



# Akdeniz University International Relations Office (IRO)

## Newsletter

*[uio.akdeniz.edu.tr/en](http://uio.akdeniz.edu.tr/en)*



Akdeniz University International Relations Office



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*March 2025 Issue 46*

### **MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR**



Greetings from the 46<sup>th</sup> issue of the Newsletter of the International Relations Office (IRO).

Our University's internationalization efforts under the leadership of our Rector, Prof. Dr. Özlenen Özkan, continue to yield significant results. According to the 2025 QS World University Rankings by Subject—one of the most prestigious global university rankings—Akdeniz University has been ranked among the top universities in the world and in Türkiye in the fields of Medicine, Tourism, and Agriculture.

Out of 5, 203 universities analyzed globally, 1,747 were ranked across 55 different subject areas. In this comprehensive evaluation, Akdeniz University was placed in the 701–850 band worldwide in the field of Medicine, and among the 15 Turkish universities included in the ranking. Akdeniz University ranked within the top 101–150 globally and is one of only two Turkish universities represented in Tourism. In the field of Agriculture, Akdeniz University placed in the 351–400 range globally, and among the top 10 universities in Türkiye, marking a significant achievement.

Moreover, in the 2025 Subject Rankings published by Times Higher Education (THE)—another globally prestigious ranking body—Akdeniz University was ranked among the world's top 1000 universities in 7 subject areas and among Türkiye's top 10 universities in 5 subject areas. These remarkable accomplishments have significantly enhanced the university's global recognition and prestige, which are vital elements of internationalization.

As part of our ongoing efforts to disseminate information on international scholarships and opportunities for our students and staff, we hosted a presentation on Fulbright Master's and PhD Scholarships, delivered by a representative from the Türkiye Fulbright Commission in Ankara. The event attracted considerable interest from our students, and similar informative sessions will continue in the upcoming period.

Within the scope of the Erasmus+ Programme, we have submitted a total of 27 project proposals. I would like to conclude with the hope and anticipation of sharing good news with you in future issues, reporting the successful outcomes of all our project applications.

**Prof. Dr. İrfan TURHAN**  
**Coordinator of the International Relations Office**

**AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY RANKS AMONG  
THE WORLD'S TOP 1000 UNIVERSITIES**



Akdeniz University has been ranked among the top 1000 universities in the world in seven subject areas, according to the 2025 World University Rankings by Subject published by Times Higher Education (THE).

Times Higher Education (THE), an international higher education rating agency, has released its World University Rankings by Subject 2025. In the subject-based assessment conducted across 11 disciplines worldwide, Akdeniz University was listed among the world's top 1000 universities in 7 areas and ranked among the top 10 universities in Türkiye in 5 of them.

According to the report, Akdeniz University was placed in the 501–600 band in Engineering, in the 601+ band in Arts and Humanities, Education, and Physical Sciences, and in the 801+ band in Clinical and Health, Life Sciences, and Business and Economics.



### **AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST**



According to the results of the 2025 QS World University Rankings by Subject, Akdeniz University has been recognized as one of the top universities in both Türkiye and the world in the fields of Medicine, Tourism, and Agriculture.

The 2025 QS World University Rankings by Subject, one of the most prestigious global university ranking systems, has been officially announced. The rankings analyzed a total of 5,203 universities worldwide, with 1,747 institutions ranked across 55 different subject areas. Akdeniz University was evaluated in three subject areas and achieved remarkable success.

According to the results:

- In Medicine, the university ranked within the 701–850 band globally, and was among the 15 Turkish universities included in the rankings.
- In Tourism, Akdeniz University was placed among the top 101–150 universities in the world, and was one of only 2 universities from Türkiye to be ranked in this field.
- In Agriculture, the university ranked within the 351–400 band worldwide, and stood among the top 10 universities in Türkiye.

These outstanding achievements are a testament to Akdeniz University's growing academic excellence and international visibility.





According to the QS World University Rankings by Subject, Akdeniz University was ranked among the 701–850 universities worldwide in the field of Medicine. Within Türkiye, the university placed 11th among the 15 Turkish universities included in the ranking for Medicine, and 9th among state universities.



In the field of Hospitality & Leisure Management, which corresponds to Akdeniz University's Tourism academic area, the university was once again ranked among the top 101–150 universities in the world in 2025, following similar achievements in 2022 and 2023, according to QS World University Rankings. With this result, Akdeniz University is one of only two universities from Türkiye included in this subject area.

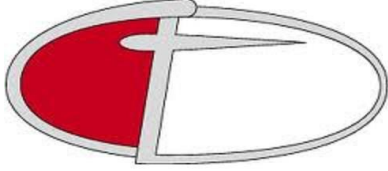
In Agriculture and Forestry, which represents the university's Agricultural Sciences field, Akdeniz University was ranked among the top 351–400 universities worldwide in both the 2024 and 2025 editions of the QS World University Rankings. At the national level, it was ranked 6th among the 10 Turkish universities included in this subject ranking.

The QS World University Rankings by Subject evaluate institutions based on a combination of indicators with varying weights, including academic reputation, employer reputation, citation count, h-index, and international research network performance. These indicators are applied differently across 5 broad subject areas and 55 narrower subject disciplines. The number of



universities evaluated and the number actually ranked may differ, as institutions that fall below certain performance thresholds are excluded from the final rankings. Depending on the specific subject area, between 20 and 850 universities were included in the 2025 QS Subject Rankings.

### **COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH CHIBA UNIVERSITY/JAPAN**



**Chiba University**

Akdeniz University has signed a Cooperation Protocol with the Chiba University in Japan. The protocol covers exchanges for students, academic staff members, as well as joint scientific activities.

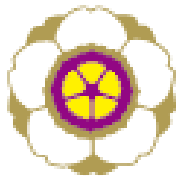
### **COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH THE TASHKENT STATE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS/UZBEKISTAN**

Akdeniz University has signed a Cooperation Protocol with the Tashkent State University of Economics in Uzbekistan. The protocol covers exchanges for students, academic staff members, as well as joint scientific activities.



### **COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH NARA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY/JAPAN**

Akdeniz University has signed a Cooperation Protocol with the Nara Women's University in Japan. The protocol covers exchanges for students, academic staff members, as well as joint scientific activities.



**Nara Women's University**

## **SEMINAR ABOUT FULBRIGHT MASTER'S AND PhD SCHOLARSHIPS**



A seminar on Fulbright Master's and PhD Scholarships was held on February 20, 2025, under the coordination of our office, with the participation of İrem Arıcan Yiğit, Coordinator of the Türkiye Fulbright Commission in Ankara. The event took place at the Faculty of Communication Conference Hall of our university and attracted a high level of interest from students.

  
**SEMINER**  
Akdeniz Üniversitesi Uluslararası  
İlişkiler Ofisi Koordinasyonunda  
**FULBRIGHT**  
**YÜKSEK LİSANS &**  
**DOKTORA BURSU**  
**20 ŞUBAT 2025**  
**PERŞEMBE**  
**13:30**  
**AKDENİZ**  
**ÜNİVERSİTESİ**  
Lisans 3. ve 4. Sınıf  
Öğrencileri & Yüksek  
Lisans Öğrencileri  
TOPLANTI YERİ  
Akdeniz Üniversitesi  
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Prof. Dr. İrfan Turhan, Coordinator of the International Relations Office, in his opening remarks, emphasized that the Our Office is actively working to support internationalization by inviting representatives of global scholarship programs to the university to inform and guide students. Prof. Dr. Turhan stated, “As part of this effort, we are organizing our second seminar this year in collaboration with Türkiye Fulbright Commission, one of the most comprehensive scholarship programs, focusing on Master's and PhD opportunities.” He also encouraged students not to hesitate in applying, stressing that even going through the application process—regardless of the outcome—would offer valuable experience and contribute significantly to their personal and academic growth.





İrem Arıcan Yiğit, in her detailed presentation, explained the eligibility criteria, required documents, and the application process for the Fulbright scholarships. She highlighted a major innovation: all application documents will now be submitted through an online system, which not only simplifies the process but also contributes to environmental sustainability by reducing paper usage.

As part of the experience-sharing segment of the seminar, Assoc. Prof. Dr. M. Aydın Akbudak, a faculty member in Agricultural Biotechnology at the Faculty of Agriculture and a former Fulbright scholar who studied in the United States, shared his experiences. He encouraged students to overcome anxieties related to English proficiency and other concerns and to take advantage of international scholarship opportunities to gain valuable global experience.

The seminar concluded with a Q&A session, and the event was moderated by Lecturer Emel Aktaş, Coordinator of International Scholarships and Opportunities at Akdeniz University.





**WE ORGANIZED APPLICATION PREPERATION MEETING ON  
INTERNATIONAL CREDIT MOBILITY PROJECTS (KA171)**



Student and staff mobility can be carried out with universities in 169 countries outside of EU countries and Erasmus+ Program countries (such as America, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Japan, Georgia, Haiti, Iran, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Peru, Seychelles, Sub-Saharan African countries). Within the scope of project preparation for universities with which cooperation is planned to be developed, an information and suggestion form preparation study is carried out for the academic staff of our University on 14&15 January 2025 at the Caretta Incubation Center in the Institutes Building. In line with the suggestions received from the academic staff via e-mail and EBYS(electronic document management system), the KA171 (International Credit Mobility) Project application is made on 18 February 2025 within the scope of the Erasmus+ Program 2025 call prepared by our Office on behalf of our University.

## **INTERREG NEXT MED CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAM**



Antalya Teknokent and Akdeniz University International Relations Office jointly held an information meeting on the application processes within the scope of Interreg NEXT Mediterranean Basin Cross-Border Cooperation Program.

In the meeting held at Antalya Teknokent Pre-Incubation Center, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rabia Bayındır and Lecturer Bahar Şahin from our office made a presentation on the Interreg

Next MED program. In addition, information was provided on the institutional strategies to be determined for the areas with quota limitations in the applications to be made within the scope of the program.

Antalya Teknokent Project Unit Director Merve Bilgen Çıkdın emphasized the importance of partnerships to be established with participants from other sectors outside our University in international projects.

## **AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY APPLIED FOR 27 ERASMUS+ PROJECTS**

Within the scope of the Erasmus+ Program 2025 Call for Proposals, a total of 27 project applications are completed on behalf of Akdeniz University, including 25 KA2 - Cooperation Partnerships, one KA131 - Mobility of higher education students and staff supported by internal policy funds and one KA171 – Mobility of higher education students and staff supported by external policy funds - International Credit Mobility project.



**INCOMING STUDENTS FROM KAZAKHSTAN  
WITHIN THE FRAME OF THE COOPERATION PROTOCOL**



Within the scope of the Cooperation Protocol between our University and Almaty Technological University incoming students will complete their internship at the Institute of Fine Arts between the dates of 1 April and 30 April 2025. We would like to thank academic staff of the Faculty of Fine Arts Asst. Prof. Dr. Mariyam Yeziyeva Nehir for their help in organizing and coordinating this internship.





Within the scope of the Cooperation Protocol between Our University and M.Auezoy South Kazakhstan University incoming student studied in the English Language Teaching Department of the Faculty of Education in the Fall Semester of the 2024-2025 Academic Year and She received a ‘Certificate of Attendance’.



Our incoming students who are coming within the scope of the Cooperation Protocol between our university and Almaty University of Technology will study at the Faculty of Fine Arts in the Spring Semester of the 2024-2025 Academic Year.

**ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR INCOMING STUDENTS  
FOR 2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR**



The Spring Semester Erasmus+ Programme Orientation Meeting for the incoming students was organised on 17 February 2025 by Ayşe Tuğcan, who is responsible for the Incoming Students.



### **INCOMING ERASMUS+ STAFF**



Zsuzsanna Bardocz-Veres from George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science and Technology of Târgu Mureş came to Akdeniz University to complete her Erasmus+ Staff Mobility for Teaching in the 2024-2025 Academic Year between the dates 24.03.2025 to 28.03.2025 at the Faculty of Dentistry. We would like to thank our Erasmus Coordinator of the Dentistry Faculty, Prof. Dr. Mükerrerem Hatipoğlu, for his support in this mobility period.

Jasmin Kermanchi from Universität Hamburg came to Akdeniz University to complete her Erasmus+ Staff Mobility for Teaching in the 2024-2025 Academic Year between the dates 03.03.2025 to 14.03.2025 at the Faculty of Letters and the Faculty of Communication. We would like to thank the Vice Dean of the Communication Faculty, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hediye Aydoğan for her support in this mobility period.

### **£90,000 SUPPORTED PROJECT WAS AWARDED A GRANT BY THE BRITISH COUNCIL**

The project titled “Climate-Resilient Railways: Advanced Monitoring of Railway Ballast Degradation under Climate Change Influences”, with a budget of £90,000 and carried out in collaboration with the University of Huddersfield, England, with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sevil Köfteci as the executive and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Halil İbrahim Burgan as the researcher from the Department of Civil Engineering of our university, has been deemed worthy of support as a result of the evaluation made by the British Council Department for Science, Innovation and Technology within the scope of the ISPF Research Collaboration.





## **LEADVET: TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING AT AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY**

“Leadership Interaction in Sustainable Partnerships to Enhance Continuous Improvement of Vocational Teacher Education- LeadVET” Erasmus+ KA2 project aims to enhance vocational teacher education (VTE) and vocational education and training (VET) by developing sustainable university-school partnerships, together with leadership and networking skills for professionals in the field. Final transnational project meeting has been successfully organised at Akdeniz University on 22nd and 23rd of January, 2025.

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme and Norwegian National Agency, coordinated by Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), the project brought together partners from Norway (NTNU and Charlottenlund Upper Secondary School), Finland (aaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences), Germany (University of Erlangen–Nuremberg), and Türkiye (Akdeniz University) to produce a robust theoretical model for leadership in collaborative or partnership in VTE; a framework for how to recruit and educate more VET-teachers by developing in-service training in partnership with VET schools and companies; a VTE-student mentoring system in cooperation with VET-institutions that bridges the theory-practice gap in VTE; and Academic videos for bite sized learning for VET/TVE leader and key personnel.

We invite teachers, educational institutions, VET providers, and individual learners to explore and use the project outputs. All materials can be accessed on the official project website <https://leadvet.akdeniz.edu.tr/>



### **EGIDEV: LOCAL TRAINING FOR AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

In the context of the Erasmus+ KA2 project ‘EGIDEV - Educational Game in Digital Entrepreneurship for VET Students’, in which Akdeniz University Faculty of Education is a partner, an innovative educational board game designed to help young students develop basic digital entrepreneurship skills has been successfully tested by students at Akdeniz University Faculty of Education on 5th of March, 2025.

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, the project brought together partners from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Portugal, France, Spain, Romania, Malta, and Türkiye to create a hands-on, engaging learning tool that makes digital entrepreneurship both accessible and enjoyable. The game is built around the EntreComp framework and encourages players to explore business creation, innovation, teamwork, and creative problem-solving through real-life inspired challenges.

Total 16 students from Faculty of Education attended the local training to give feedback for the final version of the game. The game is now available for use. It is suitable for educators, trainers, youth workers, students, and lifelong learners interested in building entrepreneurial skills in a dynamic and interactive way.

The EGIDEV game can be used in both classroom and non-formal education environments and is accompanied by supporting materials to help facilitators integrate it effectively into their teaching.

We invite teachers, educational institutions, VET providers, youth organisations and individual learners to explore and use the game. All materials can be accessed on the official project website: [www.egidev.eu](http://www.egidev.eu)



## **EGIDEV: AN EDUCATIONAL GAME IN DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

In the context of the Erasmus+ KA2 project ‘EGIDEV - Educational Game in Digital Entrepreneurship for VET Students’, in which Akdeniz University Faculty of Education is a partner, an innovative educational board game designed to help young students develop basic digital entrepreneurship skills has been successfully developed and tested by trainers and students both at Akdeniz University and at EPRALIMA institution in Portugal.

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, the project brought together partners from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Portugal, France, Spain, Romania, Malta, and Türkiye to create a hands-on, engaging learning tool that makes digital entrepreneurship both accessible and enjoyable. The game is built around the EntreComp framework and encourages players to explore business creation, innovation, teamwork, and creative problem-solving through real-life inspired challenges. Following a successful piloting phase with VET students at Akdeniz University in Türkiye (15-19/04/2024) and Portugal (1-4/04/2025), the final version of the game is now available for use. It is suitable for educators, trainers, youth workers, students, and lifelong learners interested in building entrepreneurial skills in a dynamic and interactive way.

The EGIDEV game can be used in both classroom and non-formal education environments and is accompanied by supporting materials to help facilitators integrate it effectively into their teaching. We invite teachers, educational institutions, VET providers, youth organisations and individual learners to explore and use the game. All materials can be accessed on the official project website: [www.egidev.eu](http://www.egidev.eu)







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