

NEWS FROM SABANCI UNIVERSITY

JUNE 2023

“Support Meeting for Earthquake Victim Students with Dr. Fatih Birol” was held on March 17

Sabancı University launched the Sabancı University Earthquake Scholarship Fund as part of the “Make a Promise for the Future” scholarship program to meet the needs of students affected by the disaster.

In this context, the “Support Meeting for Earthquake Victim Students with Dr. Fatih Birol” took place on March 17 at Sabancı Center. The meeting, which was attended by leading members of the business world and energy sector, started with the opening speech of Sabancı University Founding Chair of the Board of Trustees, Güler Sabancı. Later on, Sabancı University Institutional Partnerships and Alumni Relations Director, Cenk Efe Bayırlı, gave information about the fund. Following Dr. Fatih Birol's keynote speech, this meaningful meeting continued with Dr. Fatih Birol's interactive conversation with the audience.



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The Distinguished Research Fellows Spring Meeting 2023

The Spring Meeting 2023, in which members of Sabancı University's “Distinguished Research Fellowship” program gave a series of seminars, took place between March 22 and 25.



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Strong International Support for SU-IMC Project

Sabancı University Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Research and Application Center (SU-IMC) has been awarded the research fund from Khalifa University's GRAPHENE AND 2D MATERIALS RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CENTER (RIC-2D) in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).



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'Make a Promise for the Future' is a long journey

Güler Sabancı, Sabancı University Founding Chair of the Board of Trustees, who made the opening speech of the meeting in which leading members of the business world and energy sector took part, emphasized the impact of the earthquake and the importance of support. She continued, "It's an endless sadness, words are not enough. We are going through a very difficult and extraordinary time. Unfortunately, we lost one of our students in the earthquake, and we contacted other students in the earthquake area in a short time." Stating that the meeting was organized at the suggestion of Dr. Fatih Birol, Güler Sabancı said, "Make a Promise for the Future is a long journey like our togetherness with our students. We would like to thank you who are here with us and our friends who could not be here but provided their support, for this solidarity and for being with us on this long journey".

"We created this fund to make the contributions sustainable"

Sabancı University Institutional Partnerships and Alumni Relations Director Cenk Efe Bayırlı said, "We will provide scholarships to Sabancı University students who were harmed by the earthquake, as well as to our young people residing in the earthquake zone who will be eligible to study at Sabancı University in the 2023-2024 Academic Year. For this purpose, we have implemented the Sabancı University Earthquake Scholarship Fund to provide education, accommodation, food and cash needs support to our earthquake-affected students.

Emphasizing that one feels helpless when abroad in the face of such a disaster, International Energy Agency (IEA) Executive Director and IICEC Honorary Chair Dr. Fatih Birol said, "In the first place, I made a call to the energy sector. My call received many positive responses, from global oil companies to a local heater manufacturer in Lebanon. Contributions were also made by IICEC. This meaningful meeting was organized as a result of our conversation with Güler Sabancı, in which I asked, "What else can we do, how can I help?". I would like to thank my friends who worked day and night for this cause and everyone who provided support".

Russia's budget deficit has tripled

About the subjects entitled "How did the energy issue develop in the world with Russia – Ukraine? How did the reactions develop?", Dr. Fatih Birol shared his evaluations in terms of Russia and Europe, which are both very important for the Turkish economy, and he continued his speech as follows:

"The Russian economy is heavily dependent on revenues from energy, especially from the sale of oil and gas. Russia was the world's number one energy exporter until February 24. It is the number one exporter of oil and natural gas, and a huge player in the coal markets. Today, there has been a decrease of up to 60 percent in Russia's oil and natural gas revenues. In addition to the negative effects of the embargoes, there was an increase in military expenditures and subsidies expenditures. In other words, there are three very important different burdens on the Russian budget. Therefore, Russia's budget deficit has now tripled.



Europe successfully manages the energy crisis

The European economy has been dependent on cheap energy from Russia for decades. As of February 24, 2022, European countries, the US, Australia and other countries have taken various measures and embargoes against Russia, primarily to minimize the energy imported. As such, people voiced expectations such as "There will be no heating in homes this winter in Europe", "The European economy will collapse" and "Europe will use too much fossil fuel and increase its emissions". However, when we look at the one-year track record, the situation in Europe is not that bad at all. There was no power cut. With the effect of the mild winter, the houses were warmed. Europe has not entered a major recession either.

The EU has made a leap forward in renewable energy by speeding up licensing procedures. Solar and wind energy increased by 41 percent, it recorded an increase of 40 percent in heat pumps and 15 percent in electric vehicles. Contrary to expectations, emissions decreased by 2.5 percent instead of increasing. They have succeeded in a sector such as energy that is not easy, walks very slowly, and develops hard.

The world is entering the era of clean energy in production

World industry is entering a new era, the era of clean energy in production. There is tremendous competition between countries on batteries, solar, wind, and electric cars. Will the world, which is dependent on a few countries for oil and natural gas, be dependent on major countries for clean energy in the future? This is the most important question. This alarm bell rang from Europe to America. Because when you look at the countries where critical materials such as batteries, solar panels, and wind turbines are produced for clean energy, we see that China's share is enormous. It has a share of over 50 percent and has almost dominated the market by itself. For example, 75% of the world's batteries are produced in China. China is 75 percent and all other producers in the world are 25 percent. It is the case with wind energy, and China has a tremendous share in solar energy. It is also extremely large in the production of equipment used with hydrogen energy because it started before anyone else.

The US wants to create a clean energy technology industry. A very important law passed in the US last summer gives an unprecedented subsidy to clean energy technologies. For example, if you open a battery factory in the US, the government will give you tax discounts, exemptions, etc., so it's a great subsidy. On the other hand, in clean energy installation, a certain percentage of the energy generation you will make for each technology must have a local share. In summary, the US wants to create its own clean energy technology industry. It took a very important decision to compete with China in this regard. This shook everyone as a development that would change many industry equations and trade flows.

EU's law on the clean energy industry is also critical for Turkey

Another important development took place in Europe. On 16 March, the Chair of the European Commission presented an act, the Net-Zero Industry Act. It's an act similar to the one in the US. It will give incredible incentives to the clean energy industry and, like the US, it stipulates the local share. This is an extremely important and critical development for Turkish industry and the country's economy. If this share of locality can be extended to countries that have a free trade agreement with the EU by providing some flexibility, a leap forward in the economy and a significant development in the industry can be achieved. Our country needs to consider this matter very seriously.

There is a magic word that we use in energy: diversification. In China, for example, solar equipment is produced in two very large factories located in a single province. Even if one of these factories experiences a fire etc. and becomes out of service due to a problem like this, the supply chain all over the world will be shaken in this field. For diversification to occur, other countries must do the same. That's why the US and Europe acted, and they are trying to have a share in this field in the world that is moving towards clean energy.

It is very important for our country to think, "How and in which of the various clean energy technologies can Turkey play a role along this supply chain?" and to develop appropriate economic policies. How we will deploy ourselves is very important. There are earthquakes and elections, but we need to be involved as soon as possible in the debates in Europe and not miss this very important train".

At the meeting, on behalf of the Make a Promise for the Future scholarship program, Lara Mercan thanked Dr. Fatih Birol and gave him a plaque for his contributions.



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The Distinguished Research Fellows Spring Meeting 2023



Members of the "Distinguished Research Fellowship" program of Sabancı University, each of whom is a world-class authority in their own field, and who work at leading universities and institutions in the world, came together at an important event.

Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici stated that he is happy to host scientists and researchers highly respected in their fields at the event held at Sabancı University. Expressing that they physically held the Distinguished Research Fellows Spring Meeting 2023 event after two years of the pandemic, Yusuf Leblebici talked about the research areas and activities of the fellows who participated in the presentations.

The events were held on Sabancı University Tuzla Campus and Altunizade Digital Campus. On the first day of the event, 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, and Mete Atatüre, Professor of Physics at the University of Cambridge, and Director of Studies and Tutor at St. John's College, gave a seminar on Altunizade Digital Campus.

On the second day of the event, seminars were held at the Cinema Hall of Sabancı University Tuzla Campus by Holger Alexander Klein, Lisa and Bernard Selz Professor of Medieval Art at the Columbia University and Director of the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University, and Serdar Taşiran, principal engineer at Amazon Web Services.



On the third day of the event, Özlem Ayduk, Professor of Psychology at the University of California, Director of the Relationships and Social Cognition Lab, fellow at the Society of Personality & Social Psychology, Mehmet Toner, Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, gave seminars at the Sabancı University Tuzla Campus Cinema Hall.

On the last day of the event, our Distinguished Fellows Mete Atatüre, Holger Klein, Serdar Taşiran and Özlem Ayduk met with faculty members and students on Sabancı University Tuzla Campus. In these meetings, the Distinguished Fellows gave examples of how scientific research is carried out in the world's leading universities and institutions, both in their fields of study and in a wider context, and they answered the questions of the students.

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Strong International Support for SU-IMC Project

The amount of budget support provided to Sabancı University in the Light-G-Comp project, which will last for 36 months in total, is around 1.2 million dollars, and the total project size is 4 million dollars.

Mehmet Yıldız, Sabancı University Vice President for Research and Engineering, and Hatice Sinem Saş, Member of Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences (FENS) Materials Science and Nanoengineering Program, are also involved in the Light-G-Comp Project entitled "Lightweight, sustainable and energy-efficient designs and manufacturing methods for hybrid composites reinforced with advanced graphene", led by SU-IMC Academic Director Burcu Saner Okan.

In addition, Sabancı University start-up Nanografen is among the project partners, and studies will be carried out under the leadership of FENS Faculty Member Yusuf Menciloğlu. Khalifa University and Strata-A Mubadala Company are included in the project consortium on the UAE side, while there are BOEING Türkiye, Eurotec Mühendislik Plastikleri and Farplas Otomotiv A. Ş. together with SU-IMC and Nanografen on the Turkish side.

The supported project aims to transform thermoset and thermoplastic wastes that cannot be recycled with traditional methods into graphene structures in line with high-scale manufacturing. The recycled graphene derivatives that will be manufactured will be used in the development of sustainable thermoplastic and lightweight composite materials to meet different needs in the aerospace, automotive and plastics industries. The Light-G-Comp project will provide weight reduction and cost reduction with graphene-reinforced composite materials, as well as significantly reducing carbon dioxide emissions with the circular economy approach, and work at the prototype level for application together with industry partners.

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

According to the 2023 results of the Academy of Science's Young Scientist Awards Program (BAGEP), 9 young scientists from Sabancı University have received awards for their successful work. Sabancı University became the university with the most awards with a total of 9 awards.



The winners of the Academy of Science's annual Young Scientist Awards Program (BAGEP), which aims to identify and reward the best young academics, and to support them for further research, have been announced. Sabancı University became the university with the most awards with a total of 9 awards.

Stating that they always take science as their main guide, Sabancı University President Prof. Dr. Yusuf Leblebici said, "At Sabancı University, we are taking firm steps towards becoming one of the leading research universities in the world, with the quality and uniqueness of our education programs and our contributions to the scientific world. In this sense, we implement pioneering and distinctive research activities in our faculties and centers with the project support we receive from home and abroad. While carrying out all these studies, our most important difference is our strong academic staff. In the last three years, we have recruited a total of 58 new full-time faculty members, 85% of whom have doctoral degrees from universities abroad. 33 of these faculty members came directly from abroad to join the university. The many awards we received with our strong staff at the 2023 BAGEP Awards once again proved our academic richness. We congratulate our young academics for their outstanding achievements."

BAGEP Award winners from Sabancı University are Gökalp Alpan in the field of Mathematics, Burcu Saner Okan in Materials Engineering, Murat Kaya Yapıcı in Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Burak Kocuk in Industrial Engineering, Nur Mustafaoğlu Varol in Biology, Morteza Ghorbani in Mechanical Engineering, Eren Günseli and Junko Kanero in Psychology, and Sinem Erdoğan İşkorkutan in History.

Sabancı University signed the Digital Innovation Cooperation Platform Protocol

Sabancı University signed the "Digital Innovation Collaboration Platform" protocol, which was implemented under the leadership of the Presidency's Digital Transformation Office, with the support of the Ministry of Industry and Technology and the Ministry of Youth and Sports, to strengthen cooperation between academia, the public sector, and industry in the field of digital technologies.

Under the leadership of the Presidency's Digital Transformation Office, eight universities signed the Digital Innovation Cooperation Platform protocol, which will strengthen cooperation between academia, the public sector, and industry in the field of digital technologies. The signing ceremony was held with the participation of Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici, as well as the presidents of Ege University, Erciyes University, Eskişehir Osmangazi University, Istanbul Technical University, Izmir Katip Çelebi University, Koç University and Middle East Technical University.



The Digital Innovation and Collaboration Platform will provide benefits such as supporting strategy and policy studies, expanding and diversifying the scope of service with international cooperation in order to develop domestic technological solutions for the needs of the public and private sectors, to implement short/long-term training programs in order to develop advanced digital skills of the public and private sector human resources, and to benefit with the highest efficiency from the opportunities that the digital economy will create in the future.

European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) Installation Grant for Our Faculty Member Nur Mustafaoğlu

Nur Mustafaoğlu, member of Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, has been awarded the European Molecular Biology Organization Installation Grant.

Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences (FENS) Faculty Member Nur Mustafaoğlu became one of the 11 scientists to be awarded the EMBO Installation Grant. Nur Mustafaoğlu was awarded for her glioblastoma blood-brain barrier model project to develop nanocarriers. In addition to the annual 50,000 Euro support to be provided by TÜBİTAK for three years within the scope of EMBO Installation Grant, Nur Mustafaoğlu also had the opportunity to expand her communication networks and receive support in practice thanks to her participation in the EMBO Young Investigator Programme. If the project is successful in the 3-year period, it can be extended for another 2 years. The EMBO Installation Grant was established in 2006 as the EMBO Strategic Development Settlement Support Chair, under the leadership of Turkey. This program was designed as a reverse brain drain program in EMBC (European Molecular Biology Conference) member countries that are developing in the field of molecular biology-based life sciences such as Turkey, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland and Portugal. The EMBO Installation Grant is funded by the funding institutions of these countries, and in Turkey by TÜBİTAK.



Smart Urbanization and Youth Workshop in Turkey was hosted by Sabancı University

"Smart Urbanization and Youth Workshop in Turkey" was held on April 28, 2023 on Sabancı University Altunizade Digital Campus. In the workshop, the results of the TÜBİTAK-supported "Smart City Practices and Youth in Turkey: Institutions, Discourses and Experiences" research by Sabancı University Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences faculty members Zeynep Gülrü Göker and Cenk Özbay were shared. In the two sessions, in which speakers from municipalities, non-governmental organizations, think-tanks and universities took part, practices and research on smart urbanization processes and the experiences of young people were presented, and discussions were held at the intersection of urban and youth studies.

Making the opening speech of the workshop, Sabancı University Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) Dean Meltem Müftüler-Baç emphasized the importance of research on cities and youth in the context of digital transformation both in the world and in Turkey, during and after the pandemic.

After the opening speech, FASS Faculty Members Zeynep Gülrü Göker and Cenk Özbay presented their research in which they discussed the smart urbanization discourse, policies and practices of municipalities in Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Eskişehir, İstanbul, İzmir, Kayseri and Konya in the context of youth participation in the city and city management, and the results of their survey with young people.



After the research presentation, the first part of the workshop started with the speech of Sabancı University Vice President and Istanbul Policy Center Director Fuat Keyman, in which he discussed the smart city subject in terms of urban management and inclusion. In the first session where smart urbanization practices of municipalities and practices for youth were discussed, Antalya Metropolitan Municipality representatives Ceren Uçar and Emine Yiğit, Eskişehir Tepebaşı Municipality Deputy Mayor Suat Yalnızoğlu, and İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality Smart City Branch Manager Ali Taşdemir discussed their practices within the scope of municipalities. Bilecik Development Agency Planning Specialist Emrullah Aydın talked about urbanization and smart city transformation, Nilay Küme of the Dört Mevsim Association and Ali Ercan Özgür of the İhtiyaç Haritası Association about the efforts in civil society.



In the second session, where research in the fields of urban studies and youth studies was discussed and inequalities in cities were covered in the context of youth, Berrin Koyuncu-Lorasdağlı from Hacettepe University, İnsani Gelişim Foundation President Vural Çakır, İstanbul Policy Center Urbanization and Local Governance Studies Coordinator Ayşe Köse Badur, Abdullah Gül University faculty member Evren Dinçer, Sabancı University faculty member Füsün Uluengin, and Hakan Yücel from Galatasaray University presented findings from research conducted in various cities such as Bursa, İstanbul, İzmir and Konya.

The award-winning short film Adana: Köprübaşı, directed by Necati Öz, was also screened at the workshop.

The "Make a Promise for the Future Scholarship Fund" stands by our students affected by the earthquake

Due to the earthquake that deeply saddened our country, the "Make a Promise for the Future" Scholarship Program of our University will, this year, give priority for scholarship support to our students who were adversely affected by the disaster.

With the donations to the fund, various scholarship opportunities will be provided to both Sabancı University students who were adversely affected by the earthquake, and to our young people who reside in the earthquake region and who will be entitled to study at Sabancı University in the 2023-2024 Academic Year.



2023 Sakıp Sabancı International Research Award Winners Announced

The Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards, which have been held for 18 years following the will of Sabancı University Honorary President Sakıp Sabancı, rewarded young researchers and a scientist who have made significant contributions to academic studies in the field of republicanism within the scope of this year's theme, "The 100th Anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye: Republicanism in Theory and Application".

At the Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards and Commemoration Ceremony, the Special Jury Prize was awarded to Philip Pettit, the L.S. Rockefeller Professor of Human Values at Princeton University since 2002 and Professor of Philosophy at the Australian National University since 2012.

"Our minds and hearts are in our 11 cities that experienced the earthquake disaster"

In her speech at the online ceremony, Founding Chair of Sabancı University Board of Trustees Güler Sabancı said, "We came together for our 18th Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards and Commemoration Ceremony. However, our minds and hearts are in our 11 cities that experienced earthquake disasters. On February 6 and after, we witnessed one of the greatest disasters our country has experienced. More than 50 thousand of our citizens lost their lives. Our University's preparatory class student Neris Ece Öz is among these losses that deeply saddened us. It's a huge pain. On this occasion, I wish God's mercy on all our citizens, including our esteemed student Neris Ece, who lost their life, my condolences to their relatives, and a speedy recovery to our injured. Condolences to all of us and heartfelt good wishes to our country".

"Our republic left a century behind on solid foundations"

Expressing that the International Research Awards were realized following the will of the late Sakıp Sabancı, the Honorary Chair of Sabancı University, Güler Sabancı said that the award program reflects the future of society while evaluating the present day with a different theme each year, and while doing this, it acts based on the universality of science. Güler Sabancı continued as follows:

"Our duty in the new century of our republic is to continue to progress in the light of science, with the ideal of a better future for our young people. Even though we are going through difficult times, while we heal our wounds today, we should aim to heal our future at the same time with our belief in unity and togetherness. As my dear Uncle Late Sakıp Sabancı always said: We have to work, work and work hard." Güler Sabancı said, "We will continue our studies with our University based on science. We will do our best to leave these difficult days brought by earthquakes and disasters behind and carry our country to brighter days."



"Our biggest aim has always been raising individuals with 'free mind, free conscience, free knowledge'"

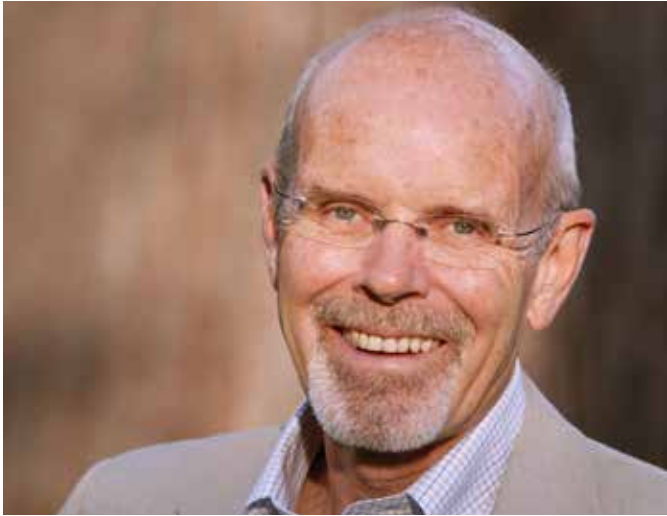
Stating that at Sabancı University, they believe in the power of "creating and developing together", Güler Sabancı continued as follows:



"Türkiye's new century should be the century of equal opportunities in education, gender equality, social development, contribution to regional and global peace, and growth with wisdom, principles, and sustainability. Just as our country struggled for liberation with great ideals, it is strong enough to overcome the difficulties it faces today, by working together, as long as we give priority to the education of the young people to whom we will entrust our Republic and do not stray from the path of science. Our biggest goal has always been to raise individuals with a "free mind, free conscience, free knowledge". In this way, we support scientific thought at all times and in every field. The Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards also respond to an important need and lead the way as the only global-scale award program in Türkiye in the field of social sciences. The Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards, established to cover subjects including Turkish and Islamic Art, Türkiye's history, economy, and sociology, focus on the benefit that can be achieved through collective wisdom."

“Two competitors of neo-republicanism: neo-liberalism and neo-populism”

Expressing that he is honored to participate in an event on such an important subject as the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye, which has historical significance in the world, and to be found deserving of an award by the jury of the Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards, **Philip Pettit** stated that his work focuses on the best laws, the best institutions, and the best policies furthering the ideals in the different areas of public life. Talking about neo-republicanism in his speech, Pettit said: “I am going to present republicanism as in contrast to great rivals: On the one hand neo-liberalism and on the other hand neo-populism. Neo-liberalism has something in common with neo-republicanism. That is a dedication to the ideal of freedom. But there is a big difference between how the neo-liberal understands freedom and how the new-republican understands it. For the neo-liberal, you are free in a choice just as far as no one actively interferes in that choice. About the market, neo-liberals say, relationships in the market whether between an employer and an employee or between a consumer or a producer, there is always a contract. You enter into a contract. That means you agree to what happens and you are not interfered with.”



“The first translation of my book on republicanism was into Turkish”

Stating that the market economy is fundamental for neo-republicans as well, but that volunteer work is seen as dangerous in such situations where the alternative is poverty, Pettit continued: “According to republican view, freedom does not just require non-interference, but also it requires the absence of domination of someone with the power to interfere in your life more or less at their will. Neo-republicans say that we need laws to protect people against private domination to enable each to be able to look others in the eye even those wealthier than they or even those stronger than others. This introduces us second problem which is the problem of public

domination. Neo-populists say that let people control what the government does. According to neo-populists, people control government just and only by electing to power those who hold government. Neo-republicans oppose that view of popular control over the government of the kind that reduces the domination power of government Republicans argue that, apart from the elections, you need other forms of control such as the constitution and constitutional authorities, independent media, and NGOs.”

Noting that the first translation of the book *Republicanism*, which he published in 1997, was into Turkish, Pettit said, “That’s got a particular relevance in this context. I was very struck by why it would be appealed and why Türkiye is so interested in this tradition. Off course, Türkiye is a republic famously established by Atatürk. I began to come aware of what a republic meant in a country that was very different from Australia where I lived all the time.”

Born in Ireland, Philip Pettit is a philosopher and political theorist who has a leading role in the field of republicanism as a thought, and who guides research in this field.

Applications assessed by an international independent jury



The evaluation of the applications submitted in the award program, which is led by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and the Istanbul Policy Center of Sabancı University, is carried out by an independent and international jury. Within the scope of the award program, a different theme is determined every year from all fields of social sciences, from economics to politics, history, and psychology.

This year’s essay award winners were **Dolunay Bulut from The New School for Social Research**, **Burak Tan from the University of Chicago**, and **Banu Turnaoğlu Açı from Sabancı University**.

Sabancı University alumni in Europe met in Amsterdam on March 18

Sabancı University alumni who continue their graduate education or professional life in Europe came together in Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands.

The meeting in Amsterdam was attended by Sabancı University alumni, as well as Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici, Secretary General Ali Çalışkan, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences Erkan Savaş, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Meltem Müftüleri-Baç, Dean of Sabancı Business School Nihat Kasap, and Director of Institutional Partnerships and Alumni Relations Cenk Bayırlı.

Sabancı University President Yusuf Leblebici gave a speech on the ongoing efforts and activities of the university, at the event. In his speech, he gave detailed information about the faculties and programs of the university and shared quantitative data with the alumni. Underlining that Sabancı University is a research university that is appreciated in the world, President Leblebici explained the main objectives of the university's 2021-2025 strategic plan to the alumni and mentioned that new 58 faculty members from different countries of the world have joined Sabancı University in the last 3 years. Concerning the research activities, the total budget of active research funds increased from 26 Million USD to 56 Million USD since 2018, while the proportion of top-ranked scientific publications produced by our research personnel went up from 32% to 43% in the same time period.



Stating that Sabancı University has been Turkey's leading university since its establishment, Yusuf Leblebici emphasized that 15,384 students have graduated from Sabancı University since 2000. More than 22% of the alumni currently live and work in other countries of the world. Leblebici also pointed out that 97 percent of alumni can find a job in the sector they want within one year after graduation, or that they are admitted to a university if they want to continue in academia. Expressing that the employers' satisfaction rate with the alumni is 94 percent, he stated that the alumni contributed significantly to all these achievements.

Throughout the event, the alumni had the opportunity to exchange career plans and goals by having long conversations with the participants from Sabancı University and with each other, in a pleasant and friendly atmosphere.

Sabancı University Faculty Member Prof. Dr. İsmail Çakmak ranks first from Turkey in the World's Most Influential Scientists List

Sabancı University Faculty Member Prof. Dr. İsmail Çakmak ranked first in Turkey and seventh in the world in his field in the list of "The World's Most Influential Scientists" conducted under the coordination of Stanford University.

Using the Elsevier-Scopus database, Stanford University created the 2022 list of the world's most influential scientists by examining more than 8 million scientists and researchers in 22 disciplines and 176 sub-disciplines based on their work throughout their careers. The first 195,605 people on the list were published in the PLOS Biology journal, and 879 scientists from Turkey entered this list.

Prof. Dr. İsmail Çakmak, member of Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, was ranked first in Turkey in the list of the most influential scientists in 2022 and 7th in the world in the sub-discipline of Agriculture-Agronomy. In this study, in which more than 8 million scientists and researchers were examined, İsmail Çakmak was ranked 2,538 in the general ranking of all scientific fields.

The most influential scientists are determined by considering

various scientific variables such as the number of scientific articles, the number of citations, the rate of self-citations, the positions of the authors in the article, the impact of the journal in which the articles are published, and the h-index and hm-index.

Working on mineral nutrition and the stress physiology of plants, İsmail Çakmak mainly focused on the role of agricultural strategies in reducing the micronutrient deficiency (hidden hunger) problem that affects more than 2 billion people today.



IICEC Conference on “Global Energy Crisis: Solutions & The Role Of Renewable Energy”

Focusing on the current issues of the global energy and climate agenda, Sabancı University Istanbul International Center for Energy and Climate (IICEC) addressed the world's challenging issues of energy crisis and renewable energy in a conference entitled “Global Energy Crisis: Solutions & The Role of Renewable Energy” held in Istanbul. The ways out of the energy crisis and the importance of renewable energy for a sustainable future were discussed at the conference and the launch presentation was made for the ‘Turkey Renewable Energy Outlook 2022 Report’ prepared by IICEC, which is a first in the sector, and a pioneering study.



Güler Sabancı, the Founding Chair of the Sabancı University Board of Trustees, stated that she was very pleased to see IICEC expanding its work and sphere of influence within the ecosystem. She added, “In this perspective, IICEC is a leading model and center in Turkey. This year, within the scope of the Outlook series, it completed its first and pioneering work in the sector, focusing on renewable energy, one of Turkey's most important opportunity areas, and offering an analytical perspective, with a participatory approach involving industry stakeholders. From now on, Turkey will continue its efforts to pave the way for energy and climate policies and to guide decision-makers and all stakeholders”.

Dr. Fatih Birol, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Honorary Chair of IICEC, emphasized that 2023 will be a much more difficult year due to the global energy crisis and that we may miss 2022. He continued, “The year 2022 has been extremely painful for many people, especially those living in Ukraine. In the future, in 2030, we will not only remember 2022 as a difficult and painful year, but also as a year in which clean energy technologies gained historical momentum”.

Pointing out that Turkey has made a huge leap in renewable energy in this process, Dr. Fatih Birol said, “We think that Turkey will grow by 65% in renewable energy in the next 5 years. This means entering the top 4 in Europe and the top 10 in the world”, highlighting that Turkey has a lot of potential in this field.

Making the launch presentation of the IICEC “Turkey Renewable Energy Outlook 2022 Report” at the conference, IICEC Director Bora Şekip Güray stated that they presented 7 concrete suggestions to all stakeholders in the report. Güray

said, “According to our study, by 2050, the proportional contribution of renewable energy in electricity generation in Turkey may double, and the contribution of renewable energy in the total energy system may increase more than four times. We see that one unit of electricity investment increase will create ten units of savings in imported fossil fuel and emission costs”.

The energy crisis in the world and solutions to it, and the development of renewable energy in Turkey were discussed at a conference entitled “Global Energy Crisis: Solutions & The Role of Renewable Energy” organized by Sabancı University Istanbul International Center for Energy and Climate (IICEC) at Sabancı Center.

A first and pioneering study in the sector on renewable energy from IICEC

The conference started with the opening speech delivered online by Güler Sabancı, the Founding Chair of the Sabancı University Board of Trustees. Dr. Fatih Birol, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Honorary Chair of IICEC was the keynote speaker. Within the scope of the conference, the launch presentation of the “Turkey Renewable Energy Outlook 2022 Report”, which is a first in the sector and a pioneering study, was made by IICEC Director Bora Şekip Güray.

In the panel held after the conference, business people evaluated the energy crisis in the world and the latest developments in the field of renewable energy in terms of the sector and companies.

“Society and Disaster Risk Management” Seminar Series Begins

After the earthquake disaster, Sabancı University is launching a new series of seminars to raise awareness on disaster risk management and disaster response management. In the seminars to be organized under the name of “Society and Disaster Risk Management”, the social, psychological and economic effects of the earthquake disaster will be discussed, and new initiatives in managerial and organizational topics will be emphasized. These seminars aim to contribute to the identification of problems and solutions in this field. The seminar series, which will be coordinated by the Dean of Sabancı Business School (SBS) Nihat Kasap and SBS Faculty Member Ayşegül Toker, will start this month and continue for 8 weeks.



Seminars to be held at Sabancı University's Tuzla Campus Cinema Hall can be watched live on the university's Youtube channel. In addition, the seminars can be watched later on the university's Youtube account.

The First Alumni Gathering in Pakistan

Sabancı University alumni in Pakistan came together for the first time on March 11, 2023. Sabancı University faculty members and administrative managers, as well as alumni, attended the gathering, which took place at the Karachi Consulate of the Republic of Turkey.

Karachi Consul General Cemal Sangu hosted the meeting held in the garden of the Consulate General and attended by 35 Sabancı University alumni and their families.

Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences Dean Erkey Savaş, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Deputy Dean Eren İnci, Institutional Partnerships and Alumni Relations Director Cenk Bayırlı, Fundraising Senior Specialist Zeliha Yaşar Algül, and Alumni Relations Senior Specialist Burak Kuru participated in the event, which was the first alumni gathering in Pakistan.

Having extensive conversations with each other and with other participants, the alumni shared their future goals and career plans.



CHIST-ERA support to our faculty member Onur Varol

Sabancı University Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences Faculty Member Onur Varol, receives CHIST-ERA support.

Onur Varol's project is entitled "Integrating CONTENT and NETWORK structure for detecting, understanding, and mitigating online misbehaviour".

The project, which is planned to last 36 months, aims to examine the dissemination of content through rich data types (text, image, video, and network structures) in social networks. The research team involved in the project will model social networks and information dissemination as a multi-layered network, and will work on this data to detect problematic content such as social bots, misleading information, and deepfakes.

Academics and teams from Luxembourg, Finland, Belgium, and Ireland will also be working on the project, to which experienced researchers at the Sabancı University Computational Social Sciences Laboratory will also contribute.

Project coordinator Onur Varol said the following regarding the project, planned to start as of January 2023: "In this project, we will work on the creation of multi-layered network representations of data collected from social networks and the detection of social bots, and on measuring their effects on information dissemination. As one of the



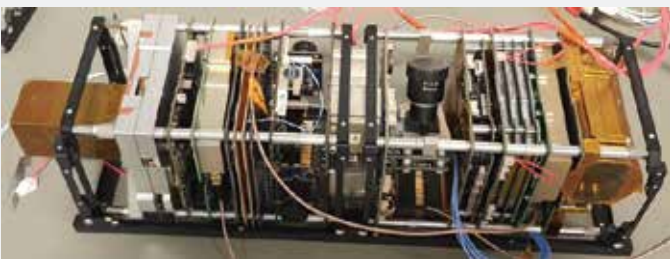
case studies in the project is the analysis of the 2023 Turkish elections, in the elections in the first 6 months of the project, we will be focusing heavily on detecting online disinformation that may have occurred."

The CHIST-ERA IV ERA-NET (European Coordinated Research on Long-Term Challenges in Information and Communication Sciences & Technologies ERA-Net) project is an ERA-NET Cofund project supported under the FET-Future and Emerging Technologies program within the Horizon 2020 Scientific Excellence program.

Sabancı University students and faculty are accessing space with the improved X-ray Detector (iXRD) on 3U CubeSat Sharjah-Sat-1

Sabancı University students and faculty are accessing space with the improved X-ray Detector (iXRD) on 3U CubeSat Sharjah-Sat-1. The launch was provided by Space-X Transporter 6 from Cape Canaveral, Florida on 3 January 2023, at 17:56 (Turkish Time).

The design, tests, and production were completed at the High Energy Astrophysics Detector Laboratory with significant contributions (electronic design, mechanical design, software, and in-orbit background simulations) by undergraduate and graduate students.

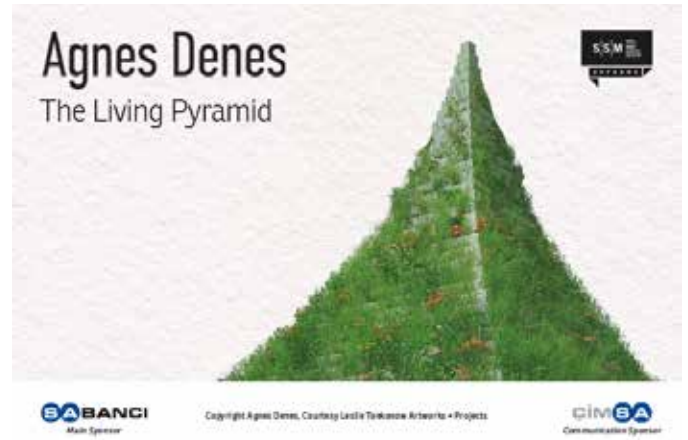


The detector, together with the satellite, will be able to monitor exciting astrophysical objects such as black holes and neutron stars.

'The Living Pyramid' by Agnes Denes will complete its cycle of four seasons at the SSM

Sponsored by Sabancı Holding and with all communications sponsorship by Çimsa, the work consists of plants and flowers selected from the urban flora of Istanbul, determined by the amount of sun and shade falling on each of the pyramid's façades.

First built in 2015 for the Socrates Sculpture Park in New York, then at Nordstadtpark in Kassel as part of documenta 14 in 2017, The Living Pyramid can be conceived of as a sculpture that has a natural life cycle. Consisting of wooden stepped terraces filled with four tons of earth, the pyramid curves nine metres into the sky. The terraces of the pyramid contain two thousand plants and flowers belonging to approximately six hundred species, selected meticulously with input from the artist. Having spent the autumn in Istanbul and now experiencing the winter season, the work has gone through various phases, with some of its plants sprouting and blooming while others have run to seed.



The Living Pyramid, Agnes Denes' first work to be exhibited in Turkey, will continue its environmentally sensitive approach after its residence in the SSM garden is over, by inviting visitors to adopt its plants.

Agnes Denes's Manifesto, written in 1969 and specially produced for this exhibition, is exhibited alongside the pyramid, and will become a part of the museum's permanent collection.

Workshops for adults and children, conferences, and other events on the environment and ecology will continue to be held at the SSM in conjunction with the exhibition of The Living Pyramid in the garden.

Sabancı University's career event IMIS'23 attracted a lot of interest this year as well!

Organized annually by the Industrial Engineering Society (IES), one of the student clubs of Sabancı University, the IMIS (International Management and Industrial Engineering Summit) took place on March 18 and 19, 2023.

Organized for the 16th time this year by the Industrial Engineering Society (IES), one of the student clubs of Sabancı University, the IMIS (International Management and Industrial Engineering Summit) took place on March 18 and 19 March 2023 with the participation of hundreds of students from dozens of universities. In the "IMIS'23" event held at the Sabancı Performing Arts Center with the theme of "resilience" this year, executives, experts and celebrities from the business world shared their resilience to the problems, disasters, events and change they encountered in the changing world with the participants.

In addition to the sessions realized with the participation of famous speakers, test drives and workshops were held in a large foyer area during the IMIS'23 Resilience event, in which more than 900 students participated.



EDU Maintains International Success

Sabancı University Executive Development Unit, EDU, continued its rise in the annual Financial Times rankings that evaluate the Executive Education Customized Programs designed for the business world globally.



In the Financial Times Executive Education Customized Programs 2023 rankings, EDU has ranked 36th, moving up 42 places in total since 2018. Maintaining its leadership this year in Turkey as in previous years, EDU continues to contribute to the business world with its programs designed with innovative learning tools by following the developments in the world.

Number One in the World in Total Responses

Sabancı University EDU Director Gonca Börekçi Baybaş shared her views on the success of EDU and said:

"We are proud to leave behind some of the world's most important and well-established universities this year, as in previous years. We are still a pioneer and leader not only in Turkey but also in our region with the evaluation results we have obtained in many criteria. This success we have achieved together with our learning partner companies and our contributing education partners will continue exponentially in the years to come. We will continue to contribute to the future of the business world with this success, which further strengthens our university's place in the world and our leading position in the field of executive education in Turkey."

Entering the Financial Times Executive Education Customized Programs world rankings for the first time in 2018 in 78th place, EDU ranked 58th in 2019 and 55th in 2020. The rankings were not announced in 2021 due to the pandemic. EDU ranked 42nd in the 2022 rankings.

In addition to rising to 36th place in the overall evaluation in 2023, EDU ranked 1st in the "Total Responses" category, 16th in the "Future Use" category, 10th in the "Growth" category, and 30th in the "New Skills and Learning" category.

This year, 75 institutions from around the world were included in the Financial Times Executive Education Customized Programs rankings. You can find more information about the rankings on Executive Education Custom 2023 - Business school rankings from the Financial Times - FT.com.



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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.