Boğaziçi University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report

November • 2026



Boğaziçi University

PUBLICATION

November • 2026

Boğaziçi University

AUTHORS

The team preparing this report were:

Dr. Vehbi MEŞİN

İrem NALÇA

Damla OYARDI





Sustainable Development Goal 5:

Gender Equality



5

SDG 5: Gender Equality – Global Ranking, Student & Graduate Distribution

THE IMPACT RATINGS 2026

85.

World Rankings

Among the top 100 universities evaluated globally

67.6 / 100 Points

SDG 5 Gender Equality Performance Score

Institutional Monitoring System: Since 2009
Application, enrolment, and graduation data are publicly shared by gender.

2024–2025 ASSOCIATE & BACHELOR'S DEGREE GRADUATES

1,894 Graduates

47.4% Women
898 Women Graduates
(Balanced Representation)

STUDENT POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

44.6% Women

55.4% of enrolled students are men, and 44.6% are women.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION GRADUATES

71.1% Women

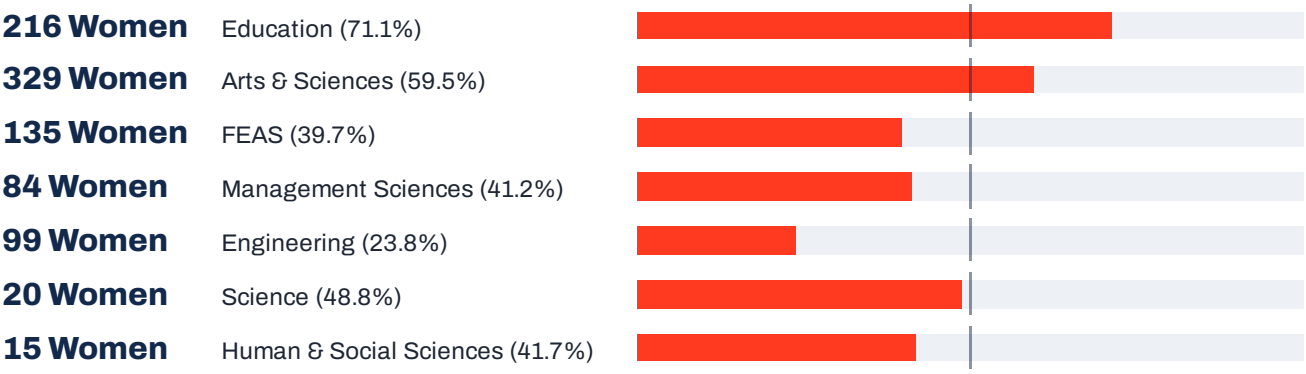
216 of the 304 graduates are women.

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

59.5% Women

329 of the 553 graduates are women.

Number and Representation Rates of Women Graduates at the Faculty Level (2024–2025)



SDG 5: Women's Leadership, STEM Initiatives, Support Mechanisms and Achievements

Women in STEM and Innovation

EIC Women Innovators & GCIP First Place

Global achievements by Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal and Gizem Uysal

RS-0139 Phase 1 Achievement: Türkiye's first original targeted smart cancer drug, led by Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal.

Helios Vienna Global First Place: The MOF carbon capture initiative by PhD student Gizem Uysal is being exported to 7 countries.

L'Oréal-UNESCO 2025 Award: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Banu İyisan developed nanocarrier systems for triple-negative breast cancer.

D-STEK (TÜBİTAK 1001): A national model that increases the participation of female high school students in STEM and digital technologies.

Education, Mentoring and Summits

BÜYEM, BUEC & BÜKAK Programs

Women Leaders Who Will Shape Healthcare & BTLK Summit

BTLK Summit: The traditional Women Leaders in Science and Technology Summit, organized with the Electrotechnology Club.

Türkiye's Engineering Girls (TMK): Scholarships, mentoring, and social engineering training through collaboration between Limak and BÜYEM.

Women Leaders in Healthcare: Certified leadership and mentoring support for 25 participants through a partnership between PWN and SDSN Türkiye.

Competition Law Summit: Increasing the visibility of women decision-makers and organizing expert panels with W@CompetitionTR.

Social Security, Rights and Sports

GEP Plan, CİTÖK & Preschool Unit

Preschool support for children aged 12–66 months and comprehensive parental rights.

CİTÖK Support: A confidential medical, psychosocial (BÜREM), and legal support network through the Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Harassment.

Preschool & Children's Summer Camp: Preschool education for staff members' children aged 12–66 months and a summer camp for children aged 6–12.

Parental Rights & BURA Scholarship: Support through 16 weeks of maternity leave, breastfeeding leave rights, and the BURA married student scholarship program.

Women Athletes on the Podium: Achievements in high jump (silver), triathlon (3rd place in Türkiye), 800m swimming (bronze), and rowing.

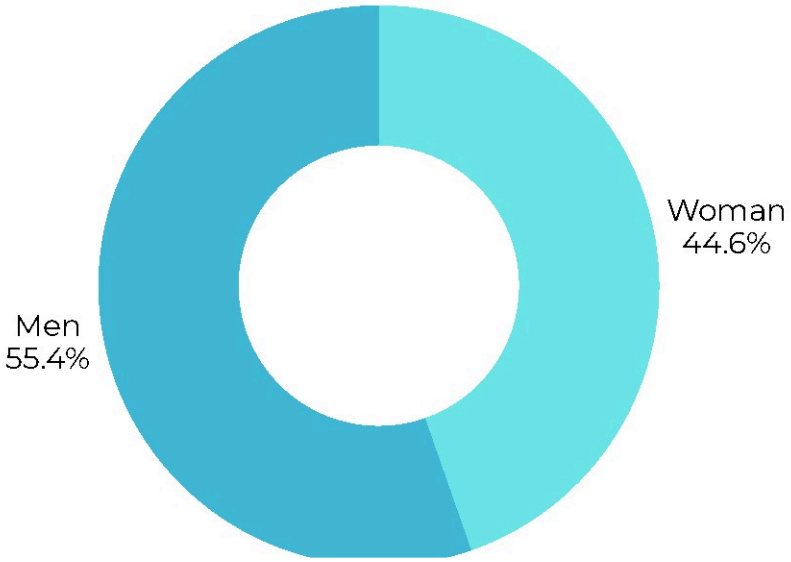
SDG5: Gender Equality

Student Access Measurements

According to Boğaziçi University's 2024 data, 45% of the student population is female and 55% is male. This data shows that the university has taken an important step in monitoring and evaluating the gender distribution of students. The university has been monitoring gender-disaggregated student data since 2009 and these data are reported annually and shared on the university's homepage.

The systematic monitoring and reporting of this data enables the identification of possible inequalities between male and female students in application, admission and graduation rates and the shaping of the University's strategic plans to improve these areas. In particular, monitoring the application, admission and graduation rates of female students is critical to assess how the university is progressing in terms of gender equality and to determine which strategies it should focus on in the future. These monitoring studies contribute to the more effective implementation of gender equality policies by supporting the university's goal of creating an equitable educational environment.

To Access Boğaziçi University in Numbers 2025 Publication:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/sayilarla-bogazici-universitesi/262



Distribution of Students by Gender

Student Access Measurements

NUMBER OF GRADUATES AT ASSOCIATE AND BACHELOR'S DEGREE LEVELS 2024–2025			
	M	F	T
BOĞAZİÇİ ÜNİVERSİTESİ BOGAZICI UNIVERSITY	996	898	1,894
EĞİTİM FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF EDUCATION	88	216	304
FEN-EDEBİYAT FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES	224	329	553
FEN FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF SCIENCE	21	20	41
İKTİSADİ VE İDARİ BİLİMLER FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES	205	135	340
İNSAN VE TOPLUM BİLİMLERİ FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	21	15	36
MÜHENDİSLİK FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF ENGINEERING	317	99	416
YÖNETİM BİLİMLERİ FAKÜLTESİ FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCES	120	84	204

During the 2024–2025 academic year, women accounted for 47.4% of the 1,894 graduates at Boğaziçi University, while men accounted for 52.6%. The proportion of female graduates is higher than that of male graduates, particularly in the Faculty of Education (71.1%) and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (59.5%). These results highlight the strong representation of women in certain academic fields and provide an important indicator regarding women's access to higher education and their participation in graduation rates under SDG 5 – Gender Equality.

Policy for female applications and entries

As stated in Boğaziçi University's “Gender Equality Plan 2023” document, there are several important strategies and practices regarding women's university applications and admission policies:



Data Collection and Analysis: The University attaches great importance to the collection and publication of gender-based data. Each year, gender-based statistics are regularly shared in categories such as graduates, new students, undergraduate and graduate programmes. This data is used to evaluate and improve the university's equality policies.

Gender Responsive Selection and Promotion Processes: The University is focussed on developing gender-sensitive recruitment and promotion processes for academic and administrative positions.

Representation of Women in Academic and Administrative Positions: The University has developed policies and procedures to increase the representation of women in academic and administrative positions. In particular, it is aimed to encourage women to leadership positions and to ensure gender balance in these positions.

Equitable Education and Research: The University aims to integrate gender equality into education and research. Women's representation in research teams and laboratories is increased, and trainings on gender-sensitive research methods and teaching techniques are organised.

These strategies show that Boğaziçi University has taken concrete steps to improve women's university application processes and success rates. The University's gender equality policies are designed in accordance with national legislation and international conventions and contribute to the University assuming a leading role in ensuring gender equality.

Policy for female applications and entries

Boğaziçi University Gender Equality Plan:
https://www.bogazici.edu.tr/Assets/Documents/Dosyalar/gender_equality_plan.pdf

Access programmes for women



Boğaziçi University offers various programmes and services to support women's access to university education. These services and programmes provide comprehensive support in different areas such as scholarship opportunities, mentoring and social networks.

Scholarships

Boğaziçi University Scholarship Office provides scholarships to students from three different sources: State institutions, scholarships from the University and scholarships from foundations, institutions and organisations. In addition, special scholarships for female students are also provided by various organisations. These scholarships play an important role in increasing girls' access to university education.

The Scholarship Office Coordinatorship prepares comparative reports of the scholarship budget and expenditures at the end of each academic year. You can access the scholarship reports for the last 5 years from the relevant links at the end of the section.





Access programmes for women

Mentoring Programmes

Boğaziçi University offers mentoring programmes to support the academic and personal development of its students.

Through social responsibility projects such as the Student Coaching Programme and ENSO Mentorship, university students guide high school students and support them in their university preparation processes.





Through mentoring programmes run by **Boğaziçi University Career Centre**, Boğaziçi students benefit from the experiences of alumni and gain important information about business life. These programmes are open to all students and female students can be matched with the most suitable mentor by indicating their needs on the application form.

Social Networks and Women-Oriented Clubs

Boğaziçi Network is a professional social network where alumni, students, academics and administrative staff of the university can come together and share their experiences.

Access programmes for women

BÜKAK (Boğaziçi University Women's Research Club) is a student club that organises activities on gender studies, women's rights and combating sexual harassment.

Education Programmes

Boğaziçi University Lifelong Learning Centre (BÜYEM) provides various trainings to raise awareness on gender equality and support women's entrepreneurship. These programmes take important steps towards empowering women and ensuring social justice.

These programmes and services offered by Boğaziçi University increase women's access to university and support their academic and professional development. The University undertakes an important mission in ensuring gender equality through these programmes designed to meet the needs of female students.

Access programmes for women

Related Links

2023-2024 Scholarship Report:
https://impact.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/impact.bogazici.edu.tr/files/2023-2024_burs_raporu_.pdf

2021-2022 Scholarship Report:
https://bursofisi.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/bursofisi.boun.edu.tr/files/faaliyet_raporu_2021-2022_02.02.2023.pdf

2020-2021 Scholarship Report:
https://bursofisi.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/bursofisi.boun.edu.tr/files/2020_-_2021_akademik_yili_burs_ofisi_faaliyet_raporu.pdf

2019-2020 Scholarship Report:
https://bursofisi.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/bursofisi.boun.edu.tr/files/bu_burs_raporu_2019-2020.pdf

2018-2019 Scholarship Report:
https://bursofisi.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/bursofisi.boun.edu.tr/files/burs_raporu_2018-2019.pdf

Scholarship Office Presentation:
https://bursofisi.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/bursofisi.boun.edu.tr/files/2024-2025_burs_ofisi_koordinatorlugu_tanitim_.pdf

Boğaziçi University Student Coaching Programme:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/bogazici-universitesi-ogrencileri-liselilerin/508

ENSO Mentorship:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=756CNBhVfvg

https://www.instagram.com/ensomentorship/

Boğaziçi Career Centre Mentorship Programme:
https://mezun.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/mentorluk/7620

Boğaziçi University Mentoring and Consultancy Application:
https://mezun.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/mentorluk/7620

Access programmes for women

Related Links:

Boğaziçi Network:
https://bogazici.network/

BÜYEM Gender Equality Trainings:
http://www.kss.bogazici.edu.tr/?project=toplumsal-cinsiyet-esitligi

Women's applications in under-represented areas



One of the goals of Boğaziçi University's gender equality plan is to equalise the representation of women in both administrative positions and research teams at the university. At Boğaziçi University, various programmes and events are organised in collaboration with local and global partners to raise awareness in areas where women are underrepresented and to encourage female students to pursue careers in these fields.

Gender Equality Plan
https://www.bogazici.edu.tr/Assets/Documents/Dosyalar/gender_equality_plan.pdf

Access programmes for women

Boğaziçi University Women Leading in Science and Technology Summit

Organised traditionally every year by Boğaziçi University Electrotechnology Club (BUEC), the Leading Women in Science and Technology Summit brings together leading successful women from the sectors and academia with university students. The event aims to inspire and give hope to the participants by focusing on topics such as the change in the number of female employees in the sector and the careers of the speakers in different directions.

https://buec.com.tr/bilim-ve-teknolojide-lider-kadinlar-zirvesi/





Access programmes for women

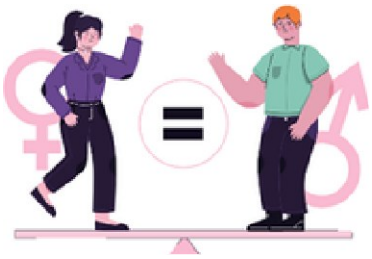
Turkey's Engineer Girls Project

The ‘Turkey's Engineer Girls’ Project, carried out in cooperation with BÜYEM and Limak Foundation, aims to raise successful female students studying at engineering faculties who need support as well-equipped engineers for our country. Within the scope of the project, in addition to scholarship support, internship opportunities, BÜYEM social engineering trainings and mentoring support are provided. The programme is open to female students studying in the departments of computer engineering, environmental engineering, electrical and electronics engineering, industrial engineering, civil engineering and mechanical engineering at different universities in Turkey, and Boğaziçi University is among the universities where quotas have been opened for the 2022-2023 academic year. Within the scope of the project, activities are also organised in various provinces in order to inform and raise awareness of high school students who will make their career choice, to provide general information about the profession and to enable them to experience the engineering profession through various methods.

https://kss.bogazici.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/wp-buyem-kss-brosur-1.pdf
https://www.turkiyeninmuhendiskizlari.com/



Policy of non-discrimination against women



Gender Equality Plan:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/Assets/Documents/Dosyalar/gender_equality_plan.pdf

A Gender Equality Commission and a Gender Equality Plan have been established against discrimination against women at Boğaziçi University. According to Boğaziçi University Code of Ethics, '1 - Respect for human rights and freedoms, 2 - Fair and honest behaviour without discrimination and prejudice based on religion, language, race, ethnic origin, opinion, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical disability and similar characteristics'.

In addition, the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Turkey, established in 2014 under the auspices of Boğaziçi University, aims to bring together universities, the business world and the public sector to produce solutions for the realisation of sustainable development goals, including gender equality in Turkey.

Related Links

Boğaziçi University GEP (Gender Equality Plan) Commission:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr_TR/Content/Genel/Yonetim/Kurul_ve_Komisyonlar/Gender_Equality_Plan_Komisyonu

Boğaziçi University Ethical Principles:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr-TR/Content/Genel/Etik_Ilkeler

SDSN Turkey Objective 5: Gender Equality
https://sdsnturkiye.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/amac-5-toplumsal-cinsiyet-esitligi/1874

Maternity and Paternity Policies



Gender Equality Plan:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/Assets/Documents/Dosyalar/gender_equality_plan.pdf

Chapter 4 of Boğaziçi University's Gender Equality Plan focuses on employees' maternity rights and work-life balance. In addition to legal rights, the University aims to establish procedures for employees to work remotely in case of parenthood.

According to the Law No. 657 on Civil Servants to which Boğaziçi University civil servants are subject;

- Female civil servants and contracted personnel are granted maternity leave for a total of sixteen weeks, eight weeks before and eight weeks after childbirth, and ten days of paternity leave upon request if their spouse gives birth.
- Female civil servants and contracted personnel shall be given three hours of milk leave per day in the first six months and one and a half hours of milk leave per day in the second six months as of the end of the postnatal maternity leave period for breastfeeding their child.
- The female civil servant may work half of her daily working time without additional milk leave for two months for the first birth, four months for the second birth, and six months for subsequent births, starting from the end of the postnatal maternity leave.
- Officers who give birth shall be granted leave without salary for up to twenty-four months from the end of the postnatal leave period, and officers whose spouse gives birth shall be granted leave without salary for up to twenty-four months from the date of birth upon their request.
- Officers who have given birth or whose spouse has given birth may request that their weekly working hours be arranged as half of the normal working hours without giving milk leave in the period until the beginning of the month following the date of the child's compulsory primary education age.

Maternity and Paternity Policies

- Civil servants and contracted personnel are granted up to ten days of compassionate leave in whole or in parts within a year in case their child with at least 70 per cent disability or chronic illness falls ill.

Personnel may also apply for maternity allowance and benefit from family allowance for natural, step or adopted children.

For students, Boğaziçi University Scholarship Office is funded by the Boğaziçi Universities Association (BURA), which provides married couple requirement scholarships to eligible students.

Related Links

Law No. 657 on Civil Servants:
https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/1.5.657.pdf

Family Benefit Notification Form:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr_TR/Content/Calisanlar/Formlar

Birth Assistance Request Petition:
https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/userfiles/files/Assets/Documents/dogum_yardimi_basvuru_dilekcesi.pdf

Petition for Working Spouses:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/Assets/calisan_esler_icin_dilekce_agi_bilgisi.pdf

BURA Married Student Scholarship:
https://www.bura.org.tr/bura-burs-basvurulari-basladi-2024/

SDG5: Gender Equality

Childcare Facilities for Students

Boğaziçi University offers the Preschool Education Unit to the students of parents who work as faculty or administrative staff. For those who do not work as faculty or staff, there are no direct childcare services, but there are day-care centres around the campus where safe and quality childcare facilities can be accessed. These day-care centres offer activities and educational programmes that contribute to the physical, mental and social development of children. Managed by trained staff, these facilities allow parents to ensure that their children are well cared for while they focus on their academic studies.

Boğaziçi University Preschool Education

https://preschool.bogazici.edu.tr/









However, parent students can also apply to Boğaziçi University Summer Camp for children between the ages of 6-12 during the summer term and include their children in this programme. While children experience learning through various activities in areas such as art, music, sports and science accompanied by experienced camp leaders and instructors, parent students can continue their academic studies.

Boğaziçi University Summer Camp:
https://bogaziciuniversitesiyazkampi.com/

Childcare facilities for staff and faculty

Boğaziçi University Preschool Education Unit

Boğaziçi University Preschool Education Unit provides services for the children of academic and administrative staff between 8.30 am and 5.00 pm on weekdays. The pre-school education programme is designed for each age group (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years (12 - 66 months), taking into account the individual developmental characteristics and age-appropriate learning levels of children. The programme content consists of carefully selected learning components to support each student's developmental areas (cognitive, psychomotor, language, self-care and social emotional).

Boğaziçi University Preschool Education Unit:
https://preschool.bogazici.edu.tr/

Boğaziçi University Children's Summer Camp

Boğaziçi University Summer Camp, with its expert team of experienced camp leaders and instructors, offers children the opportunity to study and learn with activities full of art, music, sports, science and adventure in an environment close to nature during the summer months. Football, basketball, swimming, chess, archery, scouting, values education and foreign language activities contribute to the development of both academic and social skills of children.

Boğaziçi University Summer Camp:
https://bogaziciuniversitesiyazkampi.com/

SDG5: Gender Equality

BÜYEM Trainings providing mentoring support to women

Boğaziçi University Lifelong Learning Centre (BÜYEM) offers entrepreneurship programmes and trainings with mentoring support to contribute to gender equality and empower women. In collaboration with Professional Women's Network (PWN Istanbul), United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN Turkey) and Awen for Us, BÜYEM launched the 'Women Leaders to Shape Healthcare Development Programme', which supports the development of women in the healthcare sector. Within the scope of this programme, online courses and workshops as well as mentoring support were provided. At the ceremony held on 8 April 2023, where 25 participants received their certificates, Dr. Tamer Atabarut, Director of BÜYEM, stated that they were very happy to serve the UN Sustainable Development Goals of healthy living and gender equality together through the programme.

https://buyem.bogazici.edu.tr/library/BUYEM_YE_BROSUR_2023Mart.pdf
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/haber/sagliga-yon-verecek-kadin-liderler-programi-ikinci-mezunlarini-verdi



SDG5: Gender Equality

Mentoring Project within the Scope of Special Events in Tourism and Congress Tourism Course:

In the autumn term of the 2022-2023 academic year, in cooperation with MPI (Meeting Professionals International) Turkey Club and SITE (Society for Incentive Travel Excellence) Turkey, a 'Mentoring' project was initiated within the scope of the 'Special Events in Tourism and Convention Tourism' course at Boğaziçi University Department of Tourism Management. A large number of female students who wanted to increase their knowledge and competence in this field successfully shared their project results with their mentors at the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce (ITO) Headquarters.

https://tourism.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/content/turizmde-ozel-etkinlikler-ve-kongre-turizmi-dersi-kapsaminda-mentorluk-projesi-0 https://tourism.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/content/turizmde-ozel-etkinlikler-ve-kongre-turizmi-dersi-kapsaminda-yurutulen-mentorluk-projesinin



Monitoring the Graduation Rate of Women

Since 2009, Boğaziçi University has been tracking gender-disaggregated student data and publishing annual reports on its homepage. In particular, monitoring the application, admission and graduation rates of female students is critical to assess how the university is progressing in terms of gender equality and to determine which strategies it should focus on in the future.

To Access Boğaziçi University in Numbers 2025 Publication:
https://sayilarla.bogazici.edu.tr/

Policies to protect those reporting discriminatio

Gender Equality Plan:
https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/upload/sayfalar/74-gender-equality-plan-2023-yayin-20251105-151612.pdf

Chapter 2 of the Gender Equality Plan of Boğaziçi University deals with the units and targets that combat discrimination against women within the University. Boğaziçi University Commission for the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (CİTÖK) provides confidential medical, psychological, psychosocial and legal support to those who have been subjected to sexual harassment or violence within the university. All information of persons referred to the Student Guidance and Psychological Counselling Centre (BÜREM) for psychological support by CITÖK is protected in confidentiality.

Related Links

CİTÖK (Boğaziçi University Sexual Harassment Prevention Commission):
https://citok.bogazici.edu.tr/

Principles of BÜREM (Boğaziçi University Student Guidance and Psychological Counselling Centre):
https://burem.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/ilkeler/5719

Prof. Dr. Nurcan Meral Özel Awarded Japan's State Order for Her Pioneering Role in Global Science Diplomacy

Prof. Dr. Nurcan Meral Özel, faculty member of the Department of Geophysics at Boğaziçi University's Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute (KRDAE), served as Director of the International Monitoring System (IMS) at the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) between 2014 and 2022. During her tenure, she made significant contributions to nuclear disarmament, the strengthening of global monitoring infrastructures, international diplomacy, and the advancement of CTBTO's collaboration with Japan. In recognition of these contributions, Prof. Dr. Özel was awarded one of Japan's most prestigious state honors, the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, in 2024, coinciding with the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Japan.

Prof. Dr. Özel was also recognized in 2017 at a U.S.-based symposium on "Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Women Leaders," where she was named among the "Six Women Leaders Shaping Technology on the International Stage." In addition, under the auspices of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, she spearheaded the establishment of KRDAE's National Tsunami Warning Center, which provides tsunami alert services for Turkey, the Eastern Mediterranean, the Aegean, and the Black Sea. These achievements stand as a powerful testament to the role of Boğaziçi University's pioneering women researchers in advancing global science diplomacy and peace.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/krdae-jeofizik-anabilim-dali-ogretim-uyesi-pr/2797

Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal Honored with Award from the European Innovation Council

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

RS Research is pioneering the development of smart drugs that enable targeted chemotherapy. Through its patented carrier technology, the company aims to increase the effectiveness of chemotherapy while minimizing its side effects, discovering promising new drug candidates. Early-stage development of these candidates has been conducted in collaboration with the Boğaziçi University Center for Life Sciences and Technologies, while the company's facilities in Istanbul manage production processes. RS Research has successfully introduced the first new drug candidate developed in Turkey to reach Phase 1 clinical trials, with studies currently underway in Istanbul and Ankara.

Prof. Dr. Sanyal's achievement exemplifies the transformative power of women in science and health technologies, representing both entrepreneurial vision and scientific excellence. Her recognition marks a distinguished example of how Boğaziçi University's women researchers are gaining international prominence in innovation and impact.





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

Academic Achievement of a Boğaziçi Woman Student: A National Award in Translation

Eda Duman, a student of the Department of Translation and Interpreting Studies at Boğaziçi University, earned second place in the English category of the 2023 Young Translators Contest organized by the Directorate for EU Affairs of Türkiye. This achievement represents a significant outcome of the University's commitment to providing high-quality education and a strong academic foundation for its women students. Beyond technical skills, Boğaziçi equips its students with professional strategies and mentorship, further reinforcing their success. This example stands as a clear demonstration of the University's supportive approach, which enhances the visibility of its women students on national and international platforms while contributing tangibly to their academic and professional development.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazicili-ogrenciye-ingilizce-ceviri-odulu/2800

National Intervention Model to Increase Girls' Participation in STEM and Digital Technology

Led by faculty members of Boğaziçi University's Faculty of Education and supported by TÜBİTAK's 1001 Program, the project Removing Barriers in Digital and STEM (D-STEK) is a multi-dimensional education and research initiative designed to strengthen high school girls' interest in careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and digital technology. The project encompasses hands-on workshops, professional development seminars for teachers, information programs for families, and long-term school-based engagement, with the aims of reducing gender-based social biases that shape career choices, enhancing digital literacy skills, and empowering girls to make independent and informed career decisions. Planned for national rollout in collaboration with the Ministry of National Education, this large-scale model stands as a pioneering initiative to encourage girls' participation in STEM and digital technology fields where women remain underrepresented.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazicili-akademisyenler-kiz-ogrencilerin-st/2851

Academic Contribution to the Preservation of Cultural Heritage: Presidential Culture and Arts Grand Award for Emeritus Prof. Dr. Günay Kut

Boğaziçi University's Department of Turkish Language and Literature Emeritus Professor Dr. Günay Kut has been honored with the 2024 Presidential Culture and Arts Grand Award in the "Science & Culture" category for her pioneering scholarship in classical Turkish literature, including verse and prose traditions, Ottoman paleography, and codicology. Serving as department chair from 1988 to 2002 and continuing her research at Boğaziçi University until retirement, Prof. Dr. Kut has made nationally and internationally significant contributions to the scientific documentation, preservation, and transmission of the written heritage of classical Turkish literature.

This prestigious recognition also underscores Boğaziçi University's leading role in documenting, safeguarding, and academically reinterpreting cultural heritage, adding scholarly depth and continuity to the preservation of Turkey's literary and linguistic legacy.



https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/emeritus-prof-dr-gunay-kuta-cumhurbaskanligi-/2877

Enhancing Women's Visibility and Challenging Gender Bias in Competition Law

Boğaziçi University's Faculty of Law hosted the **"Competition Law Summit"**, organised by **W@CompetitionTR**—the Turkish chapter of the global **WomenAt (W@)** platform—on **6 March 2026**. With a mission to increase the visibility of women professionals and challenge bias against women experts, the conference brought students together with experienced specialists working on current issues in competition law and policy. The active participation of Boğaziçi University students created a valuable space for interaction between academic knowledge and professional practice.



The event featured distinguished women leaders and decision-makers as speakers and moderators, including Gülçin Dere, Board Member of W@CompetitionTR; Buket Arı Aydın, Department Head at the Turkish Competition Authority; Sabine Zigelski, Senior Competition Expert at the OECD; and Cristina Volpin, Competition Policy Expert at the OECD. Their leadership and expertise informed discussions on issues shaping the future of the field, including the regulation of data-driven markets, competition policy and sustainability, and competition in artificial intelligence markets, thereby increasing the visibility of women professionals in competition law and regulatory policy.

Direct engagement with experienced women professionals from different institutions provided students with strong role models and demonstrated women's presence in specialist and decision-making positions. This visibility can inspire women students to pursue educational and professional pathways in competition law, regulatory policy and related fields. The event therefore makes a complementary contribution to efforts to strengthen women's representation, challenge bias against women professionals and encourage women's participation in specialised fields of law.

The full news article is available here.

Pioneering Biotech Innovation: Prof. Rana Sanyal Leads Historic Drug Discovery to Clinical Stage

Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal—Professor of Chemistry at Boğaziçi University and recipient of the EIC European Prize for Women Innovators—co-founded RS Research with Sena Nomak to translate basic scientific research into innovative pharmaceutical solutions. Drawing on research initiated at Boğaziçi University's Center for Life Sciences and Technologies (LifeSci) and subsequently advanced through the Center for Targeted Treatment Technologies (HTTM) and the Boğaziçi Technopark ecosystem, the company developed RS-0139, Türkiye's first original drug candidate, as a smart nanomedicine for targeted chemotherapy. The drug's Phase 1 clinical trials were successfully completed in 2026, advancing it from basic laboratory discovery to clinical-stage development and marking a historic breakthrough in university–industry research translation.



- **Historic Drug Innovation Milestone:** RS-0139 stands as the country's first home-grown candidate drug to successfully complete human Phase 1 trials, thereby validating Boğaziçi University's research infrastructure and technology transfer capabilities.
- **Female Academic Entrepreneurship**: Led by female scientist-entrepreneurs, the initiative demonstrates how cutting-edge academic chemistry can be commercialised into world-class pharmaceutical solutions that address critical human health needs.

Pioneering the country's most significant pharmaceutical breakthrough under the leadership of an internationally acclaimed female scientist is an extraordinary inspiration to prospective female students and researchers. Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal's success challenges gender stereotypes in deep-tech entrepreneurship, actively encouraging women to enter, excel, and lead in historically underrepresented STEM disciplines, including Chemistry, Biotechnology, and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The full news article is available here.

Women Leadership in Biomedical Research: Assoc. Prof. Banu İyisan Honoured with L'Oréal-UNESCO Award

Assoc. Prof. Banu İyisan, a faculty member at Boğaziçi University's Institute of Biomedical Engineering, was among the four women scientists honoured in 2025 under the **"For Women in Science" programme**, conducted by L'Oréal Türkiye in collaboration with the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO. Assoc. Prof. İyisan and her team are developing smart nanomedicine systems made entirely from natural biomaterials, as well as targeted and personalised treatment approaches for aggressive triple-negative breast cancer, a disease of particular significance to women's health.

News





This prestigious national programme, run in partnership between L'Oréal and UNESCO, enhances visibility and recognises the achievements of women scientists working in advanced disciplines where women have traditionally been underrepresented, including biomedical engineering, biotechnology and pharmaceutical technologies. Assoc. Prof. Banu İyisan's academic leadership and innovative research into breast cancer treatment make her a powerful role model, inspiring young women students to pursue master's and doctoral studies in STEM fields and to choose careers in science.

The full news article is available here.

Inspiring Female Student Entrepreneurship: Gizem Uysal Wins Global Cleantech Award in Vienna

Helios, the deep-technology start-up founded by Boğaziçi University Biomedical Engineering PhD student Gizem Uysal, was named the global winner at Cleantech Days 2026, held under the Global Cleantech Innovation Programme implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Competing against climate technology ventures from around the world at the global final in Vienna, Uysal received the "GCIP Global 1st Place – Overall Winner" award.

News



Operating from laboratories at Boğaziçi University's Kandilli Deep Technology Hub, Helios develops metal–organic framework (MOF)-based technology to capture carbon dioxide from the flue gases of hard-to-abate industries such as cement, steel and aluminium. The start-up currently exports its technology to seven countries. By commercialising her doctoral research and transforming it into a globally active venture, Gizem Uysal provides a powerful example of the intersection between academic research, engineering, climate technology and women's entrepreneurship.

The global recognition of an advanced materials and climate technology solution developed by a woman doctoral researcher strengthens women's visibility in STEM and deep-technology entrepreneurship. Uysal's achievement provides prospective and current women students with a strong role model, demonstrating the educational and professional pathways available in engineering, environmental technology and science-based entrepreneurship. Highlighting achievements of this kind can inspire more women to pursue STEM fields and aspire to leadership roles within them.

The full news article is available here.

News

Empowering Female Student-Athletes Across Diverse Sporting Disciplines

Boğaziçi University actively promotes an inclusive sporting culture that fosters gender equality, equal access, and strong representation of women across all athletic disciplines. At the national inter-university championships in early 2026, female student-athletes achieved outstanding success across a wide range of sports—from track and field to combat sports, winter sports, and rowing—serving as empowering role models:

- Indoor Athletics: Ece Karaağaç secured 2nd place (Silver Medal) in the Women's High Jump at the Turkish Indoor Athletics Championship.
- Muay Thai (Combat Sports): Zeynep Cemre Akıllı earned 3rd place (Bronze Medal) in the Women's 67 kg category at the Inter-University Türkiye Muay Thai Championship, highlighting female representation in combat disciplines.
- Winter Sports: The Women's Ski Team achieved 2nd place in Istanbul at the Uni Lig Winter Sports Türkiye Championship.
- Rowing: The Women's Rowing Team brought home the 2nd-place trophy in national competitions organized by the Turkish Rowing Federation.





These achievements across diverse sporting disciplines underscore Boğaziçi University's commitment to providing equal athletic opportunities, breaking gender stereotypes in sport, and empowering female student-athletes as inspiring role models.

The full news article is available here.

Women's Team Excellence in University Triathlon: A National Podium Achievement



Boğaziçi University advances gender equality in university sport by supporting women students' participation, visibility and achievement across demanding athletic disciplines. At the ÜniLig Türkiye Triathlon Championship, held in Antalya on **8–9 June 2026**, the **Boğaziçi University Women's Triathlon Team** demonstrated exceptional endurance, discipline and teamwork, securing **3rd place nationally** and earning a spot on the podium



This achievement carries particular historical significance, as **Boğaziçi University hosted Türkiye's first triathlon event in 1986**. Today, the University's women student-athletes continue to revive and elevate this legacy through national podium finishes. Their success in one of the most physically demanding endurance sports strengthens women's visibility in competitive sport, challenges gender stereotypes, and provides inspiring role models for other women students. It also reflects the importance of creating equal opportunities for women to participate, compete and excel across university sport.

The full news article is available here.

News

A Historic Milestone in University Swimming: Deniz Gültekin's National Podium Finish

Boğaziçi University is committed to advancing gender equality by supporting women students' participation, visibility and achievement across university sport. At the **Inter-University Türkiye Swimming Championship**, organised by the Turkish University Sports Federation (TÜSF) on **2 July 2026** and attended by hundreds of athletes from 32 universities, Boğaziçi University's female student swimmer Deniz Gültekin achieved a historic milestone for the University.



Competing in the women's 800-metre freestyle, Gültekin **placed 3rd nationally** and earned a bronze medal. Her result marked **the first-ever medal in the 800-metre freestyle in Boğaziçi University's swimming history**. By achieving this distinction in an event requiring exceptional endurance, discipline and determination, Deniz Gültekin enhances the visibility of women student-athletes and serves as an inspiring role model for other women students. Her achievement demonstrates women's capacity to set new milestones and contribute meaningfully to the University's sporting legacy.

The full news article is available here.


5 GENDER EQUALITY
To achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS