



APPLICATION AND RESEARCH CENTERS COORDINATION UNIT

MONTHLY BULLETIN

APRIL 2026 | Issue : 6



Message from the Coordinator

Our Coordination Unit continues to strengthen the education, research, and societal contribution activities of the Application and Research Centers in line with our University's Strategic Plan. Through this bulletin, we aim to increase our national and international engagement by making the value-creating work of our Centers more visible. We extend our sincere thanks to all our Centers and stakeholders for their qualified contributions and collaborative support.



“UYGARMER - K in ACTION”



23 Nisan

Ulusal Egemenlik ve
Çocuk Bayramı

Kutlu Olsun



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PROJECTS FROM TCCUAM

Gender Studies Application and Research Center

Project TÜBİTAK 1002-A

Under the leadership of Asst. Prof. Seyra Kestel, Vice Director of the Gender Studies Application and Research Center, the project titled “Political Memory and Media Agenda in Türkiye (2020–2025)”, submitted within the scope of the TÜBİTAK 1002-A program, has been awarded funding support. The project has a duration of 12 months and examines how social and political events are embedded in voters’ memories through media agendas. Within the study, differences in recall, emotional coding, and attribution of responsibility across gender and political orientation dimensions will be analyzed from a political communication perspective.



Scientific Research Project

The normal research project titled “The Role of Social Advertisements in Raising Awareness on Combating Violence Against Women”, submitted within TCCUAM, has been accepted. In the project, Vice Director of the Center Asst. Prof. Seyra Kestel serves as the project coordinator, and Asst. Prof. Aydan Ünlükaya Çevirici serves as a researcher. This project aims to examine the awareness levels of female students and staff at Istanbul Gelisim University regarding the fight against violence against women, as well as the impact of social advertisements in this process. Based on the findings, the project also seeks to develop informational and guidance materials and produce scientific publications.



SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES



Gender Studies Application and Research Center

Book

The book titled "Gender and Violence", prepared by the Gender Studies Application and Research Center (TCCUAM), has been published. Edited by TCCUAM Director Asst. Prof. Selda Tunç Subaşı, Vice Directors Assoc. Prof. Diler Ezgi Tarhan and Asst. Prof. Seyra Kestel, the work addresses the relationship between gender and violence through an interdisciplinary approach. The book examines forms of physical, psychological, economic, and symbolic violence within the context of patriarchal structures, digital transformation, and social norms. It discusses both visible and implicit dimensions of social inequalities and analyzes gender-based violence from a critical and holistic perspective.

Social and Political Studies Application and Research Center

"Türkiye on the Road to UN COP31: Climate Change and the Zero Waste Vision"

At the event organized by the Social and Political Studies Research Application and Research Center, Türkiye's role in global climate diplomacy and its sustainability policies were addressed. In the talk moderated by Asst. Prof. Sibel Zengin, evaluations were made on environmental policies, waste management, and sustainable development. The importance of the zero waste approach in environmental sustainability was emphasized, and awareness was raised on the efficient use of resources and increasing environmental consciousness.



SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Istanbul Studies Application and Research Center

Sustainability Ecosystem Conference (It is not what you eat, but how it is produced)

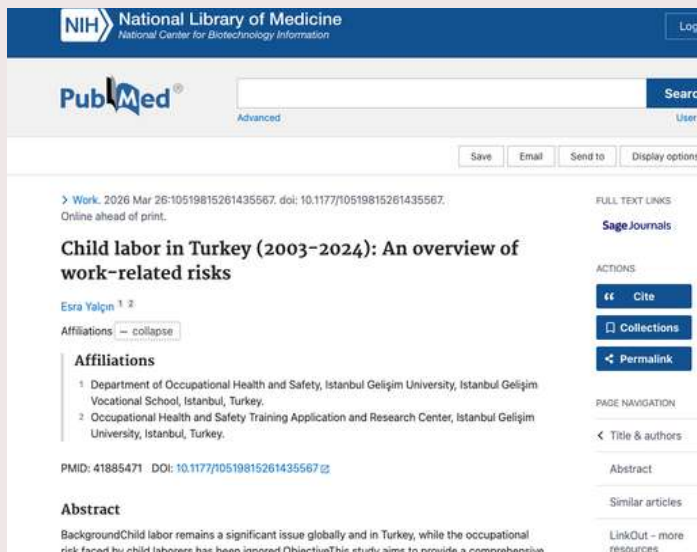
The “Sustainability Ecosystem Conference”, organized in collaboration between the Istanbul Studies Application and Research Center of Istanbul Gelisim University and the GastroZone Club, brought together academics, industry representatives, and students. The event addressed sustainability within the frameworks of gastronomy, agriculture, food production, and health. Current approaches and field experiences were shared by expert speakers in their respective areas. Held in two sessions, the conference contributed to raising awareness in the field of sustainability and strengthening academia – industry collaborations.



Occupational Health and Safety Training Application and Research Center

Article

An article by Asst Prof. Esra Yalçın, Director of the Occupational Health and Safety Education Application and Research Center, titled “Child Labor in Turkey (2003–2024): An Overview of Work-Related Risks”, has been published in “Work: A Journal of Prevention, Assessment & Rehabilitation”, a journal indexed in the Scopus Q2 category.



SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES



Environment, Urbanization and Earth Sciences Application and Research Center

Cities of the Future Summit

The “Cities of the Future Summit” was held in collaboration between the Architecture and Design Club of Istanbul Gelisim University and the Environment, Urbanization and Earth Sciences ARC. Organized under the leadership of Asst Prof. Hilay Atalay, Director of the Center, the event comprehensively addressed future cities and the understanding of architecture within the framework of sustainability, artificial intelligence, and innovative design. At the summit, attended by Prof. Bayram Ünal, Dean of the FEA, experts in their fields shared their evaluations on urban planning, architectural design processes, artificial intelligence applications in façade design, user-oriented sustainable space design, and resilient city models. During the event, students had the opportunity to come together with industry professionals and listen to current approaches, while different perspectives on the future of architecture were shared. The Kahoot competition organized within the program supported participant interaction, and the event concluded with the presentation of plaques to the speakers.



SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Collective Wisdom for Avcılar: Municipality–University Cooperation Strategy Workshop

Representatives from the faculties, administrative units, and several application and research centers of Istanbul Gelisim University participated in the “Collective Wisdom for Avcılar: Municipality–University Cooperation Strategy Workshop”, hosted by Istanbul Gelisim University. During the workshop, working groups were formed around the themes of disaster and climate change, social equality, cultural identity, and digital transformation. Participants evaluated projects that could be developed through municipality–university cooperation for Avcılar and exchanged views on applicable policy recommendations in social, environmental, and digital fields, developing solution models based on collective wisdom.



Gender Studies Application and Research Center Paper

TCCUAM Director Asst. Prof. Selda TuŇç SubaŐı and Advisory Board Member Asst. Prof. Nazar Bal presented a paper in the session titled “Women, Ecology and Spatial Subjectivity” within the scope of the 3rd International Symposium on Women in Audiovisual Culture. In the study titled “An Ecofeminist Reading from Varda’s Documentary The Gleaners to Women Waste Pickers”, the practice of gleaning was examined in relation to nature, labor, and the body. Visual analyses were evaluated through the invisibility of women’s labor and social stigmatization, and attention was drawn to urban poverty and inequalities from an ecofeminist perspective.

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES



Environment, Urbanization and Earth Sciences Application and Research Center

Paper

Vice Director of the Environment, Urbanization and Earth Sciences Application and Research Center, Asst. Prof. Gökçe Uzgören, and Res. Asst. Dr. Eda Turkey presented a paper at the 2nd Urban Symposium: City and Cinema, hosted by Istanbul Kent University. In the study, ecotourism discourse was evaluated within the context of neoliberal contradictions, and a deconstructive analysis was carried out through the documentary.

Social and Politics Studies Application and Research Center

Book Chapter

A book chapter titled “Transatlantic Relations and NATO” by Assoc. Prof. Ahmet Sapmaz, a researcher at the Political and Social Application and Research Center, has been published in the book “From Normative Silence to Geopolitical Adaptation: The European Union and Future Geopolitical Challenges” by İdeal Kültür Akademi Publishing. The work addresses Europe’s search for strategic autonomy in parallel with the changing foreign and security policy of the United States, the disagreements emerging within the NATO alliance, and their impact on the West.

TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS AND NATO

Ahmet Sapmaz*

Introduction

Transatlantic relations define the entire relationship between the United States of America (USA) and Europe. USA-European relations, which have lasted since World War II, are a unique type of relationship in the world, covering political, economic, military, and cultural aspects (Smith, 2018). The transatlantic security community is based on a shared identity grounded in common values, mutual economic interests, and institutions that govern these ties (Risse, 2008).

Since their emergence after World War II, transatlantic relations now involve very different dynamics. Europe is no longer a continent of economic and political weakness. Today, Europe holds a globally influential position in terms of economic, technological, and normative power. The USA, however, is neither the undisputed superpower of the bipolar system nor the world’s sole superpower, as it became after the Cold War. While the balance of power between the USA and Europe has shifted in Europe’s favor, Europe’s military

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SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES



Psychology Application and Research Center

At the “Symposium on Psychological Perspectives in Dental Practice” organized by the Faculty of Dentistry of Istanbul Gelisim University, a presentation titled “Oral Health and Social Psychology: Dental and Oral Health Between Body, Identity, and Stigmatization” was delivered by PSİKOMER Director Asst. Prof. Berk Efe Altınal.

Life Sciences and Biomedical Engineering Application and Research Center

Genetics and Ethics through “Gattaca” on DNA Day

The film “Gattaca” was screened at an event organized by YBMUAM as part of DNA Day. The event aimed to raise awareness on genetic sciences, biotechnology, and ethics. Through the film, the possible individual and societal impacts of genetic interventions were opened to discussion; not only the technical aspects of scientific developments but also their ethical, legal, and social dimensions were evaluated. In addition, the relationship between genetic knowledge and human rights, equality, and equality of opportunity was addressed, aiming to enhance participants’ critical thinking skills.



SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Psychology Application and Research Center **Scientific Meeting**

At the event organized by the Psychological Application and Research Center (PSIKOMER), researchers and graduate students came together to discuss qualitative research and studies conducted with stigmatized and disadvantaged groups. The event, held with the participation of Dr. Ekaterine Pirtskhalava, who was visiting the University within the Erasmus+ program, was moderated by PSIKOMER Director Asst. Prof. Berk Efe Altınal. Within the program, the practical and ethical dimensions of working with marginalized groups in qualitative research were addressed, and evaluations were made on field experiences and ethical responsibilities encountered in research processes.



Life Sciences and Biomedical Engineering **Application and Research Center**

Participation in the Scientific Summit

YBMUAM was represented by Vice Director Asst. Prof. Onur Dirican at the 4th Molecular Cancer Summit, where current scientific developments in cancer research were discussed. The summit, organized online by the Molecular Cancer Research Association (MOKAD), addressed key topics such as targeted next-generation therapies, biomarkers, and cancer immunotherapy. The participation of Asst. Prof. Onur Dirican, Vice Director of YBMUAM and a senior member of MOKAD, contributed to the center's international scientific collaborations and academic visibility.

4. Moleküler Kanser Zirvesi

10:00 | Bülent Özpolat (ABD)

Development of Non-Coding/microRNA Based Targeted Therapeutics for Breast and Pancreatic Cancer

11:00 | Abdullah Kahraman (İSVİÇRE)

Alternative Splicing-based Cancer Biomarkers

12:00 | Fahri Saatçioğlu (NORVEÇ)

Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress Signaling in Cancer Cells and the Tumor Microenvironment - Implications for Cancer Immunotherapy

16:30 | Besim Öğretmen (ABD)

Lipid Metabolism in Alzheimer's Disease and Cancer: Ceramides, Mitophagy, and T Cell Immunity

15:30 | Hasan Korkaya (ABD)

Local and Systemic Immune Microenvironment in Breast Cancer Murine Models and Their Clinical Relevance in Patients

17:30 | Mazhar Adli (ABD)

PBM15 Governs Ovarian Cancer Chemoresistance by Resolving Genomic Conflicts

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES



Sustainable Environment and Community Studies Application and Research Center

Career Introduction Seminar

A career introduction seminar was organized in collaboration between the Sustainable Environment and Community Application and Research Center, the Maslak Rotary Club, and the Agriculture Rotary Club. The online event was moderated by Center Director Assoc. Prof. Başak Özarşlan, with Gaye Braida and Şafak Özsoy participating as speakers. The seminar addressed career planning, industry experiences, and current approaches in the business world, aiming to enhance students' professional awareness.

Social Responsibility Application and Research Center

“Is Türkiye Ready for the Challenges of Aging?”

An event titled “Is Türkiye Ready for the Challenges of Aging?” was organized by the Social Responsibility Application and Research Center in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, the Sociology Club, and the Yordam Education Research and Development Foundation. During the program, the phenomenon of aging was evaluated from the perspectives of social work and sociology, while field experts shared their presentations on aging policies, care processes, and social transformation. The event, which attracted strong participation from academics and students, concluded with a question and answer session and the presentation of plaques to the speakers.



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES

Social Responsibility ARC & Life Sciences and Biomedical Engineering ARC

Autism Awareness Gathering: "Neurodiversity"

As part of the "April 2, 2026 World Autism Awareness Day", a panel was organized in collaboration with the Social Responsibility Application and Research Center, the Speech and Language Therapy Club, and the Life Sciences and Biomedical Engineering Application and Research Center. Expert speakers from child and adolescent psychiatry and speech and language therapy fields participated in the event. The session was moderated by Asst. Prof. Raheb Mohammadi Ghanbarlou. The panel, which attracted strong student interest, concluded with a Q&A session and the presentation of plaques.



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES

“Is a Fair City Possible? Thinking from Avcılar”

Assoc. Prof. Başak Özarslan, Director of the Sustainable Environment and Community Studies Application and Research Center, participated as a speaker in the Student Utopia Workshop held within the scope of the “Rethinking Urban Justice: Hope, Utopia and Coexistence Symposium”. In her presentation titled “Is a Fair City Possible? Thinking from Avcılar”, she evaluated urban justice, spatial inequalities, access to public services, environmental sustainability, and participatory governance through the case of Avcılar. The presentation also addressed the situation of vulnerable groups in the face of disaster risks and local governance policies, emphasizing that a fair city approach requires a holistic governance model supported by applicable local strategies.

Sustainable Environment and Community Studies Application and Research Center



Strategic Inter-University Collaboration on the Road to COP31

Through the collaboration of the Sustainable Environment and Community Studies Application and Research Center of Istanbul Gelisim University, Istanbul Medipol University, and Istanbul Bilgi University, work has been initiated to establish a joint platform aimed at providing institutional and structural contributions to the COP31 process. With the developed cooperation model, the initiative seeks to strengthen coordination among academia, the public sector, and international organizations; integrate scientific knowledge into policy-making processes; and support the active participation of early-career researchers in climate policy development.



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES

Sustainable Environment and Community Studies Application and Research Center



Water Panel Session within the COP31 Journey Events

As part of the COP31 Journey, a panel organized by the Sustainable Future Platform addressed water as one of the key dimensions of the climate crisis. The event was held at Boğaziçi University, with Assoc. Prof. Başak Özarslan, Director of the Sustainable Environment and Community Studies Application and Research Center, serving as the moderator. The panel explored water sustainability, water security, and the future of water resources in the context of climate change in a multidimensional manner, and solution-oriented approaches were shared throughout the discussion.

Nuclear Energy Workshop

A workshop focusing on Türkiye's nuclear energy plan and advanced technologies was organized by World Energy Council Türkiye in collaboration with the Electric Power Research Institute, and hosted by Istanbul Gelisim University. The event brought together representatives from the public sector, private sector, and international organizations, addressing the transition from targets to implementation in nuclear energy from a multidimensional perspective. Project development, financing models, supply chain preparations, and the contributions of next-generation technologies—particularly small modular reactors—to increasing energy demand were evaluated, while global technical perspectives and international experiences were shared with participants.



ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

Art and Design Application and Research Center



International Diverse Formations Group Exhibition

Organized through the collaboration of the Istanbul Gelisim University Art and Design Application and Research Center and the Faculty of Fine Arts, the “International Diverse Formations Group Exhibition” met art enthusiasts on 8 April 2026 at the Istanbul Gelisim Art Gallery. The opening, attended by academics, artists, students, and numerous guests, featured works by 26 artists from six different countries. Bringing together disciplines such as painting, graphic design, sculpture, and ceramics, the exhibition aims to support interdisciplinary artistic interaction and international art production. In the opening speeches, emphasis was placed on the University’s commitment to art and artists, while attention was drawn to the exhibition’s contribution to cultural exchange.



ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES

The MAVERA Theatre Presentation

The theatre production MAVERA, in which Istanbul Studies Application and Research Center (ICUAM) is a stakeholder, was developed and presented with the objective of fostering social awareness and addressing contemporary issues through an interdisciplinary framework. Characterized by its psychological and dramatic structure, the production foregrounds themes such as the individual's search for identity, processes of reconciling with the past, and the complex relationship between the self and inner voice. Attracting considerable audience interest, MAVERA constitutes a significant example of cultural and artistic production within the university context and offers participants a reflective and intellectually engaging experience.

Istanbul Studies Application and Research Center



Within the production carried out under the coordination of ICUAM, the artistic narrative was shaped under the direction of Selver Çukuroğlu; Karadeniz Production undertook the technical sound processes, Avcılar Municipality provided venue support, and Mutfak.93 contributed organizational assistance.

ACTIVITIES FROM CAREER AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Career Guidance Application and Research Center



AI-Powered Interview Simulation with QNB Sigorta

The AI-supported interview simulation event, organized in collaboration with QNB Sigorta, provided students and young professionals with a realistic job interview experience. Participants responded to questions tailored to different positions, allowing them to test their communication and problem-solving skills, while system-generated feedback and analytical reports contributed to their career development.

English YDS Preparation Program

The English YDS Preparation Program, carried out in collaboration between IGUSEM and the Provincial Health Directorate, has been successfully completed. In the 120-hour face-to-face training sessions, grammar, academic vocabulary, reading comprehension skills, and exam strategies were addressed; through mock exams and mentoring support, the aim was to increase participants' exam success.

Continuing Education Application and Research Center



Fundamentals of Data Analytics and Transformation with Artificial Intelligence Certificate Program

The "Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence" program, conducted online between 7 April and 12 May 2026, is ongoing. Delivered by Asst. Prof. Can Burak Nalbantoğlu, the 30-hour program addresses data analytics, artificial intelligence applications, and digital transformation processes through practical examples, aiming to enhance participants' analytical competencies.



VISITS AND MEETINGS

Protocol Visits within the Scope of the 2nd Traditional SATMER Culture and Arts Festival

Within the scope of the 2nd Traditional SATMER Culture and Arts Festival, organized by the Istanbul Gelisim University Center for Art and Design Application and Research (SATMER), protocol visits were carried out. During the visits conducted by SATMER Director Asst. Prof. Mustafa Günay and Vice Director Asst. Prof. Ekrem Süzen, Istanbul Governor Davut Gül, Avcılar District Governor Orhan Burhan, and Beylikdüzü District Governor Bülent Karacan were informed about the festival. The meetings included the sharing of the festival's scope, content, and objectives, as well as evaluations regarding the development of cooperation between the University and public institutions in the field of culture and arts. The festival aims to strengthen interaction among stakeholders in the cultural and artistic domain.



Meeting of the UYGARMER Coordination Board

The Coordination Board of Application and Research Centers (UYGARMER) held its first meeting of 2026 on 28 April 2026, chaired by Vice Rector for R&D Prof. Necmettin Maraşlı. During the meeting, the activities carried out by the UYGARMER Coordination Unit throughout 2025 and up to April 2026 were evaluated, and studies related to academic and institutional processes were presented to the board members. In addition, the Evaluation Reports of the Application and Research Centers Coordination Board were reviewed, and the scientific and artistic performance, objectives, and output levels of the centers were examined in detail.





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