles of inclusive design, and expressed that the book will serve as both an academic resource and a strategic guide for policymakers, educators, and cultural institution managers.

A Focus on Holistic Access from the Book’s Editors

In the foreword, the book’s editor’s note that while millions of people worldwide wish to visit cultural heritage sites, individuals with special needs are often deprived of this experience due to the lack of sufficient accessibility in existing structures. They state that the book’s primary aim is to make access to cultural heritage more inclusive. The editor’s

note that the book offers a holistic approach to accessibility covering pre-visit, during-visit, and post-visit phases; they also highlight that it includes recommendations spanning a broad spectrum, from communication to physical arrangements, and from sensory needs to individual support mechanisms.

The book is aimed at a broad audience, including managers and experts working in cultural heritage fields, civil society organizations, university students, and professionals working with individuals with special needs.

The book addresses various disability groups in detail, including hearing loss, visual impairment, intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, and physical disabilities. While explaining the characteristics of individuals within each group, it offers concrete recommendations for enhancing accessibility in cultural heritage sites. The book also emphasizes that accessibility is not limited to spatial arrangements alone; it requires a transformation encompassing all aspects of the visitor experience, including communication language, digital content, and guidance services. Prepared in an “easy-to-read” format, the work aims to reach a broader user base by presenting information in a simple and understandable language.

Prof. Dr. Victor J. Dzau: “The Climate Crisis Is Also a Health Crisis”

 Interview: Dr. Zeynep Aysan Şahintaş, Asiye Komut

“Climate change is not only an environmental threat but also a global public health threat. The solution lies in resilient health systems, climate justice, and international cooperation.”

Prof. Dr. Victor J. Dzau, a member of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine and Founding Chair of the Global Coalition of Medical Academies on Climate and Health, Dzau, in an exclusive interview with TÜBA, assessed the impacts of the climate crisis on health, the future of health systems, the relationship between climate justice and health equity, the role of science academies in global climate diplomacy, and his expectations for COP31. Prof. Dr. Dzau emphasized that building climate-resilient and low-carbon health systems is a strategic imperative not only for the future of the health sector but for the future of society as a whole.



Climate change is now increasingly recognized not only as an environmental issue, but as a direct public health crisis. In your view, how will healthcare systems need to transform over the next decade in response to extreme heat, air pollution, climate-related disasters, and emerging infectious diseases?

Indeed, in addition to environmental and economic impacts, climate change threatens to exacerbate chronic disease, increases the spread of infectious pathogens, and jeopardizes mental health; it serves as a true threat multiplier to health care systems across local and global scales, posing significant public health risks for populations all over the world (Lancet). By 2050 alone, current estimates warn of 15.5 million deaths and 12.5 trillion USD in economic losses unless global action is taken (World Bank). A public health emergency of this magnitude will require the health

care system to transform rapidly and strategically to ensure it can deliver continuous quality care in the face of worsening climate disasters and daily living conditions. First, the health care system must strengthen its resilience to climate threats. Investing in coordinated emergency response plans, preparing the supply chain for disasters, and improving early warning and surveillance systems will ensure the sector is equipped to provide health care services and resources when populations need them most (BHAP). Second, the sector must implement climate adaptation measures to ensure health systems can provide high value services as the environment and health risks evolve. These measures include climate-informed care interventions, context-specific consensus of priority climate risks and diseases, and climate and health education for health care professionals (BHAP). Finally, as a significant emitter of carbon emissions, the health care sector must decarbonize,

particularly in the supply chain, and incentivize sustainable innovation and accountability in emissions reporting to mitigate the climate threats that are already worsening health outcomes for populations globally and locally (Call to Action).

Countries today are facing increasingly interconnected crises, such as heatwaves, wildfires, pandemics, earthquakes, migration, and water stress. How should health systems prepare for these “compound” or multi-hazard risks in the age of climate change?

As emergency response anchors, health systems must invest in preparedness to ensure care continuity and accessibility amidst increasing and intensifying compound risks including climate threats. The Belém Health Action Plan, released at COP30 and endorsed by the Global Coalition of Academies of Medicine on Climate and



Health, offers actionable strategies—such as coordinating emergency response plans, investing in operational resilience, preparing the supply chain for disasters, and building context-specific early warning and monitoring systems—through which health systems can prepare for and respond to multi-hazard climate risks.

The health impacts of climate change disproportionately affect low-income countries and vulnerable communities, strengthening calls for “climate justice.” What responsibilities should global health institutions and scientific academies assume in reducing these inequalities?

Global health institutions and scientific academies operate to safeguard health for everyone, everywhere. Climate change exacerbates health inequities and inequalities, posing significant health, environmental, and economic risks for low-income countries and vulnerable communities (People in a changing climate). High- and upper-middle income countries, despite being home to less than half of the world’s population, emit more than 80% of world’s CO₂ (Our World in Data). Global health institutions therefore have an imperative to center health equity within policy design and implementation to ensure all populations have access to continuous quality care and resilient health infrastructure no matter their context. Moreover, engaging communities most directly affected by climate change in participatory processes yields

high impact, as those closest to the impacts are best positioned to design and implement effective, sustainable solutions (People in a changing climate, World Bank Best Buys). Climate change may be global in scale, but the impacts and solutions are context-specific, and we must invest accordingly.

As COP31 approaches, climate justice and health equity are becoming increasingly interconnected. Do you think the global climate agenda is doing enough to protect the most vulnerable populations from the health impacts of climate change? What concrete steps should governments, academies, and international institutions prioritize in Antalya?

It is well within global health institutions and academies of medicine and sciences’ purviews to protect the most vulnerable populations from the health impacts of climate change and there is much more the global climate agenda could be doing. We know that climate justice and health equity are interconnected and must play an important role in COP31 and beyond. High- and upper-middle income countries, despite being home to less than half of the world’s population, emit more than 80% of world’s CO₂ (Our World in Data). As for the consequences of these increased emissions, we see that it is the lower income countries that suffer from major negative impact-illnesses, malnutrition, climate refugees, and so on. Any major global climate agenda must have justice and equity as key

areas of focus and meaningful action including providing resources, finances, and decarbonization commitments. The good news is that we have some great tools to take these areas on and continue building from. For example, the Belém Health Action Plan offers concrete steps through which governments, academies, and international institutions can operationalize health equity. These strategies include co-designing solutions with communities and populations most affected by the health impacts of climate change, encouraging participatory governance during solution design and implementation, and creating accessible funding for local health initiatives. The US National Academy of Medicine (NAM) is already advancing this type of work, with promising outcomes, through its Climate Communities Network – a model that is replicable by any willing organization or governing body. There is so much work that needs to be done in this space, and we have some great tools to take it on.

The Global Coalition of Academies of Medicine on Climate and Health aims to bridge scientific knowledge and policymaking in the field of climate and health. Despite major differences in national capacities, do you believe the Coalition can help establish a shared global framework or common standards for climate-resilient health systems?

As climate change is a global phenomenon, it is only through global coordination and partnerships, such as the Global Coalition, that we can truly build climate-resilient health systems. Despite differences in national capacities, all academies of medicine and academies of science with medical divisions are trusted institutions with transdisciplinary credibility and global reach. Therefore, they will be key actors in coordinating a global health-driven response to climate change. By convening cross-sector experts, aligning agendas and priorities, catalyzing innovation, collaborating on groundbreaking research, educating

professionals and the public, and communicating the importance of building health system resilience, the Global Coalition can bridge research, education, clinical experience, and policy to develop an impactful global framework for resilient health systems. (Lancet Article)

Scientific cooperation increasingly plays a diplomatic role in addressing global crises. Do you see academies of medicine and science as new actors in climate diplomacy? How can scientific institutions contribute to international trust and cooperation in an increasingly fragmented world?

Academies of medicine and science are trusted and science-based organizations. As credible voices within medicine and science, academies can translate scientific evidence and community expertise into policies and practices that promote health and wellbeing. By prioritizing accessible communication, participatory governance, and co-designed solutions, academies can restore trust in public institutions and encourage cooperation across geographical borders and governance levels.

The healthcare sector itself is also a significant source of carbon emissions. While managing the health impacts of climate change, is it realistically possible for healthcare systems to become carbon neutral? In your opinion, what is the single most critical step needed to accelerate this transition?

The health care sector is indeed a significant source of carbon emissions. The U.S. health care sector emits 8.5% of all emissions in the U.S. and 25% of global health care emissions (Call to Action). Globally, the health sector is responsible for 5% of total global emissions (WHO) If the health sector were its own country, it would rank as the fifth-largest emitter in the world (HCWH). These outsized contributions are alarming and, without action, will continue to destabilize health

care systems and health progress in the U.S. and across the globe. I and numerous others believe achieving a carbon neutral health care system is possible and an imperative, but it will require expedient, committed and coordinated action. The NAM is leading the charge with its Action Collaborative on Achieving a Climate Resilient and Sustainable Health Sector. This public-private partnership includes over 80 organizations from government, pharmaceutical and supply chain organizations, hospitals and health systems, universities and academic medical centers, individual climate and health experts, and more. The NAM is working with these partners to reduce health care emissions, standardize reporting metrics, embed climate and health education, and build models of accountability and transparency, addressing the sector's environmental impact while at the same time strengthening its resilience and sustainability. As we are learning from the Collaborative, the most critical step to accelerate the transition is to coordinate collective actions across multiple sectors that impact climate and health such as healthcare delivery, supply chain, manufacturing, etc. Absent cross-sectoral coordination, the health care system will continue to operate in silos, delaying the action that we need to take now to mitigate the compounding threats of climate change and, ultimately, causing more harm to our populations.

COP31 is expected to become an important milestone in global climate diplomacy. Do you think health issues can finally move to the center of climate negotiations at COP31? What concrete health-related outcomes would you like to see emerge from the summit?

Health is at the core of human existence. It is essential for human wellbeing and prosperity. Therefore, it is imperative to center health in climate negotiations at COP31. Climate change will cause millions of excess mortalities and morbidities,

not only worsening population health but also driving up health care costs, reducing economic productivity, and exacerbating the mental health crisis (Health effects of climate change, Quantifying). COP28's Health Day and the release of the BHAP at COP30 have paved the way for health to take center stage, particularly through an action-oriented lens, at COP31. From this summit, I would like to see several concrete health-related outcomes. First, COP31 should center health in climate negotiations. Secondly, this conference has the potential to serve as the setting for global leaders to commit to creating an actionable roadmap for climate-resilient, low-carbon health infrastructure that can withstand upcoming climate shocks and disruptions. Such roadmaps should be developed and implemented across global, regional, national, and local levels to ensure coordinated a context-specific action. They must leverage emerging technologies and capabilities, including artificial intelligence and digital health solutions, to support forecasting, evidence-based decision making, and patients' wellbeing. Lastly, agreements must be developed and executed via international cooperation.. Likewise, knowledge-sharing is critical for equitable, adaptive health systems. There is so much groundbreaking work and leadership that has already been developed which is ready to be adopted.

This is by no means an exhaustive list, but the 3 concrete health related outcomes are: 1. embedding health as a core priority across climate negotiations; 2. committing to actionable roadmaps for climate-resilient, low-carbon health systems and infrastructure; and 3. strengthening international cooperation and knowledge-sharing to accelerate equitable implementation. COP31 serves as such a special opportunity to capitalize on the momentum of the last few years and commit to action that will lead to the prioritization of the health and wellbeing of everyone, everywhere.

President Şeker Attended UNESCO's Meeting on Freedom and Safety in Science

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker attended the "Policy Dialogue on the Freedom and Safety of Scientists" meeting organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, the capital of France. The meeting, held at UNESCO Headquarters, was also attended by TÜBA Full Member Prof. Dr. İlkey Erdoğan Orhan, a member of the All European Academies (ALLEA) Working Group on the Integration of Research Safety and Academic Freedom.

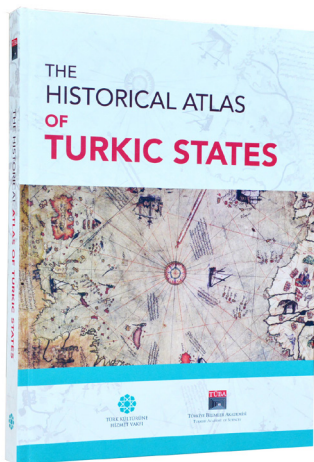
Building on the outcomes of the Policy Dialogue held online in October 2023, the event brought together high-level representatives from member states, leading experts, and members of the global scientific community to address the growing challenges affecting the freedom, security, and integrity of scientific research. Concrete and actionable measures were identified to develop national frameworks and enhance international cooperation aimed at strengthening scientific freedom and supporting the protection



of researchers. Participants heard testimonies from scientists and experts regarding current risks and threats; effective policy approaches and best practices were examined. Progress made, ongoing challenges, and priority action plans and areas for the future were discussed based on findings from member states' reporting processes.

The program, which began with the launch of UNESCO's new "Assessment Tool for Academic Freedom and the Safety of Researchers"—developed to help Member States evaluate their current policies, identify gaps, and strengthen their national systems—

was opened by Abou Amani, Director of UNESCO's Division of Water Sciences. Following the first panel, which addressed challenges related to supporting and protecting scientific freedom, the afternoon featured four sessions: "Policy Dialogue: Understanding the Challenges, Realities Faced by Today's Scientists, Global Trends and Outlook, and In-Depth Analysis: Current Challenges." On the second day of the event, discussions focused on establishing national frameworks for freedom in science and identifying areas for cooperation among member states.

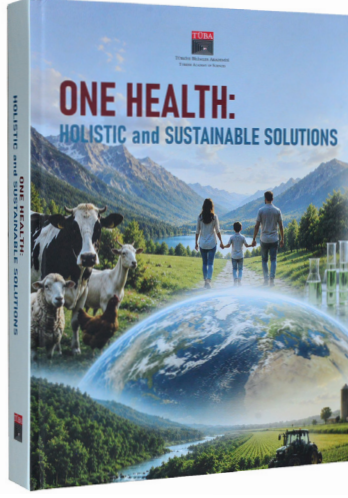


The Historical Atlas of Turkic States

One of the most distinctive features that sets Turkish history apart from other nations is the simultaneous existence of multiple Turkish states in different regions of the world. Each of these states, with their unique characteristics, made various contributions to world history. As they spread across the world, the Turks achieved success not only in the political sphere but also in many different areas of life, leaving an important legacy in various fields with their administrative approaches and cultures.

The work stands out for its scope and content, which covers Turkish history in detail and includes maps of all Turkish states established throughout history for the first time. Completely original and featuring some maps drawn for the first time, the work is dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye.

Two Comprehensive Works on the One Health Approach from TÜBA



TÜBA has published two important works that comprehensively address the One Health approach, which has gained increasing importance on a global scale in recent years. Published as part of the TÜBA Science and Thought Series, “One Health: Holistic and Sustainable Solutions” present an interdisciplinary perspective that views human, animal, and environmental health not as separate entities, but as inseparable components of the same ecosystem.

President Şeker: “Science-policy collaboration must be strengthened”

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, who authored the book’s foreword, noted that issues in the fields of health, the environment, and food can no longer be evaluated separately, emphasizing that climate change, loss of biodiversity, environmental pollution, and antimicrobial resistance have become global risk areas affecting humanity’s shared future.

Prof. Dr. Şeker emphasized that approaches treating human health as independent of nature are unsustainable, highlighting that strengthening the science-policy interface, developing inter-institutional collaborations, and ensuring active public participation are of great importance for establishing resilient health and food systems. Noting that these works will fill an important gap in understanding, disseminating, and

implementing the One Health approach in Türkiye, President Şeker expressed his belief that these studies will serve as fundamental resources for many years to come.

Contributing to scientific literature and policy-making

Prepared in both Turkish and English, the two works aim to transfer the scientific knowledge developed in Türkiye to the international literature while also contributing to the integration of the One Health approach into national policies. Serving as a concrete example of interdisciplinary scientific production, these publications address human, animal, and environmental health from a shared future perspective, thereby establishing a scientific framework for building more resilient societies.

Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker, along with TÜBA Full Members and Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Aydın, Chair of the TÜBA Environment, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Working Group; Prof. Dr. Kazım Şahin, Chair of the TÜBA Food and Nutrition Working Group; and Prof. Dr. Sezai Erciqli, a member of the TÜBA -Environment, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Working Group, feature 26 scientific chapters contributed by more than 30 experts in their respective fields. Spanning approximately 1,300 pages, these two studies serve as comprehensive reference resources

designed to guide not only academic circles but also decision-makers, public institutions, and practitioners.

Why is the One Health approach important?

Global developments in recent years—such as the COVID-19 pandemic, disasters caused by climate change, loss of biodiversity, food security issues, and antimicrobial resistance—have demonstrated that addressing health issues solely from a medical perspective is insufficient. Prepared in response to this need, these works evaluate human health in light of scientific data showing that it cannot be considered independently of the environment, agriculture, livestock, and ecosystems.

The books cover a broad range of topics, from science diplomacy to zoonotic diseases, from food safety to environmental pollutants, and from water and soil management to AI-supported environmental monitoring systems; they present not only the causes of these problems but also potential solutions and actionable policy recommendations through an interdisciplinary lens.

A Joint Scientific Effort by Two Working Groups

The volumes were prepared as the result of a joint effort by TÜBA’s Environment, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Working Group and the Food and Nutrition Working Group. In the foreword, the editors emphasize that climate change, environmental pollution, loss of biodiversity, and vulnerabilities in food systems constitute multidimensional crises rooted in common causes; therefore, a solution can only be achieved through interdisciplinary and holistic approaches. The primary objective of the study is stated as not merely explaining the One Health approach at a conceptual level, but rather to present a scientific reference source supported by practical and sustainable solution proposals.

President Şeker Attended the KOINON Opening Symposium in Athens



Hosted by the Athens Academy, the Opening Symposium organized by the International Community of Academies (KOINON) brought leading representatives of academies and scientists from around the world together.

The symposium, which symbolized the official launch of KOINON's activities and aimed to lay the foundations for a new international institution based on intellectual cooperation, was held at the Neoclassical Building of the Academy of Athens. The thematic framework of the symposium spanned a broad interdisciplinary range, covering the natural sciences, theoretical sciences, social and human sciences, and the arts and literature. Over the course of two days, a total of seven international sessions were held on a wide range of topics, including artificial intelligence, human health and intelligence, economics and social transformation, archaeology and history, climate change, the preservation of cultural heritage, and quantum science. The sessions, at-

tended by world-renowned scientists in their fields, addressed interdisciplinary approaches and opportunities for inter-academic cooperation.

Following speeches by Prof. Dr. Christos Zerefos, Chairman of the KOINON Board of Directors, and Prof. Dr. Nikiforos Diamantouros, President of the Academy of Athens, at the symposium's opening session, Greece's former President Prof. Dr. Prokopios Pavlopoulos delivered the opening

lecture titled "Myth and Truth in the Age of Artificial Intelligence."

In the program, which was attended by internationally renowned scientists and academics from the world's leading academies, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasized the importance of TÜBA's representation on the international scientific platform and stated that it contributes to strengthening Türkiye's academic accumulation and visibility in the field of science diplomacy. Turkish Young Academy President Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel Doğrul also attended the symposium. Columbia University TÜBA Honorary Member Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Sachs gave a speech titled "Sustainability in the Anthropocene: UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network." President Şeker presented Prof. Dr. Christos Zerefos with a copy of the book "Science Diplomacy for Global Challenges," recently published by TÜBA as part of its Science and Thought Series.



Turkish Young Academy Held Its First Executive Board Meeting

TURKISH YOUNG ACADEMY OF SCIENCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Turkish Young Academy, which is founded on the TÜBA-Outstanding Young Scientist Awards Program (TÜBA-GEBİP) that has supported a total of 697 scientists since 2001, held its first Executive Board meeting at the TÜBA headquarters in Ankara.

The Young Academy, whose administrative and academic activities are planned under the responsibility of the Academy Presidency, formed its Executive Board to serve for a three-year term in line with the views of the TÜBA

Council members. At its first meeting, the Executive Board of the Young Academy also met with members of the TÜBA Academy Council.

In a statement made on behalf of the Executive Board, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel emphasized the importance of enabling young researchers to continue their scientific production within a more institutional structure with strong international representation, stating that the "Turkish Young Academy will continue its efforts to contribute to

the production of scientific thought by young scientists, to represent Türkiye on national and international platforms through Science Diplomacy, and to support science policies."

Drawing attention to the significance of the support provided from the very beginning for the establishment process and the shaping of the institutional structure of the Young Academy, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel conveyed his thanks to Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker for his continuous and unwavering support toward establishing a structure compatible with peer young academies worldwide and for strengthening international scientific cooperation.

The first step regarding the Turkish Young Academy was taken at the meeting of the TÜBA Academy Council held on 30 November 2019. With the amendment made on 13 November 2021 to Presidential Decree No. 4 dated 15 July 2018 and numbered 30479, the Turkish Young Academy was officially established.

President Şeker Visits Italian Ambassador Manzo

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker visited Giuseppe Manzo, the Italian Ambassador to Ankara, at his office. During the meeting, they discussed ways to further develop scientific, academic, and cultural cooperation between Türkiye and Italy.

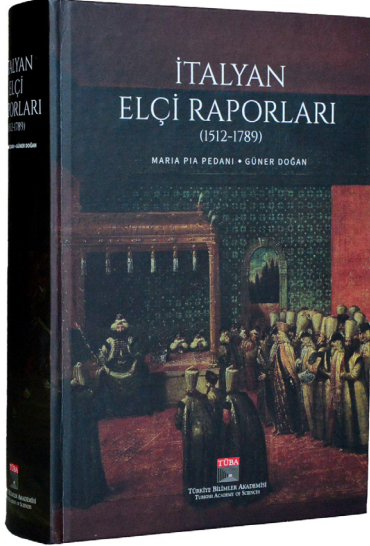
They discussed potential joint initiatives in the field of science diplomacy and opportunities for academic collaboration between the two countries. Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker noted that scientific cooperation could further strengthen the relations between Türkiye and Italy, which share deep-rooted historical and cultural ties.



As part of the visit, Prof. Dr. Şeker presented Ambassador Giuseppe Manzo with the book "Italian Ambassador Reports (1512-1789)," published by TÜBA,

which contains documents on diplomatic and cultural interactions between the two countries and sheds light on the history of Ottoman-Italian relations.

“Reports by the Italian Ambassador” Eyewitness Accounts of Ottoman-Venetian Relations



Published by TÜBA, “Italian Ambassadorial Reports (1512-1789)” – compiled by Prof. Dr. Maria Pia Pedani and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Güner Doğan and translated from Italian into Turkish by Dr. Volkan Dökmeci – has been introduced to the academic world as a source of great importance for research on Ottoman history. The linguistic editing of the work was undertaken by Prof. Dr. Nevin Özkan, a faculty member of the Department of Italian Language and Literature at Ankara University.

The book contains detailed reports submitted by 26 Venetian ambassadors who served in Ottoman Istanbul to their respective governments at the end of their approximately three-year terms. Recognized as among the most important documents in the history of diplomacy, these reports provide firsthand accounts of the political, military, social, and cultural structure of the era. As a work translated into Turkish, it serves as a pioneering contribution not only to the history of Ottoman diplomacy but also to source publication efforts in Türkiye.

A New Gateway for Research on Turkish History

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Güner Doğan emphasized that ambassadorial reports are unique sources, stating, “We cannot compare these texts, written by ambassadors—who are key actors in diplomacy—to any other type of document. These documents are, in every sense, first-hand sources.”

Highlighting that the publication of source texts is one of the most critical issues in Turkish historical research, Doğan noted that while significant importance has been placed on the publication of Turkish-language sources since the early years of the Republic, efforts regarding the publication of documents in foreign languages are still in their initial stages.

A Unique Resource for Many Disciplines

The work provides important data not only to historians but also to scholars working in many different fields, such as art history, archaeology, urban architecture, music, military history, politics, and diplomacy. The reports, which contain observations on Ottoman Istanbul, offer fascinating details across a broad spectrum, ranging from daily life to state administration.

Noting that there are numerous documents related to Turkish history in Western archives, particularly in Italian archives and libraries, Doğan pointed out that only a limited portion of these documents has been published to date. Doğan stated that they have been conducting research in various archives and libraries in Italy for approximately 16 years, adding that translating certain documents into Turkish has now become a necessity.

In this context, reports by Venetian diplomats who served as “bailo” or ambassadors in Istanbul from the early periods onward have been compiled from various archives and libraries, translated into Turkish, and prepared for publication.

Four Years of Meticulous Research

Providing information on the preparatory phase of the study, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Güner Doğan noted that he had conducted research for many years in Venice, as well as in Bologna, Genoa, and Naples. He stated that, with scholarships from Türkiye and Italy, he had focused particularly on the State Archives of Venice, and noted that he had most recently continued his work at the State Archives of Naples as part of a project supported by TÜBİTAK.

He stated that he was greatly influenced by the work of Prof. Dr. Maria Pia Pedani, an expert on Ottoman-Venetian relations and one of his advisors during his doctoral studies at Ca' Foscari University. Doğan noted that Pedani frequently referred to the reports of Venetian ambassadors in her research and emphasized that the work they translated is one of the late historian's most significant contributions. Doğan explained that he conducted his postdoctoral research at the Sorbonne University under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Lucien Bély with a scholarship from the French Government. Emphasizing the extraordinary importance of Italian archives for Turkish history, he stated, “Among these crucial documents, the ambassadorial reports we have translated are of the utmost importance.”

SAFEGUARDING SCIENTISTS: A CONDITION FOR SCIENCE TO SERVE SOCIETY

 By Robbert Dijkgraaf & Johannes M. Waldmueller
International Science Council



We live in a moment of striking paradox. Science has never mattered more to governments and citizens, yet scientists have rarely faced greater pressure on their freedom and safety. The same visibility that brings researchers into decisions on pandemic response, climate adaptation and AI governance has also made them targets.

The evidence is sobering. From mid-2024 to mid-2025, 395 attacks on higher-education communities were documented across 49 countries (Scholars at Risk, 2025). Over the decade leading to 2025, academic freedom declined in fifty countries and improved in only nine. The trend is visible across every world region, and some of the sharpest declines have occurred within established democracies: Argentina's Academic Freedom Index score fell from 0.97 to 0.69 in a single year; the United States' institutional-autonomy score dropped from 2.4 to 1.7 on a four-point scale over the same period (Kinzelbach et al., 2025, 2026). Behind these numbers are individual lives: careers derailed, laboratories destroyed, research never conducted.

These patterns matter because attacks on scientists rarely occur in isolation. They travel with pressure on journalists, judges and civil-society organisations – all independent checks on power, restricted for the same reason. Declines in academic freedom are reliable early-warning indicators of broader democratic backsliding, which is why protecting scientists deserves to sit alongside press freedom and judicial independence as a core commitment of open societies.

Three intertwined forces explain why risks are more acute now. The first is geopolitical. Armed conflict has made research infrastructure an explicit target: Gaza's higher-education system is largely destroyed; in Ukraine, nearly 30 percent of research institutions have suffered physical damage and over half of researchers report being unable to work at their previous level (Lutsenko et al., 2025). Beyond conflict zones, governments increasingly direct research agendas for ideological ends, visa barriers tighten, and openness – long the operating principle of science – is treated as a vulnerability rather than a strength.

The second force is technological. Platform governance changes – including the disbanding of X's Trust and Safety Council and Meta's withdrawal from third-party fact-checking – have worsened the online environment for scientists (Global Witness, 2025). Generative AI compounds this: fabricated citations and quotations attributed to real researchers are already circulating, forcing scientists to disown work they never produced before audiences with no easy means of verification.

The third force is science's own success. As researchers are called on to advise on critical issues such as pandemics, climate and AI, visibility rises – and so does vulnerability. More than two-thirds of researchers who engaged publicly during COVID-19 reported negative consequences including threats of violence (Nogrady, 2021). Among climate scientists, 39 percent had experienced online abuse, rising to 73 percent among those appearing in the media monthly; a quarter said it made them less likely to engage publicly (Global Witness, 2023). When experts withdraw from public discourse, misinformation fills the gap, which, in turn, erodes trust further and makes the next round of attacks cheaper still.

The burden falls unequally. One in two women scientists across 117 countries report experiencing sexual harassment at work, and women face such abuse at roughly four times the rate of men (Ipsos and Fondation L'Oréal, 2023). In Afghanistan, successive decrees since 2021 have removed half the country's scientific workforce from the profession. Early-career researchers, scientists in the Global South, and those working on politically contested topics, e.g. climate, public health, food

industry harms, are all structurally more exposed.

The legal foundations for protection already exist. Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognise the right to benefit from science and the freedoms researchers need to pursue it. In 2020, the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for the first time spelled out the corresponding State obligations (CESCR, 2020). Sixty national reports under the UNESCO Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers confirm that most States already have broadly aligned legal frameworks

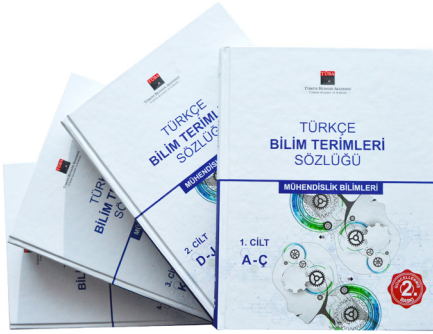
(UNESCO, 2025). The gap is between commitment and practice.

Closing that gap is within reach. National platforms such as WetenschapVeilig (SafeScience) in the Netherlands that pool legal, psychological and security support through a single contact point, show the model works and can be replicated. International support for displaced or threatened scientists, building on initiatives such as Scholars at Risk and the Scholar Rescue network, needs to become more systematic and better funded, as journalist-protection networks have over recent decades. Science-policy interfaces should be designed to shield independent advice from political pressure. We

also need a shared global evidence base, linking bottom-up incident-level monitoring with intergovernmental UNESCO reporting. These data must be disaggregated by gender, discipline, career stage and region, so that the costs in lost talent, research and public trust become visible and accountable.

Science as a global common needs to be maintained for the benefit of all. Protecting those who sustain it is not a favour to scientists. It is a condition for society's capacity to meet its greatest challenges: an obligation most states have already accepted in international law, and that now asks to be honoured in practice.

All Subfields of Engineering Come Together in One Dictionary



TÜBA has published the expanded and updated 2nd edition of Engineering Sciences as a result of its efforts to ensure consistency in Turkish terminology in engineering disciplines and enrich the language of science. Comprising a total of four volumes, the work covers modern engineering concepts within the scope of TÜBA's long-standing "Turkish Scientific Terminology Dictionary" project and provides English equivalents for the terms, creating a resource that meets international standards.

The most comprehensive reference source in its field

Prepared under the leadership of TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker,

edited by Prof. Dr. İzzet Öztürk and his assistant Senior Engineer Aslı Özabalı Sabuncugil, the work was designed to prevent the confusion of terms arising from the influence of foreign languages in engineering sciences and to strengthen Turkish as a language of science. First published in 2020, the work was updated in 2025, taking into account developing technology and changing engineering needs. During the preparation process, experts, academics, and engineers from a wide range of disciplines, from information technology to construction, food engineering to aviation, contributed to the work. Unlike the first edition, all English equivalents were reviewed and revised. To prevent confusion, the different meanings of a term in various engineering fields, such as chemistry, agriculture, and construction, were defined separately. Covering a wide range of topics from software architecture to materials science, the work includes current technological concepts as well as Turkish equivalents of traditional engineering terms and their historical usage.

Stating that the work continues to be the most comprehensive reference source in its field in terms of bringing together all sub-branches of engineering in Türkiye under a single terminological umbrella, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker said that dynamic developments in the field of engineering and the intense interest shown in the first edition made it necessary to update the work. President Şeker said: "In the second edition, the list of terms has been revised, non-technical words have been removed, existing definitions have been refined, and foreign language equivalents consistent with international literature have been systematically added. Volume 4, covering the letters R-Z, consists of 648 pages and contains thousands of technical terms with detailed explanations."

The full text and digital version of the dictionary are available at <http://terim.tuba.gov.tr/>.

The iNCLUSION Project Transformed Cultural Heritage Through Inclusive Narratives



The iNCLUSION Project (“Upskilling Higher Education Students to Create Transformative Cultural Experiences for Audiences with Disabilities”), coordinated by Türkiye Bilimler Akademisi and supported under the Türkiye National Agency Erasmus+ KA220-HED Programme, is a social innovation initiative that reconsiders, at the European scale, the ways in which cultural heritage is designed, experienced, and transmitted. The project has focused on a long-standing and significant need in the field of cultural heritage by fostering inclusive, accessible, and emotionally engaging cultural narratives for individuals with special needs. Shaped through the contributions of Anadolu University, the Balkan Museum Network, SEALS Foundation, Artifactory, and SOBE Foundation, this collaborative network has provided a strong academic and practice-oriented foundation for the project.

The kick-off meeting of the project was held on 24-25 June 2024 at TÜBA’s headquarters in Ankara, followed by sessions hosted by Anadolu University. Academic institutions and stakeholders from Türkiye and across Europe convened to establish a comprehensive roadmap.

Cultural heritage is not merely a historical asset to be preserved; it is a social domain that gains meaning through participation, sharing, and

experience. However, many individuals with special needs today encounter physical, digital, and narrative barriers across a wide spectrum, ranging from museums and archaeological sites to exhibitions and cultural tourism activities. The iNCLUSION Project has sought to address this challenge by equipping higher education students with competencies in inclusive storytelling, universal design principles, digital narrative production, and accessibility-oriented cultural experience design, thereby contributing to making cultural heritage meaningful and accessible for all. Within the project, accessibility has not been treated as a supplementary technical adjustment; rather, it has been positioned as a core design principle at the center of the innovation process.

International meetings and training programmes conducted within this framework have concretized the

project’s field impact. During the training programme hosted by the Balkan Museum Network in Sarajevo on 22-25 October 2024, experts and participants jointly explored methods to enhance access to cultural heritage for individuals with special needs; inclusive practice examples were developed through experience sharing and workshops.

At the meetings and training sessions held in Amsterdam on 3-7 April 2025 under the hosting of the SEALS Foundation, digital storytelling methods tailored to different disability groups were examined. Practical applications were carried out to redesign selected cultural heritage elements using accessibility tools such as subtitles, audio description, and visual supports. These efforts demonstrate that inclusive cultural experiences have been developed not only as a theoretical framework but also as an implementable model.

One of the significant milestones of the project was the International iNCLUSION Conference in the Cultural Heritage Sector, held on 10 January 2026 at Boğaziçi University. The conference addressed the accessibility of cultural heritage, inclusive policies, and digital storytelling at the international level, bringing together academics, policymakers, and sector representatives on a common platform.





More than 60 papers were presented and over 100 participants attended the event. In this respect, the iNCLUSION Project has concretely fulfilled its objective of contributing to the cultural heritage field not only through education and practice but also through policy and strategy development. A volume comprising the conference proceedings is currently in preparation.

One of the most innovative dimensions of the iNCLUSION Project is its approach to cultural heritage storytelling not merely as content production but as a process of inclusive experience design. A total of 40 cultural heritage stories developed within the project were selected to encompass tangible and intangible heritage elements, local traditions, rituals, craft practices, and narratives of social memory. Each story has been restructured by taking into account the cognitive, sensory, and perceptual needs of different disability groups. These stories have not been presented in a conventional textual format; instead, multiple layers of access have been created through subtitled and sign language-supported video narratives, audio-described versions, Easy-to-Read texts, visually supported simplified content, podcast formats, and digital e-book versions. Thus, cultural content has not been confined to a single mode of presentation; rather, a flexible multimedia infrastructure has been developed, enabling users to access content according to their individual needs and preferences.

Universal design principles and cognitive accessibility criteria have been systematically applied throughout

the design process of these stories. Short and clear sentence structures have been preferred; segmentation techniques supported by symbolic and explanatory visuals have been employed; flow schemes reducing cognitive load have been developed; and character-centered narrative structures strengthening emotional engagement have been adopted. Particularly for individuals with intellectual and neurodevelopmental differences, experiential and empathetic narration has been prioritized over complex historical exposition, aiming to present cultural heritage not only as information but also as an experience that can be felt. In certain digital stories, clickable information layers, alternative narrative pathways, audio-visual synchronization, and micro-learning modules have been integrated, transforming the user from a passive viewer into an active participant in the narrative. This approach demonstrates that cultural learning is not a linear transfer of knowledge but a multidimensional process of interaction and connection.

The stories developed within the project are not only technically

accessible but also emotionally inclusive. For instance, in the narration of a selected element of intangible cultural heritage, the perspective of the individual experiencing the ritual has been placed at the center alongside its historical background; visual rhythm elements have been enhanced for individuals with hearing impairments; spatial descriptions have been elaborated for individuals with visual impairments; and for individuals with cognitive differences, the storyline has been simplified to ensure a clear temporal flow. This method represents a narrative approach that abandons the assumption of a single “standard user” and recognizes diverse forms of experience as equally legitimate.

The multimedia content production process has also been structured as a student-centered learning model. Higher education students have been positioned not merely as content consumers but as active stakeholders in the process—as researchers, designers, and producers. Within this scope, they have conducted cultural heritage research, performed needs analyses for target disability groups, developed digital storytelling scenarios, produced video and audio content, collected feedback through pilot implementations, and revised their outputs accordingly. In this way, accessibility has been internalized not as a post hoc technical adjustment but as an ethical and pedagogical principle embedded from the outset of the design process.

The outputs of the project have extended beyond practical





implementation to contribute to policy and academic knowledge production. Comprehensive surveys conducted with museum professionals, cultural managers, and educators have been analyzed and compiled into an English-language volume, contributing to the international literature by identifying the current state and areas of need in accessible cultural

storytelling. Furthermore, the policy recommendations developed within the project include concrete proposals for integrating inclusive cultural design into higher education curricula, disseminating digital accessibility standards, and institutionalizing universal design principles within cultural organizations. In this regard, the iNCLUSION Project represents not

only a content-producing initiative but also a sustainable and implementable model for inclusive transformation in the cultural heritage field.

In conclusion, the iNCLUSION Project approaches participation in cultural heritage not as a technical issue of access but as a rights-based and ethical responsibility. Centered on empathy, participation, and multiple forms of experience, this approach demonstrates that cultural heritage can become an accessible, shareable, and meaningful public domain for all. Developed in alignment with the European accessibility agenda, digital transformation goals, and principles of social sustainability, this model offers an inclusive and transformative vision for the future of cultural heritage.

Employer Branding in the Age of Sustainability and Digital Transformation



TÜBA Full Member Prof. Dr. Halit Keskin and Prof. Dr. Emel Esen authored the book *Employer Branding in the Age of Sustainability and Digital Transformation*, drawing on their extensive academic expertise, project experience, and teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in the fields of employee experience and employer branding.

While closely monitoring current research during the preparatory phase, the theoretical framework

was examined in conjunction with field observations, and the study was systematically refined. Aimed at filling a significant academic gap in the field of employer branding in Türkiye, the work was published following approximately one year of research. *Employer Branding in the Age of Sustainability and Digital Transformation* stands out as one of the few academic studies prepared to this extent in the field to date. In particular, the examination of the effects of artificial intelligence applications on employer branding processes serves as a distinctive element that strongly links the work to current literature. The book examines employer branding within the framework of attracting and retaining employees; it explores employee experience, human resources practices grounded in positive psychology, and approaches to measuring employer branding through a holistic perspective. Theoretical explanations are supported by practical evaluations. The book highlights that Türkiye is a developing country in terms of employer branding

practices. By comparing these practices with those of companies in the world's happiest countries, it emphasizes the significant progress still needed, particularly in the areas of employee well-being and experience. In this context, the book underscores the need to move beyond traditional approaches that focus solely on economic expectations.

Prof. Dr. Halit Keskin stated that the primary motivation for the book was the lack of a comprehensive, up-to-date Turkish-language resource with academic depth in the field of employer branding. He noted that the work aims to provide concrete contributions not only to the academic world but also to the business world, and to bridge the gap between theory and practice.

Prof. Dr. Emel Esen noted that the content was developed by incorporating the perspectives of professionals from the business world and students, emphasizing that this approach has strengthened the book's practical orientation.

Artificial Intelligence as a Catalyst



TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker attended the meeting titled “Scientific Cooperation Among Academies of Sciences in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Region and Artificial Intelligence as a Catalyst for Reforms,” held in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. The declaration issued at the conclusion of the meeting was shared with the public.

The meeting, which marked the third gathering of the presidents of the national academies of sciences of BSEC member countries, aimed to strengthen regional scientific cooperation and assess the impact of artificial intelligence on science policies. The opening of the meeting was conducted by Prof. Dr. Evelina Slavcheva, President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; Asaf Hajiyevev, Secretary General of the BSEC Parliamentary Assembly; and Merve Safa Kavakcı, Deputy Secretary General of the BSEC. Dr. Abdülkadir Taşdelen, Advisor to the President of TÜBA, also attended the meeting.

“Science is the most powerful way to build trust and cooperation among nations”

Speaking at the meeting, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasized that scientific cooperation is one of the fundamental elements that strengthen dialogue and trust among countries. Prof. Dr. Şeker noted that artificial intelligence is not merely a technical field, stating that it is transforming nearly every stage of the research process. He stated that

data collection, analysis, modeling, and interdisciplinary knowledge integration have been reshaped by artificial intelligence.

Recalling that large and complex datasets have emerged in fields such as climate change, public health, energy transition, food security, and disaster management, Şeker noted that artificial intelligence makes it possible to analyze these data more quickly and effectively.

“Artificial intelligence can serve as a common platform for regional scientific collaboration”

President Şeker noted that the Black Sea basin is home to strong scientific institutions and shared research areas, and stated that artificial intelligence could provide a platform to deepen regional collaboration. Noting that machine learning and data analytics contribute across a wide range of fields—from climate and environmental research to health sciences, and from agriculture to disaster risk management—Şeker emphasized that the development of early warning systems, in particular, would play a critical role in reducing loss of life and property.

TÜBA President Şeker also offered some recommendations in his speech for institutionalizing regional cooperation. He emphasized the need to develop shared datasets, open science platforms, and standardized data infrastructure. Additionally, he noted the importance of establishing

a regional network for young scientists working in the field of artificial intelligence, as well as increasing academic mobility through summer schools and joint research programs. Şeker also stated that forming thematic working groups on artificial intelligence and science policies would strengthen regional capacity.

The Emphasis on “Responsible Artificial Intelligence”

In his speech, Şeker also addressed the risks of artificial intelligence, noting that data quality, access inequalities, and non-transparent algorithms could undermine scientific trust. Emphasizing the need to adopt a “responsible artificial intelligence” approach, Şeker stated that the principles of scientific integrity, transparency, accountability, privacy, and social benefit must serve as the foundation.

Reminding the audience that science academies provide scientific advisory services to governments through their independent structures, Şeker noted that academies play a critical role in developing evidence-based policies and strengthening interdisciplinary collaboration.

Şeker concluded his speech with the words, “The future of artificial intelligence will be shaped not only by algorithms but also by institutions, ethical values, education, and collaboration.” The meeting is expected to lay the groundwork for new partnerships and research programs that will strengthen scientific collaboration in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) region.

President Şeker and Assistant Professor Abdülkadir Taşdelen visited Prof. Dr. Evelina Slavcheva, President of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, and presented her with copies of the works recently published by TÜBA: Science Diplomacy, The Istanbul Museum of the History of Islamic Science and Technology, and Artificial Intelligence Law and Digitalization in Law.



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Joint Communiqué on The Results of The Third Meeting of The Presidents of Academies of Sciences of The BSEC Member States Sofia, 15 May 2026

Upon the kind invitation of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), the Third Meeting of the Presidents of the Academies of Sciences of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Member States was held in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 15 May 2026, under the topic “Artificial Intelligence as a catalyst for scientific cooperation in the BSEC Region”. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Academies of Sciences of the BSEC Member States, including *Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Türkiye, Ukraine*, representatives of Istanbul University, BSEC Permanent International Secretariat, the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace, and the PABSEC International Secretariat.

In a spirit of constructive dialogue, the participants exchanged views on strengthening collaboration in science and education to foster sustainable development and innovation across the wider Black Sea Region. The meeting reaffirmed the commitment to unlocking the scientific and educational potential of BSEC Member States through multilateral cooperation, guided by principles of mutual benefit, inclusivity, and shared prosperity.

The participants underscored the critical role of scientific collaboration in addressing global and regional challenges, including climate change, digital transformation, and socio-economic disparities. They emphasized the importance of joint initiatives to advance research, promote interdisciplinary studies, and enhance knowledge exchange. Key priorities included:

1. **Advancing scientific cooperation in the region:** more frequent meetings of the academies in the region for presenting activities in different scientific fields in order to identify priority topics for applying with project proposals under the Horizon Europe Framework Programme and other EU or international programmes.
2. **Enhancing bilateral cooperation:** promoting exchange of personnel, information and publications among representatives of the Academies of Sciences of the BSEC Member States and leading universities in the Region.

The meeting welcomed progress made since the First Meeting of the Presidents of Academies of Sciences on 14 February 2024 and the Second Meeting of the Presidents of Academies of Sciences on 27 June 2025, particularly in fostering dialogue and initiating cooperative frameworks. The participants expressed strong support for the objectives outlined in the BSEC “Economic Agenda: Towards a Sustainable Future of the Wider Black Sea Area,” adopted on 15 December 2023, and committed to aligning scientific and educational efforts with its vision.

The participants agreed to further explore the establishment of a permanent mechanism for coordination among BSEC Academies of Sciences, including the creation of a working group to oversee the implementation of joint projects and monitor progress.

Special appreciation was extended to the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for hosting the event and providing a platform for meaningful exchange. The participants recognized the importance of regular meetings to sustain momentum and deepen partnerships, expressing confidence that continued collaboration will elevate the Black Sea Region as a hub of scientific excellence and innovation.

It was decided to hold the Fourth Meeting of the Presidents of the Academies of Sciences of the BSEC Member States in the Republic of Moldova in 2027, with specific details to be finalized through consultations among the Member States.

The participants expressed their gratitude to the Republic of Bulgaria for its warm hospitality and reaffirmed their dedication to advancing science and education for the benefit of the Black Sea Region and beyond.

Social Sciences in Türkiye: Research Ecosystem, Trends, and Policy Recommendations



The comprehensive study titled “Social Sciences in Türkiye Research Ecosystem, Trends, and Policy Recommendations” published by TÜBA and prepared at the request of the Presidency’s Strategy and Budget Office (SBB), has been released to the public. Published as the 64th volume of the “Science and Thought Series,” the work examines the research ecosystem, trends, and policy recommendations in the social sciences in Türkiye from a holistic perspective.

The 392-page collective work evaluates the historical development, institutional structure, and current performance of the social sciences in Türkiye through both quantitative and qualitative analyses. While examining publication and citation performance from the 1980s to the present using bibliometric data, the book also provides a detailed analysis of universities’ positions in global rankings, the subject distribution of graduate theses, patterns of international collaboration, and fund-

ing mechanisms. The study does more than merely present the current landscape; it offers a comprehensive assessment of how research priorities are determined, where the focus lies, and which areas highlight structural issues.

Serving as a reference source for academics, graduate students, research centers, and policymakers in the social sciences, the book discusses Türkiye’s global visibility in the social sciences, the level of institutionalization of interdisciplinary studies, the adequacy of research infrastructure, and the impacts of performance evaluation systems. Additionally, scientific, financial, cultural, and bureaucratic challenges are analyzed, and solutions are proposed. The final section of the book presents concrete policy recommendations aimed at strengthening the social sciences ecosystem.

TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker emphasized that the social sciences are not merely an area of

academic production; rather, they constitute a strategic knowledge domain that informs decision-making processes across a wide range of fields, from public policies to urbanization, and from family structures to the world of work.

Prof. Dr. Şeker commented on the workshop process conducted with the Presidency of Strategy and Budget, stating: “Following the workshops conducted with the Presidency of Strategy and Budget on the performance and overall assessment of the social sciences in Türkiye, analyses regarding the main headings and evaluation topics that emerged were thoroughly discussed. We believe this study—which encompasses the historical position of the social sciences in Türkiye, current challenges, and their specific interpretations regarding various scientific disciplines—will make a significant contribution to the future development of the social sciences in our country. Following the workshop sessions, the Council compiled a list of recommendations. “We extend our gratitude to all the professors and colleagues who contributed their efforts, and especially to the Presidency of Strategy and Budget, for the sensitivity and importance they have shown toward this matter,” he said. He stated that the study would contribute to strengthening Türkiye’s institutional capacity in the field of social sciences and helping it achieve a more visible position at the international level.

Prof. Dr. Şahin Mustafayev: “The Scientific Legacy of the Turkic World Is Shaping Our Shared Future”

 Interview: Prof. Dr. Yasin Bulduklu

“The most promising development in recent years is that the idea of a shared scientific future in the Turkic world is now taking shape through more concrete institutions, programs, and projects.”

In recent years, scientific cooperation in the Turkic world has moved beyond cultural affinity to take on a more institutional, systematic, and results-oriented structure. The consensus reached on the Common Turkic Alphabet, the Union of National Academies of Sciences of the Turkic World, the ORHUN Academic Exchange Program, and various joint research initiatives are among the concrete indicators of this transformation. While studies in the fields of history, language, culture, and archaeology contribute to strengthening a shared memory, new research areas such as artificial intelligence, energy technologies, health sciences, and sustainable development are also becoming part of the common scientific agenda. In our interview with Prof. Dr. Şahin Mustafayev, President of the Turkic Academy, we discussed the trajectory of scientific integration in the Turkic world in recent years, prominent projects, and expectations for the future.



In your view, what have been the most significant developments in scientific cooperation within the Turkic world in recent years? How would you assess this period overall?

Recent years stand out as a period in which scientific cooperation in the Turkic world has gained institutional depth and a shared scientific horizon has become more distinct. Overall, numerous institutions in the Turkic world are making significant contributions to this process. Scientific cooperation in the Turkic world is today a multifaceted process that is expanding through the contributions of various institutions. Within this broader context, I would like to continue my remarks specifically regarding the

efforts of the Organization of Turkic States and the Turkish Academy. The institutional strengthening of the Organization of Turkic States has also given new momentum to cooperation in the fields of science, education, and culture.

Today, we observe that contacts between universities, science academies, research centers, and international organizations have become more intensive and regular. Joint projects, publishing activities, summer schools, programs for young researchers, and scientific conferences demonstrate that the idea of joint knowledge production in the Turkic world has now been brought to a more visible and actionable ground.

In our view, one of the most significant developments of recent years is the concrete progress made on certain fundamental issues that have long been on the agenda in the Turkic world. Foremost among these is the issue of the Common Turkic Alphabet. This matter, which has been debated since the 1926 Baku Turkology Congress, has now reached a new and more concrete stage. The consensus reached at the 2024 meeting in Baku on a proposal for a 34-letter Common Turkic Alphabet can be regarded as a historic development.

We view this step as significant not only from a linguistic perspective but also in terms of education, publishing, digital content production, and cultural

communication. A common alphabet could serve as a strategic foundation for strengthening scientific and cultural interaction among Turkic peoples.

Similarly, the textbooks on “Common Turkic History,” “Common Turkic Geography,” and “Common Turkic Literature” are also noteworthy works... At the same time, once the project to write “Common Turkish History” within an academic framework is completed, it will fill a significant gap. These projects are not merely activities aimed at preparing educational materials; they are also initiatives designed to strengthen the shared historical memory of the Turkic peoples and provide younger generations with a more holistic perspective on the Turkic world.

What concrete steps do you think have been taken over the past four years toward common scientific policies and academic integration in the Turkic world?

The past four years can be viewed as a period during which scientific cooperation in the Turkic world has been shifted to a more institutionalized, more organized, and more results-oriented foundation. During this process, we observe that important institutional mechanisms aimed at strengthening scientific integration have begun to take shape.

The “Union of National Science Academies of the Turkic World,” for which the Turkish Academy serves as the secretariat, is one of the prominent structures in this regard. This union facilitates regular contact among the science academies of member countries, the discussion of common research agendas, and the sharing of scientific expertise.

In the field of higher education, we can say that inter-university collaborations have expanded under the umbrella of TÜRKÜNİB. The ORHUN Academic Exchange Program also holds significant potential in this process. Although the program is not yet operating at the desired level, it can make a substantial



contribution to student and faculty mobility if properly supported.

Established in 2023 by the Turkish Academy, the “Union of Archaeological Research Institutes and Centers of the Turkic World” (ARICA) is one of the most significant initiatives of recent years. ARICA brings together archaeological institutions and experts from different countries on a common platform. This creates new opportunities for field research, expert meetings, and joint publication projects.

We view all these developments as an indication that scientific cooperation in the Turkic world is advancing not only on the basis of cultural affinity but also through shared research objectives and institutionalized mechanisms. This shows that scientific integration in the Turkic world is now developing through more concrete tools and more enduring structures.

What notable scientific studies or projects in the fields of history, language, culture, archaeology, and the social sciences have stood out in the Turkic world in recent years? How do these studies contribute to a shared sense of identity?

Strengthening a shared sense of identity in the Turkic world is made possible not only by cultural affinity but also by projects that transform this affinity into scientific knowledge. We observe that studies conducted in recent years in the fields of history, language, culture, archaeology, and the social sciences have made significant contributions in this regard.

The projects “Common Turkish History,” “Common Turkish Geography,” and “Common Turkish Literature” hold a special place in this context. These studies offer the opportunity to assess the shared past and cultural interactions of the Turkic peoples in a more holistic manner.

In addition, projects such as the Encyclopedic Dictionary of Turkish Mythology, the Sacred Geography of the Turkic World, and the Catalog of Turkic Bitig Inscriptions are also noteworthy. These studies aim to reveal the shared cultural heritage of Turkic peoples through scientific methods. In this way, the historical and cultural legacy spread across different regions becomes more visible.

Research conducted on the Oguz-Kipchak cemeteries and epigraphic heritage in the Mangyshlak region is also highly significant in this regard. Tombstones, inscriptions, and necropolises serve as valuable sources for understanding the historical relationships and cultural continuity of Turkic peoples...

In the field of linguistics, studies on the Common Turkic Alphabet, comparative dialect research, dictionary projects, and terminology studies stand out. Within this framework, the publication of comparative terminology dictionaries for Turkic literary languages continues. In addition, the Turkic Enlightenment movement is being examined through the lens of key figures and significant texts, and important studies in this regard are being published in various

Turkic literary languages. These studies are significant not only from an academic perspective but also in terms of communication and cultural rapprochement among Turkic peoples.

In the social sciences, we observe that a common research agenda is beginning to take shape in fields such as education, demography, migration, cultural heritage, and social transformation. A shared identity is strengthened not only through emphasis on historical memory but also through the production of shared scientific knowledge. For this reason, we view these projects as efforts that make shared memory in the Turkic world visible again on a scientific basis.

How do you assess the collaborations between the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) and the Turkic Academy? In your view, in which areas has TÜBA's contribution to scientific collaboration processes in the Turkic world been most prominent?

The collaboration between TÜBA and the Turkic Academy constitutes a complementary and strategic partnership for the development of a shared scientific sphere within the Turkic world. TÜBA makes significant contributions to this partnership through Türkiye's robust scientific heritage, publishing expertise, and experience in science diplomacy. The Turkish Academy, in turn, adds an international dimension to this collaboration through its projects focused on the shared historical, linguistic, cultural, and civilizational heritage of the Turkic world. In this context, TÜBA's assumption of the rotating presidency of the Union of National Academies of Sciences of the Turkic World over the past two years can also be regarded as a notable contribution.

The activities carried out jointly by these two institutions are particularly important in terms of supporting young researchers, developing joint publications, and strengthening coordination among science academies. Joint Turkology Summer Schools and programs targeting young researchers

can be cited as concrete examples of this collaboration.

We believe that this collaboration should be further diversified in the coming period. Joint doctoral seminars, researcher exchange programs, thematic workshops, methodology schools, and interdisciplinary research platforms could be developed. In this way, more enduring scientific networks can be established beyond short-term academic meetings.

Furthermore, joint book series, peer-reviewed journals, reference publications, and digital databases are also of great importance. Ensuring that scientific knowledge produced in the Turkic world enters a broader academic circulation will contribute to the development of a shared academic literature. In this regard, we view the TÜBA-Turkish Academy collaboration not merely as a connection between two institutions, but as a crucial foundation for strengthening the shared scientific capacity of the Turkic world.

Which projects do you consider particularly important for supporting young researchers in the Turkic world, increasing joint scientific publications, and strengthening academic mobility?

The scientific future of the Turkic world depends largely on supporting the young researchers of today within a shared academic culture. For this reason, we consider programs that bring young academics together to be extremely important.

Turkology Summer Schools, educational programs for young researchers, and joint research projects offer valuable opportunities in this regard. Such programs help young scholars establish direct contact with their peers in different countries and foster a culture of collaboration.

Increasing joint scientific publications is also a priority area. Joint journals, book projects, and digital publishing platforms can be developed to enhance the visibility of scientific knowledge produced in the Turkic world. Such initiatives not only boost scientific output but also contribute to the formation of a shared academic literature within the Turkic world.

Regarding academic mobility, there is a need for stronger exchange mechanisms for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students. The ORHUN Program is significant in this regard. Ensuring the program operates more effectively will strengthen direct communication among universities in the Turkic world.

In addition, joint graduate programs, joint mentorship models, research fellowships, and short-term researcher exchange programs should also be supported. These steps will facilitate the establishment of lasting relationships among the next generation of scientists. In my view, every investment made in young researchers is a strategic investment in the shared scientific future of the Turkic world.



In your opinion, what has been the most promising development for the scientific future of the Turkic world over the past four years? In which areas should stronger collaborations be established in the coming years?

The most promising development in recent years is that the idea of a shared scientific future for the Turkic world has now become visible through more concrete institutions, programs, and projects. The consensus reached on the Common Turkic Alphabet, cooperation among science academies, the activities of TÜRKÜNİB, the ORHUN Program, and initiatives such as ARICA are important indicators of this process.

One of the most valuable achievements during this period is that scholars from different countries across the Turkic world have begun to discuss common

issues more frequently. Scientific meetings, workshops, conferences, publication projects, and programs for young researchers are contributing to the development of a shared academic culture.

We believe that research in the fields of history, language, literature, archaeology, and cultural heritage must be further strengthened in the future. However, it is also important that the scientific agenda of the Turkic world not be limited solely to research focused on the past. Joint research programs can also be developed in fields such as artificial intelligence, digital humanities, big data, energy technologies, the environment and climate change, health sciences, biotechnology, and sustainable development. As the Turkish Academy, we are closely monitoring these

new fields and contributing to the construction of a shared scientific future through projects that address the current needs of the Turkic world.

In this context, greater emphasis should be placed on joint research funds, shared laboratories, student and faculty mobility, joint graduate programs, and digital research infrastructure. Transforming existing institutional structures into mechanisms that produce concrete scientific outputs will usher in a new phase in the scientific integration of the Turkic world. In the coming period, our primary priority will be to further advance the existing foundation of cooperation with concrete scientific outputs that address the needs of the Turkic world and current global developments, thereby strengthening our cultural cooperation.

A New Publication from TÜBA Highlighting Ottoman Ulema Culture



TÜBA has published a work titled *Osmanlı Ulema Kıyafeti* (Ottoman Ulema Attire) which brings together studies on history and material culture. Edited by Prof. Dr. Zeynep Tarım, the book examines attire not merely as an aesthetic element, but as a “language of civilization” through which identity, hierarchy, and public order are made visible.

The book draws on a wide range of materials, from archival documents to miniatures, and from waqf records to diplomatic sources. The study examines topics such as the clothing

elements of the court ulema based on 17th-century estate records, the garments found in the estate of Shaikh al-Islam Halil Efendi during his exile, the estates of the ulema in the Varna registers, and the allocation of clothing in endowments designated for students. Furthermore, the clothing styles of the Safavid and Mughal ulema were examined in a comparative analysis alongside those of medieval Muslim societies. Examples preserved in the Topkapı Palace collections, 16th- and 18th-century miniatures, the observations of Evliya Çelebi, and regulations from the reign of Mahmud II were also included among the study’s sources. Through the combined evaluation of archival records, visual materials, and collection data, the attire of the ulema was reexamined in terms of norms, practices, and representations.

The work also serves as a resource regarding terminology in the field of costume history. It emphasizes that the incorrect or interchangeable use of numerous terms—such as *kavuk*, *sikke*, *külâh*, *imame*, *dolama*, *kaftan*,

cübbe, *entari*, *şalvar*, *çakşır*, and *çedik*—poses a risk in both academic research and museum and exhibition practices. The book specifically notes that, to establish a sound foundation of knowledge, inventory ledgers, estate and price records, ledgers of artisans and tailors, and qadi registers must be examined within their production contexts.

Building upon the research foundation of TÜBA’s previously published study, “Clothing Norm and Attires of the Ottoman İlmiye Class,” this book also brings together the interdisciplinary discussions that began with the subsequent symposium and exhibition into a single volume. By strengthening the connection between text, object, and visual memory, this study aims to evaluate the representational world of the scholarly class through both its narrative and visual dimensions. The book seeks to make a lasting contribution to the literature by emphasizing that the ulema’s esteemed position within the state and society conferred a unique character upon their attire.

An Academic Approach to the “One Nation, Two States” Concept from TÜBA



TÜBA has published the book **Azerbaijan and Türkiye in World Politics**, which fills a significant gap in the field of international relations. The study, which examines the relations between Türkiye and Azerbaijan through a multidisciplinary approach, comprehensively analyzes the two countries' positions within the global system from historical, cultural, political, and strategic perspectives. Published in collaboration between TÜBA and the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, the work re-establishes academic solidarity between the two countries.

Compiled with contributions from 30 scholars and comprising 25 chapters, the book examines Türkiye-Azerbaijan relations within a broad framework. Topics such as historical background, identity construction, leadership, positioning within the international system, security policies, and regional cooperation are explored in depth.

The study also evaluates the regional and global influence of the two countries through topics such as energy security, the Middle Corridor projects, the role of the Organization of Turkic States, and cultural diplomacy. In this regard, the work is not merely an academic study but also a comprehensive analysis revealing how the Türkiye-Azerbaijan partnership is taking shape in the changing world order.

President Şeker: “Scientific cooperation is the key to peace and stability.”

In the foreword to the publication, TÜBA President Prof. Dr. Muzaffer Şeker highlighted TÜBA's approach, which prioritizes scientific output and international cooperation, noting that this work is a strong reflection of that vision. Noting that relations between Türkiye and Azerbaijan are shaped by a shared history, culture, and intellectual heritage, Prof. Dr. Şeker emphasized that these ties go beyond ordinary cooperation.

President Şeker stated that the concept of “one nation, two states” is not merely a slogan but a concept that must be thoroughly examined academically, noting that the TÜBA International Relations Working Group has made significant contributions in this regard. He pointed out that cooperation among scientific institutions holds critical importance in a period of increasing global uncertainty. He stated that TÜBA is committed to strengthening international academic relations in this regard.

Highlighting the importance of the work, the Academy President noted that the study not only analyzes the current situation but also offers a perspective for the future, stating, “This work demonstrates that collaborations shaped by shared values and scientific rigor can serve as a model for other regions as well.”

Habibbeyli: “Relations have reached the level of an alliance.”

In his assessment, Academician Isa Habibbeyli, President of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, stated that relations between Türkiye and Azerbaijan have developed on the basis of brotherhood throughout history. Emphasizing that these relations have entered a new phase, particularly following independence, Habibbeyli

noted that the “one nation, two states” concept put forward by Heydar Aliyev has evolved into a strategic framework.

Habibbeyli stated that the common stance demonstrated by the two countries on international platforms has yielded significant results in terms of global balances, adding that Azerbaijan and Türkiye are increasingly demonstrating stronger cooperation at both the regional and international levels. Noting that this process has been elevated to the level of alliance through the Shusha Declaration, Habibbeyli emphasized that the work in question is a scientific product of this strong partnership.

Habibbeyli emphasized his belief that the work would further strengthen the deep-rooted relations between the two countries and thanked all the scholars who contributed to its creation.

Emphasis on Multidimensional Analysis

In the foreword, the book's editors, Prof. Dr. Şener Aktürk and Prof. Dr. Ali Balcı, noted that Türkiye-Azerbaijan relations are too deep and multifaceted to be explained by ordinary bilateral relations. Noting that the modern state-building processes of the two countries have developed in tandem, Prof. Dr. Aktürk and Prof. Dr. Balcı emphasized that relations gained new momentum following the dissolution of the Soviet Union and have since evolved into a multidimensional alliance.

Noting that today's international system has evolved into a multipolar structure, they stated that the partnership between Türkiye and Azerbaijan has become a stabilizing force within this new order. They highlighted the importance of the study's analysis of this relationship not merely through emotional ties, but through strategic, institutional, and geopolitical dynamics.

TÜBA-AR is now listed in Scopus, the International Citation Index



Türkiye Bilimler Akademisi
Arkeoloji Dergisi
Turkish Academy of Sciences Journal of Archaeology

The Journal of Archaeology (TÜBA-AR), published by the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) since 1998, has been accepted into Scopus, one of the world's largest abstract and citation databases.

The application submitted by TÜBA-AR—founded by Türkiye's leading archaeologists—to be included in the Scopus index, which comprises peer-reviewed publications of international standing, has been accepted. In this context, this development is considered a significant step toward enabling TÜBA-AR to reach a broad and international research community, laying the groundwork for international

projects and academic collaborations to strengthen partnerships, enhancing the visibility of the national academy through publication incentives, and providing opportunities for scientific citations.

In a statement from TÜBA, it was noted that the journal, prepared by competent scientists with a strong international editorial board, consists of fifteen editors (three of whom are foreign) selected with consideration for regional distribution, field of expertise, and gender equality. It was noted that the process continues with expert editors who are well-versed in

terrestrial and underwater archaeology, Middle Eastern and Mediterranean archaeology, and studies of various periods, and who have led significant archaeological excavations.

To enhance the journal's academic and technical quality, promote it, increase its prestige both in Türkiye and within the international archaeological community, and align with current journal trends in terms of format, content, and publication standards, adjustments were made by the TÜBA and TÜBA-AR Journal Editorial Board. The TÜBA-AR Editorial Board stated, "We are pleased with the positive outcome of this process, which has progressed through collaboration, academic and technical contributions, and the exchange of ideas in the journal's operations. We look forward to receiving studies from both domestic and international sources, hoping to represent our country—the heart of history and civilization—at the highest possible level within the international academic community."

"Neither War nor Peace" Meets Readers



The work titled "Neither War nor Peace: The Enduring Conflict of Pakistan and India," prepared by the TÜBA International Relations Working Group, has taken its place in libraries and has been made available for online access. In order to facilitate accessibility for international academic and diplomatic

circles, the study has been published in both English and Turkish. The volume examines the long-standing India-Pakistan tension between two nuclear-armed states through its historical, political, and strategic dimensions.

Edited by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mürsel Doğrul and Asst. Prof. Dr. Hayati Ünlü, the study notes that in April 2025, following the attack on a group of tourists in Pahalgam, tensions between India and Pakistan reached their highest level since the 1999 Kargil War. It recalls that diplomatic relations were suspended as a result of India's air operations and Pakistan's retaliatory responses, underscoring that diplomatic interventions by actors such as the United States, Türkiye, and Saudi Arabia played a significant role in de-escalating the crisis. The report examines in detail the historical background of the India-Pakistan

conflict, the triggers and escalation process of the 2025 crisis, the domestic political dynamics of both countries, the military balance and nuclear deterrence, the positions of international powers, media, perception management and disinformation, possible conflict scenarios and strategic projections, as well as the implications for Türkiye and the broader region.

The study also offers concrete assessments and policy recommendations for decision-makers. It addresses the trans-regional repercussions of the 2025 India-Pakistan crisis and the risks it poses to global security. The volume provides interdisciplinary contributions on issues such as the historical background of the conflict, nuclear deterrence, domestic politics, identity politics, the Kashmir question, and the role of international actors.

TÜBA Attends the Ceremonial Session of the Austrian Academy of Sciences 2026



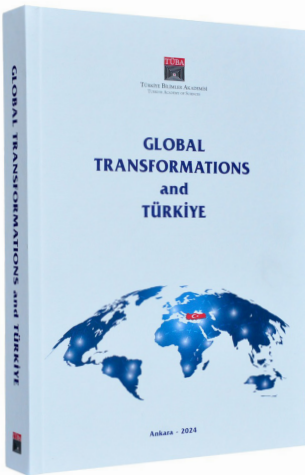
TÜBA Full Member and Council Member Prof. Dr. İsmail Koyuncu and Turkish Young Academy President Assoc. Dr. Mürsel Doğrul participated in the 2026 Ceremonial Session organized by the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften -ÖAW) on behalf of TÜBA. Representatives of the academic world and public institutions took part in the program, which was held in the Historical Ceremonial Hall of the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna.

During the ceremony session, ÖAW President Prof. Dr. Heinz Faßmann gave speech, along with Austrian President Alexander Van der Bellen and Austrian Federal Minister Eva Maria Holzleitner. While presenting the annual activity report of the ÖAW within the scope of the program, the conference titled "Ways Out of the Democracy Crisis – Current Searches in Europe", which deals with the future of democracy in Europe and social resilience issues against crises, was

held with the participation of Prof. Dr. Brigitte Geißel.

Prof. Dr. Koyuncu presented "The Historical Atlas of Turkic States", which is among the TÜBA publications, and the President of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Dr. Heinz Faßmann was presented with "Science Diplomacy". During the meeting, the contribution of publication activities in the field of cultural and scientific diplomacy to international cooperation was emphasized. TÜBA delegation also met with the President of the Austrian Young Academy and exchanged views on cooperation opportunities between young academies, science diplomacy, researcher mobility and joint scientific activities.

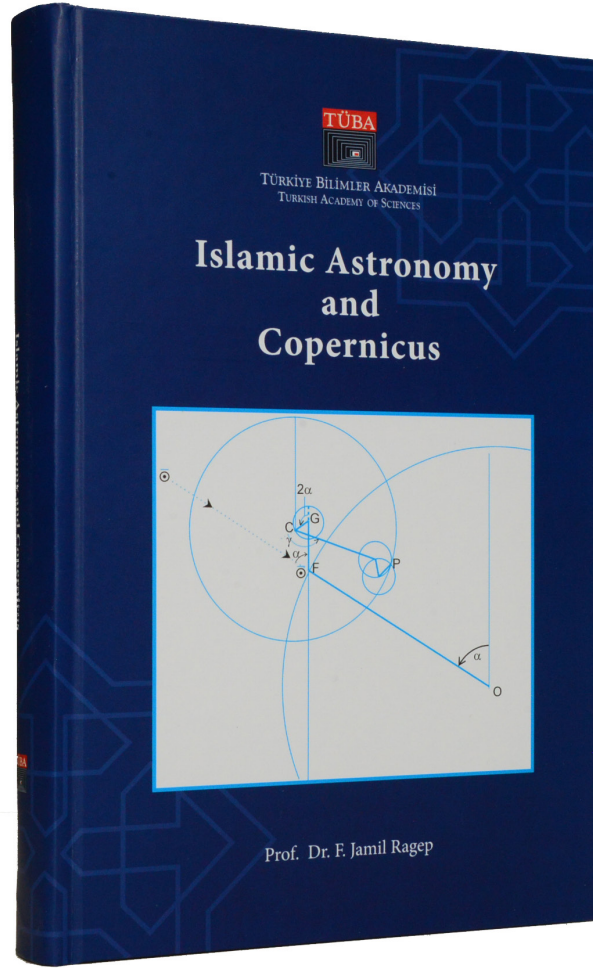
In addition, an acquaintance and co-operation meeting was held between Turkish Young Academy and Austrian Young Academy (Junge Akademie der ÖAW). During the meeting, joint research activities between young academies, cooperation opportunities in the field of science diplomacy, international project development processes and young researcher exchange programs were discussed.



Global Transformations and Türkiye

The "Global Transformation and Türkiye" conference, organized by the TÜBA-International Relations Working Group in April 2024, brought together over 60 scientists from 20 countries. The presentations from the conference have been compiled into a book edited by Prof. Ahmet Nuri Yurdusev and Asst. Prof. Mürsel Doğrul, and it has been shared with the public.

The work titled "Global Transformation and Türkiye" includes contributions from academics and experts from countries in America, Asia, Europe, and Africa, addressing various global challenges such as international relations, economic transformations, migration, and technological advancements. The study is divided into thematic sections that examine significant global issues, including the importance of middle powers, the international order, and Türkiye's strategic responses to these global changes. It consists of six main sections and 36 subsections, which are: "World Dis/orders in the Age of Global Transformations", "Great Powers and Middle Powers in a Changing World", "Türkiye on the Cusp of Persistent Challenges and Global Transformations", "Challenges of Migration and New Channels of Diplomacy", "New Media, the Challenge of AI/ Cyberspace and Non-state Actors", and "Challenges in Economy, Business, and Finance."



Islamic Astronomy and Copernicus: A Compilation Perspective on Astronomical History

Bringing together fifteen articles that have been published by F. Jamil Ragep over the last four decades, this volume offers fresh insights and a deeper understanding of how Islamic astronomical and scientific traditions influenced the emergence of the Copernican heliocentric system. These articles not only provide new technical and contentbased evidence regarding the Islamic background to Copernicus, but also highlight the importance of studying scientific and historical contexts in which Islamic astronomy could find its way into medieval and early modern European intellectual and cultural settings. Raising new questions and contributing solid research through the examination of various Islamic, Latin, and Greek scientific texts, Ragep's articles will be useful for anyone interested in engaging in the study of the Islamic- Copernicus connection from a broader multicultural perspective.

TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Gürsan Contributes to Global Report



The study titled “From Presence to Power: Women Leading in Science,” featured in the 2026 global report prepared by the Inter-Academy Partnership (IAP), highlights women who shape scientific institutions, advance research, and guide future generations. TÜBA Full Member Prof. Dr. K. Arzum Erdem Gürsan was included in the study among scientists who have attained leadership positions despite persistent structural barriers.

The relevant 2026 global report of the IAP notes that Prof. Dr. Gürsan has spearheaded the development of biosensors in the fields of health, food, and the environment, and that she has supported women in the scientific community through her role in the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) initiative of the Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia (AASSA). It was emphasized that she is not merely a scientist but a visionary leader shaping the future of global science. It was reported that she has transformed the innovative biosensor technologies she developed in Türkiye in the fields of health, food, and the environment into tangible social benefits by taking them beyond the confines of the laboratory. It was

underlined that she has played a pioneering role in her field through the numerous national and international projects she has led throughout her career, her high-impact publications contributing to the scientific literature, and the patents validating her innovative approaches, while also actively shaping science policies by serving on many prestigious global and national scientific committees. In addition to her scientific productivity, it was emphasized that Prof. Dr. Gürsan has created a strong academic tradition through her mentorship of countless master’s and doctoral students from around the world, serving as an inspiring model for the next generation of scientists by blending research, education, and global collaboration.

Expressing her honor at representing Türkiye and TÜBA through her inclusion in the IAP, Prof. Dr. Gürsan stated that diverse perspectives in science trigger innovation, international collaboration broadens horizons, and contributes to the development of transformative solutions.

Prof. Dr. K. Arzum Erdem Gürsan said, “Science progresses when it is recognized as a field that leads diverse minds. Throughout my career, I have witnessed how inclusive collaboration strengthens innovation and how mentorship transforms potential into tangible impact. Supporting women in science is not merely a matter of representation; it is about ensuring that talent, wherever it may be, can shape the future of research and society.” She added that women advancing in science broaden horizons, drive innovation, and inspire future generations.

TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Demirköz Has Been Selected for the ‘Independent Scientific AI Panel’



TÜBA Full Member Prof. Dr. Melahat Bilge Demirköz was among the 40 scientists selected for the United Nations (UN) International Independent Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence.

Under the “Pact for the Future” and the “Global Digital Compact” adopted at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session, the “Independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence” was established by the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) to contribute to global governance in the field of artificial intelligence on a scientific basis. Designed to evaluate the global impacts of artificial intelligence technologies through scientific, independent, and evidence-based analyses, the panel was established with a focus on the transformative power of artificial intelligence across various fields such as the economy, security, human rights, education, and sustainable development. It was planned to produce reports and recommendations that would serve as guidance for international decision-making mechanisms. The panel’s work will serve as a reference for policy-making processes of states and international organizations.

The list of 40 experts from a total of 37 countries, submitted by the UN Secretary-General for consideration by the UN Security Council, was approved at

the UN Security Council meeting held in New York. Prof. Dr. Bilge Demirköz, Head of the Middle East Technical University (METU) Space and Accelerator Technologies Application and Research Center (IVME-R), was nominated for the panel following the candidate selection process conducted by Türkiye and was included in the final list of candidates submitted for UNSC approval.

TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Gürsan's Patent Has Been Certified



a Sensor Based on Electrochemical Measurement Technique” by Prof. Dr. Kadriye Arzum Erdem Gürsan, a Full Member of TÜBA and a faculty member in the Department of Analytical Chemistry at the Faculty of Pharmacy, Ege University, has been granted by the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office.

Prof. Dr. K. Arzum Erdem Gürsan noted that, in addition to yield and quality losses in production caused by mycotoxins, the consumption of such products leads to the development of various diseases that threaten human health. She emphasized the need to monitor mycotoxins that pose a threat in agricultural and processed foods on a global scale, and stressed the necessity of methods for the rapid and reliable detection of toxins such as Zearalenon in a sensitive and selective manner. Prof. Dr. Gürsan, leader of the nanoBioSens lab research team, stated that the method they developed in collaboration with doctoral and master's students in the multidisciplinary research group is designed for the rapid, selective, and sensitive analysis of Zearalenon

(ZEN)—a plant-derived mycotoxin—in food analysis using a single-use electrochemical measurement technique-based sensor.

The President of the AASSA SHARE Committee, TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Aydın



TÜBA Full Member Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Aydın has been appointed Chair of the SHARE (Science, Health, Agriculture, Risk, Environment) Communication Special Committee at the Association of Academies and Societies of Sciences in Asia (AASSA).

It was announced in a statement signed by TÜBA Full Member and AASSA President Prof. Dr. Ahmet Nuri Yurdusev that Prof. Dr. Aydın will serve as Chair of the Committee until the end of 2027. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Aydın stated that the committee aims to strengthen communication regarding research conducted in the fields of science, health, agriculture, risk, and the environment, and to support inter-academy collaboration in these areas. He also noted that efforts will continue to develop TÜBA's activities related to science diplomacy and academic collaborations in the Asian region within the framework of AASSA.

AASSA is a regional, non-profit umbrella organization that brings together national science academies and scientific communities in the Asia-Australasia region. It was

established in 2012 through the merger of two previously existing regional structures. Its objective is to ensure that science and technology make a stronger contribution to sustainable development, social welfare, and policy-making processes in the region's countries. AASSA works to enhance cooperation among member academies, develop joint scientific projects, support science diplomacy, and generate views and recommendations on science policies at the regional level. Key priority areas include sustainable development, climate change, health, science education, and the support of women in science. It also aims to strengthen the scientific capacity and visibility of the Asia-Pacific region in relation to global science networks.

TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Öniş Elected as a Member of the Academia Europaea



Prof. Dr. Ziya Öniş, an Honorary Member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) and a faculty member at Koç University, has been elected a Member of the Academia Europaea.

In a selection process that evaluates not only academic excellence but also lasting contributions to the global scientific community, Prof. Dr. Öniş was deemed worthy of membership for his work in political economy and globalization, which has created a broad sphere of influence, particularly through his studies on developing countries, state-capitalism relations, and global economic transformations.

TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Kadir Mutlu Hayran on the "ISOPT Advisory Board"



Leadership with a Global Vision for Oncology
Driving innovation, policy, and clinical excellence in cancer prevention and treatment across borders.

Select Leadership by Region
Europe

Dr. Mutlu Hayran
Advisory Board
Division, Hacettepe University Cancer Institute, Head
Department of Preventive Oncology, Head
Department of Preventive Oncology, Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine
Turkey

Prof. Dr. Mutlu Hayran, a Full Member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA), Director of the Cancer Institute at Hacettepe University, and Chair of the Department of Preventive Oncology, has been accepted as a member of the Advisory Board of the International Society of Oncology Prevention and Treatment (ISOPT), an international non-governmental organization headquartered in Hong Kong.

Prof. Dr. Hayran's membership in ISOPT, which comprises over 20 countries and 45 experts, is viewed as a development aimed at further contributing to the global representation of Türkiye's scientific expertise in the field of cancer prevention and control.

Prof. Dr. Hayran stated, "I accepted this invitation with the goal of contributing to the preparation of open-access scientific reports, particularly regarding cancer prevention; and of reflecting my experience in the fields of cancer epidemiology, health policies, and health systems into the organization's scientific guidance processes." He expressed his commitment to leveraging this opportunity to further strengthen knowledge sharing with academic and clinical partners in Türkiye and to contribute to international collaborations in this field.

ISOPT is a multidisciplinary organization dedicated to the global production

and sharing of scientific knowledge regarding cancer prevention, early diagnosis, and treatment approaches for early-stage diseases. The organization aims to provide international stakeholders with up-to-date, evidence-based information in areas such as risk assessment, preventive interventions, screening strategies, and treatment de-escalation through free virtual conferences and digital content.

TÜBA Member Prof. Dr. Sachs Receives Honorary Doctorate from Boğaziçi University



Prof. Dr. Jeffrey David Sachs, an Honorary Member of TÜBA, recipient of the 2021 TÜBA International Academy Award, and Professor at Columbia University, was awarded an honorary doctorate by Boğaziçi University. Prof. Dr. Sachs was presented with his honorary doctorate diploma by Rector Prof. Dr. Naci İnci during a ceremony held at Albert Long Hall on Boğaziçi University's South Campus.

In the Boğaziçi University Senate's reasoned decision regarding Prof. Dr. Sachs's eligibility for the honorary doctorate, the following statement was made: "Due to his pioneering work at the global level on the relationships between sustainable development, the climate crisis, the eradication of poverty, peace, and multilateralism, and his unique contributions to humanity's shared future, Prof. Dr.

Jeffrey D. Sachs has been deemed worthy of an honorary doctorate by the Boğaziçi University Senate, with all the associated rights and responsibilities."

In his remarks at the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Sachs addressed current global developments. He emphasized the need to strengthen international dialogue, peace, and multilateral cooperation, noting that Türkiye occupies an important position due to its diplomatic capacity at both the regional and global levels. Drawing attention to the need to take immediate action to combat the climate crisis and emphasizing the importance of accelerating the transition to a green economy, Sachs expressed his belief that Türkiye can play a leading role in this transformation through international climate initiatives and sustainable development policies.

TÜBA International Relations Working Group Member Prof. Dr. Kaynak Receives the Nevitt Sanford Award



Prof. Dr. Deniz Ülke Kaynak, a member of the TÜBA Working Group on International Relations and a faculty member at Üsküdar University, has been awarded the Nevitt Sanford Award, one of the most prestigious honors in the field of political psychology. The award, which has been presented since 1979, has been given to a Turkish scholar for the first time.

Contributions that bridge political psychology from academia to society

In a statement issued by the ISPP, it was emphasized that Prof. Dr. Kaynak, the recipient of the Nevitt Sanford Award for Outstanding Professional Contributions to Political Psychology, possesses a rare profile that combines academic productivity, public engagement, and institutional development. The statement noted that Kaynak has played a pioneering role in the development of political psychology in Türkiye, highlighting that he has established lasting structures in this field and contributed to the discipline reaching broader audiences. The statement also noted that Prof. Dr. Kaynak has brought political psychology perspectives to the public through the media, civil society, and public discourse; in this regard, she has significantly increased both the visibility and social impact of the field.

In her remarks regarding the award, Prof. Dr. Deniz Ülke Kaynak emphasized that she particularly values the fact that her work is not limited to academic output alone, stating: “Political psychology is a powerful field that helps us understand the decision-making processes of individuals and societies. Ensuring that this body of knowledge does not remain confined to academia but instead engages with society, policymakers, and public discourse has always been a fundamental motivation for me. This award is extremely valuable in demonstrating that this approach has found resonance at the international level.” Prof. Dr. Kaynak noted that the

award will be presented to her during a ceremony at the ISPP Annual Meeting, scheduled to take place in Newcastle from July 16–19, 2026.

TÜBA-GEBİP Award Recipient Prof. Dr. Bayram Receives Technology Award from Elginkan Foundation



Prof. Dr. Barış Bayram, recipient of the 2011 TÜBA-Outstanding Young Scientist Award (TÜBA-GEBİP), was awarded the Elginkan Foundation 2025 Technology Award for his research study titled “Yapay Duyular: Elmasla Gören, Işıkla Duyan, Beyin Gibi Düşünen Mikro-Sistemler” (Artificial Senses: Diamond-Seeing, Light-Hearing, Brain-Like Thinking Micro-Systems.)

The interdisciplinary study conducted by Prof. Dr. Bayram, a faculty member at Middle East Technical University (METU), focuses on the development of diamond-based sensors, photonic systems, and micro-scale artificial systems with brain-like information processing capabilities. The artificial senses developed within the scope of the research aim to open the door to innovative applications in many areas, such as health technologies, the defense industry, advanced sensing

systems, and artificial intelligence-supported smart devices.

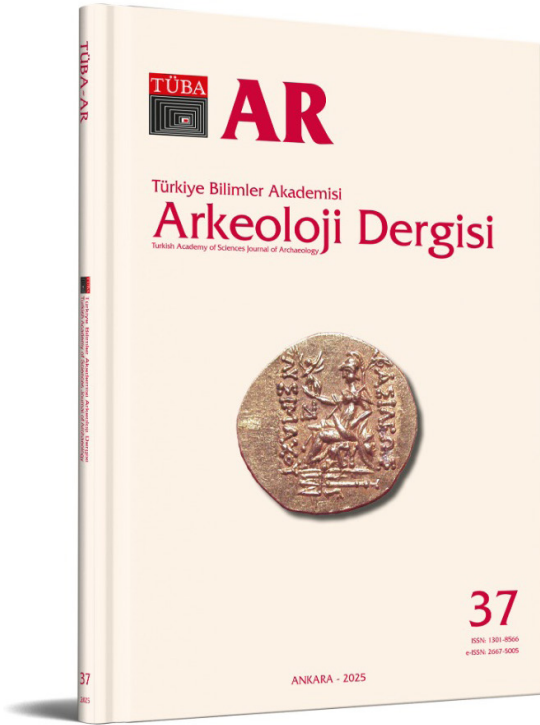
This work was deemed worthy of the award due to its significant scientific and technological contribution to the smart systems of the future by combining nature-inspired sensing and learning mechanisms with advanced materials science and micro/nano technologies.

Dr. Öztürk, Owner of the TÜBA-GEBİP Award, Receives Significant Support from Europe



Dr. Duygu Kuzuoğlu Öztürk, recipient of the TÜBA-GEBİP Award, was one of 10 scientists selected for the 2026 EMBO Installation Grants by the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO).

Dr. Öztürk, a faculty member at Sabancı University, aims to investigate a previously unknown function of an oncogene that plays a crucial role in the development of prostate cancer and to develop new therapeutic methods through her research titled “Beyond Transcription: A Non-Canonical Role for AR in Prostate Cancer.” EMBO will provide an annual grant of 50,000 euros for five years to contribute to the long-term and sustainable development of the research.



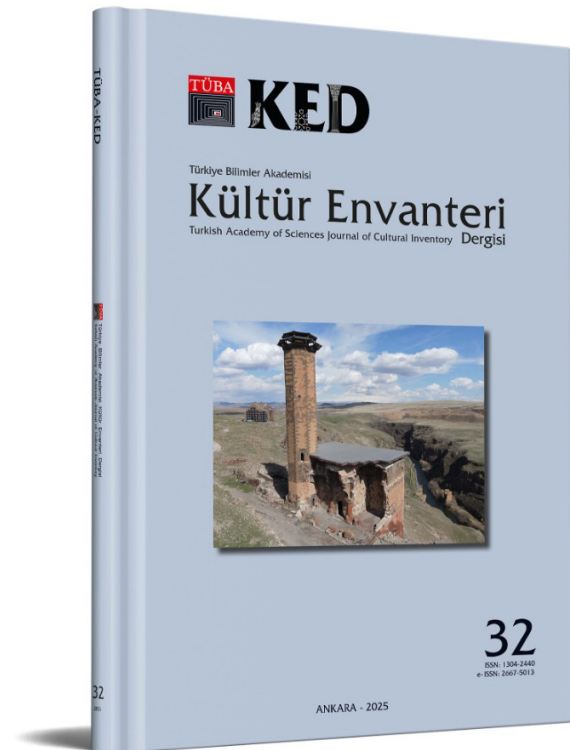
TÜBA Journal of Archaeology / TÜBA-AR

TÜBA-AR is an international peer-reviewed journal and is scanned in TÜBİTAK ULAKBİM TRDİZIN, European Reference Index for Humanities (ERIH PLUS) and EBSCO-Art & Architecture Source database.

It is published twice a year, in June and December. You can submit articles to the journal, which is open to Turkish and English articles throughout the year, via Dergipark.

<https://dergipark.org.tr/en/pub/tubaar>

TÜBA-AR uses the double-blinding method in the evaluation process of all studies. In the double-blinding method, the identities of the authors and reviewers are hidden.



TÜBA Journal of Culture Inventory / TÜBA-KED

TÜBA-KED is an international peer-reviewed journal and is scanned in TÜBİTAK ULAKBİM TRDİZIN, European Reference Index for Humanities (ERIH PLUS) and EBSCO-Art & Architecture Source database.

It is published twice a year, in June and December. You can submit articles to the journal, which is open to Turkish and English articles throughout the year, via Dergipark. <https://dergipark.org.tr/en/pub/tubaked>

TÜBA-KED, uses the double-blinding method in the evaluation process of all studies. In the double-blinding method, the identities of the authors and reviewers are hidden.



TÜBA-HER Higher Education Research / Review Volume 16 - Issue 1

Dear Readers,

We are delighted to present to you the second issue of 2026 (Volume 16, Issue 1) of the Journal of Higher Education (TÜBA-HER), published by the Turkish Academy of Sciences. Our journal continues to serve as an important scholarly platform for the production and dissemination of knowledge in the field of higher education. It embraces an interdisciplinary approach and features studies that address current issues on both theoretical and practical levels. Since its inception, TÜBA-HER has adhered to the principles of scientific integrity, transparency, and impartiality, and has built its reputation on a rigorous double-blind peer-review process—making it a trusted and respected academic publication in its field. This issue, prepared in line with these foundational values, features multifaceted content that will attract the interest of both the academic community and policymakers involved in shaping higher education. It covers a wide range of timely topics, from innovative approaches aimed at enhancing quality in education to the transformations brought about by digitalization in universities; from social and psychological factors affecting student experience to institutional policies focused on governance and sustainability.



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