

## **'COMMUNICATORS OF THE FUTURE COMPETITION' PRE-SELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED**

The pre-selection results of the TRT Future Communicators Competition, held in the categories of Television Broadcasting, News Broadcasting, Radio Broadcasting, Digital Broadcasting and Beautiful Turkish, have been announced. Of the applications made from 121 universities, 154 works made it to the finals.

The results of the pre-selection of the "Communicators of the Future", which is organized by TRT for the 7th time this year, have been announced.

### **154 WORKS IN THE FINAL**

Istanbul Gelisim University Faculty of Fine Arts and Faculty of Economics and Administrative Social Sciences, Radio, Television and Cinema Department students were among the 154 works that made it to the finals.

Melek Çetinkaya, Tuğçe Çeşmeci and Sema Arslan with the podcast named "Portrait of a Woman", Cem Berkan Karadede and Beyzanur Özer with the digital video content format named "Do I owe you a lie?" and Caner Tıkız with the television program named "Hezel Ana Haber" made it to the finals.

The project consultants of the students are Assoc. Dr. Remziye Köse Özelçi, Lect. Kerem Yükseloglu, Research. Asst. Eda Çekemci.

The winners will be announced at an event, the date of which will be announced in the coming days, and they will receive their prizes.

## **"THE EXPECTED ISTANBUL EARTHQUAKE MAY OCCUR UNTIL 2026"**

Stating that the North Anatolian Fault has 2 unbroken segments and that this situation threatens the Marmara and Eastern Anatolia Regions, Neotectonics and Earthquake Specialist Prof. Dr. Haluk Selim said that the expected Istanbul earthquake could occur until 2026. Selim also emphasized the importance of urban transformation projects by saying that the buildings on the Anatolian side of Istanbul carry a risk of 40% and the buildings on the European side have a risk of 60%.

On the 22nd anniversary of the 17 August earthquake, Dean of Engineering and Architecture Faculty in Istanbul Gelisim University, Neotectonics and Earthquake Specialist Prof. Dr. Haluk Selim said that there are 2 unbroken segments of the North Anatolian Fault and this carries a great risk. Noting that the Marmara Sea and the Eastern Anatolia Region are under threat in this situation, Selim stated that "The North Anatolian Fault affected the region with two earthquakes that occurred in 1999. The North Anatolian Fault, which started in 1939, had a great impact in this geography, where we live, with approximately 11 earthquakes greater than 7.0 intensity in 60 years. The fault reached as far west as the 1999 earthquakes. But what happened next? Although it should have moved further west, it returned to Düzce and the second earthquake occurred. Currently, it still poses risks in the Marmara Sea."

#### THE NORTH ANATOLIA FAULT'S INFRANGIBILITY IS RISKY

Stating that there are 2 unbroken segments of the North Anatolian Fault, Prof. Dr. Selim said, "One of them is the Yedisu Segment, which is 100 kilometers long at its easternmost point. This segment is located on the part of the North Anatolian Fault extending up to Karlova. It hasn't been broken yet, and it poses a great risk. It can break at any moment and cause a devastating and damaging earthquake greater than 7 intensity. Another is the 115-kilometer fault line in the Marmara Region, one of the most important locations of the North Anatolian Fault. It wasn't broken either. Unfortunately, this is a possible earthquake that will affect many regions starting from Tekirdağ, centered in Istanbul, extending to Izmit and covering some districts of Bursa and Balıkesir. It is also very wrong to call this a possible Istanbul earthquake since there are residential areas and population, industry and financial centers in many areas in this region."

#### POSSIBLE ISTANBUL EARTHQUAKE MAY OCCUR UNTIL 2026

"The absence of this earthquake is not a good omen for the North Anatolian Fault. Here, the Marmara Region comes to the fore as a major risk factor," said Prof. Dr. Selim and continued his words as follows:

“An earthquake occurred in this region on August 17, 1999. It has been 22 years and still no earthquake has occurred on the North Anatolian Fault. There are also reasons for this. These reasons should also be discussed. Looking at these periods, statistical information can emerge. If you consider only the Eastern Marmara, an earthquake (1999 earthquake) occurs in the range of 948, 256 and 245 years. That's the period. If you consider the West Marmara, an earthquake occurs 950 years later in Istanbul-centered earthquakes. Then, 257 years later, there is an earthquake and there is no earthquake afterwards. If we sum up the 257 years and the 1766 earthquake here, when we consider this period a little broader, a picture emerges as if the fault will break until 2026. But this is purely statistical information.”

#### TENSION IN THE AEGEAN SEA CAN MOVE THE MIDILLI FAULT, THE SISAM ISLAND FAULT AND THE SMALL MENDERES, GREAT MENDERES AND GEDIZ GRABEN SYSTEMS

Prof. Dr. Selim said, “Currently, the risky area is in the Western Anatolia Region, maybe just south of Lesbos Island, on the part of the Lesbos Fault, maybe on the part towards Athens located in the Western part of Samos Island, faults in the sea or the small land extension. It can move the Menderes, Büyük Menderes and Gediz graben systems. Because in 2020, many earthquakes greater than 5 were recorded in and around the Aegean Sea. This is due to the 6.4 magnitude Crete Island earthquake that occurred on May 2, 2020. Currently, the Aegean Sea is constantly stretching. This region, namely the Aegean Sea and the Aegean Region, is completely at risk. The stress in this region also affects the North Anatolian Fault and delays the earthquake here, in the Marmara Region. The more earthquakes greater than 6 in the Aegean Sea, the more likely Istanbul earthquake in the Marmara Sea will be delayed.

#### RISK RATE IN THE BUILDING STOCK IN THE EUROPEAN SIDE OF ISTANBUL IS 60 PERCENT

“The northern branch of the North Anatolian Fault extends through the Marmara Sea in an approximately east-west direction. The 115-kilometer fault line divides the Sea of Marmara into two parts. Therefore, the fault line to be broken is

115 kilometers long, has a right-lateral geometry and is approximately 11-12 kilometers deep. The character of the fault here also has the capacity and energy to produce an earthquake with a damaging and destructive character greater than 7. If we start from the Anatolian side, especially in the structures in Istanbul; It should be said that there is a risk of 40 percent in the building stock up to Tuzla, Kartal, Pendik, Kadıköy and Üsküdar. When we look at the structures on the European side, this risk ratio reaches up to 60 percent because this collar has a wider beach section. In the continuation of the line extending to Silivri, the building stock in this section, which passes to Tekirdağ and its coast, is located in a highly risky area. The risk of liquefaction in the ground and the characteristics of the structures come to the fore here. It is imperative that financial problems are resolved on both the Anatolian and European Sides, local governments, citizens and the state cooperate to produce solutions and urban transformation of these buildings is carried out.”

### **FAMOUS CHEF MEHMET YALÇINKAYA WAS A GUEST AT IGU**

Famous Chef Mehmet Yalçinkaya was a guest at Istanbul Gelisim University as part of the Gastronomy Talks event. Yalçinkaya said, “A chef cannot teach the lesson given by an academician” and added, “We are not trainers. We are chefs. We produce and sell. In gastronomy, it is necessary to receive training from academicians. Istanbul Gelisim University and its team are doing good work.”

As part of the Gastronomy Talks event, Famous Chef Mehmet Yalçinkaya was the guest of IGU Secretary General, Assoc. Dr. Serdar Çöp. Chef Yalçinkaya stated that MYK Gastro Arena, which he founded, has been working with Istanbul Gelisim University for 2 years. Yalçinkaya said, “We received requests from many universities, but we are working with academicians of Istanbul Gelisim University. Gastronomy education is difficult. We conduct the classes at MYK Gastro Arena with the IGU Continuing Education Center and implement the training program we prepare together.”

### **“CHEFS CANNOT TEACH A COURSE AS WELL AS ACADEMICIANS”**

Stating that Turkey is a tourism country, Chef Yalçinkaya said, “Gastronomy is very valuable since Turkey is a highly touristic country. Both the universities and the

work we do play an important role to increase the interest in gastronomy. A chef cannot teach a lecture given by an academician. We are not trainers. We are chefs. We produce and sell. In gastronomy, it is necessary to receive training from academicians. Istanbul Gelisim University and its team are doing good work.”

Expressing that gastronomy trends have changed in the world, Chef Yalçinkaya said, “It changes according to people's demands. Cooking techniques have changed. They return back to open fire, nature, vegan and local trends. In the future, the world will focus on these four trends.”

### **BEWARE OF FOOD POISONING, IT CAN RESULT IN DEATH**

Stating that especially babies, children, pregnant women, the elderly and individuals with weakened immune systems are more susceptible to food-borne diseases, Public Health expert Dr. Nurten Elkin said, “Although food poisoning is mostly a mild and short-term illness, it can cause severe and even death due to factors related to the individual.”

"Food poisoning is an important public health problem that increases especially in summer" said Public Health Expert Dr. Nurten Elkin and made statements on the subject.

### **ATTENTION TO THE CONTAINERS WHERE FOOD IS STORED**

Giving information about the factors that lead to food poisoning, Dr. Nurten Elkin said, “Chemicals, pesticides, detergents, plastics, parasites and microorganisms (bacteria, mold, yeast) can be counted among these factors. It is important in containers where foods will be stored, and storage in copper and lead containers may especially cause heavy metal poisoning. Therefore, foods should not be kept in tin-free copper, aluminum and painted plastic containers.”

### **“SYMPTOMS MAY OCCUR WITHIN 30 MINUTES AND 72 HOURS”**

Pointing out that food poisoning usually starts all of a sudden, Public Health Specialist from Istanbul Gelisim University, Asst. Prof. Nurten Elkin said, “Symptoms of the disease can occur within 30 minutes and 72 hours after consuming

contaminated food. Diarrhea, abdominal pain, abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting and sometimes fever may occur. While some individuals have no symptoms after consuming the same contaminated food, some individuals may experience severe symptoms. What determines this situation is how much the food is contaminated, the amount consumed and the sensitivity of the individual.”

Emphasizing that vomiting and diarrhea are the body's reaction to toxins and therefore anti-nausea and anti-diarrheal drugs should not be taken especially in the first 24 hours. Nurten Elkin said, “Bed rest and plenty of fluids are very important during this period. Consumption of foods such as yogurt, rice porridge, boiled potatoes may be effective in reducing diarrhea, besides, it would be appropriate not to consume fruits such as raw vegetables, apricots, plums, figs, watermelons, grapes as they will increase intestinal motility. If there is bloody diarrhea, severe headache with diarrhea, neck pain or fever and if the symptoms of poisoning continue for more than two days, a doctor should be visited immediately.”

#### MEASURES TO BE TAKEN AGAINST FOOD POISONING

In order to prevent food poisoning, Dr. Elkin gave the following receipt:

“Personal hygiene should be ensured, hands should be washed frequently and properly, nails should be short and clean. If food preparation is required in cases such as wounds and cuts on the hands, these lesions should be covered with a waterproof bandage. The food that will be cooked and consumed later should not be left to cool at room temperature on the counter and stove for more than two hours, cooked food should not be kept at room temperature for more than one hour in summer, frozen foods should never be kept in the heater, stove etc. It should be known that the most suitable thawing methods of these foods are to thaw them at refrigerator temperature, in their packaged form, under running water or in a microwave oven, before buying these foods, paying attention to buy the ones whose cold chains aren't broken, not using unpasteurized milk and dairy products, washing the purchased vegetables and fruits thoroughly under plenty of running water, making sure that the food made from minced meat is cooked thoroughly, obtaining drinking water from reliable sources, boiling if not sure of its reliability, or using

chlorine tablets from pharmacies, if possible, in accordance with the instructions for use, when buying canned food, not to buy those whose boxes are damaged, never to store dry foods such as grains and legumes in a humid and hot environment, to read the label information when purchasing all kinds of foodstuff, to pay attention to the production and expiry date and storage conditions, to avoid the consumption of foods that are sold outside and outside, especially in summer, and to disinfect the cloths after each use, considering that the cloths, handles and sponges used in the kitchen can be effective in the transfer of microbes from one place to another. These are the measures one can take to prevent food poisoning.”

### **“CORRUPTION OF THE COMMANDING SYSTEM DEMORALIZED AFGHAN FORCES”**

What will happen after the Taliban’s taking control of Kabul arouses curiosity. International Relations Specialist Dr. Bahlul Aliyev said “Although Afghan government forces were quite ahead of the Taliban militias in both numbers and equipment, the rapid withdrawal of American forces, the lack of central will, corruption in the command system and the prevalent chaos and fear in the society demoralized the Afghan forces.”

Stating that the USA's hasty retreat from Afghanistan is related to the new reality of international relations, Sociologist and International Relations Specialist at Istanbul Gelisim University, Asst. Prof. Bahlul Aliyev said, “The war waged by the USA against the Taliban and other fundamentalist organizations in Afghanistan is the longest-running war in the history of the USA, but also attracted attention with its very high cost. When we examine the US military presence, which ended with a balance sheet of 2 trillion dollars, there is no geopolitical success or perspective for the US. Even if it wasn’t fully formed when getting USA forces to systematically retreat from the country it plays a key role in the new system of international relations that is emerging more and more prominently. The current system is no longer compatible with the military operations carried out in the 2000s. Although the USA was supported by other geopolitical actors at the beginning of the operation, the same support could not be provided for a long time in the changing order. This made the American presence in Afghanistan anachronistic.”



## THE CONFLICT POINT OF GREAT POWERS: AFGHANISTAN

Pointing out that Afghanistan is a conflict point of great powers due to its geographical structure, Aliyev said that the geographical structure of Afghanistan, which is defined as the "Empires Cemetery", prevents any power foreign to this country from holding the region. Aliyev said, "Military operations in this region have been of geopolitical importance and resulted in the systematic opposition of the great powers against each other. The British Empire entered the war in Afghanistan 3 times in 1839-1842, 1878-1880 and 1919 within the framework of geopolitical rivalry, also known as the "Great Game", in order to prevent Russia's expansionism and to have Turkestan, and only on August 8 of 1919. Afghanistan gained its independence. Analogically, the military intervention of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan in 1979-1989 was carried out to support the pro-Soviet regime there rather than the occupation, and was opposed by the other actors, the USA, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, by providing financial, military and logistical support to the mujahideen. India's support to the Afghan Government along with the Soviets in this war can be considered as an extension of the struggle with Pakistan. The US intervention in Afghanistan after 9/11 was likewise made to have a control mechanism in the Eurasian region. However, unlike the British and the Soviets, the USA was supported by both major and regional powers, NATO and partner countries. This situation legitimized the US operation in Afghanistan. The unipolarity reality of the period was also part of the reality. In the new era, the geopolitical reality of the US presence in Afghanistan began to change as the world started to get rid of unipolarity and new power centers began to emerge.

### "USA'S RETREAT FROM THE REGION IS PART OF THE NEW STRATEGIC PLAN"

Pointing out that there may be a strategic purpose behind the US's hasty exit from Afghanistan, Asst. Prof. Bahlul Aliyev continued his words as follows:

"The war in Afghanistan, initiated by the American President George W. Bush against the fundamentalist organizations, especially the Taliban, which the USA once provided all kinds of support against the Soviets, no longer had any significance for the USA from the Obama era, and the process of withdrawal of the USA began.



During the Trump era, negotiations were held with the Taliban and the infrastructure for the withdrawal to begin to be prepared. There are two interesting situations here: The USA supported fundamentalist organizations against its rivals in the bipolar world, and later declared war against these organizations. It was stated in official language that with Biden's coming to power, Russia posed the most important source of danger for the United States in terms of security. The withdrawal process, which was started suddenly without informing anyone, took place leaving behind billions of dollars in weapons and ammunition although it would destroy the prestige of the USA."

#### **"RUSSIA MAY HAVE TO DIRECT ITS MATERIAL RESOURCES TO THE REGION"**

Referring to the fact that the Afghan government forces are not in control of the situation, Aliyev said, "Although it is obvious that the government forces are not competent to oppose the extremists without tactical-technological, financial and strategic support, the withdrawal of the aforementioned weapons and vehicles in the region, which are not even in the inventory of most NATO countries, raises suspicions that it is part of the strategic plan. It is also possible to consider it as a move to destabilize the region after the US retreated from the region, to turn the target of the Taliban, who has no experience in state administration and knows how to fight alone, to the north, and thus to draw Russia's attention to the region, as it was during the Soviet period. Russia, which is already experiencing financial difficulties, may have to direct its financial resources to the region. It is also significant in this respect that tripartite exercises are initiated with Uzbekistan and Tajikistan under the leadership of Russia, with the beginning of the withdrawal process of the USA."

#### **"TALIBAN'S NEW IMAGE AT THE MEETING IN MOSCOW WAS EFFECTIVE"**

Stating that the new image they drew was effective in the success of the "Taliban" organization, which took full control in Afghanistan, Dr. Aliyev concluded his words as follows:

"Negotiations between the Taliban and the US have been going on for a long time. The rhetoric of the Taliban spokesmen in Moscow on July 9 on the guarantor of social peace and security in the new policy to be implemented by the Taliban convinced the government forces, which were caught unprepared for the war, to surrender. The radical actions of the Taliban have renewed the memory of the Afghan society with the withdrawal of the USA. There was serious fear and chaos in the society. The durable Afghan army that American forces had been trying to establish for years could not be formed due to the corruption. In addition, although it was supported, the operations were always carried out by American forces. This prevented Afghan government forces from gaining experience in the field. Although Afghan government forces were repeatedly ahead of the Taliban militia both in numbers and equipment, the rapid withdrawal of American forces, lack of central will, corruption in the command, widespread chaos and fear demoralized Afghan forces. Mass desertions to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan at the border posts were also enough to feed the chaos. Thereupon, the promises of the Taliban began to create a new hope. The mass surrender of the troops and Taliban's sparing their lives also accelerated the disintegration of the already demoralized army. That's how the Taliban were able to quickly take control of Afghanistan."