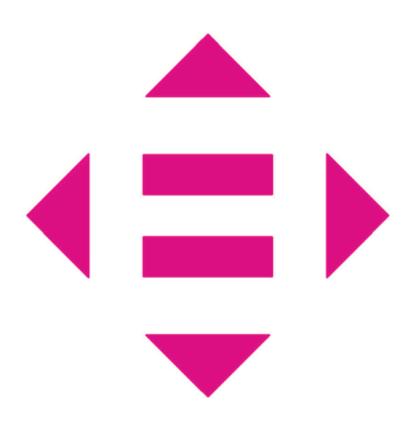


SDG 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES



2023-2024

BAUATAGLANCE

Since its foundation in 1998, the vision of BAU has been to be a global university known for its contribution to scientific, technological, and cultural knowledge through innovative education models and research approaches that reflect international standards as well as service to society. Currently, BAU Global Network comprises of 6 universities (Istanbul, Washington D.C., Berlin, Cyprus, Batumi, Plymouth), 5 liaison offices (BAU Global Azerbaijan Jordan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Pakistan) and 5 language schools.

As one of the leading universities in Türkiye, BAU aims primarily to improve the living standards of the local and global society by integrating the sustainable development goals into its corporate processes and culture, educational programs, academic research practices and stakeholder collaborations. BAU with its staff members, students and alumni is a big academic community who are raised as good global citizens committed to each x and the world around them and always act with the utmost sense of ethics and social responsibility.

BAU WITH NUMBERS

- 7 campuses in Istanbul
- 10 faculties, 1 conservatory, 2 vocational schools
- 54 BA programs, 187 MA programs, 30 PhD. programs
- 28 research and application centers
- 149 labs, workshops/studios, incubation centers
- 229 Erasmus partner universities, 96 world exchange partners
- 854 full-time faculty members, 449 administrative staff members
- 19.287 undergraduate students, 3.500 graduate students, 478 doctora degree
- students
- 81 student clubs
- 238 externally funded projects between 2023-2024
- 410 industry partnerships & projects between 2023-2024

BAU IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION

BAU participates in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings since 2019. According to the current rankings, BAU belongs to the 801-1000 band in the World University Rankings, 59th in the Impact Rankings and the 173th in the Young University Rankings 2024. Also, BAU is ranked among the top 5 universities in Türkiye.

The university continuously increases its standing in categories related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As of 2025, BAU holds the following standings in the THE Impact Rankings;

- 7 th in Quality Education
- 50 th in Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 2nd in Gender Equality
- Ranks between 101-200 in Reducing Inequalities
- Ranks between 201-300 in Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Ranks between 401-600 in Sustainable Cities and Communities

The University takes the above-mentioned rankings as evaluation criteria for progress regarding its adherence and contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and will continue to report its advancement in the rankings on a yearly basis.

Equality, Accessibility, and Inclusion at Bahçeşehir University

Bahçeşehir University (BAU) has adopted an institutional model grounded in equality, accessibility, and inclusion, ensuring that every member of its academic community can fully benefit from the university's educational and social opportunities. Operating in line with national higher education regulations and global best practices, BAU places human dignity, social justice, and diversity at the core of its institutional culture. Through comprehensive policies, dedicated support mechanisms, and inclusive governance principles, the university actively works to eliminate barriers that limit participation in education and campus life.

A cornerstone of this approach is BAUEQUAL, Bahçeşehir University's equality and diversity platform, which leads initiatives aimed at fostering inclusive learning environments, combating all forms of discrimination, and strengthening the representation of marginalized groups across academic and administrative structures. BAUEQUAL conducts awareness campaigns, training programs, and institutional projects to promote gender equality, accessibility, and social inclusion, integrating these values into university-wide strategies and policies.

BAU also provides a range of free-of-charge student services to ensure equal access to health, wellbeing, and learning opportunities. These include Free Medical and Emergency Services, Free Psychological Counseling Services, Free High-Speed Internet Access, and Free Access to Research and Innovation Laboratories—each contributing to the removal of financial and structural barriers that may hinder students' academic and personal development. The Bahçeşehir University Disability Support Unit, operating under a Senate-approved directive, further ensures accessibility for students with disabilities through personalized support systems, infrastructure improvements, and advocacy for inclusive education.

By implementing these initiatives, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates its strong institutional commitment to fostering social equity and equal opportunity across all dimensions of campus life. The university ensures that no student is left behind due to economic, social, or physical constraints, aligning its mission with the broader goal of reducing disparities within and among communities.

Furthermore, BAU's comprehensive scholarship and financial support systems guarantee that talented students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds have equitable access to higher education. The ApplyBAU platform serves as a transparent and inclusive model for admissions, enabling students to apply for financial aid, scholarships, and flexible learning opportunities regardless of their economic status. Through these integrated systems, BAU upholds its dedication to accessible education and to building a community where equality is both a guiding value and a lived practice.

Through these continuous efforts, Bahçeşehir University reaffirms its vision of a fair, inclusive, and equitable institution that provides every student with the means to thrive academically and socially, thereby contributing directly to the global pursuit of equality and social justice.

BAU Equality and Inclusion Studies Commission (BAUEQUAL)

Complementing this academic framework, BAUEQUAL (BAU Equality and Inclusion Studies Commission) was established to institutionalize gender equality, prevent all forms of discrimination, and promote a violence-free campus environment. Announced in December 2019 through a formal declaration of intent, BAUEQUAL began its work in October 2020 with a dedicated team of experts committed to building an equitable and inclusive university culture. The commission's mission focuses on preventing gender-based, workplace, and sexual violence while promoting inclusivity through research-driven strategies, awareness programs, and policy development. To achieve these goals, BAUEQUAL conducted comprehensive internal analyses assessing perceptions of gender equality and inclusion among BAU students and staff. Based on these findings, it has implemented campus-wide initiatives including training programs, workshops, and awareness campaigns developed in cooperation with student clubs and administrative departments.

The BAUEQUAL Unit also serves as a formal reporting and support mechanism for individuals exposed to discrimination, psychological or sexual harassment, and gender-based violence. By ensuring accessibility, confidentiality, and protection, the unit embodies the university's dedication to upholding human dignity and justice. Through its commitment to participatory governance and evidence-based policymaking, BAUEQUAL continuously advances BAU's vision of a safe, inclusive, and gender-equal academic environment.

https://bau.edu.tr/icerik/16929-bauequal-hakkimizda

BAUEqual: Gender Equality Action Plan

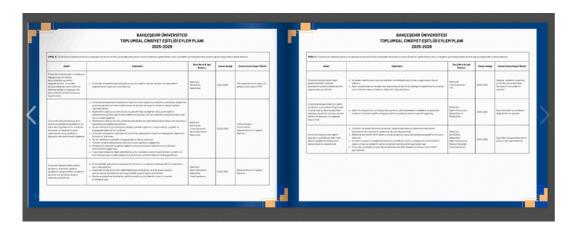
Bahçeşehir University has launched the BAUEqual Gender Equality Action Plan (2025–2029), a comprehensive institutional strategy designed to strengthen gender equality, inclusivity, and accountability across all levels of university life. The plan aligns with the principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and reflects the university's commitment to integrating gender-sensitive approaches into education, research, governance, and community engagement.

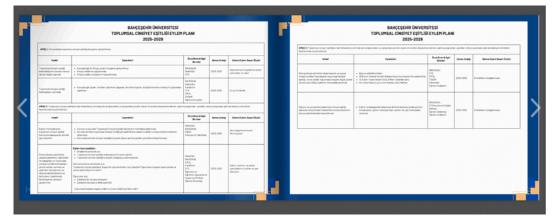
The Action Plan includes objectives focused on increasing gender awareness among students and staff, developing inclusive education programs, supporting women's leadership, and preventing gender-based violence. It outlines concrete actions such as gender equality-focused training, awareness-raising campaigns, academic modules, and support mechanisms for victims of discrimination and violence. In addition, it promotes equal representation in decision-making, inclusive recruitment practices, and gender-sensitive research and policy development.

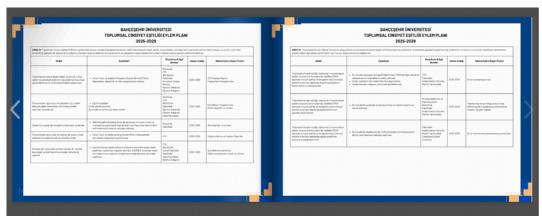
By embedding equality and inclusivity into its institutional culture, Bahçeşehir University aims to ensure a safe, fair, and empowering environment for all members of its community. The BAUEqual framework represents a long-term commitment to structural transformation, ensuring that gender equality becomes a measurable and sustainable component of the university's strategy.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by institutionalizing equality and inclusivity, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its comprehensive approach to inclusive governance, education, and policy development.

https://bau.edu.tr/icerik/17142-toplumsal-cinsiyet-esitligi-eylem-plani







Ensuring Equal Access to Education through Comprehensive Scholarship and Financial Support Systems



Bahçeşehir University offers a comprehensive Scholarship and Financial Support System designed to ensure that no student's education is interrupted due to financial hardship. The Scholarship Unit serves as a key institutional mechanism for maintaining equitable access to higher education and addressing the financial challenges students may face throughout their academic journey. Students who encounter economic difficulties during their studies are invited to submit support requests, which are reviewed by the Scholarship and Finance Commissions in accordance with the University's Scholarship and Support Directive. Through this structure, Bahçeşehir University upholds its commitment to expanding financial inclusion and reducing the economic barriers that often limit access to higher education opportunities.

A wide variety of scholarships are available, ranging from merit- and performance-based awards to need-based financial assistance. These include national placement exam scholarships (ÖSYM), preference and institutional scholarships, TÜBİTAK and special disadvantage scholarships, sports, science, arts, and cultural scholarships, academic excellence awards, sibling and alumni discounts, as well as scholarships for students with disabilities and international diploma holders. By diversifying scholarship categories and adjusting support rates according to student needs and achievements, Bahçeşehir University actively works to foster equal opportunities and social mobility.

Support for Students Affected by Disasters and Financial Hardship

Bahçeşehir University recognizes the profound impact that natural disasters and unexpected financial difficulties can have on students' educational journeys. Following the 2023 earthquake, the University provided scholarships, financial aid, and payment deferral opportunities to 221 students, with a total value of $$\pm$12,623,428.83$. In the same year, 19 students who experienced family loss or severe financial distress received $$\pm$1,748,708.69$ in additional support.

During the 2023–2024 academic year, further assistance was extended to 65 students—including those continuing to face earthquake-related challenges—amounting to ₹5,502,956 in total. Moreover, in line with its humanitarian values, the Scholarship Commission approved full scholarships for 20 students affected by the 2023 Gaza attacks, demonstrating the University's global awareness and compassion. Through these targeted support mechanisms, Bahçeşehir University ensures educational continuity for disadvantaged students and reinforces social resilience in the face of crisis.

Student Loan and Credit Support

To promote educational continuity and reduce the risk of dropouts due to financial hardship, Bahçeşehir University offers repayable student loans that help students manage tuition costs during their studies. As of the 2023–2024 academic year, the University allocated \$6,946,264.97 in total to 48 students, allowing them to pursue their degrees without interruption. This model not only removes short-term financial barriers but also empowers students to complete their education and enter the workforce with confidence, reflecting the University's sustainable approach to inclusive education financing.

Support for Students with Disabilities and Inclusive Infrastructure

Through its Center for Students with Disabilities and inclusive campus infrastructure projects, Bahçeşehir University ensures full participation in academic and social life for all students. Physical accessibility improvements, adaptive technologies, and tailored academic support systems allow students with disabilities to engage in university life equally and independently. These measures embody the University's dedication to fostering an inclusive environment where every individual, regardless of physical ability, has the opportunity to thrive academically and socially.

Support for Athletes and Cultural Development

In alignment with its mission to nurture well-rounded individuals, Bahçeşehir University allocates significant resources to sports and cultural development programs. In 2023–2024, the University dedicated \$1,650,000 to sports scholarships and national athlete support programs, enabling talented students to balance their athletic and academic careers effectively. By promoting holistic development, the University contributes to personal growth, teamwork, and community engagement—key drivers of social inclusion and empowerment.

Scholarships and Educational Opportunities for University Staff

Bahçeşehir University also invests in the education and career development of its employees. During the 2023–2024 academic year, 90 administrative staff members pursued fully funded master's or doctoral studies, supported through the University's employee scholarship scheme. Additionally, the children of Bahçeşehir University staff receive a 50% tuition discount across Bahçeşehir Uğur Education Institutions, including preschools, primary, secondary, and high schools. These initiatives reinforce lifelong learning and promote equal access to quality education within the institutional community itself.

Through these extensive financial and social support mechanisms, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates its unwavering dedication to equitable education, social justice, and student well-being. Each program—whether for disaster-affected individuals, student-athletes, staff, or students with disabilities—represents a step toward building an inclusive academic environment where education remains a right, not a privilege.

This initiative also contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by addressing economic and social barriers, fostering inclusion, and enabling all students to access, continue, and succeed in higher education.

https://aday.bau.edu.tr/c-d-ara/universite-sinavi-sonrasinda-bilmeniz-gereken-burs-olanaklari/

https://bau.edu.tr/icerik/17245-burs-koordinasyon-birimi

https://cdn.bau.edu.tr/content/y3apo6y26luus-BURS%20VE%20DESTEK%20Y%C3%96NERGES%C4%B0-G%C3%9CNCEL-2024.pdf

BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ ÖN LİSANS, LİSANS, LİSANSÜSTÜ BURS VE DESTEK YÖNERGESİ

BİRİNCİ BÖLÜM Amaç, Kapsam, Dayanak ve Tanımlaı

Amaç

MADDE 1- (1) Bu Yönergenin amacı, Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi'nde Ön Lisans, Lisans ve Lisansüstü düzeylerde verilen eğitim-öğretimin niteliğini burs, ve diğer destekler ile yükseltmek, öğrencileri yüksek düzeyde akademik çalışmalara teşvik etmek, bilim, teknoloji, spor ve sanat dallarında başarılı öğrencileri destekleyerek ulusal ve uluslararası alanlarda Bahçeşehir Üniversitesinin adını duyurmaktır.

(2) Bu Yönerge, yukarıdaki amaçlar doğrultusunda verilecek her türlü burs veya desteklerden yararlanacak Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi öğrencilerinin taleplerinin başvuru, değerlendirme ve karar sürecindeki yöntem, yetki ve sorumlulukları belirler.

Kapsam

MADDE 2 – (1) Bu Yönerge, Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi'nde Ön Lisans, Lisans ve Lisansüstü düzeylerde öğrenimini sürdüren/sürdürecek öğrencilere sağlanacak burs veya desteklerle ilgili düzenlemeleri kapsar.

Dayanak

MADDE 3 – (1) Bu Yönerge Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Ön Lisans ve Lisans Eğitim-Öğretim Yönetmeliği, Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Lisansüstü Eğitim Öğretim Yönetmeliği ve Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Ana Yönetmeliği esas alınarak hazırlanmıştır.

Tanımlaı

MADDE 4 - (1) Bu Yönergede geçen,

a) Burs: Öğrenim ücretine vapılan desteği.

FREE OF CHARGE SERVICES AT BAHÇEŞEHİR UNIVERSITY

Bahçeşehir University provides a comprehensive range of free services and facilities to enhance student welfare, academic performance, and personal development. These initiatives, available to all members of the university community, reflect the institution's commitment to inclusivity, accessibility, and the creation of an equitable learning environment that supports both well-being and academic excellence.

See below:

Free Medical and Emergency Services



The Medico-Social Directorate functions as an institutional health center offering free medical services to students, academic and administrative staff, retirees, and their dependents. The Directorate provides routine and emergency examinations, first aid, wound treatment, blood pressure monitoring, and general health consultations. In cases requiring further care, patients are referred to relevant healthcare institutions for specialized treatment, with laboratory and radiological analyses coordinated through the Directorate.

A free on-campus ambulance service ensures rapid response to medical emergencies, further strengthening the university's health infrastructure. The Directorate also organizes educational seminars and awareness campaigns aimed at promoting physical and mental well-being within the campus community.

https://bau.edu.tr/icerik/3508-mediko-sosyal-hizmetler-mudurlugu

https://akts.bau.edu.tr/bilgipaketi/index/icerik/id/22/menu_id/2_27/ln/tr

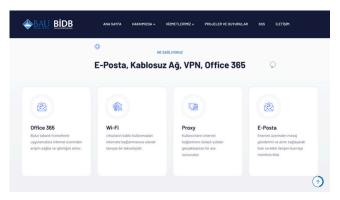
Free Psychological Counseling Services



The Psychological Counseling, Guidance and Research Center (PDRM) offers professional, confidential counseling services free of charge to Bahçeşehir University students. The Center operates in both the Beşiktaş and Kemerburgaz campuses, where qualified psychologists provide individual sessions in Turkish and English. Counseling focuses on academic, emotional, and social concerns such as stress management, adaptation to university life, family or relationship issues, and loss or trauma. Each session typically lasts between 45 and 50 minutes, and appointments are scheduled weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly depending on individual needs. All services comply with the ethical standards of the Turkish Psychological Association, ensuring complete confidentiality and professional care.

https://akts.bau.edu.tr/bilgipaketi/index/icerik/id/22/menu_id/2_27/ln/tr

Free High-Speed Internet Access



In order to strengthen its digital infrastructure, Bahçeşehir University has increased its campus-wide internet capacity to 15 Gbps, providing free, high-speed, and uninterrupted access to all students and staff. This enhancement enables a seamless digital experience that supports education, research, and innovation across all campuses. The University's robust connectivity framework ensures that every member of the academic community benefits from equal access to digital learning resources and global communication tools.

https://bidb.bau.edu.tr/



Free Access to Research and Innovation Laboratories





Bahçeşehir University offers free access to a wide range of advanced laboratories that support interdisciplinary research, innovation, and experiential learning. These facilities allow students to conduct scientific research, develop prototypes, and engage in technological experimentation as part of their education.

Among the key laboratories available to students are the Big Data Education and Research Center, Cyber Security Center, BAU-Stanford Robotics Laboratory, Machine Learning Research Laboratory, Quantum Technology Laboratory, Biomedical Prototype Testing Laboratory, Photonics and Nano-Optics Research Laboratory, VR and Eye-Tracking Laboratories, Maker and Robotics Laboratories (Code Camp), BUG Game Laboratory, Nutrition and Cell Culture Laboratories, and the Financial Research and Application Center (BFRC).

Through these facilities, Bahçeşehir University ensures equal access to research opportunities and encourages students to take part in cutting-edge technological and scientific advancement regardless of their financial background.

https://bau.edu.tr/content/16127-research-laboratories

https://bau.edu.tr/icerik/16975-laboratuvarlarimiz

The provision of free health, psychological, digital, and research services across Bahçeşehir University demonstrates the institution's dedication to equitable access to education and comprehensive student support. These efforts eliminate financial and social barriers, ensuring that all students can pursue their academic goals in a healthy, technologically advanced, and inclusive environment. This initiative contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by advancing universal access to essential student services and promoting equality within higher education.

ApplyBAU Scholarship



The ApplyBAU program, launched by Bahçeşehir University in 2013, represents Turkey's first and most innovative university admission and scholarship model. Rather than relying solely on exam-based evaluations, this model prioritizes students' individual talents, interests, and aspirations—creating an inclusive and holistic approach to higher education access. Through ApplyBAU, prospective students can apply for admission and scholarship opportunities based on their personal skills, creative projects, and social responsibility initiatives, rather than standardized test performance.

By allowing applicants to present autobiographies, project portfolios, and personal achievements, the system provides opportunities for students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds to access higher education. Through this approach, Bahçeşehir University enhances equal access to educational opportunities and supports young people facing economic barriers to higher learning. Each application is carefully evaluated by faculty committees, which may include interviews or project-based assessments to better understand students' potential beyond academic grades.

In the 2022–2023 academic year, a total of 1,281 students received ApplyBAU scholarships, with an average scholarship rate of 40%. Among these students, 324 were awarded scholarships covering 50% or more of tuition fees, while 12 students were granted full (100%) scholarships. The total value of financial support provided through ApplyBAU that year reached \$258,262,314.

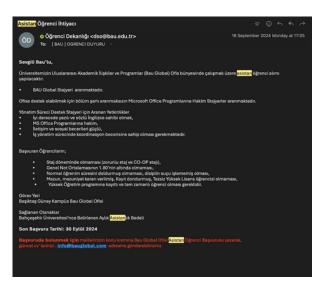
In the following 2023–2024 academic year, 998 students were awarded ApplyBAU scholarships, with an average scholarship rate of 37%. Of these, 199 students received scholarships covering 50% or more, and 13 students enrolled with full scholarships, amounting to a total of £492,730,411 in financial assistance. These figures demonstrate Bahçeşehir University's strong and sustained investment in ensuring that economic barriers do not hinder access to quality education.

Furthermore, the ApplyBAU selection criteria explicitly reject all forms of discrimination, ensuring a transparent and equitable evaluation process. By recognizing students' diverse strengths and providing scholarships independent of economic or social constraints, Bahçeşehir University empowers individuals to overcome poverty-related barriers through education. The program also plays a crucial role in promoting equal opportunities for women, particularly in STEM fields where they are underrepresented, thereby contributing to a more inclusive academic environment.

Since its establishment, the ApplyBAU model has become a cornerstone of Bahçeşehir University's mission to identify potential, cultivate individual growth, and make quality education accessible to all. By combining financial support with talent-based admissions, the University transforms higher education into a tool for empowerment, opportunity, and social mobility.

https://applybau.com/

Empowering Students through On-Campus Assistantship Opportunities

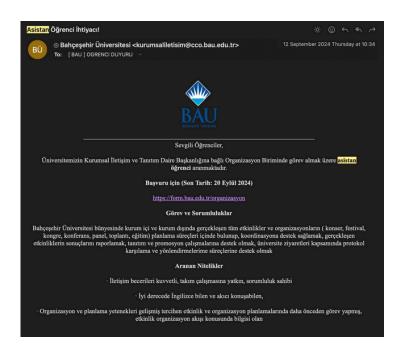


Bahçeşehir University provides valuable on-campus assistantship opportunities that enable undergraduate students to gain professional experience while receiving financial support. These positions are regularly announced through university-wide emails, ensuring equal access for all eligible students. Selected assistants are placed in various academic and administrative departments according to institutional needs, where they contribute to the daily operations and ongoing projects of the University.

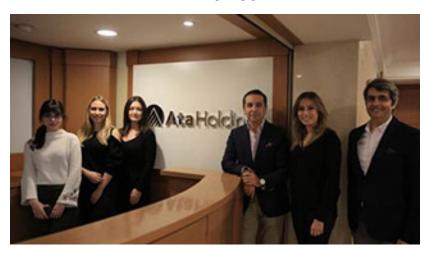
By offering paid part-time positions of up to 60 hours per month, Bahçeşehir University empowers its students to build financial independence and professional readiness while continuing their education. The compensation is determined by the University's guidelines and adjusted according to the total working hours. This initiative not only supports students facing economic constraints but also provides a structured environment for developing workplace competencies such as communication, organization, and teamwork.

Each student's schedule is arranged in harmony with their academic timetable, ensuring that participation in the assistantship program does not interfere with coursework or exams. Through this approach, the University promotes economic inclusion and social empowerment by helping students cover their educational expenses and reduce the financial burdens that may limit their learning experience.

Furthermore, these assistantship roles foster a sense of belonging and institutional engagement by allowing students to actively contribute to their university community. By combining educational opportunity with financial support, Bahçeşehir University reinforces its mission to create equitable pathways for students to thrive both academically and economically. This initiative also contributes to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by integrating learning with earning opportunities and strengthening students' transition from education to employment.



CO-OP Internship Opportunities



Bahçeşehir University's CO-OP Education Model, launched in 2008, bridges higher education with the professional world by placing students directly in partner institutions for extended internship experiences. Coordinated by the CO-OP & Career Center, the program provides a structured pathway for students—particularly those in their third and fourth years—to gain hands-on experience in real business environments while continuing their academic studies. Through its strong network of partner companies, both national and international, the Center regularly sends internship announcements via email, ensuring that all students have equal access to available opportunities.

By integrating work experience into the curriculum, Bahçeşehir University enables students to strengthen their professional skills and enhance their long-term employability, supporting economic empowerment through education. CO-OP students participate in internships lasting from three to nine months, depending on mutual agreement with the hosting company. Throughout this process, the University maintains close coordination with Human Resources departments, facilitating interviews, mentoring, and the official placement of students. Insurance coverage and administrative support are provided by the University, ensuring equitable and safe participation for all.

Through these internship placements, Bahçeşehir University fosters inclusive access to career opportunities, especially for students who might otherwise face barriers in entering the labor market. Continuous feedback and workplace evaluations guarantee that both students and employers benefit from meaningful, high-quality learning experiences. Even during challenging periods—such as the COVID-19 pandemic—the University adapted the model to include online and hybrid internships, allowing students to maintain professional engagement while ensuring their health and safety. Research conducted among 102 students and 76 partner firms demonstrated that both sides viewed online internships as highly productive and valuable for professional growth, leading to increased interest in hybrid work and internship models in the future.

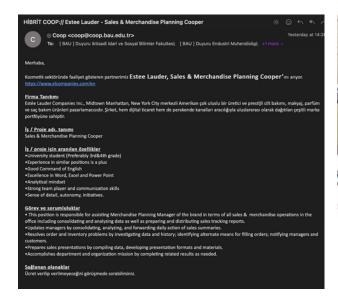
In addition to internships, the CO-OP Career Management Programs, such as Business Camp and Career Camp, offer workshops, interview simulations, entrepreneurship seminars, and networking sessions with industry professionals. These programs help students identify suitable career paths, develop essential workplace skills, and transition smoothly from university to employment.

Through its CO-OP Education Model, Bahçeşehir University directly contributes to breaking the cycle of economic disadvantage by providing students with early work experience, professional networks, and income-generating opportunities. The program reflects the University's strong commitment to inclusive development and to equipping every student with the competencies needed for sustainable employment and social mobility.

This initiative contributes to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 1 (No Poverty) by integrating experiential learning with academic training, promoting equitable access to internships, and empowering youth to participate in productive and meaningful work.

https://coop.bau.edu.tr/partnerlerimiz/

https://coop.bau.edu.tr/





Bahçeşehir University Disability Support Unit



Bahçeşehir University has established the Disability Support Unit to promote equitable access to education for students with disabilities and to ensure that all individuals can fully participate in academic and social life without discrimination. The unit operates under the regulations of the Higher Education Institutions Disability Advisory and Coordination Directive (Official Gazette No. 27672, dated 14 August 2010) and aims to identify and eliminate barriers to education, participation, and inclusion.

The Disability Support Unit consists of academic and administrative members appointed by the University Administrative Board and functions under the supervision of a vice-rector. Its primary mission is to assess the academic, physical, psychological, and social needs of students with disabilities and to recommend measures that enhance accessibility in all university spaces. It also develops informational materials, provides individual guidance, and coordinates efforts across departments to ensure that university services and facilities are inclusive.

Through these actions, Bahçeşehir University reaffirms its strong commitment to creating an inclusive academic environment that guarantees equal access and opportunities for all students, regardless of disability status. This effort reflects the university's dedication to promoting equality within education systems and reducing structural and social disparities.

The unit's responsibilities include preparing accessible information materials, developing a database for students with disabilities, organizing seminars and awareness events, and ensuring that assessment and evaluation systems are fair and accommodating. It also provides recommendations to improve the university's physical and digital infrastructure, ensuring that all academic and administrative activities are accessible. Furthermore, the unit works to facilitate access to assistive devices for students facing financial hardship and advocates for their rights and needs within the university community.

By focusing on inclusive education practices and ensuring full participation of persons with disabilities in higher education, Bahçeşehir University actively contributes to creating a fairer, more accessible society—one that values diversity and removes barriers to equal participation. This initiative also supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) by ensuring inclusive and equitable learning environments, SDG 5 (Gender Equality) by addressing intersectional challenges faced by students with disabilities—particularly women and girls—and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by fostering fairness, transparency, and equal access within institutional governance and practices.

BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ ENGELLİ ÖĞRENCİ BİRİMİ YÖNERGESİ

BİRİNCİ BÖLÜM

Amaç, Kapsam, Dayanak, Tanımlar ve Kuruluş

Amaç

MADDE 1 – (1) Bu Yönergenin amacı, Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi'nde öğrenim gören engelli öğrencilerin öğrenim hayatlarını kolaylaştırmak ve bu kapsamda gerekli tedbirleri almak amacıyla Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi bünyesinde kurulan Engelli Öğrenci Birimi'nin çalışmalarına ilişkin usul ve esasları düzenlemektir.

Kapsam

MADDE 2 – (1) Bu Yönerge, Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi'nde öğrenim gören engelli öğrencilerin öğrenim hayatlarını kolaylaştırmak ve bu kapsamda gerekli tedbirleri almak amacıyla Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi bünyesinde kurulan Engelli Öğrenci Birimi'nin çalışmalarına ilişkin usul ve esasları kapsamaktadır.

To strengthen its accessibility framework, Bahçeşehir University has implemented a comprehensive set of measures to ensure that all students, staff members, and visitors—regardless of physical, sensory, or cognitive differences—can fully participate in campus life. Inclusive design principles are integrated into the university's physical and digital infrastructure, ensuring that classrooms, laboratories, and common areas are accessible to everyone.

For students with <u>hearing impairments</u>, instructors provide an inclusive learning environment by ensuring clear visual communication, such as speaking at a visible pace for lip-reading students and minimizing background noise during lectures.

For students with <u>physical disabilities</u>, examination spaces and classrooms are carefully arranged to accommodate wheelchair mobility and comfort. When necessary, assessments are administered under the supervision of the Disability Support Unit to ensure equitable conditions. Additional time and ergonomic seating arrangements are also provided to support students' participation in learning activities.

For students with <u>writing-related or motor coordination difficulties</u>, assistive technology and computer-based examinations are made available. These students may use laptops during lectures, and when needed, written course materials and notes are provided to ensure continuity of learning.

For students with <u>speech impairments</u>, the university adopts flexible assessment methods, allowing alternative forms of expression such as visual or written presentations. These adjustments are determined collaboratively between the student and the instructor to preserve both fairness and comfort.

For students with <u>learning differences</u> such as dyslexia, attention deficit, or hyperactivity, examinations are conducted under supportive conditions, often with extended time and individualized settings. Faculty members are informed about appropriate accommodations and encouraged to adopt compassionate evaluation methods that sustain student motivation and inclusion.

For students with <u>visual impairments</u>, enlarged print materials, assistive technologies, and additional time are provided for examinations. Instructors or trained assistants—sometimes volunteers from the Disability Support Unit—offer guidance and support when required. Seating arrangements are adjusted to ensure optimal visibility and engagement during classes.

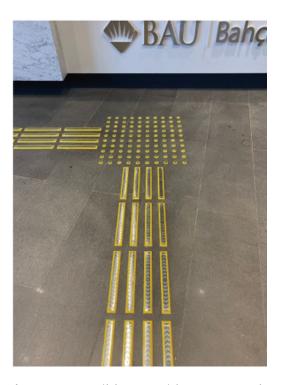
Through these tailored measures, Bahçeşehir University ensures that every learner receives equitable academic support and that diverse learning needs are met with empathy, respect, and institutional care. The university's inclusive approach reinforces its commitment to reducing disparities and building an accessible educational environment for all.

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An induction loop system designed to enhance sound accessibility for individuals with hearing impairments.



An accessible guidance path designed to support individuals with visual impairments

Accessible University Flag and Program Emblem Awards 2024



	DİŞ HEKİMLİĞİ FAKÜLTESİ KAMPÜSÜ	
ANKARA ÜNİVERSİTESİ	VETERINER FAKÜLTESI	
	ECZACILIK FAKÜLTESİ	
AYDIN ADNAN MENDERES	RECEP TAYYİP ERDOĞAN ENGELLİ DOSTU KÜTÜPHANESİ	
ÜNİVERSİTESİ	TIP FAKÜLTESİ	
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ	DİŞ HEKİMLİĞİ FAKÜLTESİ	
BANÇEŞENIK ÜNIVEKSITESI	HUKUK FAKÜLTESİ	
BANDIRMA ONYEDİ EYLÜL	İKTİSADİ VE İDARİ BİLİMLER FAKÜLTESİ,İNSAN VE TOPLUM BİLİMLERİ	
ÜNİVERSİTESİ	FAKÜLTESI,ÖMER SEYFETTİN UYGULAMALI BİLİMLER FAKÜLTESİ	
	BARTIN ORMAN FAKÜLTESİ	
BARTIN ÜNİVERSİTESİ	YABANCI DİLLER YÜKSEKOKULU	
	SPOR BİLİMLERİ FAKÜLTESİ	

Bahçeşehir University has once again demonstrated its strong institutional commitment to accessibility and equal opportunity by being recognized at the 2024 Accessible University Flag and Program Emblem Awards organized by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). Among 1,709 applications submitted by 112 universities, 76 institutions received a total of 319 awards in three categories: Orange Flag for Physical Accessibility, Green Flag for Educational Accessibility, and Blue Flag for Accessibility in Socio-Cultural Activities. Additionally, the Accessible Program Emblem was presented to university programs that ensure access for diverse disability groups.

In this prestigious national evaluation, Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Dentistry and Faculty of Law received the Orange Flag for Physical Accessibility, recognizing their compliance with national and international accessibility standards across open, semi-open, and enclosed areas. This acknowledgment highlights Bahçeşehir University's ongoing efforts to eliminate physical barriers and to ensure that all students—regardless of disability—can participate equally in academic and social life.

Through its continued investments in inclusive infrastructure and policy development, Bahçeşehir University strengthens its role as an institution that promotes equality, accessibility, and fairness. These initiatives not only remove structural barriers but also foster a culture of respect, participation, and shared belonging across the university community.

This recognition also supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) by ensuring inclusive and equitable learning environments and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by embedding fairness, accountability, and equality into institutional practices.

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https://api.yokak.gov.tr/Storage/bahcesehir/2024/ProofFiles/[3](4)B.3.4-Engelsiz-Universite_Odulleri_BAU_Hazirlik_Okulu.pdf

Articles Published by BAU Scholars Supporting SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Article: "Refugee Entrepreneurs: Typologies of Emancipation and Impact" (November 2024)



Published in the International Small Business Journal (SSCI, Q1), the article "Refugee Entrepreneurs: Typologies of Emancipation and Impact", co-authored by BAU academics Dr. Çağla Yavuz Özgören, explores the transformative and emancipatory potential of refugee entrepreneurship in promoting sustainable economic and social development. The study presents refugee entrepreneurs not merely as economic participants, but as active change agents who contribute to innovation, job creation, and inclusive economic growth.

By examining how entrepreneurial activities foster self-sufficiency, empowerment, and social mobility among refugees, the article advances SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through its focus on entrepreneurship-driven development. Simultaneously, it contributes to SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by addressing social and economic inclusion, reducing disparities faced by displaced populations, and showcasing how equitable participation in economic life can drive more resilient and inclusive societies.

Article: "Education System Resilience in the Face of Inflationary Pressures" (2024)



Published in the Journal of Infrastructure, Policy and Development, the article "Education System Resilience in the Face of Inflationary Pressures" by BAU academic Çiğdem Yurtseven examines strategies to strengthen the resilience of education systems amid economic instability. The study emphasizes the importance of increasing teachers' salaries and improving working conditions to attract and retain qualified educators, thereby ensuring long-term educational quality and sustainability.

By focusing on fair compensation and workforce development, the article contributes to SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through promoting equitable employment practices within the education sector. At the same time, by addressing disparities that undermine access to quality education during economic crises, it supports SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). Overall, the research reinforces SDG 4 (Quality Education) by linking financial stability in the education workforce to the broader goal of providing inclusive, equitable, and high-quality learning opportunities for all.

Article: "Employment Situation of Trans People in the Context of the Southern European Welfare Regime: The Case of Turkey" (2024)



This study investigates the employment conditions of trans individuals in Turkey within the framework of the Southern European welfare model, highlighting the structural and social barriers that hinder equal participation in the labor market. By analyzing available data and prior research, the article demonstrates the persistent employment gap faced by trans women and men across both public and private sectors, emphasizing the impact of workplace discrimination, limited legal protection, and gendered norms.

The research contributes to SDG 5 (Gender Equality) by exposing systemic inequalities based on gender identity and calling for inclusive labor policies. It aligns with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through its focus on promoting fair employment and safe workplaces for all individuals. Furthermore, by addressing socio-economic exclusion and advocating for stronger institutional protections, the article supports SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), advancing equal access to economic opportunities and participation in society.

Article: "The Impact of Unemployment on Health Status: The Case of Turkey" (2024)

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This research investigates the relationship between unemployment and health outcomes in Turkey using household panel data from 2013 to 2016. Contrary to conventional expectations, the study reveals that unemployed individuals report, on average, better self-assessed health conditions than those employed. It further examines how health status evolves over time, showing that the transition from good to poor health occurs more slowly among unemployed individuals, suggesting complex social and behavioral dynamics behind well-being.

By controlling for key demographic and socioeconomic factors such as age, gender, education, income, marital status, and household composition, the study offers a nuanced understanding of how economic conditions interact with public health. Its findings contribute to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by informing policies that enhance well-being through access to care and health equity, while also supporting SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by emphasizing the need for inclusive social and income-support systems that mitigate health disparities among vulnerable groups.

Article: "Socioeconomic, Migration, and Political Upheaval Factors in Crime: Applying the Social Disorganization Theory in Turkey" (2024)



This review analyzes the socioeconomic, migratory, and political dynamics influencing crime trends in Turkey through the lens of social disorganization theory. By synthesizing decades of research, the study examines how economic instability, migration patterns, and political turbulence can weaken neighborhood cohesion, strain social networks, and shape the distribution of crime across regions. It highlights the connection between employment opportunities, social inequality, and perceptions of safety, providing an integrated understanding of how structural and institutional factors affect community well-being.

The findings contribute to SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by offering policy-relevant insights for strengthening social resilience, public trust, and community safety. At the same time, by addressing how economic and social disparities contribute to patterns of crime and exclusion, the study supports SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)—advancing the goal of building more inclusive, equitable, and secure societies.

BAU Events and Initiatives Supporting SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Seminar: "Republic and Women With Documents (1929/1939–2007/2017)" - A Historical Perspective on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (7 May 2024)



Organized by Bahçeşehir University TOSAM (Center for Health, Society, Behavior, and Prevention Studies) in collaboration with the BAU Women's Rights Club, this seminar offered a historical exploration of women's rights and gender equality in the Republic of Türkiye. Moderated by Prof. Nilüfer Narlı, the event featured Attorney Vildan Yirmibeşoğlu, co-author of Republic and Women with Documents (1929/1939–2007/2017), who provided insights into the legal and social evolution of women's status through archival research and documented reforms.

The discussion shed light on women's participation in public life, their contributions to national modernization, and the ongoing challenges in achieving full equality. By connecting the historical trajectory of women's rights with contemporary gender policies, the event fostered critical awareness and reflection among students and academics.

Through its focus on women's empowerment and civic participation, the seminar advanced SDG 5 by promoting gender equality and women's leadership, SDG 10 by addressing social and legal disparities, and SDG 16 by emphasizing the role of inclusive institutions and historical accountability in achieving sustainable and equitable development.

The 104th Commemoration of the First Turkish Women's Rally Against the Occupation of Anatolia (10 December 2023)



Marking the 104th anniversary of the First Turkish Women's Rally Against the Occupation of Anatolia (1919), a commemorative ceremony was held at the Üsküdar Bağlarbaşı Congress and Culture Center. The event brought together scholars, students, and members of the public to honor the women who took a historic stand for independence and equality during the national struggle. Prof. Nilüfer Narlı, Founding Director of TOSAM, represented Bahçeşehir University at the ceremony, emphasizing the enduring legacy of women's civic engagement and leadership. The commemoration revisited one of the earliest examples of organized women's activism in Turkish history, highlighting its continuing relevance for today's efforts toward gender equality, social justice, and inclusive governance. By celebrating the courage and agency of women who shaped the nation's democratic foundations, the event reinforced SDG 5 through the promotion of women's empowerment, SDG 10 by acknowledging the fight against social exclusion, and SDG 16 by linking women's civic participation to peace, justice, and strong institutions.

Panel: "War and Women: Examining Human Rights Violations in the Syrian Civil War" (24

December 2024)









Held at Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Law and jointly organized by BAU TOSAM (Center for Health, Society, Behavior, and Prevention Studies) and ULMER-HLO (Human Rights and Law Organization), this panel examined the gendered dimensions of human rights violations during the Syrian Civil War. Moderated by Prof. Dr. Esra Albayrakoğlu, the event convened experts, academics, and practitioners to discuss the systemic effects of war on women's rights and wellbeing.

Prof. Dr. Nilüfer Narlı presented an analysis of human rights violations against women during forced displacement, exploring the physical, psychological, and social impacts of armed conflict. Hayrunnisa Çiçek complemented this perspective with insights drawn from field research, shedding light on issues such as sexual violence, forced migration, and the long-term social marginalization of affected women.

By fostering an evidence-based dialogue on protection, justice, and empowerment, the panel directly contributed to SDG 5 by advocating for women's rights and equality in conflict settings, SDG 10 by addressing the vulnerabilities and disparities faced by displaced populations, and SDG 16 by promoting human rights, accountability, and peacebuilding efforts through interdisciplinary collaboration and policy engagement.

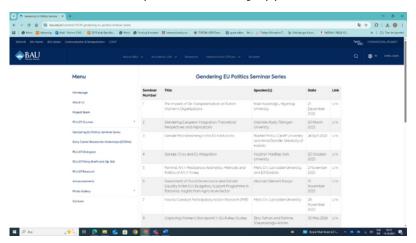
FEJUST Guest Lectures and Open Access Materials (2023-2024)



As part of the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University organized a series of hybrid public lectures and online seminars under the title Gendering EU Politics during the 2023–2024 academic year. The initiative created a platform for critical discussions on gender and European integration, exploring how EU policymaking intersects with issues of equality, representation, and inclusion. The lectures were open to both BAU students and the general public, enabling broad participation through Zoom and YouTube Live. By ensuring free and open access to these academic discussions, Bahçeşehir University has reaffirmed its commitment to SDG 5 by promoting gender-sensitive knowledge production and expanding educational access to diverse audiences.

Additionally, lecture notes from the FEJUST undergraduate courses Gender Politics in the EU and Gender in International Development were made publicly available as open-access materials on the FEJUST website. This approach democratized education and empowered individuals outside academia to engage with feminist and equality-focused perspectives in international relations.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by fostering feminist scholarship and ensuring women's and gender perspectives are integrated into academic and policy discourse. It also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by promoting accessible, inclusive, and equitable learning opportunities.



FEJUST Training Programme on Gender, Justice and Policy (2023)



Within the framework of the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University launched the FEJUST Training Programme on Gender, Justice and Policy in 2023. The programme included certificate courses such as Gender in International Development, Gender in EU Politics (undergraduate level), Gender and Development, and Gender Politics in the EU Politics (postgraduate level), conducted between October 2022 and July 2025. These free and accessible courses were open to both university students and external participants, providing certificates co-funded by the European Union.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University has strengthened its dedication to SDG 5 by advancing gender equality in education, promoting feminist perspectives in policymaking, and supporting women's participation in academic and policy-oriented fields. The training programme encouraged students to critically analyze gender dynamics within international and European political systems, fostering awareness of social justice and inclusive governance.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by empowering individuals with gender-sensitive knowledge and policy tools. It also supports SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its focus on inclusive education, equity, and institutional accountability.

Seminar: "A Discussion on Gender in the Turkish Context" (06.12.2023)



As part of Prof. Nilüfer Narlı's Seminar Course, Assistant Professor Elif Gezgin led an interactive session titled "A Discussion on Gender in the Turkish Context." The seminar provided Bahçeşehir University students with a dynamic space to explore gender-related issues in contemporary Turkish society, addressing the cultural, social, and institutional factors that shape gender roles and equality.

Through participatory dialogue and critical engagement, the session encouraged students to reflect on the representation of women, persistent inequalities, and the role of academia in shaping inclusive and equitable communities. By combining theoretical knowledge with experiential learning, Bahçeşehir University promoted awareness, empathy, and civic responsibility among students—essential skills for building fair and inclusive societies.

Through its emphasis on open dialogue and experiential learning, the seminar contributed to the development of students' analytical and civic competencies essential for inclusive social transformation. This initiative directly supports SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting gender sensitivity and empowerment in education. It also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, by fostering inclusive learning environments and encouraging respect

for diversity in society.



Participatory Action Research and Training with SDG5 Network (2023–2025)

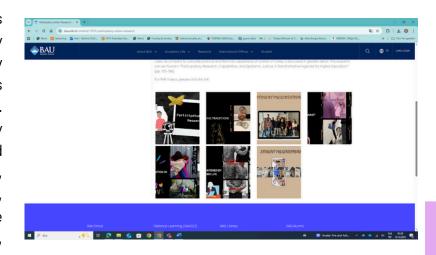




Carried out in partnership with the SDG5 Network, this ongoing initiative focuses on participatory research and training activities addressing gender equality and women's empowerment. The project integrates academic expertise with community engagement, emphasizing collaborative learning and co-created knowledge to tackle gender-based disparities in social, educational, and professional contexts.

Through workshops, training sessions, and joint research studies, participants explore strategies to promote inclusive governance, leadership, and advocacy for gender justice. The initiative also supports capacity-building for young researchers and practitioners, encouraging them to design policies and interventions that advance equal opportunities for all genders. By combining theory, practice, and participation, Bahçeşehir University contributes to building sustainable frameworks for gender-sensitive policy development and social transformation.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting participatory women's approaches to empowerment and gender justice. It also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, through its focus on inclusive education, equitable participation, and collaborative policy innovation.



Public Engagement Activities (October 2023 – December 2024)

Between October 2023 and December 2024, Prof. Dr. Pınar Melis Yelsalı Parmaksız engaged in a series of invited talks, public discussions, and collaborative events with academic institutions and civil society organizations. These activities aimed to raise awareness and foster critical dialogue on gender, family policies, and the evolving roles of women in Turkish modernization. By making academic expertise accessible to broader audiences-including students, NGOs, and the general public-Bahçeşehir University strengthened its role in promoting inclusive and lifelong learning opportunities.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality through its focus on women's empowerment and inclusive participation, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by extending equitable learning beyond formal education.

Rights Association, Istanbul - 28 December 2024. (Invited Talk)

1- "Family Policies in the Republican Era", 2- "Women in Turkish Modernization", Turkish Feminist Buluşmalar, Women's Human Women's Union, Kayseri Branch, Kayseri -November 2024. (Invited Talk)





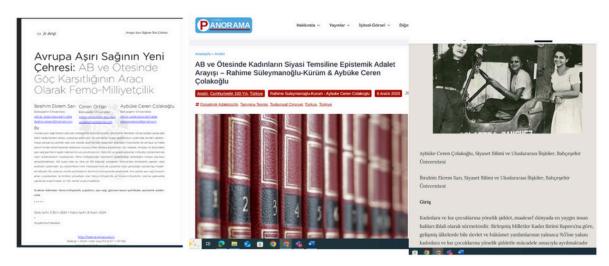
3- "Methods and Methodologies in Women's Studies in Turkey", KADEM Women's Studies Journal, Istanbul - 24 May 2024. (Invited Talk)



4- "Single Mothers in Turkey", Conference on the Art of Existence of Single Mothers, organized by the Single Mothers Association and BAUEQUAL, Bahçeşehir University - 21 March 2024. (Invited Talk)



FEJUST Mentorship and Research Support for Emerging Scholars (2023–2024)



Within the framework of the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Dr. Rahime Süleymanoğlu-Kürüm established mentoring and research-support mechanisms to enhance women's participation in academic publishing and EU studies. Undergraduate students Ceren Çolakoğlu and İbrahim Ekrem Sarı received close guidance in drafting policy papers, one later published in Academicus and another in Panorama Global Academy. This mentoring process enabled students to gain authorship experience and visibility in debates on gender and EU policy.

Female students were further encouraged to pursue master's theses on gender equality and civil-society engagement—such as Ala Khaled's research on EU support for women's NGOs and Sura Salmanlı's study on women's rights in Azerbaijan. Dr. Süleymanoğlu-Kürüm also led trainings within the SDG 5 Türkiye Network, where students collaborated with professionals, strengthening women's access to research, publication, and policymaking arenas.

Through the Feminist Eleştiri Journal special issue, undergraduate contributors—including İbrahim Ekrem Sarı, Ceren Orhan, and Ceren Çolakoğlu—were mentored throughout the writing and review process, marking their first academic publication experience. Collectively, these efforts reflect Bahçeşehir University's sustained commitment to fostering gender-responsive research culture and supporting young scholars in their professional growth.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by advancing women's participation and leadership in academic research, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities through its inclusive approach to mentorship and scholarly collaboration.

Academicus op-ed: https://tracademicus.wordpress.com/2024/07/17/kadinlara-ve-kiz-cocuklarina-yonelik-siddet-epistemik-adaletsizlik-ve-feminist-tarih-perspektifi/

Panorama: https://www.globalpanorama.org/2023/12/rsk/

FE Dergi article: https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/pub/federgi/article/1561695

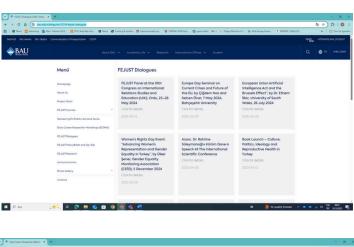
FEJUST Early Career Researcher Workshops and Dialogues (2023-2025)

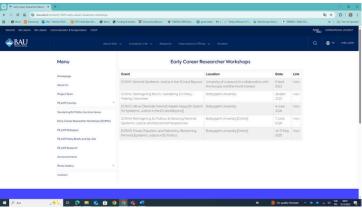
Under the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University launched a series of Early Career Researcher Workshops (ECRWs) and FEJUST Dialogues to strengthen gender equality and epistemic justice within EU studies. Organized in collaboration with the University of Liverpool's Europe and the World Centre, the ECRW series brought together emerging scholars from Turkey, the UK, and across Europe for mentoring, paper presentations, and structured academic feedback.

Each workshop served as an international capacity-building forum, where participants—many of them early-career women—received detailed guidance on research design, writing, and presentation. The FEJUST Dialogues extended this engagement to civil society through partnerships with organizations such as the Gender Equality Monitoring Association (CEİD), featuring events that marked Women's Rights Day and Europe Day.

Through these collaborative activities, Bahçeşehir University promoted inclusive knowledge production and cross-sectoral dialogue, helping embed feminist and participatory perspectives in both academic and policy contexts.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by empowering early-career women researchers and promoting inclusive research ecosystems. It also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, through its emphasis on equitable learning, diversity in academia, and international collaboration.





Promoting Equality and Inclusion through FEJUST Policy Briefs (2023-2024)



Under the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University integrated equality and anti-discrimination principles into its teaching, research, and outreach activities. Alongside inclusive course design and public events, FEJUST produced a series of EU co-funded policy briefs addressing the politics of gender, diversity, and representation.

The first brief, "When Youth Refuse Silence: Safe Spaces and the Politics of Voice," explored the creation of inclusive environments and the protection of vulnerable groups in academic and civic contexts. The second, "Beyond Brussels So White: Towards an EU of Epistemic Justice and Inclusive Diversity," examined racial and gender inclusivity gaps in EU policymaking. The third, "When 'Protecting Our Women' Harms Them: How Nationalist Masculinity is Remaking Europe," analyzed gender-based exclusion in political discourse.

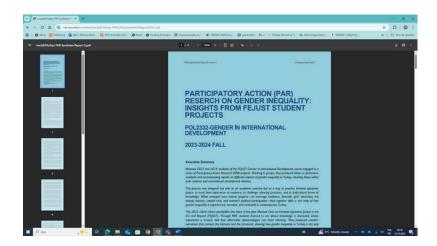
Through these open-access publications, Bahçeşehir University contributed to advancing the EU Gender Equality Strategy (2020–2025) and embedding inclusive, gender-aware perspectives into academic and policy discussions.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting feminist knowledge production and combating discrimination, and it also aligns with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its emphasis on inclusivity, justice, and international collaboration.





Embedding Equality through Participatory Research and FEJUST Policy Work (2023–2024)

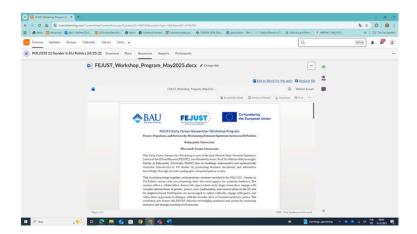


Under the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University integrated the principles of equality and anti-discrimination into both research design and publication processes. Students were trained in Participatory Action Research (PAR) methodologies—such as photovoice and video documentation—to capture lived experiences of gender, inclusion, and social justice.

The PAR Synthesis Reports (2023–2024), co-authored by Dr. Rahime Süleymanoğlu-Kürüm and her students, exemplify inclusive and non-hierarchical authorship by representing youth and women's perspectives equitably. Together with the FEJUST Policy Briefs on diversity and epistemic justice, these works demonstrate how Bahçeşehir University transforms equality principles into practice by giving visibility to marginalized voices within academic research and policy dialogue.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality through participatory and inclusive research practices, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions by fostering equity, representation, and democratic knowledge production.

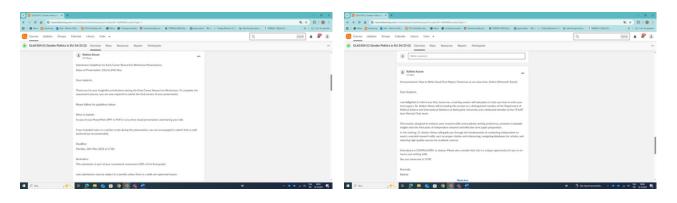
Mentoring Through FEJUST Teaching and Integrating Undergraduate and Postgraduate Students into Early Career Researcher Workshops (2023–2025)



Within the framework of the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University embedded mentoring into both teaching and research-development activities. In the undergraduate and postgraduate course Gender Politics in the EU, students followed a structured research and writing process resembling professional academic supervision. They developed individualized reading lists and two sequential term papers, receiving detailed feedback at each stage—from reading selection to final submission.

Students also presented their preliminary findings during the Early Career Researcher Workshop series, where they benefited from peer and expert commentary. This mentoring process enhanced research design, critical thinking, and academic writing competencies, while particularly supporting women students in pursuing independent research and postgraduate studies. Several mentees later published or presented their work in academic venues such as Academicus, Panorama Global Academy, and Feminist Eleştiri, illustrating the tangible outcomes of this mentoring model.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by strengthening women's participation and leadership in academic research, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities through its inclusive and supportive approach to higher education mentorship.



Conference: "Women's Perspective in Social Responsibility" (05.03.2024)





Held at Bahçeşehir University Fazıl Say Hall on March 5, 2024, the "Women's Perspective in Social Responsibility" conference brought together prominent women who have led impactful social responsibility projects in Türkiye. The event aimed to explore social responsibility through women's experiences and leadership, inspiring participants to engage in collective action for social good.

Through their discussions, speakers shared valuable insights on empathy, leadership, and community engagement, emphasizing how women's participation enhances the inclusivity and effectiveness of social initiatives. By creating a platform for dialogue between professionals, students, and the public, Bahçeşehir University fostered awareness and motivation toward building more equitable and compassionate communities.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting women's leadership and participation in social responsibility, and it also aligns with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its emphasis on collaboration and inclusive social impact.

Conference: "(Migrant) Women's Labor in the Age of Crises: Middle-Class Transformation and New Dynamics in Domestic Work" (17–18.10.2023)



Hosted at Bahçeşehir University Fazıl Say Conference Hall, this event explored the evolving role of migrant women's labor amid global crises and shifting class structures. With an opening keynote by Prof. Dr. Rhacel Salazar Parreñas, the conference examined how economic transformations and care economies reshape gendered and migrant labor relations, particularly in the domestic work sector.

Organized as the closing conference of the TÜBİTAK 1001 Project "Post-Pandemic Migration Experiences, Home-Work Dynamics, and Intra-Household Relations: The Case of Migrant Domestic Workers", the event brought together academics, researchers, and policymakers to discuss intersectional dimensions of gender, migration, and labor precarity. Through its focus on social justice and inclusivity, the conference highlighted the importance of recognizing women's contributions to both paid and unpaid economies.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by addressing the gendered impacts of migration and labor, and it also aligns with SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities through its emphasis on fair labor, equality, and social protection for women workers.

Understanding and Addressing Male Violence: Empowering Women on Campus – in Collaboration with Purple Roof Women's Shelter Foundation (28.05.2024)



Organized jointly by the Mor Çatı (Purple Roof) Women's Shelter Foundation, CIFAL Istanbul Youth Platform, and Bahçeşehir University Women's Rights Club, this event focused on identifying and addressing different forms of violence that young women encounter in social and academic settings. Through discussions and interactive exchanges, participants examined the structural roots of gender-based violence and explored strategies for prevention, empowerment, and solidarity.

By fostering awareness and open dialogue, Bahçeşehir University emphasized the importance of safe, inclusive, and equitable educational environments that empower women to participate fully in campus life. The initiative also reflected CIFAL Istanbul Youth Platform's dedication to advancing equality, combating discrimination, and engaging youth in gender-sensitive dialogue and action.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by addressing gender-based violence and promoting women's empowerment, and it also aligns with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities through its focus on inclusion, awareness, and equal opportunities within higher education.



Politics and Society Seminar Series: Bridging Justice and Gender – Analyzing Organizational Dynamics in Istanbul's Local Governance through Studying Up and Scorecard Analysis (15.11.2024)



Delivered by Bahçeşehir University alumna Melis Arıksoy, this seminar examined the intersection of gender justice and organizational structures in local governance. Drawing from practical insights, the discussion highlighted how data-driven approaches such as scorecard analysis can evaluate institutional performance and promote fairness, accountability, and inclusivity in municipal contexts.

By linking gender equality with transparent and participatory governance, Bahçeşehir University underscored the importance of education, dialogue, and research in strengthening institutions and fostering a culture of equality and justice.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting gender-sensitive governance and decision-making, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its emphasis on inclusive learning, equitable structures, and ethical public administration.

Women's Human Rights and Participatory Democracy (05.12.2024)



Held on the occasion of Women's Rights Day, this webinar titled "Women's Rights and Participatory Democracy" was co-organized by FEJUST, the Gender Equality Monitoring Association (CEİD), Bahçeşehir University's Political Science and International Relations Club, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University. The event examined the relationship between women's rights and democratic participation, emphasizing the importance of inclusion, representation, and civic engagement in advancing social justice.

Through expert discussions and participant interaction, the webinar fostered awareness of how strengthening women's voices in governance contributes to more equitable, participatory, and transparent decision-making processes.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting women's empowerment and active participation in political life, and it also aligns with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its collaborative approach to inclusive democracy and equality.

"Hear Me" Mosaic Concert (25.12.2024)



Organized by CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University, the "Hear Me" Mosaic Concert brought attention to the physical, psychological, and economic challenges faced by women, particularly in post-crisis contexts. The event aimed to raise awareness on gender equality and social inclusion while encouraging solidarity and community resilience through art and collective expression.

All proceeds from the concert were donated to the Hatay Hayat Cooperative to support women and children affected by the February 6 earthquakes in Hatay, reflecting the university's strong commitment to empathy-driven action and partnership-based social impact.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by supporting women's empowerment and recovery efforts, and it also aligns with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its emphasis on inclusivity, cooperation, and shared responsibility in times of crisis.



Single Mothers Conference (21.03.2024)

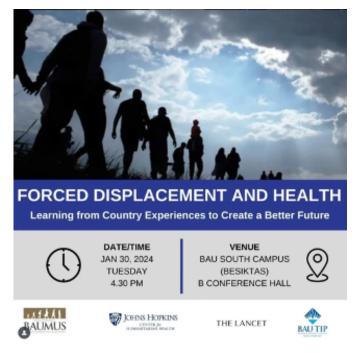


Organized in collaboration with the Single Mothers Association and supported by BAUEqual, this conference was held at Bahçeşehir University to shed light on the rising number of single mothers in Türkiye and across the world. The event explored their multifaceted experiences through discussions on legal rights, social perceptions, economic participation, and access to local government support systems. Experts and speakers from various fields shared insights into both national and global frameworks that shape the realities of single mothers.

By creating a space for dialogue and recognition, Bahçeşehir University emphasized the importance of inclusion, empowerment, and equal opportunities for women in all spheres of life. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by advancing women's social and economic empowerment, and it also aligns with SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its support for equitable participation and rights-based policy dialogue.

https://www.bekaranneler.org/tr/etkinlikler/etkinlik-1/

Forced Displacement and Health: Learning from Country Experiences to Create a Better Future (30.01.2024)



Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Medicine and BAUMUS, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University's Center for Humanitarian Health, organized an international panel titled "Forced Displacement and Health: Learning from Country Experiences to Create a Better Future." The event brought together experts and scholars to discuss the intersections of migration, health systems, and humanitarian response, highlighting best practices from around the world. By addressing the health challenges faced by displaced populations and promoting equitable access to essential healthcare services, the panel underscored the university's dedication to improving public health outcomes and supporting vulnerable communities. Through such global collaborations, Bahçeşehir University reinforces its commitment to advancing health equity, knowledge exchange, and capacity building in humanitarian contexts.



Istanbul Regional Meeting "Let's Not Overlook HIV/AIDS" (19.01.2024)

	ik Mikrobiyoloji uzma ite/smg ve bilimsel eti istanbul bölge toplantisi, i: HIV/AIDS Göz Ardı Eti	CÎNLÎKLERÎ 9 Ocak 2024 BAU TIP
	KAYIT	
	AÇILIŞ OTURUMI (12:30-13:00))
Apliş, kapsam ve amaçlar	Gülden ÇELİK	BAU Tıp Fakültesi Tıbbi Mikrobiyoloji Anabilim Dalı
Tıp Fakültesi Dekanı Konuşması	Türker KILIÇ	Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Tıp Fakültesi Dekanı
Klimud Yönetim Kurulu Üyesi	Nurver OLGER	Marmara Üniversitesi Tip Fakültesi Tibbi Mikroblyoloji Anabilim Dali
Mi	KROBİYOLOJİ UZMANLAR Oturum Başkanı: Dilek / (13:00-14:30)	
HIV-AIDS Tarihçe	Gülden ÇELİK	BAU Tıp Fakültesi Tıbbi Mikrobiyoloji Anabilim Dalı
HIV-AIDS Tans	Rabia CAN	BAU Tıp Fakültesi Tıbbi Mikrobiyoloji Anabilim Dalı
Yeni antiviraller ve antiviral dirençde güncel durum	Volkan KORTEN	Marmara Üniversitesi Tip Fakültesi Enfeksiyon Hastalıkları ve Klinik Mikrobiyoloji Anabilim Dalı
Kurumların 2021-2023 yılı verileri	Aysel KARATAŞ	Prof. Dr. Cemil Taşpoğlu Şehir Hastanesi Tıbbi Mikrobiyoloji Lab.
	Seyhan ÖRDEKÇİ	İstanbul SBÜ Mehmet Akif Ersoy Göğüs Kalp ve Damar Cerrahisi Eğitim ve Araştırma Hastanesi
	KAHVE MOLASI (14:30	-15:30)
	SİVİL TOPLUM ÖRGÜTLERİ Oturum Başkanı: Selma k (15:30-16:30)	
Sağlık çalışanlarının eğitiminde HIV/AIDS'in sosyal boyutu	Özge KARADAĞ	BAU Tıp Fakültesi Halk Sağlığı Anabilim Dalı
HIV bizi ne kadar ilgilendiriyor??	Çiğdem ŞİMŞEK	Pozitif-iz
Küresel HIV AIDS cevabında komünitenin önemi	Arda KARAPINAR	Kirmizi Kurdele
KLIMUD AİLI	E MECLÍSÍ, GENEL DEĞERL	ENDÍRME ve KAPANIŞ

In collaboration with the Clinical Microbiology Specialists Association (KLİMUD), Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Medicine hosted the Istanbul Regional Meeting titled "Let's Not Overlook HIV/AIDS" on January 19, 2024. The event brought together medical experts, academics, and civil society representatives to discuss current approaches to HIV/AIDS prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, as well as the social dimensions of the epidemic. Through fostering dialogue on public awareness, prevention strategies, and the importance of reducing stigma surrounding HIV, this initiative contributed to advancing community health and promoting equitable access to medical care. Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Medicine remains steadfast in its commitment to strengthening medical education and research aimed at protecting public health and improving the well-being of all individuals.

"After the Earthquake" Symposium: Understanding the Psychological Impact of Disaster (9-

10.02.2024)



On February 9–10, Bahçeşehir University hosted the symposium "After the Earthquake," marking the first anniversary of the February 6 disaster. Experts from the fields of psychology and mental health came together to explore the emotional and psychological effects of large-scale trauma and to discuss the responsibilities of mental health professionals in post-disaster recovery. By focusing on collective resilience, coping mechanisms, and trauma-informed care, the event highlighted the essential role of mental health support in rebuilding communities and fostering long-term well-being after a crisis. Organized by the undergraduate and graduate psychology programs, the symposium created a meaningful space for dialogue, empathy, and professional growth within the Bahçeşehir University community.

BAU Bi'Soluk Student Club: Monthly Solidarity Activities with "Çorbada Tuzun Olsun" Association (2024–2025)



The BAU Bi'Soluk Student Club, in collaboration with the BAU Gastronomy Club and the "Çorbada Tuzun Olsun" Association, continues its regular monthly social responsibility activities throughout the 2024–2025 academic year. These volunteer-based efforts aim to support individuals facing poverty and homelessness, foster empathy, and strengthen community solidarity among students.

By promoting compassion, active citizenship, and inclusivity, Bahçeşehir University encourages its students to take an active role in addressing social inequalities. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 1: No Poverty by supporting vulnerable groups, and it also aligns with SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its emphasis on equitable participation, solidarity, and collaborative community action.

Seminar: "Healthy Individuals, Healthy Future: HIV Awareness" (04.12.2024)



Hosted by Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Nursing, this seminar titled "Healthy Individuals, Healthy Future: HIV Awareness" was delivered by Lecturer Handan Eriten Tilaver at the South Campus. The event aimed to raise awareness about HIV prevention, testing, and treatment, emphasizing the importance of public health education and the reduction of social stigma surrounding HIV.

By promoting accurate information and inclusive dialogue on health and equality, Bahçeşehir University highlighted the critical link between education, awareness, and well-being. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality through its focus on equitable access to health knowledge and empowerment, and it also aligns with SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by fostering awareness, reducing prejudice, and promoting inclusive health education.

Human Rights Day Seminar – Inequalities and the Right to Work (18.12.2024)



Organized in observance of Human Rights Day, this seminar explored structural inequalities in modern societies through two key themes: children's rights and the right to work. Av. Çağla Gül Bulut from the Istanbul Bar Association's Child Rights Center discussed legal and social mechanisms for protecting children's welfare, while FMV Işık Schools philosophy teacher Serhat Durup examined labor rights and human dignity in consumer-driven economies.

By fostering dialogue on justice, equal opportunity, and human rights, Bahçeşehir University encouraged critical reflection on the systemic causes of inequality and the importance of inclusive social policies. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by promoting awareness, legal literacy, and social responsibility in addressing disparities affecting both children and working individuals.

After the February 6 Earthquakes Conference: The Psychological and Social Impacts of

Disaster (27.11.2024)



Held in collaboration with UNICEF and the Association for Trauma and Disaster Mental Health Studies (TARDE), this scientific event at Bahçeşehir University focused on examining the long-term social and psychological effects of the February 6 earthquakes. The conference presented findings from a comprehensive social impact analysis, highlighting the effectiveness and outcomes of psychosocial support activities conducted over the past year and a half. Discussions centered on ongoing mental health needs, social inequalities in disaster response, and community-based strategies to strengthen resilience and recovery.

The event brought together Bahçeşehir University faculty members and students, TARDE field researchers, UNICEF representatives, and professionals from public institutions and NGOs working in the field. This interdisciplinary exchange of knowledge and experience fostered inclusive collaboration between academic, humanitarian, and institutional actors, emphasizing the importance of equality in post-disaster recovery. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by addressing social disparities in access to psychological and social support, amplifying the needs of vulnerable populations, and promoting inclusive, equitable, and sustainable recovery efforts.





Empowering Future Generations: Darüşşafaka High School Students Career Development Programme – Collaboration Between Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul–UNITAR, CO-OP, and Darüşşafaka Society (02.09–25.11.2024)



Originally launched in 2023, the program continued in 2024. The High School Students Career Development Programme has been led by Bahçeşehir University as a part of its CO-OP Responsibility initiative. The programme embodies Bahçeşehir University's commitment to ensuring equal opportunities in education and expanding access to quality learning experiences beyond the university campus.

Through interactive sessions such as "Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation," "Sustainability and the Future of Work," "Technology and Creativity," and "Cybersecurity and Digital Ethics," participants explored how innovation, ethics, and environmental responsibility shape modern professions. The program encouraged students to use technology as a means to create positive social and environmental impact, rather than merely as a career instrument.

By integrating personal development with global awareness, the initiative fostered the values of sustainability, inclusion, and lifelong learning, exemplifying the power of multi-stakeholder collaboration in education. Through this partnership between academia, international organizations, and a leading educational foundation, the program advanced SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), and SDG 13 (Climate Action)—while embodying SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through its collective commitment to empowering future generations.

Sample Certificate of Participation of the Programme



Highlights from the Programme



TÜBİTAK Project: Analysis of Post-Invasion Migration from Ukraine to Türkiye and the Integration Processes of Migrants



Bahçeşehir University reinforces its academic commitment to equality and social inclusion through research that examines migration, displacement, and integration in the context of global crises. Supported by TÜBİTAK, the project titled "İşgal Sonrası Ukrayna'dan Türkiye'ye Göç Hareketleri ve Göçmenlerin Uyum Süreçleri Üzerine Analiz" (Analysis of Post-Invasion Migration from Ukraine to Türkiye and the Integration Processes of Migrants) is led by Dr. Ahmet Ceylan, with Prof. Dr. Ulaş Sunata from the BAU Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences serving as the project advisor. The project has been allocated a budget of 90,000 TL for a 15-month research period.

Centered on the experiences of Ukrainian migrants and their adaptation processes in Türkiye, the research provides an in-depth analysis of the challenges faced by displaced individuals, including access to housing, employment, education, and community participation. By addressing the social and economic inequalities that emerge in post-migration contexts, the project contributes to the creation of fairer and more inclusive societies. It emphasizes the importance of equitable policies that prevent discrimination, reduce vulnerability, and promote the full participation of migrants in host communities.

Through a multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach, the study generates insights that support inclusive migration governance and help strengthen institutional responses to mobility and integration. In doing so, Bahçeşehir University reaffirms its commitment to advancing equality, reducing disparities within and across societies, and ensuring that every individual—regardless of origin or status—can access the rights and opportunities necessary to live with dignity.

