

# 2021

## NEWSLETTER







Drawing strength from its tradition spanning over 160 years, Boğaziçi University continues to progress with a vision that embraces change and innovation. In recent years, while taking steps to enhance our academic excellence, we have also significantly developed our institutional capacity and spatial resources.

The establishment of new faculties and institutes has broadened our education and research fields; the number of our postgraduate programmes has increased, and our research university identity has been further solidified thanks to our project offices and renewed academic incentive system.

The participation of hundreds of academics with international experience has accelerated our academic output and enabled us to reach our highest position ever in the QS World University Rankings.

Projects such as the new library, student centre, dormitories and staff residences, designed to meet modern needs, combined with technological infrastructure transformations and digital services, are preparing our university for the future. Investments such as the incorporation of the Anadolu Hisarı Campus into our university, the expansion of our technology parks, and the restoration of our historic buildings have further strengthened both our academic and social life. All these developments are important milestones in the journey of Boğaziçi University, which brings together the brightest minds of our country, towards further progress in the fields of science, technology, culture, and social contribution. We extend our gratitude to all our faculty members, students, administrative staff, and alumni, whose support we have always felt.

We are delighted to present our 2025 academic activities and the key features of our university under the heading 'Boğaziçi University in Numbers'. From Istanbul, between the blue of the Bosphorus and the green of our campus, I send my warmest greetings and best wishes.

Mehmet Naci İNCİ  
**Rector of Boğaziçi University**

# A Look at Global Security at the Boğaziçi Lectures

Boğaziçi University hosted an event featuring former UK Defence Secretary Ben Wallace as a speaker as part of its 'Boğaziçi Lectures' conference series. The event, moderated by Hulusi Akar, Chairman of the Turkish Grand National Assembly's National Defence Commission, also featured an opening speech by Rector Mehmet Naci İnci.



Boğaziçi University hosted a significant event in the field of international relations and security policies. The event, titled 'The Future of Regional and Global Security: Opportunities and Challenges,' was held on 4 July 2025 as part of the 'Boğaziçi Lectures' conference series and featured Ben Wallace, the former UK Defence Secretary.

Moderated by Hulusi Akar, Chairman of the Turkish Grand National Assembly's National Defence Commission and Member of Parliament for Kayseri, the conference was attended by Boğaziçi University Rector Mehmet Naci İnci, university staff, students, and numerous guests.



In his opening speech, Rector Mehmet Naci İnci stated that Boğaziçi University is a centre of thought hosting world-scale debates, adding that such events are an important part of the university's vision to generate global impact. Speaking at the event, Ben Wallace provided comprehensive assessments on the transformation in global security, new threat perceptions shaped by technology, and structural changes in the defence industry.



## BOĞAZIÇI LECTURES: AN ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL ISSUES

Organised by Boğaziçi University, the Boğaziçi Lectures serve as a platform where current and multifaceted global issues are discussed by experts within an academic framework.

Right: Boğaziçi University Albert Long Hall Cultural Centre



# The Role of International Law in Post-War Societies Discussed at Boğaziçi University

The second Boğaziçi University International Law Conference (BILC 2025) was held on 5-6 July 2025. Held under the theme ‘Justice and Reconstruction in Post-War Societies,’ the event brought together legal scholars, political scientists, and experts from leading universities around the world, facilitating two days of intensive and thought-provoking discussions.



## KEY NAMES, IMPACTFUL TITLES

The conference featured Prof. Richard Falk from Princeton University, Professor Carsten Stahn from Leiden University, Professor Satvinder Juss from King's College London, Professor Mohsen Al Attar from Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Dr. Yi Lu from Peking University, and Dr. Yaser Tabbara from the Omran Centre for Strategic Studies.



Participants engaged in in-depth discussions on the role of international law in the reconstruction of post-war societies and the processes of re-establishing justice, hosted by the Faculty of Law at Boğaziçi University. The opening speeches of the conference were delivered by the Rector of Boğaziçi University, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Naci İnci, and the Dean of the Faculty of Law at Boğaziçi University, Prof. Dr. Ali Emrah Bozbayındır. The academics who moderated the conference, together with participants from different disciplines, made comprehensive assessments of the importance of international law in the post-conflict period of reconstruction and the establishment of justice.



## RECTOR PROF. DR. MEHMET NACİ İNCİ EMPHASISES THE MISSION OF THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED FACULTY OF LAW

In his opening speech at the conference, Boğaziçi University Rector Prof. Dr. Mehmet Naci İnci emphasised the importance of the pursuit of justice, stating: “From Gaza to Syria, from Ukraine to Myanmar and Sudan, many regions are being shaken by conflicts; this situation is causing deep wounds in social development, as well as physical and psychological destruction. Justice and reconstruction are among the most critical global issues of our time,” he stated. Prof. Dr. İnci also pointed out that legal education must be approached with a multifaceted vision, stating, ‘The Faculty of Law at Boğaziçi University was founded on the principle of not only providing high-quality professional education, but also rethinking the universal dimensions of justice and striving to develop new philosophies of justice.’

Finally, Prof. Dr. İnci thanked the participating universities, stating, “We are delighted to welcome academics from leading universities around the world, such as Princeton, Cornell, Oxford, King’s College London, Leiden, Ottawa and Pretoria. This participation truly transforms our conference into a global platform for dialogue.” Concluding his speech by expressing his hopes for the long-term impact of the conference, İnci finished by saying, “I believe this conference will raise hopes and be a meaningful step towards rebuilding justice.”



## GLOBAL SECURITY, POST-CONFLICT JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

At the conference, in-depth discussions on post-war societies brought the strategic role of international law in ensuring justice back to the agenda. Professor Richard Falk emphasised in his speech that ‘international law plays a critical role not only in resolving conflicts but also in managing these processes in a fair and sustainable manner.’ Prof. Satvinder Juss, in his speech on refugee rights and migration policies, stated that ‘International law should take on more responsibility in the reconstruction of post-conflict societies, particularly in ensuring the safe return of refugees.’

# Boğaziçi numbers

**1863**

Robert College was founded by Cyrus Hamlin and Christopher Robert.

**1971**

Robert College was transferred to the state, along with all its buildings, library, laboratories and staff, and Boğaziçi University was established.

**15,000**

Student  
12,000 undergraduate and 3,000 postgraduate students.

**118**

Countries that Boğaziçi researchers collaborated with between 2020 and 2024.

**55,000**

Alumni  
Alumni association in over 40 countries.

**7**

Faculty

**1,964,596 m<sup>2</sup>**

The total area of campuses, research centres, and earthquake stations located in cities

**2030**

50% reduction in building-related greenhouse gas emissions

**498**

Faculty Member

**371st**

in the world QS World University Rankings 2026

**22**

Sports Facility

**57**

Startups Receiving Investment in 2025

**401-500**

in the world THE World University Rankings 2026

**162**

Research Laboratory



# Integrated Biorefinery Concept for Bioeconomy-Focused Development

The Integrated Biorefinery Concept Project for Bioeconomy-Focused Development (INDEPENDENT) is being implemented under the Competitive Sectors Programme, which is funded within the framework of financial cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Türkiye and administered by the Ministry of Industry and Technology. The INDEPENDENT Project aims to obtain products and technologies for sectors such as energy and health, which are Türkiye's main current account deficit items, as well as food, agriculture, livestock and the environment, through an integrated production system based on a bioeconomy-focused growth model. Within the scope of the project, a zero-waste, carbon-negative, integrated biorefinery system has been designed under the umbrella of the Istanbul Microalgae Biotechnology Research and Development Unit (İMBİYOTAB), operating at Boğaziçi University's Sarıtepe Campus, to enable the processing of sustainable natural resources based entirely on algae (seaweed), without reliance on fossil fuels.



Human food supplement products, pharmaceutical components, animal feed applications, organic biofertilisers and biofuels are developed from algae cultivated in an 80-cubic-metre open pool and 30-cubic-metre closed production reactors, established in a total of 2,500 square metres of R&D space and production area. The facility, which is entirely powered by wind energy, is the first carbon-negative integrated biorefinery in Türkiye and Europe. The project, which aims to process approximately 1,200 tonnes of wet algae mass annually, is supported by the European Commission at a rate of 85% and the Ministry of Industry and Technology at a rate of 15% under the Competitive Sectors Programme. Within the framework of the Public University Industry Cooperation (KÜSi), the INDEPENDENT Project provides consultancy, project development, know-how and technology transfer, equipment design, product testing and analysis services to SMEs operating in many different areas, primarily in the target sectors of the project, such as petrochemicals, cosmetics and textiles, where algae-based products are used, thereby creating employment and ensuring sector development.

## Test- Analysis

From Laboratory Scale to Industrial Scale The INDEPENDENT Project team, with its experience and expertise in systems biology-based R&D, provides testing and analysis, consultancy, project development and implementation services for all products and technologies in the field of algae biotechnology, from laboratory scale to industrial production scale. Our centre offers a comprehensive research and application infrastructure in the field of algal biotechnology. In addition to an extensive algal culture collection, genomic and transcriptomic analyses, metabolomic and proteomic studies, and bioinformatics analysis services are provided.

Research is supported by analytical and biochemical characterisation, species identification and microbiological characterisation; in addition, single-cell studies and advanced molecular and cellular imaging techniques are applied. Furthermore, biofuel analyses are conducted to develop sustainable energy solutions. Through value-added product analyses, innovative outputs are obtained for the food, pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and industrial applications of algal biotechnology.

## EDUCATION

Education and Human Resources in the Field of Algae Biotechnology The INDEPENDENT Project aims to raise awareness about knowledge and technology-driven economic development in the food, agriculture, livestock, health, energy, and environment sectors. In this context, training sessions will be organised and an information access platform will be established to increase the use of algae-based biotechnology products, facilitate communication between all stakeholders operating in related sectors, make cooperation effective, provide guidance in taking strategic steps, and support R&D activities. The INDEPENDENT Project will reduce the gap between technology and knowledge and technology gap by raising awareness and generating practical knowledge, thereby promoting the widespread use of microalgae biotechnology products and processing methods in critical areas.

# Boğaziçi University Ranks 165th in Europe in QS

In the Europe's Best Universities Ranking 2025 published by the London-based higher education ranking organisation QS, Boğaziçi University moved up **34 places to rank 165th**.

The London-based higher education ranking organisation QS ranked higher education institutions in Europe according to criteria such as 'research impact', 'academic reputation', "employability", 'employer reputation', 'learning environment', 'international outlook' and 'sustainability'. Accordingly, Boğaziçi University ranked 165th among 685 higher education institutions from 42 countries evaluated in Europe.

In the regional ranking prepared using data from QS's 'World University Rankings 2025' published in June, Boğaziçi University achieved 34 places, making it the 'most improved' higher education institution in Europe.



## IMPROVED PERFORMANCE IN CRITERIA

The best performance in the criteria evaluated by QS this year was achieved in the 'employability' and 'employer reputation' criteria. Boğaziçi University rose 10 places to 32nd in employer reputation and ranked 35th in employability.

It advanced 9 places to 137th in 'academic reputation', 140th in the 'students on exchange programmes for education' criterion, and 152nd in the 'sustainability' criterion, which considers the social and environmental impact of universities' sustainability efforts.

Among the 72 higher education institutions evaluated in Türkiye, Boğaziçi University ranked first in terms of employment power and third in terms of employer reputation and sustainability criteria.

Boğaziçi University Rector Prof. Dr. Mehmet Naci İnci, assessing the success achieved in the 2025 European Best Universities Ranking, stated that collaborations in Europe have been strengthened through projects such as Boğaziçi LifeSci and the carbon-negative microalgae biorefinery. İnci emphasised that the 165th position was not sufficient and that they would further advance their performance in R&D, industrial partnerships, and international collaborations.

Right: Boğaziçi View from Boğaziçi University South Campus





Left: Boğaziçi University Astronomy Building and Observatory Dome

# Boğaziçi Cooperation



## Cooperation Agreement between Central South University (CSU) and Boğaziçi University

**A five-year cooperation protocol was signed between Boğaziçi University and Central South University (CSU) in China on 29 September 2025.**

Central South University (CSU) is a research university located in Changsha, the capital of Hunan Province, China. The university was established on 29 April 2000 through the merger of three former universities: Hunan Medical University, Changsha Railway University, and Central South University of Technology. Ranked among China's leading research universities, CSU is noted for its strong academic expertise in fields such as medicine, engineering, materials science, and transportation.

On Monday, 29 September 2025, during the visit of the Central South University delegation to our university, a five-year

cooperation agreement was signed. Under this agreement, academic and student exchanges, joint research projects, scientific publications, and various academic activities are planned. Thus, the aim is to develop joint work and new projects in the fields of education and research between the two universities.

# Boğaziçi University Achieves Historic Success in THE World University Rankings 2026 with its Strategic Management Model

Istanbul – Boğaziçi University, one of Türkiye's most established higher education institutions, has made a significant leap in the 2026 World University Rankings (WUR) announced by Times Higher Education (THE), one of the world's leading higher education ranking organisations. The university jumped 200 places, moving from the 601–800 band last year to the 401–500 band.

This significant achievement reflects Boğaziçi University's data-driven strategic management approach, research-focused growth vision, and sustainable institutional transformation model. Thanks to this management approach, which enhances its international competitiveness, Boğaziçi University has achieved high average scores in research quality, industry collaborations, and international outlook.

## Data-Driven Strategic Management and Research-Focused Development

Boğaziçi University demonstrated high performance in the Research Environment and Research Quality columns, which constitute 59% of the total score in THE's evaluation, thereby strengthening its scientific production capacity and impact. It achieved high scores of 60.9 points in the Research Quality column and 78 points in research excellence and research influence. These results demonstrate the university's research ecosystem, which is increasingly recognised internationally and has a high impact value.

## Global Success in Industry and Knowledge Transfer

Boğaziçi University, which achieved a high performance with 94 points in the Industry column, strengthened its competitive position on a global scale in knowledge transfer and innovation production by obtaining 99.5 points in industrial income and 88.5 points in patent indicators.

## Strategic Vision for the Future

Following this success, Boğaziçi University aims to expand its international sphere of influence through innovative approaches to education, interdisciplinary collaborations in research, and sustainable projects focused on contributing to society.



Right: Boğaziçi University South Campus Winter View

## Professor Dr Rana Sanyal of Boğaziçi University receives award from the European Innovation Council

Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal, founder of RS Research, which develops new drugs using Boğaziçi University's infrastructure, received the European Women Innovators Award from the European Innovation Council (EIC) of the European Union.

The European Women Innovators Award, which recognises women leaders who make a difference through their research and transform the power of innovation into social impact, was organised by the European Innovation Council (EIC) and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) of the European Union (EU). In the programme's most prestigious category, 'Women Innovators', the grand prize was awarded to Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal, a faculty member of the Chemistry Department at Boğaziçi University and co-founder of RS Research.

The awards were announced at the award ceremony held during the EIC 2024 Summit as part of Research and Innovation Week (R&I Week) on 18 March.

### "AWARDS ENCOURAGE YOUNG SCIENTISTS"

Expressing her pride at being deemed worthy of this award, Prof. Dr. Rana Sanyal emphasised the importance of such awards in boosting the motivation of young scientists, stating:

"It is a source of pride for me to receive an award at European Union (EU) level for the success of our research in our country. These awards help spread success stories that will encourage today's young scientists. The more we support and empower our role models, the more motivated young people will be to make a difference in the world through innovation and deep technology. That is why it is so important to recognise and reward the contributions of women behind innovations that add value to people's lives. I am very happy on my behalf and on behalf of my entire team, whose efforts made this success possible."



Right: A Visual from Clinical Studies

## Boğaziçi University Makes a Huge Leap in THE Sustainability Impact Rankings 2025: Top 100 Worldwide in 10 SDGs

Boğaziçi University achieved an extraordinary success in the Times Higher Education (THE) 2025 Impact Rankings. Ranked in the 601–800 band last year, the university has made a historic leap this year, rising to the 201–300 band in the overall ranking. This success is based on its inclusion among the world's top 100 universities in 10 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Boğaziçi University drew attention by ranking among the world's top institutions in four critical areas:**

**SDG 11:** 18th in the world in Sustainable Cities and Communities

**SDG 13:** 19th in the world in Climate Action

**SDG 7:** 23rd in the world in Affordable and Clean Energy

**SDG 4:** 31st in the world in Quality Education



Boğaziçi University's comprehensive success in the field of sustainability was also demonstrated by its rankings in six other areas:

- **SDG 6:** Clean Water and Sanitation – 50th place
- **SDG 14:** Life Below Water – 55th place
- **SDG 1:** No Poverty – 57th place
- **SDG 2:** Zero Hunger – 73rd place
- **SDG 9:** Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure – 77th place
- **SDG 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production – 82nd place

This remarkable rise was attributed to the university's corporate strategies, effective data management processes and comprehensive SDG reports prepared in 2024. These reports directly contributed to this year's ranking by transparently presenting the university's activities towards sustainable development goals.

**Speaking at the UN SDSN Turkey Meeting, Rector Prof. Dr. İnci said: 'As universities, we must be leaders in sustainability.'**

Speaking at the UN SDSN (United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network) Türkiye 10th Anniversary Event and Members Meeting, said, 'As universities, we must be leaders in sustainability through joint efforts that benefit society, the environment and the economy, not just to look better in some indices.'

The UN SDSN (United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network) Turkey 10th Anniversary Event and Members Meeting was held on 27 December at Boğaziçi University's Demir Demirgil Hall. The meeting, attended by university rectors and representatives from NGOs and public institutions and organisations, evaluated the work carried out and the participants' suggestions within the scope of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were set in 2015 and are to be achieved by 2030.



**“Türkiye’S ROLE IS CRITICAL”**

Prof. Dr. Jeffrey D. Sachs, Global Chair of UN SDSN and Director of the Centre on Sustainable Development at Columbia University, who participated in the meeting online, emphasised Türkiye’s responsibility in the crises in Gaza and Ukraine in recent years, highlighting its important role in the political, climate and environmental crises in the region.



Left: Boğaziçi University Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute Campus

## GLOBAL SUCCESS FROM BOĞAZIÇI UNIVERSITY: RANKED AMONG THE TOP 100 IN THE INTERDISCIPLINARY SCIENCE RANKINGS!

### Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2026

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Boğaziçi University has achieved a significant rise in the 2026 Interdisciplinary Science Rankings (ISR) list, prepared in collaboration with the international higher education ranking organization Times Higher Education (THE) and Schmidt Science Fellows. Building on last year's success, the university secured the 81st position globally, confirming its scientific impact this year.

#### Momentum of the Rise: A Remarkable Leap Compared to Last Year

In the 2026 Interdisciplinary Science Rankings (ISR) published by London-based THE, Boğaziçi University (BU) made a significant leap compared to the previous year. Ranked 90th in the rankings first announced in 2025, Boğaziçi found itself in 81st place globally in the 2026 results, demonstrating its strengthened role on the global scientific stage. This unique ranking goes beyond traditional scientific evaluations. It employs a unique methodology that measures how much universities encourage and support interdisciplinary collaboration by focusing on problems requiring urgent solutions on a global scale.

#### The Two Key Drivers of Success: Financial Support and Scope Expansion

The Two Key Drivers of Success: Financial Support and Scope Expansion  
Two critical strategic elements underpin Boğaziçi's remarkable rise:

- **Strong Financial Infrastructure:** In the 2025 rankings, the university scored 77.3 points in the “Inputs” category, which measures funding allocated to interdisciplinary scientific research and industry funding, demonstrating a solid foundation in institutional stability and financial support.
- **Methodological Strategic Advantage:** The new scope includes not only projects that combine multiple scientific disciplines, but also research that combines scientific fields with non-STEM areas such as Social Sciences, Education, Psychology, Law, and Economics.

Boğaziçi University's already strong position in areas such as Education (151-175) and Social Sciences (251-300) has resulted in this methodological expansion providing the university with a strategic advantage.



## Boğaziçi Sports Fest in its 44th Year: A Corporate Sporting Tradition

Hosted by Boğaziçi University for the 44th time, Sports Fest has become one of the university's most important events and a long-standing tradition. First held in 1980 under the name 'Sports Festival' and continuing uninterrupted every year since then, the event is known as Türkiye's largest student-focused sports festival. Organised by the Boğaziçi University Sports Committee, Sports Fest has been successfully maintained for years thanks to both the university's institutional support and the voluntary contributions of students; over the past 44 years, it has become a tradition deeply ingrained in the university's culture.

Sports Fest is an organisation that has grown and developed since its inception. Each year, the number of participants and the variety of events increase; the festival incorporates more and more athletes and sports. Recent festivals have seen a large group of participants from 17 different Turkish universities and 16 foreign universities, creating an enthusiastic atmosphere with approximately 1,000 students.





[www.bogazici.edu.tr](http://www.bogazici.edu.tr)