

NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT FROM IGU TECH-SAT MICRO SATELLITE TEAM: SHAPING THE FUTURE IN SPACE TECHNOLOGIES!

The TECH-SAT Micro Satellite Team, composed of students from Istanbul Gelisim University and guided by their advisor Lecturer İzzet Yavuz from Istanbul Gelisim Vocational School, has achieved another significant milestone in the field of space and satellite technologies. Participating in the 3rd Hangar Campus Entrepreneurship Competition organized by Turkish Aerospace Industries (TUSAŞ), the team competed with their project titled “Micro Satellite Communication System for Disasters and Emergency Situations” and successfully advanced to the finals, ranking among the top 9 out of 63 competing teams.

AWARDED INCUBATION OFFICE AT TEKNOPARK ISTANBUL

On September 25, 2025, during the Demo-Day final presentations, the TECH-SAT Micro Satellite Team impressed the jury with their business idea and prototype. As a result, they were granted a one-year free incubation office at Teknopark Istanbul. This opportunity provides the team with crucial support for the commercialization and development phases of their project.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS FROM TECH-SAT MICRO SATELLITE TEAM!

The TECH-SAT team is not only recognized for this recent success but also for their previous accomplishments. They won second place at the 4th Electronic Circuits Exhibition hosted by Istanbul Gelisim University and also gained attention for their strong performance in the 2024–2025 TEKNOFEST Model Satellite Competition.

PIONEERING WORK FROM YOUNG ENGINEERS

The TECH-SAT Micro Satellite Team consists of Istanbul Gelisim University students Harun Can, Mustafa Koca, Emirhan Erden, Mehmet Emin Türksoy, and Burak Boz. Under the mentorship of Lecturer İzzet Yavuz, the team continues to develop innovative solutions in micro satellite technologies to strengthen disaster communication systems. They operate within the university’s advanced facilities and fully equipped laboratories.

STRONG CONTRIBUTION TO SPACE TECHNOLOGIES FROM IGU

Istanbul Gelisim University consistently supports its students' achievements in technology and engineering on a national scale. The success of the TECH-SAT Micro Satellite Team stands as a concrete reflection of IGU's innovative approach to education and its commitment to research and development.

FINAL DAY FOR ADDITIONAL PLACEMENT: SEPTEMBER 30 – SCHOLARSHIPS AND FREE COUNSELING SUPPORT FROM ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY

The additional placement period for the 2025 Higher Education Institutions Exam (YKS) is currently ongoing. This is a second chance for prospective students who do not want to postpone their university dreams. The process will end on September 30, 2025, at 11:59 PM. Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) is supporting candidates during this period with free preference counseling, scholarship opportunities, and internationally accredited programs.

COUNTDOWN FOR ADDITIONAL PREFERENCES

According to the schedule announced by ÖSYM, the process began on September 25 and is only available for a limited time. For this reason, it is important that candidates make quick and informed decisions.

Additional placement is not only an opportunity to fill vacant quotas, but also a chance for students to choose a department that better matches their interests and career goals. Preferences made during this short window will shape the direction of their educational and professional journey.

LAST-DAY APPLICATIONS MAY BE RISKY

Although technically possible until midnight on September 30, experts warn that applying on the last day may pose risks due to high system traffic. The preference counselors at Istanbul Gelisim University encourage students to visit the campus early and receive one-on-one, free counseling support to make informed choices.

ON-CAMPUS PREFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS OFFER EXTRA ADVANTAGE

During this period, IGU is offering not only guidance but also valuable scholarship opportunities to prospective students:

Up to 75% scholarships for students who list IGU in their top 3 preferences

Up to 65% scholarships for 4th, 5th, and 6th preferences

An additional 10% “On-Campus Preference Scholarship” for students who visit the campus and receive counseling in person

These scholarships allow students to begin their education with a financial advantage. University officials remind candidates that scholarship rates may vary depending on the department, and the most accurate information can be found on the official prospective student website.

TURKIYE’S FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY WITH THE MOST ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

In addition to scholarship opportunities, Istanbul Gelisim University stands out with its academic quality. It is the foundation university in Türkiye with the highest number of internationally accredited programs. These accreditations allow students to graduate with a diploma recognized not only in Türkiye but also around the world.

With its strong research infrastructure, modern laboratories, experienced academic staff, and interdisciplinary study opportunities, IGU offers a forward-looking educational environment for all students enrolling during the additional placement period.

DO NOT POSTPONE YOUR UNIVERSITY GOALS

The additional placement period offers a limited-time opportunity for students to begin their university education. The choices made during this period will influence not only the present but also future career paths. For that reason, making the right decisions is crucial. Istanbul Gelisim University provides an ideal environment for prospective students with its scholarship advantages, internationally accredited programs, and free preference counseling support.

IGU PRODUCTION "THE SOUND" SHORT FILM SET TO MEET AUDIENCES IN ITALY

"The Sound," a short animated film directed by Ahmet Bikiç, a lecturer at Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Visual Communication Design, and written by Burcu Çekiç, Assistant Coordinator of the Corporate Communications Office, is achieving significant international success. Entirely created using artificial intelligence tools, the film will be screened at the Secondigliano Film Festival, which will take place in Naples, Italy, from October 22 to 24, 2025.

CONVEYING EDUCATIONAL INEQUALITIES THROUGH ART

The film "The Sound" explores the dreams, pressures, and invisible burdens echoing in a student's quiet room. The sounds of private lessons, expectations driven by technology, and social pressures gradually transform into a cacophony, engulfing the student's inner world. Amid this overwhelming noise, the student seeks to find their own breath and silence. The film presents an experimental and profound inner journey that reflects the inequalities in education.

ONE OF THE FIRST FILMS CREATED ENTIRELY WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

From scriptwriting to sound design, from visual aesthetics to poster creation, all stages of the film were developed using artificial intelligence tools, offering an innovative approach in the field of cinema. Designed using cinematic prompt commands, the visuals, sounds, and poster of "The Sound" were inspired by a story based on real-life experiences.

"ART AND TECHNOLOGY TOGETHER CREATE A NEW LANGUAGE"

Reflecting on the production process, the film's director, Ahmet Bikiç, emphasized the intersection of art and technology:

"While 'The Sound' reflects the inner world of a student, its production using artificial intelligence offers a unique experience. For us, this film is not only a short piece but also the discovery of a new form of storytelling. While aiming to highlight inequalities in education, we also wanted to demonstrate how art, when combined with technology, can create an original and universal language. Artificial intelligence opened up new horizons for us at every stage, from visuals to sound design. This process brought together the transformative power of art with the limitless possibilities of technology. The final film not only conveys a social issue in a universal language but also offers viewers the opportunity to experience this new bridge between cinema and artificial intelligence."

The film represents an example of Istanbul Gelisim University's production approach that combines art and technology. The international screening of "The Sound" at the festival is considered a testament to the university's support for innovative projects and its growing global visibility.

"KADIN ELI (FEMALE WONDER)" DOCUMENTARY IN LIMA, THE CAPITAL OF PERU

The documentary "Kadın Eli" (Female Wonder), directed by Lecturer Ahmet Bikiç from Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Visual Communication Design, has achieved international recognition. Highlighting the labor of Anatolian women, the production has earned the right to compete at the SERIES WEB AWARDS International Short Film Festival in Lima, the capital of Peru.

A STORY FROM IĞDIR TO THE WORLD

Shot in the Turkish province of Iğdır, the documentary brings the hard work and dedication of Anatolian women into focus. It tells the story of how organic products grown using traditional methods are transformed into economic value by women. The film compellingly portrays the journey of naturalness turning into nourishment, future, and hope.

“WOMEN'S LABOR STRENGTHENS THE ECONOMY”

Director Ahmet Bikiç shared his thoughts on the production process:

“The goal here is to ensure that the natural products women produce with their own hands contribute to the economy. In this way, women can stand on their own feet. While it's easier for women to participate in the workforce in Istanbul, this process is more difficult in Anatolia. However, thanks to efforts like this, women gain economic independence and can support their families. The most important point is that all the products are entirely natural and grown by these women.”

A TRIBUTE TO ANATOLIAN WOMEN

"Kadın Eli (Female Wonder)" is not only a story of production but also a tribute to the hardworking women of Anatolia. While encouraging women's participation in the economy, the documentary also helps preserve centuries-old agricultural traditions.

Istanbul Gelisim University sees art as one of the most powerful tools for social transformation. The university encourages its members to engage in innovative production with a sense of responsibility. Through such projects, it contributes directly to both cultural and social development. With the "Kadın Eli" documentary, IGU continues to add value to society through art by bringing the voices of Anatolian women to the international stage.

STRATEGIC VISITS AND NEW INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS FROM CHINA AND INDONESIA TO ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY

On September 29, 2025, Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) hosted delegations from Zhejiang University of Water Resources and Electric Power (ZJWEU), one of China's leading technical universities, and Djuanda University (UNIDA) from Indonesia.

FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT FROM ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY OF WATER RESOURCES AND ELECTRIC POWER TO IGU

Established in 1953 and home to over 10,000 students, Zhejiang University of Water Resources and Electric Power is recognized as a higher education institution specializing particularly in water conservation and hydroelectric engineering. The university has also trained approximately 70% of water administration managers in the Zhejiang region.

The meeting at IGU was attended by Vice Rector Xu Xudong, Party Branch Secretary of the School of Environmental Science and Engineering Wang Yiding, Dean of the School of Economics and Management Wang Xinliang, Director of the Planning and Finance Department Xu Guoliang, and Dean of the School of Geomatics Li Ying. On behalf of IGU, the meeting was attended by Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin, Vice Rectors Prof. Necmettin Maraşlı and Prof. S. Arda Öztürkcan, and Alisa Usubova, Coordinator of the Office of International Exchange and Cooperation (UDIO-K).

IGU'S NUMBER OF PARTNER UNIVERSITIES IN CHINA RISES TO TWO

During the meeting, both universities introduced themselves and discussed potential cooperation in various fields, including student and staff exchange and joint academic projects. At the end of the meeting, a memorandum of understanding was signed, officially establishing the cooperation. With this agreement, IGU's number of partner universities in China increased to two.

After the meeting, the Chinese delegation was introduced to the Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty of Dentistry, and Gelisim Tower. The delegation visited laboratories, classrooms, the library, and especially the Technology Transfer Office, where they received information about innovative projects such as drone initiatives and the wind tunnel. The delegation expressed that they were highly impressed by what they saw.

9TH ACADEMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA'S DJUANDA UNIVERSITY

On the same day, IGU also welcomed the delegation from Djuanda University (UNIDA) in Indonesia. Founded in 1987 and home to approximately 7,500 students and nearly 300 academic staff, UNIDA is ranked as the 139th best university in Indonesia according to UniRank 2024. Located in the city of Bogor, the university is known for its education model based on Islamic values.

The Indonesian delegation included Rector Prof. Dr. Martin Roestamy, Director of the International Office Assoc. Prof. Radif Khotamir Rusli, Director of Finance Dr. Warizal, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Dr. Aal Lukmanul Hakim, and Researcher Dr. Widya Wahyu Utami.

Following mutual introductions of both universities, the parties discussed potential collaboration in areas such as student and staff exchanges, academic publishing, joint conferences, and projects. A memorandum of understanding was signed at the end of the meeting, officially initiating academic cooperation.

The meeting concluded on a friendly note with both parties exchanging gifts. With this agreement, IGU's number of partner universities in Indonesia has reached nine.

IGU EXPANDS ITS ACADEMIC COOPERATION NETWORK IN ASIA

These two significant visits, held on the same day, highlight Istanbul Gelisim University's contribution to the global academic cooperation network. The memorandums of understanding signed with higher education representatives from China and Indonesia pave the way for student and staff mobility, research projects, and innovative academic collaborations, while also significantly enhancing IGU's recognition and academic presence in Asia.

In line with its vision of internationalization, Istanbul Gelisim University continues to strengthen its partnerships with reputable universities worldwide and steadily progresses toward becoming a leading actor in global education.

ATTENTION TO THE RISE OF EPIDEMIC DISEASES DURING WINTER: MASKS MAY RETURN TO THE AGENDA

With the arrival of winter, there has been an increase in respiratory infections such as flu, the common cold, and COVID-19. According to experts, this increase is caused not only by cold weather but also by multiple contributing factors. Associate Professor Hatice Merve Bayram, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Head of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics at Istanbul Gelisim University, explained the reasons behind the rise in infections during the winter months and ways to prevent them.

WHY DO WE GET SICK MORE OFTEN IN WINTER?

Cold and dry air dries out the mucous membranes in the nose and throat, making it easier for viruses to attach. Low humidity weakens the immune barriers, while spending more time in enclosed and poorly ventilated spaces accelerates droplet-based transmission. The decrease in sunlight also leads to lower vitamin D levels, which negatively affects the immune system. Additionally, viruses such as influenza and SARS-CoV-2 are known to survive longer in low-temperature and low-humidity conditions.

Assoc. Prof. Bayram stated, “Winter months create almost perfect storm conditions for infections. Both environmental factors and lifestyle habits that weaken the immune system make it easier for illnesses to spread during this period.”

POSSIBILITY OF A NEW WAVE

Assoc. Prof. Bayram pointed out that there has been a renewed increase in influenza and COVID-19 cases in recent weeks, emphasizing the possibility of a second peak wave during the 2025–2026 winter. She noted that the decrease in community immunity over time, the emergence of new variants, and differences in vaccine effectiveness increase this risk.

She also noted that the reopening of schools has led to more time spent in closed and crowded environments: “Classrooms and communal living areas, where children gather, provide a suitable environment for viruses to spread. It is possible to observe increases in cases from the very first weeks,”.

MASKS MAY RETURN TO THE AGENDA

Reminding that masks were abandoned in daily life after the pandemic, Assoc. Prof. Bayram stated that masks still remain a reasonable preventive measure in enclosed and crowded spaces during the winter:

“It may be too early to propose a general obligation for society, but for at-risk groups, mask use could come back into focus this winter. The mask continues to be a simple yet effective protective tool.”

CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY ARE MORE VULNERABLE

Assoc. Prof. Bayram explained that children are at higher risk because their immune systems are not fully developed, while elderly individuals face naturally declining immune function. She emphasized the importance of the flu vaccine in particular. She also underlined that regular sleep, a balanced diet, vitamin D and C supplementation, and adherence to hygiene rules are vital.

DAILY HABITS THAT STRENGTHEN THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

Assoc. Prof. Bayram emphasized that there is no single miracle method to keep the immune system strong during the winter months, and that it can only be achieved through a combination of daily lifestyle habits. She stated that nutrition is one of the most important elements in this regard: “A Mediterranean-style diet rich in fruits and vegetables, and high in vitamins and minerals, forms the foundation of a strong immune system.”

She pointed out that adequate and quality sleep is essential for the immune system: “Sleeping 7–8 uninterrupted hours a night plays a critical role in the body's renewal.” She also stated that physical activity directly supports immunity, adding, “At least 30 minutes of brisk walking or moderate exercise each day makes the body more resistant to illnesses.”

“MASK USE STILL AMONG THE SIMPLEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE MEASURES”

Assoc. Prof. Bayram highlighted the importance of stress management and hygiene habits, saying: “Methods such as meditation, breathing exercises, or spending time in nature help balance stress hormones and protect the immune system. Regular hand washing, ventilating closed spaces, and wearing a mask when necessary are still among the simplest and most effective precautions.”

Finally, she emphasized the importance of adequate fluid intake: “Drinking at least 1.5–2 liters of water per day helps keep the mucous membranes moist, thereby strengthening the body's defense system.”

Assoc. Prof. Bayram concluded that adopting all these habits together creates the strongest shield against the increase in respiratory infections during winter: “Healthy nutrition, regular sleep, and hygiene practices are the most reliable foundations of our immunity.”

Experts emphasize that protection from infections in winter is possible not only through individual precautions but also through social awareness. Maintaining a healthy diet, regular sleep, hygiene habits, and not neglecting vaccines play a critical role in protecting both individual and public health. Experts from Istanbul Gelisim University highlight that with simple yet consistent measures, a stronger immune shield can be built against the challenging conditions of the winter season.

“CYBERSHIELD INNOVATORS: BUILDING THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL SECURITY” PROJECT FINAL MEETING SUCCESSFULLY HELD

The final meeting of “Cybershield Innovators: Building the Future of Digital Security,” Türkiye’s first EIT-supported cybersecurity project coordinated by Istanbul Gelisim University, was held at the university’s campus. The project was carried out in partnership with the Proficiency Institute (PRO) in Germany and supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). The meeting was attended by IGU Chairman of the Board of Trustees Abdülkadir Gayretli, Rector Prof. Bahri Şahin, Vice Rectors Prof. Arda Öztürkcan, Prof. Necmettin Maraşlı, and Prof. Nuri Kuruoğlu.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION RECORD BROKEN

The project aimed to train cybersecurity professionals who not only possess technical expertise but also innovative problem-solving skills and the ability to anticipate and neutralize digital threats. A total of 1,205 students participated in the project—exceeding the initial target of 600—from 47 universities across 22 European countries and 141 universities in Turkey. This resulted in the creation of a broad and inclusive digital security education ecosystem.

The female participation rate surpassed the 30% target, reaching 37%, marking a significant success in terms of inclusivity. Students from Romania, Hungary, Albania, Georgia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Ukraine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, and Lithuania took part. Within Turkey, students from over 60 cities were included in the program.

OFFICIALS EMPHASIZED THE PROJECT’S CONTRIBUTIONS TO TURKEY AND EUROPE

The opening speech of the meeting was delivered by IGU International Exchange and Cooperation Coordinator and Project Administrative Coordinator Alisa Usubova.

Chairman of the Board of Trustees Abdulkadir Gayretli emphasized that by hosting Turkey's first EIT-supported cybersecurity education project, students not only enhanced their technical skills but also positioned the university as a pioneer in digital transformation in both Europe and globally.

Rector Prof. Dr. Bahri Şahin stated that the project, carried out with students from 141 universities in Turkey and 47 universities across Europe, made a strong contribution to both Türkiye's and IGU's international mission.

Vice Rector Prof. Necmettin Maraşlı highlighted that the project was not only a technical training program but also a comprehensive intercultural dialogue and cooperation initiative involving students from diverse cultural backgrounds. He underlined that this diversity made the project more accessible and trustworthy.

Project details were presented by Alisa Usubova, and the educational component was delivered by Assoc. Prof. Serkan Gönen, Head of the Software Engineering Department and Project Education Coordinator at IGU. Alper Ece, Administrative Coordinator from Germany's Proficiency Institute, also joined online to share his insights. The final meeting concluded with closing remarks.

AN EXEMPLARY INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION MODEL

With this project, coordinated by Istanbul Gelişim University, Turkey took a pioneering step in EIT-supported cybersecurity education. The university not only provided technical training but also highlighted intercultural interaction and inclusivity, presenting an exemplary model of international collaboration.

Participants received internationally recognized EIT-approved and ECTS-compatible certificates. The project also strengthened female participation in STEM fields and reinforced regional inclusivity. Additionally, a strong collaboration network was established between Europe and Türkiye, and the project was featured among model practices within the Deep Tech Talent Initiative (DTTI).

This achievement stands out as a major milestone that demonstrates Istanbul Gelisim University's international vision and leadership in the field of digital security.

AFD SEMINAR AT IGU BY DR. JOERG BAUDNER: THE RISE OF AFD EVALUATED FROM AN ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE

As part of the Erasmus+ program, Dr. Joerg Baudner from the University of Vechta visited Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) as a guest lecturer and delivered a significant seminar organized by the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences (FEASS) on September 30, 2025. The seminar, titled “The Rise of the Populist Right-Wing AfD in Germany: How Dangerous is It?”, took place at the K Block Firnas Auditorium.

THE RISE OF RIGHT-WING POPULISM IN GERMANY AND THE IMPACT OF AFD

In his presentation, Dr. Baudner provided a comprehensive analysis of the Alternative for Germany (AfD), a right-wing populist party that has been on the rise in recent years. He explored the party’s position within Germany’s political system, its historical development, and its impact on European politics. His evaluations of the AfD's voter base, discourse, and institutional structure offered participants valuable insight into current political dynamics.

The seminar attracted great interest, particularly from students in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, as well as from many academics. The event continued with an interactive Q&A session, during which participants enriched the academic depth of the seminar through their questions and contributions.

NEW COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO UNIVERSITIES

Following the seminar, FEASS Dean Prof. Kenan Aydın hosted Dr. Joerg Baudner and Asst. Prof. Elif Şahin. During the meeting, potential future academic collaborations between the two universities were discussed. As a result, the following three concrete cooperation initiatives were agreed upon:

A jointly organized summer school project,

An international conference on the theme of populism,

A collaborative academic publication exploring the relationship between populism and marketing.



IGU CAMPUS TOUR AND FUTURE PLANS

After the meeting, Dr. Baudner was given a tour of the IGU campus and was informed about the university's academic and physical infrastructure. Expressing his appreciation for IGU's emphasis on international academic cooperation, Dr. Baudner stated that he is eager to take an active role in the development of joint projects.

ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY: A GATEWAY TO INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC DIALOGUE

With a vision that promotes international collaboration, Istanbul Gelisim University continues to host scholars from various countries and lead global academic projects. Through exchange and cooperation initiatives under the Erasmus+ program, IGU contributes significantly to student and faculty mobility. By organizing timely seminars on political, social, and cultural issues, IGU plays an important role in fostering international academic dialogue. The university is increasingly strengthening its position within the global network of education and research by involving its students and academics in worldwide discussions.