



**Istanbul Gelisim  
Vocational School**



# **IGVS**

## **Monthly E-Bulletin**

**January  
2026  
Volume 6 / Issue 1**

[myo.gelisim.edu.tr](http://myo.gelisim.edu.tr)

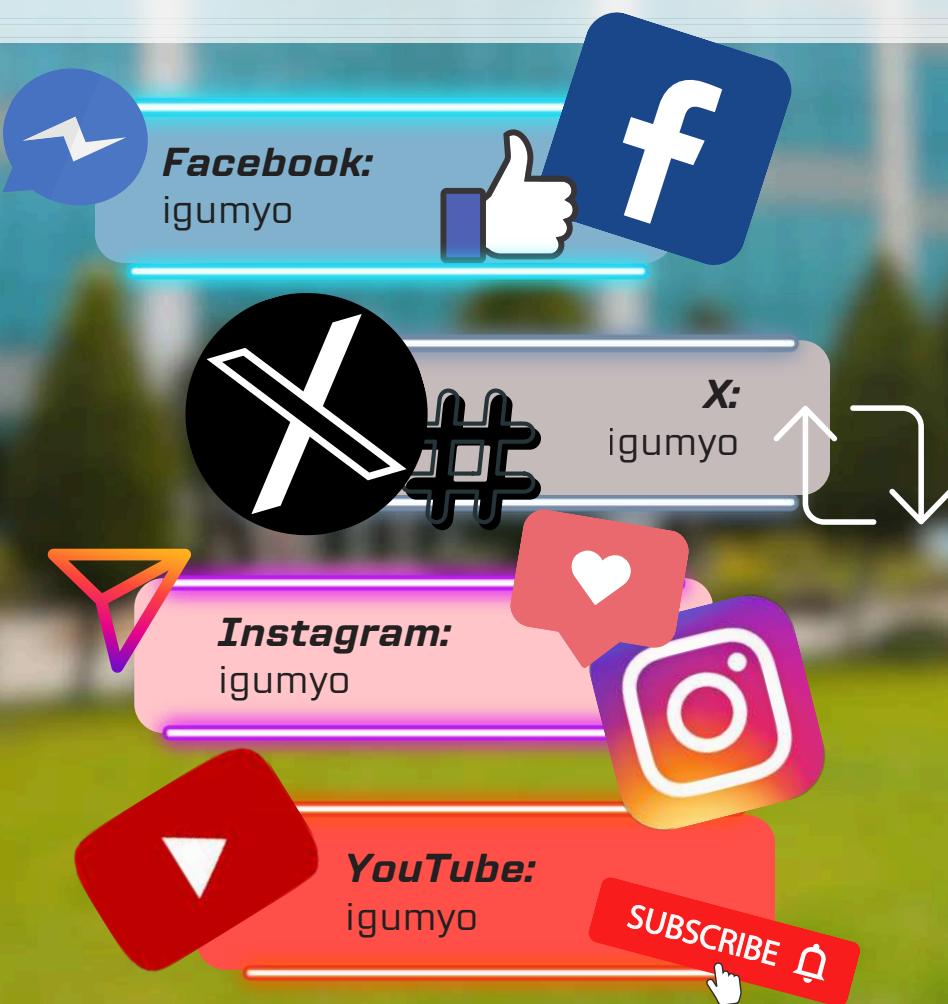


Dear Young People,

Istanbul Gelişim Vocational School, which started its education life in 2008, started to publish a monthly E-Bulletin as of 2021. We are very happy to bring you the January issue of our e-bulletin and to share with you the developments in our Vocational School. I believe you will enjoy reading our bulletin and I present my greetings and respect with the hope of meeting you in a new issue.

You can follow all the developments in our Vocational School on our social media channels.

Director of IGVS  
Assoc. Prof. Mehmet SOYAL





\*IGVS E-Bulletin has been prepared according to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) criteria.



# LEADERSHIP

## ACADEMICIANS FROM IGU ARE ON THE "BEST SCIENTISTS" LIST OF THE WORLD AND COUNTRIES!

Research.com, one of the world's leading research and academia portals, has announced the list of the "Best Scientists" of the world and countries. Istanbul Gelisim University academics were shown among the best scientists in Turkey and the world with their degrees in "Engineering and Technology", "Economy and Finance" and "Neuroscience".

**Great success in the fields of "Engineering and Technology", "Economics and Finance" and "Neuroscience"!**

Istanbul Gelisim University, which is modern, developing, producing and advancing with an understanding of quality education, stands out with its science, technology and R&D studies. According to the list created on the basis of the D-index created for the purpose of measuring, evaluating and monitoring the performance of scientists in terms of scientific productivity. 3 academicians from Istanbul Gelisim University were included in the list of "Best Scientists" with their successful work.

Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin ranked 17th among 47 scientists from Turkey and 4020th in the world in the field of Engineering and Technology.

Prof. Dr. Kemal Sıtkı Türker from IGU Faculty of Dentistry achieved an important success by being 4th among 6 scientists from Turkey and 5870th in the world.

Asst. Prof. Dr. Festus Victor from the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences of IGU was the only scientist from Turkey to be ranked in the field of Economics and Finance, and he was ranked 1183 in the world.



## ***IGU Maintains Its Success in the 2026 Times Higher Education World University Rankings***

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) has achieved another significant success in the 2026 World University Rankings announced by the international higher education ranking organization Times Higher Education (THE). According to the 2026 results, IGU maintained its position in the 1001–1200 band worldwide, ranking 9th among foundation universities, 16th in Türkiye overall, and 2nd in Turkey in the Research Quality category. In the international visibility category, IGU ranked 6th, right after Bogazici University, strengthening Turkey's position in global higher education with its research strength and international impact capacity.

### ***IGU Stood Out with Its Research Strength in THE 2026 Rankings***



The graphic features the Istanbul Gelisim University logo and the THE World University Rankings 2026 logo. It includes text about IGU's ranking and gold star icons.

**2026 THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS ANNOUNCED!**

IGU is ranked in the **1001-1200 band** in the global rankings

**9TH AMONG FOUNDATION UNIVERSITIES**

**16th in Türkiye**

**2nd in Türkiye**  
in Research Quality

This year, the Times Higher Education 2026 World University Rankings evaluated 2,191 universities from 115 countries, including 137 universities from Türkiye.

In line with its vision of becoming a "Research University," Istanbul Gelisim University has achieved a lasting momentum globally in recent years through investments in research infrastructure, qualified human resources, and international projects. This determined progress was once again confirmed by the university's stable position in the 1001–1200 band.

According to THE 2026 results, IGU ranked 16th overall in Türkiye, 9th among foundation universities, and 2nd in the Research Quality category. In the international visibility category, IGU ranked 6th, just after Bogazici University. These results once again highlight IGU's strengthening position not only at the national level but also in the global higher education arena.



## ***"We Do Not Compromise on Our Goal of Academic Excellence"***

IGU Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin made the following statement regarding the THE 2026 results:

"Maintaining our place in the 1001–1200 band in the Times Higher Education 2026 World University Rankings, ranking 9th among foundation universities, 16th overall in Türkiye, and 2nd in Research Quality, is a reflection of our strong academic structure based on scientific output. This success is the result of our sustainable research policies, internationalization strategies, and the collective efforts of our qualified academic staff. As Istanbul Gelisim University, we not only take part in the field of higher education but also contribute to global science by producing high-impact scientific outputs with strong research quality.

Our goal is to further increase our research capacity, move beyond this band, and strengthen Turkey's global representation in world university rankings. With the dedicated efforts of our academic staff, the scientific curiosity of our students, and the support of our stakeholders, we are moving confidently toward this goal. I thank all our academics, administrative staff, and students who contributed to this achievement."

## **Research Power Rising with a Global Vision**

Istanbul Gelisim University does not limit its research ecosystem to scientific production alone; it supports it with industry collaborations, innovative projects, and global funding sources to increase Türkiye's international visibility and expand its scientific impact.



## IGU Ranked in the 401-500 Band in THE Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2026

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) has achieved a significant success by placing in the 401–500 band in the Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2026, prepared by Times Higher Education (THE) in collaboration with the Schmidt Science Fellows. In the 2026 results announced for the field of Interdisciplinary Science, 911 universities from 94 countries were evaluated, and 82 universities from Türkiye succeeded in entering the list. Istanbul Gelisim University, evaluated for the first time this year, attracted global attention with its performance in interdisciplinary research output, publication quality, scientific impact, and international collaborations.

### IGU's THE Success Trend Continues to Rise

The ranking in the 401–500 band in the field of Interdisciplinary Science is a new indicator of Istanbul Gelisim University's steady upward trend in THE rankings.

In the previously announced THE World University Rankings 2026 results, IGU was placed in the 1001–1200 band, drawing attention in international evaluation systems with improvements particularly in research quality, publication impact, and international collaborations.

The newly released Interdisciplinary Science results show that the university continues its momentum in scientific production and that its research policies are being recognized globally.

With the Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2026, IGU has now become a higher education institution listed in all rankings published by THE. This outcome demonstrates that the university's research-oriented vision, academic production capacity, and internationalization strategy are acknowledged on a global scale.



### “This Achievement Is a Concrete Result of Our Scientific Productivity”

IGU Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin shared the following remarks regarding the achievement:

“Being ranked in the 401–500 band in the Times Higher Education Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2026 is a concrete result of our university's scientific productivity and its commitment to an interdisciplinary approach. Being included in the list in this field for the first time shows that we are on the right path within the global academic competition. Every step we take to strengthen our research ecosystem is a strategic gain that enhances our international visibility.

As Istanbul Gelisim University, we advance with a holistic vision that increases our research capacity, strengthens international collaborations, and supports interdisciplinary knowledge production. This approach, which prioritizes scientific efficiency, research quality, and innovative practices, forms the foundation of achieving sustainable academic success on a global scale. I wholeheartedly congratulate our entire academic staff who contributed to this success.”



## “We are increasing our competitiveness on a global scale”

Istanbul Gelisim University Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin stated the followings about the achievements of THE World Universities Ranking and THE World Universities Field Ranking: “With our university ranking overall, it is a great source of pride for us to be included in the rankings in the fields of Business and Economics and Social Sciences for the first time this year. This achievement once again reveals our university's research capacity, quality of education and vision of internationalization. Our place in the 501-600 band, which is obtained especially in the Social Sciences category, embodies our goal of increasing the academic power of our university in the field of social sciences and its competitiveness on a global scale. As Istanbul Gelisim University, we will continue to maintain our understanding of excellence in education and research.”



## "It is a significant indicator that we are on the way to achieving our internationalization goals"

Istanbul Gelisim University's Vice Rector for Quality, Accreditation and Internationalization Prof. Arda Öztürkcan, on the other hand, said the following about THE success rankings: “It is a pleasure for our university to enter the general ranking in THE World Universities Ranking and then to take part in THE World Universities Field Ranking on top of our success in THE Awards Asia 2025. This success is an important indicator that we are on the way to achieving our quality and internationalization goals in our education and research activities.”

The grades obtained by Istanbul Gelisim University in THE rankings proved once again that the university has a competitive structure on a global scale and that it attaches importance to quality standards in the education it offers to its students. The university is determined to continue its work uninterrupted to continue these achievements in the future.



## SCImago 2025 results announced: IGU is at the top among foundation universities!

The results of "SCImago University Rankings 2025", in which the scientific research, innovation and social impacts of the world's universities are ranked according to SCOPUS and SciVal publication and citation data, were announced. Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), which stands out with its studies, ranked 6th among foundation universities in the general ranking and 4th in the field of research, and ranked at the top in the categories of Economics, Planning and Civil Engineering.

The results of "SCImago University Rankings 2025", which measure the social, scientific impact and innovation of universities around the world, were announced. SCImago University Ranking, which aims to give a general idea about universities by measuring the performance of universities in terms of research, innovation and social impact, helps students learn about the quality, effectiveness and prestige of a university's education. Advancing with the vision of "World University", IGU attracted attention with its studies and opportunities for its students, and proved its success once again with the degrees it received in different fields in SCImago University Rankings 2025 results. IGU ranked 6th among foundation universities in the general ranking and 25th in Turkey; ranked 4th among foundation universities in the field of research and 8th in Türkiye.

### IGU is at the top in Economics, Planning and Civil Engineering!

According to SCImago's evaluation based on Scopus and SciVal data, Istanbul Gelisim University ranked at the top among foundation universities in many areas.

Drawing attention with its research studies in different fields, IGU ranked 1st among foundation universities in the fields of Economics, Econometrics and Finance and ranked 5th in Türkiye. In the field of Planning and Development, it ranked 1st among foundation universities and 4th in Türkiye. While ranking 1st among foundation universities in the field of Civil and Structural Engineering, it ranked 11th in Türkiye.



### Top 2 in Business, Engineering & Social Sciences!

Istanbul Gelisim University continues to rise in the rankings every year with its investments in scientific research and innovation. While it ranks 2nd among foundation universities in the field of Business Administration, Management and Accounting, it rose to 5th place in Türkiye's overall ranking, where it ranked 7th last year. Standing out with its research activities, IGU ranked 2nd among foundation universities in the field of Engineering and ranked 5th by climbing 9 steps among Turkish universities. While ranking in the top 2 among foundation universities in the field of Social Sciences, it ranked 11th in Türkiye.

IGU, which has demonstrated its success in different fields, ranked 4th among foundation universities in the Energy category and 9th in Türkiye.



# Istanbul Gelisim University Continues its Rise in Sustainability in THE Impact Rankings 2025

According to the 2025 Impact Rankings results announced by Times Higher Education (THE), Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) once again demonstrated its performance in the field of sustainability. In the ranking prepared in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations, IGU was in the 601-800 band worldwide. Having made a significant leap from last year's 801-1000 band with this success, IGU has once again proven that it continues its steady progress in the field of sustainability.



## Evaluated Between 2526 Universities

In the ranking, in which 2526 universities from 130 countries applied and 2318 of them were evaluated, more than 220,000 evidence was collected from universities and more than 3.7 million articles on the SDG were examined. During the evaluation process, 75 metrics, 251 indicators and more than 230,000 criteria were analyzed. In the current list announced, 112 universities from Turkey were listed.

## Global Achievement in Sustainability: At the Top in the Field of Accessible Clean Energy!

Istanbul Gelisim University entered the general ranking by scoring in the following four SDG areas in its 2025 evaluation:

- SDG 7: Accessible and Clean Energy – 1st among foundation universities in Turkey
- SDG 4: Qualified Education – 3rd in Turkey
- SDG 10: Reducing Inequalities – Shared 3rd place with Bilkent University across Turkey
- SDG 17: Partnerships for Purposes – ranked 4th among foundation universities in Turkey; in the 401-600 band worldwide



# Istanbul Gelisim University received YÖKAK Corporate Accreditation for 5 years!

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) was fully accredited for 5 years as a result of the institutional accreditation evaluation carried out by the Higher Education Quality Board (YÖKAK). After the detailed audit process in December, IGU was entitled to receive accreditation at the highest level with the high standards it has shown in the fields of education, research and development, management system and community service.

**Yükseköğretim  
Kalite Kurulu**

**İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi,  
YÖKAK tarafından  
5 yıl süreyle tam akredite edildi!**

Üniversitemiz, eğitim-öğretim, araştırma, yönetim  
ve topluma hizmet alanlarındaki kalite standartlarını  
sağlayarak, Yükseköğretim Kalite Kurulu (YÖKAK) tarafından  
**5 yıl süreyle "Kurumsal Akreditasyon Belgesi"**  
**almaya hak kazandı.**

Institutional accreditation is an important process that evaluates whether universities meet the quality standards set in the fields of education, research, management and community service. This rigorous evaluation process carried out by YÖKAK aims to increase the competitiveness of higher education institutions on a national and international scale and to ensure that they establish a transparent and sustainable quality assurance system. Universities that are entitled to receive institutional accreditation prove that they successfully manage quality processes, adopt sustainable development in education and effectively fulfill their mission of adding value to society. Istanbul Gelisim University successfully completed this important process and made its name among the few universities in Türkiye that received full accreditation.

Click [here](#) to access the source of the news.

## Vocational School Academic Staff Gather at End-of-Term Dinner

Following a busy and productive semester, the academic staff of Istanbul Gelişim University Vocational School held a pleasant gathering at an end-of-term dinner. Organized by the Vocational School Directorate to bring academic staff together, strengthen internal communication, and increase shared time, the event took place on January 16, 2026, in the G Block Backyard in a warm and sincere atmosphere.

The end-of-term dinner was attended by our Rector, Prof. Bahri Şahin, and our Secretary General, Assoc. Prof. Serdar Egeli. Within the scope of the program, Secretary General Assoc. Prof. Serdar Egeli shared his best wishes in a motivational speech addressed to the academic staff, emphasizing the importance of unity and solidarity.



A detail that added a special touch to the organization was the refreshments prepared through the dedicated efforts of the faculty members from the Culinary Program and the Pastry and Bakery Program. Grilled meatballs and kokoreç, followed by supangle for dessert, offered participants a delightful culinary experience. Academicians sharing their professional knowledge and skills within a social setting this time around added a distinct meaning to the event.



Offering academicians a chance to rest and socially interact, away from their daily academic routine, this meeting also highlighted the shared memories, enjoyable conversations, and collective time of academic staff working across various programs. Taking place in a warm, sincere, and corporate atmosphere, the end-of-term dinner went beyond being just a meal organization and was remembered as a meaningful event where solidarity was strengthened, the past term was evaluated, and good wishes for the new term were shared.

With its approach that prioritizes creating a strong corporate culture and a sincere working environment alongside academic success, İstanbul Gelişim University Vocational School continues to organize such events that increase academic and social sharing.

The end-of-term dinner, as a beautiful reflection of this understanding, became a pleasant memory for the academic staff.





# HISTORY

Istanbul Gelişim Vocational School started education in 2008 with 9 programs and became a school that forms the core of Istanbul Gelişim University. It has shown rapid development since its establishment; it has reached 19 departments, 37 programs and 10,630 students. Evening education is provided in 21 of 37 programs.

Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School continues its educational activities with its experienced and strong academic staff. In addition to the permanent instructors, by employing the leading names of the sector part-time, the students are given the opportunity to learn their practical experience in business life.

Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, which has moved to its new campus as of the Fall Term of the 2017-2018 Academic Year, has a total of 22 workshops, including Aircraft Maintenance Workshops, Mock-Up, Kitchen, Electric, Construction, Automotive, Serigraphy, Ceramics and Fashion workshops, in its new campus so that students can apply their theoretical education practically. Besides it offers a field of application with 7 Computer Labs, one of which is MAC.

Our School's Aircraft Technology Program has the Recognized School Approval Certificate from the General Directorate of Civil Aviation (SHGM) as well as the Flight Operations Specialist Training (Dispatcher) Authorization Certificate from the DGCA. Apart from our two programs authorized by DGCA, the licensing processes for the Approved Cabin Crew Basic Training Organization Certificate for Civil Aviation Cabin Services Turkish and English Programs and the Approved Ground Handling Training Organization Certificate for Civil Air Transport Management Turkish and English Programs are continuing at the DGCA.

Istanbul Gelişim Vocational School students can benefit from the educational and social activity opportunities available in all campuses of our university without interruption.



# OUR MISSION

To equip our students in all the programs with innovations in their fields, to keep them informed of current developments, to keep this process alive with scientific activities, and to support the scientific studies of lecturers. To be the solution for the need of qualified intermediate staff with the qualifications required by the sector, to have assimilated the latest technological developments, to have developed a practical side.



# OUR VISION

Our vision is to be one of the world's leading vocational schools with qualified academic staff and all the programs recognized by international institutions and organizations, and to train students who are demanded by the market and who are all employed after graduation.



\* IGVS E-Bulletin has been prepared according to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) criteria.

# EDUCATION



## NEWS FROM IGVS

### İSTANBUL GELİŞİM UNIVERSITY ESTABLISHES A NEW ERASMUS+ PARTNERSHIP

Istanbul Gelisim University Vocational School continues to expand its international network by adding a new collaboration to its Erasmus+ partnerships. Once again, we have opened the doors of Europe for our design-oriented departments.

As a result of the efforts carried out by Lect. İpek Ebru Karaçay, Erasmus Coordinator of the Computer-Aided Design and Animation Program, a new Erasmus+ agreement has been signed with Riga Technical University, one of Latvia's prestigious higher education institutions.

With this exciting development, students and academic staff from the Departments of Visual Communication Design and Graphic Design, as well as the Computer-Aided Design and Animation Program, will be able to take part in academic mobility activities in Latvia. Within the scope of this protocol, our students and staff will benefit from academic mobility opportunities, thereby strengthening the cultural and scientific ties between the two countries.





**Continuing to expand its international network, IGVS has added a new partnership to its Erasmus+ collaborations.**

As a result of the efforts carried out by Lect. İpek Ebru Karaçay, the Erasmus Coordinator for the Computer-Aided Design and Animation Program, a comprehensive Erasmus+ agreement has been established with Alberta Koledza, located in Riga, Latvia.



Through this cooperation, the Computer Programming, Computer-Aided Design and Animation, Web Design and Development, Information Security Technology, and Computer Technologies programs within the Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School have been included in the Erasmus+ student mobility process.

Under the scope of the agreement, both our students and staff will be able to participate in academic mobility in Latvia. This process, which is based on mutual knowledge transfer, will further strengthen the cultural and academic ties between our institutions.



## ISTANBUL GELİŞİM UNIVERSITY NEW ERASMUS+ COLLABORATION

Istanbul Gelisim University Vocational School continues to strengthen its Erasmus+ network in line with its vision of internationalization. We have expanded the scope of our existing collaborations with our European partners by adding a new dimension to these partnerships.



As a result of the efforts carried out by Lect. İpek Ebru Karaçay, the Erasmus Coordinator of the Computer-Aided Design and Animation Program, our existing agreement with Vilniaus Kolegija / University of Applied Sciences, one of the prestigious educational institutions in Lithuania, has been expanded to include the Department of Computer Technologies.

With this development, students and academic staff from the Computer-Aided Design and Animation, Computer Programming, Computer Technologies, Information Security Technologies, and Web Design and Development programs will be able to participate in the mobility process in Lithuania. Through this expanded agreement, our students and staff will gain international experience and increase the cultural and scientific interaction between the two countries.



## **TÜBİTAK-Supported Project "MATLAB Training from Basics to Applications" Successfully Completed**

Hosted by the Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School (IGVS) within the scope of TÜBİTAK 2237-A Grant Program for Scientific Training, the project titled "MATLAB Training from Basics to Applications" concluded with an exam on January 9, following an intensive five-day academic marathon.

The project commenced on January 5 with the opening speech of the Project Coordinator, Asst. Prof. Ceyda Cevahir Yıldız, a faculty member of the Computer Programming Department at our Vocational School.



### **"MATLAB is a Vast Ocean; We are Laying the Foundations Here"**

In her opening speech, Asst. Prof. Ceyda Cevahir Yıldız touched upon the working philosophy of MATLAB, noting that the program's name originates from the concept of "Matrix Laboratory" (Math Laboratory). Emphasizing that the software's entire logic is based on the matrix system, Yıldız stated that "MATLAB is a vast ocean with no boundaries. It plays a critical role in everything from engineering to scientific research, and from biomedicine to artificial intelligence. With this training, we aim to provide our students with a solid foundation and guide them through this expansive sea."



### Comprehensive Modules from Experts in the Field

During the training process conducted at the Istanbul Gelisim University PC-254 laboratory, each module was addressed in depth by expert instructors:

- MATLAB File and Control Structures: Lect. Volkan Cantemir (Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Information Technologies Vocational School, Information Security Technologies Program)
- MATLAB Loop and Control Structures: Lect. Çisem Yaşar (IGVS, Front-End Software Development Program)
- Functions, Graphic Plotting, and GUI: Asst. Prof. Ceyda Cevahir Yıldız (IGVS, Computer Programming Program)
- MATLAB Fuzzy Logic: Lect. Ali Çetinkaya (IGVS, Autonomous Systems Technician Program)
- MATLAB Image Processing: Lect. Sena Nur Benli (IGVS, Computer Programming)
- MATLAB Artificial Neural Networks: Lect. Tuğba Saray Çetinkaya (Yalova University, Yalova Vocational School, Front-End Software Development Program)





### Interdisciplinary Synthesis of Mathematics, Computer Science, and AI

This interdisciplinary study, which brought together the analytical power of mathematics with computer science and artificial intelligence technologies, offered participants a visionary and rich educational program. In this process where abstract concepts were transformed into concrete projects, an interactive learning environment was created where both theoretical depth and practical application were experienced simultaneously.

### Training Crowned with an Exam; Students Request Continuation

At the end of the intensive five-day period, an exam was administered to the participants on Friday, January 9. Students, who had the opportunity to document their competencies through the exam, took pride in successfully completing the training.

During the closing evaluations, it was observed that student satisfaction was remarkably high, with participants expressing a strong demand for the continuation of such training programs that provide technical and sectoral competencies. IGU continues to raise individuals who are proficient in the technologies of the future with its innovative vision.

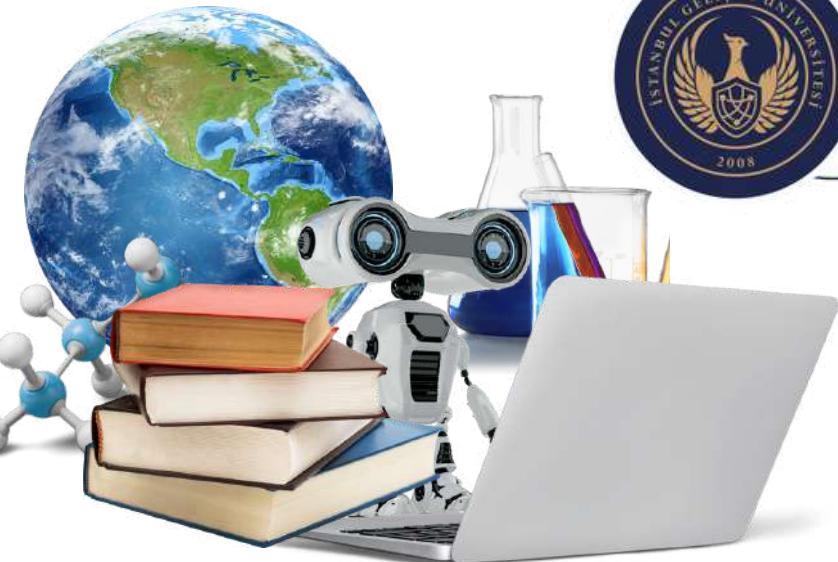




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R & D



The program titled "MATLAB Training from Basics to Applications" was hosted by IGU within the scope of the TÜBİTAK 2237-A Grant Program for Scientific Training, and led by Asst. Prof. Ceyda Cevahir Yıldız from IGVS, has been successfully completed.

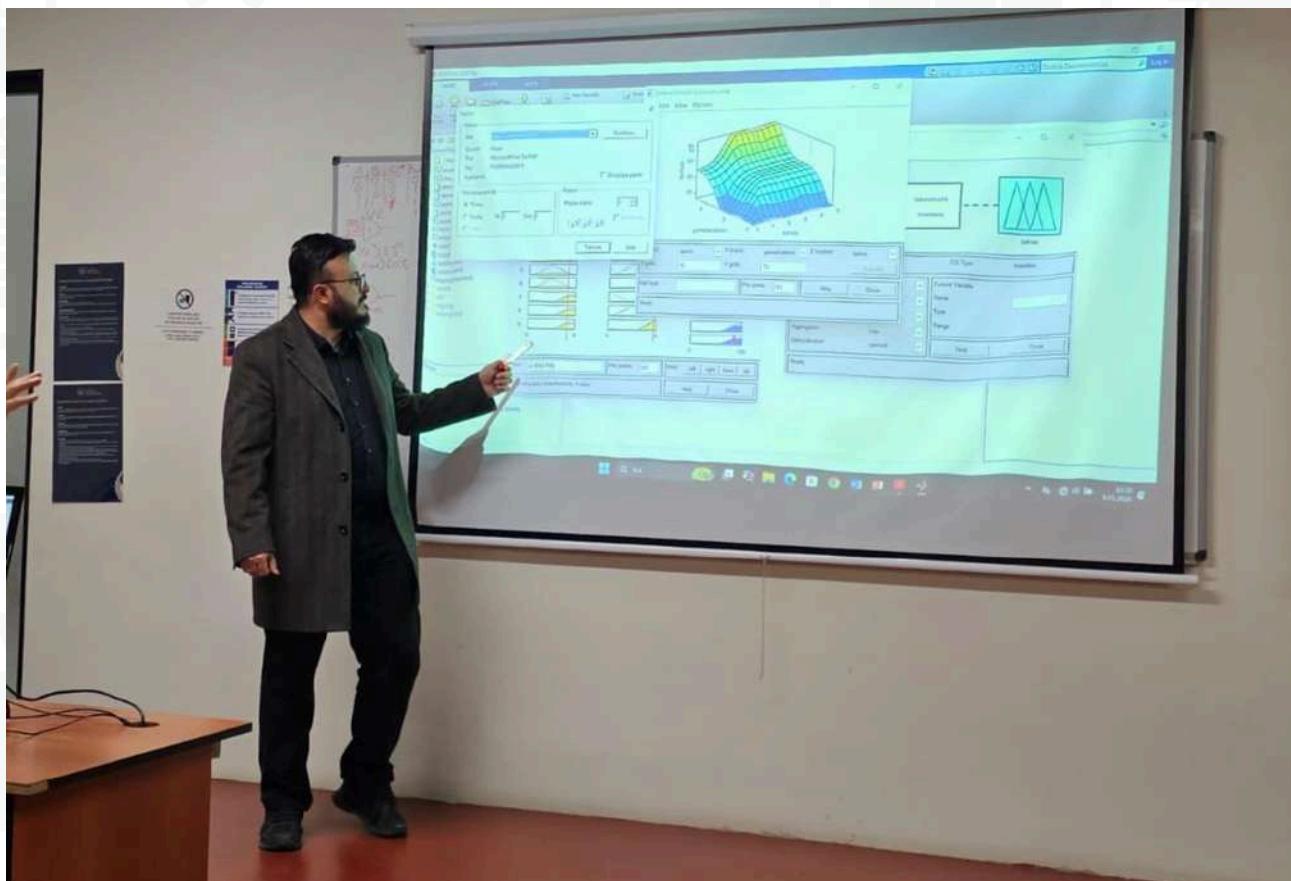


As part of the program, the Fuzzy Logic module was conducted with both theoretical and practical content, delivered by Lect. Ali Çetinkaya, the Head of the Autonomous Systems Technician Program at IGVS.



In this context, the following topics were covered during the training process within a scientific framework, utilizing both theoretical explanations and practical applications through the MATLAB Fuzzy Logic Toolbox:

- The concept of fuzzy sets and their differences from classical logic
- Definition and interpretation of membership functions
- Rule-based fuzzy inference systems
- Decision-making approaches for problems involving uncertainty



<https://girisim.edu.tr/tr/girisim-haber-istanbul-girisim-universitesi-nde-temelden-uygulamaya-matlab-egitimi-basladi>

<https://matlabegitimi.girisim.edu.tr/tr/konferans-icerik-projeTakvimi>



The book chapter titled "Economic Growth and Inflation," authored by Asst. Prof. Duygu Çelik from the Department of Finance, Banking, and Insurance at IGU, has been published in the book titled: **ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS: DIGITALIZATION, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVE**

**EKONOMİK BüYÜME VE GÜNCEL GELİŞMELER:  
DİJİTALLEŞME, YAPAY ZEKA VE GELECEK PERSPEKTİF**

Doç. Dr. Nihat ALTUNTEPE



**CERTIFICATE**  
OF PARTICIPATION

This is to certify that

**Asst. Prof. Dr. Duygu ÇELİK**

attended the 6<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL TOPKAPI CONGRESS  
held online and in-person on January 09-11, 2026 / İstanbul, Türkiye  
with an oral presentation entitled

THE IMPACT OF INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY ON ECONOMIC GROWTH: THE CASE OF THE BRICS-T COUNTRY GROUP AND 'THE GREASING THE WHEELS' EFFECT

Dr. Viola MAKHZOUN  
Head of Organizing Congress

Asst. Prof. Duygu Çelik from the Department of Finance, Banking and Insurance at Istanbul Gelisim University orally presented her full paper titled "The Impact of Institutional Quality on Economic Growth: The Case of the BRICS-T Country Group and the 'Greasing the Wheels' Effect" at the INTERNATIONAL TOPKAPI CONGRESS-VI, held on January 9, 2026.



The study titled "Comparison and Analysis of Artificial Intelligence-Supported Approaches in the Use of Renewable Energy Resources" has been published as the second chapter of the book *Yapay Zekâ Çalışmaları* (English: Artificial Intelligence Studies) by Çizgi Publishing.

In the study, artificial intelligence-based methods used in renewable energy systems were examined comparatively in terms of performance, efficiency, and application areas. Additionally, the digital transformation in energy for sustainable energy solutions was evaluated with an analytical approach based on artificial intelligence algorithms.

## YAPAY ZEKA ÇALIŞMALARI



### EDİTÖRLER

Prof. Dr. Murat SARIKAYA  
Doç. Dr. Mustafa Kemal BALKİ  
Öğr. Gör. Volkan ÇAVUŞ

ÇİZGİ e-Kitap



The authors of the book chapter from the IGVS are:

### Lect. Ali Çetinkaya

Istanbul Gelisim University, Vocational School  
Autonomous Systems Technician Program

### Asst. Prof. Mustafa Temür

Istanbul Gelisim University  
Car Body and Surface Finishing Technologies Program



Asst. Prof. Ceyda Cevahir Yıldız, Head of the Department of Computer Technologies at Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, has published a scientific article titled “Parallel Darboux Equidistant Ruled Surfaces in  $E^3$ ”, prepared within the scope of an international collaboration with Prof. Dr. Luca Grilli from University of Foggia, Italy and Asst. Prof. Süleyman Şenyurt from Ordu University. The article was published on January 7, 2026, in the journal Symmetry, published by the reputable publishing house MDPI.

This open-access study, which is indexed in SCI-Expanded and ranked in the Q1 category, examines the algebraic invariants and kinematic motions of equidistant ruled surfaces generated by Parallel Darboux vectors. By analyzing the associated geometric structures, the study makes an original contribution to the field of differential geometry.

<https://www.mdpi.com/2073-8994/18/1/111>

Asst. Prof. Dr. Duygu Çelik and Asst. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kerem Börü from the Finance, Banking, and Insurance Department of Istanbul Gelisim University Vocational School delivered an oral presentation titled “Re-Testing the Environmental Kuznets Curve Hypothesis in Developing Economies: The Improving Role of Trade Openness and Renewable Energy” at the 5th International WRITETEC Congress on Social Sciences and Health Sciences in the Age of Artificial Intelligence, held on January 21, 2026.

6. ULUSLARARASI WRITETEC  
YAPAY ZEKA ÇAĞINDA SOSYAL  
BİLİMLER VE SAĞLIK BİLİMLERİ  
KONGRESİ

17-22 Ocak / January 2026

WRITETEC Bilgi Teknolojileri ev sahipliğinde  
dönemlencenek olan 5. Uluslararası WriteTec Yapay Zeka Çağında Sosyal Bilimler ve  
Sağlık Bilimleri Kongresi'ne göndermiş olduğunuz "GELİŞMEKTE OLAN  
EKONOMİLERDE ÇEVRESEL KUZNETS EĞRİSİ HIPOTEZİNİN YENİDEN  
SINANMASI: TİCARI AÇIKLIK VE YENİLENEBİLİR ENERJİNİN İYİLEŞTİRİCİ  
ROLÜ" başlıklı bildiri özetiniz kongrede sunulmak üzere kabul edilmiştir.

Sizi konuşmacı olarak aramızda görmekten onur duyuyoruz.

Saygılarımla

Doç. Dr. Nihat ALTUNTEPE  
Başkan; Kongre Düzenleme Kurulu Adına

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## Gold Medal Success from Our School at the 22nd International Istanbul Culinary Days

Representing our school at the 22nd International Istanbul Gastronomy Festival (International Istanbul Culinary Days), which is one of Turkey's most prestigious gastronomy organizations, students from the Culinary Program of our Vocational School were awarded a gold medal following their successful performance.

Organized by the Turkish Chefs and Cooks Federation (TAŞFED), the International Istanbul Culinary Days Festival brings together numerous local and foreign chefs, academicians, and gastronomy students every year. This year, the event was once again held as an organization where competence and competition in the field of gastronomy were experienced at the highest level.





In the competitions held within the scope of the festival at the Istanbul Bahçelievler Congress Center between December 17 and 20, 2025; Mevlüt Ubeyde Can, Emine Toraman, and Onurcan Öçeş, the Culinary Program students of our Vocational School, received full marks from the jury members in the "Best University Team of the Year" category. By reflecting their theoretical and practical education on the field, they won the gold medal in the group category.

Our students prepared for the competition under the coordination of Prof. Aslı Albayrak and the academic and professional guidance of Lect. Levent Demirçakmak, Lect. Revşen Akay, Lect. Didar Başgöze, and Kitchen Technician Oğuzhan İstanbullu. With the support of their applied training, our students presented "Butter-Sautéed Prawns with Malkara Green Lentils" as a starter, "Sous Vide Duck with Potato Pavé" as a main course, and "Caramelized Quince with Tahini Ganache" as a dessert to the chefs. The disciplined execution of the academic and practical training process was one of the fundamental elements of this achievement.

We would like to thank the Assistant Director of our Vocational School, Assoc. Prof. Taner Atasoy, for his unwavering support of our students and professors throughout the competition process, as well as all our academic and administrative staff for their efforts. We congratulate our students and wish them continued success of such golden value.





# SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION



\*IGVS E-Bulletin has been prepared according to the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC) criteria.

## Smart and Sustainable Approaches in Micro Hydroelectric Systems

Lect. Sena Nur BENLİ  
Computer Technologies

The continuous increase in energy demand and the prioritization of environmental sustainability on a global scale enhance the strategic importance of renewable energy sources each passing day. In this context, hydropower stands out as a reliable energy source due to its low carbon emissions and long-term production capacity (International Energy Agency, 2023). However, due to the environmental impacts on ecosystems, high investment costs, and social consequences of large-scale hydroelectric power plants, micro and small-scale hydroelectric systems are currently considered a more sustainable alternative (Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, 2023). Micro hydroelectric systems possess the potential to generate energy with minimum intervention to the environment by utilizing waterfalls, riverbeds, and natural water flows. Turkey is among the countries with significant potential in terms of hydroelectric energy thanks to its geographical location and hydrographic structure. Although hydroelectric power plants have held a significant share in electricity production in the country for many years, interest in local and distributed energy production approaches has increased in recent years (Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, 2023). Within this scope, micro hydroelectric systems are evaluated as a strategic solution for sustainable energy production, particularly in rural and semi-rural regions.

One of the prominent institutional actors in renewable energy investments in Turkey is Enerjisa Üretim, operating under Sabancı Holding. The hydroelectric power plants of the Sabancı Group hold an important place within the renewable energy portfolio and attract attention with operational policies that prioritize environmental sustainability (Enerjisa Üretim, 2024; Sabancı Holding, 2024). The monitoring, automation, and performance evaluation infrastructures used in these large-scale facilities constitute an important reference for scalable digital solutions for micro hydroelectric systems.

The perspective of computer engineering plays a critical role in the digital transformation of micro hydroelectric systems. Through sensor technologies and Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructures, water flow rate, turbine rotation speed, and energy production amount can be monitored in real-time. These collected data are analyzed using machine learning and artificial intelligence algorithms, and production processes are optimized dynamically (Ahmadi et al., 2020). In this way, rapid adaptation to seasonal and sudden changes in the water source is ensured, energy efficiency is increased, and potential system failures can be predicted in advance.



Another significant dimension of the contribution of software and data-oriented engineering approaches is the digital twin approach. Through the modeling of physical micro hydroelectric systems in virtual environments, different operating scenarios can be tested without risk and system performance can be evaluated beforehand (Tao et al., 2019). The application of this approach, which is used in large-scale hydroelectric facilities, at the micro-scale contributes to reducing investment costs and extending system life. Smart micro hydroelectric systems offer significant advantages not only in terms of technical efficiency but also in terms of environmental and economic sustainability. Thanks to artificial intelligence-supported energy management systems, the carbon footprint can be analyzed more accurately and the increase in energy production efficiency can be converted into economic gain (Lund et al., 2017). Furthermore, supporting local and distributed energy production contributes to regional development by reducing dependence on the central grid (U.S. Department of Energy, 2022).



In conclusion, Turkey's hydroelectric potential and the sectoral experience of established energy groups such as Sabancı form a strong foundation for the development of micro hydroelectric systems through smart approaches based on digital technologies and software-based solutions. Through data analytics, artificial intelligence, and digital twin technologies, hydropower ceases to be merely a natural resource and becomes a strategically managed digital energy component. The proliferation of such smart systems is considered a significant step toward achieving sustainable energy goals.

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## A New Career Path in Software: Quality Assurance and Automation Testing Expertise

### Find the “Bug,” Get the Reward!

Today, some technology companies organize programs that reward people who find errors in their software. In these practices, which are carried out with the understanding of “find the bug, win the reward,” every detected software error represents a major gain for companies; because a bug caught early prevents possible security vulnerabilities, user losses, and financial damages. This approach clearly demonstrates that software testing is not only a technical necessity but also a strategic process that produces high value.

The software process begins with the project owner defining their needs and objectives. These requirements are analyzed, how the system will operate is planned, and the design phase is initiated. After the coding process carried out in accordance with the design, is the software released directly to the market? Of course not. Because every piece of written code, even if it appears to work correctly, may contain errors in different scenarios.

In software testing, this situation—referred to as a “bug”—expresses the difference between the expected behavior of the system and its actual behavior; in other words, any situation in which the software does not comply with the rules defined in the design is considered a bug.

In order to detect such bugs at an early stage, developers write unit tests throughout the development process; a unit test is a fundamental testing method aimed at checking whether functions or methods, which are the smallest building blocks of software, produce the expected output correctly. However, unit tests alone are not sufficient to detect all bugs that may occur in software. This is because developers approach the code from their own development perspective and often do not experience the software as an end user. This situation may cause unexpected usage scenarios, edge cases, and small but critical errors to be overlooked.

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Web Design And Development

## Google launches AI bug bounties - earn up to \$30,000 if you can hack Gemini

News

By Craig Hale published October 7, 2025

Google launches a new AI bug bounties





For this reason, after the technical correctness of the software is verified by the developer through unit tests, the testing process does not remain solely the responsibility of developers. From this stage onward, the software enters alpha testing, in which testers (Quality Assurance Testers – QA) also take an active role; here, it is evaluated whether all components of the software work correctly together and whether they comply with business rules and usage scenarios. Subsequently, through beta testing carried out by testers, the software is tested under conditions close to real user behavior, and possible errors, performance issues, and user experience problems are identified.

### **SO, WHAT IS A QA TESTER?**

A QA Tester (Quality Assurance Tester) is a specialist who evaluates not only whether software works, but also whether it works correctly, securely, and in accordance with user expectations. QA Testers examine the project from the very beginning of the software process, divide the entire system into scenarios, create test cases (test scenarios) in line with these scenarios, and test the software under different usage conditions. Errors encountered during the testing process are reported in detail to developers through project and bug tracking tools such as Jira. In this way, the QA Tester acts as a bridge between the development team and the end user and plays a critical role in ensuring sustainable software quality.

For many years, a large part of these testing processes was carried out manually. However, the growth of software projects, the increase in test scenarios, and the need for some tests to be repeated every day have made manual testing processes both time-consuming and tiring. Especially in cases where basic checks such as smoke testing need to be performed continuously, manual testing has started to become insufficient.

Automation testing is the process of coding manually performed test scenarios and making them automated. For example, even a short period of malfunction of the "Buy" button in an online sales company may lead to serious financial losses. Therefore, such critical functions need to be tested continuously at regular intervals. However, constantly performing these checks manually is not practical. Instead, with the help of developed test bots, predefined scenarios are automatically executed at desired time intervals, and whether the system is functioning properly is regularly monitored. At this point, a new QA profile called Automation QA, which specializes in test automation, has emerged.



Software testing processes, especially together with ISTQB standards and automation testing approaches, have today become a separate field of specialization. For vocational school students receiving education in the Web Design and Coding program, the QA Tester and Automation QA roles offer strong and sustainable career opportunities in the software sector. Software testing and quality processes are not limited only to students of the Web Design and Coding program; they also offer important career opportunities for students studying in all IT-based fields such as Software Engineering, Computer Engineering, Front-End Software Development, Computer Programming, and Computer Technologies programs.

As an ISTQB-certified QA Tester and also a lecturer, I find it extremely important for students to be trained not only as individuals who write code, but also as individuals who can test the code they write, question it, and possess a quality-oriented perspective.

“Professionals who make a difference in the software world are not those who ignore errors, but those who detect errors early and ensure quality.”



# IS SOFTWARE ENGINEERING DEAD? A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON CODING REALITIES IN 2026

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Computer Programming

The world of technology has entered the year 2026 with a new reality that has fundamentally transformed software development processes. While the era of "copilots" that entered our lives in 2023 has come to an end, it has been replaced by "Autonomous Artificial Intelligence Agents" (Agentic AI). However, according to industry experts, this transformation does not signify the end of software engineering but rather the birth of "creative architecture."

## Autonomous Coding and the Shifting Throne of Python

Python has always been the first language that comes to mind regarding artificial intelligence. However, remarkable changes are occurring in this field alongside advancing technologies. According to reports published by GitHub and Gartner, artificial intelligence no longer merely completes code but instead plans projects, codes them, and corrects errors autonomously.

Nevertheless, this rapid production process has brought security concerns along with it. In GitHub's "Octoverse" report for the year 2025, it is stated that TypeScript is on the rise. The code rapidly generated by artificial intelligence requires significant effort to verify whether it contains errors or not. For this reason, developers are turning toward the strict rules of TypeScript instead of the flexibility of Python. Furthermore, languages that ensure memory safety such as Rust are replacing C and C++.

Secure code is now more valuable than fast code.





## The New Superpower: “Code Literacy”

It is observed that developers spend a significant portion of their time auditing complex codes produced by artificial intelligence. This indicates that the skill of “code reading” is becoming increasingly important. Deciphering the logic of millions of lines of code is only possible through the mastery of human intelligence.

## Machines Write, Humans Imagine

Experts emphasize that artificial intelligence agents are excellent imitators yet remain limited in terms of creativity. While artificial intelligence can solve technical problems, determining which problem is worth solving and establishing a creative vision is still a skill unique to human intelligence.

## Conclusion and Hope for the Future: Become an Orchestrator

How will software developers adapt to this transformation? There is no need for panic. The only necessary action is to accept that the era of memorizing syntax has ended. Those who wish to be successful in 2026 will need to learn how to manage autonomous artificial intelligence agents and how to construct system architecture. Coding has not ended; rather, its “labor-intensive” aspect has reached an end. Real engineering is beginning now.

The message from the industry to young software developers is clear: *“Artificial intelligence agents are not your rivals but a massive army that you must manage. The machine may be the master of the code, but you are still the one who breathes life into its soul.”*

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## Stego-Cryptography: A Dual-Layer Security Approach in the Digital World

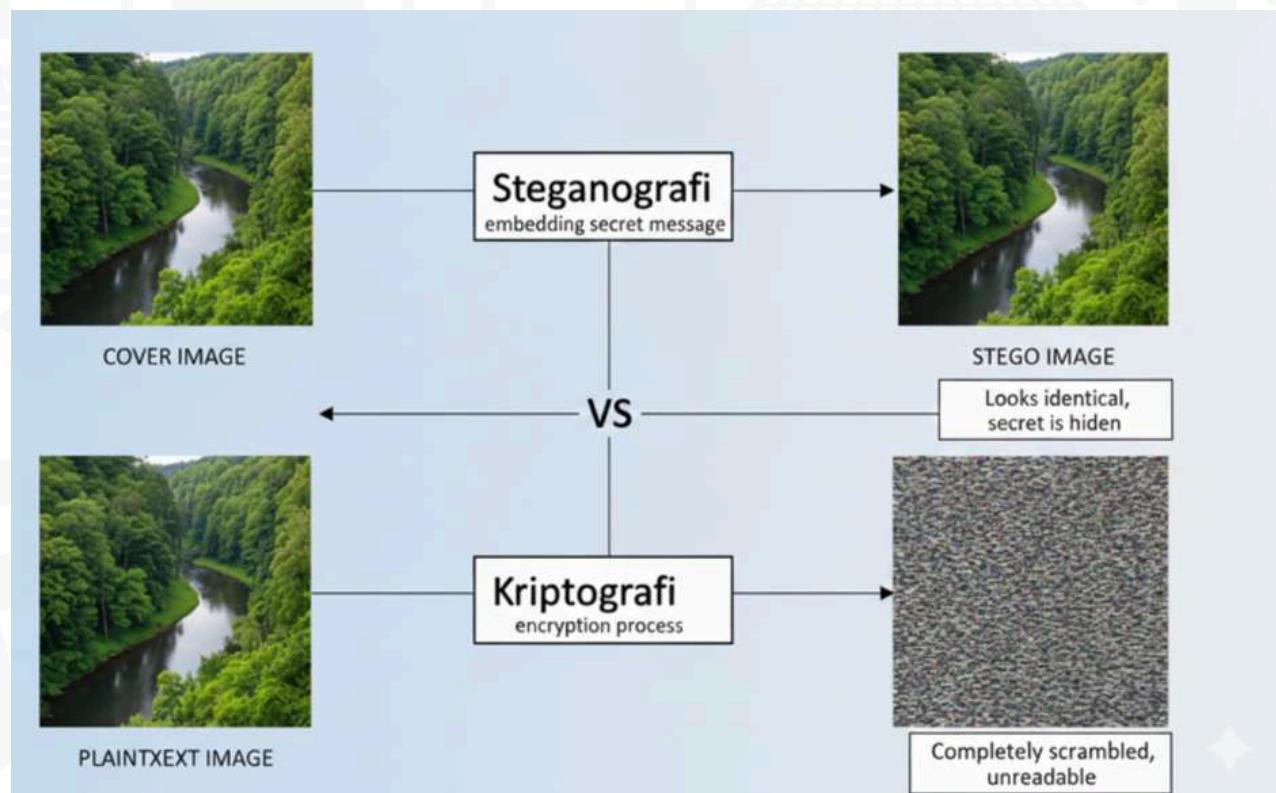
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In today's world, where digital communication has permeated every aspect of our lives, data privacy and security have become more critical than ever. From personal information to corporate documents, from medical records to military communications, a wide range of sensitive data is stored and transmitted in digital environments. This situation necessitates security approaches that can protect not only the content of the data but also its very existence.

At this point, stego-cryptography stands out as a powerful approach that offers a dual-layer security concept by combining cryptography and steganography techniques. While cryptography provides protection against unauthorized access by encrypting the content of the message, steganography aims to conceal the existence of the message, preventing third parties from even becoming aware of the communication. The combined use of these two methods largely eliminates the weaknesses they possess when applied individually.

The basic principle of stego-cryptography is that the message is first encrypted cryptographically and then hidden within a carrier medium. Although this carrier is most commonly digital images, audio files, videos, or texts can also be used. The LSB (Least Significant Bit) method, which is widely used in image-based steganography, enables the storage of hidden information by making changes to pixel values that cannot be perceived by the human eye. Hiding encrypted data in this manner provides additional resistance against both steganalysis and cryptanalysis attacks.

This approach offers significant advantages in many fields such as military and diplomatic communications, digital watermarking, secure data storage, and the protection of health and legal records. Especially in today's world, where digital surveillance is increasing, data that is hidden and encrypted within an ordinary image or media file makes covert communication much more secure.



In conclusion, stego-cryptography is an effective security approach that provides a holistic response to the increasing data security needs in the digital world by protecting both content and existence. In the face of the evolving threat landscape, such dual-layer solutions are expected to gain increasing importance in the field of information security.

## 7 of the 10 most-watched animated films in Türkiye are domestic productions

According to a compilation made by an AA correspondent from Box Office Türkiye, looking at the top 10 animated films that have been released in Türkiye to date, all of the cinema films from the “Rafadan Tayfa” series —one of TRT Çocuk’s animated productions directed by İsmail Fidan— are included in the top 10.

### “Rafadan Tayfa Göbeklitepe”

Among the most-watched films in the animation genre, the first place was taken by “Rafadan Tayfa Göbeklitepe,” from the Rafadan Tayfa series, which was released in December 2019. Directed by İsmail Fidan and written by Ozan Civit, the production reached 3 million 444 thousand 814 viewers during the 24 weeks it remained in theaters, securing the top position. The revenue obtained from the film amounted to 55 million 735 thousand liras.

### “Rafadan Tayfa Galaktik Tayfa”

Directed by İsmail Fidan and written by Ozan Civit, “Rafadan Tayfa Galaktik Tayfa” attracted 2 million 853 thousand viewers to movie theaters as of its release on 6 January 2023, taking second place on the list. The film’s box office revenue exceeded 170 million liras.

### “Rafadan Tayfa 4: Hayrimatör”

Focusing on the beloved heroes Hayri, Kamil, Akın, Sevim, Hale, and Mert preparing for a great adventure at the very midpoint of the past and the future, “Rafadan Tayfa 4: Hayrimatör” became the third most-watched film with 2 million 815 thousand viewers and a revenue of 306 million 781 thousand liras. The film was directed by İsmail Fidan, while the screenplay was written by Arzu Yurtseven.

#### Source :

<https://www.aa.com.tr/tr/kultur/turkiyede-en-cok-izlenen-10-animasyon-filmden-7si-yerli-yapim/3758551>

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# What Is Vibe Coding? The Era of Coding by “Feeling” with AI

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In recent months, a concept has been spreading rapidly in the world of software: vibe coding. However, this concept no longer merely signifies “coding in a pleasant environment.” In its current usage, vibe coding refers to the approach of writing code with artificial intelligence tools by describing intent and feeling without getting bogged down in details. In summary, you state what you want and the AI writes the code while you manage the vibe.

In summary: You state what you want and the AI writes the code, while you manage the vibe.

## The Current Meaning of Vibe Coding

While vibe coding was previously characterized as an approach based on a software developer entering a state of flow to write code, its meaning has changed today. In its modern sense, vibe coding is defined as a software development approach where the developer describes what they want to achieve in natural language instead of writing every line of code individually, and AI tools generate code based on this description. In this method, the developer focuses more on the product idea, logic, and experience, whereas syntax, boilerplate code, and repetitive tasks are largely left to artificial intelligence.

## How Did Vibe Coding Emerge?

The concept of vibe coding became popular especially with the widespread adoption of AI code assistants, prompt-based development, automated refactoring and test generation, and natural language code generation tools. At this point, the role of the programmer began to change, and the perspective of being a code director rather than a code writer became dominant.



## How is Vibe Coding Performed?

The AI-supported vibe coding process generally operates in the following manner:

- 1. You state your intent:** For instance, “I want a simple user login system that uses JWT.”
- 2. AI generates the code:** It writes the backend, API endpoints, and even frontend components if necessary.
- 3. You direct it:** “Make it more secure”, “Increase performance”, or “Make this asynchronous.”
- 4. Fine-tuning is performed:** The code is read, errors are corrected, and architectural decisions are reviewed.

Therefore, vibe coding is more like dialogue-based development rather than the traditional “line-by-line coding” approach.

## AI Tools Used in Vibe Coding

There are AI tools optimized for various purposes while performing vibe coding. Some of these tools include:

- Code completion and generation tools: These tools generate the rest of the code for you by looking at a few words or comments you have written. Example tools include GitHub Copilot, Amazon CodeWhisperer, Tabnine, Codeium, and Gemini.
- Systems that generate project skeletons with prompts: These tools create the basic structure of a project according to instructions given in natural language. Example tools include ChatGPT, Replit AI, Cursor IDE, and Bolt.new.
- AI-supported IDE plugins: Unlike traditional code editors, these tools are designed with an AI-centric approach. Example tools include Cursor, Visual Studio Code with AI plugins such as Copilot or Codeium, and Replit IDE.
- AI assistants for refactoring: They take existing code and make it more readable, performant, or secure. Example tools include ChatGPT, Cursor, CodiumAI, and Gemini.
- AI-supported test and error analysis tools: These tools generate automated tests or analyze errors. Example tools include CodiumAI, Diffblue Cover, ChatGPT, and Gemini.

Through these tools, the developer focuses on “what to do” rather than technical details.



## Advantages and Risks of Vibe Coding

The prominent advantages of AI-supported vibe coding are as follows:

- **Rapid development:** Tasks that would take hours can be reduced to minutes.
- **Less boilerplate code:** Repetitive codes are generated automatically.
- **Accessibility for beginners:** Production can be achieved without knowing advanced syntax.
- **Focus on creativity:** The focus shifts to "what should be done" instead of "how is it written."

However, as with every modern technology, this approach is not without risks. When not used appropriately, vibe coding may lead to the following risks:

- **Risk of not understanding how the code works:** It is dangerous to use the code written by AI blindly.
- **Debugging and maintenance difficulties:** The generated code may be complex or may produce unnecessarily complicated code for simple solutions.
- **Excessive AI dependency:** Basic software skills may atrophy over time, which can make it difficult to write new code during challenging problem-solving stages.
- **Security vulnerabilities:** AI may not always produce the most secure solution, and code must be checked for security, especially for sensitive applications.

## Who Is It Suitable For?

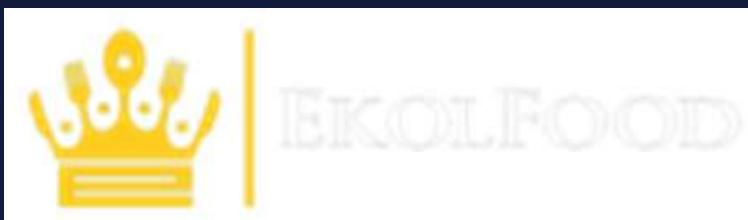
Vibe coding is an ideal approach especially for those developing rapid prototypes, start-up and MVP teams, independent developers, and product-oriented software engineers. However, in critical systems, banking, healthcare, and high-security projects, vibe coding must be supported by manual supervision and should not be left solely to AI generation.

## Conclusion: Vibe coding is not writing code but directing it.

In the age of AI, vibe coding is redefining the role of the software developer. The issue is no longer just writing code but rather being able to describe the right thing in the right way. However, an important point that should not be forgotten is that vibe coding does not mean "let the AI write it and I will not look". The correct approach is to use AI tools with the perspective where AI = A junior developer & You = The person performing architecture and quality control.



# OUR STAKEHOLDERS





Değişime Tanık Olun!



SİVİL HAVACILIK  
GENEL MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ



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