

SDG PROGRESS REPORT

on SDG-16 PEACE, JUSTICE and STRONG INSTITUTIONS



SDG PROGRESS REPORT

ISTANBUL MEDENIYET
UNIVERSITY

**Istanbul Medeniyet University
Sustainability Office**

Kuzey Kampüs BİLTAM No: 508, Unalan Mah. Unalan Sok. D-100
Karayolu Yanyol 34700 Usküdar/Istanbul/TURKEY

[www https://sdg.medeniyet.edu.tr](https://sdg.medeniyet.edu.tr)
[@surdurulebilir_imu](https://www.instagram.com/surdurulebilir_imu)

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Coordinated by

Prof.Dr. Yaşar BÜLBÜL

Written by

Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK

Lecturer Zehra SAVAN

Res.Asst. Furkan ERUÇAR

Proofread by

Lecturer Zehra SAVAN

Designed by

Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK

SDG Icons

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/news/communications-material/>

Sustainable Development Report Maps

<https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles/turkey>

SDG Statics

<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/progress-midpoint/>

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>



Without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rule of law - we cannot hope for sustainable development. We are living in a world that is increasingly divided. Some regions enjoy sustained levels of peace, security and prosperity, while others fall into seemingly endless cycles of conflict and violence. This is by no means inevitable and must be addressed.

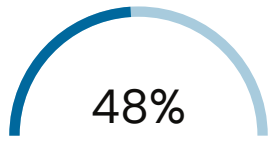
High levels of armed violence and insecurity have a destructive impact on a country's

development, affecting economic growth and often resulting in long standing grievances that can last for generations. Sexual violence, crime, exploitation and torture are also prevalent where there is conflict or no rule of law, and countries must take measures to protect those who are most at risk.

The SDGs aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence, and work with governments and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights is key to this process, as is reducing the flow of illicit arms and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

11.2
MILLION

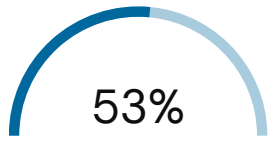
global prison population in 2021



almost half of countries reported prison occupancy above capacity

49
COUNTRIES

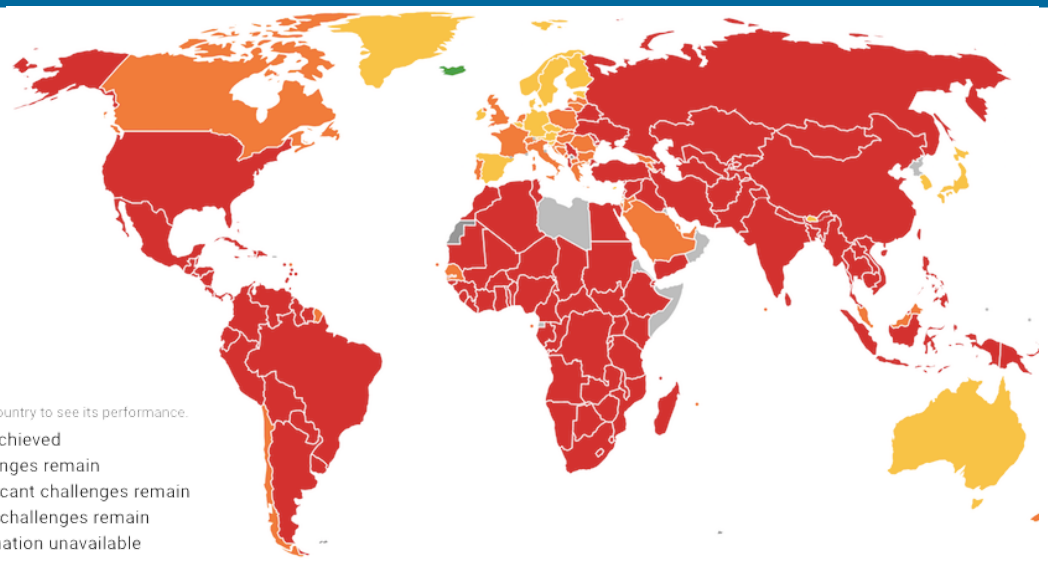
lack of laws protecting women from domestic violence



change in conflict-related civilian deaths with the impact of the war in Ukraine

1
BILLION

people are legally 'invisible' because they can not prove who they are



- Legend**
Click on a country to see its performance.
- SDG achieved
 - Challenges remain
 - Significant challenges remain
 - Major challenges remain
 - Information unavailable



independent students' union



financial data shared publicly

163
STUDENTS
who are graduates in law



identifying and engagement with local, national and international stakeholders



providing expert advice to governments at local, national and international levels



Students' Union

IMU has an independent student council. The aims of [IMU Students' Council](#) are to ensure that the students registered in our university contribute to the development of the university; to convey the students' views and suggestions to the necessary units on meeting and developing their education, health, sports and cultural needs and to be a solution partner in these matters; to ensure that the students participate in the management in education issues; and to ensure that students are sensitive to national interests and are represented at non-university institutions when necessary. The Council consists of the student representatives **elected by the student community**. Student representative elections are held in November every year.

Identifying and Engagement with Local Stakeholders

Istanbul Medeniyet University has written policies and procedures to engage with its internal and external stakeholders. Our stakeholder groups have been clearly defined in our [Institutional Strategic Plan for 2020-2024](#). We plan our services and activities by identifying the expectations of our internal and external stakeholders through stakeholder satisfaction surveys and meetings, brainstorming, satisfaction surveys for the staff and students, and our system for submitting suggestions and expressing satisfaction. We inform our external stakeholders about the University's activities and applications through the "Announcements" menu on our website. And we send our **external stakeholder surveys** online to receive the opinions and expectations of our large groups of external stakeholders in order to better analyze the University's current standing and projections for the future. IMU's procedures for managing stakeholder engagement are clearly explained in our [Internal Evaluation Report](#) published annually.

IMU's local stakeholders include regional directorates of central government agencies, the Governorship of Istanbul, local schools and universities, local government agencies, local industrial firms, trade union and civil government representatives, and local residents among others. Our stakeholders are regularly invited to have meetings with our governing bodies to participate in our decision making processes. For example, for the "Five-Dimensional Future" Project of IMU Sosyopark, ["Local and Civil Administration Information Meeting"](#), where the general framework of the project and the roles/ responsibilities of the institutions involved in the project were discussed held on January 12, 2022. Plans were made with the participation of both local and civil authorities. In this division of labor, Istanbul Medeniyet University assumed responsibility for the organization of the project, the creation of the curriculum to be used in education and activities, the implementation of measurement tools, the preparation of educational materials and training, the training of trainers, and the preparation of the final report.



University Principles on Corruption and Bribery

As a public institution, IMU is completely against corruption and bribery and complies with the [Law No 3628 on Declaration of Property and Fight against Bribery and Anticorruption](#), which lays down rules for fighting with bribe and corruption, regulates the declaration of property by civil servants, renewal of declarations, supervision of acquisition of property, provisions applicable in case of unjust acquisition of property and false declaration, and follow up and trial procedure for public officials and accomplices due to crimes specified in this law. As civil servants, all our staff members are obligated to comply with the provisions of the above law and the [Regulation on the Declaration of Property](#) and are to declare any property they have acquired at the start of their public service and renew their declarations when-ever they acquire a new valuable property. The declarations are made to our Personnel Department using the [relevant form](#) on the web page.

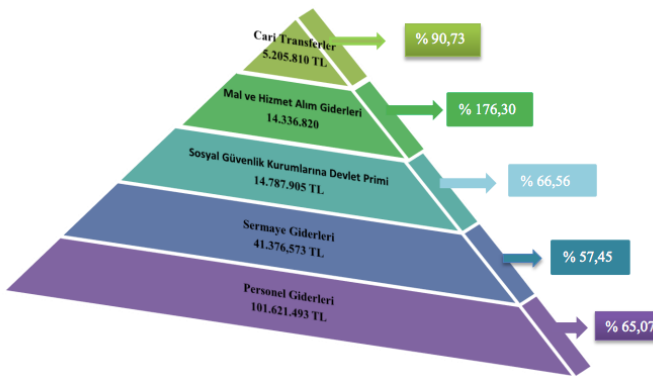
Academic Freedom Policy

In [Article 27](#) of the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey, it is stated that everyone has the right to study and teach, express, and disseminate science and the arts, and to carry out research in these fields freely. Istanbul Medeniyet University supports this freedom in all aspects.

In addition, Turkey is a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. According to [Article 15](#) of this Covenant, The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone: to take part in cultural life; to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications and to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he/she is the author. Our university also supports this Covenant.

Publishing Financial Data

The University's [Institutional Financial Status and Expectations Report](#), which is annually published by IMU Strategy Development Department, contains the realization data on the University's budget for the first six months of the relevant year and the expectations and predictions for the second half of the year. The report also contains the data on the University's financing and budget revenues and expenditures for the two periods, as well as detailed information about its major investment projects.



IMU Financial Status and Expectations Report- Budget Expenses of January - June 2022

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 making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; making our university more sustainable with our practices and support arts and heritage both in and out of our campus areas.

Providing Expert Advice to Government

Many of our faculty members contribute to decision- and policy-making at local, national, and international levels by providing expert advice to government agencies and organizations through policy guidance and membership or chairmanship of various boards, commissions, and committees. Listed below are only a small part of our faculty members' contributions.

[Prof.Dr. Kadir PEKTAŞ](#) from IMU Department of Art History is a member of **UNESCO Turkey National Commission - Displaced Cultural Heritage Monitoring Group**.



Prof.Dr. Kadir PEKTAŞ is also a member of the **Istanbul Cultural and Natural Heritage Conservation Board No 1**, member of the **Superior Council for the Conservation of Cultural Property**, **Director of Archaeological Fieldwork for Beçin and Fethiye Castles**, and member of the **Scientific Commissions for Akköprü and Ilısu Dams**.

Prof.Dr. Hamza ATEŞ, a faculty member of IMU Department of Political Science and Public Administration, providing expert advice to several projects of Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality as a researcher, a project executive and an advisor. In the **“Sustainable Agriculture City Kocaeli Project”**, it was aimed to promote sustainable agriculture within the framework of the zero hunger Sustainable Development Goal; develop urban agriculture, and contribute to food security by ensuring the development of agriculture with modern techniques and methods in Kocaeli. **“The Strong Woman Happy Family Project”** aimed to develop the role of women and the family in ensuring the continuity and functionality of society, based on the fact that women are the most basic necessity of a healthy society and the family is the carrier of social values. In the **“Barrier-Free City Kocaeli”** project, a comprehensive inventory was created by compiling the efforts made in Turkey and the world to rehabilitate disabled people and make cities barrier-free. **“A Clean and Livable Environment, Happy Kocaeli”** project involved the preparation of a Sustainable Environment Action Plan for the health and wellbeing of the residents of Kocaeli province to create a sustainable city based on industrial innovations.

Prof.Dr. Hamza ATEŞ is also serving as a **member of the Civil Society Advisory Council of the Ministry of Interior.**

Prof.Dr. Belgin ERHAN, a faculty member of IMU Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, serves as the **chair of the International Spinal Cord Society (ISCOs) Prevention Committee.**

Prevention Chair:



Prof. Belgin Erhan, MD

ISCOs Web Page - Prevention Committee

Prof.Dr. Işıl MARAL of IMU Faculty of Medicine is a member of the **National Immunization Scientific Advisory Board, the Post-Vaccination Adverse Effects Commission, and the Measles Verification Commission of the Ministry of Health of Turkey.**

Prof.Dr. Sertaç ARSLANOĞLU of IMU Faculty of Medicine is serving as the **President of European Milk Bank Association (EMBA)** and Scientific Director for the **Turkish Association of Milk Banks**. She also serves as an advisor for the Neonatology Commission for Curriculum Development and Standard Assignment System of the Medical Specialty Training Board (TUKMOS) and for the World Association of Perinatal Medicine Working Group on Nutrition.

On May 13th, during the 3rd International Donor Milk Research Congress in Milan, a new Directors has been formed and new EMBA officers have been elected. While Professor S. Arslanoglu has been elected as the new President, Dr. Clair-Yves Boquien has been elected Vice-President, Professor Guido E. Moro as Treasurer, and Dr. Serena Gandino as Secret **unanimously**.

The EMBA Board now comprises:

President: **Professor Sertaç Arslanoglu** (Co-founder, Past Vice President, and Past Treasurer)

Vice President: **Dr. Clair-Yves Boquien** (Co-founder)

Treasurer: **Professor Guido Moro** (Co-founder, Past President, and Past Treasurer)

Secretary: **Dr. Serena Gandino** (New Member)



European Milk Bank Association Web Page - About

Turkish Historical Society Web Page - Scientific Board Members



PROF. DR. İHSAN FAZLIOĞLU

Prof. Dr. İhsan FAZLIOĞLU, İstanbul Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi Felsefe Bölümünden 1989 yılında mezun oldu. İstanbul Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsünde Bilim Tarihi anabilim dalında yüksek lisansını (1993), ve Felsefe anabilim dalında doktorasını tamamladı (1998). İstanbul Üniversitesi Edebiyat Fakültesi Bilim Tarihi Bölümünde araştırma görevlisi ve Felsefe Bölümünde araştırma görevlisi ve doçent olarak görev yaptı. 2011'den bu yana İstanbul Medeniyet Üniversitesi Felsefe Bölümü ile Bilim Tarihi Bölümü'nde öğretim üyesi olarak çalışmaktadır. İRCİCA Yazmalar Bölümünde (İstanbul) çalıştı. Ürdün Üniversitesi (Amman), Arap Bilim Tarihi Üniversitesi (Halep) ve hıre Üniversitesi'nde sahasıyla ilgili araştırmalarda bulundu. Oklahoma Üniversitesi'nde ra- sonrası çalışmasını yürüttü. McGill Üniversitesi, İslâm Araştırmaları Enstitüsü'nde misafir üyesi olarak bulundu; "Rational Sciences in İslam" adlı projeye danışmanlık yaptı ve zaman araştırmacı olarak çalıştı. Pek çok ülkede alanıyla ilgili toplantılara iştirak etti, yer aldı ve seminerlere katıldı. Felsefe-Bilim tarihi ile matematik tarihi ve felsefese inlaşan Fazlıoğlu, özellikle bu konuların İslâm-Selçuklu-Osmanlı Türk medeniyet tarihi melerini yazma eserlere dayanarak incelemekte ve yayınlara yapmaktadır. Bu ik çok makale, kitap bölümü, ansiklopedi maddesi ve kitap yayınladı. Bunlardan > Halka, Derin Yapı, Nazarî Ufuk, Uygulamalı Geometrinin Tarihine Giriş, Aded ile ve Demek İstedi?

Our faculty member **Prof.Dr. İhsan FAZLIOĞLU** of IMU Philosophy Department is serving as a **permanent member of the Scientific Board of the Turkish Historical Society .**

Our faculty member **Prof.Dr. Saliha OKUR GÜMRÜKÇÜOĞLU** of IMU Law Faculty serves as the **president of the Women and Democracy Association (KADEM)**, which is a non-governmental and non-profit organization working for the empowerment of women in Turkey and around the world.

KADEM

[ABOUT US](#) [OUR ACTIVITIES](#) [PUBLICATIONS](#) [NEWS](#) [CONTACT](#) [TR](#)



KADEM Web Page- President of KADEM



Policy and Lawmakers Outreach and Education

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.

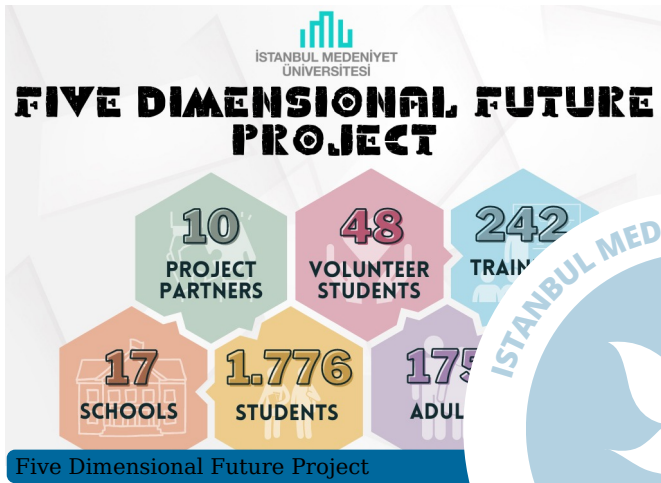
Istanbul Anatolian Chief Public Prosecutor's Office Probation Directorate signed a collaboration protocol with IMU in "education, research, consultancy and project design" fields. Within the scope of the protocol, IMU will contribute to the academic support of the staff working in judicial services and increase their professional competence, to provide convenience within the budget and administrative possibilities, to the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office and directorate staff who apply to the non-thesis Master's programs, organizing educational, social, cultural, and sports activities aiming to increase the motivation and productivity among the institution's staff, support the reintegration of those under probation measure into society and to develop social responsibility projects for individuals in this group 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. Thanks to this protocol, IMU contributed to justice system with its components and also contributed to creating a peaceful society.

[A collaboration protocol on parenting and teaching in the digital age](#) was signed between İstanbul Medeniyet University and **Güngören District Governorship, Güngören District National Education Directorate**. This protocol coordinated by Lect.Dr. Özlem AKARSU from the Faculty of Health Sciences. Within the scope of the protocol, 2 projects were carried out in 2022. Within the scope of ["Strengthening the Digital Parenting Roles of Parents"](#) project conducted by Asst.Prof. Fatih YAMAN IMU Faculty of Health Sciences, a training program was developed to increase parents' digital parenting competencies, to increase parents' basic digital competencies on 01 June 2022; and thereby indirectly contribute to the the protection of children who are at risk and under threat. Within the scope of the project activities, 82 parents whose children are studying in the primary and secondary schools in Güngören district of İstanbul were given face-to-face training for 4 hours under 11 headings such as risks of computer and internet technology, Cyberchondria, Cyberbullying, Protection of the child against attacks on the personality of the child on the Internet and Child labor on digital platforms.

Within scope of the ["Strengthening the Digital Competencies of Teachers"](#) project conducted by Lect. Dr. Zeynep ARDIÇ from IMU Law Faculty on 02 June 2022, it was aimed to develop a training program to increase teachers' digital competencies and awareness, and to facilitate teachers' educational access in the digital field, thus aiming to increase their digital competencies and awareness, thereby contributing to the indirect protection of children at risk and threat from child abuse and similar attacks in the digital environment.



IMU cooperated with 11 institutions including district governorships, municipalities, foundations and firms from private sector for the "[Five Dimensional Future](#)" project supported by Sosyopark İSTKA. In the project, young people were given training in personality-character development, development in life skills and social relations, academic&professional development, consciousness and physical development areas. The trainings within the scope of consciousness development focused on respectful-loving behavior development, sensitivity to social events and participation in decision-making mechanisms in line with democratization, assimilation of history and cultural heritage.

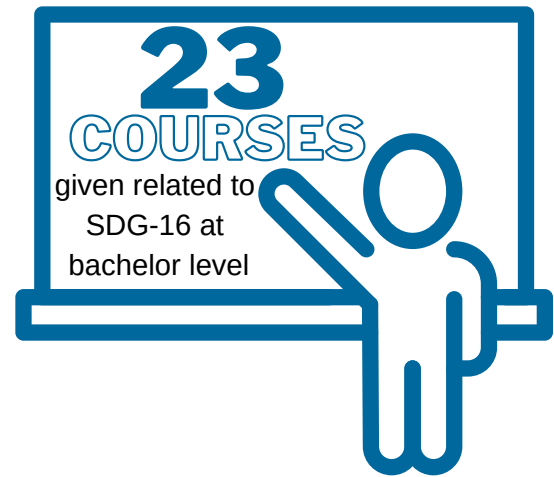


As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we not only lead the society by carrying out activities to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the institutional level and but also guide how the SDGs are applied at local, national, and international levels as a community through our collaboration efforts and support solving of problems through our research projects.

IMU partnered with Istanbul Medipol University and Marmara University [for a project](#) carried out by Prof.Dr. Füsün EKŞİ of the Faculty of Education Sciences of IMU. The aim of this project was to increase the awareness of university students about technology addiction and safe internet use. Within the scope of the project, students were given psychoeducation on the effects of technology addiction, ways of coping with this addiction and methods of protection from cyberbullying. The trainings were organized over four days in sessions lasting 60 minutes each. The results revealed that the psycho-education program increased the students' knowledge level on technology addiction and safe internet use, increased their sensitivity, and achieved the general objectives.

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 aware of our critical role and therefore, we primarily inform our students, the leaders and decision-makers of the future, about the Sustainable Development Goals through course contents, co-curricular activities and student club activities and strengthen their awareness. For this purpose, each of our faculties and departments prepares SDG-related course contents, including courses that address the Sustainable Development Goals holistically, as well as specific contributions that can be made by the expertise of the relevant professional field in which they provide training. In 2022, 23 bachelor degree courses related to SDG-16 were given at IMU.

Some of these are listed below.



Faculty	Course
Arts and Humanities	HIST410 - Violence and Crime in Ottoman Empire
Education Sciences	EBB044 - Educational Law
Health Sciences	SHB253 - Human Rights and Social Work
Law	HUK156 - Human Rights Law
	HUK238 - Constitutional Jurisdiction
Medicine	TFS105 - Basic Principles of Law
Political Science	SBK319 - Theory of Democracy and Democratization
	ULI353 - International Conflict Resolution



The Young Future Club of our university organized the [“Political Parties and Elections Workshop in the Russian Federation”](#). In the workshop held online every Saturday at 20:00 between January 15 and February 5, 2022 in a total of four sessions, Dr. Aytaç DURMAZ provided information on the electoral system and historical background of the Russian Federation. In the first week of the event, a comparative analysis of the party system in Russia at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries was made. Thus, DURMAZ gave information about the historical background of the country in terms of the political decision-making process. In the second week, DURMAZ talked about the political parties in the country and their past. In the third week of the event, DURMAZ gave information about the election system of the Russian Federation and the conditions for political parties to participate in the elections. In the last week of the event, the elections held in the Russian Federation in recent years and the results obtained by the main political parties were analyzed.



[Turkey Young Law Simulation Judicial System Workshop](#) organized by Turkey Young Law Simulation on 11-12-13 February 2022 was hosted by Istanbul Medeniyet University in Göztepe Campus South Compound with law students and more than 100 non-field participants who are interested in law. In the simulation lasting 3 days, the participants took on the roles of judges, prosecutors and lawyers to discuss and resolve the problems in the given case files due to their assigned roles, prepared by the academy team within the framework of positive legal rules and related judicial systems. With the information provided about the cases examined through different courts and judicial systems, the public event served as in-service training for both law students and professionals.

[Forensic Linguistics, Lawyer and Criminal Psychology Conference](#) was held on Thursday, March 3, 2022 at the Aşık Paşa Conference Hall in Göztepe Campus of our university and moderated by Asst.Prof.Dr. Derya TEKIN, a member of the Criminal Law Department of IMU Law School. The first speaker Lect.PhD. Hülya KOCAGÜL YÜZER told us about the speech analyses method in understanding the psychological state of the criminals and in detecting the crime in her paper titled **“Forensic Linguistics in Legal Practice”**. She stated that Letters, audio recordings, text messages, social media articles, threats, suicide letters, plagiarism texts and police interrogation records that may be evidence at the trial stage were examined by forensic linguists and during these examinations, according to the data type, the writer, the speaker, the meaning of the words, the commercial naming rights give clues about the socio-cultural background of the author or speaker who are potential criminals.

The [Human Rights Summit](#), organized by Aydın Civilizations Academy Student Club of our university was held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, in the Aşık Paşa Conference Hall of the South Campus of our university. Guests Apak Kerem ALTINTOP, Lect.PhD. Zeynep ARDIÇ of IMU Faculty of Law, and Att. Onur TATAR discussed the refugee law and fundamental rights and freedoms. Dr. ARDIÇ explained the constitutional basis of freedom of expression in her speech titled **“Freedom of Expression in Turkey”** and explained the rules that are essential in limiting this right in the light of ECtHR case law. She explained that the freedom of expression includes the freedom to express one’s thoughts, as well as the freedom not to express them, and the freedom to disseminate ideas and thoughts is also within its scope. Mr. TATAR explained the interpretation of the right to life in the light of jurisprudence of the court in his speech titled **“The Right to Life and Femicide under the ECHR”**. Evaluating femicides on the basis of the right to life, TATAR explained that issues such as gender inequality, gender discrimination, domestic violence, and forced marriages play a role in femicides, and states have important positive obligations in terms of the right to life in the context of femicides.

Law Workshop Club of our university organised a **movie night for "Suffragette"** on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 16:00, at Aşık Paşa Conference Hall in South Campus. In the program organized on the occasion of International Women's Day, the "Suffragette" movie giving messages on women's fundamental rights and freedoms, gender equality and women's political participation was screened. After the movie, an illustration **exhibition consisting of illustrations from the "Pioneering Women of Turkey"** prepared by the European Union Delegation to Turkey, which deals with the fundamental rights and freedoms of women, was presented to the attention of the participants.

Parliamentary Simulation event, which was organized for the first time within our university in cooperation with the Justice, Democracy and Legal Studies Association and Aydın Medeniyetliler Akademisi Law Student Club, was held on March 8, 2022 at 09.00 at Göztepe Campus Aşık Paşa Conference Hall. In the event, predetermined commissions discussed the legislative proposals prepared by the students. Among the aforementioned bills the titles were such as "Identification of Stray Animals" aiming at the protection of land animals, "Ensuring Equality of Women and Men in Political Life" aiming to focus on women's political participation and gender equality, and "Prohibition of Nuclear Activities" aiming at the protection of natural heritage and ecosystem.

The Law Workshop Club of our university hosted PhD. İhsan BAŞTÜRK, member of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, on **"How to Write an Indictment?" vocational training** conducted online on April 16, 2022. In the seminar, PhD. BAŞTÜRK touched upon issues such as the detection of events and crimes, identification of suspects, evaluation of evidence in establishing a cause-effect relationship. Stressing the importance of the prosecution's correct determination of crime and criminals in ensuring criminal justice, BAŞTÜRK also touched upon the role of the prosecutor's office in the trial process in criminal tribunals. After the theoretical training, indictment samples were examined as case studies.

Istanbul Medeniyet University Social Academy Club held a **conference titled "What's Happening? Russia-Ukraine Crisis"** on March 23, 2022 at Istanbul Medeniyet University Aşık Paşa Conference Hall. In the event, the causes and consequences of the Russia-Ukraine crisis that started on February 24, 2022, as well as the impact of this crisis on the world were discussed. Prof.Dr. Tarık OGUZLU examined how the political tension between Russia and Ukraine was dragged into a war, including armed conflict, by considering the historical process and made analyzes on this issue. Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vugar IMANBEYLI discussed Russia's invasion of Ukraine within the framework of international law and explained Russia's unjust existence in Ukraine with its reasons. Prof.Dr. Emre ERSEN conveyed to the audience how the Russia-Ukraine war was reflected in global politics and how the war was received globally. Prof.Dr. Özden Zeynep OKTAV conveyed to the audience what kind of path Turkey followed in foreign politics in the face of the crisis.



"Right to be Forgotten & Misconceptions about it in Popular Culture" Conference

14 April 2022



The **conference "Right to be Forgotten & Misconceptions about it in Popular Culture"** was held at our Faculty of Law on Thursday, April 14, 2022 with the collaboration of Information and Technology Law Association and our student clubs Law Workshop Student Club, Development Law Club, Ideal Civilization Law Club, and Aydın Medeniyetliler Akademisi Student Club. During the conference moderated by by Asst.Prof.Dr. Şerafettin EKİCİ, head of IMU Information and Technology Law Department, PhD. Cemile TURGUT underlined that right to be forgotten is a basic human right to enable the criminals to be integrated with community life after they served the sentence for the crime they committed. She enlightened the audience by explaining the legal uncertainties regarding the content, scope, limits and application of the right to be forgotten in different legal systems.



IMU Law Workshop Student Club organized a special event within the scope of International Day Against Racial Discrimination. The online event held on 20 March 2022 hosted Asst.Prof.Dr. Özlem YÜCEL, a member of Faculty of Political Sciences. In the [International Day Against Racial Discrimination Event](#), Dr. YÜCEL explained the concept and history of racial discrimination. Subsequently, he provided information about the international documents and mechanisms that have a role in the fight against racial discrimination in international law. In this context, he emphasized the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the functioning of the committee, which was established pursuant to the convention and which receives individual applications. Then, he discussed the Prohibition of Discrimination in the Context of the European Convention on Human Rights, which is a regional mechanism, and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights in this direction.

The conference on [“Refugee Law and Migration Policies from a Human Rights Perspective”](#)

organized by IMU Faculty of Law in cooperation with Gelişim Law Club was held online on April 23, 2022. In the conference, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Tülay YILDIRIM MAT, faculty member of IMU International Law Division, evaluated the compliance of Turkey and Europe’s refugee policies with international human rights and refugee law and stated that Europe follows discriminatory policies against asylum-seekers, and these discriminatory immigration policies are more evident during the admissions phase. She explained that discriminatory policies can cost human life as a result of acts such as being pushed at sea, sometimes cause situations against human dignity, and violate rights such as the right to life, the prohibition of torture, and the prohibition of discrimination. Lect.PhD. Zeynep ARDIÇ of IMU Division of General Public Law explained the phenomenon of migration and evaluated the relationship of migration with human rights through its causes and consequences. She explained that national and international armed conflicts are the root cause of mass migrations and major human rights problems.

IMU Science and Civilization Club held the [“Mediterranean and Black Sea in a Geopolitical and Geoeconomic Context”](#) panel on May 18 at Hasan Polatkan Conference Hall of Ziraat Bank Library. In the panel, the current developments in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea were evaluated in the sessions “Energy Equations in the Black Sea”, “Eastern Mediterranean Crisis in International Law” and “Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea in terms of Regional and Global Balances”. In the second session, Prof.Dr. Cüneyt YÜKSEL from Istanbul University discussed the Eastern Mediterranean Crisis in international law. He evaluated what international legal remedies might be for the extraction of energy resources in the Eastern Mediterranean, and expressed his ideas on how countries should behave. In the last session, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Helin SARI ERTEM from IMU International Relations Department discussed the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea issues in terms of regional and global socio-economic balances and emphasized the influence of China in the region.

IMU Political Science and Public Administration Department organized a panel discussion [“Demilitarisation, Democracy and Freedoms in Turkey”](#)

in Conference Hall of Ziraat Bank Library on 24 May 2022. The speakers included Prof.Dr. Bekir Berat ÖZİPEK from Medipol University, who attended the panel with his speech titled “The Relationship between Developing and Changing Democracy and Bureaucracy in Turkey”, Prof.Dr. Ahmet Kemal BAYRAM from Marmara University with his speech titled “The Relationship between Developing and Changing Democracy and Bureaucracy in Turkey”, and Prof.Dr. Haluk ALKAN from Istanbul University with his speech titled “Constitutional Political Evaluations on the Democracy Process in Turkey”. The panel focused primarily on the concepts of fundamental freedoms and rights, democracy, bureaucracy and demilitarization, and Turkey’s democracy experience was evaluated. The development of fundamental freedoms and rights in Turkey, the relationship between democracy and bureaucracy and the impact of this relationship on democratic institutions were discussed.



The academic staff members of our university carry out research on reducing violence everywhere; protecting children from abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and violence; promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all; combating organized crime and illicit financial and arms flows; substantially reducing corruption and bribery; developing effective, accountable and transparent institutions; creating responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making mechanisms; strengthening participation in global governance; providing legal identity for all; ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms; strengthening national institutions to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime; and promotion and enforcement of non-discriminatory laws and policies, 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.

IMU Law Faculty Member Asst.Prof. Dr. Zeynep ARDIÇ presented her paper on [Social Rights in the Digital World](#) in the program titled "Transition from Classical Law to Digital Law" organized by the Turkish Economic, Political and Strategic Research Center (TESAM) in March 2022. In her presentation, ARDIÇ touched upon the classification of human rights and explained how this classification has undergone a change in the digital world. Juniper is the first generation of personal, political participation, and justice rights; the second generation of economic, social, cultural rights; she stated that rights such as collective, minority, environment and peace rights are third generation rights. Then, in addition to this triple separation, fourth generation rights began to emerge as a result of the digital world; she stated that rights such as the right to demand the protection of personal data, the right to be forgotten, the protection of human dignity, physical and psychological well-being, prohibition of human cloning and superior race creation, ecosystem rights, and the right to the city can be included in this generation. Finally, ARDIÇ pointed out that these rights aim to protect human dignity, which may be damaged as a result of the dangers posed by science and technology.

Res.Asst. Ahsen AKDEMİR of IMU Law Faculty published her article titled '[A Phenomenological Study on the Typology of Violence Against Women and Perpetrators in the Cyber Environment](#)' in the 2022 issue of Dokuz Eylül University Faculty of Law Journal. In the article, AKDEMİR stated that the widespread use of the internet has introduced new forms of crime, particularly crimes against women, such as threats, insults, harassment, stalking, and fraud. These acts are categorized as cybercrimes that harm women emotionally, physically, and economically. With the increasing role of social media in today's society, these cases are on the rise, especially involving threats against victims who know each other. Unlike traditional criminal profiles, individuals committing these crimes online can easily conceal their identities, making it easier for them to commit crimes. In her research, AKDEMİR conducted a phenomenological study involving twelve victims of cyber violence, eleven of whom were women and one was a man. The primary aim of the study was to develop a typology of both offenders and offenses in this category of crimes and to evaluate the perceptions of victims regarding the justice system in Türkiye. She compared victims who reported the crimes to law enforcement with those who did not and examined the consequences of these types of attacks.

AKDEMİR noted that despite progress in women's rights and legal improvements, violence against women persists due to the learned behavior passed down from generation to generation, creating a vicious cycle. She also emphasized that social media has also influenced the legal framework, expanding the concept of the place where crimes can be committed. For instance, defamation, as defined in the Turkish Penal Code, includes messages shared through various means, including social media platforms. Users have the option to keep their accounts private to prevent unwanted access. In conclusion, AKDEMİR noted that with the growing use of social media, the risk of various types of cybercrimes has expanded. She emphasized that these crimes can be as damaging as those in the physical world and that any regulatory measures must consider this reality. Furthermore, she observed that women are not safe in the virtual world, just as they are not safe in the physical world.



An article authored by Res.Asst. Meryem ÖZGÜR of IMU Department of International Relations titled [“Human Dignity in the Context of International Human Rights”](#) was published in the journal *Diplomasi ve Strateji*. In her study, ÖZGÜR examined human dignity in the context of international human rights. She evaluated the emergence of human dignity and its meaning in international human rights law within the scope of international human rights documents and documents adopted by the United Nations (UN). She then addressed human dignity as a fundamental value of international law and human rights and discussed the importance of its protection on the basis of international peace and security. She underlined that protection of human dignity, which is inalienable and inherent to all humanity, is a ‘value’, a ‘status’ or a ‘right’ that limits the occurrence of humanitarian crises in the global arena and that a more just and peaceful world is possible with the protection of human dignity.

Dr. Miray AZAKLI KÖSE, a member of the International Law Department of IMU Law Faculty, delivered a speech at the “Legal and Sociological Aspects of Forced Migration Conference on the Anniversary of Hijra” held on 30 July 2022. AZAKLI KÖSE presented her paper titled [“Basic Concepts of Forced Migration in National and International Law”](#) in the first session. She explained the basic principles of forced migration and the in the light of 1951 Geneva Convention on the Legal Status of Refugees, European Convention on Human Rights and Law No. 6458. In this respect, she answered questions such as what are the types of international protection status, who is a refugee, what is temporary protection, what is the principle of non-refoulement. She emphasized the necessity of establishing a fair balance between the national security concerns of the states and the right to asylum and the protection of human rights. She stated that even if asylum is not a right, states can be held responsible if they do not receive applications for asylum and do not carry out risk assessments. She explained the legal status of asylum seekers residing in our country and the migration policies in the light of these documents.

IMU Law Faculty member Asst.Prof.Dr. Sezen Kama IŞIK’s article on [“Private Life in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Effect of the Concept on Subsequent Human Rights Documents”](#) was published in the *Journal of Sakarya University Faculty of Law* in July 2022. According to IŞIK, in accordance with the Convention on Civil and Political Rights, which is a universal regulation after the UDHR, private life includes concepts such as sexual identity, sexual orientation and sexual life, a person’s name, choosing and changing one’s name, and communication between detainees and convicts. The scope of private life, which is included in Article 8 of the ECHR, is expanding day by day and gives the right to be an umbrella (inclusive) right. According to IŞIK, it can be said that the fact that the reflection and protection of the developments in information technologies in the theory of human rights is possible within the framework of private lifereveals the importance of the impact of the Declaration on the universal level.

Asst.Prof.Dr. Sezen KAMA IŞIK, from IMU Department of Constitutional Law, presented her paper titled [“Internet Governance Regime in Turkey, National and International Approaches”](#) at the online international conference titled “The Role of Internet Governance in Geopolitical Conflicts, Economy and Energy Crisis, Climate Change from a Global/Regional/ National/ Comparative Perspective” organized by the Queen Mary University Alumni Community on 17 October 2022. Dr. KAMA IŞIK analysed internet usage in Turkey in the context of human rights. Based on the idea of digital sovereignty at the national level, Turkey frequently applies to the Law No. 5651, “Law on Regulation of Broadcasts on the Internet and Fighting Against Crimes Committed Through These Broadcasts”, which the Constitutional Court chronically describes as problematic in its jurisprudence. On the other hand, at the international level, she expressed the expectation that internet governance will be carried out under the umbrella of the UN in an open and equitable manner, with transparent, multilateral, open to participation and accountable institutions, open to the views and contributions of all states.



IMU Law Faculty member Asst.Prof.Dr. Zeynep ARDIÇ presented her paper titled [“New Searches in Combating Cyberbullying: Using Restorative Justice Mechanisms in Schools”](#) at the 2nd International Symposium on Information and Technology Law organized on November 19-20, 2022 in Üsküdar Bilim Merkezi through the collaboration of IMU and Information and Technology Law Association. ARDIÇ stated that cyberbullying causes physical and mental illnesses and harms social protection system; that traditional disciplinary mechanisms, which are a reflection of classical criminal justice, will be insufficient in solving this problem; that it is necessary to adopt restorative discipline practices as an alternative, such as eliminating the individual and social harm that occurs, preventing re-offending by rehabilitating the perpetrator, compensating the damage suffered by the victim. In this context, it is a promising innovative method to adopt restorative discipline practices that aim to eliminate the harm that has occurred rather than to punish children who engage in cyberbullying behaviors.

Asst.Prof.Dr. Ali PEHLIVAN of IMU Department of Public Law delivered his presentation titled [“Detention Protection Measure”](#) at fifth meeting of the Medeniyet Law Seminar Series organized by the Law Faculty of our university on December 13, 2022 at IMU Ziraat Bank Library. At the meeting, the detention which is an important measure in the criminal justice system was explained in light of the Criminal Procedure Law in different aspects such as legal reason, authority, legal remedies and duration. Since it is the heaviest restriction to the right to liberty and security as one of the fundamental rights and freedoms protected under article 19 of the Constitution and article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights, the vital importance of its legality and proportionality was emphasized. It was argued that the measures that are not implemented in a legal and proportional manner may constitute arbitrary arrest in a way that serves the purpose of punishment. On the other hand, the responsibility of the members of the judiciary involved in the decision mechanism for their unlawful detention decisions and the recourse of the state were discussed.

Asst.Prof.Dr. Kadir TEMİZ, one of the faculty members of the Department of International Relations, Faculty of Political Sciences of our University, conducted a research project titled [“The Impact of Diaspora Organizations on Foreign Policies of Host Countries: The Case of Uyghur Diaspora Organizations in the United States and Turkey”](#). In his research project, TEMİZ investigated the contemporary experiences of a particular ethnic and religious community (Uyghurs) suffering under the heavy oppression of an emerging great power (China) by questioning the activities of the organizations they established in the United States and Turkey. Within the scope of his research, he analyzed the causal relationships between the foreign policy decisions of host countries and the activities of diaspora organizations. The researcher stated that after the 1950s, with the post-colonial period in the world, ethnic and religious communities accelerated their attempts to establish their own diaspora organizations in order to cope with the problems they faced both in the host country and in the homeland, and concluded that the main idea behind the establishment of diaspora organizations was to secure their existence in the host countries, to live in a peaceful society and to influence the local and international audience through political, economic, social and cultural activities.

