

**ISTANBUL GELISIM
UNIVERSITY**



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CONTENTS

TECHNO-AGENDA.....	3
• China Builds Its Own Space Telescope.....	3
• The Taxis We Call Will Come By Flying Now.....	4
ECO-AGENDA.....	5
• The Glaciers, the Climate of Our Planet, are Melting...	5
• Cryptocurrencies and Cold Wallet.....	6
• What is Happening in Turkish Cryptocurrency Exchanges?.....	8
• The Cost of Owning a House on the Moon Has Been Determined!.....	11
NEW OCCUPATIONS.....	12
• Digital Detective.....	12
CULTURE-ARTS-LITERATURE.....	13
• New Business Models in Blockchain, Art and Digital Economy: NFT.....	13
• Social and Cultural Functions of Religious Feasts and National Holidays	14
SOSYOCOM SHELF.....	15
• A BOOK: The Grapes of Wrath.....	15
• A MOVIE: Doctor Strange.....	15
• A SERIES: Black Mirror.....	15
• IF A PHILOSOPHER SPEAKS WITH A PHILOSOPHER: Thinkers are Dismissed from Nine Villages.....	16
• MOVIE REVIEW OF THE MONTH: Parasite...	18
• BOOK REVIEW OF THE MONTH: Philosophiae Consolatio.....	19
EDUCATION-RESEARCH.....	20
• Innovative Education Designs by IGU.....	20
• The Changing World University Ranking Approach and the Success of Istanbul Gelisim University in The Context Of Sustainable Development Goals.....	21
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION..	26
• Innovation Samples - I.....	26
POLITICAL-AGENDA.....	27
• The Current Situation of Relations Between People's Republic of China, EU and US Relations in the Context of the Taiwan Issue and the Uyghur Autonomous Region.....	27
• Which is the "Most Powerful Passport in the World?".....	28



• A New Type of Citizenship: Financial Citizenship.....	30
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HEALTH-PSYCHOLOGY..... 30

• Can Happiness Be Learned?.....	30
• Psychological Resilience: Fall Down 7 Times, Get Up 8 Times!.....	31

SOCIO-AGENDA..... 32

• From Mandatory Social Distancing to Side-by-Side Concerts: Success Story of New Zealand.....	32
• The Great Wall of Sivas	33

TIME TO SOCIALIZE..... 34

• Events in Istanbul.....	35
• June in Istanbul.....	36
• Street Flavors Series: The Meeting Point of Taste and History: Baked Beans In Süleymaniye.....	37
• Erasmus+ Journal.....	38
• IGU-Graduate.....	40
• Turkey and Its Beauty.....	41
• #iguconfesses.....	43
• #nostalgia.....	43

ABOUT ACADEMIC LIFE..... 44

• IGU VI. International Middle East Symposium	44
• GELISIM- UWE 5th International Economy and Financial Conference.....	45
• Publications.....	46

MASTHEAD..... 48



TECHNO-AGENDA



CHINA BUILDS ITS OWN SPACE TELESCOPE



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China is preparing to participate in the competition in the space exploration field by building its system. Developed as the Chinese Space Station Telescope, Xuntian will be China's first large telescope in space. Xuntian is seen as a rival to the Hubble Space Telescope, which was put into orbit in 1990 and used as one of the most important space probes. The probe, which will have a capacity 300 times more than Hubble can view, is planned to be launched for orbit in 2024.

Xuntian means "eye of the universe". The most important feature of the developed telescope is its diameter. The telescope will have a lens of 6.6 feet about 2 meters in diameter and will observe the sky using a massive 2.5 billion pixel camera. The expected service life of the telescope is 10 years. It will spend about 60% of its time on sky research, and it will do astronomical research in its remaining time. Xuntian will be designed to be able to be installed in space and docked to the surface. Its advanced optical system, wide field of view and high resolution mean it can picturize objects in more detail. It will have a better performance in discovering unknown celestial bodies. In addition, filters with different radiation characteristics such as near ultraviolet, near-infrared and terahertz will enable greater accuracy in detecting the colours of celestial bodies. It will have five separate tools to use while observing the images or spectrum of celestial bodies. It will enable to conduct in-depth research in the scientific discourse on subjects like cosmology, dark energy, dark matter, black holes, galaxies and stars. The extensive data collected in its 10-year study is expected to be used in almost all research fields of modern astronomy.

Xuntian will settle to an orbit 400 kilometres from the earth. So how will the data obtained from such a long distance be received? The Skylink satellite, which will be located next to the telescope, will establish a radio frequency connection and transmit the stored data to the satellite ground station. China, which has worked extensively on ground-based telescopes, instead of space-based telescopes, until now described the ground-based telescopes as the "eye of the sky". It is stated that with this new initiative, China will not only have "eyes of the sky" on the ground but also has "eyes of the universe".

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The Taxis We Call Will Come By Flying Now...

Asst. Prof. Orhan ÖZAYDIN
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The development in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in the last decade answers the question: "I wonder if I'll ever see flying cars like in the movie, Back to the Future (1985)". UAVs are now in our lives in military missions, city management, media and freight transportation. In 2021, passenger transportation was added to these categories. Driverless drone taxis were introduced at the Digital China Summit held in Fujian province of China. The autonomous aircraft 216 AAV (Autonomous Aerial Vehicle), developed by the Chinese company Ehang, which produces human-portable mega drones, flew with two passengers. 216 AAV is pilotless and electrically powered. It is also powered by 4G / 5G high speed wireless channel and is designed for low altitude short and medium range flights. 216 AAV, which has a maximum take-off weight of 600 kg, a load carrying capacity of 220 kg and a speed of 130 km/hour, seems to be able to easily meet urban transportation services.

Passenger and freight transportation which is a sub-branch of UAVs, is called Urban Air Mobility (UAM). According to Ehang's 2020 "White Paper" report, it is estimated that the "global market passenger revenues" of UAMs will reach 3 Billion USD in 2023 from 300 thousand USD in 2019. The business model that seems to have a high potential also has risks. Ehang constantly tests to ensure that there is no accidents. Ehang is also aware that a possible accident will lead to a loss of trust in UAMs and their shares will crash. Turkey takes an active role in UAVs. Baykar Defense Company makes its name known to the world with the UAVs that are being used in military operations. In addition, the company had introduced the prototype of Cezeri, Turkey's first flying car. With a speed of 100 km/h and a range of 80 km, the maximum take-off weight of the Cezeri prototype is 241 kg.

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THE GLACIERS, THE AIR CONDITIONERS OF OUR PLANET, ARE MELTING

ECO-AGENDA

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Humanity, who becomes more and more aware of the changes in the climate, has dragged the nature that it destroyed with its own hand into an unavoidable disaster. Climate change, which we see in the news, read in the newspapers and unfortunately become accustomed to, continues to reach scary proportions day by day. Melting of the glaciers is just one of them.

While the rapid melting of the ice masses on the planet accelerated the studies on this issue, one of the most striking of these studies was the research led by Romain Hugonnet from France-based Toulouse University According to the results of the search, approximately 270 billion tons of ice have melted in the two decades since the beginning of the 21st century. One of the conclusions is that the melting glaciers increased the sea level by 20%. Study team member Robert McNabb states that "This water is like covering the island of Ireland with 3 meters of water every year".

So why are melting glaciers so important?

The melting of the glaciers means that we will face bigger problems than we anticipated in the coming years. Because the water from melting glaciers flow into the ocean, causing sea levels to rise. Rising sea levels will cause floods in many other parts of the planet, negatively impacting billions of people in India, Bangladesh and China, as in the US Gulf and Northwest coast. Another harm that the melting of ice masses will cause to human beings is that the melting ice masses cause an absolute drought by mixing freshwater reserves with seawater. On the other hand, as the climate of the planet, glaciers reflect the Sun energy better than land or water, causing the acceleration of global warming, meaning that many animal species such as polar bears, seals and foxes may disappear. Therefore, as Stephan Hawking said, "We have presented a deadly gift to our planet like climate change."

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CRYPTOCURRENCIES AND COLD WALLET

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Although the cryptocurrency system was planned to be implemented in the 90s, it was delayed; the search for secure payment, which increased after the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, emerged in 2009 as Bitcoin. There are two underlying reasons for the emergence of Bitcoin in 2009, not in the 90s. The first reason was the lack of sufficient technology to provide the cryptocurrency security system in the 90s. The other reason is that during the 2008 crisis, the US government and credit rating agencies, such as S&P, Fitch, and Moody's did not act transparently, resulting in a search for a new system that the markets could trust.



Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies, which were originally designed as a means of exchange, later turned into an investment tool as a result of increasing involvement and price increase and were accepted as the currency of the future by investors. Cryptocurrencies, which increased in popularity in the 2020s, had more than 5,500 types besides Bitcoin and reached high prices as a result of the increasing buying pressure. Increasing cryptocurrency types and interests have caused investors to face two different risks. The first of these is the Tulip Mania, the Mississippi Bubble, the South Sea Bubble, the Great Depression of 1929, the Turkish Bankers Crisis, and the price bubble formations that occurred in the last 2008 Global Financial Crisis and the likelihood of events similar to their consequences. The other reason is that cryptocurrencies may pose a security risk. Individual and institutional investors who buy and sell in the cryptocurrency market can minimize the risk of the collapse of price bubbles and exposure to large losses by using 'stop-loss' orders.



Initially, it should be determined whether cryptocurrencies are an exchange tool or an investment tool, and security regulations should be put into effect by taking measures in this direction. If it is to be accepted as a medium of exchange, the Central Bank, if it is to be accepted as an investment instrument, the CMB, has an important role in taking various measures. If both cases are accepted, it will be an important action for both the Central Bank and the CMB to form a consensus. Moreover, if investors work with screen providers controlled by legal authorities or use cold wallets, insecurity that may arise will be prevented. Investments made in this way will not be able to disappear suddenly; the risks that may occur in the name of security will be prevented. As a result, working with institutions regulated by official authorities protects investors against the risk of buying and selling non-existent cryptocurrencies, ie fraud, while the cold wallet responds to the need for a safe and secure storage against the risk of theft of cryptocurrencies. While the cold wallet, which works offline, allows the storage of Bitcoin and Altcoins, it can perform this activity without an internet connection. In this way, a security shield is created against cyber attacks, unauthorized access and similar security vulnerabilities.

The aforementioned cold wallets are divided into two as hardware or paper. Paper wallets are physical documents in which a private key is shaped as a QR code, while hardware wallets refer to physical and electronic devices that contain randomly generated numbers to create private and public keys. However, there are some situations to be aware of when using cold wallets. One of these important issues is not to lose the created private key and code. Another one is that once the paper cold wallet is sent, the private key will appear online, so the cold wallet will no longer be safe. Therefore, a new paper wallet must be created. If investors pay attention to these issues, they will take a precaution against security risks that may occur for cryptocurrencies. Thus, the risk of facing cyber attacks, theft and similar events will be minimized.

As can be seen, investors may be exposed to risks such as large losses, fraud, and theft of their investments. While investors can protect themselves against the risk of loss by acting rationally in the investment process and opening a stop-loss order to avoid the losses of these risks, they may prefer audited institutions against the risk of fraud. It may be necessary to act rationally and to do serious research for these two risks. However, investors can benefit from the free cold wallet application to protect against security risks.



WHAT IS HAPPENING IN TURKISH CRYPTOCURRENCY EXCHANGES?

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According to the survey of Invictus Capital covering sixty countries, Turkey ranks fourth along with the UK in terms of crypto investors. According to the research findings, 65 percent of those who invest in this field are in the 25-45 age group. The interesting part is that the rate of investors under the age of 25 is as high as 25 percent. Considering the relatively low financial literacy of those in the investor group under the age of 25, it is a scary picture.

As can be understood from the statistics, it was not an expected situation that the supervisory institutions and central banks of the countries did not bring regulation to this financial asset, which is very popular and sought-after. However, there was actually a very important reason behind the failure of these institutions to make the necessary regulations until recently. It is because they have not been able to decide on what kind of financial asset the cryptocurrencies are.



However, the fact that fraud cases became frequent all over the world made the economic administrations worried and especially developed economies and international institutions were obliged to make some legal regulations.

The primary reason is, of course, the issue of ensuring the safety of the users, as Prof. Dr. Refet Gürkaynak stated, "It is quite normal that there are so many frauds where there are people who dream of getting rich." At least this is the duty of the state, to give people the right to lose money not by the so-called brokerage houses but because of their own investment decisions, only within the legal framework. However, some financial experts and economists agree that

unregulated cryptocurrency markets can provide serious opportunities for emerging markets to attack, due to their high technology and innovation. Cryptocurrency regulation news from Switzerland, Germany, England, and the United States, followed by the FED and ECB talking quite harshly and negatively at first, then stepping back and taking a more moderate atmosphere, occurred as positive developments for both digital money and cryptocurrency. However, it is useful to distinguish between digital money and cryptocurrency again. Digital money defines all electronic currencies but may not have used cryptography, while cryptocurrency is basically an asset-based on encryption, so it is produced by every cryptography. As can be understood from the definitions, we can say that Digital Money includes Cryptocurrency.



Many central banks, including the CBRT, and international technology companies such as Facebook, Google, Apple, and Amazon also signaled that they will be producing their own Digital Currency, in near future. In fact, we can say that Digital Currency is just a form of change for the currency in question, that is, when the ECB introduces the digital currency option for the Euro currency, in fact, there will be no change like the money transfer, most of which are carried out with the electronic registration system. In this sense, the statements of the ECB, the FED, and other dominant financial institutions that support digital money do not constitute an advantage for cryptocurrencies.

Nevertheless, there is actually no other option but to regulate this market against the dramatically increasing demand. In parallel with this, the CBRT banned the use of cryptocurrencies as a means of payment as of April 30, 2021. This ban, which was thought to come directly for the purchase and sale of cryptocurrencies in the first place, was later understood to be aimed at the use of cryptocurrency as a payment tool. After this decision of the CBRT, experts stated that this ban is a decision that does not cover cryptocurrency exchanges, which is the main risk of cryptocurrency. While the market was waiting for a regulation on cryptocurrencies and exchanges, during this very period, some cryptocurrency exchanges in Turkey filed for bankruptcy. Right after the cryptocurrency exchange named Thodex, the cryptocurrency exchange named VeBitcoin also stopped its service.



Name #7 Vol #	Last Price #	24h Chg% #
BTC /USDT 10x ★ Vol 6.64B	50469.12 \$50,514.58	-2.20%
ETH /USDT 10x Vol 5.78B	2316.88 \$2,318.97	-3.58%
DOGE /USDT 5x Vol 3.79B	0.2423228 \$0.242541	-7.53%
BNB /USDT 10x Vol 3.40B	512.9069 \$513.37	+0.81%
XRP /USDT 10x Vol 2.87B	1.12167 \$1.12	-3.74%
BUSD /USDT 10x Vol 2.34B	0.9991 \$1.000000	-0.08%
VET /USDT 5x Vol 1.45B	0.195946 \$0.196123	+1.92%

Apart from these, complaints about many exchanges continue to be made. According to the allegations, it turned out that these exchanges actually purchased cryptocurrencies in response to the cryptocurrency demand they received from customers, but did not officially make these purchases on behalf of the customers. Many national and international cryptocurrency exchanges are facing intense cyber-attacks. This poses an additional risk for these exchanges. So, cryptocurrency purchases may be made by the exchange owners directly on behalf of the customer without malicious intent, although you may lose your money/assets when the interface where the transactions take place is hacked. Although the experts of the business said that this is the least risky to stay away from stock exchanges and carry your crypto assets in cold wallets, these warnings were not taken into consideration before these events. So what exactly is a "Cold Wallet"? Cold wallets are divided into hardware wallets and paper wallets. Hardware wallets are more secure compared to paper wallets. These are easy-to-carry physical devices that store your cryptocurrency assets in encrypted chips that do not have access to the Internet and that you can connect to your computer or phone as needed. Paper Wallets, on the other hand, are a written type of wallet that is processed by transferring the private keys of our crypto assets to paper instead of storing them digitally.

In this market, where there is a serious lack of information and anxiety, we have experienced that even central banks could not analyze the situation beforehand and take measures. You cannot escape from the world of crypto assets, which contains very deep technology and knowledge, even if you are a shepherd to a village in the middle of the steppe and go up to the mountain. Therefore, what Turkey needs to do is to obtain the authority to collect deposits only in deposit and participation banks by realizing the necessary regulations from these cryptocurrency exchanges. In addition, by affiliating with a supervisory and regulatory institution such as the CMB or the BRSA, it is necessary to monitor the activities of these exchanges. Capital adequacy and website security are major issues. While all the world markets are adapting to this new financial world very quickly, we all hope that our country will make all the necessary regulations meticulously and become one of the leading countries, not to stay behind in this field.



If I speak for individual investors, the abundance of money that prevailed all over the world after the 2008 Global Financial Crisis revealed the inflation problem in most countries. With the pandemic effect, when the savings surpluses of developed countries were added to this, the citizens of these countries started to be interested in different and new investment instruments and assets such as cryptocurrency. Developing country citizens, on the other hand, turned to alternative investment instruments due to both the high inflation problem and the increasing uncertainty during the pandemic. These are extremely legitimate reasons, and since the cryptocurrency market is very open to manipulations, there are issues that investors should pay attention to. First of all, no financial instrument can generate a high return with little risk. An investor who does not have this knowledge easily becomes susceptible to manipulation.



Information coming to groups of hundreds of people through various communication applications should not be respected in any way. There are rumors that such groups are formed for manipulation purposes and the message that the value of some coins will increase. With the increasing demand, the price reaches its peak and the pump & dump game ends, and sales begin right there. In the meantime, the investors get harmed who think they are getting great tips. Even the price charts of the most popular and old cryptocurrencies, Ethereum and Bitcoin, are quite volatile. Subcoins, which are released every day, are much more volatile and unpredictable. Moreover, very few of the newly released subcoins are permanent in the market, there is also this aspect of the business. When investing in these markets where regulations are not yet fully established, it is a great benefit for the investor to carefully analyze the coins to be invested in, trade on the most reliable exchanges, and then store these coins in cold hardware wallets. The future is always uncertain, but the more information we have, the more these uncertainties turn into risks for us and we can manage the risk as we can measure it.



THE COST OF OWNING A HOUSE ON THE MOON HAS BEEN DETERMINED!



The financial institution called Money, operating in the UK, calculated the cost of building a house on the Moon and published the first Lunar real estate guide. In the guide, every detail is covered including the cost of building a house on the Moon, how much it can be sold for, the monthly and annual expenses of a family of four taking the energy, water, and food needs into consideration.

According to the guide, you will first need to obtain a land license to own a house on the Moon. The cost of this land license will vary depending on the location of the land. For example, the cost of one acre of land in the Sea of Rains (Mare Imbrium), which is the most demanded location on the Moon, is £ 94.87, while the cost of one acre of land in the Sea of Vapors (Mare Vaporum) is £ 13.64. Moreover, it is estimated that moving the materials, tools, and equipment (including workers) required to build a house of approximately 76 m² from Earth to the Moon will cost approximately 5.8 million pounds. In addition, the extreme weather conditions and meteor showers on the Moon will require more than the standard materials we use when building houses on Earth: Air seals to conserve oxygen in the house, industrial-strength air conditioners and heaters, meteor proof windows, insulation and organic energy sources. The cost of the materials is estimated to be 29 million pounds.

In the light of this information, the total cost of building the first fully functional house on the Moon is calculated to be approximately 34.8 million pounds. After the construction of the first house, there won't be any costs for moving the necessary equipment and tools to Moon since all materials and pieces of equipment needed for the construction of the next houses will be transported the first time. Thanks to this, other houses to follow would be built at a cheaper price with a cost of around £ 29 million.

Taking into account that those who build the house will want to make an average of 27.6% commercial gain, the first house on the Moon will cost you around £ 44.4 million. With a 10% down payment and a 25-year mortgage, the monthly cost of buying the home will be approximately £ 234,262.

[Click to](#) access the resource.



NEW OCCUPATIONS

DIGITAL DETECTIVE

Res. Asst. Süreyya İMRE
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Nowadays technological developments accelerate day by day and innovations follow one another. We are surprised by something every single day. It seems the current developments that shape our daily life and make our lives easier in many areas will also affect the people's choice of profession.

Digital Detectives recover data that has been damaged or deleted and detect the data targeted during a digital attack. They collect digital data and present it to higher authorities as pieces of evidence that ascertain cybercrime/criminals. In short, they try to find all the security vulnerabilities that may occur within a system.

So how do you become a Digital Detective?

First of all, as in every profession, one of the most important criteria is English proficiency. Operating systems such as Java, Python, etc, in addition to Unix, Linux, Windows, etc. are necessary to master different programming languages and processes such as data collection, duplication, and deletion to do this profession.

Various pieces of training are organized under the name of "Being a Digital Detective". These training pieces teach how cyber investigations are carried out, how the evidence can be obtained and processed, and how to write reports such as a cyber researcher.



CULTURE- ARTS- LITERATURE



New Business Models in Blockchain, Art and Digital Economy:

NFT

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One of the most talked-about technologies of the last period is NFT. It is one of the digital transformation examples especially in the field of art. The digital work, "Everydays: The First 5000 Days" in jpeg format, signed by Mike Winkelmann, was sold for \$69.3 million by Christie's, a well-established auction house in London. A tweet of Twitter's CEO Jack Dorsey was sold for \$2.9 million in the digital world. These examples and more made NFTs which have been a popular topic for some time now become even more popular. So, what is this NFT?

Although it does not have a direct equivalent in Turkish, it is possible to translate NFT (Non-Fungible Token) into an unchangeable token/coin. NFT, which can simply be defined as a unique digital asset, can be a drawing, a sound recording, or a video. Each NFT is single and unique, and it is not possible to produce another one. Due to this feature, NFT is a certificate that represents the authenticity, uniqueness as well as ownership of digital assets.

NFT is generated using blockchain technology like Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies. NFTs are produced according to the ERC-721 token standard prepared by Ethereum developers, a popular cryptocurrency, and stored on a distributed file storage protocol called IPFS.



However, the main difference between NFT and other cryptocurrencies is that NFTs cannot be exchanged. While all other cryptocurrencies can be divided into pieces and exchanged in their units, people cannot swap or exchange NFTs with other tokens because it has no equivalent. The unique nature of each NFT enables them to have different properties and prevents the two entities from being equal. Bitcoin, for example, is an exchangeable cryptocurrency, and each Bitcoin has a certain amount of value. In other words, while 1 Bitcoin digital currency = 1 Bitcoin digital currency, the same is not applicable to NFT.

Of course, this does not mean that an NFT cannot be replicated. They can be copied like all digital assets, however, this is like taking a photograph of valuable artwork, and we cannot sell this photograph for millions of dollars.

We can say that new business models related to NFT will emerge in the future. Examples such as the sale of a house designed in a virtual environment in the USA for \$ 500,000, virtual lands sold in games, or Gucci's virtual shoes sold for \$ 12 without a direct NFT use tell us that we need to think more about these new business models.

Social and Cultural Functions of Religious Feasts and National Holidays

Asst. Prof. Zeynep ŞENTÜRK DİZMAN
The Department of Sociology

There are religious feasts and national holidays that are collectively commemorated by societies. These feasts and national days have emerged from the belief systems of the societies and the historical events they have experienced in the process of nation-building, as well as the common life experiences and traditions. There are essential functions of religious feasts and national holidays to ensure community members' unity and solidarity. In this context, religious feasts are important in order to improve the sense of cooperation and solidarity. These feasts provide unity and solidarity, especially among families and relatives.

National holidays, on the other hand, reinforce national sentiments, strengthen the consciousness of being a nation, and the power to share the same fate as a nation. Undoubtedly, national holidays and memorial days are the days when individuals that constitute a nation live the feeling of unity and solidarity most intensely. On these national days, people live the excitement and enthusiasm of belonging to their nations in the spirit of national solidarity and unity.



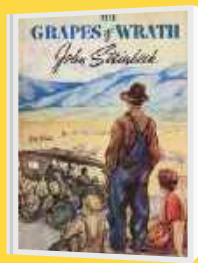
Jean Jacques Rousseau was among the first to express the contribution of the holidays in bringing the people together, providing legitimacy, and revealing their feelings of patriotism. Rousseau stated the important roles these days play in internalizing the patriotic virtue of people. Similarly, Emile Durkheim indicated that rituals have the functions of educating the society, keeping people together, regenerating the society, refreshing social relations, strengthening social ties, sustaining value judgments and customs, and reinforcing social partnership. In this context, the holidays that keep social life alive and instill a sense of nation by bringing communities together around a common goal should be transferred to the next generations.

This year, May 19 Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day and Ramadan Feast coincided in the same month when we had a complete closure due to the obstacles created by the coronavirus. Hope to return to our ordinary days when the holidays can fulfill their functions again...

Have a nice holiday...

A BOOK

THE GRAPES OF WRATH



John Steinbeck won the Pulitzer Prize given by Columbia University for journalism, literature and music for this magnificent novel. The Grapes of Wrath lets you into a world in which you will experience the Economic Depression of the 1930s with all your heart. The author offers the economic crisis that America experienced after the Industrial Revolution to the reader in a realist language. He describes a thin line between great hopes and misery with a simple yet very effective style. The book, which will take you back to the crisis years while reading, is also adjusted into a screenplay and won the Oscar in various categories.

Tom, the main character of the novel, returns to the family home at the end of seven years in prison. However, when he arrives, his family and home are not there. Receiving information from his neighbor about what had happened, Tom learns that the family could no longer tame their land due to the drought that America faced during the period and because of that his family had to depart from their homes to work in the orange groves of California.

Tom's goal is to find his family with the hope that he will live with them in California, work as a worker in the orange grove and earn plenty of money. So, Tom and his family's journey begins, but is California a place to earn a lot of money? Were they be able to leave hunger and misery behind now? The answers to all these questions await you in the book.

SOSYOCOM
-SHELF

A MOVIE

DOCTOR STRANGE

Year: 2016

IMDb: 7.5

Running Time: 1 h. 55 min.

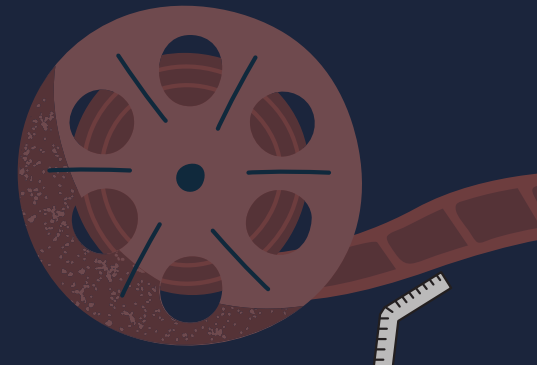
Type: Action-Adventure



Dr. Strange is one of the most successful films of the popular movie company Marvel. Benedict Cumberbatch, whom we remember with his magnificent performance in Sherlock Holmes, is the leading actor in the movie. The movie was shot in the action-adventure genre.

In the film, we will watch the successful surgeon Stephen Vincent Strange losing his ability to fulfill his job duties due to a traffic accident and what follows him after the accident. Inability to do his profession, Doctor Strange finds out about the wizard Ancient One living in Tibet, and with a hope of recovery, he travels to Tibet. But greater powers await him in Tibet than he could have ever expected. Being Marvel's one of the most-loved popular characters, Doctor Strange's movie was directed by Scott Derrickson.

Another good news with the movie is that the second one is also on the way. The second film, which was planned to be released this year, has been postponed to 2022 due to the pandemic. The second movie will meet with the Marvel and Dr. Strange fans, who are looking forward to the next year.



A SERIES

BLACK MIRROR

Year: 2011- Now

IMDb: 8.8

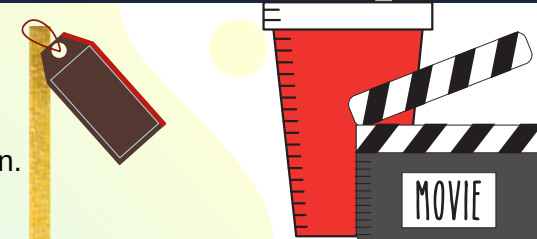
Running Time (chapter): 60-80 min.


Type: Sci-Fi Anthology



Black Mirror, which won the 2012 Emmy Award, continues to have great repercussions in the world every year. In the science fiction anthology series, technology, digitalization, and the new world order are generally viewed with a dystopian perspective. The series, which examines the changes in concepts such as society, politics, individual, art, psychology, conscience, ethics and hate with satirical style, both scares and makes you think with its blazing aphorisms.

Each episode in the series progresses independently. Therefore, Black Mirror is a good option for those who have difficulty following the series. The producer of the series, which was released for a total of five seasons between 2011 and 2019, announced that he did not want to write a new Black Mirror script during the pandemic, so he did not work on the much anticipated sixth season. However, the scenarios of the series for the near future come to our attention day by day and keeps our attention on the series..





IF A PHILOSOPHER SPEAKS WITH A PHILOSOPHER

THINKERS ARE DISMISSED FROM NINE VILLAGES

Burak YILDIRIM
Sociology Department Student

In the town's coffeehouse, Cemal and Plato argue passionately about an issue. Zeki, passing by the coffee house, sees two of his friends by chance. He waves at them from afar, but his friends are so caught up in the subject they are discussing that they only notice Zeki's existence when he sits next to them.

ZEKİ: From the outside, it seems that there is a very important situation.

PLATO: Don't ask Zeki! The squire of the village has expelled Cemal from the village.

Cemal whispered: "week-minded creature!"

ZEKİ: What's the matter Cemal? Why did he expel you from the village?

CEMAL: Don't ask, brother! I reached to a conclusion that there is no place for people who are thinking in our village anymore.

ZEKİ: There is room for people who think, but if their thoughts conflict with the thinking system of their community, then there is agony for them.

PLATO: God bless you, Zeki! You said it well.

ZEKİ: Tell me, brother Cemal. Why were you kicked out of the village?

CEMAL: I wouldn't have mind if I was the only one! They also expelled a few other young ones along with me. One of them was my mentor.

Our reason for the expulsion is also ridiculous. You know that our village is known for its backwardness. There are rumors going on in every corner. Nonsensical situations are often based on legends or hypotheses, and considered to have happened as a result of them. I tend to stay out of such incidents at the time, but I could not do anything in the opposite direction of what happened, either.

ZEKİ: In a way, spiritually, you also served that system.

CEMAL: You could say that. Anyway, one day a few of my friends came and took me to someone. There is a community called "Derin", and people who participated try to understand the depth of life to destroy the legends and myths on which our villagers have been basing their beliefs. Some say, "Water is the main source of life," some say, "Air is the real source". When I saw the members of this group, my heart began to fidget. I did not accept the thought system of the village, anyway. After that day, I started to visit this group frequently.

ZEKİ: The story begins to excite me.

While Cemal continues, Plato intervenes.

PLATO: Cemal, I am interrupting; I want to ask a question to Zeki.

ZEKİ: Of course, go ahead!

PLATO: What do you think of the villagers?

ZEKİ: Frankly, I'm sad. They are in a pathetic mood without any access to the truth or pure wisdom. Do you know what is the most important thing of all?

CEMAL VE EFLATUN: What is it?

ZEKİ: They will live in this universe for a very short time and pass away without questioning or doubting anything.

PLATO: How about if we give an example like this? You live in a house without sunlight. It is not possible to feel that light without taking your head out of the window. For this, you have to make an effort. The people in Cemal's village continue their lives in their own darkness by pulling the sunshade on the window, let alone giving any effort to reach the sunlight. They also believe the tiny rays that pierce through the sunshade are sacred signs.

ZEKİ: It was a very appropriate example of what we are talking about. Daylight, as I understand, represents pure knowledge and enlightenment, and you tried to explain that wisdom is not easy to reach without any effort. The people of Cemal's village have found a dark place for themselves by living a life with their own beliefs and do not accept any enlightening ideas

CEMAL: Yes, you are right.

ZEKİ: Go ahead, Cemal.

CEMAL: Various changes began occurring in my thoughts as I continue going to this society. Oddly enough, I even started to think differently from this thinking community as well.

ZEKİ: Of what kind?

CEMAL: As I just said, everyone in the group attached the deepness of life to an object. Unlike these, I started to think that the depth of life cannot be simplified and connected to an object.

PLATO: A different perspective... What do you think, Zeki?

ZEKİ: I don't exactly know what to say right now. I don't know, how will people call this 50 years from now. But since you've asked my opinion, let me not hide and share my answer with you.

Cemal, do you know who is the one you say that cannot be simplified and has no boundaries?

CEMAL: Who?

ZEKİ: Almighty Creator, that is, ALLAH.

CEMAL: I've never thought about it like this. What makes you think so?

ZEKİ: I hope I can explain. Help me if I get stuck.

PLATO VE CEMAL: Of course.

ZEKİ: You just said with your own mouth that the community gathered under the name of Derin connects the depth of life to an object.

CEMAL: Yes.

ZEKİ: Let's take a look at the objects they attach to that depth. As far as I remember, you mentioned water and air, didn't you?

CEMAL: Yes.

ZEKİ: What is the importance of water in our lives?

PLATO: Water is cleansing and our most important natural drink to sustain our lives.

ZEKİ: You expressed it beautifully, Plato. So water has a very important effect on our physical life, right?

EFLATUN: Yes.

ZEKİ: So, does water spiritually contribute to us?

PLATO: How could it be?

CEMAL: I think it does not.

ZEKİ: You're telling the truth, Cemal. Water only meets our bodily satisfaction. So does the air. It meets our physical satisfaction. It has no spiritual effect.

CEMAL: But here's the thing, if there is no water in our lives, we can survive for a maximum of 1 week, and if there is no air, we can survive for 3 minutes at most. So is there a mean of the significance of life?

ZEKİ: Those who care about their body will definitely consider what you say, Cemal. But for someone who devotes beauty to his soul, it doesn't matter.

PLATO: The body is transient, it is the spirit that is eternal. It is more important to beautify the soul and to give importance to the soul rather than anything else.

ZEKİ: You said it right, Plato. So these examples you have given are only important for the body.

CEMAL: So how did you put the Creator into the depthness of life?

ZEKİ: Good question. Let's see if we can explain, Plato?

Zeki and Plato looked at each other and laughed.

ZEKİ: Have you witnessed the lives of people who have high faith in the Creator, Cemal?

CEMAL: People are devoted to their religion.

ZEKİ: Okay, religious people. We all agree on this. Would you like to add something other than that?

PLATO: I would like to add something.

ZEKİ: Sure.

PLATO: In addition to their devotion to religion, these people are individuals who, as I observed, attach importance to both body cleansing and spiritual cleansing.

ZEKİ: You definitely touched on a point I wanted to make, Plato. As you said, people who believe in the Creator attach importance to both body cleansing and spiritual cleansing.

CEMAL: What is spiritual cleansing?

ZEKİ: Spiritual cleansing is a cleansing that can be achieved with morality, Brother Cemal. You only do this with faith. You direct yourself towards the good and the beautiful. Only then, both the temporary body and the spirit that will remain will be satisfied.

PLATO: You fascinated me, Zeki.

They all laugh together. Zeki feels that he has forgotten something and begins to speak.

ZEKİ: There is a point which I forgot to mention. We have said that we will reach both spiritual and physical climax with our Creator that we integrate deep into our lives.

PLATO VE CEMAL: Yes.

ZEKİ: Apart from this, there is something else that we will reach. What do you think, Cemal?

CEMAL: Nothing comes to my mind.

ZEKİ: What about you Plato?

PLATO: Same here.

ZEKİ: What is the first verse of the Quran?

PLATO: "Read! Read in the name of the Creator Lord!"

ZEKİ: Yes, it starts with the exact sentence you said. So, how can people benefit from reading and searching?

CEMAL: Thanks to them, individuals can learn and obtain information.

ZEKİ: Boom! You hit the nail right on the head, Cemal. The human reaches information and gains experience by reading and searching. Besides, he also achieves wisdom, right?

PLATO: In a way, he stretches his head out of the window.

ZEKİ: Yes, Plato, it is possible to say that. So, the Creator tells us that we should read at the very first verse in the holy scripture He sent us. He wants us to read and search, think critically, and gain wisdom.

PLATO: I am convinced.

CEMAL: So am I.

ZEKİ: That is to say, besides achieving both physical and spiritual satisfaction, we also need to reach knowledge and wisdom.

PLATO: Bringing our Creator into the depth of our lives ...

ZEKİ: That's right, Plato.

CEMAL: Thank you both for relieving my long-standing spiritual pain.

PLATO: We did not do anything.

ZEKİ: Yes, we didn't do anything. We just tried to enlighten certain areas by putting together our minds.

CEMAL: Then I am ordering soda to relieve your bodily abdominal pain.

They all laugh together. Cemal places an order for three glasses of soda.

-THE END-

CAST

ZEKİ: SOKRATES

EFLATUN: PLATON

CEMAL: ANAKSIMANDROS

MOVIE REVIEW OF THE MONTH

PARASITE / GISAENGCHUNG

Asst. Prof. Aysun KAYA DENİZ
The Department of Radio, Television and Cinema

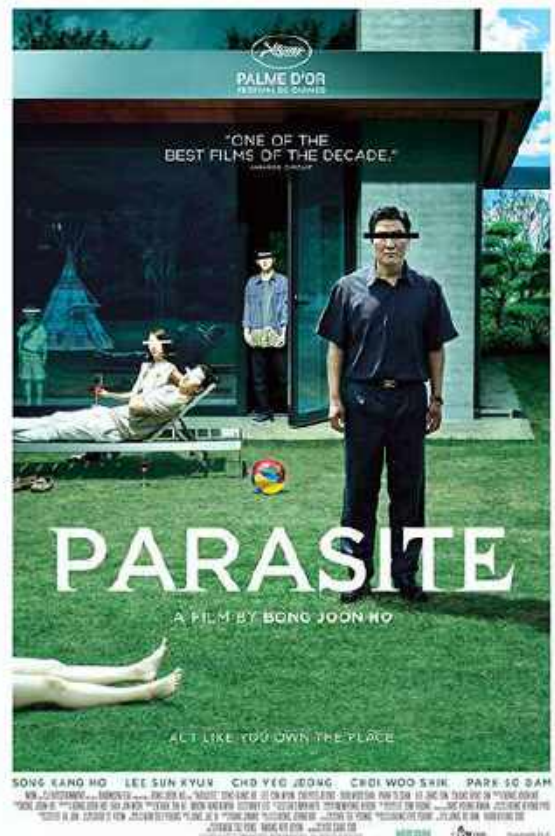
YEAR: 2019

TIME: 2 H 12 MIN

DIRECTOR: BONG JOON HO

CAST: KANG-HO SONG, SUN-
KYUN LEE, YEO-JEONG CHO,

IMDB: 8,6/10



Directed by Bong Joon-Ho, the 2019 South Korean movie Parasite was nominated for six Oscars and won awards for Best Film, Best Director, Best International Film and Best Original Screenplay. It is the first in the history of the Oscar Awards that a non-US film won the Best Picture and, at the same time, the Best International Film awards. It is also the first Korean film that wins the Palme at the Cannes Film Festival. The life of families belonging to two different classes is included in the film. Ki-Woo, who lives with his family in the basement of a building, begins to give private lessons to the daughter of the Park family, who lives in a glamorous house, with the guidance of his friend. With Ki-Woo starting to give private lessons, his sister, father, and mother gradually become involved in the life of the wealthy family. Just like Ki-Woo, who pretends to be a college student with fake documents, his sister appears to be an art therapist and starts teaching the little boy of the wealthy family. The two siblings make plans to the driver and the housekeeper fired to ensure their parents are hired instead. The plans of the Kim family, who infiltrated the life of the rich family, are spoiled when the former housekeeper comes home

and wants to visit her husband, who has been hiding in the secret bunker for years. As a result of the tension between these two families with a similar economic class, the former housekeeper overhears the Kim family's conversations with each other and realizes their fraud. The former housekeeper, who records the conversation on her cell phone, threatens the family to send the video to the Park family. While the Kim family is locking the other family in the secret bunker, the former housekeeper dies as a result of a blow she receives in the head. The next day, a birthday party is organized for the young son of the house, where employees are also invited. When Ki-Woo goes into the secret bunker, the former housekeeper's husband attacks him. The man who escapes from the bunker starts randomly attacking people at the party. While Ki-Woo and her sister are detained for fraud, their father manages to escape to the secret bunker without being caught by the police after the murder he committed at the incident. Watching the house following the incident, Ki-Woo receives a message with a Morse code. The message comes from his father and at that moment he decides to earn enough money to buy this house and save his father.



BOOK REVIEW OF THE MONTH



PHILOSOPHIAE CONSOLATIO

Res. Asst. Fatih AVCILAR

The Department of Business Administration



AUTHOR: ANICIUS MANLIUS
SEVERINUS BOETHIUS
**PUBLICATION YEAR AND
PUBLISHER:** 2015, ALFA
TRANSLATED FROM LATIN BY:
ÇIĞDEM DÜRÜŞKEN

The Consolation of Philosophy: "So what is it, mortal man, that has cast you down into sorrow and grief? But it's time for medicine, not for complaint."

Written by former Roman Consul, Boethius, while awaiting his execution in prison for alleged betrayal, this book is about Philosophy, who cannot bear the grief and sorrow of Boethius, coming into existence to Boethius' aid, and Philosophy's healing conversation with Boethius about happiness, free will, and destiny. This book by Boethius is a magnificent mix of prose, poetry, and dialogue written in an artistic style. In this magnificent book, readers witness the internal feud between Boethius and his "Philosophy." With Prof. Çığdem Dürüşken's exquisite translation and interpretation, the book portrays the dance of Christian thought, which was inflamed with the intellectual world of the Middle Ages. Thus, this book appears as a literary and philosophical work that has been processed with the art of rhetorics.

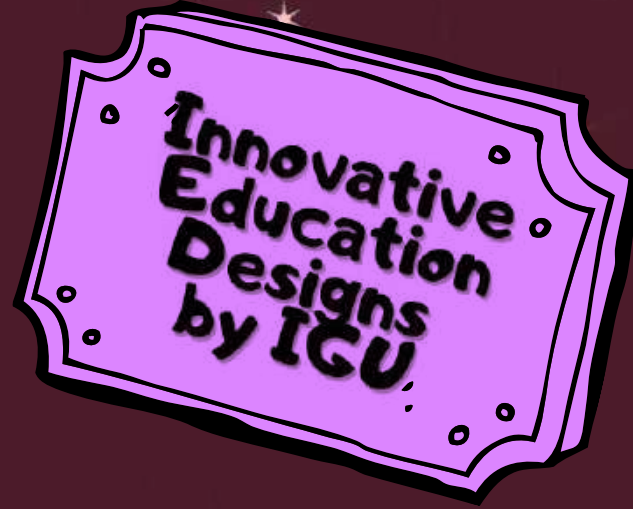
Waiting to be executed in his cell for the alleged treason crime in prison in 534-535 AD, Boethius has been offended at the blind luck that granted him freedom once upon a time due to his condition. Boethius, who gradually loses his joy of life, devotes himself to poetry. After a sad poem, a light appears unexpectedly at the end of Boethius' bed. A beautiful woman shows up with her dress which is sewn with elegant and thin threads, but some parts are frayed by people. The embroidered letter of π (practical philosophy) on the lower edge of her dress and the letter θ (theoretical philosophy) on the collar are visible. Yes, this woman is "Philosophy" herself.

Philosophy is angry with Boethius because he was once very much into her but later abandoned altogether. But, Philosophy sees Boethius' grief and cannot bear it any longer. She immediately starts her healing conversation with Boethius. Philosophy explains the nature of fortune to him. She explains that true happiness cannot be found in things that fortune controls, such as wealth or fame. She reaches the existence of free will and explains that the chain of reasons for things that happen cannot be fully understood by humans in terms of the concept of time that people can perceive. Boethius complains that there is no justice in the world and Philosophy asserts that the virtuous people are always rewarded even when evil seems to triumph on the surface.

The experience of Boethius in the last moment of his life were actually the consolation of his mind itself through the use of Philosophy.

What should we
do again as
innovation?

EDUCATION- RESEARCH



Asst. Prof. Yeşim KOÇYİĞİT
The Department of Business Administration

Focused on building universal skills and competencies based on universal values, Istanbul Gelişim University, which has reached the quality of education at international standards, follows the new education models in the world and presents it to its students without any delay.



A customized trophy has been added to the new demands of Generation Z students, who are accustomed to customized consumption. Sonic Foundry's Mediasite and University Business (2018) report stated that universities will be using video conferences to extend their academic presentations beyond classroom walls. Accordingly, IGU has designed the Blended Learning classes before the end of 2020. These classes make it possible for the students to have the option to attend the classes in a classroom or from anywhere else that they desire.

IGU has launched the Specialization Certificate application. It can be described as a partial pilot implementation of the Unbundled Education system which the lessons are divided into groups, and then combined with the certificates acquired at stage by stage levels. Examples of this application can also be seen in the world's leading universities such as Harvard, Manchester and Northeastern. This made it possible for our successful students, who meet the certain requirements, to receive Specialization Certificate in addition to their diplomas by taking the elective courses of Behavioral Sciences Specialization Area and Design Specialization Area.

Special for high school students, “Açık Kapı Dersleri” and “Kış Akademisi” activities, which are seen in many universities in the United States, England, and Australia, have been carried out by IGU to help high school students experience the education given at the university during the university preparation process, motivate them for the exam and, most importantly, help to determine the appropriate fields for them.

The Leader Student Education Program, which has become increasingly important in the world in recent years, adding a different dimension to situations, events, and interactions, was launched by IGU for our students in this present semester. IGU aims to provide certified training to our successful students in subjects such as organization, leadership, communication, peer relations, stress, and conflict management, and to train future leaders starting from their student lives.



Our faculty, of course, follows the innovative educational design developments implemented by IGU closely. Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences provides substantial support to all innovative educational designs in IGU. Our new generation faculty, which has active students in 25 departments, offers rich alternatives for our students who want to benefit from the Double Major Program and educates intellectual individuals who go beyond the boundaries of the profession by taking an interdisciplinary approach.



In addition to the courses that bring the basic competencies of the majors, innovative topics that allow combining these competencies with current technology are included in the faculty elective course pool, which enables our students to determine elective courses according to their own interests, continues to renew itself in each new semester.

Of course, these innovations will not be enough to IGU and our faculty, we will continue to thrive, develop, and support the new developments...

THE CHANGING WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING APPROACH AND THE SUCCESS OF ISTANBUL GELİŞİM UNIVERSITY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Asst. Prof. Yahya Can DURA
The Department of International Logistics and Finance

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND UNIVERSITIES

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), which is defined as a universal call for action aimed at combating poverty in the world, protecting the ecosystem, and ensuring the peace and prosperity of all humanity, focused on the aim of realizing the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations (UN). In this context, the 17 goals defined by UNDP support the Millennium Development Goals. Also, they include different areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace, and justice.

Universities are vital institutions where rational knowledge is produced, free thought sprouts, and the problems of the world we live in and the changing and developing needs of societies are met. Indeed, we have the mission of raising new generations for the continuous progression of humanity.

Evaluating the achievements and performance of universities in terms of multi-directional development criteria has undoubtedly been a need for years. Today, one can say that this requirement has been met mainly with the approach that Times Higher Education (THE), a well-respected international higher education rating institution, developed through the Sustainable Development Goals of UNDP and focuses on measuring the contributions of universities on the goals.

Our universities have achieved a realistic ranking with a much more objective, meaningful, and multi-directional comparison. In this new approach, universities are ranked within their effects on sustainable development goals consolidated under 17 categories. As a ranking expression emphasizing the word "impact", the term "Impact Ranking" is used with a conscious choice.



Rankings among world universities are basically determined according to two frameworks: World University Rankings and Impact Ranking (in the context of UNDP SDG).

- World University Rankings: There are five categories; Education (Learning Environment / 30%), Research (Volume, Income and Reputation / 30%), Citations (Research Impact / 30%), International Outlook (Staff, Student and Research / 7.5%) and Sector Income (Information Transfer / 2.5%). Scoring and ranking are made within the framework of the score calculated based on 13 performance criteria, including the subtitles of these categories.

The sub factors determining the success in the ranking are;

- The level of perceived prestige and reputation in the education and research category,
- Willingness to train new academicians,
- Number of staff per student,
- The income, which is an indicator for the existing infrastructure and facilities offered by the institution for students and staff,
- Grants earmarked for research,
- The number of publications published in academic journals indexed by Elsevier's Scopus database to measure the effectiveness of the researches,
- The number of citations received to reveal the impact of the research,
- The number of foreign academic staff and students, seen as a key to the university's success in the international arena,
- The presence of at least one international co-author in the work of the academic staff of the university and the ratio of these studies to the total studies,
- Support provided to industries relating to innovation, invention and consulting, how much research income an institution earns from sectors, the extent of the willingness to pay for research, and a university's ability to attract funding.

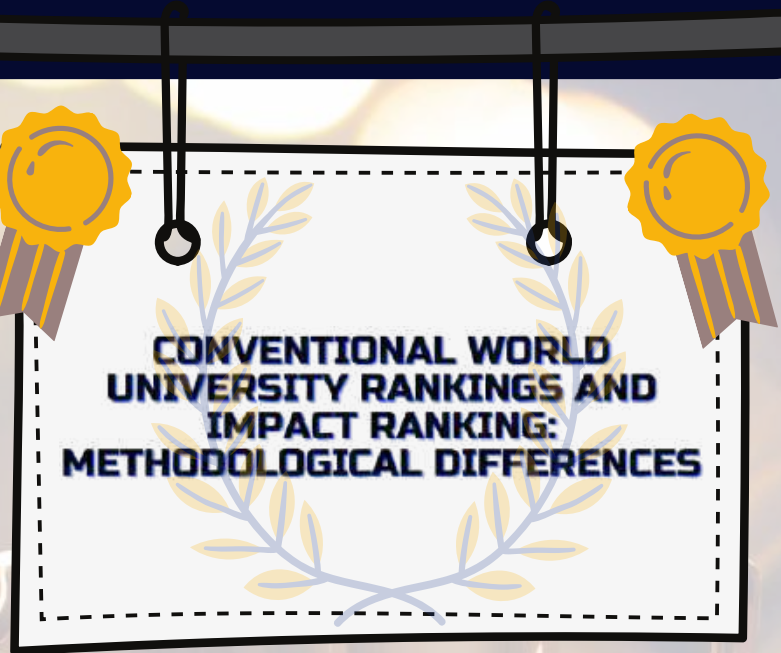


Diagram1. UNDP Sustainable Development Goals



- Impact Ranking (in the context of the UNDP SDG): It includes an impact ranking that Times Higher Education (THE) developed through the Sustainable Development Goals of UNDP and focuses on measuring the contributions of universities on the goals.

In this context, universities are scored under 17 categories (Diagram 1) containing UNDP Sustainable Development Goals and ranked according to these scores.

[Click to access the resource.](#)

In addition to the impact scores calculated based on 17 categories, a general impact scoring and ranking is also made. In order for a university to be subject to general scoring and ranking, it must be a data provider in the 17th SDG titled "Partnerships for Goals" and at least 3 in any SDG, that is, 4 in total. If this cannot be achieved, the general score and rank of that university is not calculated.

For the general score and ranking calculation, the 17th SDG score of the university titled "Partnerships for Goals" and the highest 3 scores among the remaining 16 SDGs are combined. However, the weight of the 17th SDG is 22%, while the weight of the other 3 highest SDG's is 26%.

The reason for taking the 3 highest scores out of 16 SDGs is expressed as highlighting the main fields of study that universities focus on and ensuring that they are scored in a more balanced way accordingly.



All scores are scaled as the highest 100 and the lowest 0.

Scoring methodology differs for each SDG. However, it can be stated that there are three different criteria for all of them: Research criteria, continuous criteria and bibliometric.

In this context, scores are calculated based on the criteria such as publications obtained from the data provided by Elsevier in the relevant SKA field, citations received, number of graduates, number of programs and projects implemented. However, confirmatory evidence must also be provided for each criterion by universities.



Example:

SDG 1: No Poverty

- Poverty research (27%)
 - Area-weighted citation index of articles on poverty (10%)
 - Number of publications on poverty (10%)
 - Proportion of all research articles written with low- or low-middle-income countries (7%)
- The proportion of students receiving financial aid due to poverty (27%)
- University anti-poverty programs (23%)
 - Targets to admit students who fall in the bottom 20% of household income in the country (4.6%)
 -
- Society's anti-poverty programs (23%)
 - Training or resources to help build sustainable businesses in the local community (mentoring programs, training workshops, access to university facilities) (5.75%)
 -

For Istanbul Gelisim University Impact Ranking 2021, 6 different SDG out of 17 were evaluated (Diagram 2). These are; "SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being", "SDG 4: Quality Education", "SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation", "SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy", "SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth" and "SDG 17: Partnerships for Goals".

IMPACT RANKING 2021 RESULTS AND ISTANBUL GELİŞİM UNIVERSITY'S SUCCESS

Diagram 2. SDGs for the Calculation of Istanbul Gelisim University Impact Ranking 2021



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For the calculation of the overall impact score and ranking of Istanbul Gelişim University, the calculation was made using the highest 3 SDG scores (SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy and SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being) obtained with the 17th SDG score titled "Partnerships for Goals".

According to this calculation, Istanbul Gelişim University is at a ranking range of 201-300 with a score range of 71-77.4 (Diagram 3).

Diagram 3. Istanbul Gelişim University Impact Ranking 2021 General Results



[Click to access the resource.](#)



Istanbul Gelişim University was ranked 24th in the world with 79.5 points in the SDG 4: Quality Education. The University of La Serena was placed one rank above Istanbul Gelişim University, while the University of Johannesburg and the University of Valencia were placed one rank below.

Istanbul Gelişim University again came 1st in this category in Turkey. Istanbul Gelişim University was followed by ITU, Atatürk University and Bahçeşehir University, respectively.

Istanbul Gelişim University was ranked 95th in the world with 64.5 points in SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy. While the University of Toronto was placed one rank above Istanbul Gelişim University, the Nove de Julho University was placed one rank below.



Istanbul Gelişim University was ranked 2nd in this category in Turkey, following Abdullah Gül University. Istanbul Gelişim University was followed by ITU.



Istanbul Gelişim University took place in the ranking range of 201-300 in the world with a score range of 63.9-70.0 in the SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being.

In this category, where Bezmîalem Vakıf University and Hacettepe University shared the 1st place in Turkey, Istanbul Gelişim University shared the 2nd place with Ege University and Istanbul Medipol University.

Istanbul Gelişim University took place in the ranking range 201-300 in the world with a score range of 64.9-73.4 in the SDG 17: Partnerships for Goals.



In this category where Abdullah Gül University was ranked 1st in Turkey, Istanbul Gelişim University shared the 2nd place with Hacettepe University, Özyeğin University and Yeditepe University.



Istanbul Gelişim University took place in the ranking range of 201-300 in the world with a score range of 71-77.4 in the General Ranking. ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon was placed one rank above Istanbul Gelişim University, while Kangwon National University was placed one rank below.

In this category where Abdullah Gül University and İTÜ shared the 1st place in Turkey, Istanbul Gelişim University shared the 2nd place in Turkey with METU and Özyeğin University.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION



Innovation Samples - I

In this issue, we share innovative products that reflect creativity, originality and extraordinariness with you. If you're ready, let's start!

Res. Asst. Melih YILDIZ
The Department of
Business Administration



1. Self-Stirring Mug

After you go to the kitchen and prepare your coffee, you notice that you have forgotten the spoon in the kitchen while you are taking a delicious sip. This unpleasant moment has happened to almost all of us at least once. If you own this product, you don't have to worry. Just press the button on the handle and enjoy the moment.



2. Automatic House Cleaning Robot

Our product mentioned above, as its name suggests, cleans your home for you while you lie on your sofa and watch your favorite program. Besides, it has the feature of self-cleaning as if the house is not enough.



3. Tablet Shaped Hand Soap

These days hygiene is a must, especially because of Covid-19. I understand the anger you feel when you realize there is not enough soap in the cafe's bathroom you entered. Take your candy-sized mini soap out of your pocket and take an abrupt break from your anger.



4. Suitcase that you can transform into a Mini Cabinet

If it wasn't for the pandemic, I know that most of you would make short vacation plans. Like everything else, this process will pass, and we will have those holidays again. If you, like me, care about keeping your clothes organized, this product will make your life much easier. With the suitcase that turns into a mini cabinet, you will find what you are looking for without wrinkling your clothes and end your holiday in your usual elegance.



5. Smart Door Lock

If you control at least five things when you leave the house, you can reduce the number to four with this product. You can install the smart lock on all door types and easily control it from your mobile phone. You can lock your door after you leave the house, without having to come back. This is great!



POLITICAL-AGENDA



The Current Situation of Relations Between People's Republic of China, EU and US Relations in the Context of the Taiwan Issue and the Uyghur Autonomous Region

Asst. Prof. Hayriye Asena DEMİRER

The Department of Political Science and International Relations



The story of China's rise that started after the 1978 Open Door policy has been one of the main topics of discussion in the international relations literature for a long time, whether it poses a threat to American hegemony or the international system shaped by the American leadership.

In March, the EU has decided to sanction China for the first time in 30 years in response to human rights violations against Uyghur Turks. On the other hand, before the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting began on May 3, the US and the UK foreign ministers held a joint press conference. In the meeting, it's stated that they discussed "Russia's ongoing destabilizing actions" and priorities such as holding China to account for its activities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and Hong Kong. In this context, it is striking that the US Secretary of State Antony Blinken described China's human rights violations against Uyghur Turks in Xinjiang as "genocide" in the presentation of the American Human Rights Report 2020.



In a television program on NBC on April 11, 2021, Blinken expressed his concern about the "aggressive attitude" of the Beijing administration and the increasing tension in the straits. After the Chinese planes flew in the southwestern region of Taiwan on April 12 and activated the air defense systems, the Chinese warplanes' announcement that they left Taiwan's airspace increased the tension between the two countries.

Another striking point is the allegation by Christopher Wray, Director of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). He asserts that Chinese people living abroad are being used as a tool of "threat, harassment and blackmail" in the US territory and that illegal security pursuits are carried out without the knowledge of the US administration via operations such as "Sky Net" (Tienvang) and the "Fox Hunt" (Liehu) organized by the Chinese government for fleeing fugitives in order to avoid penalties like execution, life and confiscation of the income illegally obtained by criminals.

[Click to access references.](#)



WHICH ONE IS "THE MOST POWERFUL PASSPORT IN THE WORLD"?



The Henley Passport Index, based on the International Air Transport Association (IATA) data, lists the passports of the countries according to the state of traveling to the most countries without a visa. In the index published for 2021 last April, the ranking called "the world's strongest passports" was also published. It was not surprising that the published ranking was parallel to the level of development of the countries. It is noteworthy that the national income per capita of the countries and their security levels are essential factors for passports traveling without a visa.

So, which passports have the most visa-free travel rights in the world? Which countries have the lowest ranking? And where is Turkey on this list?

While the countries in the top 10 are predominant in the European continent, when the countries from other continents are examined, we see that the Asian technology giants Japan, Singapore, and South Korea are ranked 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the top 10. From Oceania Continent, New Zealand is ranked 7th and Australia 9th. When we consider the North and South America continents, we see that the USA is in 7th place and Canada is in 9th place. In the meantime, it is worth remembering that some countries' passports can be ranked in the same order according to the number of countries they can travel to without a visa. For example, New Zealand and the USA passports are in the same 7th place together as they offer visa-free travel to 187 countries.

The Middle East and African countries are in the lowest ranks in the list. Afghanistan's passport ranks 110th, offering visa-free travel to only 26 countries. Afghanistan is followed by Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, Palestine, Nepal, North Korea, Libya-Kosovo, and Lebanon-Bangladesh from the bottom up. The Turkish passport ranks 53rd on the list, offering visa-free travel to 111 countries.

You can access the complete list on the www.henleyglobal.com website owned by Henley & Partner, the publisher of the index, and the details of the country's passports that allow visa-free travel to which countries.

A New Type of Citizenship: Financial Citizenship



Dr. Murat TOPCU
PhD Graduate



In today's world, there have been some changes in the concept of "citizenship" as in every field. Changing global conditions has added new types to the classical definition of "citizenship." One of the prominent types of citizenship in recent years is "financial citizenship."

Throughout history, countries have tried to obtain the financial resources they need, sometimes through war, sometimes through colonization, and sometimes by using modern incentives methods. The main goal of the contemporary methods is to arrange incentives for people who possess extra financial resources to be transferred to the countries in need voluntarily. Many countries in the world give citizenship rights to citizens of other countries in exchange for sharing a certain amount of financial resources to their own countries via direct investments or opening deposit accounts. Sometimes, citizens whose life and/or property rights are endangered due to political instability and civil war in their own countries demand citizenship rights from the countries in return for liquidating their assets and transferring them to the country they ask for citizenship.."

In Turkey, in this context, the citizens of other countries, in exchange for making direct investments over a certain amount, purchasing real estate, holding or undertaking to hold government domestic debt securities for a certain period, opening a foreign exchange deposit account, and employing a certain number of people give the right to citizenship. It is seen that the type of citizenship offered this way in the literature is called "real estate citizenship," "investment citizenship," "economic citizenship," "exceptional citizenship," or "welfare citizenship." Since the common goal of all these types of citizenship is to ensure the transfer of financial resources abroad to the target country, it is better to conceptualize all citizenships granted as "financial citizenship" to cover them all. Financial citizenship is a type of citizenship that some countries allow to attract the financial resources they need to increase their welfare level, and some countries bring entrepreneurial and well-educated human resources to the country. Financial citizenship is granted to foreign nationals due to conditions such as keeping the financial aid above a certain amount in the country for a certain period of time, making investments, and providing a certain kind of employment. With this method, the outflow of financial resources abroad is linked to a specific period and time. More predictable and reliable financial resources are transferred to the country at zero cost.



Health- Psychology



Can Happiness Be Learned?

Prof. Özden Şükran ÜNERİ
The Department of Psychology

May is one of the months when spring reveals itself in its most beautiful form; it is almost the harbinger of spring. Not only that, but May is also a symbol of hope, love, and solidarity. Hıdırellez celebrations, which are among the ancient traditions of Anatolia, are among the exceptional beauties of this month. On the night of Hıdırellez, many people place their wishes under the rose tree and renew their hope for decades. On this day, power, money, peace, home, car, wife, job, many different wishes come together, drawn and written with enthusiasm, hope and love. Although we all have different wishes and desires, I think our answer to the question of what will happen when our wishes come true will be the same for everyone: "I'd be happy." Is happiness just an emotion we feel when what we want comes true; deep down, what is happiness? Is it an innate feature? Or can we learn it? Could both be true? Let's take a look at this subject with our current psychology knowledge.

In the Turkish Language Association dictionary, happiness is defined as "the state of pride of reaching all aspirations completely and continuously, dignity, blessing, happiness, happiness." Although the necessity of meeting our aspirations must be continuous and complete makes it very difficult to reach happiness in the modern world, studies show that we can get this feeling more easily. In these studies, half of our compelling features in forming our perception of happiness are linked to our genes, and the remaining half is connected to our environment, to what we have learned, to our beliefs and values. Our genetic burden of happiness is an area beyond our control; what about other factors?

The results of the studies of social psychologists that ask people of different ages what makes them happy show that making friends and establishing positive and warm relationships are at the top of the list of things that make people happy. It may seem surprising that factors such as money, power, health, youth, and beauty that modern people aim to obtain in the name of happiness are pretty low in the ranking. However, given the level of prosperity



and general unhappiness that came along with the modern age, it is evident that the wealth-enhancing features such as money and access to products alone do not bring people high levels of happiness. What we need to learn about happiness today is how our relationships and our perceptions about them make us feel happy or unhappy.

Martin Seligman, the father of positive psychology, categorizes the origins of happiness in three groups: i) high level of positive emotions and satisfaction, ii) life involves constant assimilation, participation and flow, iii) sensing that the person is serving something bigger and stronger than himself in his life and using his strength accordingly. According to this approach, the factors of a happy life that we can learn are apparent: Continuing our life adventure, where we move towards achievable but meaningful goals, by noticing the negatives but focusing on the positives and investing in good relationships. In his book on the art of happiness, the Dalai Lama said, "I believe that the very purpose of our lives is to seek happiness. That is clear. Whether one believes in religion or not, whether one believes in this religion or that religion, we all are seeking something better in life. So, I think, the very motion of our lives is towards happiness."

In short, in our journey of seeking happiness, if we aim to find it, we can move forward more efficiently by paying attention to our relationships by giving ourselves time to understand and learn what makes us happy. The first step in learning to be happy starts with believing that we can be satisfied and that it will be worth the effort. Hope you stay with love, health, and happiness.

PSYCHOLOGICAL RESILIENCE: FALL DOWN 7 TIMES, GET UP 8! *

* JAPANESE PROVERB

Asst. Prof. K. Bahar MERİÇ ATAKAN

The Department of International Trade and Business

Along with the Covid-19 Pandemic, there have been some significant changes in people's business and private lives. Children and working parents' are at home at the same time and share limited space with no private spaces of their own. On one hand, people are trying to stay healthy, on the other, there is a need for the care of preschool children, the education of school-age children, their lessons and parents' work, housework (food, cleaning, shopping, etc.). For individuals, who were forced to enter many roles at the same time while trying to deal with all kinds of family problems, this process has led to feelings that could be difficult to cope with. Some of these feelings include the feeling of burnout, failure, intolerance, fatigue, and/or despair. Subsequently, dissatisfaction, low performance, inefficiency in the workplace, disputes, and divorces in families have increased.

Some of us have been able to turn this process into a much better, more efficient, and more enjoyable one. As if confirming the saying "Every crisis creates opportunity in itself," there were also those who strengthened family ties during this process and allocated the time spent in commuting and working into personal development, hobbies and interests.

Studies show that individuals with high psychological resilience can overcome such difficult situations more easily. Resilience is translated into Turkish as flexibility-agility, indomitableness. The father of positive psychology Dr. Martin Seligman defines it as "the ability to pick yourself up and grow after adversity."

We can summarize the 10 suggestions of the American Psychological Association to increase our psychological resilience as follows:

1

Establish good relationships with your family, friends, and others around you. Getting support and help from people close to you increases your psychological resilience. However, helping others is equally beneficial.

6

Discover your new features/skills about yourself, your relationships, and life after difficult life situations. Most people form stronger relationships, mature, and discover new ways to be grateful after tragedies or losses.

2

Avoid seeing crises as insurmountable problems. You may not change the stressful events that happen to you, but you can change your perspective and attitude towards these events. Remember that there are no difficulties that cannot be overcome.

7

Develop a positive view of yourself. Always believe that you can solve things and have confidence in your abilities.

3

Recognize that change is a part of life. Some of your goals or dreams may be hampered unexpectedly. Instead of focusing on events that you can't change, pay attention to what you can change.

8

Try to look at the whole picture. Look at your life from a broader perspective. Even when faced with painful events, don't let undesirable events cloud your entire life.

4

Move towards your goals. First, set realistic goals and try to take steps towards your goals regularly, even if they are small. Instead of focusing on the steps you can't handle, ask yourself: "What can I do today to reach the goal I want?".

9

Don't lose hope. A positive outlook on the future gives you the power to deal with it. If you focus on the experiences, your anxiety increases, and you spend more energy to reduce your stress.

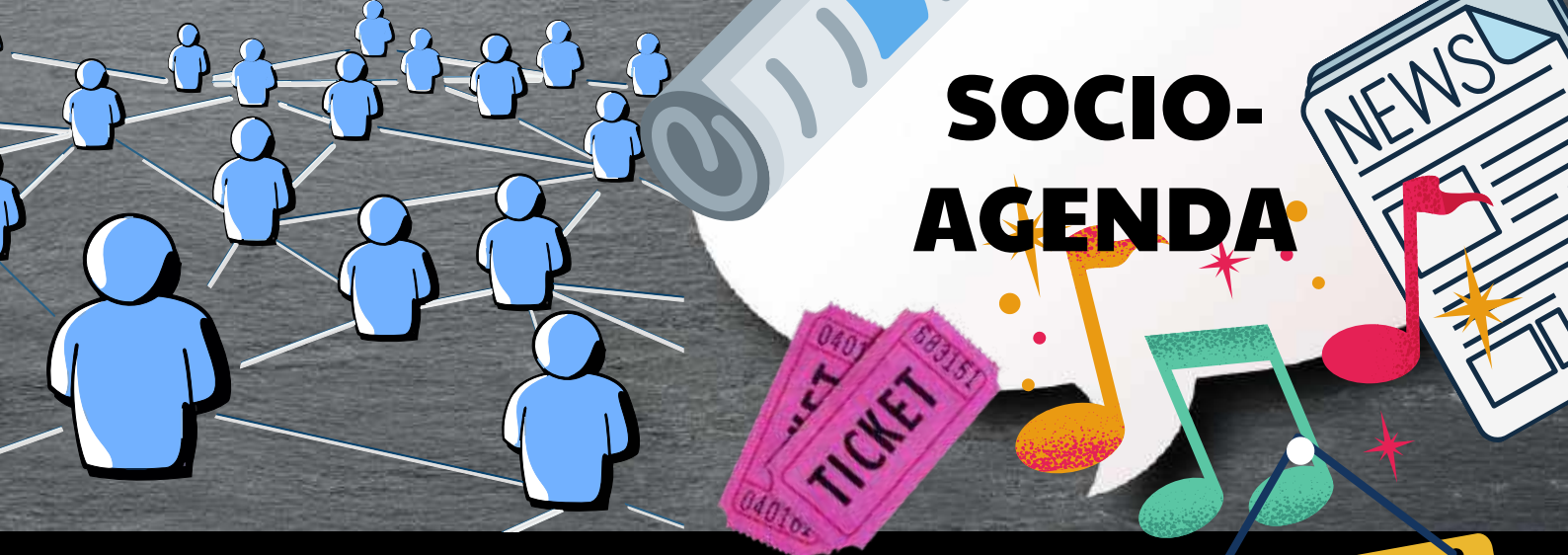
5

Be decisive. Focus on resolving decisively instead of avoiding or ignoring.

10

Take care of yourself. Pay attention to your emotions and needs. Participate in activities that give you pleasure and relaxation, exercise regularly. Give critical importance to your body as well as your soul.

[Click to access references.](#)



SOCIO-AGENDA

FROM MANDATORY SOCIAL DISTANCING TO SIDE-BY-SIDE CONCERTS: SUCCESS STORY OF NEW ZEALAND

Res. Asst. Fatih AVCILAR
The Department of
Business Administration

While many countries around the world continue to take new measures against Covid-19 epidemic, in some countries, the life has started to return to its normal. New Zealand, known as one of the countries that struggled with Covid-19 the most, celebrated its success with organizing a concert for 50 thousand people without social distancing. But the important question is how did they achieve that? What does New Zealand owe its success to? Let's take a look at it together.

With the first appearance of Covid-19 in the country, New Zealand started taking strict measures. It closed all its borders on March 19, 2020 and suspended entries to the country except for its own citizens. First, "level 3" afterwards "level 4" quarantine measures were implemented in the country. Within the scope of these level 4 measures, all businesses that does not serve basic compulsory needs were closed, free movement within the country was restricted, and all collective events and gatherings were banned in the country. Citizens were only allowed to have social contact with those with whom they lived.

The New Zealand Minister of Health introduced their strategy against Covid-19 to the public as an "elimination strategy". The measures taken within the scope of the elimination strategy were listed as: Those who feel sick must isolate themselves by taking precautions immediately, entries to and exits from the country will be strictly controlled, citizens should voluntarily support practices such as social distance, hygiene measures, quarantine and, the most importantly, in order to prevent

the spread of the virus in the country, positive resulted patients would retrospectively be monitored and 80 percent of people who had come into contact with them must be quarantined within 4 days.

Professor Michael Baker, one of New Zealand's best epidemiologists, stated in the interview with the BBC that authorities in New Zealand were doing "an absolutely remarkable job" in the process of total closure. Even at its highest, there were only 89 cases per day in New Zealand, he added. When the impact of the small population of the country on this success of New Zealand is asked, Prof. Baker said, "This strategy can work anywhere with a functioning government and strong infrastructure" and cited countries such as Vietnam, Taiwan, and China as an example.

Mentioning that she engages in a "little dance" when she learned that all the patients in her country had recovered, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said that this process is not over yet, but this great success cannot be denied. She expressed her gratitude to the New Zealanders by underlining the success of the country in this process.

Even though only less than 3 percent of the population is given a dose of vaccine in the country, life has returned to normal and only 1 case has been detected in the last 24 hours. To celebrate their success, the music group Six60 gave a concert in Eden Park, the country's largest stadium. Here are the photos from the concert performed without a mask and social distancing.





THE GREAT WALL OF SIVAS

*Res. Asst. Dr. Öznur ÇETİNKAYA
The Department of Tourism Guidance*

Throughout history, civilizations have built barriers, walls, ramparts around their regions and cities. These structures drew the boundaries of the living area of the town. They have been the most effective protection shields. Besides, information about the culture and defense mechanism of that region has been obtained from these protection shields. The materials used, the planned wall structure, and the inscriptions found were the most important sources of information. Some of the most famous walls are the Great Wall of China, Berlin Wall, Hadrian's Wall, Babylon Walls, Troy Walls, and Dubrovnik Walls among others.

The Great Wall of China is the longest in the world, built for defense purposes. The wall, which is on the Unesco World Heritage list, is also on the list of the world's new seven wonders. In Turkey, it is possible to see an example of the natural formation of this structure.

The natural wall structure near the Gelenli village of Sivas's İmranlı district reminds the Great Wall of China. The gigantic rock structure that divides the region into two, with a length of 35-40 kilometers and a height of up to 60 meters, reflects a natural set appearance. The region's people demand that this structure, which is reminiscent of the Great Wall of China except that it is not man-made, should be investigated thoroughly and used in tourism. Recently, trekking organizations have been organized in the region, and it is aimed to make this area an attraction center.





TIM& TO SOCIALIZ&

Res. Asst. Zeynep ÖZCAN
The Department of Advertising

We choose "Ephesus Archeological Site - İzmir," "Ethnography Museum - Ankara," and "Ihlara Valley - Aksaray" for you this month from the virtual museums put into service by the T.R. Ministry of Culture and Tourism. [Click](#) for detailed information and other [virtual museums](#).

Bradman Museum & International Cricket Hall of Fame - Australia

Dedicated to the display and protection of Australia's national game, cricket, the Bradman Museum is Australia's largest private cricket museum. The museum has a comprehensive collection of more than 52 thousand items for explanation and interpretation of important international players, individuals, companies, and events. [Click](#) to visit the museum.



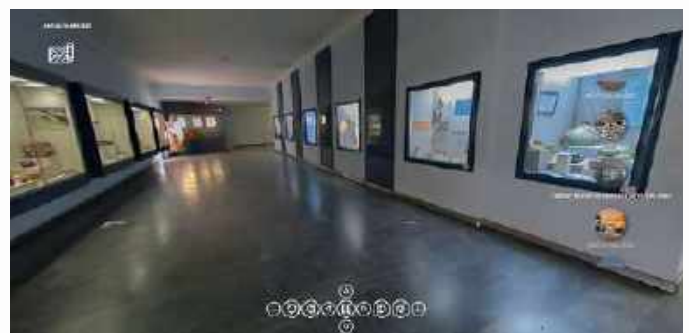
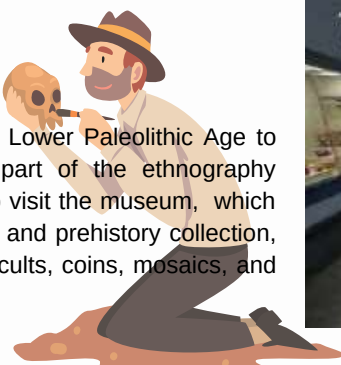
Great Pyramid of Giza - Egypt

The Pyramids of Giza are three magnificent structures located in the capital city of Egypt, Cairo. The oldest and largest of the three pyramids is the Great Pyramid or Keops Pyramid. [Click](#) to experience the pyramid, which is considered one of the seven wonders of the world.



Antalya Museum - Antalya

In Antalya Museum, there are works from the Lower Paleolithic Age to the Roman Period, and also an important part of the ethnography collection is about the Ottoman culture. [Click](#) to visit the museum, which includes many artifacts such as natural history and prehistory collection, god and emperor sculptures, artifacts of tomb cults, coins, mosaics, and icons.



Events in Istanbul

As the SosyoCom family, we selected the Celestial Bodies, The Language of the Walls and Discovery, from the events in Istanbul for our June issue.

"On Celestial Bodies" Exhibition

"On Celestial Bodies" exhibition includes the works of twenty-eight artists. It is created from the Arter Collection and examines the problems of the plane of vital coexistence that can be reconstructed today. [Click](#) for detailed information about the exhibition.



"The Language of the Walls: Graffiti / Street Art" Exhibition

Graffiti art takes place in a museum for the first time with Pera Museum's exhibition titled "The Language of the Walls: Graffiti / Street Art". The exhibition aims to reflect the scope and cultural diversity of this phenomenon which has affected several generations besides the artistic circles. [Click here](#) to view.

"Discovery" Exhibition

[Click here](#) to access the exhibition created by the artist Mehmet Özcan. The exhibition takes you on an intercontinental journey with photographs ranging from the silence of the night in vast lands to the fairy-tale roads of stars in the sky.



We have compiled online events in Istanbul in June for you. You can attend these events from your homes during the COVID-19 Pandemic. You can visit <https://kultursanat.istanbul/> and <https://kultur.istanbul/> web pages to examine the events in detail.

June in Istanbul...

Type of Event	Name of Event	Date
Workshop & Training	Acting Workshop with Burak Davutoğlu	03.04.2021-30.09.2021
	Role Preparation Workshop with Bahtiyar Engin	08.05.2021-30.09.2021
Concert	Jülide Özçelik	30.04.2021-30.09.2021
	Recycling / CRR Chamber Orchestra	31.05.2021-07.06.2021
Movie Screening	A Breath with "Pina Bausch"	01.03.2021-30.09.2021
	Akbank Short Film Channel	01.03.2021-30.09.2021
Exhibition	Photo in Days of Pandemic	01.03.2021-30.09.2021
	National Geographic Photos	01.03.2021-30.09.2021
Theater	Celebration	26.03.2021-30.09.2021
	Teleprompter	01.03.2021-30.09.2021
Interview	Hidden Heroes of the Scene	10.04.2021-30.09.2021
	Koray Candemir & Özge Fışkın	05.03.2021-30.09.2021
Performance	Bolshoi Theater Performance	01.03.2021-30.09.2021
	Cirque du Soleil	01.03.2021-30.09.2021

Street Flavors Series

THE MEETING POINT OF TASTE AND HISTORY: BAKED BEANS IN SÜLEYMANİYE

Res. Asst. Dilek EROL

The Department of New Media and Communication

Süleymaniye, as one of the oldest and most important tourist districts in Istanbul, is a frequent destination for both local and foreign tourists. The district, which is within the jurisdiction of Fatih, takes its name from Süleymaniye Mosque built by Mimar Sinan. The neighborhood's closeness to famous touristic spots such as Şehzadebaşı, Eminönü, Beyazıt, Sultanahmet and Sirkeci makes it one of the first places for tourists to visit. The magnificence of Süleymaniye Mosque and the other structures within the complex attracts people here. Süleymaniye is also special due to being a place that offers exquisite tastes for the visitors.

In single-story stone shops lined up next to Süleymaniye Mosque, baked beans (kuru fasulye) deserve a great deal of attention, just like the historical artifacts here. The story of "Tarihî Süleymaniyeli Kuru Fasulyeci Erzincanlı Ali Baba", the most famous dry bean restaurant in Süleymaniye, begins in 1924 in Erzincan. He moved to Istanbul as a mobile baked bean seller in Şehzadebaşı in the 1960s and continues to sell baked beans in Süleymaniye today.

The delicious meal, made by cooking dried beans from Erzincan in copper cauldrons and resting on charcoal fire, is usually served along with rice. It is often accompanied by ayran (a drink made of yogurt and water) and pickles. The pumpkin dessert, which you can find in baked bean restaurants, is recommended after the meal. Baked bean restaurants serve both indoors and outdoors. Thanks to the wide awnings in the open area, you can eat outside even in rainy weather. Thus, restaurants, which eliminate the disadvantage of narrow indoor areas, can continue to serve outside in winter with umbrella heaters.

In the Historical Peninsula of Istanbul, there are different options that you can taste baked beans, which are among the most important dishes of Turkish cuisine, apart from Tarihî Süleymaniyeli Kuru Fasulyeci Erzincanlı Ali Baba. Tarihî Süleymaniye Kuru Fasulyecisi Beydağı Lokantası and Mimar Sinan Tarihî Süleymaniye Kuru Fasulyecisi are just a few of these options.

You can reach Süleymaniye by getting off at Beyazıt stop and crossing the square by using the tram line from Eminönü or by using the Yenikapı-Haciosman metro line and continuing from the Vezneciler metro station. You can taste this wonderful meal and then visit the Süleymaniye Mosque.



ERASMUS+ JOURNAL



A STUDENT FROM GELISIM IN ITALY

Yunuscan YALÇINKAYA
Student from the Department of Business Administration

My name is Yunuscan Yalçinkaya. I spent the Fall Semester of Academic Year 2019 - 2020 with the Erasmus+ program at Universita Di Pisa and Scuola Superiore Sant'Ana in Pisa, Italy. Ever since I started the university, I wanted the experience of participating in the Erasmus+ program and studying in a different country. I was confident that I could go, but my self-esteem was not enough. I faced many difficulties along the way. At first, I thought that the rest was not very important since I passed the Erasmus exam, but that was not the case. There were many difficulties before and after I left the country. Two of these difficulties were course matching and the problem of finding accommodation.



Since I was a vertical transfer student and became a senior, the number of courses to be accepted by both schools was limited. Fortunately, I got a lot of help from my coordinator teacher at IGU, and we managed to solve this problem. Another big problem was to find a place to stay because Pisa, where I went to study, was a college town and almost all apartments were rented by students. The school I went to did not provide any accommodation and I could not stay in a student dormitory. Therefore, I had to find my own place to stay. Although I searched a lot until I went to Italy, I could not find a place and started to think that I could fix something up after I arrived. I had to stay in hostels for about two weeks, and this situation worried me a lot. The most important advice I can give to my friends who are thinking about going to Erasmus is that they should find a place to stay in advance.

The thing that impressed me the most in Italy was the architectural structures. To put it briefly, they care about details on this subject, and they are also very creative. The best example of this is the whole city of Venice. It's a very beautiful city that is completely above the water. I think Venice is a must-see city. And if you go during the carnival period, there is nothing better.





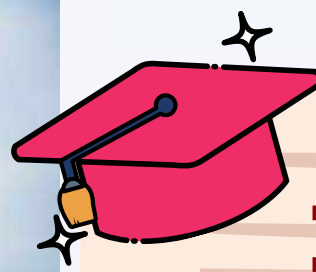
If I talk about the food of Italy, I can't lie, the pasta does not meet the expectation. But the pizzas are even more delicious than they say. Apart from that, if you care about healthy eating and still say that you can't do without dessert, Italy will be perfect for you. They have a lot of very light and delicious desserts. I can say that one of the best examples of these is their ice cream. By the way, Italy, contrary to what we are used to, is a country that consumes ice cream in summer and winter and has countless types of ice cream.

The friendships I made were one of the most important factors that took my Erasmus experience to the next level. I made many friends there, not only from Italy but also from many countries, and thanks to them I had wonderful days there. No matter which country you go to, I recommend you to have good friendships. Believe that these friendships will not end with your Erasmus experience. The easiest way to make friends is to find the Erasmus activity club in your city and participate in every activity you can attend (especially the free ones). Before you go, the school you will go to will send an informative e-mail showing where such clubs are and how to reach them.

During my stay there, I wanted to travel and see other countries. However, I did not think it would be that cheap. You can buy a flight ticket for as low as 10 Euros. Put aside the exchange rate difference and imagine! You have 20 Liras in your pocket, and you can buy a round-trip ticket to another country. While this is impossible in Turkey, it is an ordinary situation there. That gave me the chance to visit many more countries than I first planned to. Some of these countries were the countries of other Erasmus+ students I met in Italy, and I had the chance to go with them and get to know other countries better under their guidance.

I would like to talk more about my period with Erasmus+ but, to put it briefly, this is an adventure that every student should experience at least once. If necessary, try all the means at your disposal to go to Erasmus. Believe me when I say it will be worth it.





IGU-GRADUATE



Sueda ER

2020/ Graduate of the Department of Business Administration

My name is Sueda Er. I studied at Istanbul Gelişim University, Department of Business Administration between 2016-2020. Istanbul Gelişim University has witnessed many changes in my life since 2016. University years have a great impact on one's life. The memories of these years are very precious that one will not forget forever. I spent these four years at Istanbul Gelişim University very well. The experience I have gained here since the day I started school has always helped me to take my life one step further.

I was aware that the Department of Business Administration has a wide range of job opportunities. However, there is also a difficulty of finding a job due to the high number of graduates each year.

For this reason, studying at Gelişim and taking advantage of its opportunities has created various benefits for me. The vision of education as it is a relatively new university, the support of our academicians, having an extensive library, and providing education with the idea that encourages students in every sense are just some of the advantages of our university. In addition, our school has a variety of international students. The fact that it is an international university that includes students from different cultures helps especially Turkish students to benefit both culturally and in terms of foreign language acquisition.

In general, the Department of Business Administration provides its graduates with job opportunities in many fields such as Statistics, Human Resources, Business Management, Banking, Marketing, and the public. It was difficult for me to find the right one for me among so many options but when I made the decision, a plan appeared in my head and I thought about what I could do. I have always been interested in researching and discovering new things. That's why I chose the Department of Business Administration which would enable me to work in almost every business field. Although we have difficulties due to the high number of graduates, it is up to us to turn this into an advantage. In this case, Gelişim was one of the best universities for me due to the opportunities it presents to the students. The conferences, interviews at the school, and the career office's support helped us a lot in shaping our future. I was able to set my current goal with these supports. I told you how much I liked research, but I used to have no clear idea of what I wanted to be. Now, I think the job that suits me the most is to become an academician. I want to get my master's degree and try as much as I can to reach my dreams.

I know that English is essential to me, as my goal is to be an academic. In addition to the English courses at the school, I took the Erasmus exams to study abroad. I went to Budapest with the Erasmus+ program in the previous fall semester and studied at Edutus College. This helped me to not only improve my English but also gain new experiences. I think every student should experience Erasmus+. The friendships I had there were also very precious to me. I can describe Erasmus+ as a beautiful memory that will last forever.

As I write this article, I feel myself one step closer to my goal since my ALES (Academic Personnel and Postgraduate Education Entrance Exam) and YDS (Foreign Language Exam) results have been announced recently. I will continue to build my career with the benefits of being a "Gelişim University" student.



TURKEY and ITS BEAUTY

Prof.
Anton Abdulbasah KAMIL
The Department of Business
Administration (EN)

As a person who comes from Indonesia, Turkey is not a foreign country to me. The Turkish state has been recognized by the kingdoms in Indonesia for quite some time now. The Ottoman Turks had a strong influence on the major kingdoms in Java and Sumatra, namely the Mataram Sultanate and the Aceh Sultanate, in the 16th century. The crescent moon symbol in the flags of Mataram Sultanate (picture 1) and the Aceh Sultanate (picture 2) can be viewed as an evidence of this influence. Ottoman Turks supported the Kingdom in Indonesia in order to expel the invaders. In return, the Indonesian people had great respect for the Ottoman Caliphate.

At present, Indonesian youth see that the leadership of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is very inspiring for the world community. Erdogan is a leader who cares deeply about the suffering of the persecuted in Palestine, Rohingya, Syria and other countries.



Resim 1. Figure 1. Mataram Royal Flag.

[Source](#)



Figure 2. Aceh Sultanate Flag

[Source](#)



I also really admire the Turkish state and President Erdogan's leadership and am interested in staying in Turkey for a while. In 2019, I read that there was a job vacancy at Istanbul Gelisim University, I have applied, and Alhamdulillah, I was accepted to work at this exquisite university. My dream has come true. It turns out that Turkey is more beautiful than I imagined. Starting from nature, buildings, culinary, university environment to the friendliness of the people. One other thing that made me happy was my reunion with my wife in 2020. She joined me in Turkey.



In Istanbul, the Bosphorus Strait is the most beautiful strait I have ever seen. With its blue sea and flying birds, it is very reassuring. In addition, there are many beautiful and spacious parks such as Emirgan Park, Yildiz Park, Gulhane Park, Goztepe Park, Camlica Hill. Especially in the spring, the garden is filled with tulips. Apart from tulips, there are also cherry blossoms.





Interesting architectural buildings; Hagia Sophia, Blue Mosque, Topkapi, Dolmabahce, Ihlamur, Rumeli Fortress, Aqueducts, Galata Tower, Maiden Tower, Buyukcekmece Bridge, Kucukcekmece, made me amazed at their beauties. Although many of these buildings were built hundreds of years ago, they still stand majestically.



Turkish food, such as kebabs, lahmacun, simit, kofte, manti, pilav, baklava, kunafeh, and ice cream, is also very delicious. These foods can be easily found in tourist places at affordable prices.



The hospitality of the people of Istanbul also makes us feel more at home. People, where we live, greet us with "Gunaydin" every morning. Istanbul residents also care deeply for animals such as cats, dogs, and birds. Most of the population often feeds the animals. We eventually started following this good habit as well.



The university environment also makes me comfortable with the kindness of its staff and students who are comprised of various nationalities around the world. They are always willing to help, especially when it comes to language problems.

I sincerely hope that the natural beauty, buildings, and delicious Turkish food that have been less well known in foreign countries can be promoted, so as to increase tourist visits to Turkey.



#iguconfesses

Mars'ta üniversite var , açık deseler eminim tüm öğrenciler oraya göç etmek için ellerinden geleni yaparlardı. O derece bıktık siz düşünün artık 😂😂

evde mezun olmak... Allah'ım nasip etme @iguitirafetmekt

ne zaman ders çalışmak için pc'yi açsam kendimi yeni başladığım bir dizinin 3.sezonunda buluyorum..nasıl kurtulcaz bu hastalıktan dostlar akademik hayatım tehlikede 🤔🤔🤔 @iguitirafetmekt

Sanırım yeni Dünya düzeninde Üniversiteler yok @iguitirafetmekt

#nostalgia

Hazır boyanmışken taşların Bizi de içeri alın yalvarırım.. @igudediikodu



Ya okulları açarsınız yada yaprak dökümü Fikret gibi ani bir evlilikle terk ederim aile evini 😊



ABOUT ACADEMIC LIFE



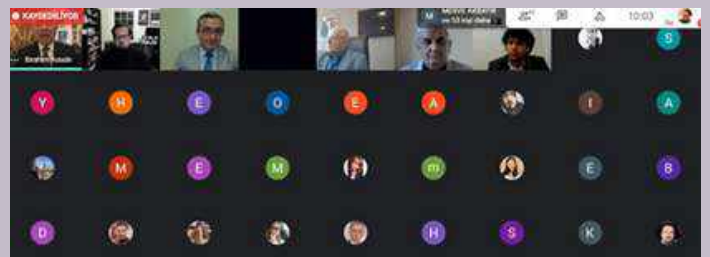
IGU VI. INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST SYMPOSIUM "Change in the Middle East with its Socio-Political Aspects"

Res. Asst. Güçlü KÖSE
The Department of Political Science
and International Relations

Organized by IGU Department of Political Science and International Relations for the sixth time this year in cooperation with IGUSAM, the VI. INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST SYMPOSIUM was held on May 18, 2021. This year, many local and foreign speakers, who are experts in their fields, made unique presentations at the symposium titled "Change in the Middle East with its Socio-Political Aspects". Due to the important developments in the Middle East, which includes our country, critical analyses were needed to better understand this ancient geography, and Istanbul Gelişim University has also initiated very important contributions in this field this year. Presentations and analyses in English and Turkish languages provided an international perspective for a better understanding of the region.



With opening speeches of our dear Rector Prof. Dr. Burhan AYKAÇ and IGU SBUI department head Assoc. Dr. Yavuz ÇİLLİLER, and the keynote speaker from the University of Hawaii, Prof. Dr. İbrahim AOUDE's speech on "The Unfolding Regional Situation in West Asia and North Africa In the Context of Global Capitalist Crisis", VI. INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST SYMPOSIUM has progressed in six sessions. The sessions were made in English and Turkish languages respectively; -Regional Challenges, -Religion and Politics, -Culture, Society, Politics, -Turkey and the Middle East, -Regional Power Struggles and Out-of-Region Actors, and -Religion, Society and Political Culture. A total of 26 speakers made presentations and analyses in the symposium where all aspects of the region were discussed. At the symposium with high levels of participaiton, the audience asked the questions they were curious about and received very enlightening replies from the experts. As IGU family, we thank our esteemed colleagues and whole participants of the symposium for their precious contributions.



GELISIM-UWE 5th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Res. Asst. Burçin ÇAKIR
The Department of
Economics and Finance

Gelisim-UWE 5th International Conference on Economics and Finance, which has become our university tradition, was held for the fifth time this year on 25-26 May 2021 in cooperation with Istanbul Gelisim University and The University of the West of England (UWE).

Participation and interest were high at the conference, where keynote speakers were Gülnur Muradoğlu, professor of finance at the Queen Mary University of London, İstemi Demirağ, professor of accounting at Tallinn University of Technology, Andreas Löschel, professor of economics at the University of Münster, and Cherif Guermat, professor of empirical finance at the University of the West of England.

The conference, attended by several academicians and students from the economics, banking, and finance departments of universities, focused on post-pandemic developments in the world and Turkish economy, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the banking sector in Turkey, financial competition, financial stability, digital (crypto) money, and sustainability. IGU, which hosted various studies in economics and finance, has been a motivator for young academicians by increasing the interaction between scholars. As the IGU family, we thank our valued academicians and valued participants who take part in the conference.



PUBLICATIONS



Dr. Aman Sado Elemo's article titled "The Fear of COVID-19 and Flourishing: Assessing the Mediating Role of Sense of Control in International Students" was published in **International Journal of Mental Health And Addiction**.

Prof. Anton Abdulbasah Kamil's article titled "Design of a Participatory Web-Based Geographic Information System for Determining Industrial Zones" was published in **Applied Computational Intelligence and Soft Computing**.

Dr. Andrew Adewale Alola's articles titled;

- "Global evidence of time-frequency dependency of temperature and environmental quality from a wavelet coherence approach" was published in **Air Quality, Atmosphere and Health**.
- "Environmental sustainability statement of economic regimes with energy intensity and urbanization in Turkey: a threshold regression approach" was published in **Environmental Science and Pollution Research**.
- "Carbon emission effect of renewable energy utilization, fiscal development, and foreign direct investment in South Africa" was published in **Environmental Science and Pollution Research**.
- "Clean energy development in the United States amidst augmented socioeconomic aspects and country-specific policies" was published in **Renewable Energy**.

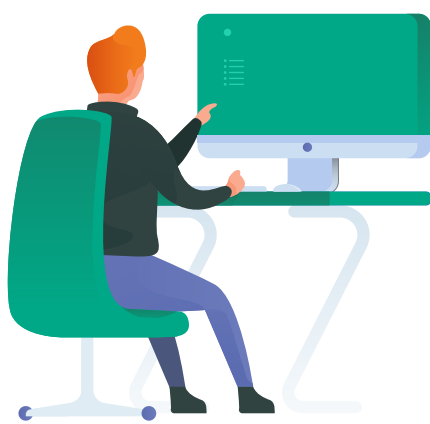
Dr. Edmund Ntom Udemba's articles titled;

- "Determinants of consumption-based carbon emissions in Chile: an application of non-linear ARDL" was published in **Environmental Science and Pollution Research**.
- "Remedial measures to sustain indebted economy: A time series analysis of Pakistan economy" was published in **Journal of Public Affairs**.

Dr. Festus Victor Bekun's articles titled;

- "Modelling the impact of energy consumption, natural resources, and urbanization on ecological footprint in South Africa: Assessing the moderating role of human capital" was published in **International Journal of Economics and Policy**.
- "Flexible time-varying betas in a novel mixture innovation factor model with latent threshold" was published in **Mathematics**.
- "Does agricultural development induce environmental pollution in E7? A myth or reality" was published in **Environmental Science and Pollution Research**.

Dr. Andrew Adewale Alola and Dr. Festus Victor Bekun's article titled "The alternative energy utilization and common regional trade outlook in EU-27: Evidence from common correlated effects" was published in **Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews**.



PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Funda Kara's book chapter titled "Digital Transformation and Changing Marketing Dynamics in the World" was published in **Contributions to Management Science**.

Dr. Onur Özdemir and Dr. Emrah Doğan's article titled "The Assessment of Trade Globalization, Trade Openness, and Distribution Through Income Inequality: An Examination in Terms of OECD Countries" was published in **Business and Economics Research Journal**.

Dr. Hakan Yıldırım's article titled "VIX or Investors Scare?" was published in **Quality & Quantity**.

Dr. Sarp Bağcan's article titled "Savaş Propagandasını Anlamaya Çalışmak: Çanakkale Savaşı'nda Anzakarlar ve Savaş Posterleri" was published in **Akademik Hassasiyetler**.

Dr. Hüseyin Öcal and Prof. Anton Abdulbasah Kamil's article titled "Risk-Return Based Performance Evaluation of Stocks in BIST 100 and KOMPAS 100 Indices of Borsa Istanbul and Indonesian Stock Exchange" was published in **Scientific Papers of the University of Pardubice, Series D: Faculty of Economics and Administration**.

Dr. Özlem Derin's article titled "Homo Ex Machina'dan Homo Ex Labe'e Postmodernist Bulanıklık" was published in **FLSF Felsefe ve Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi**.

Dr. İdlir Lika's article titled "Varieties of Resilience and Side Effects of Disobedience: Cross-National Patterns of Survival during the Coronavirus Pandemic" was published in **Problems of Post-Communism**.

Research Assistant Zeynep Özcan's article titled "Covid-19 Pandemisi'nde birer kanaat önderi olarak siyasi parti liderlerinin sosyal medya paylaşımlarına yönelik inceleme" was published in **Süleyman Demirel Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Dergisi**.



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