

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



NUMBER OF
PUBLICATIONS & THESES

26



NUMBER OF
PROJECTS

9



NUMBER OF
EVENTS

48



NUMBER OF
COURSES OFFERED

16



NUMBER OF
COLLABORATIONS

10



NUMBER OF
AWARDS

2

SDG 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Targets and Indicators

16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all

16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime

16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms

16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance

16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements

16.a Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime



16.b Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

Courses, Theses, Publications

TEDU offers a variety of interdisciplinary courses addressing the themes of SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Courses

Sociology of Crime and Deviance course (SOC 324): It focuses on various forms of crime, including hate crimes, organized crime, cybercrime, crime against women and children, and crime against sexual minorities. The course also offers a repertoire of institutional and societal responses to criminal and non-criminal deviance. Providing knowledge on different forms of crime experienced at various levels and by different groups in society, such a course contributes to the understanding of different forms of violence and the development of specific societal, legal, and political measures to cope with violent actions.

Ethical Hacking and Countermeasures course (SENG 484): By introducing the principles of penetration testing and ethical hacking, this course provides knowledge and information on the ethics of hacking, digital exploits, and vulnerabilities, with a special focus on hacking network devices, new hacker tools and platforms, as well as commercial alternatives to open-source tools. The course provides an ethical framework that emphasizes ensuring public access to information, protecting fundamental freedoms, and developing effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels.

Social and Political Movements course (PSIR 377): Concerning the target of ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making at all levels, this course introduces the origins, dynamics, and consequences of social and political movements through the analysis of contemporary forms of social and political mobilization at the local, national, and global levels.

In addition to the courses given, academic publications of academic staff on sexual and gender-based violence in the context of forced migration, best practices model for teaching refugee adults and families, coping mechanisms concerning the adverse effects of stigma on women living with HIV, and critical digital literacy are also effective in disseminating SDG 16 targets.

The graduate-level theses focusing on exploring the xenophobic tendencies of humanitarian aid workers, immigration, and the securitization of migration by political institutions and actors provide academic insights and data that could be effectively used in policy formation.

Events-Activities

On the TEDU campus, numerous events and activities that promote justice, peace, and strong institutions have been held.

On November 28, 2024, TED University Gender Studies Center organized an event titled "Towards the 30th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Action Platform: Shedding Light on Violence Against Women - Causes, Results, Solutions" in collaboration with UN Women, SDG5 Network, and Ankara City Council Youth Assembly (See Image 1). In the first part of the panel, the causes and consequences of violence against women were discussed within the framework of the Beijing Declaration (Beijing +30). In the second part, students from various universities and departments participated in a group work session to develop solutions to violence against women, based on the 12 critical areas outlined in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.



Image 1. Towards the 30th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Action Platform:

Shedding Light on Violence Against Women - Causes, Results, Solutions

Evidence:

<https://www.tedu.edu.tr/gundemde-neler-var/pekin-deklarasyonu-ve-eylem-platformunun-30-yilina-dogru-kadina-yonelik-siddete>

Paths to Peace: The twenty-third seminar in the "Paths to Peace" series, organized by TED University's Department of Political Science and International Relations, was held under the central theme of "Peace and Youth." In an online meeting discussing student protests at universities in the United States, Nazeela Elmi, a former TEDU graduate and a Research Fellow, RWI Afghanistan Programme at Lund University, delivered a presentation titled "Student and University Protests in the US." The twenty-fourth seminar in the same series presented an address by Associate Professor Bezen Coşkun entitled "Who is responsible for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals?" (See Image 2 and 3)



Image: Paths to Peace Seminar by Nazeela Elmi

Source:

<https://psir.tedu.edu.tr/etkinlikler/barisa-giden-yollar-xxiii-baris-ve-genclik>



Image 3. Paths to Peace by Assoc. Prof. Bezen Coşkun

Source:

<https://psir.tedu.edu.tr/etkinlikler/barisa-giden-yollar-xxiv-surdurulebilir-kalkinma-hedeflerine-ulasmak-kimin-0>

TEDU Policy Platform Open Mic: One of the most important conditions for political participation in democratic societies is to create safe spaces for freedom of expression within the framework of respect and tolerance. Along these lines, the TEDU Policy Platform Open Mic event was organized to provide students with a platform where they can freely express their thoughts on campus (See Image 4).



Image 4. TEDU Policy Platform Open Mic



In societies where respect and tolerance are part of the political culture, voting is one of the most common practices of democratic participation. In this regard, the Policy Platform has organized a ballot box security event with a volunteer member of Oy ve Ötesi (Vote and Beyond) which is a CSO advocating the supervision of the election through civil society participation and citizens' direct involvement in the process (See Image 5).



Image 5. Ballot Box Security Seminar

The MUN conferences are one of the most effective tools for promoting and disseminating the values of the United Nations, which was established to maintain world peace and foster international economic, social, and cultural cooperation. In this context, TEDUMUN'24 was organized by the TEDU MUN community from January 20 to 23, 2024 (See Image 6). The conference took place over four days, with a total of 450 delegates and 150 Academy/Organization members in attendance. Over the course of four days, delegates discussed eight different topics in eight separate committees, following United Nations procedures, and produced eight separate solution papers. These solution papers were submitted to United Nations representatives.



Image 6. TEDUMUN'24

Evidence:

<https://society.tedu.edu.tr/gundemde-neler-var/tedumun-2024>

Collaboration, Projects, Awards

Projects

At TED University, in addition to the ongoing projects currently targeting promotion of just, peaceful and inclusive societies nine additional projects were launched in 2024. The projects are carried out in various academic disciplines, such as Sociology, Political Science, Educational Sciences, International Relations and Computer Engineering. These projects are funded by esteemed institutions such as the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK), the European Commission and EU programme for education, training, youth and sport. Innovative training for international software quality standards, digital feminist foreign policy school, cross border risk assessment for increased prevention and preparedness in Europe, joint postgraduate program development between the UK and Turkey are among the key topics of these projects.

Projects Presented at Service Learning Fest:

Under the TEDU 102 Service Learning course, students develop leadership and effective communication skills, and increase their awareness of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. As part of the course, students plan a group project, write a final project report, prepare a project poster, and present it at the "End of Semester Service Learning Fest" (See Image 7). Projects titled "Raising Awareness Volunteer Project", "Yoga with Dogs", "Understanding Peer Bullying", and "Be Aware of the



Disabled" were prepared and presented in accordance with SDG 16 targets.



Image 7. Service Learning Fest

Evidence:

<https://www.tedu.edu.tr/gundemde-neler-var/tedu102-topluma-hizmet-ederek-ogrenme>

Collaborations

Within the framework of SDG 16, TED University actively promotes inclusive governance, transparent partnerships, and participatory collaboration across sectors.

1. TEDU has signed cooperation protocols and agreements with institutions such as Amazon Web Services Inc., Quality Planet Education and Compliance Services Inc., the Measurement, Selection and Placement Center (ÖSYM), and Sibereum Information Security and Consulting Ltd. These partnerships reflect TED University's commitment to building resilient and accountable institutions through innovation, ethical standards, and digital transformation.
2. Moreover, by becoming the 40th Erasmus Student Network (ESN) section in Türkiye, following participation in the Maltepe Section Presidents' Meeting (SPM) and the National Assemblies in Samsun and Erciyes (See Image 8). TED University strengthens its contribution to intercultural dialogue, democratic participation, and youth engagement—all key components of SDG 16's vision for peaceful and inclusive societies.



Image 8: 40th Erasmus Student Network (ESN)

Evidence: <https://ipo.tedu.edu.tr/en/whats-happening-tedu/tedu-becomes-official-esn-section>

3. IstasyonTEDU Center for Social Innovation: In the field of "Social Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship," various activities have been carried out at TED University since 2016 by the university's Social Innovation Center, **IstasyonTEDU**. All faculties of the university contribute academically to this field. The IstasyonTEDU activity report is attached as evidence. IstasyonTEDU is a multifunctional co-production space that brings together socially oriented actors working to strengthen the social innovation and social entrepreneurship ecosystem (See Image 9)



IstasyonTEDU - TED University Center for Social Innovation
July - September 2024

Image 9. Istasyon TEDU

The role and tasks carried by IstasyonTEDU is the following that it;



- Produces and shares knowledge in the fields of social innovation and social entrepreneurship.
- Designs training programs for different ecosystem actors, provides consultancy support, and contributes to capacity-building activities.
- Provides support tailored to the specific needs of social enterprises, such as access to funding sources, network integration, business development, and space utilization.
- Contributes to events that enhance the visibility of social enterprises and carries out awareness-raising activities on social entrepreneurship.
- Acts as a facilitator of interaction and collaboration between TED University and actors in the fields of social entrepreneurship and social innovation.

Click [here](#) for the activities conducted in 2024.

TED University ensures meaningful participation of local stakeholders in university decision-making processes through its İstasyonTEDU Center for Social Innovation. Established in 2016, İstasyonTEDÜ functions as a multi-purpose co-production and collaboration platform that brings together local residents, public institutions, civil society organizations, and private sector representatives (See Image 10). The center facilitates dialogue, joint projects, and partnerships between the university and community actors, ensuring that local stakeholders have an active and structured mechanism to contribute to the university's social innovation agenda and decision-making processes.

Source:
<https://www.istasyon.tedu.edu.tr/en/i-%C5%9Fbirliklerimiz>

PROGRAM AND PROJECT PARTNERS



Image 10. Partners of TEDU-Istasyon TEDU

Campus

University Governance Measures

Participatory Governance: TED University ensures participatory governance through the inclusion of elected representatives from students, academic, and administrative staff in its highest decision-making bodies, working groups, boards, and committees. Internal stakeholders also take part in the University Board and the Senate as members or invited participants. This structure guarantees the participation of diverse stakeholders and supports democratic decision-making processes.



Evidence for academic boards:
<https://www.tedu.edu.tr/en/academic-boards>

Evidence for commissions:
<https://www.tedu.edu.tr/komisyonlar>

Student Coordination Office: Furthermore, TED University places great importance not only on the academic development of its students but also on their social, cultural, and personal growth. In this regard, the Student Coordination Office provides an environment that helps students to know themselves better, become socially responsible individuals, and develop essential life skills. This office works to provide support in addressing the students' needs and expectations through systematically regularly communicating with the university's governing bodies. Solutions are developed in collaboration with academic and administrative units, thereby strengthening students' indirect participation in decision-making processes and ensuring that their voices are effectively represented within the university administration.

Evidence: <https://ds.tedu.edu.tr/en/about-us>

Students' Union: TEDU also recognizes an independent Students' Union, which represents students' rights, organizes social, cultural, and academic activities, and provides feedback to the administration on university policies. In addition, collaborative initiatives with student communities are supported, ensuring their active participation in institutional processes.

Student Clubs and Societies: TEDU supports its student clubs and societies through the Social-Cultural Affairs Unit, which operates under the Student Affairs Coordination Office. This unit coordinates the activities of student communities, contributing significantly to campus life. While we do not have an independent students' union, our Social-Cultural Affairs Unit provides governance and social support to meet the needs of student organizations.

Evidence: <https://society.tedu.edu.tr/>

Annual Reports: In line with the principles of transparency and accountability, TED University publishes its annual activity reports on its official website for public access. Annual quality evaluation reports are prepared and presented through an authorized commission.

Evidence: <https://www.tedu.edu.tr/en/tedu-quality-assurance-system>

Transparency And Accountability: In line with TED University's core values of transparency and accountability, the university incorporates its principles and commitments regarding organized crime, corruption, and bribery into several key policy documents. For example:

1. **Procurement Regulation for Foundation Higher Education Institutions:** Prepared in accordance with the relevant legislation, this regulation defines the procedures and principles to be applied in tenders related to the procurement and sale of goods and services, construction works, acquisition and sale of real estate, leasing, renting out, exchange, establishment of limited real rights, and the procurement of goods/services within the framework of funds provided by public institutions and international organizations for research and development projects.
2. **Budget Directive:** This directive establishes the principles, procedures, and processes related to TED University's budget preparation, implementation, and financial performance activities.
3. **TEDU Code of Ethics:** This document outlines the behavioral standards expected from all members of TED University and sets forth the principles for preventing and identifying violations in this context.

