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ANNUAL
REPORT





Discover Your
Potential
with Türkiye
Scholarships.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Abdullah EREN
President of YTB



The year 2020 was a difficult year for us in many respects, but, on the other hand, it was an inspiring year with the “new approaches” it has generated. The fact that the leaders of the future, scientists, intellectuals, entrepreneurs, and artists receive education in our country with scholarships continues to excite and do us proud.



According to the “Education at a Glance” report published by the OECD in 2020, the number of international students studying in higher education across the world increased more than two times than the number in 2005, reaching 5.6 million in 2018. According to the current data published by UNESCO, our country became the tenth country in the world with the highest number of international students in higher education with 125,138 international students in higher education institutions in 2018. The Higher Education Council officially announced that the number of international students studying at Turkish universities in the 2019-2020 academic year was 185,047. All this information provides us with an outstanding content indicating that Turkey has a rising status and serious potential in international student mobility.

The fact that pandemic threw not only international student mobility but also the whole higher education processes into disorder and that it affected not only our country but the whole world, it became the most important current issue in 2020. As of the time these sentences were written, the number of cases exceeding 100 million worldwide and 2 million in our country summarizes the seriousness of the situation. The structure of international student mobility, which can be considered as an important opportunity for allowing to establish a scientific fraternity and facility mechanism against adversities such as current humanitarian crisis situations and unfortunately widespread discrimination across the world, etc., has evolved in a different direction with the pandemic. All formal education and higher education institutions around the world have moved their education from the “face to face” system to the “remote” or “hybrid” system in a manner not limited to international students. Although the effect of this situation on the higher education in the medium and long-term is unknown for now, it is obvious where the limits of internationalization in higher education may reach in the future.

“Türkiye Scholarships” program, in which we are happy to carry out studies having the awareness of its importance and which consists one of the most important assets of our state and which provides a significant quality to the Turkish higher education, has received a large number of appli-

cations this year as every year despite the pandemic.

Within the scope of the program, which has been elaboratively conducted within the framework of the principles of “being accessible by everyone, being equal and fair to everyone, giving importance to merit” since its establishment, 146,600 applications were made from 167 countries in 2019, while 158,168 applications were received from 173 countries in 2020.

In 2020, taking into account the requests from our scholarship students, the amount of monthly stipend provided to undergraduate, postgraduate and research scholarship programs was increased. In addition, “welcome programs, Academy Awards, online education seminars” and “International Student Academy” activities were organized, which will contribute to the adaptation processes of our international students and integrate them with our country’s culture, in a manner to bring into contact both with the academic and social structure.

It is our greatest happiness during the pandemic process that that the Presidency carries out procedures of the grantees with its meticulous approach without causing any difficulties or loss of rights. We quickly adapted to all the extraordinary conditions required by the process and gave opportunity to our students whom scholarships were newly awarded to receive Turkish education remotely. Also, in this process, we realized a solidarity project where not only Türkiye Scholarship students but also all international students are adopted as target group.

The year 2020 was a difficult year for us in many respects, but, on the other hand, it was an inspiring year with the “new approaches” it has generated. The fact that the leaders of the future, scientists, intellectuals, entrepreneurs, and artists receive education in our country with scholarships continues to excite and do us proud. In order to display our presence “stronger/more qualified” in international student mobility, we will continue to work “more” with the strength we get from our students with the Türkiye Scholarship.

Wish you all the best.





C O N T E N T S



PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE



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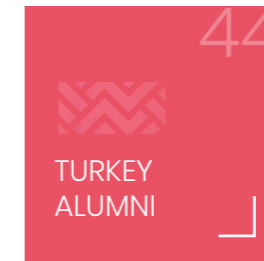
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T Ü R K İ Y E S C H O L A R S H I P S

The great contribution made to international student mobility by the Türkiye Scholarships program is mainly based on five core values.

WHY DO WE AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS?

1. Türkiye Scholarships adopts a merit-based scholarship philosophy, relying on the objective criteria applicable for all applicants and aims to create a cultural, social and economic interaction both at an individual and community level.
2. It is aimed to improve the capacities and skills of the awardees of Türkiye Scholarships, in order for them to contribute to development in their home countries.
3. The graduates who complete their studies under Türkiye Scholarships and return to their own countries are encouraged to contribute to the existing of the existing academic, social, political and financial relationship between their countries and Turkey.
4. In particular, the grantees postgraduate level are expected to contribute to the world of science and literature with their academic work.
5. Türkiye Scholarships provides scholarship opportunities to students who have limited access to education in "the least developed countries" and in "countries experiencing a humanitarian crisis", in accordance with the principles of merit-based evaluation. The scholarship program persistently promotes equal opportunities in higher education.



HOW DO WE AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS?

Türkiye Scholarships applications which can be made in 8 languages through the online application system are processed based on the academic achievements, extracurricular activities and other professional qualifications of applicants.



During the evaluation process, applicants are evaluated based on their eligibility for the program which they have applied for and their academic and social achievements as well.

The processing and selection of Türkiye Scholarships applications is comprised of four tiers.

Application address:

www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr



1. Preliminary Assessment:

All applications are screened based on basic criteria such as minimum academic grades, age limit, the documents that need to be uploaded into the system. Applicants meeting the basic criteria are shortlisted for further evaluation.



2. Expert Review:

At this stage, the files of the applicants are carefully reviewed by an Expert Committee of Türkiye Scholarships based on a broad set of criteria including academic standing, qualifications, academic interests, career goals, consistency of program preferences, authenticity/clarity of letter of intent, participation in extracurricular activities, etc.". Candidates are evaluated based on competition of their qualifications, where the outstanding candidates are shortlisted for an interview.



3. Interview:

Following two stringent stages of review, shortlisted candidates are evaluated by Türkiye Scholarships Expert Committee comprising of qualified academicians and specialists. During the interview; the applicant is asked to give details about their university and department preferences, the information and letter of intent they have provided in their files, personal and professional expectations and motivations pertaining to studying in Turkey etc. as well as the potential contribution that can be made by Türkiye Scholarships to all these expectations. The interview is not limited to curricular or academic aspects, but also focuses both on the applicant's command of the developments in the world, in the field that the applicant has studied and their capacity of knowledge and interpretation in social and cultural subjects.



4. Final Selection Stage

All successful scholarship applicants, considered prospective awardees by the interview committees, are subjected to a final comparative review by the Selection Committee and the list of distinguished applicants eligible to receive Türkiye Scholarships is finalized.



SCOPE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarships granted as part of the long-term programs (undergraduate and postgraduate) benefit from the following opportunities.

On the other hand, one or more of these provisions can be offered in the short-term scholarships, depending on the program.

1



University Placement:

The applicants are placed directly in the universities and programs, considering their preferences and educational background.

2



Tuition Fee:

The tuition fee required by the university department in which they are placed is fully covered.

3



Monthly Stipend:

Monthly stipend is provided, according to the levels of education.

4



Turkish Language Education:

"1-year Turkish Language course" is provided, which will make a great contribution in students' university lives and also allow them to integrate into social life quickly.

5



Accommodation :

"Accommodation service" is provided in the form of "student dormitories" over the course of students' studies at undergraduate level; and in the form of "student dormitory" for the first year then "financial assistance" thereafter at postgraduate level.

6



General Health Insurance:

Differing from other international scholarship programs, Türkiye Scholarships provides general health insurance equivalent to that of Turkish citizens.

7



Arrival and Return Flight Ticket:

One-off arrival and return flight ticket for journey between home country to and from Turkey is provided.

8



Academic, Social and Cultural Programs:

The awardees of Türkiye Scholarships are given the opportunity to participate in the specially organized academic, social and cultural programs.





SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Long-Term Scholarship Programs

1. Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Outstanding awardees of undergraduate level studies qualify for direct enrolment in the departments of social sciences, humanities, natural sciences and engineering in Turkey's most prestigious universities.

Standard duration of undergraduate programs in Turkey varies between 4 - 6 years depending on the type of program.



The applicants of Graduate/ Postgraduate level education in 2020 were given the opportunity to choose from among 1.561 programs at 70 universities in 42 cities.



Opportunities provided under the Undergraduate Scholarship Program are as follows:



Direct placement in university and program



Monthly Stipend: (TRY 800)



Tuition Fee



One-off arrival and return flight ticket



Health insurance



Accommodation



1-year Turkish Language Course



Academic, social and cultural programs



With the update made in 2020, the monthly stipend provided to undergraduate students was increased from TRY 700 to TRY 800.



Long-Term Scholarship Programs

2. Postgraduate Scholarship Program

Outstanding awardees of Master's and PhD level education within the scope of long-term programs qualify for direct enrolment in the departments of social sciences, humanities, natural sciences and engineering in Turkey's most prestigious universities

In Turkey, standard duration is 2 years for Master's programs and 4 years for PhD programs.

With the update made in 2020, the amount of monthly stipend has been increased from TRY 950 to TRY 1.100 for master's students, from TRY 1.400 to TRY 1.600 for PhD students.



Opportunities provided under the Postgraduate Scholarship Program are as follows:



Direct placement
in university and
program



Monthly Stipend
Master's ₺1,100
PhD: ₺1,600



Tuition Fee



One-off arrival
and return flight
ticket



Health
insurance



Accommodation



1-year Turkish
Language
Course



Academic, social
and cultural
programs

The applicants of Postgraduate level education in 2020 were given the opportunity to choose from among 2.230 programs at 61 universities in 29 cities.



Long-Term Scholarship Programs

3. Art Scholarship Program

With the Art Scholarship Program, selected students pursuing long-term undergraduate, Master's and PhD studies qualify to study in one of Turkey's prestigious fine art universities in the fields of performing arts, music sciences and technologies and music and fine arts.

With these programs, the duration of study for the undergraduate and doctoral studies is 4 years whereas it's 2 years for graduate programs.

Candidates who applied for the "art scholarship program" in 2020 were given the opportunity to choose between 3 fields and 12 departments at Ankara University of Music and Fine Arts in accordance with their levels.



Opportunities provided under the Art Scholarship Program are as follows:



Direct placement in university and program



Monthly Stipend
Undergraduate: ₺ 800
Master's: ₺ 1.100
PhD: ₺ 1.600



Tuition Fee



One-off arrival and return flight ticket



Health insurance



Accommodation



1-year Turkish Language Course



Academic, social and cultural programs



Short-term Scholarship Programs

1. Success Scholarship

Success scholarship is given for one time only and is a 9month program specifically designed for students who currently study at Turkish universities on their own finances and have shown exceptional academic achievement. This Scholarship program only covers the monthly stipend.

Opportunities provided under the Success Scholarship Program are as follows:



1

Undergraduate:
TRY 450



2

Master's:
TRY 600



3

PhD:
TRY 900





Short-term Scholarship Programs

2. Research Scholarship

Research Scholarship Program is a 3-12 months long program, designed to encourage international researchers and academicians to conduct academic research in their fields at the most prestigious universities in Turkey, enabling them to work in cooperation with Turkish academicians. The program is available for PhD holders or PhD candidates at dissertation stage. This scholarship program only covers monthly stipend.

With the update made in 2020, the monthly stipend provided to research students was increased from TRY 3,000 to TRY 4,000.



Monthly
TRY 4.000



Short-term Scholarship Programs

3. Turkish Language Program for Public Officials and Academicians [KÂTİP]

Turkish Language Program for Public Officials and Academicians [KÂTİP] is an 8-10 months long course intended for foreign public officials, diplomats, academicians, and researchers who wish to learn Turkish language and get to know Turkey more closely.

Opportunities provided under the KATİP Scholarship Program are as follows:



Monthly stipend of ₺2.000



1-year Turkish Language Course



One-off arrival and return flight ticket



Accommodation



Social and cultural programs





TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS Scholarship Programs

Joint Scholarship Programs

As part of Türkiye Scholarships, joint scholarship programs are carried out with national/international institutions and organisations by way of joint financing and delegation. Information on the scholarship programs carried out within this scope is submitted below:

1. Higher and Further Education Opportunities and Perspectives for Syrians (HOPES) Scholarship Program

HOPES project is conducted with the cooperation of German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and its partners, which are British Council, Campus France and EP-Nuffic, and Türkiye Scholarships is the implementing partner of the project in Turkey.

The project funded by the EU Regional Trust Fund in Response to the Syrian crisis - or the MADAD Fund offers scholarship opportunities to Syrian students living in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq.

In 2020, HOPES scholarships program covered the scholarships of 406 Syrian Türkiye Scholarships Grantees for a period of 9 months. The project in question, which has been conducted since 2016, ended as of August 2020.



2. Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) Scholarship Program

With the DAF Fund, a certain number of Syrian students living in Turkey are provided with scholarships at higher education levels in cooperation with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Türkiye Scholarships is the project's implementing partner in Turkey. With this program, 631 students were supported in 2020.

19 immigrant students, who will no longer be supported after the completion of the HOPES project, have also been included under the DAFI program.



3. EU Higher Education Scholarship Program (HESP)

With the MADA Fund, a certain number of Syrian students living in Turkey are provided with scholarships at higher education levels in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Türkiye Scholarships is the project's implementing partner in Turkey. With the related program, support is provided to 27 undergraduate and 86 postgraduate students in 2020.

In addition to the aforementioned supports and with the 2020 project, Syrian graduates' transition process to business market have been examined and questionnaires and focus group interviews have been carried out with the current Syrian students and graduates in order to facilitate this process. The results of the completed research were shared at a consultation meeting attended by relevant public institutions and organizations and international organizations.



4. Yemeni Pioneers Scholarship Program

"Yemeni Pioneers Scholarship Program", which was launched in 2019 under the protocol signed by Veysel Karani Turkish-Yemeni Said Foundation, is a scholarship program established in order to develop relations between Turkey and Yemen and to contribute to the development and stability of Yemen. The scholarship program aims to ensure that Yemeni students receive education in our country's universities in the fields that will assist them to contribute in development of their country in the future and that their leadership skills are improved as well. In 2020, 27 students were supported within the program.



TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS Scholarship Programs



5. World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Scholarship Program

Within the framework of the cooperation of YTB, WIPO, Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (TÜRKPATENT) and Ankara University, scholarships are given to a certain number of students in order to study in Ankara University Intellectual Property Law Non-Thesis Master's Program.



6. SPARK Scholarship Program

The scholarship program that is carried out jointly with Netherlands-based SPARK organization, which has support activities at higher education level for refugees in the Middle East and North Africa regions, is funded by EU.

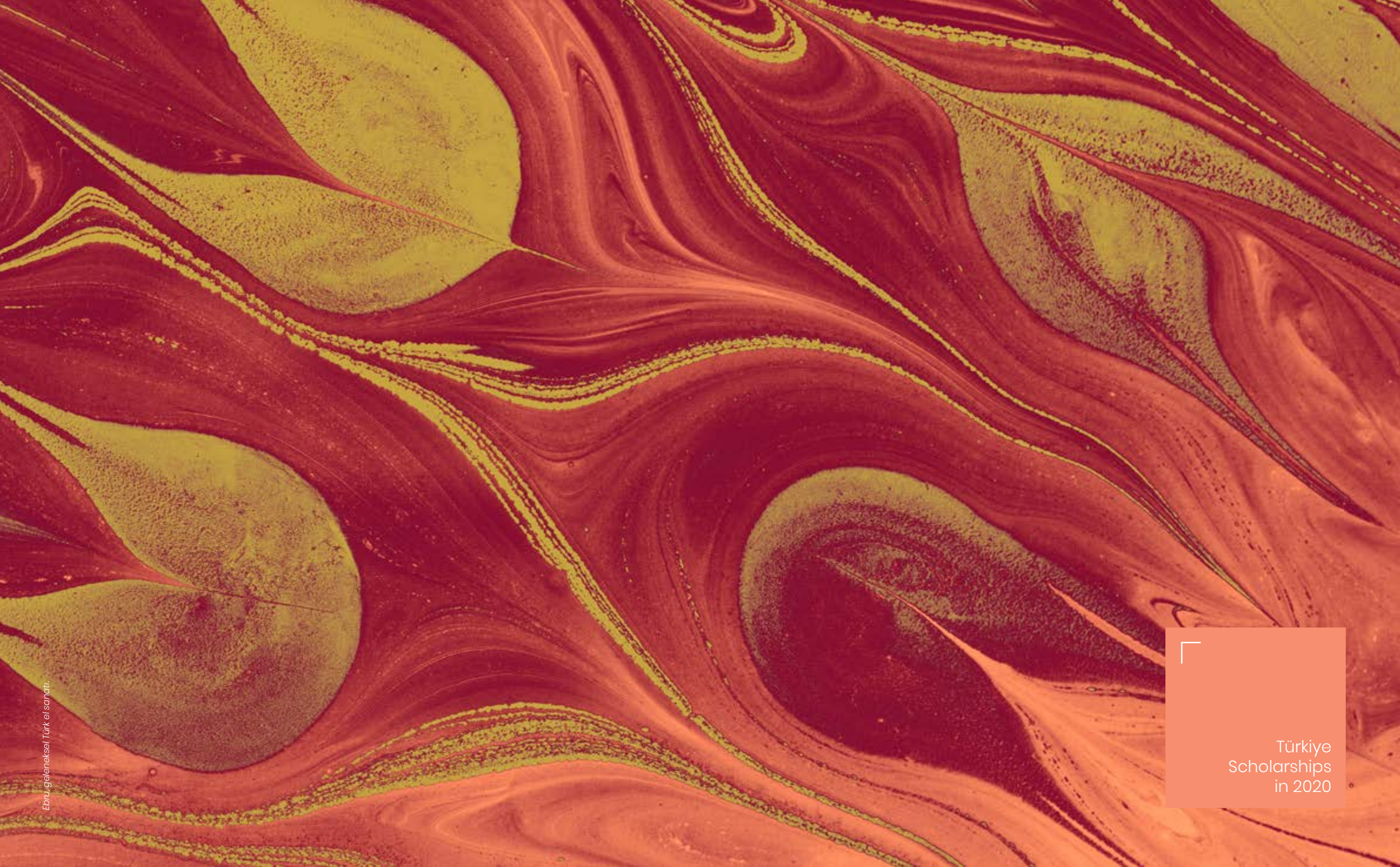
In 2020, with the aforementioned scholarship program, a total of 360 Syrian students "under temporary protection" were granted scholarships, 180 of which are associate degree and candidates 180 of which are undergraduate.



7. Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Scholarship Program

IsDB offers scholarship programs at higher education level for the purpose of developing the human resources of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) member countries and Muslim communities in non-OIC countries.

Within the framework of the protocol signed in 2020 between the IsDB and YTB, students who are jointly identified by the parties are granted scholarship under the Türkiye Scholarships. With this program 76 students were supported in 2020.





KEY FIGURES



In 2020

①
A total of **158,168 applications** were received from 173 countries. 157,024 of these applications were for long-term and 1,144 of them for short-term scholarship programs.



②*

A total of **7,020 candidates from 92 countries** were interviewed.



③

The total number of long and short-term scholarships granted is **3,680**.



⑤
419 people were supported to pursue short-term scholarship programs.



3,261 people were supported under the long-term scholarship programs.

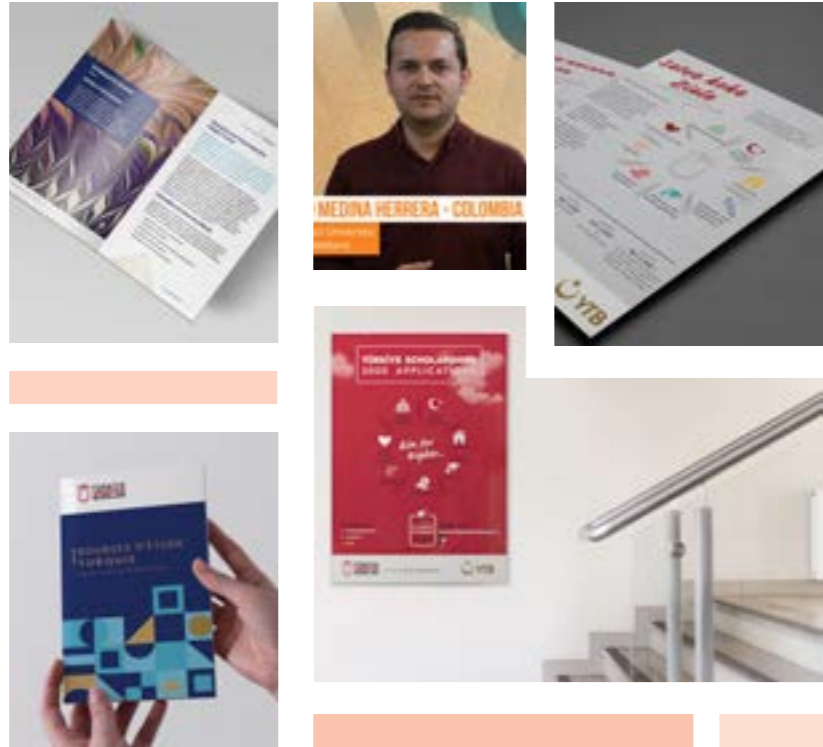
④

* In 2020, **7,020 candidates from 139 countries** were interviewed. **4,943** hopefuls from **92 countries** were interviewed through online platforms, **1,176** hopefuls from **41 countries** were interviewed through embassies of the Republic of Turkey, and **901** hopefuls from **6 countries** were interviewed face-to-face.



PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Promotional activities were carried out throughout 2020 in order to enable Türkiye Scholarships to gain more recognition around the world and to receive a higher number of qualified applications.



Promotion and Communication Studies in 14 Languages

Videos, spots, posters, flyers and brochures were made in English, Arabic, Albanian, Bosnian, French, Russian, Persian, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Uzbek, Greek and Bulgarian languages and sent to Turkish foreign representatives and their use on media and social media platforms abroad was ensured.

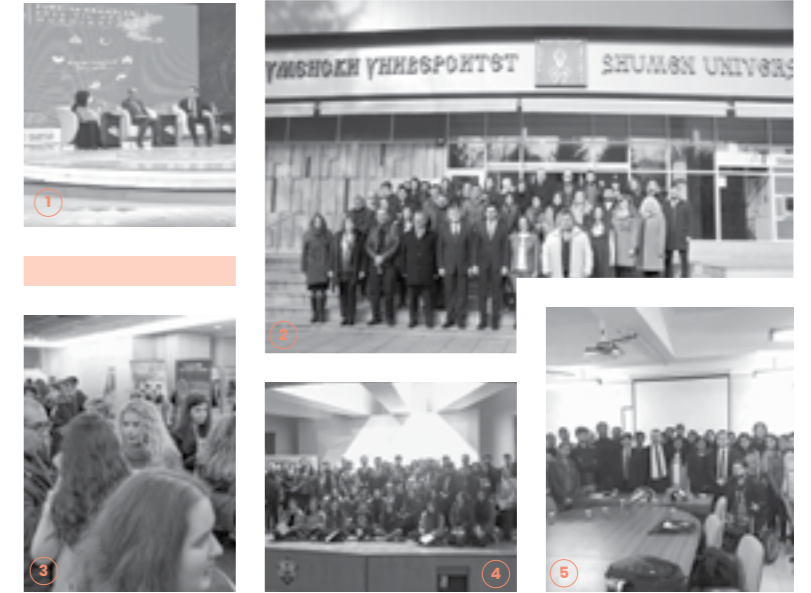


On-Site Promotion

In 2020, on-site promotional activities were carried out for Türkiye Scholarships in 5 countries at 17 locations in total, which are Sofia, Yukarıcuma, Kardzhali, Maden, Ulanlı, Razgrad, Shumen, Ruse and Varna in Bulgaria, Tashkent and Samarkand in Uzbekistan,

New Delhi and Chandigarh in India, Athens in Greece, Nicosia, Kyrenia and Famagusta in TRNC.

In 5 countries and 17 locations, on-site promotional activities were carried out for Türkiye Scholarships.



Photos

- ① Uzbekistan ② Bulgaria ③ Greece
④ TRNC ⑤ India



TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2020 Promotional Activities



Promotional Activities in Universities

In accordance with the priorities of Türkiye Scholarships program, promotional activities were organized for the leading universities in the target countries and for the universities where “Turcology, Middle East, Near East, Mediterranean and Islamic Studies” exist and academics therein.

The letter signed by YTB President Mr. Abdullah Eren was sent to **370 university rectors from 70 countries**, and also, promotional materials such as posters, flyers and films created in different languages according to countries were delivered to **200 academicians from 40 universities**.

Information was given to **70 universities in Turkey** to introduce Türkiye Scholarships to the universities abroad with which they cooperate.



TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS IN 2020 Promotional Activities



1.02 million
single access



Over
3 million
views



Social Media Studies

Through the social media studies carried out for international student candidates in 105 universities and schools in 119 cities in target countries, 1,02 million single access to promotional documents were achieved.

With the work titled Quick Facts, 40 visuals and content were published and 7 informative films were broadcast to inform candidates.

During the application period, more than 3 million views were reached on social media.





┌
2020
Application and
Selection
Procedures



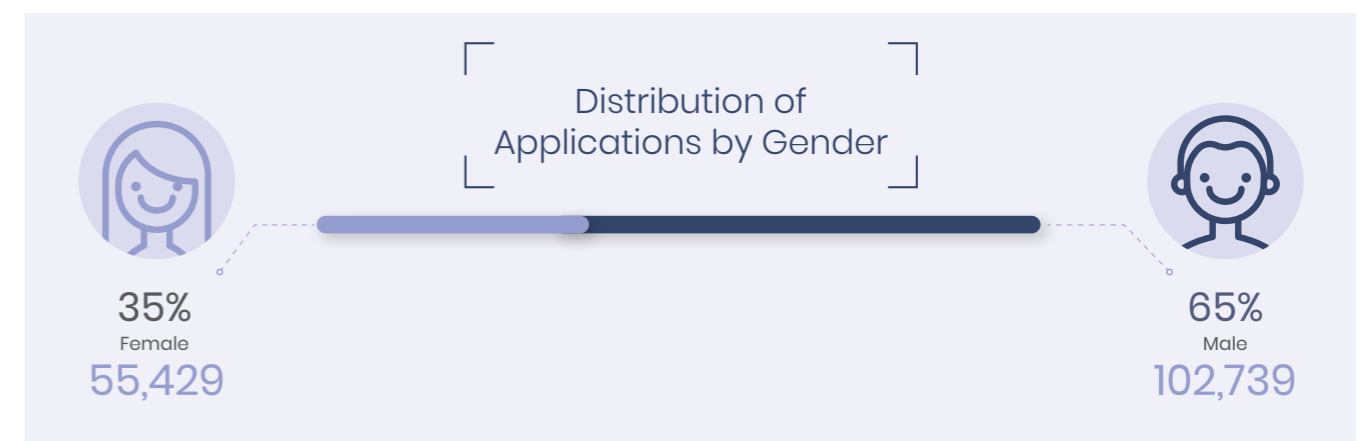
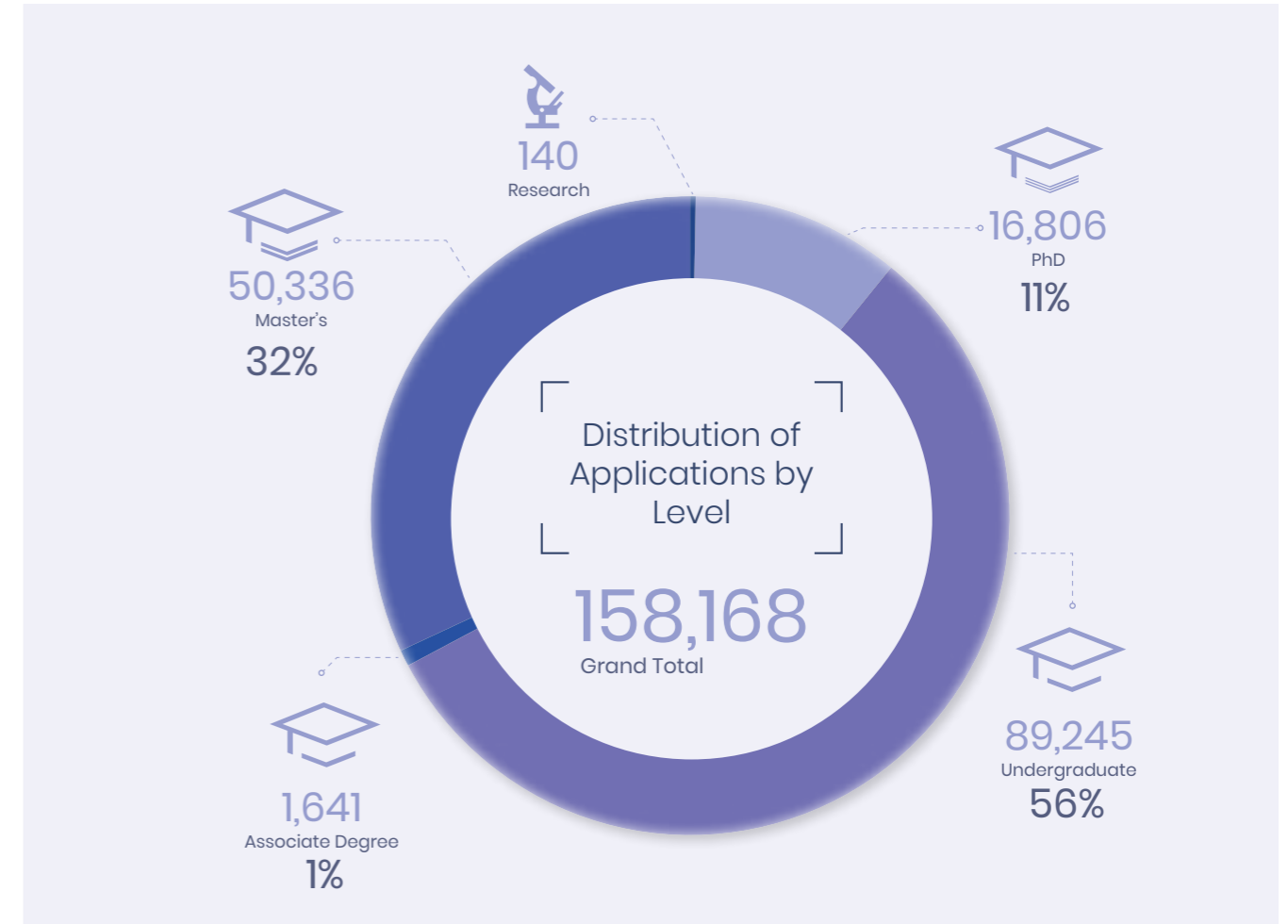
APPLICATION and SELECTION

Türkiye Scholarships has been the center of attention of students from all over the world, due to the increment in international student mobility by Turkey in international student mobility, thanks to the student-friendly application system the applications have shown a rising trend every year.



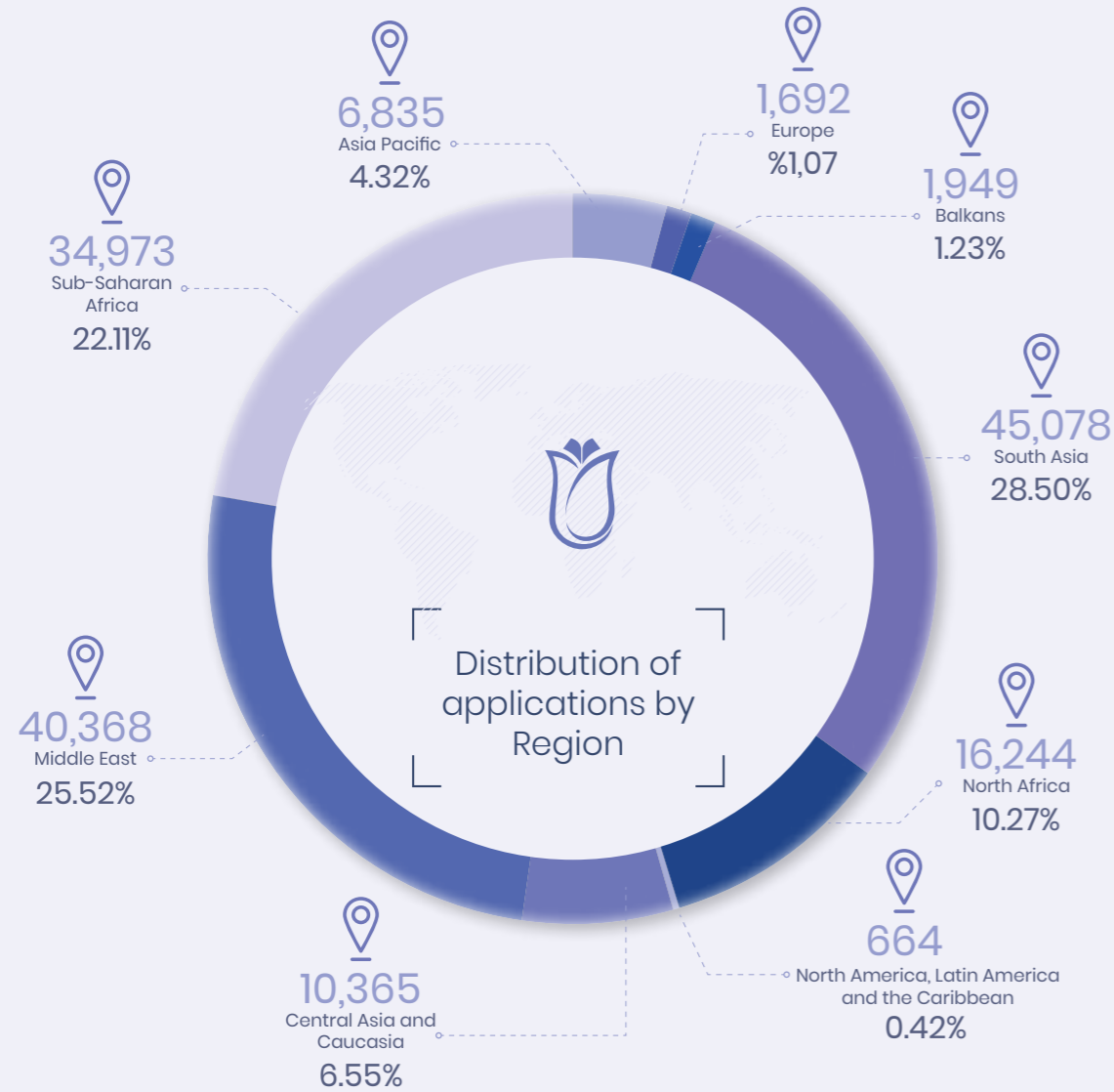
In a manner to confirm the indicated trend, while the number of applications to Türkiye Scholarships was **146,600 in 2019**, this number increased by 7.8% in **2020 reaching 158,168** despite the Covid-19 epidemic throughout the world. 100,809 of these applications passed through the pre-evaluation stage and qualified to be reviewed at the expert evaluation stage, and 7,020 applicants were deemed eligible at the expert evaluation stage and invited for an interview.

	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS
Long-Term Scholarship Programs	157,024
Short-Term Scholarship Programs	1,144
Total Application	158,168





Application and Selection

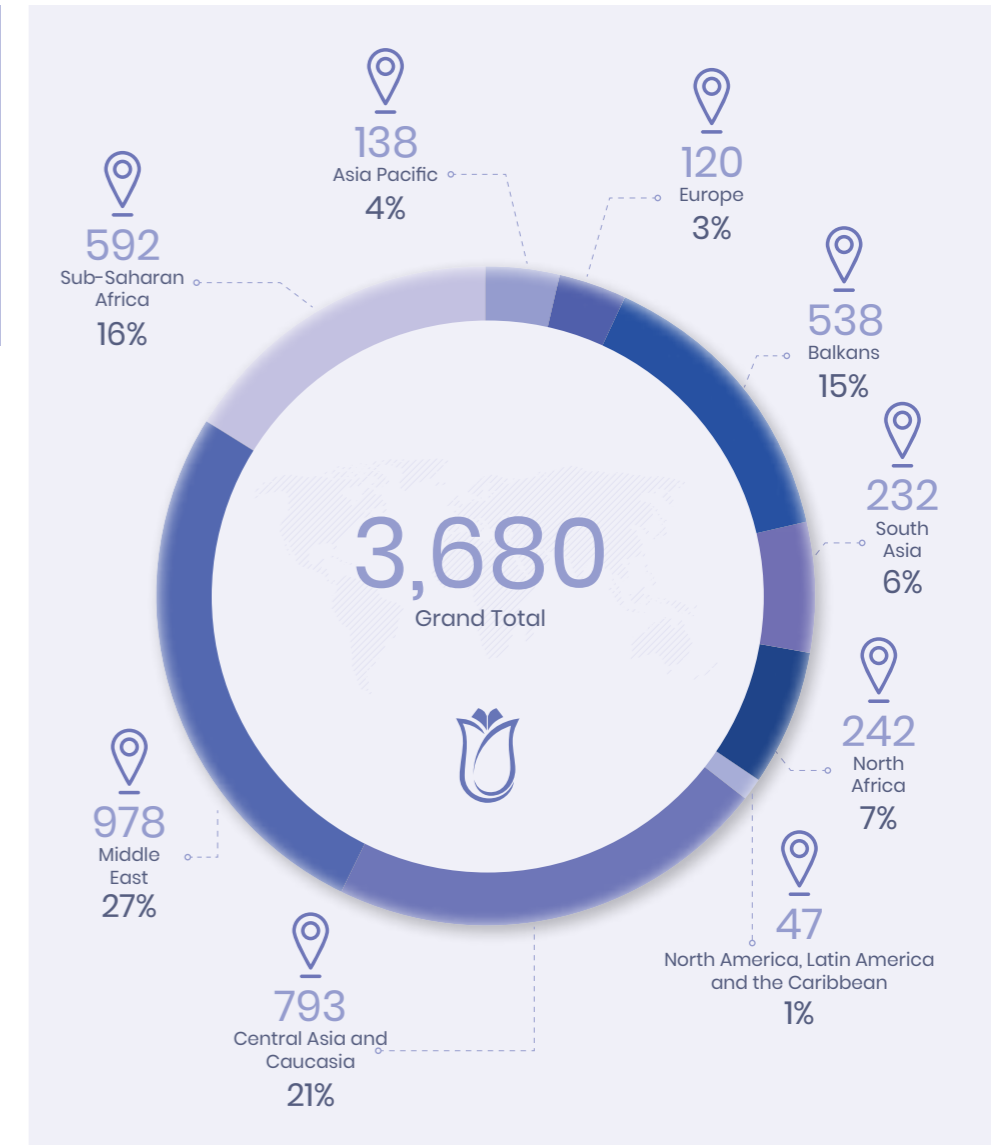


According to the measures taken against Covid-19, 3,680 candidates have been deemed eligible for the scholarship as a result of both online interviews and face-to-face interviews conducted by the Türkiye Scholarships Committee, Turkish foreign representatives and multi-dimensional evaluations carried out at the subsequent process as well.



SCHOLARSHIPS IN FIGURES

Distribution by region



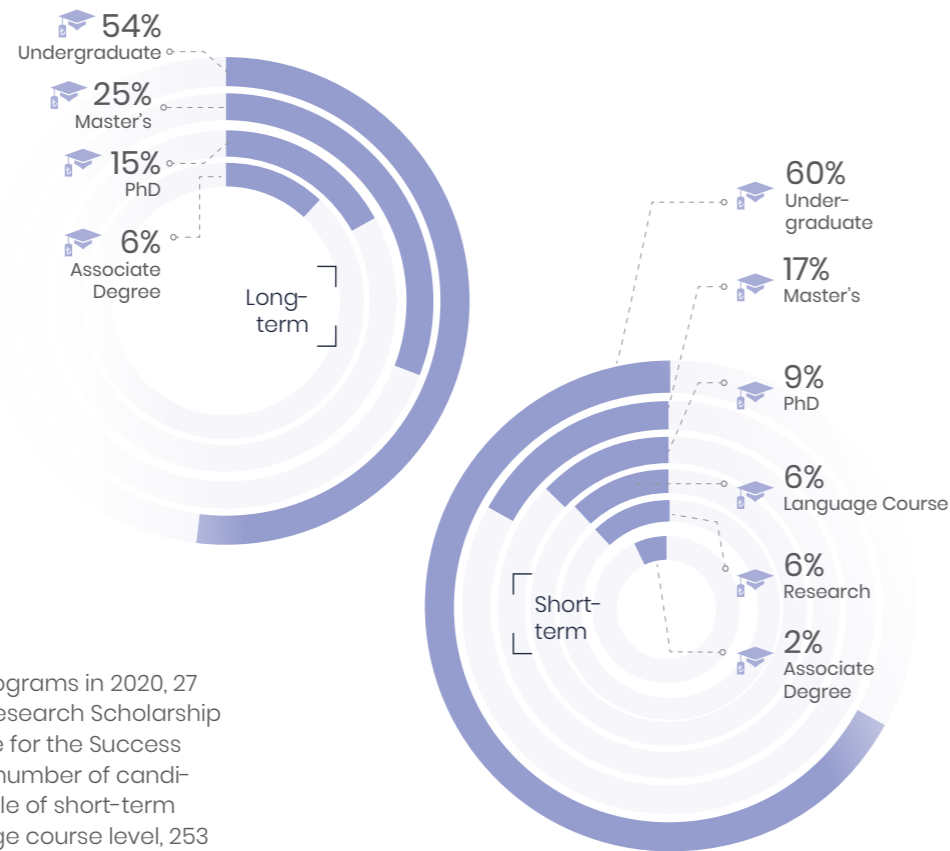


2020 APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES Scholarships in Figures

Distribution by levels

	ASSOCIATE DEGREE	UNDER GRADUATE	MASTER'S	PHD	LANGUAGE	RESEARCH	TOPLAM
Long-Term Scholarship Programs	180	1,757	832	492			3,261
Short-Term Scholarship Programs	7	253	70	37	25	27	419

In 2020, 1,757 applicants were given scholarships at undergraduate level; 832 at Master's level and 492 at PhD level for long-term scholarship programs.



Among the short-term scholarship programs in 2020, 27 out of 187 applications made for the Research Scholarship and 194 out of 1,030 applications made for the Success Scholarship were granted. Finally, the number of candidates who are supported under the title of short-term scholarship programs is 25 at language course level, 253 at undergraduate level, 37 at PhD level, and 27 at research level.



2020 APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURES Scholarships in Figures

Distribution by gender

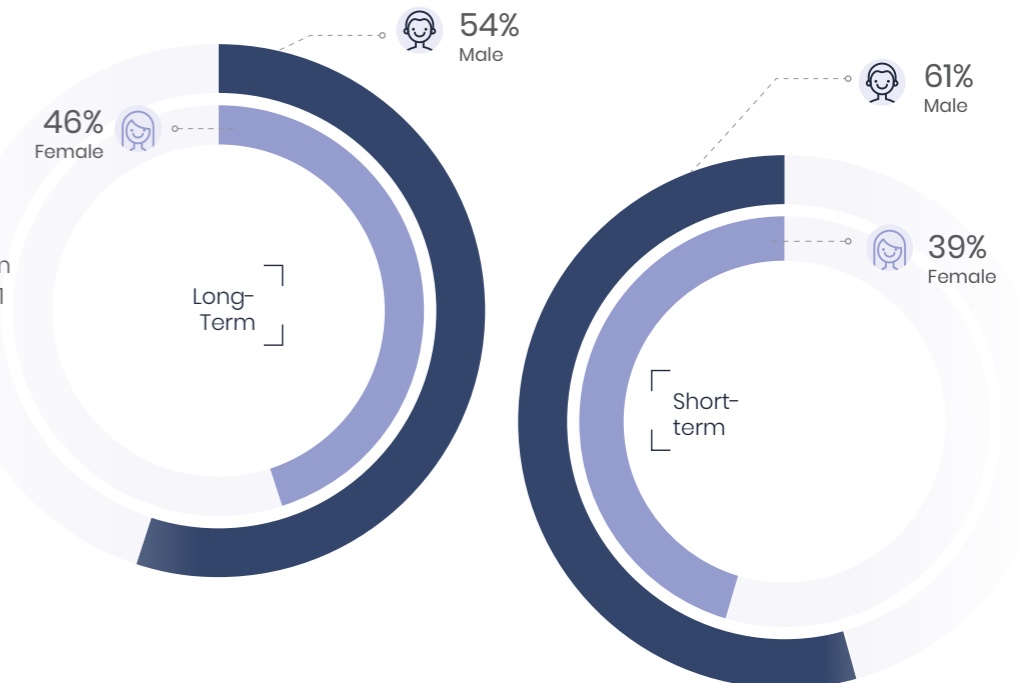
Türkiye Scholarships program considers the principle of "social inclusion" and encourages the principle of "gender equality in education".

Türkiye Scholarships program takes the principle of "social inclusion" into account and adopts an approach against "gender inequality in education". Within this framework, the candidate list of long and short-terms which is formed with male-weighted approach during the application stage is finalized by adopting an attitude in favor of female candidates without neglecting social priorities and merit principles.

Within the framework of long-term scholarship programs in 2020, 1,771 of the candidates are male and 1,490 of them are female.

255 of the candidates supported within the scope of short-term scholarship programs in 2020 are male and 164 of them are female.

	MALE	FEMALE
Long-Term Scholarship Programs	1,771	1,490
Short-Term Scholarship Programs	255	164

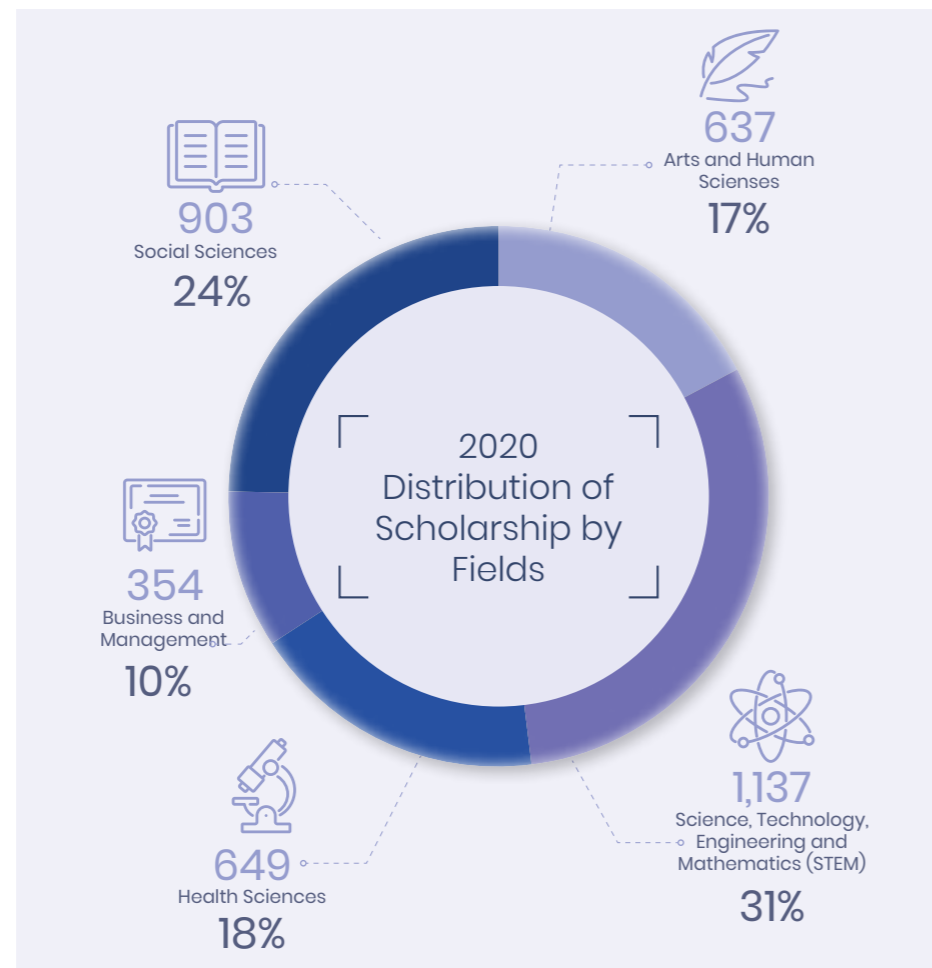




Distribution by fields

Within the scope of Türkiye Scholarship program, scholarships are granted by taking into account the development of capacity and skills of the candidate students in order for them to contribute to their country's development.

Priority of local needs is taken as a basis in the fields where scholarship is given for the purpose of the "development of capacity and skills of the scholarship students enabling them to contribute to the development of their own country", which is one of the fundamental values of Türkiye Scholarships program. In line with this factor, which is seriously considered during the country planning preparations of the program, the vision candidates have during the processes of becoming a scholarship grantee and how they will make an impact in their home country as well as the contribution they imagine to provide to relations between their country and Turkey, are all of great importance.



Scholarships awarded in the least developed countries

85% of the 46 countries identified as the "least developed countries" by United Nations Committee for Development Policy in 2020 are provided with an opportunity to get scholarships within the scope of Türkiye Scholarships program.

It is one of the primary goals of Türkiye Scholarships to contribute to the capacity of educated people in countries facing serious structural obstacles that prevent sustainable development, which are vulnerable to financial and environmental impacts, and lack sufficient human resources.

In this context; 85% of the 46 countries identified as the "least developed countries" by United Nations Committee for Development Policy in 2020 are provided with an opportunity to get scholarships within the scope of Türkiye Scholarships Program.

The scholarships, offered to the eligible and promising students from the least developed countries, make up 23% of the total number of scholarships awarded worldwide in 2020.





Scholarships in countries with a humanitarian crisis (Yemen and Syria)



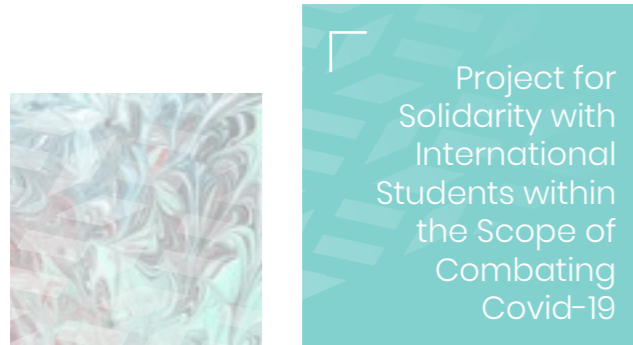
Türkiye Scholarships program adopts the approach of preferential scholarship for students studying at higher education level in the countries where fundamental rights and freedoms are destroyed or threatened and where a serious humanitarian crisis exists.



In this context, 660 (18.7%) of 3,515 scholarships granted in 2020 for long-term scholarship programs were awarded to students in the humanitarian crisis zones in Syria and Yemen. The scholarship program, in which the general scholarship is limited to 1-2% per country, accepts it as a principle to apply positive discrimination for students of the countries suffering from a humanitarian crisis.

In addition to the scholarship support provided as part of Türkiye Scholarships program, 8,500 Syrian students are provided with a tuition fee allowance in order to ensure the uninterrupted continuity and successful completion of their studies.

Activities
Conducted During
Covid-19 Process



Project for Solidarity with International Students within the Scope of Combating Covid-19

Like students who receive the Türkiye Scholarships, international students who receive education with their own means have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic substantially and they could not return to their home countries due to it.

Within the framework of "Project for Solidarity with International Students within the Scope of Combating Covid-19" that has been put into practice against the destructive effects of the pandemic period, over 1200 international students from 70 different countries coming to Turkey to receive higher education and living in 59 different cities within the country were provided with financial, food and hygiene products aid during Covid-19 pandemic.

Over 1200 international students coming to Turkey to receive higher education and living in 59 different cities within the country were provided with financial, food and hygiene products aid during Covid-19 pandemic.



Remote Turkish Teaching Studies

Although the Turkish language education process for the existing students with the Türkiye Scholarships that was carried out face-to-face was terminated in March 2020 due to force majeure events created by the Covid-19 pandemic, they were continued online in cooperation with 55 different Turkish Education Centers (TOMER), in order not to disrupt education of the students.

In 2020, TOMER registrations, placement tests and Turkish education have been conducted online from the beginning of the scholarship for international students who are eligible to have higher education in our country as a result of placement of Türkiye Scholarships. For the scholarship student who are deprived of the opportunity to participate in online education, Turkish education was provided within the structure of Yunus Emre Institute Cultural Center located in 14 different countries, which continued its activities also during the pandemic.



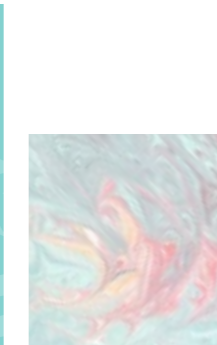
Accommodation Operations

Despite the effects of the pandemic influencing the entire year of 2020, operations with regard to accommodation activities were carried out in cooperation with the relevant institutions and organizations and accommodation support was given to the scholarship students uninterruptedly, in order for the students holding the Türkiye Scholarships not to experience any difficulty.

Accordingly, due to the pandemic in 2020, while 4,888 students with Türkiye Scholarships stayed in the dormitories of the General Directorate of Credit and Dormitories Agency (KYK) in 39 different cities, the number of students with Türkiye Scholarships residing in the dormitories on duty in 36 different cities was 3,211. In addition, transfer of the students with Türkiye Scholarships staying in private dormitories, which were closed due to the pandemic, into the KYK dormitories on-duty were carried out meticulously and 565 students in question were given accommodation in private dormitories.

In addition to all the above-mentioned issues, a monthly TRY 550 in-cash accommodation support was given to 3,845 scholarship students studying at master's level uninterruptedly.

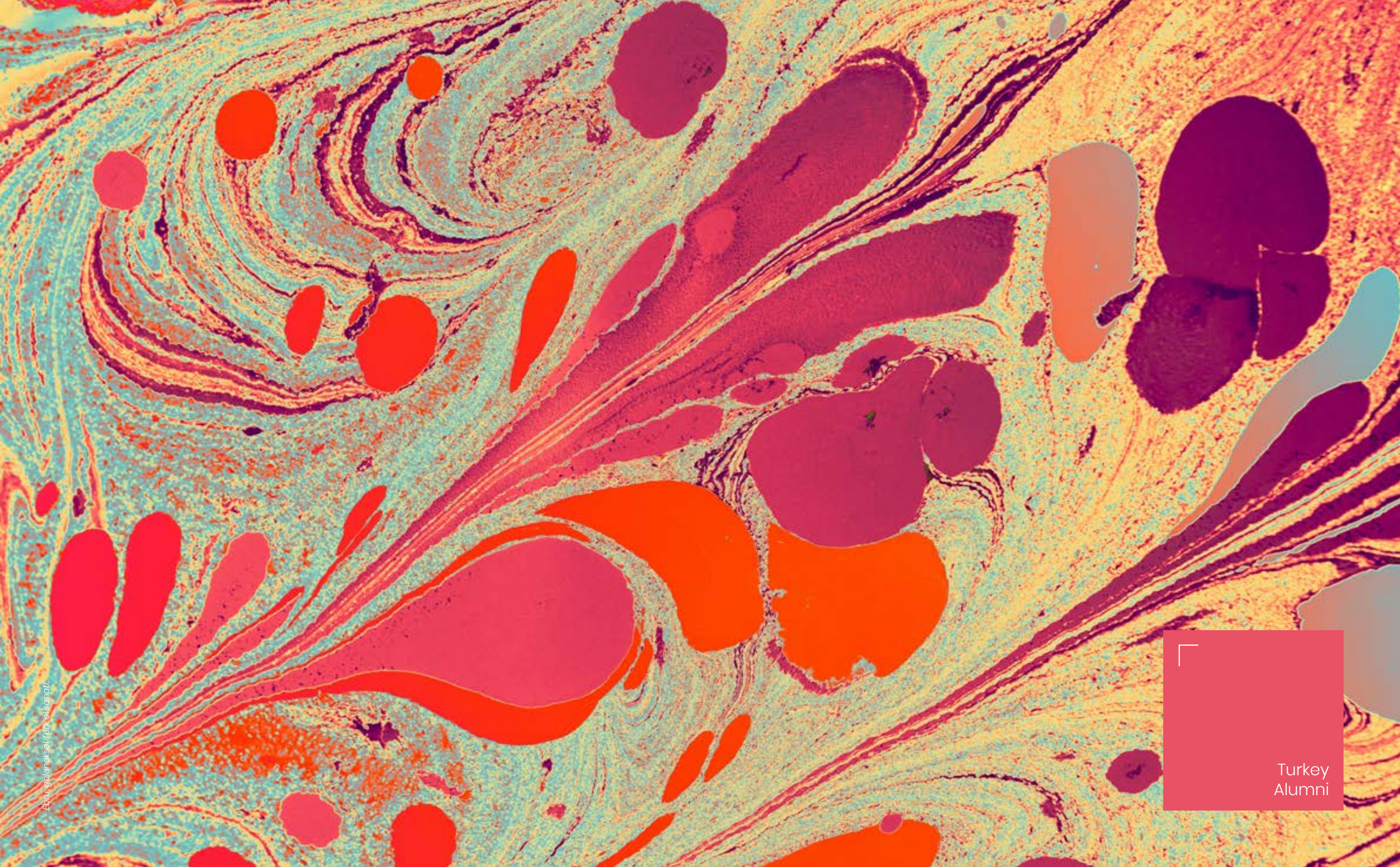
Cooperation with relevant institutions and organisations has been maintained and in order not to disadvantage scholarship grantees, housing support has been provided without interruption.



Convenience in Scholarship Procedures

All and any measures have been taken in order for the students holding the Türkiye Scholarships not to experience any unfavourable situation caused by the pandemic in their daily and academic lives, responses were given to the requests submitted through the Türkiye Scholarship Information System (TBSS) and the Türkiye Scholarships Call Center.

During the relevant period, for the force majeure events caused by the pandemic process not to create adverse situations against the scholarship students, flexibility was provided in the period of scholarship, and scholarship procedures (for university/department change etc.) were carried out uninterruptedly and monthly payments of the scholarship grantees were continued without causing any loss of rights.





TURKEY ALUMNI IN FIGURES

All around the world, there are 150,000 Turkey Alumni who have completed their studies at higher education institutions in Turkey and returned to their countries.

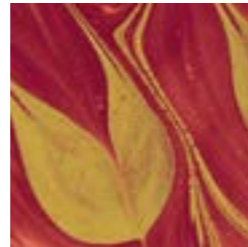
In 2020, a further 2,230 members were included in this graduate family by completing their long-term scholarship programs.





2020 GRADUATION CEREMONY TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS

Graduation Ceremony of Türkiye Scholarships which has been held traditionally for 9 years for the international students who graduate after having completed their studies at undergraduate and postgraduate level as part of Türkiye Scholarships was held in Ankara on 28 July 2020 following the Covid-19 pandemic measures.



150 students participated physically in the related program, which was the "first digital ceremony" organized for students holding the Türkiye Scholarships, and also scholarship students who are qualified to graduate from 69 cities participated online.

Specific to this year, 1,000 participants from over 50 countries including the families of the scholarship holders in their respective countries and Turkey Alumni from previous periods participated in the program via online application. "2020 Graduation Yearbook", which was formed for the first time this year with the contribution of Türkiye Scholarships holders, was given as a gift to the participants.





INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACADEMY

“International Student Academy” has been established in cooperation with non-governmental organisations in order to enhance academic, social and cultural capacities of international students pursuing higher education in Turkey and to direct and encourage them to explore academic studies and out-of field studies and to contribute to their ability to interact with the authors, intellectuals and artists especially academics in the fields they are receiving education. International Student Academy has been conducted under three headings: “Introductory Seminars”, “Specialization Programs”, and “Turkish Arts and Sports Programs”.



12 Different
Cities



204
programs

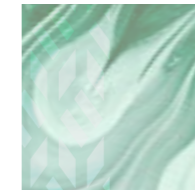


1,700 student
certifications



Introductory Seminars;

It was created for the purpose of informing students about the basic concepts, approaches, problems and discussions of the fields of “humanities, science and technology, language and literature, economics, theology, media and communication, health sciences and international relations”.





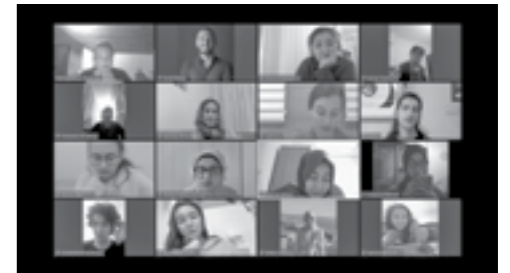
Specialization Programs

It was established to ensure that all international students, who have higher education in Turkey in the fields of "research methods, humanities, science and technology, regional studies, language and literature, economics, theology, media and communications, health sciences and international relations", become competent in the departments they study or in the topics which they engage through seminar programs and produce quality academic work.



At the beginning of 2020, 204 programs were organized in 12 different cities of Turkey within the framework of "International Student Academy", and 4,601 students applied to the related programs.

The Academy process, which was interrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic, continued with 126 programs in 12 cities through online platforms. 1,700 students who successfully completed these programs were qualified to receive certificates.



With **Turkish Arts and Sports Program**, international students who are interested in the fields of "classical Turkish music, text and decorative arts, cultural activities, media and communications and traditional Turkish sports", which all reflect cultural richness of Turkey, and who wish to develop their skills in these fields are brought together.







TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS WELCOME PROGRAMS

In order to make sure that Türkiye Scholarships holders adapt to our country and their higher education life in Turkey, “Welcome” programs were organized in three cities, Ankara, Istanbul and Konya.

“Welcome” programs were organized in Ankara, Istanbul and Konya, the cities with highest numbers of new scholarship grantees, in order to ease the adaptation process of new members of Türkiye Scholarships in 2020 and strengthen communication among those students. In other cities where new grantees live, these programs could not be organized although they had been planned.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACADEMY AWARDS

“International Student Academy Awards” was organized in 2020, under the titles of “The World After the Pandemic” and “The 10th Year of YTB”, open for all international students having education in different disciplines at Turkish higher education institutions.

Within the scope of the abovementioned contest, international students applied with nearly 300 works in article, project and report categories in the field of culture and arts. By the final evaluation, a total number of 85 international students in 17 different groups were awarded.

The awards were presented to international students who were top ranked contest, through a program held on the online platform.





TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS



Taking advantage of the challenging situations created by the Covid-19 pandemic, beside International Student Academy and Social Sciences Congress those are held regularly in order to support academic and social developments of all international students, online education programs have also been organized.



Online courses created for international students who have achieved great success in their academic lives were conducted in an interactive environment with academicians and experts. 284 out of 3,339 students who applied to 24 different courses organized under "Online Education Program" had the chance to participate in the courses and 176 students who successfully completed the program were qualified to receive a certificate.

In addition to "Türkiye Scholarships Online Education Programs", "Türkiye Scholarships Online Seminars" were carried out during Covid-19 pandemic period with the participation of those who are experts in their field. These seminars were made available to all international students receiving higher education in Turkey.

12,898 international students had access to the programs where 11 seminars were held in total in the fields of "Turkish literature, art, history, writing and decorative arts, photography and artificial intelligence".



ACTIVITIES OF TÜRKİYE SCHOLARSHIPS OFFICES

Via Türkiye Scholarships Offices located in Istanbul and Ankara, events related to academic success, culture, arts, sports and guidance were carried out not only limited to Türkiye Scholarships holders but also to include international students receiving higher education with their own means.



More than 10,000 students studying in both cities had the opportunity within the framework of the related studies to participate in speaking clubs, seminars, reading groups, thesis presentations, art workshops, museum visits, nature walks, country meetings, country kitchen promotion activities, cinema days and thematic city trips.



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