

NEWS FROM SABANCI UNIVERSITY

DECEMBER 2022

A cooperation agreement was signed with Ericsson for 5G/6G technologies

Sabancı University has signed a cooperation agreement with Ericsson on the development of network architectures used in communication systems to be built on 6G, and the algorithms and infrastructures necessary to protect the security of these systems.

The signing ceremony took place with the participation of Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici, Ericsson Deputy General Manager and Head of Research Dr. Magnus Frodigh, and Ericsson Turkey General Manager Işıl Yalçın. Sabancı University faculty members Özgür Erçetin and Cemal Yılmaz attended the event, where the latest developments in communication technology were shared, with a presentation of their joint project with Ericsson on cognitive and autonomous network research. Within the scope of the event, a cooperation agreement was also signed between Ericsson and Istanbul Technical University (ITU). Ericsson



Research Turkey, one of Ericsson's 13 research centers worldwide, actively contributes to Horizon Europe, the European Union's main research and innovation-focused funding program.

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Sabancı University Campus Becomes a Pilot Area for Vehicle-to-Everything Communication and Autonomous Driving

Sabancı University campus becomes a test bed in partnership with Netaş and Temsa. The project related to testing V2X (Vehicle-to-everything communication) modules produced by Netaş for ITU 5G Release 15 5G/6G communication standardization and testing autonomous driving scenarios will be implemented on the campus of Sabancı University.



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Cooperation on Composite Engine Parts Development Between TEI and Sabancı University

Sabancı University signed an agreement with TEI to develop composite engine parts.



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SU Smart Campus Project

The project will also be a complement to the SU Smart Campus project, carried out within the scope of the H2020 EuroGia cluster with EnerjiSA, in terms of sustainability and integration. With the tests on the communication module to be placed on the vehicle provided by Temsa, a test bed infrastructure will be created where scenarios for autonomous driving will be tested.

In the long term, Sabancı University V2X Test Bed will be developed as a measurement, testing, and verification infrastructure on which the autonomous driving levels defined in ITU Release 15 and IoT applications can be tested, scenarios related to electric transportation can be implemented, V2X and/or communication IC and front-end tests can be performed, and scenario verifications about platform security and cyber security issues can be carried out.

The test bed structure is planned as a living structure that can be launched with the first scenarios to be determined with the participation of Netaş and Temsa, and that can be used for different research projects and projects to be defined with different partners in the long term.

Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences Faculty Members Dr. Orçun Cetin and Dr. Kamer Kaya will act as researchers in the project, which will be carried out under the coordination of Sabancı University Ankara Project Office. The cloud infrastructure to be used for the test bed will be provided by SabancıDX.

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"More Than 25% of Our University Budget Comes From Research Projects"

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici said, "As Sabancı University, we remain assertive in Turkey and in the world in the fields in which we are strong in research activities. It is an honor for us to be among the universities with the highest research project budget in Turkey. Currently, more than 25% of our university budget comes from research projects. In addition, we are the university that graduates the highest number of students every year in the field of Computer Science and Computer Engineering in Turkey.



We demonstrate our assertiveness in the field of hardware design and software, algorithm development, cybersecurity and network design through our research in 5G, which we started many years ago, and our current research in 6G. We have very strong experience in integrated circuit design for high frequency and sub-terahertz applications. The people who make the most pioneering studies in these fields in Turkey are among our teaching staff members. It is very valuable for us to work together with Ericsson Research and to explore this important field together".

Ericsson Turkey General Manager Işıl Yalçın made the following comments: "Collaborating with academia and supporting the local innovation ecosystem have always been our priorities since the day we started operating in Turkey. We would like to emphasize once again our belief in the importance of cooperation with the leading academic institutions of our country. These collaborations not only enable Turkey to contribute significantly to global research on new technologies, but also nurture and develop the skills of the country's qualified human resources. In addition, as the Hexa-X project continues at full speed, we will continue to work with academia to explore future connectivity solutions, especially 6G technology, with the goal of a more connected digital future".

Google Research Scholar Program Award to Our Alumnus Aydın Aysu

Google Research Scholar Program Award to Our Alumnus Aydın Aysu

Aydın Aysu, graduate of Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences Microelectronics undergraduate program in 2008, and of Electronics Engineering graduate program in 2010, received the Research Scholar Program (RSP) award given by Google.

Aydın Aysu, one of the 6 researchers who won the RSP award in the field of cybersecurity, will investigate cybersecurity problems in Google's devices running artificial intelligence. Within the scope of the award, it is aimed to detect information leakage from errors that may occur in the hardware of the devices or to predict and repair, at an early stage, incorrect operations that may occur.



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Successful Projects on Composite Materials and Additive Manufacturing

Within the scope of the agreement signed by TEI General Manager Prof. Dr. Mahmut F. Akşit and Sabancı University President Prof. Dr. Yusuf Leblebici, the "Fan Inner Casing System Development Project from Composite Material in Turbofan Engines" will be carried out at the Sabancı University Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Research and Application Center (SU IMC).



While the use of composite material technology in aviation engines provides a competitive solution by enabling lightweight engine design, it also provides a major advantage by providing greater strength. The use of composite materials in aviation engines is becoming widespread thanks to developing manufacturing technologies.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, TEI General Manager Prof. Dr. Mahmut F. Akşit noted that they have been carrying out a range of different projects with Sabancı University for many years, especially in the field of additive manufacturing, and that the works to be carried out in the context of this agreement will take the cooperation between the two institutions to the next level. Akşit said that the parts produced in the aviation industry are especially difficult and complex, and that they have achieved important outputs as a result of the hard work of all the teams involved in the projects they carried out with Sabancı University. Akşit continued: "The project for the development of this system, which will be used in Turkey's most powerful engine, will be an important step on this path, on which we will move towards more challenging projects".

Speaking at the ceremony, Sabancı University President Prof. Dr. Yusuf Leblebici said, "Sabancı University has been carrying out very important and successful projects on composite materials and additive manufacturing for years. We have been working with TEI for a long time, especially on additive manufacturing, and we have achieved very good results so far. Today, in addition to all these efforts, we are undertaking a project that will open the door to the use of composite materials in the aviation industry. With this agreement, as Sabancı University, we will continue to support TEI's work with our researchers and staff members at our center. We are also proud that we have made Turkey one of the few countries in the world that has a say in this field".

Boeing and Sabancı University join forces for advanced aerospace composite technologies

The Boeing Company and Sabancı University Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Research and Application Center (SU IMC) collaborate to develop advanced aerospace composite technologies. To this end, SU IMC and Boeing have signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

Sabancı University Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Research and Application Center (SU IMC) and the Boeing Company have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore future collaboration on the development of advanced aerospace technologies.



Held in the Composite Technologies Center of Excellence building in Teknopark Istanbul, the signing ceremony was attended by José Enrique Román, Vice President of Boeing Research and Global Technology, and Ali Çalışkan, Secretary General of Sabancı University, in addition to Juan Carlos Campell, Director of Boeing Research and Technology Middle East, Professor Mehmet Yıldız, Sabancı University's Vice President for Research and Development, Associate Professor Burcu Saner Okan, Academic Director of SU IMC, Devrim Özaydın, CEO of SU IMC, and project partners, faculty members, and researchers.

With this Memorandum of Understanding, Sabancı University and Boeing aim to develop new projects for the aviation industry. Thanks to the MoU, collaborations for the development of advanced aviation composite materials will also be increased in order to meet the growing needs of the aviation industry both in Turkey and globally. In this context, especially cost- and energy-competitive thermoplastics and nanomaterials, functionalized thermoplastics, and structural health monitoring are the main areas of focus in this mutual cooperation.

SUIMC is one of the only six worldwide, and the first university center in Turkey with AS9100 certification. The AS9100 Certificate has critical importance on an international level for institutions operating in the Aerospace and Defense Industry.

Former Chief Economist of the World Bank is in the Distinguished Research Fellowship Program

Aslı Demirgüç-Kunt, who served as the Chief Economist of the Europe and Central Asia region at the World Bank and who currently works as a non-resident fellow at the Center for Global Development, has been included in the Distinguished Research Fellowship program of our university.

Making a statement on the subject, our President Yusuf Leblebici said, "We are delighted to add one more distinguished scientist, who served as the Chief Economist of the Europe and Central Asia region at the World Bank, who has achieved international success, and who has a worldwide reputation for her studies, into the Distinguished Research Fellowship program that we started in the 2019-2020 Academic year."

Aslı Demirgüç-Kunt will contribute to our University with her studies in finance and private sector development.

Other members of our Distinguished Research Fellows program include

Mete Atatüre, Professor of Physics at the University of Cambridge, and Director of Studies and Tutor at St. John's College, Özlem Ayduk, Professor of Psychology at the University of California, Director of the Relationships and Social Cognition Lab., and Fellow of the Society of Personality & Social Psychology, Holger Alexander Klein, Lisa and Bernard Selz Professor of Medieval Art at the University of Cambridge, and Director of the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University, Serdar Taşiran, Principal Engineer at Amazon Web Services, and Mehmet Toner, Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School.



Who is Aslı Demirgüç-Kunt?

Aslı Demirgüç-Kunt is a former Chief Economist of the Europe and Central Asia region at the World Bank, a position she held until August 2022, and currently a Non-Resident Fellow at the Center for Global Development. Over her 30-year career in the World Bank, she also served as the Director of Research, Director of Development Policy, and the Chief Economist of the Finance and Private Sector Development Network, conducting research and advising on financial and private sector development issues.

The author of over 100 publications, she has published widely in academic journals and is among the most-cited researchers in the world. Her research has focused on the links between financial development, firm performance, and

economic development. Banking and financial crises, financial regulation, access to financial services and inclusion, as well as SME finance and entrepreneurship are among her areas of research. She has also created the Global Financial Development Report series and Global Findex financial inclusion database.

She was the President of the International Atlantic Economic Society (2013-14) and Director of the Western Economic Association (2015-18) and serves on the editorial boards of professional journals. Prior to joining the World Bank, she was an Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

She holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in economics from Ohio State University.

Our Faculty Member, Ali Koşar receives the Mustafa Parlar Foundation Science Award

The award ceremony of the METU Prof. Dr. Mustafa N. Parlar Education and Research Foundation 2021 Awards took place on Monday, June 6, 2022.

Ali Koşar, member of Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences (FENS), researcher at Sabancı University Nanotechnology Research and Application Center (SUNUM), and Co-Director of EFSUN Center, receives the Mustafa Parlar Foundation Science Award, which is given to scientists who have contributed significantly to science at the international level with their scientific studies and research or to the development of the country with their scientific findings.

Every year, the METU Prof. Dr. Mustafa N. Parlar Education and Research Foundation rewards distinguished scientists for their efforts by recognizing their outstanding research and contributions in all fields of sciences, certifying their competencies and encouraging future talented researchers.

We congratulate our faculty member on his achievement!



"Energy Security, Clean Energy & The Role of Finance" Conference by IIEEC

Sabancı University Istanbul International Center for Energy and Climate (IIEEC) continues to enlighten the public with events it organizes on energy and climate, which are among the most important issues facing the world. This time, IIEEC covered the issue of energy security, which is at the top of the global agenda and has become much more important with the Russia-Ukraine war, together with clean energy trends, at the "Energy Security, Clean Energy & The Role of Finance" conference and panel held in Istanbul.



Held at Sabancı Center and opening with the opening speech of Founding Chair of Sabancı University Board of Trustees Güler Sabancı, the conference included speeches delivered by EBRD Turkey Director Arvid Tuerkner and IEA Executive Director and IIEEC Honorary Chair, Dr. Fatih Birol.

"We are faced with a multidimensional energy security paradigm."

Starting her speech by thanking the participants and congratulating Dr. Fatih Birol, who was unanimously elected as the IEA Director for the third term in March, Güler Sabancı said, "Under the management of Dr. Fatih Birol, the International Energy Agency has become an organization that shapes 'global energy security' and leads the 'global clean energy transformation'. From here, he will go to the G7 Leaders' Summit to make speeches and hold bilateral talks on energy and climate upon the invitation of the G7 Term President, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. Today, we will have the privilege of listening to Dr. Fatih Birol about the latest developments and future perspectives in the field of energy and climate.

"Recently, with the global and regional developments, energy security has come to the top of the world agenda. We are faced with a multidimensional energy security paradigm that encompasses the supply chains of oil, natural gas, other fuels, electric power, and clean energy technologies. On the other hand, we are in a period in which important steps should continue without any interruption in order to ensure a more sustainable future for our planet in terms of climate security and clean energy, as well as supporting social and economic development goals. A more sustainable future requires a holistic perspective that strengthens energy security and supports growth in clean energy. We need to grow with sustainable investments and financing with a focus on efficiency, competitiveness, innovative business models, and clean energy technologies."



“IICEC is a leading model and center in Turkey”

“At Sabancı University, we have given priority to energy and climate issues for a long time. We founded IICEC as an energy and climate center with the vision that these two issues are inseparable. Within the model that I define as the 'Success Triangle', IICEC continues to bring together the public, private sector, and academia to create collective wisdom towards goals that will support a safer and cleaner energy future. I am very pleased to see that IICEC is expanding its cooperation and sphere of influence within the ecosystem.

“IICEC published the 'Turkey Energy Outlook' report, breaking new ground in Turkey in 2020. This study, which was adopted by the stakeholders of the sector, has become a source of reference. Last year, IICEC published the 'Turkey Electric Vehicles Outlook' study, again for the first time in Turkey. This year, within the perspective of its "Outlook" series, IICEC continues its studies on "Renewable Energy", which is one of the most important opportunity areas in Turkey. It develops the 'Turkey Renewable Energy Outlook' study, again with a holistic and analytical perspective and with a participatory approach with the stakeholders of the sector. Creating value from science-based approaches and business collaborations has become one of the most critical success factors today. In this perspective, IICEC is a leading model and center in Turkey.”

“Turkey has the potential to become a green hydrogen exporter in the long run”

Noting that the energy security and decarbonization agendas have become mutually supportive, EBRD Turkey Director Arvid Tuerkner said the following: “Today the topic of renewable energy has become even more convincing. Increasing renewable energy capacity will free up natural gas for export and create an opportunity to transform renewable energy into green hydrogen to develop more complex products. This will ultimately help decarbonize energy-intensive industries.

“Turkey has the potential to become a green hydrogen exporter in the long term, in addition to domestic use, to help achieve net-zero emissions in sectors that are difficult to decarbonize and to reach the net-zero target of 2053. The last decade has seen impressive growth in renewable energy production. Thanks to Turkey's solar and wind power generation potential, we hope that we will see a further increase in this growth going forward.

“Through the Ministry of Commerce's 'National Green Deal Action Plan', Turkey has announced plans to develop decarbonization roadmaps for a number of carbon-intensive sectors. We are currently working in partnership with the Ministry of Industry and Technology on a 2053 decarbonization roadmap for Turkish industrial sectors, which will also be the first to be impacted by the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism. These sectors are aluminum, cement, fertilizer, and steel.

“Additionally, the EBRD Green Cities, the Bank's flagship program and the largest financing framework ever, has been expanded to reach a total of €5 billion. Four cities, Ankara, Gaziantep, Istanbul, and Izmir, joined the program following



green investment projects ranging from clean urban transportation to renewable energy generation for municipal uses. We also help small and medium-sized businesses and homeowners invest in green technologies through our Green Economy Financing Programs, our GEEFs (Green Economy Financing Loan). Through the EBRD's programs in Turkey, TurSEFF (Turkey Sustainable Energy Financing Programme), MidSEFF (Turkey Medium-Scale Sustainable Energy Financing Programme), and TuREEFF (Turkish Housing Energy Efficiency Financing Programme), 2 billion Euros were invested in projects in Turkey. The EBRD also announced a new 500 million Euro framework this year under the name of GEEF Turkey and the first loan transactions started to take place.”

“This crisis could be a turning point for the energy world”

Stating that it is thanks to the vision of Güler Sabancı that IICEC is 12 years old and carries out studies as a guide to such important issues, Dr. Fatih Birol continued: “With the invasion of Ukraine by Russia on February 24, the world began to experience its first global energy crisis. We are currently in the middle of the first global energy crisis. It does not seem possible for the world to get out of this energy crisis in a short time. This energy crisis brings along other crises, especially food crises. Besides, we are experiencing a humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.

“We had oil crises in the 70s, but then there was only the oil crisis. Now we are faced with serious problems with oil, natural gas, coal, and electricity. If we look at that oil crisis, there was a very serious increase in inflation. Now we can see this again. The second thing is recession. I think we're slowly getting there now. But the oil crisis of the 70s didn't just cause recessions and inflation; new issues such as energy saving, energy security came to the forefront. It was a reaction and it suddenly changed the entire automotive industry. The second reaction developed by countries against

oil shocks was the nuclear industry. 40 percent of the nuclear power plants currently used by the world are the power plants established in response to the energy crisis at that time. I say this because we have had very difficult days due to the crisis and I think we will have much more difficult days. I see that there will be a reaction like the reaction to the crises in the 70s. We are leading this. That's why I think this crisis could be a turning point in the energy world."

"We prepared a 10-point action plan for Europe and shared it with the leaders"

"If we look at the markets, oil prices are over \$100 and contribute a lot to inflation. One of my concerns is that the situation could become more serious as summer approaches. That's because demand for oil typically starts to rise as we approach the summer months. If the producing countries in the Middle East put the oil they currently have in their stocks on the market and increase production, this will create relief in prices. However, if there is no serious weakening in the economy and oil-producing countries do not take new steps, Europe may face a very serious problem.

"Currently, the stocks available to the countries in Europe are really at an extremely low level. That's why we prepared a 10-point action plan for Europe and shared it with European leaders. Many countries, including Germany, implement certain parts of this plan. What are these actions? Reducing the natural gas heating thermometer in the house by one or two degrees. According to our calculations, if we heat homes in Europe by two degrees less, the amount of gas we will save will be equal to gas coming to Europe via Russia's largest pipeline. In our letter to European governments a month ago, we explained the countries' gas distribution restriction plan to be carried out in an emergency. Programs to restrict gas shipments need to be drawn up on a regular basis. Meanwhile, while Europe is taking these steps to reduce natural gas imported from Russia, Russia may cut off all natural gas. Such a possibility, I think, is on the table."

"Decisions to be taken in the energy crisis should not put a crimp on the fight against the climate crisis"

"The current situation of these markets is not very encouraging. Now there is another crisis, the climate crisis. 80% of the emissions that cause the climate crisis in the world come

from the energy sector. In some countries, we see that fossil energy investments may come as a serious wave in some sectors as a reflex to the current situation. Therefore, the decisions we will take in the energy crisis should not put a crimp on our fight against the climate crisis. While we want to bring energy security under control, we should not make the climate crisis worse."

"We see a growth of 12 percent in clean energy investments in 2022"

"For the first time in 2022, we see a significant growth of up to 12 percent in clean energy investments. In addition, there is good news about electric cars. In 2019, 2 out of every 100 cars sold in the world were electric cars. Our expectation this year is that 15 out of every hundred cars will be electric cars. In other words, an increase from 2 percent to 15 percent."

"The world is already returning to nuclear energy"

Answering a question about the increase in demand for nuclear energy, Dr. Fatih Birol emphasized that there has been a comeback for nuclear energy in the recent period and said, "I observe that the interest in nuclear energy has increased very seriously everywhere after the invasion of Ukraine. We have suggested to the governments of Belgium, Germany, and Japan that they consider putting nuclear back on the agenda. Because circumstances demand it. First, energy security. Second, the increase in natural gas prices. It would be an extremely optimistic expectation to expect natural gas prices to decrease in a short period of time. Third, the share of renewable energy in the world will gradually increase. When renewable energy increases, you need an option such as nuclear to provide a certain security in systems and networks. The world is already returning to nuclear energy. Many European countries, especially the UK, USA and France, are countries that give the lion's share to nuclear in their new energy strategies. However, the development of a new technology called the small modular reactor, which speeds up the construction process in nuclear, continues. These are technologies that are much more flexible, built very quickly, and can be put into operation immediately. These are not yet commercialized, but many are working on it. I think in the next five or six years these will become commercial, by 2030."



The latest developments in climate and energy were evaluated at the panel

The speeches were followed by a panel moderated by Dr. Mustafa Oğuz Afacan, Sabancı University Faculty Member. At the panel, TSKB General Manager Murat Bilgiç, Borusan Holding Group CEO Erkan Kafadar, ING Turkey Board Member Semra Kuran and SHELL Europe & Sub-Saharan Africa Vice President for Corporate Relations Rob Sherwin gave speeches on “Energy Security, Clean Energy & The Role of Finance”.

“We contribute to the reduction of approximately 16 million tons of CO2 emissions annually”

TSKB General Manager Murat Bilgiç: “Since 2002, we have continued to support projects realized in the field of renewable energy in Turkey. Energy projects such as hydroelectric power plants, solar, wind, biomass, and geothermal power plants, which we financed, represent 15 percent of Turkey's total installed renewable energy power. At TSKB, we contribute to the reduction of approximately 16 million tons of CO2 emissions annually with the financing we provide for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

“In order for Turkey to realize its significant renewable energy potential, we believe that the development of the sector should be supported with green bonds, public offerings, and new financing methods, as well as investment loans. Therefore, at TSKB, we will continue to support renewable energy investments, which will be realized through new facility investments and capacity increases, with all our business lines, as part of Turkey's energy policy. We strive to enrich our funding sources, financing models, and consultancy services with new ESG-focused initiatives. We have an SDG-related financing target of 8 billion USD by 2030. We aim to maintain the ratio of these loans at 90 percent between 2021-2025.”

“Global climate change and energy crisis have accelerated the transition to green energy”

Borusan Holding CEO Erkan Kafadar: “The climate change and the energy crisis we are experiencing have accelerated the transformation to green energy and green economy all over the world. Ensuring energy supply security and investing in renewable energy-oriented supply are the main axes of this transformation. Energy policies planned in coordination with economic development and a more predictable free market are of great importance for this transformation.

“Within the scope of the strategy to be clarified in this framework, the establishment of the infrastructures for the required connection capacity together with the increased system flexibility will ensure the integration of more renewable energy capacity into the grid. Developing regulations for facilitating license processes and access to favorable financing conditions will constitute important steps in improving the investment climate. I believe that the publication of the Climate Law within the 2053 Net Zero Emissions Target, the

completion of the Green Deal Action Plan, and the establishment of the Emissions Trading System (ETS) will accelerate this transformation process. The development of our human resources that will carry out all these processes and the supplier ecosystem is an indispensable part of this transformation.”

“The finance sector has started to take the necessary steps for renewable energy”

ING Turkey Board Member Semra Kuran: “The energy sector is one of the most important tools for combating climate change and having a sustainable economy. As governments, companies, and institutions, it is critical that we all move towards a common goal. Everyone needs to invest in this journey. In this context, it will be very important for the financial services sector to encourage and support its customers' investments in the transition to the 'green' area by providing access to additional capital and financing under favorable conditions. For this reason, it is of great importance that the finance sector examines and reports all sectors on the basis of clean energy. At this point, not only financial support but also consultancy to companies in need is very important in terms of providing sustainability financing from international institutions.

“We see that institutions in the finance sector have started to take the necessary steps for renewable energy. As one of the early starters, we, at the ING Group, announced that we aim to increase our financing of renewable energy by 50% by the end of 2025. At ING Turkey, we will continue to transfer our international experience to our country, expand our product range and work towards a sustainable world.”

“The war in Ukraine showed the importance of diversifying energy supply”

SHELL Europe & Sub-Saharan Africa Vice President for Corporate Relations Rob Sherwin: “While the war in Ukraine is a human tragedy, it showed us all the importance of diversifying energy supplies. The world continues to need more and cleaner energy. For this reason, at Shell, we continue our 'Powering Progress' strategy, which we have put forward with the aim of helping our customers decarbonize.

“Beyond that, incentives such as the support of many governments for renewable energy to reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels will accelerate the steps we take in this direction. However, as we move towards a world with net-zero carbon emissions, the vital role of oil and gas continues in all scenarios, especially for the continuity of the sectors that are most difficult to decarbonize.”

Sabancı University and Kordsa joined forces, this time for engineering students

Sabancı University has realized yet another cooperation project with Kordsa as part of university-industry collaborations. Created by Kordsa to prepare engineering students for professional life with mentors and to add value to the industry with their energies and new generation perspectives, RunIT, Sabancı University - Kordsa Campus Software Office, was inaugurated with a ceremony held at the Sabancı University Information Center on Monday, July 25, 2022.

The opening ceremony was attended by Yusuf Leblebici, President of Sabancı University, Ali Çalışkan, Secretary General, Mehmet Yıldız, Vice President for Research, Erkan Savaş, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Kordsa CEO İbrahim Özgür Yıldırım, and computer engineering program students who were entitled to work at the RunIT Software Office.



In his speech at the opening ceremony, Sabancı University Secretary General Ali Çalışkan stated that Sabancı University, which is Turkey's leading university, with the mission of "Creating and Developing Together", and Kordsa, which is the leader in its sector in Turkey, have taken a second step within the scope of university-industry cooperation by implementing the Campus Software Office RunIT, after jointly establishing a very strong structure like CTCE. Highlighting that he sees the software office as an entrepreneurship center for digitalization that will pave the way for young people, support their creativity and entrepreneurship, and serve Kordsa's needs and projects, Çalışkan thanked everyone who contributed to the realization of this cooperation.

Kordsa CEO İbrahim Özgür Yıldırım stated in his speech that employment is very important in Turkey and said to the students, "Kordsa is a very good company and what you do here today will directly affect your business life in the future. That's why we have very high expectations from you. I want you to know that I will follow the results closely".

Emphasizing that there are over 900 Computer Engineering Program students at Sabancı University, at the Kordsa Campus Software Office RunIT opening ceremony, Erkan Savaş, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, said that it is a pleasure to be able to engage these students both in the university and in companies and to be able to recruit them in very good projects, and he thanked everyone who contributed to this cooperation.

Mehmet Yıldız, Sabancı University Vice President for Research, said, "After the start of this initiative, major institutions in different sectors of Turkey told me that they want to bring the bright young people we raise on our campus into their lives. Sabancı University has always broken new ground since its establishment. This software office is also a first for us. Achieving this together with Kordsa was of special value and a privilege. As a university, we have had an intense and institutional interaction with Kordsa for a very long time. I would like to thank all my friends for their hard work". Addressing the students who will be working in the RunIT office, Yıldız said, "We have great expectations from you. Quality results that will emerge from here will be instrumental in the development of young people like you and the advancement of companies like Kordsa for the good of the country."

Computer Engineering Program students Görkem Yar, İsmail Çakmak, Kutay Önder, Nusret Ali Kızılaslan, Sermet Özgü and Tan Ufuk Çelik, who will work at Sabancı University - Kordsa Campus Software Office RunIT, said that they are happy and excited to work there.

Our Alumna Ayşe Kivılcım Coşkun appointed Director of Boston University CISE

Ayşe Kivılcım Coşkun, 2003 alumna of the Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences (FENS) Microelectronics Engineering Program, has been appointed as the next director of the Center for Information and Systems Engineering (CISE) of Boston University, one of the leading universities in the US.

After graduating from Sabancı University Microelectronics Engineering Program and completing her doctorate at the University of California, San Diego, Ayşe Kivılcım Coşkun became a faculty member at Boston University Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Being a Network Faculty Member of Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences at the same time, Coşkun will replace Professor of Engineering Yannis Paschalidis who has become the new director of the Hariri Institute.



The 10th Anniversary of the IPC-Stiftung Mercator Initiative was celebrated



The 10th Anniversary of the Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative was celebrated with a panel. Relations between Turkey and Germany were evaluated in the panel entitled “Turkey-EU/Germany Relations: Then, Now and Future”. At the event, it was expressed that Turkey would be together with the EU in the long term.

The 10th Anniversary of the Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative, which aims to develop academic, political and social ties between Turkey and Germany, was celebrated with an event held at the Sakip Sabancı Museum. Through the Mercator-IPC Research Fellowship Program realized as part of this initiative, researchers carry out academic studies in a wide range of subjects from climate change to social cohesion of refugees, from cultural policies to gender.

As part of the celebration program, a panel entitled “Turkey-EU/Germany Relations: Then, Now and Future”, moderated by Sabancı University IPC Director Fuat Keyman, was held. The panel was attended by Ruprecht Polenz, Member of the Mercator-IPC Advisory Council; Andreas Nick, former member of the Council of Europe and 2022 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow; Senem Aydın-Düzgüt, IPC Research and Academic Affairs Coordinator. Director of the Center for International Relations of Stiftung Mercator Anne Duncker; Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici; and 2018/19 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow Özcan Mutlu also attended the 10th Anniversary celebration event.

In his speech at the panel, Fuat Keyman reminded participants that 9 May is both Europe Day and Russia Victory Day and emphasized that Russia's attempt to invade Ukraine has led to important political changes and a paradigm shift regarding international relations and Europe. Pointing out that the war created a kind of momentum for the revival of the relations and partnerships between the transatlantic alliance and the two sides of the Atlantic, Keyman also drew attention to the challenges brought by this situation. Among these challenges, Keyman listed growing concerns over isolationism in the United States and the capacity and willingness of Europe and NATO to maintain existing solidarity should the war continue. In his evaluation, Keyman pointed to a revival process in which the idea of Europe continues, and he stated that the war could trigger a move to a systemic transition process and uncertainty that can be described as the end of the liberal order.

The first speaker of the panel, Mercator-IPC Advisory Council Member Ruprecht Polenz, said that the first thing he would want to do when looking back on Turkey and EU relations would be to press the reset button. Recalling the existence of a very hopeful atmosphere when the Turkey-EU negotiations started in 2005, Polenz evaluated Turkey's not being accepted for membership in advance and the discussion of a privileged partnership status as mistakes made during the negotiations. Stating that international relations are now largely shaped through civil society connections, Polenz said that what needs to be done in this direction is more inclusive and broad-based diplomacy and that civil society relations should be included more in international processes. Stating that this integration will make a considerable contribution to Turkey-EU relations, Polenz stated that he believes Turkey will be with the EU in the long run no matter what.

Andreas Nick, former member of the Council of Europe and 2022 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow, pointed out that the Council of Europe is an excellent example of the institutional infrastructure built in Europe and that Turkey is one of the de facto founding members of the Council. Stating that it is necessary to focus more on existing ties and strengthen institutional ties in NATO and the Council of Europe in order to maintain healthy relations between Turkey and the EU, Nick emphasized the importance of building European integration organically at this level. Nick stated that these efforts need to be built on the foundation of the rule of law, democracy and the protection of human rights. He concluded by saying that if Europe is willing to accept that Turkey is and will remain an important regional power, the way out can be to create strategies that will be profitable and alliance-friendly for both sides, taking into account Turkey's interests and actions.

IPC Research and Academic Affairs Coordinator Senem Aydın-Düzgüt started her speech by highlighting the change in Turkey-EU relations over the last ten years and said, “Although the negotiations continued in 2011, despite the slow progress, during this ten-year period, Turkey was first seen as a strategic partner rather than a candi-

date country, and then it began to be seen as a potential adversary. In the picture that emerged at the end of ten years, on the one hand, democratic and economic decline and violations of freedom were observed, on the other hand, economic partnerships and cooperation on the issue of migration continued. Aydın-Düzgüt stated that a potential turning point is approaching for the future of westernization, which is one of the cornerstones of the republic, as the 100th anniversary of the Republic nears. Aydın-Düzgüt said that at this point, issues such as the choices about how Turkey will organize state-society relations, the priority of fundamental freedoms, democracy, human rights, secularism, and women's rights will gain great importance. Aydın-Düzgüt, who stated that she believes that there should be hope despite all these, listed the Turkish public, especially the younger generations seeing their future in Europe and considering Europe as a potential partner in the issue of climate change, among the sources of light necessary for this hope to flourish.

After the panel was concluded, Director of the Center for International Relations of Stiftung Mercator Anne Duncker presented her gifts to the audience after her speech emphasizing the importance of international understanding and partnership.

Sharing his views on the 10th Anniversary, Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici said, "Under the talented and visionary leadership of our esteemed faculty member Fuat Keyman, IPC has become a gold standard in policy research and social issues, and is now considered a reference source in many fields. The valuable contribution and support of Stiftung Mercator has clearly been instrumental in this success. At Sabancı University, we place great value on interdisciplinary research and have seen IPC as one of our shining stars for years. Our university has a very meaningful motto of creating and developing together. This is exactly what we are doing at IPC with the support of Stiftung Mercator and we aim to do many more productive pieces of work together." The event ended after Özcan Mutlu's speech.

Sabancı University Executive Development Unit, EDU, raised to 42nd in the Financial Times World Rankings

Offering development opportunities for professionals with its training programs in different fields, Sabancı University Executive Development Unit, EDU ranked 42nd in the Executive Education Custom 2022 world rankings of the Financial Times, up by 13 places. In terms of "total response", EDU became the first in the world.



Sabancı University Executive Development Unit, EDU, which organizes custom programs for institutions and training programs for individuals, continued to rise in the Financial Times Executive Education Custom Programs category designed for the business world.

EDU is ranked 42nd in the Financial Times Executive Education Rankings 2022, climbing 36 places since 2018. EDU, which ranks first in Turkey, brings together the best individual and corporate training programs in different fields, from marketing to organizational management.

First in the world by total response

Dr. Cüneyt Evirgen, Director of Sabancı University Executive Development Unit, EDU, noted that EDU is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year and made the following assessments:

"Established in July 2002 in line with Sabancı University's philosophy of 'creating and developing together', EDU has been supporting Turkey's leading institutions and individuals on their development journeys for 20 years. The programs, designed with a pioneering and innovative perspective, have carried EDU to 42nd place globally in the field of executive education custom programs in the Financial Times 2022 rankings, which include the world's leading institutions. EDU is the first institution from Turkey to be included in these rankings and has been the leader for 3 years. We are proud to share with you this achievement, which has crowned Sabancı University Executive Development Unit, EDU's 20th anniversary."

Entering the Financial Times Executive Education Rankings at 78th place in 2018 upon its first application, EDU ranked 58th in 2019 and 55th in 2020. The rankings were not announced in 2021 due to the pandemic. In the 2022 rankings, EDU ranked first in the world in terms of "total response". It ranked 23rd in the world in terms of "future use".

This year, 70 institutions from around the world were included in the Financial Times Executive Education Custom 2022 rankings. You can find more information about the rankings at Executive Education Custom 2022 - Business school rankings from the Financial Times - FT.com, and about EDU at <https://edu.sabanciuniv.edu/>.



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This biannual newsletter provides a compilation of selected news items and developments related to the Sabancı University community that occurred during the past six-months period, prepared by the Marketing and Institutional Communications Unit. All rights reserved.