

SDG PROGRESS REPORT

on **SDG-4 QUALITY EDUCATION**

**20
21**



SDG PROGRESS REPORT

ISTANBUL MEDENIYET
UNIVERSITY

**Istanbul Medeniyet University
Sustainability Office**

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4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Since 2000, there has been enormous progress in achieving the target of universal primary education. The total enrolment rate in developing regions reached 91 percent in 2015, and the worldwide number of children out of school has dropped by almost half. There has also been a dramatic increase in literacy rates, and many more girls are in school than ever before. These are all remarkable successes.

Progress has also been tough in some developing regions due to high levels of poverty,

armed conflicts and other emergencies. In Western Asia and North Africa, ongoing armed conflict has seen an increase in the number of children but of school. This is a worrying trend. While Sub-Saharan Africa made the greatest progress in primary school enrolment among all developing regions – from 52 percent in 1990, up to 78 percent in 2012 – large disparities still remain. Children from the poorest households are up to four times more likely to be out of school than those of the richest households. Disparities between rural and urban areas also remain high.

Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development. This goal ensures that all girls and boys complete free primary and secondary schooling by 2030. It also aims to provide equal access to affordable vocational training, to eliminate gender and wealth disparities, and achieve universal access to a quality higher education.

UN SDG

WORLD

57
MILLION

primary-aged children remain out of school



%22

of all out-of-school children of primary school age live in conflict-affected areas



in developing countries, one in four girls is not in school

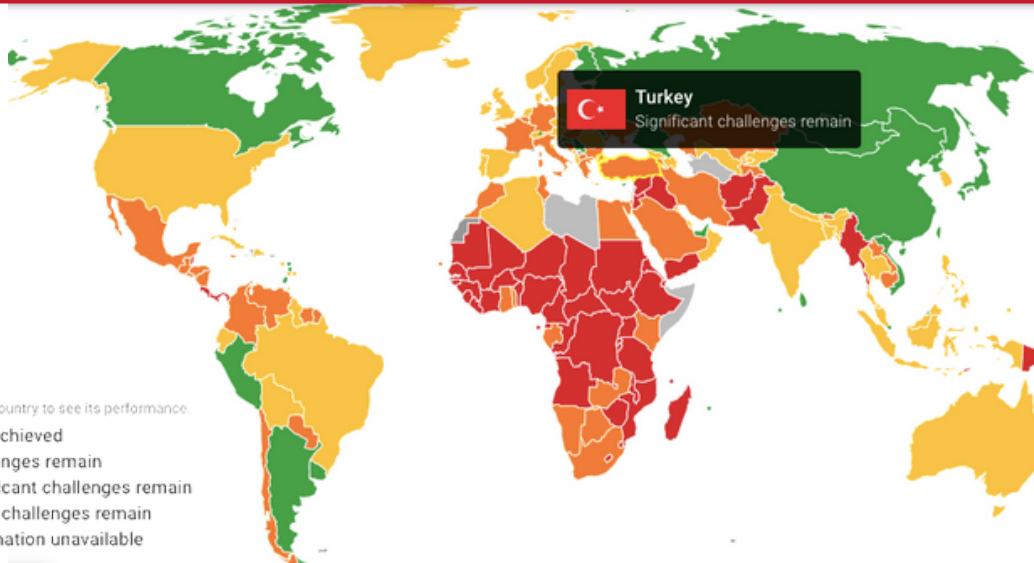


%22

enrollment in primary education in developing countries has reached

500
MILLION

students cannot access distance education



TURKEY

IMU

239
STUDENTS
gained a qualification that entitled them to teach at primary school level

801-1.000
Quality Education
2022 Rank in

2.567
STUDENTS
started a first degree in IMU

221
PROTOCOLS
for quality education



3.200+
STUDENTS
from local schools were allowed to use our library



Lifelong Learning Access Policy

Concerning the right of education and educational equality, the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey established in [Article 42](#) that **“No one may be deprived of the right of learning and education.** *The scope of the right to education shall be defined and regulated by law...The State shall provide scholarships and other means of assistance to enable students of merit lacking financial means to continue their education. The State shall take necessary measures to rehabilitate those in need of special training so as to render such people useful to society. Training, education, research, and study are the only activities that shall be pursued at institutions of training and education. These activities may not be obstructed in any way...”*

As a state university and a public institution, Istanbul Medeniyet University offers all its educational services and activities by following an indiscriminate policy of providing access to everyone, as required by the applicable legislation.

As per the [Regulation on Special Students in Istanbul Medeniyet University Undergraduate Programs](#),

students from other universities and alumni of any higher education institution can take courses in our university under the free mover student status in order to experience a different higher education environment and to acquire certain knowledge and skills which they find in our curriculum. Such students may apply and register for our courses on a semesterly basis within the time schedule specified in our academic calendar every year and the requirements are announced by our Department of Student Affairs on a regular basis. Applications by graduate students from other universities are made to our Institute of Graduate Studies, which publishes [announcements](#) on the quotas and requirements for free mover students every year. Also, we admit students from other universities to our [summer school programs](#) involving different courses from different faculties of our university.

The Student Selection and Placement Center (OSYM), which is the official public institution that coordinates and administers nationwide central exams in Turkey and carries out the assessment, selection, and placement processes for students through these exams, has established one [its regional coordination offices for Istanbul](#)

Anatolian side in our campus area. Our university also opens its classrooms in our campuses to be used for administering all these countrywide exams in Istanbul.

Furthermore, through our collaboration protocol with Atatürk University, Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli University of Continuing Education Application and Research Center and Istanbul University Faculty of Open and Distance Education on the planning and administering of their central exams to be held in the Anatolian side of Istanbul, we **share our classrooms with this partner institutions** and offer them for students' use in the exams so that everyone can have access to affordable higher education services through open learning and distance education programs.

Public Resources

IMU signed protocols for collaboration in education with Gebze Anatolian İmam Hatip High School, İstanbul Prof.Dr. Mümtaz Turhan Social Sciences High School, İTO Şehit Ragıp Ali Bilgen Anatolian İmam Hatip High School, Kadıköy Anatolian İmam Hatip High School, Kartal Mehmet Akif Ersoy Anatolian İmam Hatip High School, and Rabia Anatolian İmam Hatip High School for Girls. Thanks to these protocols, students of local schools can use our campus facilities and the resources in our library, which is the largest university library in Turkey, as well as our educational facilities such as laboratories and conference halls. Also, the students are provided academic support for their projects and research by the faculty members and graduate students in related departments of the university.



“ **3.200+** STUDENTS from local schools were allowed to use our libraries ”

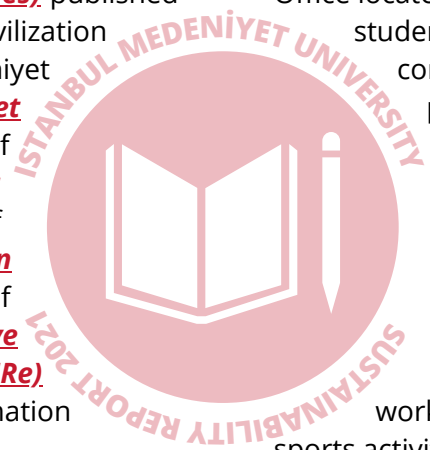
Publishing services in our university are carried out by our Department of Library and Documentation and as Istanbul Medeniyet University, we have published the **books** of some of our faculty members under our own publisher brand name, İstanbul Medeniyet Üniversitesi Yayınları. Some of our books are sold in print format on various online bookstores, while our **books in electronic format** are shared freely on our website.

Likewise, some of our faculties and academic centers have been issuing indexed **academic journals**, the contents of which can be freely accessed online on Dergipark platform. These journals include **Medeniyet Sanat** and **Ahenk Müzikoloji** journals issued by our Faculty of Art, Design, and Architecture; **Medeniyet Eğitim Araştırmaları Dergisi** issued by IMU Faculty of Education Sciences; **Medeniyet Araştırmaları Dergisi (Journal of Civilization Studies)** published on behalf of the Center for Civilization Studies (ISMAM) of Istanbul Medeniyet University; **Journal of Medeniyet Politics** issued by our Faculty of Political Sciences; and **Medeniyet Law Review** issued by our Faculty of Law; **Rumeli Journal of Education Studies** issued by our Faculty of Education Sciences; **Library, Archive and Museum Research Journal (LAMRe)** issued by IMU Department of Information and Document Management .

Acting on the mission of helping our students and staff members identify their career goals in line with the changing conditions of the business world, guiding them about how to acquire the knowledge, skills, and experience required for their goals, and contributing to their improvement, IMU Career Development Coordination Office serves our students and staff with its **team of career counselors and representatives** formed by our academic staff members from all faculties specialized in career development.

The Youth and Volunteering Cooperation Protocol was signed between Istanbul Medeniyet University and the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Turkey and as part of the protocol, a **Youth Office** was created in 2020 to carry out sports, educational, social, cultural, and artistic activities in our university campuses. Through IMU Youth Office located in our Göztepe North Campus, our students and student clubs can receive consulting about their volunteering projects from the representatives of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the projects that are deemed eligible are given funding. In IMU Youth Office, our students and clubs can also organize and carry out events and activities and are provided with project training, free cultural trips, workshops, and other artistic, cultural and sports activities.

In 2021, many of our student clubs held their meetings in our **Youth Office**, which also organized events and workshops on different subjects including a **workshop on woodburning** held on 16 December 2021, a **workshop on Turkish paper marbling art** on 18 November 2021 and another **workshop on punch art** on 21 December 2021, and a **Turkish folk songs night** on 30 December 2021.



Our university offers its students free vocational training courses to ensure their equal access to affordable quality education and to support their career development.

The Department of Health, Culture, and Sports of our University organized a **Microsoft Office Training** to support our students' vocational development. Selected from among the first online applicants, 200 students from our University participated in the free course delivered as part of vocational training. Trainer Lect. Hasan Okan ADIYAMAN of IMU Informatics Department taught Microsoft Word, Excel, and Powerpoint during the course, which started on February 8, 2021 and continued for a total of eight weeks. Our students who completed the course were given certificates.



The Department of Health, Culture, and Sports of our University organized an **English Language Course** to support our students' vocational development. Selected from among the first online applicants, 30 students from our University participated in the free course delivered as part of vocational training. The online course delivered by instructors from British Time Language Schools started on March 17, 2021 and continued for a total of 100 hours. In addition to this free course, the first 50 applicants from our students were given a 40% discount on foreign language courses by British Time Language Schools.

As part of the Life Skills Development Workshops organized by the Department of Health, Culture, and Sports of our University delivered an **Introductory Course on Robotic Coding** to our students to support our students' vocational development. A total of 190 students from our University who applied online participated in the free course delivered as part of vocational training. The course was held online on 31 March-1 April 2021 and April 7-8, 2021. In the course, the concepts of robot and robotics were defined along with their historical development and the types of robots were introduced. Then, an introductory-level training was delivered on Phyton, one of the most used programming languages in robotics.



Our Life Skills Workshops contained a series of training programs in addition to the certificate programs, in which our students could participate free of charge. Through the courses on **Creative Drama, Thesis Writing for Graduate Students, Job Interviewing** and **CV Writing Techniques** delivered in March and the **First Aid Training** in June, a total of 520 students from our University were given free training for their professional and personal development.

The university-wide free training programs for our students are further consolidated with the collaboration efforts by our departments and faculties. Our academic units organize theoretical and practical training programs on diverse topics that our students will need for their careers.

In this context, in the online **"Simio Training"** organized as a certificate program by our Industrial Engineering Club on 24 July-08 August, both the academic staff of our Industrial Engineering Department and trainers from Simio Türkiye company delivered free training on how to use the program.



Collaborations

Istanbul Medeniyet University collaborates with numerous public institutions, research institutions, universities, local schools, and NGOs toward numerous goals that would help us achieve the objective of quality education, including ensuring equal access to affordable technical, vocational, and tertiary education; increasing the number of people with relevant skills for financial success; ending all disparities in education; increasing universal literacy and numeracy; providing sustainable development and global citizenship education; and increasing the supply of qualified teachers in developing countries.

Public Institutions

Our Faculty of Medicine uses Göztepe Prof.Dr. Süleyman Yalçın City Hospital as a training and research hospital jointly with the **Ministry of Health** in accordance with the **Joint Use and Cooperation Protocol** signed between **Istanbul Governorship** and IMU. Göztepe Prof.Dr. Süleyman Yalçın City Hospital, which is the largest training and research hospital of the Anatolian side of Istanbul, physicians of the future are given both pre-graduate education and post-graduation specialization training.

The **Governorship of Istanbul** signed a collaboration protocol with IMU to create a **Healthcare, Training, and Research Region**. As per the protocol, our pre- and post-graduate medical students and specialty students are sent to serve in the Training Research Community Health Centers(EATSAMs) and the Training Research Family Health Centers(EAASMs); training programs are designed for the healthcare institutions in the region; and training is provided for the healthcare staff working in the EATSAMs and EAASMs.

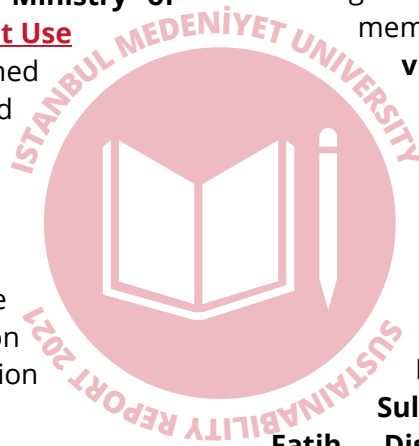
T.R. Ministry of Youth and Sports collaborated with IMU to **establish a Youth Office** to carry out educational, social, cultural, sports, and artistic activities in our campuses. The Youth Office established in our Göztepe North Campus contributes to the academic, professional, personal, social, and physical development of university students, strengthening of their volunteering spirit, and raising them as

individuals who are aware of their social responsibilities. Activities of our Youth Office also contribute to the performance of social services needed by large segments of the society and chiefly those groups that need special policies. These efforts aim to guide the university youth toward spending their free time on solving social problems and providing social services using their knowledge, skills, and competencies they acquire through education.

The General Directorate of Religious Education of the Ministry of National Education signed a collaboration protocol with IMU to ensure that the educational potentials and common educational goals and efforts of educational administrators, teachers, students, parents, and other stakeholders are actively, successfully, effectively, and productively incorporated into and implemented in the education process. Through the collaboration, our academic staff members organize **awareness and visionary activities to support the academic and intellectual development of the students** in Imam Hatip schools. Thanks to these activities, our youth receive coaching for their career development chiefly in major area courses.

District Governorship of Fatih, Fatih Sultan Mehmet Foundation University, Fatih District Directorate of National Education, Fatih District Directorate of Youth and Sports, Governorship of Istanbul, Fatih Social Service Center, Human and Civilization Movement Association, Happy Family Association, and IMU signed a collaboration protocol to develop an integrated service model that involves **family-oriented planning for all children under risk** and their families and chiefly children who are under the risk of dropout and have high absenteeism rates or those who have cut ties with formal education, through the collaborative efforts of the stakeholders from public, civil society, and academic institutions.

The Governorship of Istanbul, Provincial Directorate of National Education and IMU signed a collaboration protocol concerning the **operation of a kindergarten established in IMU** Göztepe North Campus under the Ministry of National Education, appointment of administrators, teachers, and staff for the said kindergarten, and organizing its curriculum.



Istanbul Provincial Directorate of National Education and IMU have signed a collaboration protocol in education, science, arts, sports, and culture.

Kartal Provincial Directorate of National Education signed a collaboration protocol with IMU concerning education, research, and development among academic staff, administrators, teachers, and students.

In 2021, within the scope of this protocol, our students from the Department of Preschool Education led by faculty member Prof.Dr. Yeşim GÜLEÇ ASLAN carried out a project titled **"Be Aware of Disadvantaged Children"** to draw attention to supporting individuals with special needs and to inform the community about Autism Spectrum Disorder. For their project, they were granted an encouragement award at Dr. Yahya ÖZSOY Community Services Awards by the Turkish Community Services Foundation (TOVAK).



24 December 2021

TOVAK Awards Ceremony

Havran Municipality and IMU signed a collaboration protocol for ensuring that the municipality staff processes and transfers personal data in accordance with the Law on the Protection of Personal Data, **raising awareness about the confidentiality of personal information** and related security measures.

Sultanbeyli Municipality and IMU signed a collaboration protocol in education, application, and research aiming to use our university's **academic expertise** to enhance the municipality's service quality.

Üsküdar Provincial Directorate of National Education and IMU signed a protocol for collaboration in education concerning **improving the quality of education services** in the educational institutions run by the Directorate, developing programs to enhance student success, and conducting services to increase teachers' competencies.

IMU signed collaboration **protocols in arts** with **Gaziosmanpaşa Municipality** and **Bağcılar Municipality**. Within the scope of the protocols, our University will contribute to artistic and academic studies, which will facilitate the social and cultural development of the people living in these districts of Istanbul. In addition, our university will organize preparatory exams for those students who would like to take aptitude tests in order to attend college.



Collaboration Protocol in Arts with Gaziosmanpaşa Municipality



Üsküdar Children's University
Graduation Ceremony



March - April 2021

Established through a protocol signed in 2012 between **Üsküdar Municipality** and Istanbul Medeniyet University, **Üsküdar Children's University** is Turkey's first children's university certified by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). Selected from among the prodigious and gifted children in Istanbul through an examination process, students of Üsküdar Children's University receive special training according to their talents in different fields including science, technology, sports, and arts. The students are taught by the faculty members of Istanbul Medeniyet University.

Ümraniye Type-T Closed Penitentiary Institution run by the Ministry of Justice General Directorate of Prisons and Detention Houses signed a collaboration protocol with IMU concerning the performance of various activities including vocational training courses, health screening tests for the convicts in the



institution, and organizing educational, social, cultural, and sports activities aiming to increase the motivation and productivity among the institution's staff and to ensure that the convicts can make the best use of their time in the institution by acquiring the knowledge and skills required for their social rehabilitation.

Local Schools

Gebze Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Hayrullah Kefoğlu Anatolian High School, Istanbul Prof.Dr. Mümtaz Turhan Social Sciences High School, ITO Şehit Ragıp Ali Bilgen Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Kadıköy Ahmet Sani Gezici Anatolian Imam Hatip High School for Girls, Kadıköy Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Kadıköy Anatolian Imam Hatip High School for Girls, Kandilli High School for Girls, Kartal Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Kartal Mehmet Akif Ersoy Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Maltepe Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Rabia Anatolian Imam Hatip High School for Girls, Sultanbeyli Nilüfer Hatun Anatolian Imam Hatip High School for Girls, Sultanbeyli Şehit Muhammed Fazlı Demir Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, and Tenzile Erdoğan Anatolian High School for Girls have signed protocols of collaboration in education with our university. Thanks to these protocols, the students of local schools are given the **opportunity to use our campus facilities and the resources in our central library**, which is the largest university library in Turkey, as well as our educational facilities such as laboratories and conference halls, and attending classes; moreover, they are provided with **academic support** for their project and research efforts by the faculty members and graduate students of the related department of our university.



“ **9.520+** STUDENTS from local schools used our campus facilities and provided with academic support ”



As per the collaboration protocol between **Biltek Schools** and IMU, children of our university staff members are given a 40% **discount** in Üsküdar Campus of Biltek Schools **for education** programs at kindergarten, primary and secondary school, and high school levels, thereby creating an opportunity for the access to affordable quality education.



Research Institutions and Universities

Atatürk University, Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli University Continuing Education Application and Research Center, and Istanbul University Faculty of Open and Distance Education have signed collaboration protocols with IMU on the planning and administering of their central exams to be held in the Anatolian side of Istanbul. In the context of these protocols, we share our classrooms with these partner institutions and offer them for students' use in the exams so that everyone can have access to affordable higher education services through **open learning and distance education programs**.

Alisher Navo'i Tashkent State University of Uzbek Language and Literature and IMU signed a collaboration protocol to ensure that the two universities will lend **academic and cultural support** to one another; faculty members from both universities can teach for the partner institution when needed; activities can be carried out to procure educational materials published in one of the countries such as encyclopedias, books, journals, etc.; the alumni of both universities will be given opportunities for their master's and PhD education; and conferences, panels, and symposia will be organized on certain topics.



Collaboration Protocol with Alisher Navo'i Tashkent State University

Kokand State Pedagogical Institute and IMU signed a collaboration protocol for academic staff exchange, carrying out joint research projects, joint education and student supervision, joint participation in workshops and congresses, and student mobility.



Collaboration Protocol with Kokand State Pedagogical Institute

Islamische Gemeinschaft Milli Görüş educational institutions and IMU signed a collaboration protocol for research, promotion of relations between the academic staff of the partner institutions, joint use and publication of research results, and mutual transfer of educational perspectives and experience in scientific events.

IMU has signed with a total of **156 higher education institutions** that allow student and faculty mobility in the participating countries in the **Erasmus+** program.

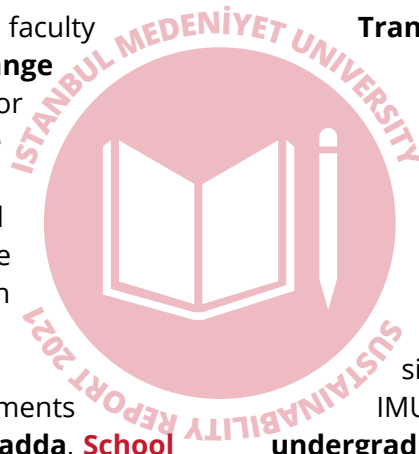
IMU has signed partnership agreements with a total of **14 universities** in Turkey, including **Aydın Adnan Menderes, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart, Dicle, Düzce, Gaziantep, Hatay Mustafa Kemal, Hitit, Kilis 7 Aralık, Muğla Sıtkı Koçman, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir, Ondokuz Mayıs, Ordu, Trakya, and Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit Universities** for student and faculty exchange through **Farabi Exchange Program**, which enables student or academic staff mobility among the higher education institutions in Turkey for one or two semesters and is financed and coordinated by the Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK).

IMU has signed partnership agreements with **University of Hargeisa Jamacadda, School of Business of Belarusian State University, Belarusian National Technical University** and **Ahmet Yesevi University** for student and faculty exchange through **Mevlana Exchange Program**, which aims the exchange of students and academic staff between the Turkish higher education institutions and any higher education institution in the world regardless of their region and is financed and coordinated by the Turkish Council of Higher Education (YÖK).



Partnership Agreements with Belarusian Universities

A total of 13 institutions from different parts of the world have signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with Istanbul Medeniyet University to carry out joint scientific activities, joint projects and research, student and faculty exchange, and academic publication exchange. These partners of IMU include **Frantz Fanon University (Somalia), International University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Tashkent Institute of Architecture and Civil Engineering (Uzbekistan), Universiti Sains (Malaysia), Khoja Akhmet Yassawi International Kazakh-Turkish University (Kazakhstan), Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta (Indonesia), Tashkent State University of Economics (Uzbekiastan), Islamic University in Uganda, Amoud University (Somalia), Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (Ukraine), University of Faisalabad (Pakistan), Islamic University of Gaza, and the National Office for Innovation and Technology Transfer (Uzbekistan).**



Samarkand State Medical University have signed **academic collaboration** agreements with IMU.

Non-Governmental Organizations Education Sciences and Social Research Association (EBSAD)

signed a collaboration protocol with IMU concerning the **organization of undergraduate and graduate programs and social activities** jointly by IMU Sociopark and EBSAD in order to carry out planned activities chiefly in the areas decided by the two institutions as well as in other areas deemed appropriate, to improve the participants' educational levels and enhance their knowledge and skills through training programs to be developed by the parties, positively motivate them, and help them gain the skills required for their career development.

As part of the educational collaboration protocol signed between the **Turkish Maarif Foundation** and IMU, our university gives **academic support** to the training programs organized by the Foundation.

Istanbul Family Foundation signed a collaboration protocol with IMU to carry out **family-oriented scientific activities, sociocultural activities, scientific research and applications.**

Happy Family Happy Child Association and IMU have signed a collaboration protocol to carry out **cultural, social, and academic training programs**, events, symposia, projects, scholarships, and research.



11 November 2021

Collaboration Protocol with Happy Family Happy Child Association

The Gifted and Genius Children Education Foundation of Turkey (TÜZDEV) signed a collaboration protocol with IMU to **support the gifted and genius children in their education**, who constitute our country's above-ground treasures, in accessing educational services; to create supporting educational programs for R&D activities and development of national education policies; and to establish new educational institutions when needed. As part of the protocol, talent workshops are organized for training gifted and genius students; joint projects are carried out for funders; collaborative research projects and joint academic meetings are held; an environment for practice is provided for the Gifted students; joint academic and cultural symposia, conferences, workshops, and meetings are organized and hosted; training seminars are organized for families; research activities are carried out with resulting publications; and training programs and courses are developed.



24 December 2021

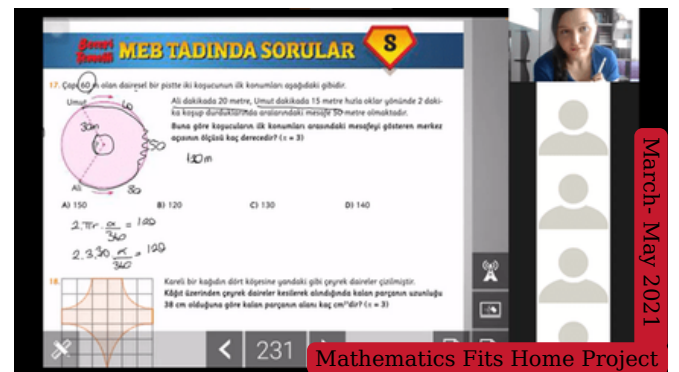
Collaboration Protocol with The Gifted and Genius Children Education Foundation of Turkey

Istanbul Volunteer Educators Association (İGEDER) signed a collaboration protocol with IMU to plan for and carry out **education, application, and research activities** as well as sociocultural events and to collaborate on and implement joint projects.

Education Outreach Activities

Established through a protocol signed in 2012 between Istanbul Medeniyet University and Üsküdar Municipality, **Üsküdar Children's University** is Turkey's first children's university certified by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). Selected from among the prodigious and gifted children in Istanbul through an examination process, students of Üsküdar Children's University receive special training according to their talents in different fields including science, technology, sports, and arts. The students are taught by the faculty members of Istanbul Medeniyet University and upon completing their studies, they are expected to write a graduation thesis to **graduate**. Involving a two-year and four-stage Prodigious Children's Education as well as over fifty courses and workshops for gifted students in Üsküdar, the Children's University serves around 2000 gifted children in two different campuses.

A team consisting of the students from Department of Mathematics Education carried out the project named **"Mathematics Fits Home"** within the scope of 2020- 2021 Spring Semester Community Service Course. The project aimed to ensure equality in education for the children of families with low socio-economic status by providing them online math course support 32 students from 5th to 8th grade benefited from the learning opportunity offered with the project, which started on March 15, 2021 and ended on May 6, 2021. The project helped the students make up for the mathematics classes they had missed during the Covid-19 pandemic, and the students were supported to prepare for the LGS exams. In the questionnaire shared with the students at the end of the project, the majority of the students stated that they understood the lessons and could receive training support from the teacher when necessary.



March- May 2021

Mathematics Fits Home Project



A school disaster awareness project was carried out between October 29 and November 4, 2021, within the scope of the cooperation protocol signed by the Turkish Red Crescent Association and our University in order to improve disaster awareness through lifelong learning in the community and to create behavior change in disaster risk reduction and taking precautions in cities. The project "[School Disaster Awareness Social Responsibility Project](#)" conducted by Assoc.Prof.Dr. Cengiz İPEK from the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences and Assoc.Prof.Dr. Alpaslan Hamdi KUZUCUOĞLU from the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of our university was designed to increase the awareness of the students, teachers, and employees of Kocaeli Kartepe Süleyman Şah Primary School, which was selected as a pilot school, through disaster awareness training delivered by our faculty members.

Our student of the Department of Preschool Education at Istanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Educational Sciences developed a project to raise awareness about waste management and recycling. Yüstra TEMEL's project titled "[Don't Let our Tomorrows Go to Waste](#)" was consulted by Asst.Prof.Dr. Nihan ŞAHINKAYA of IMU Department of Basic Education and was implemented in a private kindergarten in Istanbul. The project was planned with the aim of creating "zero waste" and "recycling" awareness both among children and adults to activate them. With this aim, a training with activities on zero waste and recycling was held for 9 weeks with the participation of 13 four-year-old children in the project school along with their families.



Don't Let our Tomorrows Go to Waste Project

Our students, who are members of Istanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Medicine EMSA (European Medical Students' Association) student club, [visited Yıldırım Beyazıt Special Education Kindergarten](#) in Istanbul Küçükçekmece on December 07, 2021. In the kindergarten that our club visited, they had a fun time playing various games, doing activities and singing children's songs with children aged 4-7 with Down syndrome, autism and intellectual disabilities of various levels. In addition, the books, paint materials, etc. were donated by our students. After donating the gifts to the kindergarten, souvenir photos were taken at the end of the visit.



07 December 2021

Yıldırım Beyazıt Special Education Kindergarten Visit



Asst.Prof. Emine AYYILDIZ from Department of Basic Education gave a tailored lecture in a panel about Inclusion and Integration Practices in Special Education Practices organized by Istanbul Provincial Directorate of National Education as part of the 3 December International Day of Persons with Disabilities. AYYILDIZ delivered a speech titled "[Inclusion or Integration? The Difference Between Inclusion and Integration Philosophies in Social and Educational Perspectives](#)", in which she emphasized that "individualized education program" for students is incorrect by definition; that it is important for students to be called by their names; and that each student is special. She also talked about the difference between inclusion and inclusive philosophy, which has been a hotly debated topic in special education for many years. AYYILDIZ said that inclusion has been a higher-order philosophy since the mid-1990s and is not just about educating children with special needs, or even just about education. She also emphasized that inclusion is a legal and educational human right that concerns all individuals who do not have access to the necessary opportunities and who do not have fair conditions both socially and educationally.

Science and Civilization Club and volunteers of Young Civilization IHH held the organization named **“Make the Orphan Laugh! Charity Sale”** at Goztepe South Campus C Block on December 29-30, 2021. Various food products and handmade bags were sold at the charity sale, which was followed with interest by our students. The money collected during the two-day charity sale was transferred to the Orphan Fund of the IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, which undertakes the regular care of orphans every month and supports them in education, health, food and shelter. Thanks to the event, which was held within the scope of social responsibility, our students contributed to ensure orphan children’s access to the health system, to prevent malnutrition, to meet their needs for education and poverty reduction of them. On the one hand, the event contributed to the development of social solidarity and cooperation awareness with the efforts of the Science and Civilization Club members and the support of our students. On the other hand, with the amount collected at the charity sale, education, health, food, shelter and similar expenses of three orphan children were covered for one year.



29-30 December 2021

Make the Orphan Laugh! Charity Sale

Our educational activities are not limited to Turkey but also reach overseas. Within the scope of the International Education Programs conducted by **Istanbul Medeniyet University Africa Health Training and Research Center** (IMU MASAM) in 2021, 53 students from 13 different universities in 7 different countries (Azerbaijan, Palestine, Sudan, Uganda, Jordan, Yemen, Somaliland) received medical training in 12 different departments at Istanbul Medeniyet University Göztepe Prof. Dr. Süleyman Yalçın City Hospital. MASAM has been organizing an international medical seminar series called **“Istanbul-Africa Health Meetings”** and the third one of the seminar series was held online on 25 May 2021 under the theme “Obstetric Fistula Fact in Africa”.



As part of the collaboration protocols concluded between our University and numerous African universities, physician associates can visit our hospital and our Faculty of Medicine for training and observation purposes. Within the scope of MASAM’s **General Surgery and Cardiology Resident Training Program**, one general surgery resident and two cardiology residents from Somaliland Hargeisa University visited our training and research hospital as observers for two months in 2021. Also in 2021, meetings were held by our faculty members working for MASAM to plan for the Residency Programs in **Pediatrics** and **Gynecology and Obstetrics**, which started in 2021 to continue for three years. In the programs, seven pediatrics residents and five residents of gynecology and obstetrics from Somaliland Frantz Fanon University will receive training in our hospital by our medical faculty members.

Learning processes are key in achieving SDGs. Thus, universities play a critical role both by training professionals who will prioritize SDGs in their future practices and by increasing local, national, and global capacity to successfully achieve SDGs. As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we are fully aware of our critical role and thus aim to empower and motivate for SDGs not only our students through course contents, co-curricular activities, and student club activities, but also the community at large at a much wider scale. Therefore, we organize university-wide life-long learning activities, online courses, certificate programs, seminars, workshops, congresses, symposia, and panels that are open to all segments of society for participation. In 2021, we held a wide range of learning activities to improve the quality of education.

Public Events

As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we have been constantly increasing our activities for **sustainable development education** and held our first **Sustainability Week** in 2021 as a series of events that were organized as open to the general public in addition to our campus community. Under the guidance of our Rector, the events were planned and organized by IMU International Performance Development Center and Medeniyet Gemisi student club and included 11 speakers, one workshop and a trip held throughout the week of 20-24 December with around 1350 participants. Aiming to seek answers to the question "How can we leave a more livable, more sustainable, and self-sufficient world to future generations?", IMU Sustainability Week focused on the concept of sustainability that has become a hot topic in the post-pandemic world in its various dimensions from energy, health, food, and cuisine to finance, water resources, and industry, all discussed in depth by field experts.



On its first day on 20 December 2021, IMU Sustainability Week started with the opening remarks by Rector Prof. Dr. Gülfettin ÇELİK, who talked about the historical background of Easter Island natives who recklessly destroyed their natural resources and condemned themselves to poverty and primitiveness over the centuries and highlighted the lessons we need to learn from their story today. In his presentation on **"sustainable energy"**, Prof. Dr. İbrahim DİNÇER, a faculty member of Ontario Tech and Yıldız Technical Universities, underlined our pressing need to quit using fossil fuels and shift to sustainable energy in parallel with the rapidly increasing amount of energy consumed by humans per capita, a shift that has already been accelerated by the pandemic, and provided information about the current projects for hydrogen production and examples of integrated systems from Turkey and the world where sustainable energy is used.



The second speaker of the first day was **Prof. Dr. Erhan AKDOĞAN**, President of the Health Institutes of Turkey (TUSEB) and faculty member of Yıldız Technical University, who focused on **"sustainability in healthcare"** in his speech. He discussed the development of health technologies in Turkey in the context of sustainability, underlining that the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly showed the world the importance of sustainability in health, science, and technology.

On the second day of the Sustainability Week, Dr. Kamil KILIÇ, Chief Executive Officer of Letven Capital, delivered a speech on **"green finance"**, in which he emphasized that a transformation is underway from the conventional finance understanding where the value produced is measured only in money to an understanding that is defined not only by money but also by intellectual, social, and environmental values.

In the workshop on renewable and clean energy production that followed, the participants played a role game called **“ElectriCITY: Energy Preferences Game”**, in which they could generate energy policies as decision makers in the energy production of the city. In the game moderated by Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBILEK of IMU Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Geological Engineer Gökhan SAPMAZ, the participants gained an understanding of the challenges and tradeoffs in making energy and policy decisions in a fun environment.



ElectriCITY: Energy Preferences Game

Day 2 ended with a presentation on **“food sustainability”** delivered by Abdurrahman KAAN, Executive Board Member in Kaanlar Corporate Group and 6th President of MUSIAD (Independent Industrialists and Businessmen’s Association), who focused on topics such as the long-term sustainability of the supply chain, the massive losses suffered in the process of delivering vegetable and fruits to the consumers in Turkey, the importance of packaging and recycling, the Green Deal model, and life in the countryside.

On the third day, we hosted Prof.Dr. Hasan MANDAL, President of TUBITAK (Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey), who delivered a presentation titled **“Co-Development and Co-Achievement toward a Sustainable Future and Green Transition”**, in which he shared with the audience the global risk landscape of the next decade and underlined that environmental risks such as climate action failure, biodiversity loss, and crises in natural resources can only be overcome through the “co-development and co-achievement” approach.



Co-Development and Co-Achievement toward a Sustainable Future and Green Transition Seminar

Lect. Merve MANDAL YAMAN of IMU Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts delivered a presentation on **“Green Kitchen”**, in which she sought answers to the question “How can we achieve sustainability in the kitchen as we do in all other areas?” by focusing on the current threats to the catering sector as well as hunger, diseases, lack of drinking water, and food waste due to unfair use of resources and gave examples of green generation restaurants. In his speech on **“Sustainability in Textiles”**, Vehbi CANPOLAT, President of the Textile Finishing Industrialists Association of Turkey (TTSD) and Member of the Board of Directors of Istanbul Chamber of Industry, pointed out that textile industry is one of the sectors that cause the highest amount of environmental pollution in the world and discussed solutions such as shifting to renewable energy sources in all production processes, treatment and reuse of water polluted with chemicals, and recycling worn clothes.



Seminar on Sustainability in Textiles

The last speaker of Day 3 was Prof.Dr. Barış ÇALLI of Marmara University, who delivered a presentation on **“Sustainability and the Green Deal”** focusing on the greenhouse gases that are the cause of global climate change, the fight against climate crisis, and the scope of the Paris Agreement and the European Green Deal and discussed protecting biodiversity, eliminating pollution from field to table, clean energy, sustainable industry, construction and renovation, sustainable and intelligent transportation, and eliminating pollution.

On Day 4 of the Sustainability Week, Prof.Dr. Ahmet Mete SAATÇI, President of the Turkish Water Institute (SUEN), delivered a presentation on the **“Water Resources of Istanbul”**, in which he discussed the pressure on water due to climate change, global warming and drought scenarios, the water shortage predicted for Turkey in the coming decades in parallel with the population growth, the amount of water wasted through wild irrigation in agriculture, and the problems caused by salting in soil.

In his presentation on **“Technological Sustainability in Automotive Industry”**, Ahmet Erdem ÖNER, Toyota Toyotetsu Project Management, R&D, and Automation Manager, informed the audience about the Kaizen philosophy as a notion that aims for continuous improvement, emphasizing that in this technique, sustainability is achieved by continuously reducing the errors in the system and eliminating waste.



22 December 2021

Technological Sustainability in Automotive Industry Seminar

On the last day of the week, we hosted Serkan KELEŞER, ETI Mine Works General Manager and Chairman of the Board of Directors, with his speech titled **“Sustainability of the Environment and Natural Resources: The Case of Boron”**, in which he introduced their projects and activities to produce value-added products such as boric acid, armor, and lithium, all of which are of greater financial value and are obtained through recycling of the liquid and solid wastes generated during boron production.



24 December 2021

Sustainability of the Environment and Natural Resources: The Case of Boron Seminar

More information can be obtained from our **Sustainability Week** booklet **here**.

Istanbul Medeniyet University Department of Architecture organized the online **“Mimarlık Araştırmaları”** seminar series between June and October 2021. The seminars were moderated by different faculty members of the Department of Architecture. Studies on different topics were presented by 7 different researchers. The seminars attracted a great deal of attention from researchers and more than a hundred people participated in the series. Among the topics covered in the seminar series, subjects such as urban development, the increase in the urban population, the place of women in urban life were discussed in different presentations. Immigration as a factor that shapes cities, development of cities and the problems that occur in cities such as slum areas, economic inequality, and extreme poverty were underlined. Also, threats like urbanization and public infrastructure that faced by natural and cultural heritage sites of universal value were clarified. Another subject that talked

about was environmental psychology. The effects of the environment on people was discussed within the framework of environmental psychology and mutual comments were shared. Sustainability, smart cities, smart buildings and water management were also featured as the topics of some of the presentations made at the seminar. Concerning smart buildings, the use of advanced technological systems such as water management systems, which are frequently used in smart buildings and provide a very high amount of savings, systems that increase the energy efficiency of lighting systems, which have an important place in terms of energy consumption today, were discussed. Other important presentation topics included sustainable buildings, renewable energy, water scarcity, and water-borne diseases.



“Mimarlık Araştırmaları” Seminar Series



"İstanbul Kent Araştırmaları" (İstanbul Urban Studies) seminar series organized by IMU Department of Urban and Regional Planning hosted 26 seminars in 2021. The seminars were organized as two separated series (quarterly periods) weekly and online. 27 researchers from 8 different profession and 17 different institutions shared the results of their studies which they have conducted in the past three years in Istanbul. Seminars attracting a lot of attention were viewed by 556 participants in total. 42% of the presented studies focused on Istanbul in general. In the seminars, 93 different projects/areas planned for Istanbul were discussed in terms of their different dimensions via 26 presentations. Research areas and topics discussed in the seminars have revealed important results for Istanbul's agenda. One of the most outstanding topics brought to discussion by the studies is how Istanbul's multi-layered structure directs urban planning, and the results of city-wide planning practices and its effects on sustainability. In this context, one of the much-debated issues was cultural heritage and world heritage sites in Istanbul -whose historical areas were included in the UNESCO World Heritage List- and their needs for preservation. In connection with the preservation studies, transformation processes that Istanbul has undergone in conformity with its global identity were also frequently addressed. Focusing on the examples, big-scale urban projects' certain impacts on Istanbul's identity and texture are analyzed. These projects were evaluated as pilot

projects to attract more investment instead of renewing old areas. This perspective also enabled important discussions about the place and importance of citizen participation in these processes of change and transformation, starting from the right to the city. In addition to urban management and governance, risk management was also discussed as a main theme in the webinars. Furthermore, the "health city" concept, as Covid-19 pandemic took the world by storm, was one of the much-debated issues. Although nearly all urban development strategies discussed in the seminars and implemented in Istanbul are a part of the efforts to create a sustainable city and society, researchers also drew attention to the fact that metropolitan municipalities and related institutions have been suffering from decreases in their budgets to fulfill their goals to provide environmental protection and to fight climate change.

Psychology Club of our university organized an online training seminar called **"Being a Psychologist in a Non-Governmental Organization"** on February 13, 2021. The speaker of the seminar was Specialist Clinical Psychologist Ayşe Hümeyra KUTLUOĞLU KARAYEL. In her speech KUTLUOĞLU KARAYEL expressed that the breadth and depth of the skills and knowledge of psychologists are especially compatible with the needs and demands of NGOs in the community services sector and said that psychologists should be able to develop and use their expertise in capacity building NGOs, and also to help them develop and use skills such as disability, child protection and mental health. In addition, she underlined that being a psychologist in an NGO is compatible with the core competencies of the psychology profession, including tasks frequently requested from staff in NGOs, assessment, case formulation, intervention, assessment and follow-up, and engaging with clients of all ages. Finally, she stated that NGOs can also offer psychologists the opportunity to participate in research projects independently or in partnership with universities. The seminar provided the participants with the opportunity for vocational training through the important points and experiences related by the speakers.

Within the scope of the Community Service Practices course, an event was organized by the students of the Preschool Education Department. The activity has been planned to contribute to the transformation of future teachers' working environments into effective teaching environments, including all individuals with special needs. In addition, it is aimed to support the necessary pre-service education so that teacher candidates who will work with preschool children can create inclusive education environments. Within the scope of the event carried out in cooperation with the Special Education and Preschool Education Departments, a seminar series titled **"A View of Autism Spectrum Disorder from the Window of Teaching"** was held. The first session of the seminars was conducted by Dr. Emine AYYILDIZ on April 1, 2021. The second session was held by Ayşe Büşra SUBAŞI YURTÇU on April 8, 2021. The seminar series, in which critical experiences and suggestions about Autism Spectrum Disorder were shared with the teacher candidates in our faculty, ended after the question and answer session.

Strategic Thinking Club, one of the student clubs of our university, held the **"Strategic Meetings Week'21"** event with the participation of experts in the field of technology. Our students showed great interest in the event, which was held under the theme of "International Relations and Technology" in the form of five separate sessions, at the Aşık Paşa Conference Hall in Goztepe South Campus of our university on 8-9 December, 2021. Experts in the field of technology gave different speeches in a wide range such as; economic development, effective and efficient usage of technology and the internet of things for economic growth, job creation and employment increase, social stability, more economic productivity and increase in society's welfare.



Strategic Meetings Week'21

The event **"EU Meetings with Youth"** organized by the Faculty of Political Sciences of Istanbul Medeniyet University was held on May 31, 2021 with the participation of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Director for EU Affairs Ambassador Faruk KAYMAKCI and valued EU Presidency bureaucrats. In addition to Turkey-EU Relations, ErasmusYouth Programs, College of Europe and Jean Monnet Scholarship Programs, and career opportunities in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also discussed. In the program, the main problems in Turkey-EU Relations were evaluated in terms of economic development, religion, geographical and population size, relations with neighbors, and Copenhagen Criteria. While underlining the main difficulties regarding Turkey's membership process, KAYMAKCI emphasized the benefits that this membership will create for both the EU and Turkey, as an answer to the question of why membership is necessary for our country.



EU Meetings with Youth

IMU Career Club hosted Adem KAYAR, who is the founding partner of automation and digitalization group companies and also the general manager, with his speech titled **"Industry 4.0 and Digitalization"** at the online event held on November 5, 2021. KAYAR shared his professional experiences on Industry 4.0 and digitalization subjects with our students at the event. He also talked about the industrial innovations brought by applications such as smart reactor application, basket traceability application, bench traceability application and web robot application developed in factory automation systems and the importance of the economic productivity provided by these innovations in the industry. Stating that digitalization will inevitably shape the future, he advised students to get used to digitalization before it's too late to be successful in business life, to improve themselves in this regard, and to acquire a component from the digital field as a hobby, no matter what profession they are in. In the event, vocational training was provided to the participants with the knowledge and experience conveyed by KAYAR, a pioneer and important name in his profession.

Istanbul Medeniyet University School of Foreign Languages organized a webinar on November 19, 2021 in cooperation with National Geographic (Kardeş Kitap). The webinar **“Maximizing Online Participation”** was delivered by Amir ESMKHNAL, who is one of the National Geographic academic trainers. The trainer shared strategies on how to maximize students’ motivation in online education in the webinar, whose participants were the instructors of the School of Foreign Languages. He also discussed the ways to increase students’ participation in their learning process and the problems of student engagement and lack of motivation in online education that has now become a necessity due to the Covid-19 pandemic as these are described as the most important problem in the National Geographic research results. It was explained that engagement in the course can be carried out in 4 different ways: student-content, student-teacher, student-student and out-of-school. Finally, the trainer raised some questions on ways to ensure course engagement such as “Is this a general issue or just about online education? What/Who has a problem-students, teachers, material, method or expectations? Is this engagement, participation or attendance?” and various suggestions were made together.



IMU Career Club organized an online event on December 27, 2021, and Canberk DEMİR took part as a speaker with the topic of **“Keeping Up With Digital Transformation”**. DEMİR said, “One of the important issues brought by the digital world is to accept change. The first step that is important for digitalization is self-discovery and learning to learn”. He stated that in order to be successful in the software industry, which is one of the most important areas of digital transformation, people should know how to question, not memorize, only in this way, they can develop themselves with a solution-oriented and innovative approach. He emphasized that the

field of software and digitalization constantly requires industrial innovations. DEMİR also emphasized that in today’s business world, just as people need to improve themselves, businesses also need digitalization, which has become a necessity of the age in order to survive. He stated that the companies that have achieved success in the business world are companies that attach importance to product innovation and manufacturing innovation and closely follow the requirements of the age.



“We Have our Say for the Future 2021: Savings and Efficiency Symposium” organized by Üsküdar Directorate of National Education with the contribution of IMU and Kadir Has University was held online on January 14, 2021 to raise awareness about the concepts among the students of the project high schools in Üsküdar district. Our Faculty of Educational Sciences provided support to the **“Savings and Efficiency in Education”** dimension of the project under the consultancy of Assoc.Prof.Dr. Özcan Erkan AKGÜN discussed how productivity in education could be related to productivity in our country. Asst.Prof.Dr. İsa YILMAZ from our Faculty of Political Sciences delivered his speech on **“The Importance of Saving for Development”**, in which he underlined that preventing waste of resources is of great importance for the efficient distribution and sustainability of resources and the aims of sustainable growth, a developed economy, and fairness in income distribution can be achieved with the incorporation of the savings approach into the national economy. Two faculty members of our Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Prof.Dr. Sevda AVCI and Assoc.Prof.Dr. Hasan KÖTEN, made presentations on **“Saving in Technology”** and **“Efficiency and Technology Production”**. In their presentations, our faculty members mainly examined the issues of efficiency and savings under the sub-themes of education, technology, human resources and other resources and discussed how to use resources efficiently.

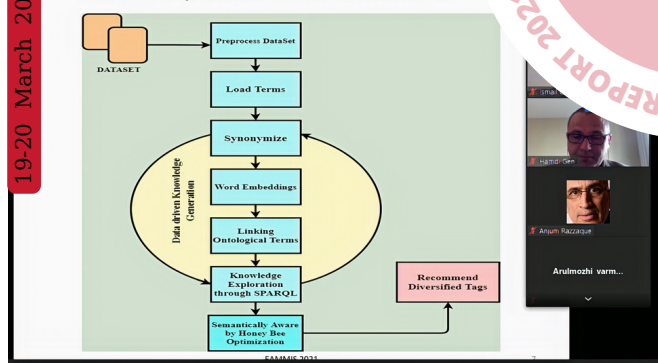
The Diabetes Student Symposium, organized with the collaboration of our Nutrition and Dietetics Department and Faculty of Medicine, was held online on January 23, 2021 for the fourth time under the theme "Pandemic and Diabetes" due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the symposium, faculty members of our university's Medicine Faculty and Nutrition and Dietetics Department discussed topics such as the use of tele-medicine, nutrition, immunity, and physical activity during the Covid-19 pandemic at the sessions. The aim of the symposium was to increase public health by increasing the awareness and knowledge level of the society and health professionals about diabetes. Approximately 300 students from medical faculties, nursing, nutrition, and dietetics departments of different universities' attended the symposium.



23 January 2021

The Diabetes Student Symposium

The EAMMIS 2021 Conference



19-20 March 2021

The EAMMIS 2021 Conference themed under Artificial Intelligence Systems and Internet of Things in the Digital Age was organized in 2021 on 19-20 March and was hosted by IMU and held in cooperation with the Bridge Foundation. A total of 10 separate sessions were held and 47 papers were presented over two days in the conference, which was conducted online with participants from 45 different countries. In the sessions, Innovation in the Digital Age, Industry 4.0 Management for Sustainable Technologies, the use of Blockchain, DLT and Fintech for AI and IoT in the Digital Age, the Role of Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things and Cyber Security and Privacy, The Fifth Industrial Revolution: Internet of Ideas were discussed.

The 5th MEDJRCONGRESS National Medical Student Congress organized by the students of our Faculty of Medicine was held online on 20-21 March 2021 under the main theme "Pandemics". The two-day event received a lot of attention from the students and faculty of both our Faculty of Medicine and from the medical students and academic staff of other universities in Turkey. The congress included presentations by field experts on Turkey's first mRNA vaccine project, phase studies for the COVID-19 vaccine in Turkey, management of COVID-19, medical training during the pandemic, social impact of the pandemic, and the origins of the coronavirus, as well as presentations by our medical students on scientific databases and historical pandemics.

On April 2 World Autism Awareness Day, IMU Faculty of Education Sciences and IMU Autism Research Center jointly organized an online panel titled **"A Multidimensional Look at Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)"**, which brought together a wide audience of academics, specialists, teachers, individuals with ASD and their families.



ANDEMI Döneminde Gerçekleştirilen Ulusal Kongreler



02 April 2021

A Multidimensional Look at Autism Spectrum Disorder Panel

Organized by the student clubs formed by the students of our Faculty of Health Sciences, the **1st Health Sciences Symposium** was held online on 23 May 2021 with the participation of 500 students and faculty members from various health sciences departments. The symposium was organized under the theme **"Communication in Health"** by the members of our university clubs including Medeniyet Hearing and Balance Club, Medeniyet Health Club, Nutrition and Dietetics Club, Techno Health Club, Student Nurses Society, and Social Work Club. In a total of three panels that lasted throughout the day, faculty members of our Faculty of Health Sciences and specialists from different universities discussed important topics such as health literacy, communication with refugees, public health in the media, violence against healthcare professionals, and health communication during the pandemic.

The 2nd School Administrators Conference (ISPC2021) jointly organized by Istanbul Medeniyet University, the Leading School Principals Society, and Istanbul Directorate of National Education under the theme “School Autonomy” was held online on 23-24-25 June 2021 with the participation of nearly 200 speakers from Turkey and around the world. The conference focused on the concepts of school autonomy, school, learner, teacher, administration, and finance in all levels of formal education from the perspective of a wide range of disciplines including education, sociology, politics, and law. A total of five panels and ten workshops were held in which best practice examples.



2nd School Administrators Conference

As part of the [cooperation protocol on fighting against cyberbullying](#) signed between İstanbul Medeniyet University, Güngören District Governorship, and Güngören District National Education Directorate, the [Cyberbullying and Children Panel](#) was organized on 13 November 2021 to raise awareness about cyberbullying. The online panel received a lot of attention particularly from teachers and parents with 240 participants.

“We Have our Say for the Future 2021: Savings and Efficiency Symposium” organized by Üsküdar Directorate of National Education with the contribution of Istanbul Medeniyet University and Kadir Has University was held online on January 14, 2021 to raise awareness about the concepts among the students of the project high schools in Üsküdar district.

The International Informatics and Technology Law Symposium, organized in cooperation with our university and the Informatics and Technology Law Association, was held at Üsküdar Science Center on 3-5 December 2021. Fifty-one different academic papers from eighteen different universities and different institutions were presented in the sessions organized under thirteen different titles in the field of informatics and technology law. The symposium was received with great interest from the participants including IT professionals, legal experts, academics, students, and the general public. During the three-day symposium, the speakers discussed cybersecurity, information security, AI, blockchain technology, taxing of cryptocurrencies, the legal implications of the use of certain internet applications, social media platforms, electronic communication, personal privacy on social networks, intellectual ownership of digital content, and online courts from the standpoint of various branches of law including constitutional and administrative law, company law, tax law, and penal law.



International Informatics and Technology Law Symposium

Our University organized the **Hybrid Conference on Accessibility and Disability** on 3 December 2021 to bring together our University administration, the members of IMU Disabled Students' Commission, our academic staff members, students, individuals with disabilities, and their families to identify, discuss, and find solutions for the problems of people with disabilities in order to improve their conditions pertaining to accessibility in our campuses. In the final session on what our university has been doing to create a disabled-friendly campus, our academic and administrative staff members discussed the specific measures taken in our newly-constructed buildings, examples of the actions taken by our Faculties of Medicine, Education Sciences, and Arts and Humanities for our students with disabilities, and career planning for individuals with special needs.

“Non-Invasive Facial Treatments” training hosted by the Department of Otorhinolaryngology at Istanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Medicine was held on October 16, 2021 in our South Campus Aşık Paşa Conference Hall. In line with the Sustainable Development Goals and within the scope of partnerships for the goals, the training was held with the cooperation of the Facial Plastic Surgery Association, with the contributions of Bilim Ilac and Seltek Group companies, and aimed to increase access to technology and knowledge and help our physicians follow the recent developments through vocational training courses. In the training, instructors Prof.Dr. Taşkın YÜCEL and Prof. Dr. Gökçe ÖZEL discussed botulinum toxin and filling applications on the face. More than one hundred and fifty otorhinolaryngologists chiefly from Istanbul and various provinces such as Kocaeli, Sakarya, Düzce and Zonguldak participated in our event, which aimed to raise healthy individuals and provide equal access to education.



16 October 2021

“Non-Invasive Facial Treatments” Training

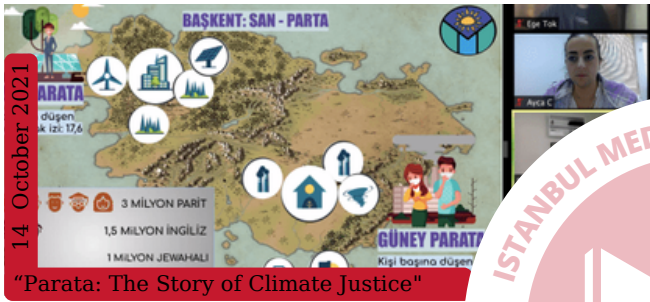
IMU Department of Sociology hosted the Social Structure Research Summer School Program for Graduate Students and held a training titled **“Data Literacy in Social Structure Research”** as part of the program on September 6-7, 2021. The training was designed as a vocational training program for graduate students and researchers and was offered free of charge to 30 participants from different universities. In the program, the participants were presented with the basic theoretical approaches about the change in social structure, the research that will enable the analysis of Turkey’s social structure and its components, and a framework that will guide them to new perspectives. In the two-day program involving practical and theoretical courses, data collection and analysis, utilization of different data sources, data modeling methods and visualization of data with different techniques were carried out.

Two online teacher training seminars were organized by IMU School of Foreign Languages on April 2, 2021 in cooperation with Oxford University Press and Professional Development Unit on **“Using Technology and Online Sources in Education”** and **“Using Games”**. The first training session was delivered by Nick MANTHEI, one of the Oxford University Press teacher trainers. In this session, MANTHEI discussed practical applications, ideas, and technological tools to be used in education. The second session on “Using Games” was given by Aysu ŞİMŞEK, also an Oxford University Press trainer. In this session, ŞİMŞEK introduced some interesting online tools, as well as different games and activities that can be fun for both teachers and students and strengthen the learning process.



Medeniyet Gemisi Student Club held the **“AFAD Training”** event on December 18, 2021. In the training, first of all, AFAD experts gave theoretical information on the types of natural disasters, the ways of protection from disasters, the points to be considered for disaster risk reduction and etc. The experts emphasized the importance of resilient buildings and urban transformation in our city where the earthquake risk is high. After the theoretical briefing, the debris fields were examined in order to observe the damage caused by the disasters. The participants, who experienced the severity of the three major earthquakes that took place in our country in the past years, through earthquake simulation, were explained how crisis management and emotional control should be in the event of an earthquake. The experts informed the students about the known misconceptions about the earthquake and how to be protected from the earthquake. Finally, they give information about the severity of the flood disaster and the correct positioning during the disaster with the flood simulation. At the end of the training program offered to 50 students free of charge, the students were given e-participation certificates.

The first of 'Urban Workshops' organized by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning of IMU was held online on Thursday, 14th October 2021, with the theme of "sustainable city". 16 participants from different professions attended the workshop. In the workshop coordinated by Efe BAYSAL and Ege TOK, from 350 Turkey, the participants were first given basic climate literacy information. Afterwards, the game "**Parata: The Story of Climate Justice**" designed by 350 Turkey was played and an interactive educational environment was provided. In the game built on a fictional country, every participant had a unique role and evaluated the effects of climate justice on different social groups. The global problem of 'whether we are all in the same boat or not?' was questioned in terms of climate justice and its impacts by considering social disparities.



A workshop on renewable and clean energy production was held on IMU Sustainability Week 2021 events. "**ElectriCITY: Energy Preferences Game**", a role game, which the participants produce energy policies as decision makers in the energy production of the city, was played at the workshop. The workshop was conducted by our Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK and geological engineer Gökhan SAPMAZ. At the beginning of the workshop, general information about the energy system and energy management used in cities was given. In this context, the participants were informed about primary energy sources such as fossil fuels, renewable energy sources and other energy sources. Then, in order to understand why energy policies are important for the environment, information was given to the participants about air pollutants, greenhouse gases and water consumption resulting from source selection in energy production. In the second part of the workshop, the game, which is a simple simulation of the energy system in cities, was introduced to the participants and the rules of the game were explained. The game started by dividing the participants into five groups, each representing a city with different resources. The game, which was designed as a simulation of real life, was played on 6 different stages.

The academic staff members of our university carry out research on providing free primary and secondary education; ensuring access to quality pre-primary education and equal access to affordable technical, vocational, and tertiary education; increasing the number of people with relevant skills for financial success; ending all disparities in education; increasing universal literacy and numeracy; providing sustainable development and global citizenship education; building and upgrading schools that are safe and inclusive; expanding the number of higher education scholarships available to developing countries; and increasing the supply of qualified teachers in developing countries, publish the results of their research and share them with other researchers, decision-makers, stakeholders, and the public as a foundation for policies toward achieving SDGs.

A book chapter titled "**Dünya'da ve Türkiye'de Cinsiyet Temelli Yoksulluk Analizi**"

(Gender Based Poverty Analysis in the World and in Turkey). authored by Asst. Prof. Dr. Gülbin ERDEM KARAHANOĞLU of IMU Faculty of Political Sciences was published in the book titled "Kadın ve Yoksulluk" (Women and Poverty). In the study, she compared Turkey's gender equality with the selected countries in

four main areas including labour markets, education, access to health, and political participation and discussed Turkey's place in the world in terms of gender inequality. While the areas where Turkey experienced the deepest inequality are educational access and women's labour force participation, especially in the recent period, the area where gender inequality against women has increased the most has been women's access to health system. Emphasizing that the depth of gender inequality also deepens poverty, she stated that the inability of women living in poor areas to access education opportunities or having to work for low wages in secondary markets create income inequality and constitute an obstacle for breaking the cycle of poverty. KARAHANOĞLU stated that active employment policies, on-the-job training, and improvement of social security coverage, which are among the most effective tools for these policies in the fight against poverty, will provide important opportunities in reducing labour market disparities and ensuring poverty alleviation for women.

Res.Asst.Dr. Ceyda ÇAVUŞOĞLU DEVECİ of IMU Faculty of Educational Sciences authored a book chapter in the book "Sociology of Education". In the chapter "**Education and Equality**", Dr. DEVECİ discussed the definition of the concept of equality and its role in the quality education process. In the chapter, she deals with how equal access to opportunities is reflected in social life in terms of education. Equality of opportunity in education is discussed in the context of the class structures of societies, economic inequalities, different pedagogical practices of families and the structure of education systems. In her study, she underlines that equal opportunity in education is important so that every individual in the society can benefit from the latent or non-latent benefits of education.

Res.Asst.Zeynep BAŞKAN from IMU Faculty of Educational Sciences co-authored the book chapter titled "**Being an Inclusion Student in Primary School**" included in the book "Contemporary Topics on Primary School-1". In the study, she discuss inclusive education and its benefits, educational support services, educational arrangements, attitudes to inclusive education, problems experienced in inclusive education, professional competencies of teachers, and distance education process in inclusive education. She argue that inclusive education is a process that includes many factors and as a system it requires collaboration between teachers, parents, administrators, and students. She highlight that particularly in inclusive education, classroom teachers have a great responsibility in ensuring the continuity of the education of students with special needs and their integration with society.

Asst.Prof.Dr. Deniz TUNÇER from the Turkish Music Department and Asst.Prof.Dr. Nihan ŞAHİNKAYA from the Faculty of Educational Sciences have published an article titled "**The Effect of Teaching Decimal Fractions Supported by Music and Stories in the Fourth Grade on Mathematics and Music Attitudes**" in the 231th issue of the "Journal of National Education". In this article, TUNÇER and ŞAHİNKAYA discussed the subject of teaching decimal fractions with music and stories, specific to the disciplines of music and mathematics. The musical pieces and stories were created in accordance with the music and mathematics

basic education programs of the Ministry of Education by working with approximately 350 children in the district of Üsküdar with the permission of the Üsküdar Ministry of National Education. In addition, teachers' opinions were sought for the musical stories created in line with teacher training.

The book "**Kaynaştırma/ Bütünleştirme Uygulamalarına Yönelik Bir Destek Eğitim Hizmeti: Özel Eğitim Danışmanlığı**" (A Supportive Educational Service for Inclusion/ Integration Practices: Special Education Counseling) co-authored by Dr. Ayşe Büşra SUBAŞI YURTÇU of IMU Department of Special Education book titled has been published. The book was produced from YURTÇU's doctoral dissertation titled "Improving Inclusive Practices in a Preschool Education Classroom Through Counseling: An Action Research". The first part of the book deals with the implementation process of supportive education services and counseling in inclusive practices and inclusive education and the second section discusses the international and national literature on counseling, while the last section presents the process of counseling practice carried out within the scope of the thesis as an example of inclusive practices in early childhood education.

One of the faculty members of IMU Basic Education Department, Dr. Kevser KOÇ participated as a speaker at the seminar titled "**We Meet at Twinning Projects: Science and Nature Education in Montessori System**" held on March 13, 2021. The seminar was conducted by 27 teachers working in different cities of Turkey. Within the scope of the e-Twinning projects called 'Teaching Box', 'I am Exploring Nature with STEaM' and 'The Adventure of the Core-Filled Eco Activities from the Core' carried out by the relevant coordinators, teachers and parents were informed about the Science and Nature Education in the Montessori System. During her speech, KOÇ underlined certain goals such as ensuring that children internalize and embrace the nature we are a part of, enabling them to recognize the problems related to the natural environment and gain the ability to generate solutions, and encouraging children to be respectful to the universe and their own self values.