Boğaziçi University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report

November • 2026



Boğaziçi University

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3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Sustainable Development Goal 3:

Good Health and Well-being



3

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being – Biotechnology, Domestic Pharmaceuticals, Digital Health and Well-Being

LIFE SCIENCES AND R&D (BOĞAZİÇİ LIFESCI)

7,500 m²

Thematic Area

6 thematic units across 3 campuses, 50+ faculty members, 380 graduate researchers, and 1,200+ publications

RS-0139

Phase-1 Success

Türkiye's first original targeted smart cancer drug to progress from laboratory to clinic

DIGI4AGE

First Health EDIH

European Digital Innovation Hub with healthy aging technologies and testing infrastructure

CLINICAL INNOVATION AND ACCREDITED HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE (HTTM / LAW NO. 6550)

OECD GLP Approval | EIC Grand Prize

European Women Innovators First Prize awarded to Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal; internationally standardized preclinical development through HTTM

Turcorn 100

First National Nominee in the Health Sector

Sports-Friendly Campus & Fair Play
YÖK Sports-Friendly certification and the only national Fair Play Award among 209 universities

TARGETED THERAPY AND NANOMEDICINE

Smart Nanocarriers

UNESCO award for Assoc. Prof. Dr. Banu İyisan's nanomedicine project on triple-negative breast cancer

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND BIOSENSORS

ENLIGHT-AI & PathoSeg

Early diagnosis models for Alzheimer's/Parkinson's disease and a battery-free wireless cellular biosensor

NEUROSCIENCE AND BRAIN RESEARCH

NeurotechEU & NTCP

Founding partnership in the European University of Brain and neural circuit mapping of reward/fear

Preventive Healthcare, Physical Well-Being and Community Health Standards

100%
Free Mediko & BÜREM Support

884 People
Receiving First Aid Certificates/Attending Seminars

1,000 Athletes
43rd & 45th Sports Fest

8 Disciplines
Boğaziçi Sports School (Ages 6–16)

300 m²
Modern Fitness Center & Swimming Pool Network



SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Boğaziçi LifeSci: 'To ensure the production of knowledge and technology to understand and improve life'

Established in 2009 within Boğaziçi University on an area of approximately 7500 m2, the 'Life Sciences and Technologies Application and Research Centre' (Boğaziçi LifeSci), which operates in 3 locations, namely the main centre located in the 'Kandilli Science, Technology and Research Building' in Kandilli Campus, North Campus and Sarıtepe Campus, is one of the few research centres in Turkey where research focusing on groundbreaking technologies of the future in the fields of life sciences, health and biotechnology can be carried out at a very advanced level.

With its infrastructure consisting of six units including Medical Device Development (Clean Room) Unit, Experimental Animal Care and Production Unit (Vivarium), Test-Analysis Unit, Targeted Treatment Technologies Experimental Animal Imaging Unit, Pilot Production Facilities, Microalgae Biorefinery, Boğaziçi LifeSci gathers all stages of research from scientific idea to clinical trials under a single centre. Within the centre; micro and nano devices, molecular imaging methods and analyses, robotic devices, materials for biosensing platforms, smart drug delivery systems, vaccine delivery technologies, food supplements from algae, as well as world-class scientific research projects for the diagnosis and treatment of many diseases including cancer are carried out.

With its strong infrastructure, Boğaziçi Lifesci aims to create and disseminate services not only for internal and external academic projects, but also for companies and international projects, especially SMEs. With the 'R&D Support Laboratories Project for Increasing the Global Competitiveness of Life Sciences SMEs' within the scope of the Competitive Sectors Programme carried out by the Ministry of Industry and Technology with the co-financing of the European Union & Republic of Turkey, the Centre accelerates the research and development activities of SMEs and entrepreneurs operating in the field of life sciences with a focus on technology, innovation, and added value. One of the important priorities of the Centre is the rapid transfer of scientific research and new technologies to the national industry. With the support of the Istanbul Development Agency, the Centre, in cooperation with other academic and industrial institutions, provides infrastructure for major projects aimed at developing the health industry, supporting entrepreneurship and improving the quality of human life by creating innovative approaches and products.

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Boğaziçi LifeSci: ‘To ensure the production of knowledge and technology to understand and improve life’

Established in March 2022 within the Boğaziçi University Life Sciences and Technologies Application and Research Centre, the EU Relations and International Funds Unit is the first and only EU-specialised unit within a Turkish university, offering various synergies for stakeholders to maximise their impact through innovation, impact and collaboration. It works with organisations of various sizes, from early-stage start-ups to the largest international organisations.



For More Information

https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/userfiles/files/brasur-draft.pdf

https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/userfiles/files/EoI_BULifeSci_final_17oct2022.pdf

For a list of existing collaborations and projects with local, national and global health organisations to improve health and well-being:

https://lifesci.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/projeler/5131

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Boğaziçi LifeSci brought together scientists working in the field of targeted treatment technologies

Boğaziçi University Life Sciences and Technologies Centre (Boğaziçi LifeSci) organised the second Targeted Treatment Technologies Symposium in 2024, the first of which was held in 2023. TÜBİTAK President Prof. Dr. Hasan Mandal, who participated in the symposium online, said that the work carried out in the field of health at Boğaziçi LifeSci is a 'catalyst' for the development of the ecosystem in Turkey.



For More Information

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/haber/bogazici-lifesci-hedefli-tedavi-teknolojileri-alaninda-calisan-bilim-insanlarini-bulusturdu

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Boğaziçi University Life Sciences and Technologies Application and Research Centre EU Horizon Days was launched



In EU Horizon Days, which was organised as an event series in cooperation with Boğaziçi University and TÜBİTAK, the calls under the titles of 'European Research Council (ERC)', 'Health', 'Widening Participation and Strengthening the European Research Area' were examined in detail, and networking opportunities were provided with industry professionals and experts in the field.



SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

NeurotechEU - The European University of Brain and Technology

The European University of Brain and Technology, supported under the umbrella of the European Universities Initiative, of which Boğaziçi University is one of the founding partners, was launched on 16 December 2020. Boğaziçi University contributes to the consortium established under the name 'NeurotechEU' with its units and programmes operating in all fields including science, social sciences and educational sciences under the theme of Neurosciences and Technologies. Boğaziçi University, which will lead the technological innovation work package within the framework of the cooperation, aims to create added value within the scope of university-industry cooperation.

For More Information

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/haber/bogazici-universitesinin-kurucu-ortagi-oldugu-avrupa-universitesi-neurotecheu-kapilarini



SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Neurotechnological Solutions Platform (NTÇP)

The Platform for Neurotechnological Solutions to Challenges Threatening Human Function (NTÇP) is a high-tech centre of excellence focused on neurotechnology. The aim of NTÇP is to provide high-tech solutions to the challenges that widely affect the brain, limbs, individual and society such as neurological diseases, joint amputation, cerebral palsy, stroke, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, aging, educational-cognitive problems, and to develop outputs with high added value, economic and social impact suitable for industrial processes. The partners of the platform are Istanbul University, Clinical Research Excellence Application and Research Centre (IUKAMM), Sabancı University, Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Application and Research Centre (TÜMER), Bilkent University, National Magnetic Resonance Research Centre (UMRAM), Yeditepe University, Translational Medicine Application and Research Centre (YUTTAM), and Karel Kalıp Sanayi A.Ş., leading companies in the electronics, communication, medical device and energy industries. Karel Elektronik Sanayi A.Ş. and ASPİLSAN Enerji A.Ş.

For More Information
https://ntcp.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/hakkimizda



Boğaziçi University Expands the Geography of International Collaborations

Boğaziçi University has signed important agreements with various universities in order to strengthen international cooperation. On 7 October 2021, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with ADA University in Azerbaijan, on 21 December 2021 with Alisher Navo'i Tashkent State University in Uzbekistan, on 22 November 2022 with the University of Chicago, and on 27 September 2023 with Beihang University in China, laying the foundations for academic cooperation, student exchanges, joint research and cultural projects. A new Erasmus agreement was signed between Boğaziçi University and the University of Göttingen, enabling student and faculty mobility at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and extensive discussions on joint research, faculty and student exchange programmes and cultural initiatives were held during the important visit of our Vice Rector Professor Gürkan Selçuk Kumbaroğlu to Northeastern University in China in 2023. These collaborations strengthen Boğaziçi University's global presence and reinforce its commitment to international relations.

For More Information

https://intl.bogazici.edu.tr/?q=bogazici-university-deepens-ties-university-chicago



Social Assistance Programmes and Projects in the Local Community

Boğaziçi University organises public seminars on hygiene, nutrition, family planning, sports, exercise, ageing well and other health topics. Seminar videos are available on the BU+ Open Lectures page.

For More Information

https://buplus.bogazici.edu.tr/etkinlik-turu/acik-ders

https://buplus.bogazici.edu.tr/etkinlik-turu/mezunlar-kampuste

BU+

Public seminars on hygiene, nutrition, family planning, sport, exercise, ageing well





Mental Health Support Resources for People Affected by the Earthquake

Boğaziçi University Guidance and Psychological Counselling Centre (BÜREM) provided psychological first aid services to our students affected by the earthquake on 6 February 2023. In case our resources may be limited due to the magnitude of the earthquake and the number of people affected by the earthquake, the undergraduate students of the Guidance and Psychological Counselling programme shared a list of resources outside our university that provide mental health services to people affected by the earthquake. The list can be found on the Mental Health Support Resources for People Affected by the Earthquake page.

For More Information
https://burem.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/depremden-etkilenen-kisiler-icin-ruh-sagligi-/5725



Information and Education Services for Students

Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services

Boğaziçi University Health, Culture and Sports Department, Health and Guidance Branch Directorate provides free information and services to students on sexual and reproductive health. These services include:

- Counselling Services: Individual counselling by specialised health personnel in accordance with the principle of confidentiality.
- Information and Education Programmes: Seminars and workshops on sexual and reproductive health, sexually transmitted diseases and birth control methods.
- Health Services: Examination and treatment within the scope of outpatient clinic.
- Free Services: All health services are free of charge.
- Appointment System: Services are provided by appointment for dietitian and dental health.

For More Information
https://mediko.bogazici.edu.tr/tr





SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Self-Help Leaflets

Boğaziçi University BÜREM has prepared self-help brochures that can provide support to students on various issues. The brochures are publicly available on the Self-Help Brochures page.

BÜREM Self-Help Brochures	BÜPAM Trainings
Being a Student at the Preparatory School	Child Development and Family Interaction
Learning English at the Preparatory School	Coping with Stress
Success in Thesis Writing	Building Healthy Social Relationships
Harms of Alcohol	To be able to express oneself confidently in society
Depression	Test Anxiety
Suicide	Education Challenges
Family Relationships	Environmental Awareness and Sensitivity
Loss and Mourning	Teacher-Student Relationship

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Boğaziçi University: ‘Health at the Top of Everything’ Initiative

The Health and Guidance Branch Directorate under the Boğaziçi University Health, Culture and Sports Department organises comprehensive first aid trainings to ensure that all campus stakeholders can effectively respond to possible crisis situations. These trainings aim to be prepared for natural disasters (such as earthquakes, floods, fires), acts of terrorism, sudden threats, infectious diseases, accidents and other emergencies.

Within the scope of the trainings, basic first aid skills are acquired and the participants are trained to make correct and rapid intervention. Participants learn and practice vital information such as respiratory and circulatory support, bleeding control, fracture-dislocation intervention, burn treatment. In addition, skills such as staying calm in a crisis, effective communication and coordination are developed, maximising both individual and community safety.

These first aid trainings are open to all stakeholders, including students, academic and administrative staff of the university, and are carried out regularly with the aim of maintaining safety and health on campus in the event of any kind of crisis. The training programmes are conducted in accordance with the standards set by the Ministry of Health and participants receive first aid certificates at the end of the training.
In this way, Boğaziçi University aims to raise individuals who are equipped not only academically but also in terms of social resilience and crisis management.





Boğaziçi University: ‘Health at the Top of Everything’ Initiative

Trainings are planned as 16 hours of basic first aid training in order to develop skills or 2-4 hours of seminars to raise awareness in line with the need and demand. In 2023, a total of 27 people received basic first aid training and 857 people received first aid awareness seminars.



BASIC FIRST AID TRAINING (16 Hours) SUBJECT HEADINGS

- General First Aid Information
- Assessment of Patient/Injured and Crime Scene
- Basic Life Support
- First Aid for Bleeding
- First Aid for Injuries
- First Aid in Burns, Frostbite and Heat Stroke
- First Aid in Fractures, Dislocations and Sprains
- First Aid in Disorders of Consciousness
- First Aid in Poisoning
- First Aid in Animal Bites
- First Aid for Foreign Objects in the Eye, Ear and Nose
- First Aid in Drowning
- Patient / Injured Transport Techniques

FIRST AID AWARENESS SEMINAR (4 Hours) TOPICS

- General First Aid Information
- Assessment of Patient/Injured and Crime Scene
- First Aid for Bleeding
- First Aid for Injuries
- First Aid in Burns, Frostbite and Heat Stroke
- First Aid in Fractures, Dislocations and Sprains
- First Aid in Poisoning
- First Aid in Animal Bites
- First Aid for Foreign Objects in the Eye, Ear and Nose
- First Aid in Drowning
- Patient / Injured Transport Techniques

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Walk 5000 Steps Have Breakfast

In line with its Health and Quality Life goals, Boğaziçi University organises various activities that support the health and well-being of its staff and their relatives. In this context, the walking event held at Kilyos Sarıtepe Campus was organised to promote healthy lifestyles and increase participation in physical activity.

On the day of the event, participants are transported from the South Campus to Kilyos by vehicles and walk along the Kilyos Beach in an environment with plenty of oxygen and in touch with nature. This walk is planned as an activity that aims not only physical activity but also mental relaxation. Participants have the opportunity to walk in a relaxing environment in the open air to relieve stress and get away from the daily busy pace.

After the walk, a breakfast is organised and participants can continue their day with a healthy and nutritious meal while having social interaction. This activity also contributes to the strengthening of family ties and the development of community awareness, as the personnel can participate with their families and relatives.

For More Information:
https://sporsube.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/announcements/5000-adim-yuru-kahvalti-yap/3682



Boğaziçi University Sports Facilities: Local Communities and Public Spaces

Boğaziçi University meets the needs of the community in the field of sports and healthy living by making its sports facilities available to local communities, schools and the public, and hosts various trainings, athlete tryouts and sports events. In this context, various facilities and programmes are offered:

Uçaksavar Campus Turf Field: Located on the Uçaksavar Campus, the turf field is open to the use of university students and staff as well as local communities. This facility provides an ideal venue for sporting activities and events. More information can be found on the Uçaksavar Campus Turf Field page.

> **For more information:**
> https://sporsube.bogazici.edu.tr/ucaksavar-kampusu-cim-saha



UEFA C Candidate Coach Training Programme

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Boğaziçi University Sports Facilities: Local Communities and Public Spaces



TFF U14 National Team Trials



TFF Football Development Project Trainings

SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Campus Sports Facilities

Sports facilities on Boğaziçi University campuses serve students, staff and the local community. These facilities include a swimming pool, gymnasiums, tennis courts and various sports fields. You can find detailed information on the Campus Sports page.

For more information:
https://sporsube.bogazici.edu.tr/ucaksavar-kampusu-cim-saha





SDG3: Good Health and Well-being

Campus Sports Facilities





Sports Events and Programmes

International Sports Fest

This sports festival, organised by the Boğaziçi University Sports Board, is attended by 600-800 university athletes from approximately 20 universities from Turkey and abroad. The festival offers participants the excitement of competition in many branches of sports from football to water polo, badminton to volleyball, and offers participants the opportunity to experience sports and entertainment together with various animation activities during the day and night. For more information, please visit the International Sports Fest page.

For more information:
https://www.bogazicisportsfest.com/

https://www.sportscommittee.com/general-8









Sports Events and Programmes

Snow Break

Snowbreak is a traditional Boğaziçi University Winter Festival that offers students the opportunity to experience winter sports with the contributions of ski and snowboard teams. It is also the first winter festival organised in Turkey. Hosting more than 500 Boğaziçi students for 4 days, Snowbreak offers an unforgettable experience to its participants with tournaments in 5 different branches, opening and closing ceremonies, professional and amateur races and night events.

For more information:
https://www.sportscommittee.com/kopyas%C4%B1-sports-fest



Sport Awards

Boğaziçi University Sports Board aims to highlight the achievements of disabled, amateur and alternative sports that are overshadowed by professional sports in Turkey and to increase their recognition. Organised with this vision, Boğaziçi University Sports Awards is a prestigious event with the wide participation of the sports community.

For more information:
https://www.sportscommittee.com/kopyas%C4%B1-snowbreak





Sports Events and Programmes

Sport Summit

The Boğaziçi University Sports Summit, which sheds light on the latest developments in the global sports world and the inner face of the sports industry, brings together experts from all layers of sports such as managers, athletes and journalists, competent and enthusiastic university students who put sports in an important place in their lives and who are concerned about the progress of our country's sports.

For more information:
https://www.sportscommittee.com/kopyas%C4%B1-bo%C4%9Fazi%C3%A7i-spor-%C3%B6d%C3%BCllleri,



RS Research, Supported by Boğaziçi University, Achieves Breakthrough in European Health Innovation

The European Women Innovators Award, which recognizes women leaders whose research and innovation generate tangible societal impact, was organized in 2023–2024 by the European Innovation Council (EIC) in collaboration with the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). The program's most prestigious category, "Women Innovators" Grand Prize, was awarded to Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal, faculty member of Boğaziçi University's Department of Chemistry and co-founder of RS Research.

RS Research, a pioneering biopharmaceutical company in oncology, develops smart drug delivery systems that enable targeted chemotherapy. By leveraging its proprietary carrier technology, the company aims to enhance the efficacy of chemotherapy while minimizing its side effects. Early-stage studies of its novel drug candidates are conducted in collaboration with Boğaziçi University's Life Sciences and Technologies Center, while its operations benefit from infrastructure at Boğaziçi University Technopark and production facilities at Teknopark Istanbul.

RS Research has achieved a national milestone by advancing the first new drug candidate developed in Turkey from lab to Phase I clinical trials. This candidate, based on its patented targeted delivery technology, is currently undergoing Phase I trials in Istanbul and Ankara. The company's success exemplifies how Boğaziçi University's support fosters university-based innovation that delivers concrete, socially impactful solutions in the health sector.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/prof-dr-rana-sanyala-avrupa-yenilik-konseyind/2799

News

Campus Sports Facilities

The sports facilities located across Boğaziçi University's campuses serve students, staff, and the local community. These facilities include a swimming pool, sports halls, tennis courts, and fitness centers. The fitness center at the Uçaksavar Campus, which has been serving the university for many years, was recently renovated and reopened after approximately three months of refurbishment. Covering an area of around 300 square meters, the facility has been upgraded with higher-quality equipment and redesigned to create a more functional environment, prioritizing user satisfaction. Equipped with shower facilities, the center has seen participation increase by five to six times following the renovation. This initiative, which strengthens the university's sports infrastructure, not only supports students' physical well-being but also enhances the overall quality of social life. Further details are available on the Campus Sports webpage.







https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/ucaksavar-kampusundeki-fitness-salonu-yenilen/2805

News

Turkey's Journey Toward a Healthcare "Turcorn" with Boğaziçi LifeSci

The project "R&D Support Laboratories for Global Competitiveness of Life Sciences SMEs", conducted within the Boğaziçi University Center for Life Sciences and Technologies (Boğaziçi LifeSci), was introduced with the participation of Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmet Fatih Kacır, Boğaziçi University Rector Prof. Dr. Mehmet Naci İnci, and European Commission Member Iliana Ivanova.

Minister Kacır highlighted that over 100 scientific projects have been carried out at the center, producing more than 1,200 high-impact publications. He emphasized the groundbreaking work of Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal and her team in developing Turkey's first domestically owned, Ministry of Health–approved drug candidate, underscoring its potential to become the country's first healthcare "Turcorn" enterprise. He further announced that the initiative had been included in the Ministry-backed "Turcorn 100" program.

Rector Prof. Dr. İnci noted that Boğaziçi LifeSci operates with more than 50 faculty members across 13 departments, 380 graduate students, and 30 technical staff. He also announced the establishment of the Targeted Therapy Technologies Center through the CHIRON-T3 project, which will further strengthen Turkey's R&D capacity in healthcare innovation.



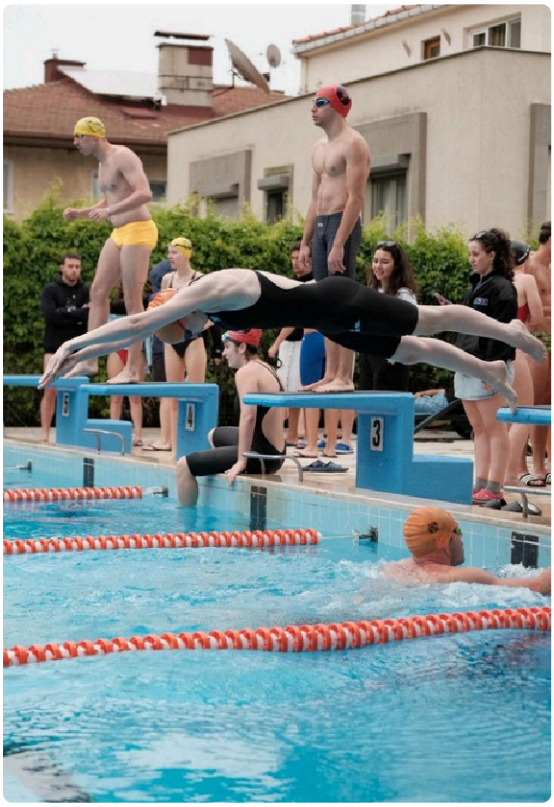
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/sanayi-ve-teknoloji-bakani-kacir-bogazici-lif/2811

News

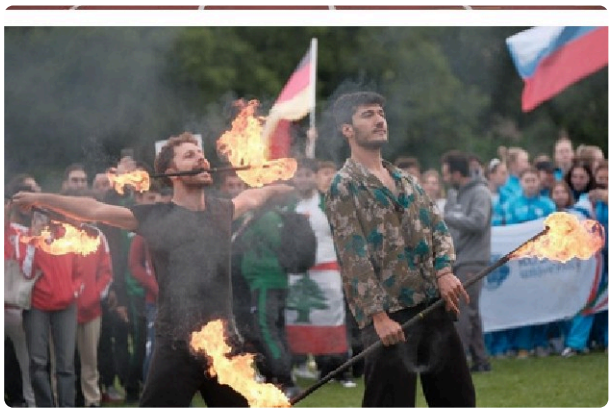
International Sports Fest: A Pioneer University Sports Festival

Organized by the Boğaziçi University Sports Committee, the International Sports Fest holds the distinction of being the first sports festival ever hosted by a university in Turkey. Recognized with the “Best Campus Event” award at the Shining Star Awards in 2018, the festival has become a tradition that annually brings together athletes from Turkey and abroad. Featuring competitions in football, water polo, badminton, volleyball, and many other sports, the event combines athletic performance with entertainment through day and night animations.

The 43rd edition of the Sports Fest, held between May 16–19, 2024, hosted 1,000 athletes from 13 countries, competing across 12 different sports disciplines. With 639 international participants, this year’s festival reached a record level of global engagement, creating a unique platform for young athletes from Turkey and around the world to connect and share experiences. For more details, please visit the International Sports Fest webpage.







https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/turk-ve-uluslararasi-sporcular-sports-fest-ru/2829

National and International Collaboration in Targeted Therapy with Boğaziçi LifeSci

The Targeted Therapy Technologies Symposium, organized by the Boğaziçi University Center for Life Sciences and Technologies (Boğaziçi LifeSci), brought together researchers from domestic and international universities alongside representatives of the healthcare industry to foster collaboration in innovative treatment methods, particularly for diseases such as cancer. Hosting more than 100 projects supported by institutions including TÜBİTAK, the European Union, the Presidency of Strategy and Budget, and the Ministry of Industry and Technology, Boğaziçi LifeSci stands at the core of Turkey's targeted therapy ecosystem with its advanced laboratory infrastructure and multi-stakeholder research environment. The studies carried out at the center exemplify how collaborations between healthcare institutions, academia, and industry can generate tangible benefits for public health.

Following its inaugural edition in 2023, the symposium was held for the second time on May 24–25, 2024. In his keynote speech delivered online, TÜBİTAK President Prof. Dr. Hasan Mandal emphasized that the work conducted at Boğaziçi LifeSci plays a "catalyst" role in advancing Turkey's innovation ecosystem in the field of health.





https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazici-lifesci-hedefli-tedavi-teknolojileri/2830

News

EU-Funded Health Collaboration Project in Computational MRI Imaging Launched at Boğaziçi University

Led by Prof. Dr. Esin Öztürk Işık from Boğaziçi University's Institute of Biomedical Engineering, a Horizon Europe–funded Twinning project has been initiated to strengthen Türkiye's expertise in computational magnetic resonance (MR) imaging, with a particular focus on advancing the early diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS). The project brings together Boğaziçi University with leading international health research institutions such as the University Medical Center Amsterdam and Fraunhofer MEVIS (Germany). In addition to cutting-edge research, the initiative will provide training programs for students, short-term international exchange opportunities, and outreach activities designed to raise awareness among MS patients. Clinical research will also be conducted in collaboration with radiology and neurology experts from Acıbadem University Altunizade Hospital. By combining international partnerships with national clinical expertise, the project exemplifies Boğaziçi University's commitment to contributing to health and well-being goals through impactful collaborations with global and local healthcare institutions.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/turkiyenin-bilisimsel-mr-goruntuleme-yetkinli/2831

News

Boğaziçi University's Multiple Sclerosis Project Focused on Public Awareness

Led by Prof. Dr. Esin Öztürk Işık from Boğaziçi University's Institute of Biomedical Engineering and supported under the European Commission's Horizon Europe Program, the Twinning Project aims to strengthen Türkiye's capacity in computational magnetic resonance (MR) imaging and contribute to the diagnosis of multiple sclerosis (MS). As part of the project, summer schools and workshops are being organized for university students, while public outreach events and accessible health materials are developed specifically for MS patients and broader communities. These initiatives, designed to enhance health literacy, directly support early diagnosis and awareness of chronic diseases such as MS within local communities.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/turkiyenin-bilisimsel-mr-goruntuleme-yetkinli/2831

Boğaziçi University at the Top of Türkiye

From 2–6 September 2024, a team from Boğaziçi University's Mountaineering Club and the Sports Office successfully scaled Ağrı Mountain (5,137 m), the highest peak in Türkiye. During the challenging ascent, the climbers established two high-altitude camps at 3,200 m and 4,200 m. Departing from the 4,200 m camp at 01:00, the team undertook a six-hour night climb, ultimately raising the Boğaziçi University flag at the peak. The expedition team included students Muhammet Baran Taşan, Ahmet Kahraman, and Muharem Yıldız, along with Sports Office staff members Mesut Okur, Sergen Yücel, Emre Beyaztaş, and Burak Aktaş, demonstrating the university's commitment to endurance, teamwork, and outdoor leadership at the very top of Türkiye.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/diger/6/bogazici-universitesi-turkiyenin-zirvesinde/2858

Interuniversity Raqball Tournament Held at Boğaziçi University

Boğaziçi University hosted the second stage of the world's first Interuniversity Raqball Tournament on October 24, following the initial training sessions organized at Istanbul Aydın University. As part of this new sport's introduction, Boğaziçi welcomed the Raqball teams of Istanbul Aydın University and Istanbul University–Cerrahpaşa, along with French trainers, at its South Campus Square. With the rule requiring both male and female athletes to play on the same team, the tournament fostered an inclusive sporting environment based on gender equality. Organized in collaboration with the International Raqball Federation, the event not only contributed to local and global sports culture, but also promoted the introduction of emerging sports disciplines while strengthening youth engagement through physical activity and social interaction.



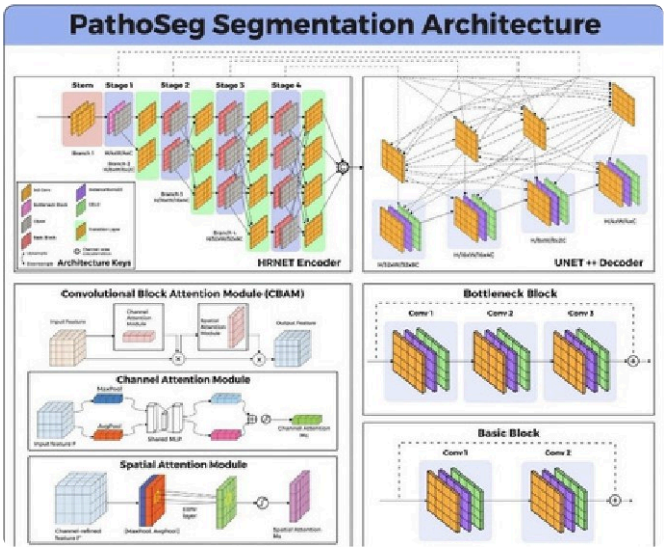


https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/universitelerarasi-raqball-turnuvasi-bogazici/2874

Advancing Cancer Diagnosis with New Artificial Intelligence Models: A Model and Data Resource for Researchers

Associate Professor Mehmet Turan and his team from the Department of Computer Engineering at Boğaziçi University have introduced a significant innovation in cancer diagnostics with the development of the PathoSeg and PathopixGAN models. Their work has been published in Medical Image Analysis, one of the leading journals in the field of medical imaging. The PathoSeg model enables rapid and highly precise segmentation of cells and tissues, facilitating the early detection of metastasis. This not only enhances diagnostic accuracy but also reduces the workload for pathologists. Meanwhile, the PathopixGAN model addresses data imbalance in histopathology by generating realistic synthetic images, thereby allowing training on more comprehensive datasets that include rare cases. Although no direct collaboration with healthcare institutions has yet been established, these AI systems provide a robust model and data resource for academic researchers. In this way, the project contributes to the advancement of AI-based methods in pathology on an international scale.





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Boğaziçi University Awarded “Sports-Friendly Campus” Certificate

Boğaziçi University has been recognized as one of 45 institutions to receive the Sports-Friendly Campus Certificate following the evaluation process conducted jointly by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) and the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Türkiye. The assessment considered multiple criteria, including student participation in sports activities, adequacy of sports infrastructure, the prevalence of sports culture, and the university’s supportive approach in this field. Boğaziçi University distinguished itself with its strong commitment to fostering a well-rounded student experience.

Alongside its academic excellence, Boğaziçi University prioritizes the physical and social development of its students. Through its numerous sports clubs, competition teams, open facilities, and sports centers, the university enables thousands of students to engage in athletic activities every year. This certificate serves as a concrete affirmation that Boğaziçi embraces and promotes sports not merely as an extracurricular activity but as a sustainable way of life.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazici-universitesine-spor-dostu-kampus-ser/2911

From Discovery to the Clinic: Completion of the Phase I Clinical Trial of RS-0139

RS Research, whose foundational studies began within the Boğaziçi University Centre for Life Sciences and Technologies (LifeSci) infrastructure, successfully completed the **Phase I clinical trial of RS-0139, Türkiye's first domestically developed novel drug candidate to advance to clinical research**. Co-founded by Boğaziçi University Department of Chemistry faculty member Prof. Rana Sanyal and Sena Nomak to translate laboratory research into clinical applications, the company develops smart nanomedicines for targeted chemotherapy.



RS-0139 is based on the company's drug-delivery platform technology and is designed to enhance targeted therapeutic action while reducing adverse effects. Manufactured at RS Research's GMP-certified facility at Teknopark Istanbul in collaboration with the Istanbul Health Industry Cluster, the candidate was evaluated in a Phase I clinical trial conducted at the Dr Abdurrahman Yurtaslan Ankara Oncology Training and Research Hospital and Koç University Hospital. Completing this stage is an important step in the candidate's clinical development and provides a basis for progression to Phase II studies.

RS Research now continues its research activities within the Boğaziçi University Centre for Targeted Therapy Technologies (HTTM), a national research infrastructure recognised under Law No. 6550. Having received an OECD Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) statement of compliance in December 2025, HTTM supports preclinical research and drug-development processes in targeted therapy technologies according to international standards. By enabling fundamental scientific research to progress into an innovative drug candidate and clinical investigation, this university–industry collaboration supports the development of new approaches to cancer treatment and contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Developing Digital Health and Healthy-Ageing Solutions through DIGI4AGE

The **DIGI4AGE Project**, coordinated by Boğaziçi University, was selected to join the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH) network through an additional call launched in 2025. Supported under the Digital Europe Programme in coordination with the Ministry of Industry and Technology, DIGI4AGE will become **Türkiye's first health-focused European Digital Innovation Hub**. The project aims to strengthen the country's digital health capacity and to connect its health innovation ecosystem more closely with European knowledge, technology and collaboration networks.



Operating on the **"test before invest" principle**, the hub will provide testing and piloting opportunities for digital health solutions, training and skills development programmes, guidance on accessing finance, and opportunities for international collaboration. These services will support the development, testing and evaluation of innovative health technologies before they proceed to large-scale implementation.

The DIGI4AGE consortium, which includes the Boğaziçi University Centre for Targeted Therapy Technologies, brings together organisations from academia, healthcare, industry, technology and the entrepreneurial ecosystem. Its partners include the Istanbul Provincial Directorate of Health, MESS, Teknopark Istanbul, the Istanbul Health Industry Cluster, Radius Computer and Software, and Biyomod Biomedical. By focusing on healthy-ageing solutions based on current digital technologies, DIGI4AGE contributes to the development of digital health services and innovative applications that support healthy ageing, thereby advancing SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

ENLIGHT-AI: Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Neurodegenerative Diseases

The **ENLIGHT-AI Project**, coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Yavuz Acar of the Boğaziçi University Department of Management and Director of the Joint Excellence in Digital Innovation Research Centre (JEDI), received funding under the **Horizon Europe WIDERA Twinning 2026** call. Led by Boğaziçi University, the project brings together JEDI and the Boğaziçi Centre for Targeted Therapy Technologies (Boğaziçi CT³) with Instituto Tecnológico de Aragón, Radboud University Medical Center, KU Leuven and the MESS Technology Centre.

Entitled **"ENLIGHT-AI: Twinning for Excellence in the Application of Unbiased Artificial Intelligence for the Investigation, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Neurodegenerative Diseases"**, the project focuses on using artificial intelligence and machine-learning methods to investigate neurodegenerative conditions such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease and support their early diagnosis and personalised treatment. It aims to develop reliable and explainable methods that minimise algorithmic bias in health data, as well as next-generation AI tools using multimodal imaging data for validation in clinical and preclinical settings.



The project will deliver researcher training, international exchanges, summer and winter schools, expert visits, collaborative research and activities to strengthen research management capacity. Through these activities, ENLIGHT-AI aims to improve the scientific reliability of AI-supported clinical decision systems for neurodegenerative diseases and facilitate the translation of research into healthcare applications. By advancing approaches to early diagnosis and personalised treatment, the project contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Cell-Based Biosensors for Early Diagnosis and Continuous Health Monitoring

A cell-based biosensor platform developed under the leadership of Assoc. Prof. Sema Dumanlı Oktar of the Boğaziçi University Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering was published in **Nature Communications**. The study, conducted by Assoc. Prof. Dumanlı Oktar and her student Ahmet Bilir in collaboration with Assoc. Prof. Urartu Şeker and Dr Merve Yavuz of the Synthetic Biosystems Laboratory, combines the natural sensing capabilities of living cells with wireless communication technology.

News



In the system, bacterial or mammalian cells are genetically programmed to detect a specific disease marker, virus or molecule. When the target is detected, the resulting change in the frequency of an implanted passive antenna can be read wirelessly from outside the body. The antenna's lack of batteries and electronic chips offers an important advantage for potential implantable applications, while the cells' ability to become inactive after a defined period provides an additional safety feature. **The technology is protected by a Boğaziçi University triadic patent covering the United States, Europe and Japan**.



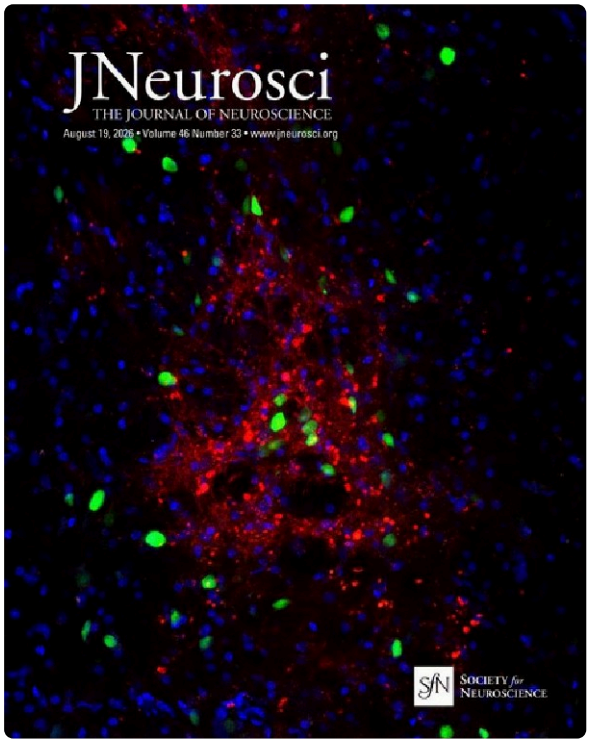


The researchers plan to evaluate the system more comprehensively through animal and human studies in subsequent stages. The technology has potential applications in real-time monitoring of patients at high risk of postoperative infection, early disease detection and remote health monitoring. In the longer term, it could also provide a basis for applications in which externally transmitted signals control drug release. By advancing innovative approaches to early intervention and continuous health monitoring, the research contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Boğaziçi University's Neuroscience Research Sheds Light on the Brain's Reward and Motivation Circuits

Research led by Assoc. Prof. Güneş Ünal at Boğaziçi University's Department of Psychology Behavioural Neuroscience Laboratory was published in the **Journal of Neuroscience** and **selected as the journal's cover feature**. The study investigated neural connections between the prefrontal cortex, which is involved in cognitive processes such as emotion regulation, executive function and working memory, and the ventral pallidum, an important component of the brain's reward and motivation system.



Using animal models, the researchers combined viral neuroanatomical tracing, neural activity mapping and optogenetics. Activation of connections from the infralimbic region of the prefrontal cortex to the ventral pallidum was associated with increased movement and exploratory behaviour, reduced learned fear responses and positive motivational valence. In contrast, activation of connections from the prelimbic region to the ventral pallidum was associated with negative affect and avoidance behaviour. The findings demonstrate that different prefrontal subregions can regulate motivational and emotional behaviour in contrasting ways.

The study advances understanding of how interactions between higher-order cognitive regions and the brain's reward and motivation circuits shape behaviour. These fundamental findings on the mechanisms underlying emotion regulation, motivation and fear memory provide a scientific basis for future research into the biological foundations of mental health conditions. The research therefore strengthens capacity in mental health and well-being research and contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Sports Fest 2026: International Participation in Sport and Active Campus Life

Boğaziçi University's long-established international sporting event, **Sports Fest**, was held for the 45th time from 14 to 17 May 2026. Over four days on the South and Uçaksavar campuses, the festival brought together **916 athletes from 10 countries and various universities across Türkiye**. Participants included 364 international athletes, 255 visiting athletes from other Turkish universities and 297 Boğaziçi University students.



Athletes competed in 12 disciplines: indoor volleyball, outdoor volleyball, football, futsal, basketball, handball, badminton, table tennis, tennis, swimming, water polo and cheerleading. By hosting simultaneous competitions at sports facilities on the South and Uçaksavar campuses, the University made its sporting infrastructure available to its own students as well as national and international participants. The festival programme also included yoga activities for members of the campus community.





Sports Fest 2026 encouraged broad participation in physical activity while creating an environment that supported teamwork, intercultural interaction and social well-being. By bringing students and young athletes together around active lifestyles and promoting a culture of health through sport, the event contributed to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Boğaziçi University Sports School Offers Training in Eight Sports Disciplines for Children and Young People

The **Boğaziçi University Sports School**, part of the Boğaziçi University 1863 Sports Club, will offer **training programmes across 8 sporting disciplines** for children and young people aged 6–16. The Sports School aims to provide high-quality sports education from an early age, encourage regular physical activity, promote a strong sporting culture and support long-term athlete development.

News





Designed for different age groups and developmental stages, the programmes will be delivered by experienced instructors with pedagogical training. Educational and training sessions will take place at sports facilities across the University's Hisar, South, Anadolu Hisarı and Kilyos campuses. The University's multi-sport infrastructure will therefore provide children and young people with a supportive environment in which to develop their potential.

The Sports School adopts a holistic approach that promotes regular physical activity while supporting participants' physical development and mental and social well-being. By helping children and young people build healthy, active lifestyles from an early age, the initiative contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Assoc. Prof. Banu İyisan Wins Award for Smart Nanomedicine Research on Triple-Negative Breast Cancer

Assoc. Prof. Banu İyisan of the Boğaziçi University Institute of Biomedical Engineering received an award under the **For Women in Science Programme** for her smart nanomedicine project targeting aggressive triple-negative breast cancer. Organised for the 23rd time through a collaboration between **L'Oréal Türkiye** and the **Turkish National Commission for UNESCO**, the programme recognised İyisan as one of four women scientists distinguished for their innovative research.



Assoc. Prof. İyisan and her team are developing biocompatible, multifunctional nanomedicine systems made entirely from natural biomaterials. The research aims to deliver therapeutic agents more effectively to targeted areas, improve treatment efficacy for particularly resistant forms of cancer and reduce adverse effects on healthy tissues. The approach has the potential to provide a foundation for more targeted and personalised cancer treatment strategies in the future.



While contributing to the development of new therapeutic options for triple-negative breast cancer, the research also aims to establish an innovative platform that could eventually be adapted to other treatment-resistant cancers. Reflecting Boğaziçi University's interdisciplinary research capacity in biomedical engineering and health technologies, the project supports innovation in preventing and treating non-communicable diseases and contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Assoc. Prof. Güneş Ünal Receives the METU Parlar Research Incentive Award for Research on the Neural Mechanisms of Depression and Anxiety Disorders

Assoc. Prof. Güneş Ünal of the Boğaziçi University Department of Psychology received the **METU Parlar Research Incentive Award** for his neuroscience research. Presented by the METU Parlar Foundation to scientists under the age of 40, the award recognises researchers who make significant contributions to a field of science or engineering, advance that field in Türkiye and generate scientific knowledge addressing societal challenges.

News



Assoc. Prof. Ünal and his team investigate the neural mechanisms underlying depression and anxiety disorders and the interactions between stress and reward circuits at the Boğaziçi University Behavioral Neuroscience Laboratory. Their studies use animal models and combine anatomical, neurobiological, pharmacological and behavioural methods. This comprehensive approach places the laboratory among the few research facilities in Türkiye with advanced capabilities in systems neuroscience.



The research has shown that the ventral pallidum, previously associated primarily with motivation and reward, is also strongly connected to stress and negative affective states. The newly identified neural connections and cell groups indicate potential biological targets for further research into depression and stress-related disorders. By advancing understanding of the biological foundations of mental health conditions, this work strengthens scientific capacity to promote mental health and well-being and contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

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Boğaziçi University Sports Teams Start the Year on a High Note

During January and February 2026, Boğaziçi University sports teams participated in national and regional competitions in athletics, Muay Thai, American football, skiing, snowboarding and rowing. Their achievements across these disciplines reflected the University's multi-sport structure and its support for students' participation in regular physical activity and organised sport.



The Boğaziçi University Athletics Team won six medals at the Turkish Universities Indoor Athletics Championships, while two students secured bronze medals at the University Muay Thai Championships in the University's first appearance in the competition. The American football team finished third in its league group, and the skiing and snowboarding teams achieved notable results at the Uni League Winter Sports Championships. In races organised by the Turkish Rowing Federation, the women's rowing team won the second-place trophy and the men's team received the third-place trophy.

News





Participation in training and competition across different sports supports students' physical health and holistic development by fostering discipline, teamwork, belonging and social well-being. By encouraging active participation in university sport and healthy lifestyle habits, this sporting environment contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.



The full news article is available here.

Participation in University Sport and National Success in Wrestling

The **Uni League Turkish Wrestling Championships**, hosted by Burdur Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, brought together 609 athletes from 63 universities. Representing Boğaziçi University, Lütfi Furkan Şimşek won the silver medal and became national runner-up in the 97 kg Greco-Roman category. Boğaziçi University student Buğra Kerim Şahin also competed in the 92 kg freestyle category.



The participation of Boğaziçi University students in national sporting competitions reflects an approach that encourages regular physical activity and a strong university sports culture. Training and competing in disciplines such as wrestling, which require physical fitness, discipline and mental resilience, contribute to students' physical and psychological development. By promoting active participation in university sport and healthy lifestyle habits, these activities support SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Boğaziçi Triathlon Team Secures a Top Finish at the Turkish Championships

The Boğaziçi University women's and men's triathlon teams competed in the **Uni League Turkish Triathlon Championships**, organised by the University Sports Federation in Antalya on 8–9 June 2026. Competing against teams from universities across Türkiye, the women's team reached the podium by finishing third nationally, while the men's team completed the championships in fourth place.





The achievement also continues Boğaziçi University's historic pioneering role in triathlon. **Türkiye's first triathlon event was hosted by the University in 1986**, and its renewed participation in the discipline helps carry this long-standing sporting tradition forward to a new generation of student athletes.

Combining swimming, cycling and running, triathlon is a multidisciplinary sport requiring regular training, endurance, discipline and mental resilience. Supporting students' participation in such activities and national competitions helps promote physical fitness, active lifestyle habits, team spirit and student well-being. Boğaziçi University's triathlon activities therefore contribute to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Boğaziçi Swimming Team Secures a Top Finish at the Turkish Championships

The Turkish Inter-University Swimming Championships, organised by the Turkish University Sports Federation, brought together hundreds of athletes from 32 universities. Boğaziçi University Swimming Team athletes Deniz Gültekin and Ümit Akgün won two bronze medals. Gültekin finished third nationally in the women's 800-metre freestyle, becoming the first Boğaziçi University athlete to win a medal in this event. Akgün also secured third place nationally in the men's 200-metre breaststroke.







Participation in sports such as swimming, which require regular training, endurance and discipline, supports physical fitness, active lifestyle habits and mental well-being. Inter-university competition also helps students develop perseverance, goal-oriented work habits, and team spirit. By encouraging students' active participation in sport, the Boğaziçi University Swimming Team's activities contribute to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being.

The full news article is available here.

Boğaziçi University Receives Fair Play Award

Boğaziçi University was the only university to receive the Fair Play Award at the International University Sports Day Awards and Promotion Evening organised by the Turkish University Sports Federation. Among the 209 universities evaluated nationwide, Boğaziçi University was also recognised as one of the institutions with the greatest number of sporting disciplines and the largest number of students participating in competitions.





Through its teams across a wide range of sports, Boğaziçi University enables hundreds of students each year to engage in physical activity and inter-university competition. The Fair Play Award reflects the University's commitment not only to sporting achievement but also to sportsmanship, ethical conduct, solidarity and mutual respect.

This participatory sports culture supports students' physical health, mental and social well-being, and holistic development. By promoting healthy, active lifestyles through broad participation and ethical sporting practices, Boğaziçi University contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being. *The full news article is available here.*


3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
To ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS