



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.

Governance Model and Administrative Structure of Bahçeşehir University

Bahçeşehir University (BAU), operating under the provisions of the **Higher Education Law No. 2547**, has adopted a governance model grounded in the principle of **institutional sustainability.**This model ensures transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness in all decision-making processes, aligning institutional management with national regulations and global best practices in higher education governance.

In accordance with its **Main Regulation**, BAU's governance structure consists of the Board of Trustees, Rectorate, University Senate, University Executive Board, academic units (Faculties, Graduate School, Vocational Schools, Conservatory), Research and Application Centers, and administrative departments including the General Secretariat, Directorates, and Offices. The organizational structure is reviewed regularly, updated as institutional needs evolve, and published on the university's official website to ensure public transparency and accessibility.

To strengthen participatory governance, the **University Senate** at BAU is composed not only of academic representatives (faculty deans, institute directors, and elected faculty members) but also includes **elected representatives from undergraduate and graduate students as well as non-academic staff.** This inclusive structure ensures that university-wide decisions reflect the perspectives, needs, and rights of all community members, fostering a culture of shared responsibility and institutional dialogue.

The Board of Trustees plays a central role in sustaining institutional quality standards and long-term strategic development. It collaborates closely with the Rectorate in planning, monitoring, and evaluating the university's strategic goals, while maintaining open channels of communication with academic and administrative leaders through regular meetings.

A distinctive feature of BAU's governance model is the **Deans' Council**, which brings together faculty deans and the Dean of Students to enhance interdepartmental coordination and institutional synergy. Chaired by the Rector, the Council meets regularly to discuss key topics such as quality assurance, accreditation, and digital transformation—promoting agile, transparent, and evidence-based decision-making across the institution.

In 2024, BAU updated its **Quality Assurance** Directive to further enhance stakeholder participation in decision-making processes. The appointment of new **Rector's Advisors** in areas such as international relations and university-industry collaboration and social impact has also reinforced the strategic and operational capacity of the governance model.

BAU's commitment to transparent, ethical, and inclusive governance is further demonstrated through its collaboration with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) via CIFAL Istanbul, one of 33 centers within the UNITAR Global Network. CIFAL Istanbul contributes to BAU's governance and sustainability efforts by promoting institutional integrity, capacity-building, and initiatives supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Through its Quality Assurance System and institutional guides—including the Quality Assurance Manual, Institutional Accreditation Program Handbook, Employee and Student Handbooks, and Process Management Guide—Bahçeşehir University ensures that all academic and administrative functions operate in alignment with the principles of participation, accountability, and ethical leadership, strongly contributing to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Bahçeşehir University Institutional Framework and Governance Policies

Bahçeşehir University (BAU) operates within a robust institutional governance and ethical policy framework that ensures transparency, accountability, inclusiveness, and academic integrity across all university operations. These policies collectively reinforce BAU's commitment to strong institutions, justice, equality, and responsible leadership, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

The following institutional policies—adopted and periodically reviewed by the University Senate—guide the university's academic, administrative, and social governance. Each policy contributes to maintaining a fair, secure, and rights-based academic environment, while promoting ethical conduct, gender equality, and participatory decision-making.

These represent selected examples of Bahçeşehir University's comprehensive policy framework, which encompasses a wide range of regulations and procedures designed to ensure transparency, ethical governance, and institutional integrity across all operations:

- Bahçeşehir University Academic Freedom and Rights Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Anti-Discrimination, Anti-Harassment, and Anti-Retaliation Policy
- Bahcesehir University Gender Equality and Inclusion Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Lifelong Learning Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Research Misconduct Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Research and Development Policy
- · Bahçeşehir University Conflict of Interest Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Orginized Crime, Fraud, Bribery, and Corruption Prevention Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Education and Training Policy
- · Bahçeşehir University Ethics Policy
- · Bahçeşehir University Health, Safety, and Security Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Human Resources Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Quality Assurance Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Financial Procedures Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Stakeholder Engagement and Participation Policy
- Bahcesehir University Risk Management Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Travel and Expenditure Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Supply Chain and Incoming Funds Management Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Community Engagement Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Internationalization Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Distance Education Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Governance and Leadership Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Public Information Policy
- Bahçeşehir University Information and Communication Security Policy

These policies are publicly available and demonstrate BAU's institutional dedication to the rule of law, transparency, equality, ethical leadership, and effective governance, ensuring that the university operates with integrity and accountability in all its academic and administrative processes.

BAHÇEŞEHİR UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RIGHTS POLICY

At Bahçeşehir University (BAU), academic freedom refers to the institutional environment that enables academicians to conduct teaching, research, and scholarly activities without undue interference. This freedom is a fundamental element of the University's mison to generate new knowledge and effectively transmit accumulated understanding to students and society. Academic freedom is inseparable from academic responsibility, which requires all members of the University community to express their views respectfully, engage constructively with others, and conduct academic work with integrity, professionalism, and adherence to ethical principles. BAU is committed to enabling individuals to freely pursue intellectual inquiry while also respecting the rights of others to learn, research, and contribute to the academic mission.

Policy Statement

Bahçeçehir University affirms its unwavering commitment to the protection and promotion of academic freedom and freedom of expression. These principles are foundational to the pursuit of knowledge, critical thinking, and scholarly excellence. BAU ensures that academic freedom is respected and upheld for all members of its community including academicians, researchers, staff, and students in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Turkiye and internationally recognized standards on academic rights and freedoms.

Definition of Academic Freedom

At BAU, academic freedom encompasses the rights of individuals to teach, research, publish, and express ideas freely, without institutional censorship or arbitrary restriction. This freedom is essential for the advancement of science, innovation, and intellectual development.

Academic freedom includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) The right of academic staff to teach, conduct research, and disseminate research
- (b) The right of academic staff and students to engage in intellectual inquiry and public discourse within their fields of study.
- (e) The right to express opinions on institutional policies, academic matters, or issues of public concern.
 - (d) The right of academic staff to participate in academic, professional, and

BAHÇEŞEHİR UNIVERSITY ETHICS POLICY

1. Purpose

The Ethics Policy has been established to ensure that all institutional activities are carried out in accordance with the principles of honesty, transparency, and trustworthiness. The main objective of this policy is to encourage all employees, students, researchers, and stakeholders to act in line with ethical standards and to adopt these principles. Making ethical behavior a part of institutional culture, strengthening trust among employees, reinforcing a sense of social responsibility, and safeguarding the University's reputation and sustainable success are key goals of this policy. It also aims to prevent and detect potential ethical violations and ensure that appropriate measures are taken when necessary.

2. Scope:

This policy applies to all academic and administrative staff, students, researchers, and members of the management at the University. It covers all areas of institutional activity, particularly education, research, administration, external relations, financial transactions, human resources, and other operational fields, with the purpose of ensuring compliance with ethical standards.

The policy includes fundamental ethical principles such as honesty, fairness, respect for confidentiality, equality, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, and social responsibility. It also outlines the disciplinary procedures and sanctions applicable in cases of violations of these principles.

3. Our Core Values and Ethical Principles

- 3.1. Integrity: We strive for honesty, fairness, and transparency in all our work
- 3.2. Respect: We value the dignity and well-being of all individuals and promote an inclusive and respectful environment.
- 3.3. Responsibility: We take responsibility for our actions and decisions and remain accountable to each other and society at large.
- 3.4. Sustainability: We commit to conducting our activities in an environmentally and

BAHCESEHİR UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP POLICY

 Introduction: Bahçeşelir University structures its management processes within the framework of participatory, transparent, effective, and sustainable principles, in line with its vision of education, research, and societal contribution" and its mission of "being a distinguished world rsity that psoduces, preserves, and disseminates knowledge to enhance the living sta of humanity, educates global individuals through contemporary educational models, and contributes to society at local and global levels through the collaborations it develops."

The governance policy of Balçeşehir University aims to structure manag processes based on participatory, transparent, accountable, and sustainable principles, lishing a quality assurance and continuous improvement-oriented administrative syst that supports education, sesearch and development, internationalization, and societal

- Principles:
 1. Participatory and Transparent Governance:
 2.1.1. Considers the views and suggestions of all stakeholders in decision-making processes and implements a transparent, fair, and accountable management
- 2.1.2. Embraces participation as a core principle by working in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders and involving collective wisdom in decision-
- 2.1.3. Establishes channels that strengthen internal communication and continuously
- 2.1.4. Applies effective monitoring, evaluation, and improvement mechanisms to

- 2.2. Strategic and Data-Driven Management:
 2.2.1. Supports governance processes through data-driven analyses and regular measurement and evaluation methods.
- 2.2.2. Reviews strategic goals in line with stakeholder feedback and develops concrete plans to achieve these goals.

BAHCESEHİR UNIVERSITY NON-DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION PREVENTION POLICY

1. Policy Statement

Bahcesehir University (BAU) is comm mutual respect, dignity, and equality among all members of its community. The University aims to ensure that its campuses are free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and sexual misconduct at every level of the institution.

educational process. BAU provides a safe and healthy learning and working environment for every individual, regardless of race, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, national origin, or other legally protected characteristics. In line with the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey and applicable international agreements, BAU ensures the protection of these rights for all members of its community.

This policy applies to all members of the BAU com administrative staff, contractors, vendors, visitors, and other third parties affiliated with the University. It covers all forms of discrimination and harassment, whether sexual or non-sexual in nature, occurring on University premises, during University-sponsored activities, or in offcampus incidents that have an impact on the University's learning or working envir

3. Prohibition of Discrimination and Harassment

Discrimination or harassment based on legally protected characteristics is strictly prohibited. These characteristics include, but are not limited to, race, gender, gender identity or expression, skin color, creed, religion, age, nationality, ethnic origin, disability status, veterar or military status, pregnancy, genetic traits, marital status, and citizenship. This list is illustrative and not exhaustive.

BAU Activities and Initiatives Supporting SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Bahçeşehir University (BAU) actively contributes to the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes peaceful, just, and inclusive societies and aims to strengthen institutional transparency, accountability, and participation at all levels.

In line with its governance philosophy grounded in ethical leadership, equality, and democratic participation, BAU implements diverse programs, research projects, and educational initiatives that foster strong institutions, civic engagement, social responsibility, and rule of law awareness.

The following sections highlight key activities, collaborations, and capacity-building efforts carried out during the 2023-2024 academic year, showcasing BAU's ongoing commitment to advancing inclusive governance, institutional resilience, and the development of socially responsible citizens through education and community engagement.

BAU Rotary Peace Center – A Neutral Platform for Peacebuilding and Policy Development in the MENA Region



Since 2023, Bahçeşehir University (BAU) has been the only university in Türkiye to host the Otto & Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center, serving the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in partnership with CIFAL Istanbul, which operates under the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

This collaboration positions BAU as a regional hub for peace education, dialogue, and policy innovation, combining academic excellence with practical field engagement.

The BAU Rotary Peace Center was established with the mission of enhancing human capacity for conflict resolution, peacebuilding, and sustainable development. It provides a safe, neutral, and academically guided environment where individuals from diverse cultural, political, and professional backgrounds come together to exchange ideas, share experiences, and collaborate on solutions to regional and global challenges.

As a platform grounded in impartiality and inclusion, the Center embodies BAU's commitment to fostering open and evidence-based dialogue, ensuring that participants can engage in frank discussions free from political or institutional bias.

Each year, the Peace Center welcomes fellows and professionals from governments, NGOs, academia, and international organizations across the MENA region. The program combines academic coursework, seminars, workshops, and field-based projects, enabling participants to translate theoretical knowledge into practical action. The curriculum emphasizes themes such as peacebuilding, conflict transformation, humanitarian diplomacy, migration, climate resilience, and community development, reflecting the interconnected nature of today's global challenges.

BAU Rotary Peace Center - A Neutral Platform for Peacebuilding and Policy Development in the MENA Region

The BAU Rotary Peace Center operates as part of Rotary International's global network of peace centers, linking BAU to a worldwide community of practitioners, researchers, and institutions dedicated to advancing peace and human security. Its academic program, conducted in English, is hosted at BAU's Future Campus in Istanbul, providing a multicultural environment that mirrors the diversity of the region it serves.

By hosting this Center, BAU strengthens its role as a trusted convener and facilitator of dialogue among actors with differing perspectives. The initiative directly supports the University's vision of serving as a neutral platform for inclusive discussion, where academic expertise informs policy practice and mutual understanding.

Through this work, BAU contributes meaningfully to Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) — promoting good governance, cooperation, and lasting peace through education and collaboration.

For detailed information:

https://rpc.bau.edu.tr/

https://rpc.bau.edu.tr/news/



BAU Politics School



Established under Bahçeşehir University's International Leadership Practice and Research Center (ULMER), the BAU Politics School has been a pioneering program in Turkey for over two decades. As part of the Government Leadership School, it stands out as one of the country's first and most enduring initiatives that create a neutral, academically grounded, and safe environment for political dialogue and leadership development.

The most distinctive feature of the BAU Politics School is its ability to bring together politicians, lawmakers, public officials, and thought leaders from across Turkey's diverse political spectrum. The program provides a non-partisan platform where participants engage in open, respectful, and evidence-based discussions on national and global issues — in line with the university's commitment to academic freedom and institutional neutrality.

Over the years, the Politics School has welcomed a wide range of distinguished figures, including presidents, prime ministers, ministers, ambassadors, members of parliament, and senior bureaucrats. Its alumni network includes 30 members of parliament, 9 ministers, and numerous deputy ministers and senior civil servants from different political backgrounds.

With its annually updated curriculum, the program addresses emerging policy challenges in governance, economy, diplomacy, sustainability, and democratic participation. By bringing together individuals with differing perspectives, the Politics School promotes cross-ideological understanding, constructive debate, and mutual respect, helping to strengthen democratic dialogue and civic engagement in Turkey.

This long-standing initiative reflects BAU's role as a trusted convener and facilitator in the political arena — fostering informed policy discussion and reinforcing the connection between academic expertise and public decision-making.

In 2024, the program convened academics, policymakers, and political figures from diverse ideological and professional backgrounds to discuss some of the most pressing issues on both the national and international agenda — including the Israel–Palestine conflict, Turkish foreign policy, national security, migration, environmental policy, and energy transition.

BAU Diplomat School



Bahçeşehir University's International Leadership Practice and Research Center (ULMER), under the Government Leadership School, organizes the BAU Diplomat School, a pioneering initiative designed to enhance the capacity and understanding of policymakers, diplomats, and public officials on global developments and challenges.

Celebrating its 15th year in 2024, the program continues to provide a neutral, academically guided, and inclusive platform where individuals from different political backgrounds and professional experiences come together to engage in open and constructive dialogue.

Over the years, the BAU Diplomat School has hosted a wide range of distinguished figures, including ministers, ambassadors, members of parliament, senior bureaucrats, policy advisors, thought leaders, and veteran academics — individuals who play key roles in shaping Turkey's and the world's diplomatic and foreign policy agendas.

It remains one of the few academic platforms in Turkey where diverse perspectives, ideologies, and political identities meet under the same roof to discuss complex issues in an impartial and academically safe environment.

As a comprehensive, long-standing, and non-partisan educational initiative, the BAU Diplomat School has become a model for how universities can contribute to public policy dialogue, capacity building, and global cooperation.

By bringing together academics, policymakers, and diplomats from diverse political traditions, the program nurtures critical thinking, informed discussion, and solution-oriented collaboration.

Through this initiative, BAU demonstrates its ongoing commitment to acting as a neutral convener and facilitator of international dialogue, advancing the principles of academic freedom, transparency, and inclusivity.

The Diplomat School directly contributes to SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening the link between education, diplomacy, and sustainable governance.

Bahçeşehir University Local Governance Academy 2024



For more than two decades, Bahçeşehir University's International Leadership Practice and Research Center (ULMER) has played a leading role in cultivating future policymakers and public leaders through its Government Leadership School. Established as one of Türkiye's pioneering university-based leadership development institutions, the School has consistently provided comprehensive education programs, seminars, and projects designed to strengthen the capacity of individuals engaged in governance and public policy.

Building upon this long-standing tradition of excellence, the Local Governance Academy was launched under the Government Leadership School to extend ULMER's mission to the local level. Recognizing the critical role that municipalities and local authorities play in achieving sustainable development, the Academy focuses on empowering local administrators and policymakers through specialized certification programs.

In the 2023–2024 academic year, the Local Governance Academy offered structured capacity-building training for municipal personnel, policy practitioners, and individuals aspiring to work in local governance. Its curriculum addresses a wide range of pressing issues, including urbanization and smart cities, digital transformation in public administration, migration and refugee management, environmental sustainability, and climate-resilient urban planning.

The program also aims to enhance the analytical and decision-making skills of participants, helping them adapt to the complex realities of modern urban governance. Through interactive sessions, case-based discussions, and applied learning modules, the Academy fosters a culture of participatory, inclusive, and data-driven policymaking.

The Academy represents an important example of education and capacity-building for policymakers, empowering local government representatives with knowledge and skills in sustainable urban management, social participation, disaster recovery, and environmental resilience.

Participants included nine mayors from different municipalities across Türkiye, representing both metropolitan and regional administrations: Beşiktaş, Üsküdar, Avcılar, Beylikdüzü, Bağcılar, Fatih, Altınordu, Payas, and Onikişubat. In addition, senior public officials, such as Refik Tuzcuoğlu, Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, participated alongside academics from Bahçeşehir University and other institutions, including Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, Prof. Dr. Esra Albayrakioğlu, and Prof. Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu.

Bringing together leaders from different political parties and diverse professional backgrounds, the Local Governance Academy exemplified Bahçeşehir University's commitment to serving as a neutral, inclusive platform for constructive dialogue. Through its academic expertise and nonpartisan engagement, BAU facilitates knowledge-sharing and cooperation between academia, local governments, and national institutions, contributing to evidence-based policymaking and good governance practices.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University continues to advance SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by linking research, training, and practical policy development for inclusive and sustainable local governance.





BAU 7th Local Advocacy School – "Inclusive and Sustainable Cities"



On 24–25 May 2024, Bahçeşehir University's Center for Urban Studies (BAUMUS), in collaboration with the Marmara Municipalities Union (MMU) and the Association for Local Monitoring, Research and Implementation (YERELİZ), and with the support of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Turkey Office, organized the 7th Local Advocacy School.

The two-day training program was designed to build the capacity of local government professionals and policymakers from across the Istanbul metropolitan region, equipping them with the skills and knowledge required for participatory and sustainable strategic planning.

Held on the first day at the Marmara Municipalities Union headquarters and on the second day at Bahçeşehir University's Beşiktaş Campus, the program focused on strengthening municipal teams during Türkiye's post-election strategic planning period.

Participants explored how to develop inclusive, data-driven, and SDG-aligned local strategies that respond to urban challenges such as climate adaptation, social policy, and equitable resource allocation.

The training covered the structure of municipal systems, roles of local actors, and the functions and methodologies of strategic planning.

Modules included sessions on participatory governance, local advocacy, and integration of Sustainable Development Goals into local policy frameworks. The program concluded with a hands-on strategic planning exercise, where municipal representatives collaborated to design sample strategic plans reflecting both global indicators and local priorities.

Now in its seventh iteration, the Local Advocacy School has become a model for capacity-building and outreach education among local governments in Türkiye. By fostering cooperation between universities, municipalities, and civil society organizations, the initiative serves as a neutral and inclusive platform that empowers local policymakers to design sustainable urban policies.

Through this program, Bahçeşehir University contributes directly to Sustainable Development Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening local governance, promoting transparency, and advancing collaborative, evidence-based policymaking.

Policy Report Contribution: Türkiye's 12th Development Plan (2024–208)



T.C. CUMHURBASKANLIĞI STRATEJÎ VE BÜTCE BASKANLIĞI

ON İKİNCİ KALKINMA PLANI (2024-2028)

TÜKETİM VE TASARRUF EĞİLİMLERİ

ÖZEL İHTİSAS KOMİSYONU RAPORU

KOMÍSYON ÜYELERÍ

(Başkan, Raportörler ve Koordinatörler hariç alfabetik olarak sıralanı

Gülbin Sahinbevoldu

Türkiye Ekonomi Politikaları Araştırma Vakfı

RAPORTÖR

Hakan Ulucan

KOORDÍNATÖRLER

Sezai Ata Strateji ve Bütçe Başkanlığı Serhat Kececi Strateji ve Bütce Baskanlığı Selma Durgan Strateii ve Bütce Baskanlığı

Arzu Kurtoğlu

Hakan Terri Strateii ve Bütçe Başkanlığı Strateji ve Bütçe Başkanlığı

Ahu Ergen

Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Ahmet Arda Gitmez İhsan Doğramacı Bilkent Üniversitesi Ali Burak Kurtulan Sigortacılık ve Özel Emeklilik Düzenleme ve Denetleme

Arif Bastoğ Arzu Odabası Aslıhan Atabek Demirhan

Ziraat Katılım Auro Portföy Yönetimi Türkiye Cumhuriyet Merkez Bankası

Atilla Benli Aysun Yıldız Burak Ali Göçer Burcu Özcan

Türkiye Sigorta ve Türkiye Hayat Emeklilik Türkiye Sigorta, Reasûrans ve Emeklîlîk Şirketleri Birlîği Garanti Emeklilik ve Havat

Cem Göreün Cañacan Deñer Derya Baş Sonbul Elif Üstündağlı Erten

Farat Universitesi Koc Holding Ege Universitesi Türkiye İstatistik Kurumu Ege Universitesi

Prof. Dr. Ahu Ergen, member of BAU, served as a Special Expertise Committee Member to the Republic of Türkiye Presidency of Strategy and Budget Directorate for the Twelfth Development Plan (2024–2028)—Specialization Commission Report on Consumption and Saving Trends.

.Building on Türkiye's ratification of the Paris Agreement, the commission advanced policy measures to accelerate the green economy transition: expanding green finance and sustainability-linked funds, incentivizing sustainable investment, improving resource efficiency and waste reduction, and scaling circular economy education to promote responsible consumption and production nationwide. Prof. Ergen's contributions focused on SDG alignment, sustainable consumption instruments for Türkiye, and integrating sustainability into curricula to strengthen human capital for the transition.

This engagement demonstrates how Bahçeşehir University provides specific expert advice to the national government—through formal committee participation and evidence-based policy guidance—thereby advancing SDG 16, while directly supporting SDG 12 via systemic measures that foster responsible, circular, and resource-efficient economic behavior.

Bahçeşehir University Marks Human Rights Day with a Seminar on Human Dignity, Labor Rights, and Responsible Consumption



In celebration of Human Rights Day, Bahçeşehir University (BAU) held an interdisciplinary seminar titled "Children's Rights and the Right to Work in Consumer Societies" on 18 December 2024, organized by BAU Rights, BAU Renkli Çatı, BAU Children for Children Club, and the Dean of Students Office (DSO).

The event featured Av. Çağla Gül Bulut from the Istanbul Bar Association Children's Rights Center, who spoke on protecting and promoting children's rights, and Serhat Durup, Philosophy Teacher at FMV Işık Schools, who examined the ethical and social implications of labor and human rights within consumer societies.

Through these discussions, the seminar encouraged students to reflect critically on how modern consumption patterns impact human well-being, social justice, and sustainability. Participants explored the shared responsibility of individuals and institutions in ensuring ethical production, fair labor practices, and responsible consumption.

By integrating the principles of SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its dedication to promoting human rights awareness, sustainable lifestyles, and civic engagement among its students and academic community.

Seminar on Business, Law, and Human Rights: "German Supply Chain Act and Its Impact on Businesses, Supply Chains, and Human Rights Actors" (26 February 2024)



Bahçeşehir University hosted the seminar "German Supply Chain Act and Its Impact on Businesses, Supply Chains, and Human Rights Actors", bringing together academics, practitioners, policymakers, and industry professionals to discuss the global implications of Germany's new supply chain law. The event explored how this legislation strengthens corporate responsibility, ethical production, and human rights compliance across transnational business operations, while setting a precedent for sustainable and transparent corporate conduct.

Speakers from Minerva, PAE Law, and the European Neighbourhood Council shared valuable insights into the law's impact on corporate due diligence, labor rights, and supply chain governance, emphasizing the growing necessity for businesses to integrate human rights principles into every stage of production and trade. The seminar also addressed the broader social and economic consequences of this legal framework, encouraging dialogue on the transformation of business ethics, compliance practices, and sustainability standards at the global level.

The initiative directly supports several Sustainable Development Goals by advancing decent work and economic growth (SDG 8) through the promotion of fair labor practices; fostering responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) via the adoption of transparent and sustainable supply chain mechanisms; contributing to peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16) by reinforcing legal accountability and corporate governance; and strengthening partnerships for the goals (SDG 17) through cross-sector collaboration among academia, industry, and policy actors.

By creating a multidisciplinary platform for knowledge exchange, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to promoting ethical business education, human rights protection, and sustainability-oriented policymaking that align with global standards of responsible growth and justice.

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.

Politics and Society Seminar Series – "From Past to Future NATO: 75 Years of Successes, Transformations, Challenges, and Opportunities" (2 May 2024)



Hosted by Bahçeşehir University in collaboration with the Foreign Policy Institute, this special panel marked the 75th anniversary of NATO, bringing together prominent scholars to discuss the alliance's institutional evolution, contemporary challenges, and Turkey's strategic role within transatlantic security frameworks. Featuring insights from Prof. Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu, Prof. Dr. Tarık Oğuzlu, and Prof. Dr. Mustafa Aydın, and moderated by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yüksel Alper Ecevit, the event explored issues of multilateralism, defense diplomacy, and global governance.

Through its focus on international cooperation, collective security, and policy dialogue, the panel advanced SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by promoting transparent, inclusive, and informed discussion on global peace and institutional resilience. By engaging students, academics, and the broader public in open dialogue about international security and diplomacy, Bahçeşehir University reinforced its role as a platform for civic engagement and responsible global citizenship, contributing to the strengthening of peaceful and just societies.

Politics and Society Seminar Series – "Risks and Opportunities in Turkish-Greek Relations" (30 January 2024)



Organized by the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Bahçeşehir University, the seminar titled "Risks and Opportunities in Turkish-Greek Relations" featured Dr. Zuhal Mert Uzuner from Marmara University as the guest speaker. The discussion focused on the evolving dynamics of Turkish-Greek relations, addressing both the challenges and areas of cooperation that define the bilateral agenda in the Eastern Mediterranean.

By fostering academic dialogue on regional diplomacy, conflict resolution, and international cooperation, the seminar advanced SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) through the promotion of peaceful relations and mutual understanding between neighboring countries. The event also encouraged informed participation among students, scholars, and policymakers, reinforcing Bahçeşehir University's commitment to cultivating inclusive, research-based discussions that support stability and institutional resilience in the region.

Politics and Society Seminar Series - "Turkish Diplomacy in the 100th Anniversary of the Republic" (6 December 2023)



As part of the centennial celebrations of the Republic of Türkiye, Bahçeşehir University hosted the seminar "Turkish Diplomacy in the 100th Anniversary of the Republic" at its Beşiktaş South Campus. Moderated by Prof. Dr. Esra Albayrakoğlu, Head of the Department of Political Science and International Relations, and opened by Prof. Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu, Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, the event brought together distinguished speakers from the field of diplomacy.

Featuring Ambassador (Ret.) Rauf Engin Soysal and Ambassador Lale Ülker, the discussion provided a comprehensive overview of the evolution, challenges, and priorities of Turkish foreign policy throughout the Republican era. The event, held in collaboration with BAU International Affairs Office, , and CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR contributed to SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by fostering dialogue on international cooperation, diplomacy, and institutional development.

Through this seminar, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its role as a platform for informed public discourse, promoting global citizenship, and advancing understanding of diplomatic practices that sustain peace and stability.

Politics and Society Seminar Series - "The Future of the European Union and Turkey" (24 November 2023)



Organized by the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Bahçeşehir University, in collaboration with the BAU School of Government & Leadership (HLO), CIFAL Istanbul, and UNITAR, this online seminar hosted Prof. Dr. Harun Arıkan (Çukurova University) for a talk on the evolving relationship between the European Union and Turkey amid global uncertainty. Moderated by Dr. Zekeriya Tüzen, the session examined institutional cooperation, accession dynamics, and policy areas where pragmatic convergence is possible. By fostering informed public dialogue on European governance and regional diplomacy, the event advanced SDG 16 through the promotion of transparent, inclusive, and policy-relevant discussion that strengthens civic engagement and institutional resilience.

Politics and Society Seminar Series - "Turkey in Eastern Mediterranean Geopolitics" (17 November 2023)



As part of the Politics and Society Research Seminar Series organized by the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Bahçeşehir University, and held in collaboration with the BAU School of Government & Leadership (HLO), CIFAL Istanbul, and UNITAR, Dr. Sibel Zengin from Istanbul Gelişim University delivered an engaging lecture titled "Turkey in Eastern Mediterranean Geopolitics."

Moderated by Dr. Zekeriya Tüzen, the seminar explored Turkey's strategic position in the Eastern Mediterranean, focusing on energy diplomacy, maritime boundaries, and regional security dynamics. The discussion encouraged critical reflection on the geopolitical challenges and cooperation prospects in the region, enhancing participants' understanding of international relations and policy-making.

By facilitating open academic dialogue on diplomacy and regional peace, the event contributed to SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), promoting inclusive education, cross-border collaboration, and a deeper awareness of sustainable geopolitical stability.

Documentary Screening: "Economics in Istanbul" (8 May 2024)



Bahçeşehir University's Department of Economics and Finance hosted a screening of "Economics in Istanbul" with the participation of its director, Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Boz. The documentary explored Istanbul's rich economic heritage and its connection to prosperity, equity, and public policy, featuring insights from Istanbul University scholars. The post-screening discussion engaged participants in debates on how economic structures shape urban well-being and inclusive growth.

The event contributed to SDG 4 by promoting critical and experiential learning, to SDG 8 through dialogue on sustainable economic development, and to SDG 11 by linking urban policy to inclusive and resilient city life. By highlighting fairness, transparency, and evidence-based governance, the event also supported SDG 16, emphasizing the importance of strong institutions and civic engagement in shaping equitable economic futures.

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 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.

Politics & Society Seminar Series: "Bridging Justice and Gender: Analyzing Organizational Dynamics in Istanbul's Local Governance through Studying Up and Scorecard Analysis" (15.11.2023)



On 15 November 2023, Bahçeşehir University (BAU) hosted a session within its Politics & Society Seminar Series titled "Bridging Justice and Gender: Analyzing Organizational Dynamics in Istanbul's Local Governance through Studying Up and Scorecard Analysis."

Presented by BAU alumna Melis Arıksoy, the seminar explored the intersection of justice, gender, and institutional accountability within Istanbul's municipal governance structures.

Drawing on her professional experience as a market research specialist, Arıksoy examined organizational hierarchies, power relations, and evaluation mechanisms in local governments through a gender-sensitive and data-driven lens.

She highlighted how tools such as gender scorecards and performance assessments can help municipalities identify inequities, improve institutional transparency, and promote fairness in public service delivery.

The session was attended by representatives of local governments, policymakers, and BAU faculty members, providing a neutral academic space for discussing how gender equality can be integrated into governance practices.

The seminar contributed to the awareness and capacity-building of municipal decision-makers by introducing actionable frameworks for gender-responsive planning, evaluation, and accountability in local administrations.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University strengthened its outreach and engagement with local policymakers, supporting Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by promoting inclusive, transparent, and equitable governance at the local level.

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.

Fostering Safe Spaces and Voice through FEJUST (2023–2024)



Within the framework of the Jean Monnet Chair on Feminist Epistemic Justice in the EU and Beyond (FEJUST), Bahçeşehir University has adopted an approach to teaching and public engagement grounded in feminist principles of safety, respect, and voice. Although FEJUST does not operate under a formal code of conduct, its practices ensure that all participants can express their perspectives freely and without fear of discrimination or retaliation.

The first FEJUST Policy Brief, "When Youth Refuse Silence: Safe Spaces and the Politics of Voice," examined how to create inclusive environments where marginalized experiences are acknowledged and valued. This principle is consistently reflected in FEJUST classrooms and workshops, which open with affirmations of mutual respect and equal participation, and where participants may confidentially raise concerns with the Chair coordinator. By embedding these principles into both academic and participatory settings, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates a proactive model of inclusivity and care in higher education.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting safety, empowerment, and equal participation, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its emphasis on respect, inclusion, and accountability in academic environments.

https://cdn.bau.edu.tr/content/qci9wz0m97k5k-FEJUST%20Policy%20Brief%201%20(Student%20PAR).pdf

Seminar: "Dating Violence and Stalking" (06.11.2024)



Organized by IGUL and PALS Global under the invitation of Prof. Dr. Feridun Yenisey, this seminar was delivered by Attorney Lerzenur Asan Elik at Bahçeşehir University Court Hall and online. The session addressed the legal and social dimensions of dating violence and stalking, focusing on mechanisms for prevention, protection, and justice.

By examining real-life cases and legislative frameworks, the event contributed to raising awareness on gender-based violence and the importance of safeguarding women's rights in both public and private spheres. It also encouraged students and legal professionals to reflect on gender-sensitive approaches within the justice system.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by addressing violence against women and promoting protective legal frameworks, and it also aligns with SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its emphasis on justice, prevention, and institutional accountability.

Gendering EU Politics Seminar Series: Capturing Women's Standpoint in EU-Turkey Studies (30.05.2024)



The seminar "Capturing Women's Standpoint in EU-Turkey Studies" examined how gender perspectives influence academic knowledge production and policy interpretation within EU-Turkey relations. Through a gender-focused synthesis and citation analysis, participants explored the visibility of women scholars and feminist approaches in the field, gaining insights into inclusive methodologies and representation in international studies.

By encouraging critical reflection on gender biases in academia and fostering cross-disciplinary dialogue, Bahçeşehir University contributed to advancing inclusive education, equality, and cooperation among researchers and policymakers.

This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by promoting gender-sensitive scholarship and inclusive participation in research, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its support for collaborative, equitable, and transparent academic engagement.

Women's Human Rights and Participatory Democracy (05.12.2024)

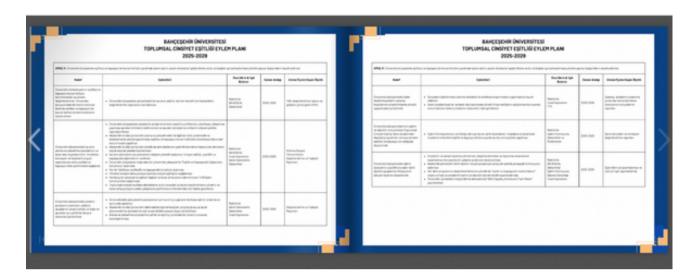


Held on the occasion of Women's Rights Day, this webinar titled "Women's Rights and Participatory Democracy" was co-organized by FEJUST, the Gender Equality Monitoring Association (CEİD), Bahçeşehir University's Political Science and International Relations Club, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir 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.

BAUEqual: Gender Equality Action Plan (2025–2029)



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.

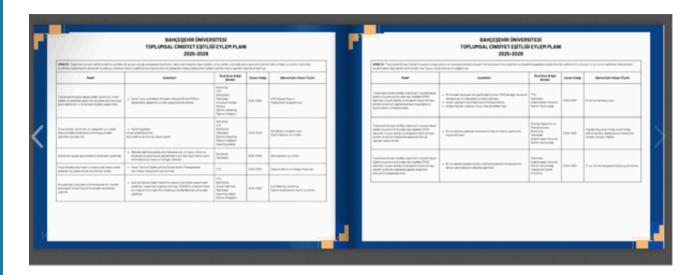
The Action Plan includes objectives focused on increasing gender awareness among students and staff, developing inclusive education programs, supporting women's leadership, and preventing gender-based violence. It outlines concrete actions such as gender equality-focused training, awareness-raising campaigns, 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.

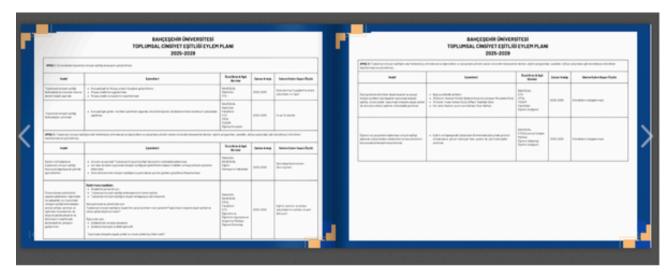
By embedding equality and inclusivity into its institutional culture, Bahçeşehir University aims to ensure a safe, fair, and empowering environment for all members of its community. The BAUEqual framework represents a long-term commitment to structural transformation, ensuring that gender equality becomes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

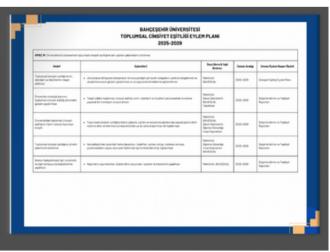
This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by institutionalizing equality and inclusivity, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its comprehensive approach to inclusive governance,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

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

BAUEqual: Gender Equality Action Plan (2025–2029)







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/

The Opening of Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center (08.02.2024)



The official opening of the Otto and Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center on February 8, 2024, represented a major advancement in education and research on peace and conflict resolution. The event underscored the vital role of Rotary Peace Centers in promoting global peacebuilding and introduced the center's regional mission to support conflict prevention and reconciliation efforts across the Middle East and North Africa. Academics, UNITAR representatives, and Rotary members convened to discuss collaborative projects and strategies for sustainable peace. Through its dedication to cultivating future peacebuilders and strengthening institutional capacities for mediation, justice, and inclusive governance, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its strong commitment to advancing peaceful and resilient societies.

This initiative also supported SDG4 (Quality Education) and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering global academic cooperation and building networks for shared learning and action.

BAU-Rotary Peace Center: Meeting with Rotary International President Gordon McInally (27.04.2024)



The meeting with Rotary International President Gordon McInally on April 27, 2024, served as a meaningful platform for exchanging insights on Rotary's global initiatives, international partnerships, and the future direction of the Otto & Fran Walter Rotary Peace Center. Participants engaged in strategic discussions addressing social service projects and mechanisms for deepening collaboration between communities. By facilitating dialogue among global and local leaders committed to peacebuilding, inclusivity, and institutional cooperation, Bahçeşehir University demonstrated its dedication to strengthening transparent and participatory frameworks that nurture stability and justice in societies.

This engagement also contributed to SDG4 (Quality Education) and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by promoting knowledge exchange and building sustainable networks of cooperation.

Global Affairs Seminar Series: Beyond the Headlines, A Discussion on Foreign Policy Analysis with Award-Winning Authors (13.05.2024)



The Global Affairs Seminar Series offers a platform for exploring complex international issues through expert perspectives and open dialogue. In the session held on May 13, 2024, award-winning authors and scholars examined contemporary dynamics in foreign policy, including national security, crisis management, and global diplomacy. By fostering critical discussion and informed analysis, the seminar advanced Bahçeşehir University's commitment to cultivating transparent dialogue, responsible decision-making, and institutional cooperation that promote peace, stability, and accountability in international relations.

This seminar also supported SDG4 (Quality Education) and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by enhancing academic discourse and global collaboration on pressing international issues.

Global Leadership Forum: Evolution of the International System, Global Peace and Security (27.05.2024)



On 27 May 2024, Bahçeşehir University's International Leadership Practice and Research Center (ULMER) and the Government and Leadership School (HLO), in cooperation with Global Akademi, organized the Global Leadership Forum under the theme "The Evolution of the International System and Global Peace and Security."

The forum was held in Giresun Kulakkaya Plateau with the support of the Council on International Relations (UİK), Panorama Portal, and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) CIFAL Istanbul. The event brought together policymakers, local government representatives, academics, diplomats, and experts from diverse institutional and political backgrounds to discuss the structural transformations of the international system and the actors and processes challenging global peace.

It served as a neutral, interdisciplinary platform that encouraged open dialogue and collaborative reflection on global governance, conflict resolution, and sustainable peace.

The 2024 edition — organized for the second consecutive year in partnership between BAU ULMER and Global Akademi — opened with the discussion of a policy report authored by Prof. Evren Balta and Assoc. Prof. Soli Özel, titled "Power Shifts and Insights for Understanding the New International Order." Sessions explored critical global issues such as the crisis of Western-led globalization, asymmetric multipolarity, post-Western order, geopolitical instability, and the strategic position of the Global South.

Participants examined how recent conflicts, including the Ukraine and Gaza wars, have reshaped international norms, and discussed the intersection of the climate crisis with global security, institutional fragility, and the erosion of rule-based governance.

Throughout the forum, BAU faculty members provided academic guidance and led training-oriented sessions for public officials and policy practitioners, enhancing their analytical and strategic capacities on topics such as global governance, sustainability, and international cooperation.

By engaging different institutional actors in a shared learning environment, the forum contributed to the development of informed, globally minded decision-makers.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University strengthens its role as a bridge between academia and policy, fostering evidence-based dialogue and collaboration across political and institutional lines.

The Global Leadership Forum directly advances Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by promoting inclusive discussion, institutional cooperation, and knowledge exchange among policymakers and scholars addressing today's complex global challenges.

Towards COP29: Civil Society Evaluates (16.10.2024





On October 16, 2024, a diverse group of stakeholders from civil society and environmental organizations convened to assess priorities and strategies ahead of COP29. The discussions focused on generating inclusive, transparent, and effective climate solutions through participatory engagement and collective action. Participants examined how civic actors can contribute to shaping environmental policies and ensuring accountability in decision-making processes. By encouraging multi-stakeholder dialogue and reinforcing institutional transparency, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to fostering just, participatory, and accountable governance as a foundation for sustainable environmental action.

This meeting also contributed to SDG13 (Climate Action) and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by promoting cooperation and shared responsibility in addressing the global climate crisis.

Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul Represent Türkiye at COP29: Higher Education Leadership in Climate Action (11.11.2024)





On November 11, 2024, during the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul co-organized the landmark session "The Role of Higher Education in Addressing Climate Change: Leadership, Innovation, and Impact" in partnership with UNITAR and CIFAL City of London. Marking the first time a Turkish university hosted an independent session at COP, this event positioned Bahçeşehir University as a key academic actor contributing to global dialogue on climate governance and sustainable policy development.

The session brought together university leaders, policymakers, and sustainability experts to discuss the role of higher education in advancing climate solutions through research, innovation, and cross-sectoral collaboration. By fostering transparency, accountability, and cooperation among institutions at both national and international levels, Bahçeşehir University demonstrated its strong commitment to promoting effective governance, participatory decision-making, and peace-oriented climate diplomacy that strengthen global resilience. Representing Türkiye's academic leadership, Rector Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu and Prof. Dr. Çisil

Sohodol, Director of CIFAL Istanbul, shared insights on the university's sustainability-centered education and partnership initiatives, while Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu, Associate Director of the CIFAL Global Network (UNITAR), emphasized the transformative power of academic-institutional collaboration for sustainable development.

This pioneering engagement advanced SDG13 (Climate Action) through policy-focused dialogue, SDG4 (Quality Education) by promoting climate literacy and capacity-building, and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening international collaboration for a more sustainable and inclusive world.

https://bau.edu.tr/haber/18950-cop29-kapsaminda-baku'de-egitim-ve-iklim-paneli-universitelerin-iklim-eylemindeki-rolu-tartisildi

Gendering EU Politics Seminar Series: Bargaining Meaning in the European Union – Meaning Negotiations and the Concept of Gender Equality (28.11.2024)



Held on November 28, 2024, in collaboration with FEJUST, the Gendering EU Politics Seminar Series session titled "Bargaining Meaning in the European Union: Meaning Negotiations and the Concept of Gender Equality" provided a critical academic platform to examine how the European Union's policymaking processes engage with the principles of equality, representation, and justice. Scholars and students discussed how gendered perspectives shape institutional practices, policy discourses, and decision-making mechanisms within the EU. The dialogue also addressed how social and political meanings of equality are negotiated across member states, influencing both policy outcomes and the broader democratic framework of the Union.

By encouraging open debate on fairness, inclusivity, and the rule of law within supranational institutions, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its dedication to fostering transparent, participatory, and accountable governance structures that ensure equal access to justice and representation for all individuals. The seminar underscored the need for collaborative engagement between academic institutions, policymakers, and networks to advance a governance culture grounded in equality and human rights.

This session also contributed to SDG5 (Gender Equality) and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by promoting cross-sector collaboration and academic inquiry into inclusive policymaking processes at the European level.

Politics and Society Seminar Series: A Second Trump Term – What It Means for the US and the World (03.12.2024)



As part of Bahçeşehir University's Politics and Society Seminar Series, the session titled "A Second Trump Term: What It Means for the US and the World" on December 3, 2024, offered an in-depth exploration of the potential political, economic, and diplomatic repercussions of a renewed Trump presidency. Scholars and students examined how such a development could reshape U.S. domestic governance, transatlantic relations, and the broader international order. The discussion emphasized the challenges posed to multilateralism, democratic institutions, and global peace initiatives, while encouraging participants to consider alternative frameworks for cooperation and conflict prevention.

Through this exchange of perspectives, Bahçeşehir University reinforced its commitment to promoting civic awareness, informed dialogue, and transparent governance as essential tools for maintaining global stability and justice.

This event also aligned with SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering open academic collaboration and collective reflection on issues that influence international peace and institutional resilience.

"Republic and Women With Documents (1929/1939–2007/2017)" – A Historical Perspective on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (07.05.2024)



Organized by Bahçeşehir University TOSAM (Center for Health, Society, Behavior, and Prevention Studies) in collaboration with the BAU Women's Rights Club, this seminar provided a profound exploration of the evolution of women's rights and gender equality throughout the history of 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 presented key milestones in the legal and social transformation of women's status through extensive archival documentation and legislative analysis.

The discussion illuminated the journey of women's participation in public life, their vital role in national modernization, and the persisting barriers to achieving full equality. By linking historical reforms with contemporary gender governance, Bahçeşehir University underscored its enduring commitment to transparency, civic engagement, and institutional accountability—principles essential for ensuring justice, equality, and the protection of fundamental rights. The event encouraged students and academics alike to reflect on how historical awareness can inform present-day efforts to create fairer and more inclusive societies.

This seminar contributed to SDG5 (Gender Equality) by empowering women and promoting leadership, SDG10 (Reduced Inequalities) by addressing systemic disparities, and SDG16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by advocating for inclusive governance rooted in equity and historical responsibility.

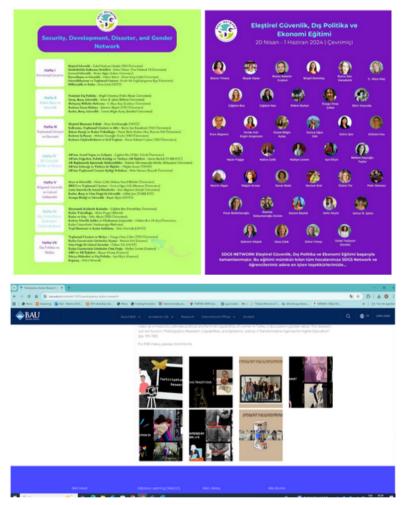
The 104th Commemoration of the First Turkish Women's Rally Against the Occupation of Anatolia (10 December 2023)



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.

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 approaches to women's 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.

Violence Awareness Workshop (21.11.2024)



Organized ahead of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, this interactive workshop aimed to raise awareness about gender-based violence and challenge gender stereotypes that perpetuate inequality. The event, open to all participants, featured two main sessions: the first focused on identifying and discussing gender-related biases, while the second used a participatory card game to explore how power dynamics shape societal perceptions and relations.

By combining reflection, dialogue, and experiential learning, Bahçeşehir University encouraged students to critically examine gender norms and promote equality and respect in social interactions. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by addressing gender-based violence and discrimination, and it also aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its emphasis on awareness, inclusion, and empowerment.

Webinar: "Women's Leadership and Governance in Sports" (16.11.2024)



Hosted by Bahçeşehir University in collaboration with the Sport Integrity Global Alliance (SIGA) during the 2024 Sport Integrity Week, this online event focused on strengthening women's leadership and participation in sports governance. The webinar explored barriers to gender equality in the sports sector and highlighted strategies for empowering women as decision-makers, executives, and change leaders in sports institutions.

Through its partnership with SIGA, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to promoting integrity, inclusivity, and equal opportunities in all areas of leadership. This initiative directly contributes to SDG 5: Gender Equality by supporting women's leadership and representation in governance, and also aligns with SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its collaborative and advocacy-based approach.

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

Check for updates Sociology Compass WILEY REVIEW ARTICLE GREATERS Socioeconomic, Migration, and Political Upheaval Factors in Crime: Applying the Social Disorganization Theory in Turkey Fadime frem Doğan 💿 Department of International Trade and Business, Bahcesehir University, Istanbul, Turkey Correspondence: Fadime from Doğun (fadimeirom dogun@hus.odu.tr) Received: 2 July 2024 | Revised: 26 September 2024 | Accepted: 15 October 2024 Punding: The author received no specific funding for this work. Keywords: crime | migration | social disorganization | socio-economic indicators | Turkish labor market This review attempts to provide a comprehensive investigation of the complex argument that socioeconomic conditions and crime are related through political instabilities and their impact on Turkey's economy, with a specific focus on social disorganization theory. By focusing on the Turkish labor market, this study examines the interplay of socioeconomic factors impacting crime rates and changing public views. This review highlights social disorganization and crime patterns via socioeconomic factors, migration, and political upheaval. By exploring the transformation of Turkey's labor market over many

1 | Introduction

Agamben's (2003) seminal work explores the complex connection

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.

decades, this study aims to provide insights into the ongoing issues of the country.

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.

Team's Visit and Training Programme to the Earthquake Zone in Malatya (13-15.12.2024)

On 13 December, the Bahçeşehir University's CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR team organized a meaningful educational event in Battalgazi, Malatya titled "Heroes of Nature: Raising Awareness on Sustainability,", offering support and inspiration to children and their parents affected by the February 6 earthquakes.

During the seminar, CIFAL Istanbul personnel introduced participants to the mission and values of the United Nations, explaining how individuals can actively contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The speakers addressed key topics such as clean water conservation, renewable energy, sustainable cities, climate action, and the protection of natural ecosystems. Presentations focused particularly on waste reduction and the long-term benefits of adopting eco-friendly lifestyles within families and communities. At the conclusion of the event, the CIFAL Istanbul team presented books to the participating children and joined them in a tote bag painting workshop, reinforcing messages of creativity, sustainability, and collective responsibility for the environment. The initiative reflected Bahçeşehir University's dedication to providing quality education beyond its own campus, extending academic expertise to external learning environments.

The following day, on 15 December, the BAU CIFAL Istanbul team, held a series of official meetings with local authorities in Malatya, one of the provinces most affected by the earthquakes of February 6. The delegation first met with the Head of the Strategy Development Department at the Malatya Metropolitan Municipality, where discussions focused on possible improvements in the region, including the sustainable reconstruction of schools, educational initiatives, and potential collaborations to enhance the quality of learning in the area. Later, the team visited the Deputy Mayor of Battalgazi Municipality to exchange views on the city's recovery efforts, social service delivery, and evolving community needs. Both meetings aimed to identify areas for cooperation that align with the principles of Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, emphasizing transparent governance, institutional resilience, and inclusive local partnerships.

By engaging directly with local administrations and delivering educational activities on-site, Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul continues to expand the social impact of higher education — supporting sustainable recovery and promoting quality learning opportunities in regions most in need.

https://cifalistanbul.org/cifal-istanbul-team-visited-earthquake-zone/

Team's Visit and Training Programme to the Earthquake Zone in Malatya (13-15.12.2024)







Meeting with the Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security, Prof. Dr. Lütfihak Alpkan (19.04.2024)



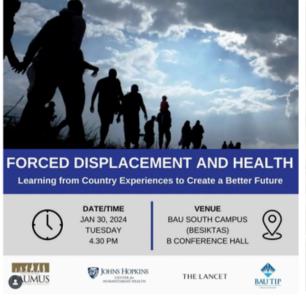
On April 19, 2024, Bahçeşehir University hosted a meeting with Prof. Dr. Lütfihak Alpkan, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security, to evaluate the Equal Opportunities in Technology Program and discuss future collaboration opportunities. The meeting focused on strategies to enhance gender equality in technology and empower women in the digital sector, emphasizing the importance of sustainable and inclusive growth in emerging industries. Participants shared insights on how to strengthen the program's impact, expand partnerships, and develop innovative mechanisms that promote equal access and representation.

By supporting dialogue between public institutions and academia, Bahçeşehir University once again demonstrated its commitment to inclusive policymaking, institutional cooperation, and the advancement of fair, accountable, and equitable systems that enable all individuals to participate fully in social and economic life.

This meeting contributed to SDG5 (Gender Equality) by addressing women's empowerment in technology, SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by supporting equal employment opportunities, and SDG16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by reinforcing transparent and participatory institutional collaboration.



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





On January 30, 2024, Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Medicine and BAUMUS, in collaboration with Johns Hopkins University's Center for Humanitarian Health, co-organized the international panel "Forced Displacement and Health: Learning from Country Experiences to Create a Better Future." The event convened global experts, practitioners, and scholars to discuss the intersections of migration, public health, and humanitarian response, offering comparative insights from diverse national experiences. The panel emphasized the importance of ensuring equitable access to healthcare for displaced and vulnerable populations, while addressing the ethical and institutional responsibilities that underpin effective crisis management.

By promoting transparent dialogue, institutional accountability, and collaborative approaches to humanitarian governance, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its dedication to building inclusive systems that protect human dignity and social justice, particularly in contexts of forced displacement. The exchange of knowledge and best practices during this event reflected the university's belief that resilient and equitable institutions are essential for ensuring both health security and human well-being.

This initiative also contributed to SDG3 (Good Health and Well-being) and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by advancing global cooperation and strengthening healthcare capacity in humanitarian contexts.

Istanbul Labour Market and Women's Employment Field Research (2024)



Conducted under the coordination of Bahçeşehir University Center for Economic and Social Research (BETAM), the Istanbul Labour Market and Women's Employment field research represented a significant effort to advance data-driven understanding of gender equality, labor participation, and institutional inclusion across Türkiye's largest metropolitan area. The study, whose fieldwork took place in December 2024, involved extensive household surveys and firm-level interviews across 38 districts of Istanbul, executed by Etik Research under BETAM's supervision.

Through this comprehensive data collection, researchers analyzed the dynamics of women's participation in the labor market, employment opportunities, and barriers to economic inclusion. By promoting evidence-based policymaking, institutional transparency, and social accountability, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening governance structures that support equality, justice, and inclusive growth. The project's findings contribute to the development of informed labor policies, supporting both gender-sensitive strategies and sustainable institutional frameworks.

This research also contributed to SDG5 (Gender Equality) by addressing disparities in women's employment, and SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by generating insights that enhance fair labor practices and inclusive economic participation.

Istanbul Labour Market and Women's Employment Field Research (2024)

2.1. Anket (2024) – HİA (2023) Karşılaştırması

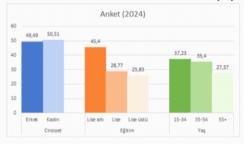
Hatırlatmak gerekirse bu araştırmanın amacı, İstanbul işgücü piyasasının gerek işgücü arzı (saha anketi) gerekse işgücü talebi (firmalarla derinlemesine görüşmeler) yönünden güncel sorunlarını belirlemek ve bu sorunların cözümüne yar-

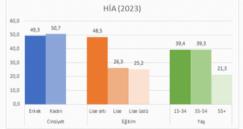
yansıttığı, anketin verilerinin ise İstanbul işgücü piyasasının 2024 Aralık ayındaki durumunu yansıttığı unutulmamalıdır.

Cinsiyet, yaş ve eğitim düzeyleri

Şekil 2.1'de 2023 HİA İstanbul verileri ile Aralık 2024 Etik Araştırma anket verilerinin kadın-erkek oranları, ayrıca üç yaş grubu ve üç eğitim düze-

Şekil 2.1: 15+ Nüfusta cinsiyet, yaş ve eğitim düzeyi itibariyle paylar (%)





Kaynak: 2024 Etik Araştırma anketi, 2023 HİA, Betam hesaplamaları.

Bölgesel işgücü istatistiklerinin elde edilebildiği TÜİK Hanehalkı İşgücü Araştırması (HİA) yılda bir kez mart ayında yayınlamaktadır. Dolayısıyla 2024 yılı için İstanbul işgücü istatistiklerinin elde edilebileceği HİA 2024 Mart 2025'de açıklanacaktır.

Trial Practices III: A Case Before the Juvenile Court (17.12.2024)

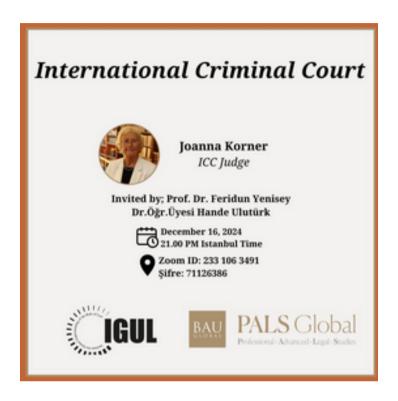


Organized by the Global Principles of the Rule of Law Program (IGUL) at Bahçeşehir University in cooperation with PALS Global, the event "Trial Practices III: A Case Before the Juvenile Court" took place on December 17, 2024, featuring Attorney Aynur Tuncel Yazgan from the Istanbul Bar Association. The session offered students and participants an applied understanding of juvenile justice through a simulated court case, enabling them to explore the procedural and ethical dimensions of trials involving minors. Under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Feridun Yenisey and Dr. Hande Ulutürk, the event bridged academic learning with real-world legal practice, emphasizing the protection of children's rights and the role of law in safeguarding vulnerable groups.

By promoting legal literacy, transparency, and respect for human rights within judicial education, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to fostering fair, accountable, and rights-based institutions that strengthen justice and equality.

This initiative also supported SDG4 (Quality Education) by enhancing experiential learning in law and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through collaboration between academia and legal practitioners.

International Criminal Court Seminar (16.12.2024)



On December 16, 2024, the Global Principles of the Rule of Law Program (IGUL) at Bahçeşehir University, in collaboration with PALS Global, organized an online seminar featuring Joanna Korner, Judge at the International Criminal Court (ICC). Invited by Prof. Dr. Feridun Yenisey and Dr. Hande Ulutürk, the session offered students and legal professionals an opportunity to gain first-hand insights into the functioning of international criminal justice, the prosecution of serious human rights violations, and the role of the ICC in maintaining global peace and accountability. Judge Korner shared her extensive experience in adjudicating crimes against humanity and war crimes, while emphasizing the principles of fairness, due process, and global cooperation in the pursuit of justice.

By promoting awareness of international law, the rule of law, and judicial independence, Bahçeşehir University reinforced its dedication to strengthening justice mechanisms, upholding human rights, and cultivating institutional transparency as cornerstones of peaceful and accountable governance.

This seminar also contributed to SDG4 (Quality Education) through its educational value in international law and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering collaboration between academia and global judicial institutions.

Arbitration Seminar (13.12.2024)



On December 13, 2024, the Global Principles of the Rule of Law Program (IGUL) at Bahçeşehir University, in cooperation with PALS Global, organized an online seminar on Arbitration featuring distinguished speakers Prof. Stephen Ware (University of Kansas), Melis Taşpolat Tuğsavul (Bahçeşehir University), Çiğdem Yazıcı (MEF University), and Sami Özgür Memişoğlu (Doğuş University). Moderated by Prof. Dr. Feridun Yenisey and Dr. Hande Ulutürk, the event provided an in-depth exploration of arbitration as a key mechanism for resolving disputes outside traditional courts, focusing on transparency, neutrality, and procedural justice. Participants examined international and domestic arbitration practices, gaining insights into how such mechanisms enhance access to justice and institutional trust.

By promoting the study of fair dispute resolution and the rule of law, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its dedication to strengthening judicial integrity, ensuring equal access to justice, and fostering institutional accountability within national and global legal systems.

This seminar also supported SDG4 (Quality Education) by offering advanced legal learning opportunities and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by facilitating collaboration among universities and international legal experts.

Law Professions Summit (11.12.2024)



On December 11, 2024, the BAU Law Club, in collaboration with the Dean of Students Office (DSO), organized the Law Professions Summit at Bahçeşehir University's South Campus Conference Hall. The summit brought together legal professionals, academics, and students to discuss diverse career paths within the field of law, including advocacy, judiciary, corporate law, and public service. Participants gained valuable insights into the ethical, procedural, and institutional dimensions of the legal profession, as well as the responsibilities of legal practitioners in upholding justice and the rule of law.

By cultivating awareness of ethical conduct, accountability, and professional integrity within the legal system, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to developing competent and principled professionals who contribute to the establishment of fair and transparent institutions.

This event also supported SDG4 (Quality Education) by strengthening experiential learning and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through collaboration between academia and the legal community.

International Criminal Law Seminar (06.11.2024)



On November 6, 2024, PALS Global hosted an online seminar on International Criminal Law led by Prof. Dr. Durmuş Tezcan, one of Türkiye's foremost experts in the field. The session provided a comprehensive examination of the foundations and evolution of international criminal law, including key mechanisms for prosecuting crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide. Participants explored the principles of individual responsibility, due process, and global justice while gaining insight into the functioning of international judicial bodies such as the International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunal.

By promoting awareness of international legal norms, accountability, and human rights protection, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening justice-oriented institutions and cultivating a deeper understanding of global legal frameworks that uphold peace and the rule of law.

This seminar also contributed to SDG4 (Quality Education) through its academic emphasis on international legal studies and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering collaboration among legal scholars and practitioners.

Moot Court Preparations Seminar (06.12.2024)



On December 6, 2024, the Global Principles of the Rule of Law Program (IGUL) and PALS Global jointly hosted an online seminar titled Moot Court Preparations, featuring Phyllis Cox, Attorney at Law. The session offered an interactive training experience designed to enhance students' advocacy, research, and oral argumentation skills in preparation for international moot court competitions. Participants explored strategies for case analysis, procedural conduct, and persuasive legal reasoning, gaining practical insights into courtroom dynamics and the ethical standards that underpin legal advocacy.

By nurturing legal competence, ethical awareness, and procedural fairness, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening justice-oriented education and fostering responsible future practitioners dedicated to the rule of law and transparent judicial processes. This event also contributed to SDG4 (Quality Education) by advancing experiential legal learning and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through international collaboration in legal education and professional training.

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.

https://cdn.bau.edu.tr/content/2wvry5i4pq0qb-Engelli_Birimi_Yonergesi.pdf

Constitutional Law Conference: The International Dimensions of the Protection of Fundamental Rights (08.03.2024)





On March 8, 2024, PALS Global, in collaboration with the Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Law, the Max Planck Institute, the German Consulate General in Istanbul, and Medipol University, organized a high-level Constitutional Law Conference titled "The International Dimensions of the Protection of Fundamental Rights." The event featured distinguished scholars Prof. Ralf Poscher and Prof. Thorsten Kingreen from Germany, who delivered in-depth analyses on the global scope of constitutional protections and the interaction between national and international human rights frameworks.

The conference explored the evolving challenges in safeguarding fundamental freedoms within democratic systems, emphasizing judicial cooperation, comparative constitutional law, and the role of transnational institutions in protecting individual rights. By advancing dialogue on human rights, legal accountability, and institutional transparency, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its dedication to promoting justice, strengthening the rule of law, and nurturing inclusive governance through academic collaboration.

This event also contributed to SDG4 (Quality Education) through academic exchange and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering international cooperation in the field of law and human rights.

Juries in the U.S. Seminar (2024)

Organized by PALS Global in collaboration with the Global Principles of the Rule of Law Program (IGUL) at Bahçeşehir University, the online seminar "Juries in the U.S." featured Professor Kim Vu-Dinh from the Mitchell Hamline School of Law (St. Paul, Minnesota). The session provided an in-depth overview of the U.S. jury system, tracing its historical foundations, constitutional principles, and role in ensuring fair trial standards. Participants explored how juries contribute to civic participation, impartial judgment, and accountability within democratic governance structures.

By fostering comparative understanding of judicial systems and promoting dialogue on transparency and fairness in legal processes, Bahçeşehir University reaffirmed its dedication to advancing justice, strengthening institutional integrity, and upholding the rule of law through international legal education.

This seminar also supported SDG4 (Quality Education) by enhancing students' global legal literacy and SDG17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through academic cooperation between international law institutions.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL BETWEEN BAHÇEŞEHIR UNIVERSITY, ISTANBUL METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY, AND ISTANBUL FIRE DEPARTMENT



Bahçeşehir University signed a cooperation protocol with the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and Istanbul Fire Department. According to the protocol, the stakeholders declared their commitment to working together to raise awareness, particularly among children and the general public, about ways to protect against various disasters and emergencies. The parties will collaborate on projects, identify challenges and issues, and conduct educational activities aimed at addressing these challenges as part of their partnership. As part of the collaboration, Bahçeşehir University will also provide capacity-building training for officials working on relevant issues at the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. The website for one of the projects implemented under the cooperation, the "Heroic Firefighters" project, can be accessed via the following link. https://www.kahramanitfaiyeciler.org/

BAU Rector's Membership in the Turkish Football Federation's Fair Play and Social Responsibility Committee



Bahçeşehir University Rector, Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, serves as a member of the Turkish Football Federation's (TFF) Fair Play and Social Responsibility Committee, a body operating under the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

In this capacity, Prof. Hatipoğlu contributes expert opinions and ethical guidance to support the Federation's efforts in advancing fair play principles, social inclusion, and institutional accountability in sports governance.

Through this role, Bahçeşehir University provides expert-level input to a ministry-affiliated institution, helping to shape national strategies on ethical conduct, social responsibility, and community engagement in sports.

The committee's work aligns with BAU's broader mission to promote integrity, equality, and participatory governance across different sectors of public life.

This engagement contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by fostering transparency and ethical governance; SDG 5 (Gender Equality) by supporting inclusive participation and representation in sports; and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by promoting active, fair, and socially responsible sporting environments.

https://www.tff.org/default.aspx?pageID=1595

Mediation Training for Policymakers under the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Türkiye

Bahçeşehir University (BAU) is officially authorized by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Türkiye to deliver mediation training programs under the Law on Mediation in Civil Disputes.

These programs, which address complex and cross-sectoral issues including energy and healthcare, and environmental law, are designed to enhance the professional capacity of policymakers, legal practitioners, and public officials engaged in conflict resolution and policy development.

Launched in 2021, BAU's mediation training program has been extended through 2024 by the decision of the Ministry of Justice, following its demonstrated success in upskilling professionals within both the public and private sectors.

The Ministry's official decision confirming the extension of Bahçeşehir University's authorization for mediation training through 2024 can be accessed via the official correspondence of the Ministry of Justice.:

https://cdn.bau.edu.tr/content/hra1k7uaonq23-Hukuk%20Uzmanl%C4%B1k%20Alan%C4%B1.pdf

By offering continuous education programs that strengthen legal and policy-making capacities, BAU contributes directly to Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) — advancing transparency, justice, and institutional cooperation through education and professional development.

