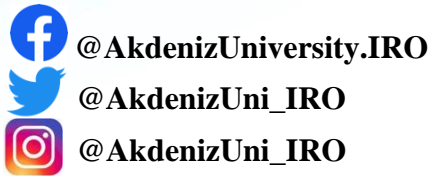




# Akdeniz University International Relations Office

## Newsletter

*[iro.akeniz.edu.tr](http://iro.akeniz.edu.tr)*



*September 2021, Issue 33*

### MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

*Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible<sup>1</sup>.*

Greetings from the 33<sup>th</sup> issue of the Newsletter of the International Relations Office (IRO) and the first Newsletter of my Coordinatorship...

Let's start by saying "health comes first" on these days when challenging conditions still continue in the second year of the pandemic.



As of 23 August 2021, I took over the position of the Coordinator of the International Relations Office from Prof. Dr. Olgun Kitapçı. We said goodbye to our Honorary Coordinator with a thank-you plaque. Thus, we have taken over an Office with many lines of work. Erasmus+ Programme, Mevlana Exchange Programme, Farabi Exchange Programme, Free Mover Programme, IAESTE Internship Programme, Joint Degree Programmes, International Students and International Cooperation Protocols are the first ones that come to my mind... I named these vertical work packages. There are also horizontal work packages: Administrative and Financial Affairs and Quality Management... In addition to conducting all vertical work packages within the framework of the legislation to which they are subject, we also try for fulfilling the requirements of the horizontal work packages that constitute the common ground of each.

We have started our work with the "necessary". We are focused on fulfilling the duties delegated on us by the legislation in all our duties and operations properly and on making quality norms prevail in all our processes. Soon, we will continue with what is "possible". We will prepare our Directive and Internationalization Strategy Document and open them up for discussion. Our purpose is to contribute to our University's vision of "becoming an internationally recognized distinguished university".

After taking a certain distance, we will try "the impossible." To tell the truth, I don't know what the impossible stands for... Let's define it together and achieve everything which we call impossible together.

**Prof. Dr. Sibel Mehter Aykın**

**Coordinator of the International Relations Office**

<sup>1</sup>Saint Francis of Assisi. Retrieved 17 October 2021 from [https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/francis\\_of\\_assisi\\_121023](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/francis_of_assisi_121023)

**A THANK YOU PLAGUE TO OUR HONORARY COORDINATOR  
PROF. DR. OLGUN KİTAPCI**

Vice-Rector for International Relations Prof. Dr. Ayşe Gülbin Arıcı presented a thank you plague to our Honorary Coordinator Prof. Dr. Olgun Kitapcı for his contributions to the International Relations Office during the period in which he was the Coordinator of the IRO. Prof. Dr. Sibel Mehter Aykın stated that they always expect his contributions to our Office as the Honorary Coordinator.



As the members of the IRO, we would like to thank Prof. Dr. Olgun Kitapcı and wish him success in his new duties.



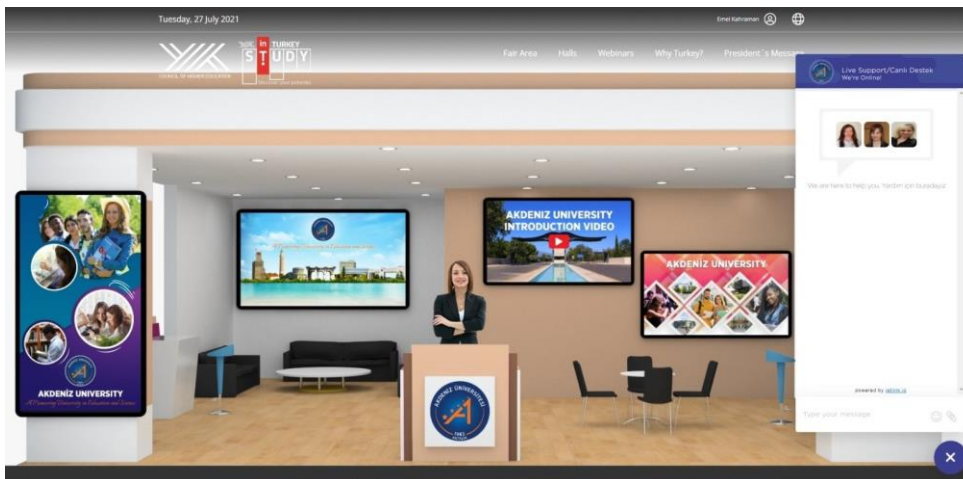
## STUDY IN TURKEY YÖK VIRTUAL FAIR 2021

Akdeniz University participated in the “Study in Turkey YÖK Virtual Fair 2021” organized by the Council of Higher Education (CoHE) between 27 – 29 July 2021.

Study in Turkey YÖK Virtual Fair, the first of which was held last year, was held on a global scale with the participation of Turkish universities under the umbrella of CoHE with the aim of reducing the negative effects of the student mobility restricted during the COVID-19 pandemic and introducing Turkish universities to prospective international students online.

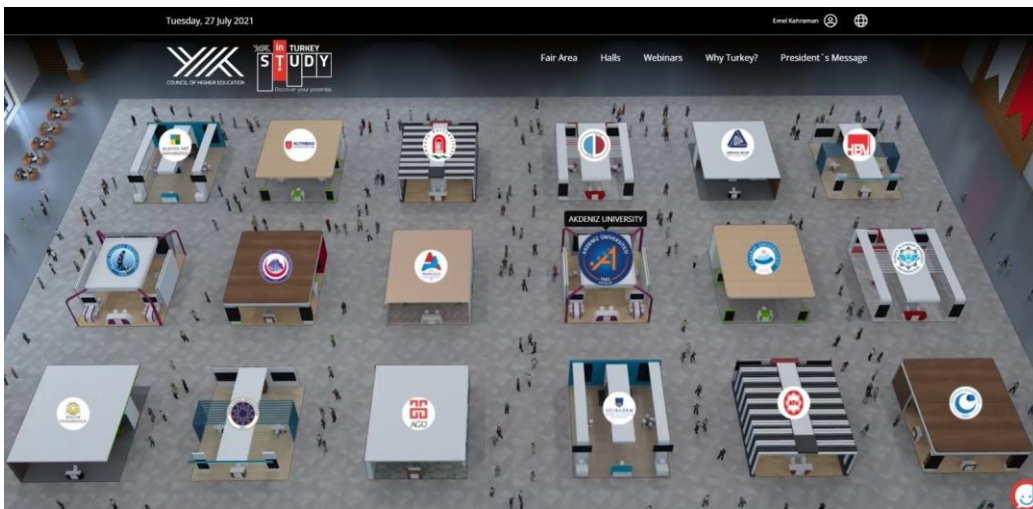


Under the coordination of Akdeniz University Virtual Fair Coordinator Prof. Dr. Sibel Mehter Aykın and Virtual Fair Director - Head of the Student Affairs Directorate Lect. Altuğ Erkan, Akdeniz University was represented by representatives from the IRO, Asst. Prof. Dr. Rabia Vezne, Lect. Ayça Altay, Lect. Emel Kahraman, Lect. Bahar Şahin, Inst. H. Nuran Caner, Lect. Alina Aksoy and Serhan Karaloğlu. Virtual Fair Representatives promoted our university internationally with online interviews between 08.00 - 20.00 for three days by instant messaging to prospective students and presenting information to students about the departments/programmes of our university, admission criteria for international students, exchange programmes.





Our Rector Prof. Dr. Özlenen Özkan said of the virtual fair; “Study in Turkey YÖK Virtual Fair, organized by CoHe within the scope of its target-oriented internationalization policy and providing the opportunity to introduce the Turkish higher education system to potential international students, is a very important event in terms of providing the opportunity to inform the prospective students through instant communication with the international student candidates who would like to study at our university, ensuring the participation of more international students to our university and international promotion of our university. Study in Turkey YÖK Virtual Fair, which we attended with the promotional brochures and videos at the stand of our university on digital platform and our fair representatives who held online interviews with prospective students in 3 languages during the fair, will make significant contribution to increasing the internationalization capacity of our university and increasing the number of international students.”



### VISIT OF THE EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Counsellor Bahadır Nazarov, Consul Aybek Razzakov from the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Ankara and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Antalya Barış Gökçe paid a visit to the Coordinator of the International Relations Office Prof. Dr. Sibel Mehter Aykın on 24 September 2021. During the meeting aimed at cooperation in the field of education, cooperation issues between our university and universities in Uzbekistan were discussed.

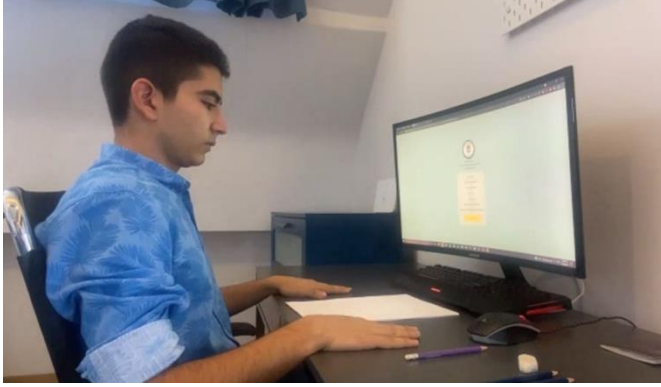
Coordinator of the IRO Prof. Dr. Sibel Mehter Aykın gave information to the guest delegation about the activities of the IRO, the universities in Uzbekistan with which our university has academic cooperation and the Uzbek students studying at our university.



After the meeting, the guest delegation had a meeting with the Uzbek students and answered questions of the students, stating that that they wanted to support students in every way if needed.



## **GREAT INTEREST IN AKDENİZ YÖS-2021 ONLINE EXAM**



Akdeniz University International Student Examination (AKDENİZ YÖS-2021) was held online on 28 July 2021 at 15.00 through the ASOS software which was developed by our university. Due to international student candidates' great interest in our exam, the second exam of AKDENİZ YÖS-2021 was held online on 20 August 2021.

The international student candidates were able to participate in the preference process by submitting the results of the AKDENİZ YÖS-2021/1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Exam. The candidates placed in their preferences have started their education by completing the registration process in the relevant registration period.

## **HIGH-QUALITY GRADUATE PROGRAMMES ATTRACT INTEREST FROM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**



Akdeniz University has attracted a great deal of interest due to the availability of an extensive range of graduate programmes which provide high quality education opportunities. International student applications for graduate programmes were accepted online between 26 July and 6 August 2021.

Candidates who are eligible to attend Akdeniz University completed the registration process between 13 -17 September 2021.

We are pleased to welcome all our international students to our university and our country; and wish them success in their education life at Akdeniz University.

### ONLINE MEETING WITH SUNY NEW PALTZ

Within the scope of the SUNY (The State University of New York) Programme, a meeting was held online with the participation of academic staff members of the Department of Computer Engineering of Akdeniz University and SUNY New Paltz in order to evaluate and discuss the issue of establishing a master's dual degree programme.



After the brief presentation of our university by Lect. Emel Kahraman, Responsible for Joint Degree Programmes at the IRO, Head of the Department of Computer Engineering Prof. Dr. Melih Günay gave information about the programme curriculum.

Our target is to establish the first SUNY Dual Degree Programme at our university and ensure that our students who are enrolled in the programme are entitled to receive both Akdeniz University and SUNY New Paltz diplomas.

### ERASMUS+ ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

Under the terms of the Erasmus+ Programme, an orientation programme was held for the benefit of incoming students who came to study at Akdeniz University in the fall semester of the 2021-2022 academic year.







### **VISITS OF ACADEMIC STAFF FROM ERASMUS+ PARTNER UNIVERSITIES**

Within the scope of the Erasmus+ Programme, Prof. Dr. Tatjana Cebovic from University Novi Sad in Serbia visited our university for Erasmus+ staff training mobility between 6-10 September 2021.

Academic staff member of Medical University of Warsaw in Poland, Prof. Dr. Zbigniew Galazka came to our university for the purpose of Erasmus+ staff training mobility between 30 August and 3 September 2021.

### **MEETING WITH ESN AKDENİZ MEMBERS**

With the aim of contributing to the mobility periods of Erasmus+ incoming students studying at our university in the fall semester of the 2021-2022 academic year, a meeting was held with the members of Akdeniz University ESN (Erasmus Student Network) on 30 September 2021.



### **ERASMUS+ KA107 ICM PROJECTS WITH PARTNER COUNTRIES**

We have concluded the mobility announcement work of Montenegro and Algeria, the partner countries whose project applications were awarded grants within the scope of the Erasmus+ KA107 International Credit Mobility (ICM) projects in the field of higher education in 2020.



Please send contributions and comments to [international@akdeniz.edu.tr](mailto:international@akdeniz.edu.tr)

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**Ayça ALTAY**  
International Cooperation and Publicity Coordinator

