

BUANEWS

Balkan Universities Association E-Bulletin

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Balkan Universities Association

THE ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY BETWEEN THE LEADERS IN RESEARCH IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki is ranked first among all Greek Universities for the impact of its members' research work in Computer Science in the world ranking announced by the academic online platform Guide2Research on August 25, 2020.

In the world ranking, Aristotle University is ranked 189 on the list of the best Universities in the world. This ranking is based on objective and measurable quality criteria for the impact of research publications (h-index) in the field of Computer Science and Electronics, after examining the profile of more than 6,000 researchers, registered in Google Scholar and DBLP database.

"Our University achieves important distinctions, which highlight worldwide the excellent work done by its high-level scientific staff and its valuable contribution to the

research and promotion of science. We are very proud, as this distinction reflects the high level of studies provided by AUTH. The field of Informatics is one of the pillars of our University and offers a wide field of research and continuous development", said the Rector of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Professor Nikolaos G. Papaioannou.

It is worth noting that in an earlier publication of Guide2Research about the 37 leading scientists of Computer Science of Greek Universities and Research Institutes (<https://www.auth.gr/news/press/27961>), 6 Professors of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki were included in the list.

More information on this ranking from academic and research institutions of the country can be found at the link: <http://guide2research.com/ranking/GR>

**AUTH STUDENT AWARD: 2ND PLACE IN THE COMPETITION ENTITLED "THE 3RD SILK ROAD & YOUNG DREAMS - HEALTH: YOUTH DREAM, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY"**

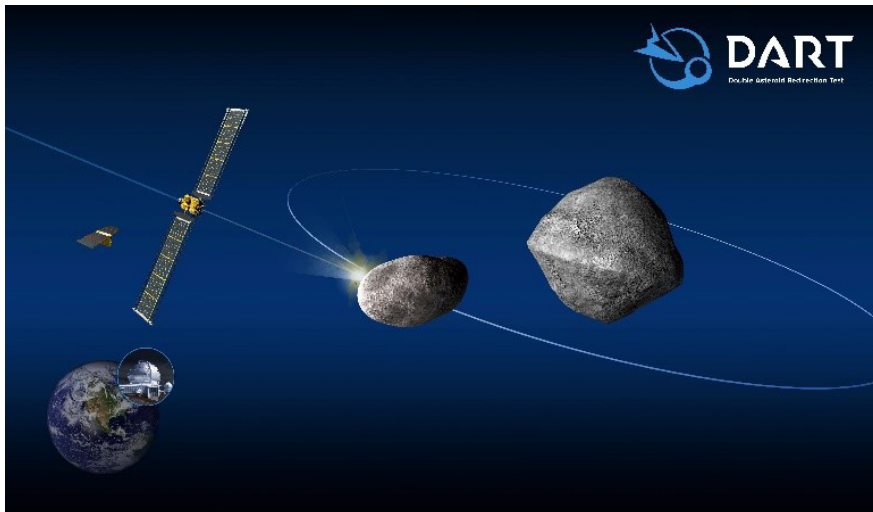
As part of the actions for the Silk Road, in which AUTH participates, Mr. Chatzoglou Panagiotis, a student at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, received the second prize in the free online competition of Speech, Music, Photography, Painting in sand and Sculpture, entitled "The 3rd Silk Road & Young Dreams - Health: Youth Dream, Social Responsibility", participating in the music competition with Cretan lyre. The competition is co-organized by the Silk Road Cities Alliance, the China Friendship Foundation for Peace

and Development, the Beijing Belt and Road Cooperative Community, the Renmin Chongyang University Institute of Economic Studies of China and the Chinese Urban Sculpture Artists Association (CUSAA).

There is a link to the music piece with Cretan lyre, with which he received the second prize

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1aU2ZFtUvkc>



AND ITS NAME SHALL BE CALLED "DIMORFOS"! THE ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI (AUTH) PUT ITS STAMP IN THE NAMING OF AN ASTEROID

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki officially became a "godfather" a few days ago, as the name chosen to be given to the asteroid-target of the first planetary defense mission was proposed by the Associate Professor of the School of Physics of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Kleomenis Tsiganis. And his name shall be called ... "Dimorphos".

The official name of the satellite of the asteroid "Didymos" was approved by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the announcement of the name was made on June 23, 2020, with simultaneous press releases from the IAU, NASA and ESA.

The satellite of the original asteroid "Didymos" is the target of the first historically space mission of planetary defense, in which AUTH also participates. In July 2021, the US space agency (NASA) will launch the 600 kg DART (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) spacecraft to the Didymos-Dimorphos pair, in order to collide with Dimorphos a year later, in 2022, at a speed of about 25,000 km / hour. Thus, this experiment will test for the first time in practice the deflection of an asteroid potentially dangerous to Earth.

The DART mission to Dimorphos will be followed in 2024 by the European Space Agency (ESA) Hera mission, which will study in detail the effects of the collision, both morphologically and kinetically. This collaborative mission by NASA and ESA is also known as "AIDA" (Asteroid Impact and Deflection Assessment).

Didymos was discovered in 1996, but its satellite - which until then had no official name - was discovered in 2003. After the approval of the DART (2016) and Hera (2019) missions, it was decided that the first historical target of a planetary defense mission is entitled to have its own name.

The Associate Professor of the School of Physics of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Kleomenis Tsiganis, who proposed the name of the asteroid, is a member of the

Research Team of the two missions (DART and Hera) and Chairman of the Joint AIDA Working Group on the dynamic behavior of Didymos.

"The name Dimorphos testifies to the morphological changes that our target will undergo with the impact of DART. Dimorphos will be the first celestial body in history to be known to man in two different forms: the one that the DART mission will face before it hits it, and the later one, which will be "seen" by Hera, a few years later", Mr. Tsiganis explained about the choice of the name.

From the Aristotle University in the Research Team of the two missions also participate the Professor of the School of Physics of AUTH, Georgios Vougiatzis, and the Postdoctoral Researcher of the School of Physics of AUTH, Ioannis Golias. The team is also supported by younger researchers, who are actively involved through a similar EU-funded research project (Horizon 2020).

The press releases published for the announcement of the name:

IAU: <https://www.iau.org/news/pressreleases/detail/iau2007/>

ESA: [http://www.esa.int/Safety_Security/Hera/Name given to asteroid target of ESA s planetary defence mission](http://www.esa.int/Safety_Security/Hera/Name_given_to_asteroid_target_of_ESA_s_planetary_defence_mission)

NASA: <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/nasas-first-planetary-defense-mission-target-gets-a-new-name>





"Fan S. Noli" University (UNIKO) is an institution of higher education, located in the center of southeastern Albania, in the city of Korça. Its mission is to create, convey, and develop

knowledge through teaching, research and different services.

Its vision is based on the development of human capacities for academic teaching and scientific research; on the improvement of infrastructure, internationalization/regionalization, and promotion of quality in both; as well as on the cooperation with the public and private sector in the

creation of research projects, which supply the economic and social development.

From 2018, UNIKO is, by all rights, a member of The Balkan Universities Association (BUA) and The University Association of Francophony (UAF).

"Fan S. Noli" University is an accredited institution, after receiving an excellent evaluation from the British Agency of Quality Assurance and the Quality Assurance of Higher Education Agency.

Link: www.unkorce.edu.al



"FAN S. NOLI" UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

UNIKO regards students as its key to success; therefore, it tries to provide the best opportunities for students as future social added values. To achieve this goal, students are engaged in curricular, extra-curricular and research activities. In addition to academic training UNIKO students have the opportunity to engage in volunteer activities, internships, projects, and national and regional exchange programs.

- During the last two years, UNIKO focused in opening new study programs, in order to guide students towards a more qualitative entrance into the job market.

- The quality of the provision of the academic services has been improved by the Innovation Center which was

established in order to support the start-up ideas of students of the University.

- A number of regional agreements have been initiated in order to involve students in institutional fieldwork periods, in exchange European Union programs.

- Special attention is given to the involvement of ALUMNI.

Unfolding the potential of our students, knowledge, willingness and the desire to improve ourselves and the society we live in, are the main objectives to which UNIKO is increasingly committing itself.



"FAN S. NOLI" UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, PART OF ERASMUS PROGRAM EXCHANGES

University "Fan S. Noli" is part of a series of agreements for national and international institutional cooperation as well as agreements within European Union programs such as the Erasmus + program. The Erasmus + program has provided the students of UNIKO with excellent opportunities to get to know other cultures, to share positive experiences as well as to exchange ideas and experiences from their student life.



STUDENT EXCHANGE WITH UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS - VARNA, BULGARIA



As part of the student exchange, Vasil Ciko, a student from the Finance-Accounting program at the Faculty of Economics, conducted a six-month exchange at the University of Economics - Varna in Bulgaria, during the period January - June 2020.

During the exchange period he acquired some necessary professional knowledge, collaborated with foreign students, strengthened English language skills and he has also visited various cultural places and attended practical learning classes with experts in curricula at the University of Economics - Varna. To him, Erasmus + is not only a good opportunity in professional terms, but also an opportunity to collaborate and get acquainted with different cultures and nationalities, by further expanding the individual horizon.

Link: <http://172.16.0.2/qka-historisukseksi>



FIRST SUMMIT, THE "ALUMNI DAY" AT UNIVERSITY "FAN S. NOLI"

On February 7, 2020, "ALUMNI DAY" was held for the first time in "Teodor Laço" hall, within the premises of the Faculty of Education and Philology. The focus of the first meeting were the students, who have finished their studies in the last three years at University "Fan S. Noli", Korçë. This day aims to bring back students, who have completed their studies at the University "Fan S. Noli", as well as to create bridges of communication or strong relations between the University, students and "Alumni" in order to promote the spirit of cooperation and development of UNIKO as a Higher Education Institution. The meeting was organized by the Career and Alumni Center, where the specialist of this center, Mr. Romeo Terolli, on the occasion of "Alumni" day, presented to the



audience the opportunity to attend second master studies or internships for "Alumni" in the United States of America. This is an opportunity, which is offered in Albania, as a result of the support of the Albanian-American Development Fund.

In his speech, Mr. Romeo Terolli said that "Alumni Day" at the University "Fan S. Noli" should be now part of the university program. At the end of the meeting, the alumni discussed the opportunities presented by the University, and expressed their willingness to show their presence in other meetings in the future.

Link: http://172.16.0.2/en/node/2125#slide-5-field_imagegallery-2125

**FAN S. NOLI UNIVERSITY IMPLEMENTED THE INNOVATION ECO-SYSTEM IN THE CBC AREA PROJECT WITH ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI FROM UNIVERSITY OF NORTH MACEDONIA**

This project consists in the establishment of innovation support infrastructureS for transfer of know-how technologies among Start-Ups and SMEs in the CBC areas between Republic of North Macedonia and Republic of Albania. The main purpose of the proposed action is to help establish, within the existing educational and businesses context, a CBC innovation eco-system for SMEs and Start-Ups by:

- Strengthening capacities of key stakeholders in advancing competitiveness and know in the CBC areas.
- Enhancing cross-sector cooperation between SMEs and Start-Ups by focusing on complementarity and utilizing the present and future business opportunities for joint ventures and offering perennial service.
- Mainstreaming the established innovation eco-system from national to CBC areas.

Target groups of the project include: universities, research centers, educational institutions as first level; Start-Ups in CBC areas as second level of target groups; and regional authorities, municipalities of the area where this project shall be implemented, chambers of commerce and local business representatives. The last group is considered as the third level of target groups. Final beneficiaries are: local residents in the target area of Ohrid, Macedonia and Korçë, Albania. Another wider

group of final beneficiaries include all populations in both countries due to economic impact from the more competitive Start-Ups and SMEs.

This project is funded by the European Commission represented by the Delegation of the European Union in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Link: www.innov8cbc.com



UNIKO HOLDS THE STUDENT CONFERENCE ON "INVOLVEMENT IN ACTION"

On July 19, 2019, the student conference "Inclusion in Action", was held in the premises of the Scientific Library of UNIKO. It was organized by the Department of Education in cooperation with the Department of Foreign Languages, Department of Language and Literature, Department of History-Geography, Department of Mathematics and Physics and the Department of Pedagogy of the State University of Tetovo. Rector of UNIKO, prof. dr. Ali Jashari, congratulated the organizers and students participating in this conference, which along with other activities, organized at UNIKO, will affect the achievement of a standard to the accreditation of study programs. He claimed that inclusion, which is the main topic of this conference, is an issue of special importance not only in Albania, but worldwide and the work of students on this issue has multiple values.

He expressed to the students and teachers present in the conference: *"To you, who are speaking today at this conference, in addition to being distinguished for your knowledge, you have also realized that being an educator of children, may not be enough to just master your knowledge, but it is your kind soul and your love for children, that make the difference"*. The Head of the Department of Foreign Languages, Dr. Benita Stavre, the lecturer of the Department of Pedagogy of the State University of Tetovo, doc. Dr. Lulzim Mehmedi, students and other invited guests were also part of this conference. It continued with some parallel sessions and the participants received the certifications at the end of the conference.

Link: <http://172.16.0.2/en/node/1902>



KORÇA DIGITAL WEEKEND

The Municipality of Korça, in cooperation with the University "Fan S. Noli" and a number of other partners organized a two-day event aiming to build a favorable "ecosystem" to promote innovation and creativity in young people. The beneficiaries of this project were students of the University "Fan S. Noli", ambitious entrepreneurs, professionals, organizations, start-up projects, or start-up ideas. By being part of this project, every student or young person can work from home, as a freelancer, for the international market.

The Global Digital City platform aimed to inform about the opportunities that the digital era is offering worldwide. Korça Digital Weekend was an initiative to promote the values and opportunities that the global market offers today.

The platform embraces innovative ideas and aims to create

informative and awareness-raising events that aim to provide an opportunity for young entrepreneurs to learn and improve their digital skills.

This conference was attended by over 200 guests, 30 speakers and at the same time two parallel activities were organized aiming to reveal the vision for the transformation of Korça into a center of technology, innovation and entrepreneurship.

During the presentation, 19 job vacancies were announced and offered by several companies such as, Baboon, Smartwork and duapune, as well as training and support for innovative enterprises.

Link: <https://www.globaldigitalcity.com/>



THE FIRST LECTURE OF TNKU FACULTY OF LAW WAS GIVEN BY THE SPEAKER OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND TEKİRDAĞ DEPUTY PROF. DR. MUSTAFA ŞENTOP

The first lessons of The Law Faculties of Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University and North Macedonia International Balkan University were given online in the 2020-2021 Academic Year Opening Ceremony with the participation of The Speaker of Turkish Grand National Assembly Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop. The first lecture of the two Faculties of Law was given by Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop who is The Speaker of Turkish Grand National Assembly and Tekirdağ Deputy as well.

The ceremony started with a moment of silence and the Turkish National Anthem. Tekirdağ Deputy Mustafa YEL, Rector of Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University, Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN, Rector of North Macedonia International Balkan University, Prof. Dr. Mehmet Dursun ERDEM, Vice Rectors of TNKU Prof. Dr. Bülent EKER and Prof. Dr. Yılmaz ÇAKICI, Secretary General Murat Kamil TIRPANCI, academicians, first grade students of Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University and International Balkan University Faculties of Law have participated in the program.

Reminding that some restrictions have been imposed in the field of education as well as all areas in life due to the Covid-19 pandemic worldwide, the Speaker of the Turkish National Assembly Prof. Dr. Mustafa ŞENTOP wished that the pandemic would end as soon as possible.

Moreover, the Speaker of the Assembly noted that he was graduated from the Faculty of Law in Istanbul University and then started his academic life. He explained that "Unlike other professions and fields, law is actually the invisible side of our lives. If we think of it as a coin, the heads side is the life we live in, and the tails side is the law. We are not often aware of this and don't have any idea about it. "We see it when the medallion is turned upside down."

The Speaker of The Assembly emphasized that having a perspective on life as a lawyer is significant for being aware of this relationship and also stated that "Lawyers are aware of the legal positions behind the events they encounter in life. I can't say this gives much pleasure all the time in contrast, it may cause disturbance as well. It may be more enjoyable and pleasing to continue one's daily life by ignoring all these however, if you are a good lawyer you cannot do this. We need to establish the relationship between law and our lives in the right way. Only if we have this understanding we can start to get ahead in being a good lawyer.

Stating that he believes TNKU Faculty of Law will become "a very glorious faculty" in the future, The Speaker of the Assembly Prof. Dr. Mustafa Şentop expressed that "We have got qualified academicians and our academic staff will be stronger hopefully. I believe that the faculty will become one of the most prominent faculties of law in Turkey".



RECORD INCREASE IN THE APPLICATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO TEKİRDAĞ NAMIK KEMAL UNIVERSITY

There have been a record increase in international students applications to our university. 30,810 international students have applied to Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University to enroll in the university.

30,810 students from 33 different countries applied to Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University which pays attention to the promotion of the university at home and abroad, especially in the Balkans.

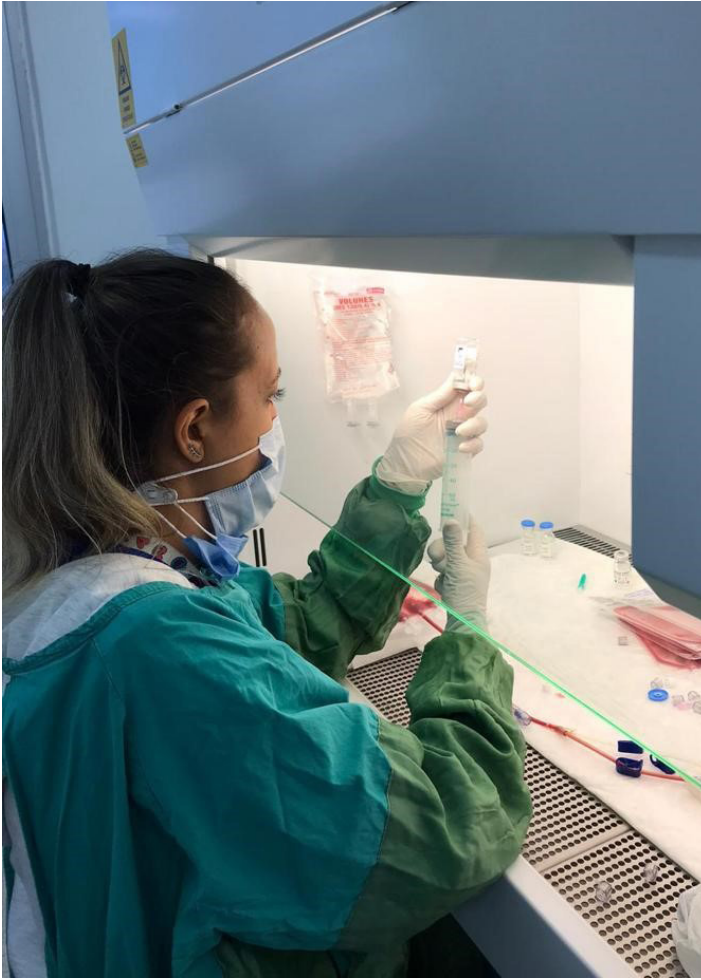
For the 2020-2021 Academic Year, a total of 2,257 international students quota, including 1,316 for undergraduate programs and 941 for associate degree programs were opened, while candidates mostly preferred the departments of Çorlu Engineering Faculty, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Agriculture and School of Health.

Most of the applications were from Azerbaijani students. Besides, International students from 33 countries such as Bulgaria, Greece, Turkmenistan, Somalia, Uzbekistan,

Albania, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Afghanistan, Germany, Kosovo, Bosnia Herzegovina, Jordan, Iran, Romania, Morocco, Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, Yemen, USA, Algeria, Morocco, Guinea Bissau, North Macedonia, Russia, the Republic of Mali, the Republic of Montenegro, Ukraine, Tajikistan, England and Saudi Arabia have enrolled in various departments.

Our Rector Prof. Dr Mümin ŞAHİN stated that "We do our best in order to help our international students studying in Tekirdağ adapt to both our university and our city. Thanks to the various protocols signed with universities in different countries, especially with the ones in Balkan countries, the number of foreign students is increasing every year. This record application made during the pandemic process is a positive and important indicator of our university's effort for internationalization". The rector also noted that "As Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University, we are rapidly progressing towards the goal of becoming 'A World-Renowned University' in education and science".



TEKİRDAĞ NAMIK KEMAL UNIVERSITY STEM CELL TRANSPLANT CENTER LEADING IN THE REGION

Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University Hospital Stem Cell Transplantation Center continues to lead in the region with successful stem cell transplants and meeting the needs of the region.

Although our University Hospital Stem Cell Transplantation Center is a fresh unit that started serving at the beginning of 2020, it has restored 10 people to their health with the stem cell transplantation.

Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University Hospital Stem Cell Transplant Center Responsible Faculty Member Assist. Prof. Dr Seval Akpınar said that since there is no transplant center, nearly 100 patients from Thrace Region go to Istanbul for stem cell transplantation annually.

Assist. Prof. Dr Seval Akpınar, expressed that the patients in the Thrace region started to heal after the transplant center entered into service and added that “We have been serving here as a hematology clinic for a long time. We did not have a transplant unit before and when there was a need, we had to

send our patients to Istanbul. This transport process is short however, patients had to go to the transplant center for 2 days or more especially after being discharged. Up to now, this health service was not possible in the Thrace Region, but now we will help our patients by giving this service at Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University Hospital”.

Moreover, Seval Akpınar emphasized that they continue stem cell transplantation during the pandemic period as well and said “We made our first transplant here as autologous stem cell from the patient himself. Ten people have received stem cell transplantation so far. We discharged our patients. As a polyclinic stem cell transplant unit Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University Hospital Stem Cell Transplantation Center is the only one in the region. Patients in Thrace don't have to go to Istanbul anymore”.

Our Rector Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN congratulated those who contributed to the activation of stem cell transplantation.



**IN THE 100TH YEAR OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
THE SYMPOSIUM OF SOVEREIGNTY AND DEMOCRACY**

In the 100th Year of The Grand National Assembly The Symposium of Sovereignty and Democracy with an Opening Ceremony. Tekirdağ Governor Aziz YILDIRIM, Chief Public Prosecutor Soner GÜL, University Rector Prof. Dr. Mümin ŞAHİN, Deputy Governor Murat EREN, Süleymanpaşa District Governor Harun KAYA, Provincial Gendarmerie Commander J.Alb. Osman KILIÇ, Deputy Provincial Police Director Fatih BOZBOYACI, Süleymanpaşa Mayor Cüneyt YÜKSEL, AK Party Provincial Chairman Mestan ÖZCAN, MHP Provincial Chairman İlker YÜCEL, Thrace Development Agency General Secretary Mahmut ŞAHİN, representatives of public institutions and organizations, academicians attended to the ceremony which was organized in accordance with the pandemic rules.

After the opening speech, the congratulatory address of The Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, Prof. Dr Mustafa ŞENTOP was shared with attendants. Prof Dr. Şentop stated that "I would like to emphasize once again thanks to

this organization that the source of sovereignty is the national will. The national will represents the nation itself". He also expressed that "The coup attempts of 27 May, 12 March, 12 September, 28 February and 15 July are experiences that are hard to take which the mentality that does not want to accept the will of the nation has caused our country and our nation to go through. However, our nation has gained great self-confidence with the courage it showed on July 15, and it has shown that no idea that does not rely on the nation and its will has any possibility to turn into a political formation or organization at all".

The Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Prof. Dr. Mustafa ŞENTOP ended his words by stating "I believe that the speeches and evaluations that will continue today will open new horizons and play a significant role in the consolidation of democracy and national sovereignty. With these feelings and thoughts, I wish this symposium under the heading of "In the 100th Year of Grand National Assembly of Turkey the Symposium of National Sovereignty and Democracy" will contribute to positive developments for our country and nation in the future".

Following the opening speeches, the President of the Turkish Historical Society Prof. Dr. Birol Cetin, being the keynote speaker of the symposium, congratulated those who contributed in the organization of this symposium and wished that the symposium "In the 100th Year of Grand National Assembly of Turkey the Symposium of National Sovereignty and Democracy" would succeed its goal.



DISINFECTANT PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF TRAKYA UNIVERSITY INCREASED TO 8 TONS PER DAY



Trakya University continues its efforts to fight with the Covid19 outbreak. Trakya University, which has acted rapidly to meet the needs of its region and initiated a production mobilization in line with the decisions and measures taken by the Presidency, The Ministry of Health, related Ministries and the Science Board since the first day, has achieved a significant increase in disinfectant production. Accordingly, the production capacity of the disinfectant produced by the Faculty Members of the Department of Chemistry, which works day and night in laboratories belonging to Trakya University, was increased to 8 tons per day with the support of Edirne Governor Ekrem Canalp and Edirne Provincial Health Director Dr. Ali Cengiz Kalkan and his team.

Recently, the faculty members of Trakya University Faculty of Science, Department of Chemistry, who acted with the understanding of "health first" and voluntarily met to fulfill an important responsibility, continue to contribute to the measures taken against Covid19 with the disinfectant they produced. Academicians of the Department of Chemistry, which produces to meet the disinfectant needs of the city and the region, especially in Edirne and its districts, have increased its production capacity to 8 tons per day to meet the growing need for disinfectant with the continuation of the outbreak.

Prof. Dr. Şebnem Selen İşbilir, Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Batıgöç, Prof. Dr. Dilek Bakırcıoğlu, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Murat Türkyılmaz,

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Hakkı Özcan, Assist.Prof. Dr. Kenan Sezer and Res. Assist. Dr. Ali Osman Karatavuk Gör. Dr. Ali Osman Karatavuk started a production campaign with domestic and national facilities and managed to increase the production of disinfectant to 8 tons in 3 weeks with the support of other faculty members in the chemistry department under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Ömer Zaim, Head of Chemistry department of Trakya University Faculty of Science.

After the outbreak of coronavirus emerging in China and spread around the world was seen in Turkey, disinfectant produced by Trakya University's expert chemists with the support of the Governorship of Edirne and the Provincial Health Directorate is safely used at all points needed within the scope of coronavirus measures. 8 tons of daily disinfectants produced by the voluntary efforts of Trakya University academicians are distributed to all public institutions and institutions such as hospitals, businesses, quarantined regions, municipalities, customs gates, dormitories, military barracks, health centers, prisons, especially in Edirne and its districts.

Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu, Rector of Trakya University, said "the university meets the disinfectant needs of Edirne by working like a factory", and added, "Many faculties of the university mobilized when we thought about what we can do about the Covid19 outbreak as a university. As a result of the research of our Esteemed Academic Staff, a molecule that is 80 times more active than the bleach used in cleaning,



safe, cheap for human beings was detected and studies has been started quickly. The production, which started with 100, 200 and then 500 liters, has reached 8 tons today. This disinfectant substance is sent to the whole province, border crossings, prisons, military, schools, municipalities, hospitals and is used safely. This is how measures are provided to reduce what we call viral load. We are proud to do such a useful job in terms of human health. The importance of science also emerges once again in such situations. Our university was an

educational institution, and it suddenly turned into a factory. I hope our country will come out of this crisis with such good examples. I would like to sincerely thank all my friends who contributed during the production phase, the Governorship of Edirne and the Provincial Health Directorate who did not spare their support in this process."

At Trakya University's Environmental and Instrumental Laboratory, disinfectant production has been continuing since March, when the Covid19 outbreak was first seen.



TRAKYA TECHNOPARK PRODUCED TURKEY'S FIRST MOBILE ISOLATION UNIT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19



Trakya University, which has achieved important works in the scope of the fight against Covid-19, continues its work without slowing down. The "Mobile Isolation Unit" designed and produced by Trakya Technopark within Trakya University to ensure environmental safety in cases where highly dangerous infection can be transmitted or in cases where microbiological factors can be transmitted was delivered to Trakya University Hospital. Trakya University Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu, Vice Rector Prof. Ahmet Hamdi Zafer, Hospital Chief Physician Prof. Dr. Abdullah Taş, Intensive Care Clinic Supervisor Prof. Dr. Volkan Inal, Faculty Member of Keşan Yusuf Çapraz Applied Sciences School Member and Technopark Manager Assist. Prof. Ozgur Özdemir, Faculty at Economics and Administrative Sciences and Project Manager Assist. Prof. Dr. Elvin Dinler, Project and Business Development Specialist Mehmet Onur Ustaoglu and academicians and health care workers attended.

Technopark Manager Assist. Prof. Ozgur Özdemir made statements on the related topic and emphasized that the "Mobile Isolation Unit" is a very high rate of domestic production, "Like many units of our university, we thought about how we can contribute to the process of fighting against Covid-19 and we contacted our Medical Faculty on this issue and Prof. Dr. Volkan Inal said that they need isolation stretcher. Because at the time, the supply chain was broken and even if you had money, products could not be supplied from abroad. So we started to work on this, and our Project Manager Assist. Prof. Dr. Elvin Dinler and Project and

Business Development Specialist Mehmet Onur Ustaoglu were able to produce an isolation stretcher after about 300 hours of R&D work. This stretcher is particularly important for the transfer of patients to different health care facilities and in the transports between the floors within the hospital. The patient needs to go to tomography, X-rays, blood tests and many other places in the hospital during the treatment process. Thanks to this stretcher, patients with Covid-19 have a reduced risk of infecting other patients. The production of this product is carried out only in Australia and China around the world. It is not produced in Turkey and is imported. We were able to produce this product, which has a price of 1,800 dollars, safely, to a reasonable figure of 2,500 TL, including everything, including its engine."

Assist. Prof. Ozgur Özdemir gave information about the working principle of mobile isolation unit by saying "Using the negative pressure inside, the air that the patient breathes and gives is given out as fresh air with the help of filters, and the bad air outside is allowed in as fresh air. It has the ability to work 24/7 and mobile for 3 hours. It was also ergonomically designed to be compatible with ambulances, military vehicles, helicopters and aircraft. The most important feature of the unit is the quiet operation of its engine. While the patient is stressed in the isolated environment in the stretcher, the engine sound increases the patient's stress more. We have also kept patients away from this stress by making the engine quiet". Assist. Prof. Ozgur Özdemir also added that they are the first known manufacturer of 85% of domestic production



mobile isolation unit in Turkey, and applied for the patent of the product. He thanked to the university management who did not spare their support and everyone who contributed to the study.

Rector Prof. Dr. Erhan Tabakoğlu said in a statement, "The process of fighting Covid-19 continues all over the world in the event of a mobilization. Our universities also offer very valuable contributions to this process, which our Ministry of Health is very well managed from the first day. As Trakya University, we have also achieved very important studies in this process. Today we are proud to have completed a new study. This product, developed by our technopark, is very important both in terms of isolation of Covid-19 patients and the protection of healthy individuals while providing patient transfer. We thought about whether an R&D study could be done and production could be done on the problem of

supplying this product. With the directives of our Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Osman Nuri Hatipoğlu, our Technopark Director Assist. Prof. Ozgur Özdemir and his valuable team started a study. In a very short time, the production of an isolated unit that prevents any virus from coming out and in was carried out by the guidance of our esteemed Chief Physician Prof. Dr. Abdullah Taş and Our Intensive Care Clinical Officer Prof. Dr. Volkan Inal. In this regard, we will contact the Ministry of Health and ask for support for the mass production of this product, which has increased its importance one fold more during those days. It's not just about coronavirus, it's a unit that can be used for all infectious diseases. That's why I think it's a product that needs to be in every hospital. I would like to thank to all our Academic Staff who have achieved this important success and the esteemed staff of Trakya University for their contribution to both our hospital and our country."



UBT HAS BROUGHT FORTH BREAKTHROUGH IN VIRTUAL EDUCATION DURING PANDEMIC

Trakya University, which has achieved important works in the scope of the fight against Covid-19, continues its work without slowing down. The "Mobile Isolation Unit" design UBT has been strongly committed to provide support to existing capacities, and in the meantime directly contributing to the prevention of the global pandemic caused by Coronavirus (COVID19). As a result, to serve this purpose UBT has engaged the entire capacities of human resources as well as technological infrastructure.

Since the decision of the Government of Kosovo to terminate the educational process in public and private educational

institutions, as a preventive measure for protection against coronavirus, UBT has succeeded to engage the vast majority of staff owing to the state-of-the-art technology. Consequently, the whole teaching process was successfully carried out through online platforms. Within the framework of preventive measures which aimed to prevent the spread of the virus in our country, we were obliged to remain out of amphitheatres, laboratories, clinics, studios and reduce the presence in our offices. However, evaluating that education never stops even during the most difficult times, UBT always remained active thus following the motto "universities never sleep".



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Despite the initiatives to shift to online learning to education, UBT also took another important step by installing the Virtual Reality system in education. Throughout the pandemic, UBT succeeded to change traditional educational standards by installing the learning process in CLASSROOM 3.0 as a form of future in education. Meanwhile, this innovative way of teaching was of significant importance. Therefore, it is worth noting that ten thousand students participated in the online teaching platforms. In this regard, there were created 54

thousand lessons, in 141 university courses which included more than 20 different programs.

Moreover, these platforms were highly evaluated by the world's largest company for virtual technology, "EON Reality". Consequently, they emphasized the importance of how an institution from Kosovo during the pandemic has revolutionized the education system through Virtual Reality platforms.



OVER 15 THOUSAND PARTICIPANTS AND 500 LECTURERS JOINED THE ACTIVITIES WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE FESTIVAL "UBT GLOBAL FEST 2020"

Apart from the difficulties experienced as a result of pandemic times, UBT has succeeded to follow the tradition by organizing Summer Schools. In this case it has a different format and was carried out through online platforms. In this perspective, the festival "Global UBT Fest 2020", held in Kosovo, drew the attention of about 15 thousand participants all over the country, region and Europe. During one month they availed from opportunity to attend numerous online academies, forums, cultural and artistic activities etc.

The festival started on July 6, until August 6, 2020, on UBT Virtual Platforms. The Global Academic Festival was in itself an occasion which brought together prominent speakers,

academics, researchers, students, practitioners, policymakers and NGO representatives from all over the world. The underlying aim of this activity was to create opportunities for Exchange of scientific information, mutual support, education, meeting and inspiration. In the meantime, it was carried out based on the principles of sharing knowledge and cross-border learning. Besides this, the academic festival also aimed to provide networking inspiration through 30 International Summer Academies (9th edition), 25 forums and summits, 25 events, 15 hacking and competitions, as well as many expo and start-up areas. As a consequence, comprised of 15,000 participants, 500 speakers and 500 partnerships this global festival marked the biggest event of the year.



UBT WILL SOON HOLD THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR BUSINESS, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION THROUGH STATE-OF-THE-ART ONLINE PLATFORMS

During the end of October 2020, UBT will hold the ninth edition of the International Conference on Science, Technology, Business and Innovation. Due to the measures taken by the Government of Kosovo to prevent the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference will be held online as well as combined. As a result, the conference aims to bring together researchers from around the world, in order to exchange experiences and research results in a wide selection of interdisciplinary fields.

Undoubtedly, by organizing this event UBT creates a wide variety of opportunities regarding the presentation of

scientific papers among global community. Indeed, there will be closely elaborated the latest challenges in a wide range fields of science, respectively these knowledge will be exchanged with researchers from around the world. Likewise the previous editions, the International Conference on Science, Technology, Business and Innovation has brought together hundreds of scientists, researchers and students from all over the world. The UBT International Conference will involve 24 different fields and moreover it is expected to have a wide participation from partner universities from the Balkans.



“RESILIENCE, INNOVATION, AND SUSTAINABILITY”

A SUCCESSFUL CYCLE OF ONLINE DISCUSSIONS ENTITLED "UNIVERSITY OF MACEDONIA DISCUSSES: WILL THE PANDEMIC CHANGE THE WORLD?"

More than 1,300 participants viewed online and contributed with questions and comments to the successful conduct of an innovative initiative of the University of Macedonia, a five-day long 'marathon' of online discussions entitled "University of Macedonia discusses: Will the pandemic change the world?"

Economy, international environment, culture, technology, innovation, education and communication, law, democracy, human rights and discrimination were the main topics of interest which were covered during May 5th to 8th 2020.

In addition to the 26 speakers and coordinators, faculty members of the University of Macedonia from all faculties covering a variety of subjects and different philosophical and theoretical references, the discussions were attended



by professors and students from the University itself, other universities and public from all over Greece and abroad.

STUDENTS ARE LEADING THE WAY IN REFORESTATION BY PLANTING ABOUT 800 TREES

About 800 pines, cypresses and rosemary were planted by more than 100 students from the University of Macedonia and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki on February 23rd, 2020, in the municipal area Triadi, just outside Thessaloniki.

The large reforestation action was organized by the UoM Environmental Team and the Environmental Team of AUTH, with the help and cooperation of the Reforestation Directorate of Central Macedonia. Forester were also on the spot to offer

students instructions and advice, while also providing the appropriate equipment and plant material.

As Mr. Aris Hatzinikolaou, Head of the Environmental Team of the University of Macedonia, points out, "the action has aroused great interest, all positions were quickly filled". The Reforestation Directorate emphasized on giving specific tools and resources available to all participants to ensure qualitative planting and thus improving an important green area of the city of Thessaloniki.



**2ND FESTIVAL "THE REFLECTION OF DISABILITY IN ART"
WITH THE ACRONYM RODI.**

The University of Macedonia organized from 3 to 10 December 2019 the 2nd Festival "The Reflection of Disability in Art", acronym RoDi. The Festival was held under the auspices of His Excellency the President of the Greek Republic Mr. Prokopiou Pavlopoulos with the support of the Thessaloniki Film Festival.

The purpose of the Festival is to highlight art through the eyes of people with disabilities based on the idea of the recognition of the inalienable human right to expression through Art. The ultimate goal of the Foundation's administration is to establish an institution for presenting the artistic side of people with disabilities, removing barriers for their participation and social inclusion, and in general, connecting the University with Society.

During the days of the Festival, people with and without disabilities came together in whatever role they chose, either by participating in artistic activities or simply by being part of the audience. The Festival was supported by a mixed volunteer group of students, who were specially trained in accessibility issues of people with and without disabilities.

www.uom.gr

f: <https://www.facebook.com/universityofmacedonia>

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In: <http://www.linkedin.com/edu/school?id=12844&trk=edu-cp-title>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/univofmacedonia>

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Photo Credit: Άννα-Εύα Μίναση, Φωτογράφο του Τμήματος Εκπαιδευτικής και Κοινωνικής Πολιτικής του Πανεπιστημίου Μακεδονίας & Μέλος της Συμπεριληπτικής Εβδομαστικής Ομάδας του Φεστιβάλ

ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΗ

ΣΕ ΟΛΕΣ ΤΙΣ ΕΚΔΗΛΩΣΕΙΣ ΤΟΥ ΦΕΣΤΙΒΑΛ



Η αντανάκλαση της αναπηρίας στην τέχνη
Reflection of disability in art

3-10 Δεκεμβρίου 2019

Υπό την αιγίδα της Α.Ε. του Προέδρου της Δημοκρατίας
κυρίου Προκοπίου Παυλοπούλου



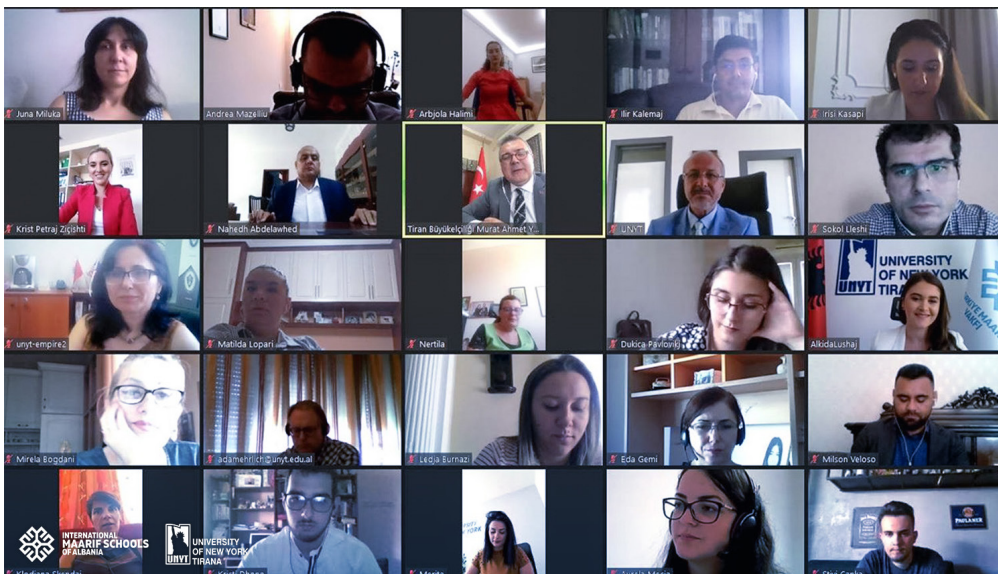
The mission of University of New York Tirana (UNYT) is "Educating Tomorrow's Leaders".

In today's world, business, communication, economic and social change as well as individual and societal problems have acquired a global character. Global challenges require academic disciplines and perspectives beyond the training and experience of highly cross-disciplinary academics.

UNYT offers to the students, the opportunity to obtain a university degree at Bachelor, Master and PhD level in a variety of academic disciplines and professional specializations, which will provide them the knowledge, skills and confidence necessary to succeed in a diverse and international work environment, to prepare them for life as contributing citizens of the global community.

UNYT is dedicated to the spirit of learning, personal growth and the development of a community in which active participation and freedom of expression are encouraged and supported.

UNYT had extraordinary successes when it comes to the organization of the online education during the pandemic through the E-LEARNING platform and with the successful online activities that the university have held. It must be mentioned that the smooth functioning of the e-learning platform helped our undergraduate and graduate students to successfully finish their respective years during all the time of the lessons, seminars and e-exams there were no major problems. Among other educational activities, UNYT organized: The e-Matura courses for the high school graduates, E-talent shows activities to entertain its students, E-debate tournament.

UNYT LIFE DURING COVID'19

Since self-isolation began, people all over the world have taken to putting up live streams on different social media to communicate stories. They sing, recite poems, cook, play music, and entertain in any way they can. The need to hear stories is as strong as it is to tell them.

This is a time for Solidarity. With so many people that were stuck inside due to the coronavirus pandemic, the UNYT e-Talent Show – which streamed live on the UNYT e-Platform – was a way to channel creative, positive energies and being interactive with each other during an uncertain time, according to UNYT Rector, Prof. Dr. Ismail Kocayusufoglu.

The launch of the UNYT e-Talent Show, held at UNYT e-Platform was a howling success. Musicians, singers, rap artists, and actors together with their families came together, in this dark time of a Pandemic virus to share with the world the show of a lifetime.

This was an ambitious project that challenged everyone involved.

Fifteen competitors (students and professors) performed during the showcase, with acts including song, instruments, and more. From Albania to Turkey, Italy to Romania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, France, Spain, Czech Republic, Libya, Kosovo, and the Americas, countries, and cultures were represented from every continent

These periods of hardship are the ones that mark art and bring us all together. And all art that was performed contained the repercussions and scars of all we have been through, by healing them and by hoping to be all together again, at our University.

UNYT STUDENTS MEET THE MAYOR OF TIRANA

UNYT students visited the Municipality of Tirana and met the Mayor, Mr. Erion Veliaj, and the Deputy Mayor Ms. Anisa Ruseti.

The meeting took place in the Council Chamber in order to keep the distance and included an infusion of ideas and discussions where they had a unique opportunity to tell

Mayor Erion Veliaj how they feel about living in Tirana.

The students, Albanian and international ones as well, had a great time discussing different matters concerning the student life and cultural activities that will be organized by the Municipality of Tirana.



UNYT HOLDS THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL STUDENT E-CONGRESS -ISC'20

Young researchers across the Globe take part at the first student-led virtual congress

The International Student Congress with the support of the University of New York Tirana successfully conducted the first (entirely) student-led virtual congress titled "The Power of Effective Communication: Challenges and Opportunities" which took place on 27 July 2020.

International education is of crucial importance to the University of New York Tirana. International students are at the heart of best practice across our education and training agenda/program/. Students from Albania, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Egypt, Georgia, India, Kosovo, Malaysia, Pakistan, Palestine, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine enriched the International family of the University of New York Tirana.

The International Student Congress had the honor to



welcome the President of the Turkish Maarif Foundation, Prof.Dr. Birol Akgun, H.E Ambassador of Turkey in Albania, Mr.Murat Ahmet Yörük, and the Rector of the University of New York in Tirana, Prof.Dr.Ismail Kocayusufoglu as an honorable guest.

The congress featured five panels focusing on four main themes, such as Political and IR Issues, Social and Law Issues, Economic and Health Issues, and Technology Issues. The presentations addressed in congress were of great importance

to our shared global development. We must draw lessons from The Power of Effective Communication, Challenges, and Opportunities being used during this crisis, forward to reach our goals.

The leading role of youth in participating in such congresses not only enhances their capabilities and boosts their self-confidence, but it also gives them a voice in modeling a continuous, fair, and a just future.



BACHELOR PROGRAMS

LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAW (Integrated 2nd Level Program - 5 yrs) • Political Science / International Relations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » EU Law and Politics - NEW! • Psychology 	ECONOMY AND BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Marketing » Management » Business Economics • Economics and Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Finance » Accounting » Economics • Applied Banking and Finance - NEW! • Business Informatics - NEW! 	ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Information Systems • Telecommunication and Network Engineering • Architecture (Integrated 2nd Level Program - 5 yrs) - NEW!
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MASTER PROGRAMS

LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAW (MSc, Integrated 2nd Level Program - 5 yrs) • MSc in International Commercial Law (LLM - 2 yrs) • MSc in International Relations • Psychology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Clinical Psychology - NEW! » School Psychology - NEW! » Legal Psychology - NEW! 	ECONOMY AND BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc in Business Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » General (MBA) » Human Resource Management » Marketing » MIS » Banking • MSc in Finance and Accounting 	ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc in Computer Science • Architecture (MSc, Integrated 2nd Level Program - 5 yrs) - NEW!
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PhD PROGRAMS

LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in POL SCI, LAW and Diplomacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » LAW » Political Science / International Relations / Diplomacy 	ECONOMY AND BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in Business Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Economics » Finance » Marketing » Management 	ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in Computer Science
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THE BEST INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY!

- The **FIRST** private university in Albania
- Dual Degrees in partnership with **SUNY - ESC**
- English Teaching University
- Erasmus+ and Exchange Programs
- International Students (+21 nationalities)

Nurturing innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship!

Partnerships with the best international universities & exchange programs!

Application Process for International Students at UNYT

Visa Process

- A passport valid for at least 6 months after return date.
- A duly completed visa application form.
- One recent passport photograph taken in a white background.
- Hotel reservation for the whole duration of the intended stay.
- Bank statement spanning 3 months prior to the period of application.
- The bank statement should show proof of available funds to cover travel expenses.
- Valid travel insurance. A detailed travel itinerary. Return or onward ticket
- The application can be done at the nearest Embassy/Consulate.

Diploma Recognition Process

- For the Diploma Recognition process a student needs to provide all the diplomas for each year of the High School with their respective list of grades.
- Note: Documents from the country of origin must have the apostile stamp or have been legalized from their diplomatic representatives in Albania, based on the agreement.

Admissions Criteria

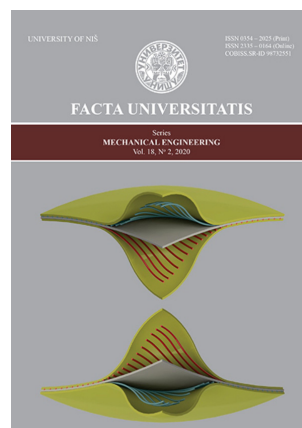
- GPA Average greater than 6.5/10 In compliance with Decree of Council of Ministers.
- A complete application form.
- Original copies of High School Diploma and Transcript, or photocopies legalized by the Regional Educational Directory and the Ministry of Education and Sports.
- If the degree was obtained out of the Republic of Albania it must go through the diploma recognition process at the Ministry of Education and Sports.
- Photocopy of ID or passport.
- Four recent passport-size photographs.
- English Certificate of B2 Level.

For queries and more information please call +355 44512345 anytime between 09:00 - 17:00 (GMT+1) or send an email at: admissions@unyt.edu.al

Student Affairs Office

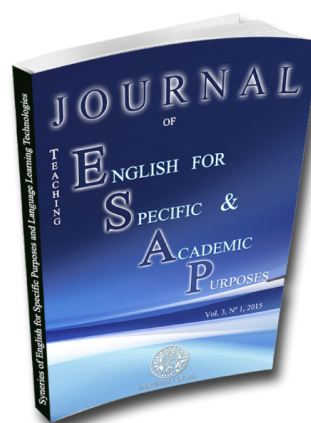
JOURNAL INCLUDED IN SCIE LIST

University journal FACTA UNIVERSITATIS - Series Mechanical Engineering has entered the prestigious Science Citation Index Expanded list. This is the first journal published by the University of Niš that appeared on this eminent list, which represents a remarkable success for this institution of higher education and its further advancement in the world of science and publishing. The journal FACTA UNIVERSITATIS - Series Mechanical Engineering is edited by Prof. Dragan Marinković, PhD.



THE JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ

The Journal of Teaching English for Specific and Academic Purposes <http://espeap.junis.ni.ac.rs/index.php/espeap>, has been accepted to be indexed in the prestigious Scopus database after being evaluated by the Scopus Content Selection and Advisory Board (CSAB).



DOUBLE MASTER'S DEGREE



Within the long-term cooperation of the University of Niš and the French University of Poitiers (Université de Poitiers), in the 2019/2020 academic year, the Faculty of Philosophy in Niš, has successfully completed the master program for obtaining the double diploma, which was attended by four students.

The "Dositeja" scholarships of the Fund for Young Talents of the Republic of Serbia (the Ministry of Youth and Sports), in the monthly amount of 30 thousand dinars per student,

were awarded to 214 students from the University of Niš for the school year 2019/20.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ANTHEM ONLINE

To mark the fifty-fifth anniversary of the University of Niš, Academic Choir of the Student Cultural Center Niš and the conductor Zoran Stanisavljević, in collaboration with colleagues from seven countries, have prepared a special online performance of the Student Anthem.

The online performance of the Student Anthem can be found here.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mrs4tYn_Vqw&feature=youtu.be



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK

The Science and Technology Park Niš was officially opened on June 9, 2020. Thirty-one startups and technology development companies will work in an area of about 14,000 square meters, with over four hundred and forty young, highly educated people, who entered the Park with

sustainable projects. With the support of the University of Niš, the construction of the facility was financed by the Ministry of Education, with the money provided through the European Investment Bank.



THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF NOVI PAZAR CELEBRATED 18TH ANNIVERSARY THAT WAS MARKED BY THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF DISTANCE LEARNING VIA ONLINE PLATFORM.

The International University of Novi Pazar, as the first higher education institution in southwest Serbia and Sandzak has demonstrated its capacity to respond to all the challenges of modern society. The primary goal and mission of the University is quality in teaching which is improved daily through the use of new technologies and knowledge.

A special challenge for the whole society was the COVID 19 virus, and in a state of emergency, one had to be ready to respond to the challenge, while fulfilling the set goals. The University has organized distance learning via the university's online platform and it was among the first universities in Serbia that did it. Students, from the safety of their homes, followed lectures online, and became actively involved in its implementation, thus acquiring theoretical and practical knowledge. The International University of Novi Pazar has once again demonstrated its readiness to reply to all challenges while assuring quality and student satisfaction.

The year 2020 marked 18 years since the University of Novi Pazar has been established by which the University has passed its important exam - the age of maturity. By placing students in the center of interest, the University has adopted a modern way of teaching providing them the opportunity to acquire the necessary knowledge for their successful carriers. This was achieved through a combination of theoretical and practical teaching that allows graduates to be experts in the fields for which they were educated. The practice has shown that graduates of the International University of Novi Pazar easily acquiring jobs right after their studies, both regionally and globally. The critical thinking and nurturing of free-thinking are the main tasks of this Institution which strives to monitor the evolution of the educational and economic needs of the society on a daily basis.

That is why the International University of Novi Pazar has been the number 1 students' choice in southwest Serbia and Sandzak for 18 years.



SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF ERASMUS+ IN ACADEMIC 2019/2020 YEAR

The International University of Novi Pazar has been a holder of the Erasmus charter that enabled participation through various projects within the Erasmus program. The Erasmus mobility program enabled incoming and outgoing mobilities for students and university staff in Algeria, Montenegro, Poland, Turkey, and other countries. The special touch of the Erasmus program is the meeting of different cultures which was noticeable during Erasmus Weekend days where the University has provided students who participated in the Erasmus+ program with the opportunity to get acquainted with the traditional cuisine, history, and beauties of southwest Serbia and Sandzak region. One of the two-day activities was UNESCO's World Heritage Sights Tour of Novi Pazar, tasting of local traditional food as well as a ride through the meanders of the Special Nature Reserve Uvac. The students used this opportunity to share their Erasmus experience.

Furthermore, the University has signed more than 50 bilateral agreements with universities from the USA, Algeria, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Italy, Poland, Croatia, Turkey, Slovenia, Romania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, and Albania which has allowed the successful implementation of Erasmus+ and Mevlana academic mobility programs and it will foster future international projects that the University plans to realize.



THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF NOVI PAZAR WELCOMED 19TH GENERATION OF STUDENTS

The reception for new students was organized in the garden of the International University of Novi Pazar in compliance with all protective measures prescribed by the Government of the Republic of Serbia to prevent the spread of COVID 19 virus. Students were first addressed by senior students Jasmina Rovčanin and Nikolina Milunović, who shared their impressions of studying at the International University of Novi Pazar. After students' addressings Rector, Ph.D. Suad Bećirović, has welcomed and wished them a successful start of their studies which do mark the opening of a new chapter of their life.



The University of Medicine, Tirana (UMT) puts a great emphasis to the collaboration with EU countries in order to improve the quality of higher education, to develop new and innovative education programs, to modernize higher education systems through a systematic collaboration with different regions of the world through joint initiatives.

VISION

The UMT is the most important academic and research center of national medical sciences and aims at maintaining this position. This key and guiding role in education, scientific research and health care will be performed through reformation and modernization of the institution, whilst transforming it into an academic and scientific research and medical institution that:

- inspires and promotes university and cross-university cooperation approaches;
- supports the academic staff and students;
- recognizes, supports and promotes excellence;
- understands, follows up and supports the society's needs;
- provides orientation and models to be followed;
- educates, appreciates, creates and maintains leadership, relying on best traditional and future values;
- cultivates politeness and collegiality within an inclusive community.

MISSION

The UMT is a public higher education institution of medical sciences in the Republic of Albania, which:

- prepares and educates health professionals based on three study cycles, in line with the highest professional standards;
- applies and stimulates scientific research;
- inspires and promotes innovation in the medical sciences field;
- educates and inspires the future leaders in the field of medicine.

This University, in cooperation with students, government, health services and civil society, transmits knowledge and prepares health professionals that practice optimal care to patients, with the aim of preventing and treating diseases, as well as advancing scientific research to the benefit of health.



AIM

The UMT as the only public institution of medical sciences aims to maintain its guiding role in coping with future challenges of health care, while aiming at preparing future health professionals, orientated towards:

- health care based on facts;
- assessment of health care quality and performance;
- transition from hospital medical care to ambulatory medical care and home-based medical care;
- integrated proactive and preventive medicine;
- health care provision by professional multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary teams;
- an ethical partnership between health professionals and patients.

COLLABORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE, TIRANA AND MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

The UMT has signed memorandum of collaboration with many institutions, and that with Ministry of Health and Social Protection is one of the most important. In the framework of Pact for Universities, Ministry of Health and Social Protection has supported the UMT for improvement and constant innovation of teaching methods. Thanks to the project

supported by the Ministry of Health through the Global Fund, is created the "Laboratory of Medical Bio-simulation" at the Faculty of Medicine, giving the possibility of more practical development of Medical Emergency, Clinical Semiology, Imaging Semiology and Surgical Semiology was created and strengthened.



HOW UMT HAS MANAGED THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Rector of University, Prof. Arben Gjata was nominated Coordinator of the Task Force for Human Resources during Covid-19 pandemic. Member of the Task Force are some of the chiefs of Services in University Hospital Center "Mother Teresa", who have organized training of all medical staff for facing the Covid-19 pandemic. All medical equipment of bio-simulation is already in use by students and specialists of the Faculty of Medicine, according to the needs and schedules of Covid-19 pandemic.



Prof. Dr. Arben Gjata
Rector of University of Medicine, Tirana

ONLINE TEACHING

Since the Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted the normal lifestyle of people across the world, also the delivery of medical education has changed rapidly. The most important challenge in this period for UMT was continuing the teaching online. Like other institutions, medical universities have shifted their base of teaching towards virtual platforms to conduct lectures and classes online, as a safe alternative to face to face learning. We are trying to look for methods and opportunities to safely engage students and residents to continue their education in the best way possible. We think it is very important to make sure that this important moment

in history of medicine and healthcare, can be a teachable one for our students and residents. Students would have the possibility to complete educational modules on topics such as clinical aspects of Covid-19, treatment options, testing and screening, Covid-19 in children and pregnancy, telemedicine and telehealth, and blood supply safety. In the field of public health issues during the pandemic, students can aid in patient navigation, monitoring and contact tracing. It is our firm belief that this pandemic had given the opportunity to medical universities to think about students as value-added roles in the actual public health crisis.

ELECTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEI)

On 30 July 2020 took place the electoral process in all public HEI in Albania. In UMT was reconfirmed as Rector Prof. Dr. Arben Gjata for a four-year mandate.

The authorities and governing bodies of the University of

Medicine, Tirana, will exercise their four-year mandate, in order to continue fulfilling the mission, by providing the most worthy professional expertise in didactics, research and training of specialists in all fields of medicine.

WEBINHEALTH

Interactive webinars to accelerate the shift to digital innovation in Albanian health

PROGRAMME OF THE WEBINARS

October 2020 - January 2021

WEBINEALTH is a project funded by CEI-Central European Initiative.

Lepida in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in Albania and the Medical University of Tirana realise 16 webinars aiming at support digitalisation process of Albanian health system.



INTERNATIONALIZATION

Difficulties faced during Covid-19 pandemic by health professionals, professors and students to develop teaching, research, training activities, exchange of experiences and consultations between professionals, require solutions.

In the framework of Central European Initiative, UMT, Ministry of Health and Social Protection and Lepida, in Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy, are partners in a project of interactive Webinars. Professors from UMT and experts from Lepida will implement the planned 16 webinars in Albania from October 2020 to January 2021. Participants in these webinars will be academic staff, students of UMT, health professionals.

During this period of pandemic, UMT has organized many webinars, e-Learning, giving credits to many health professionals.

In October 2020, the UMT has honored with the title "Doctor Honoris Causa" Prof. Fabio Roversi Monaco, with the motivation: "For valuable contribution to the drafting of European policies for the unification of University Systems" in a ceremony held in the presence of the Academic Senate

and representatives of the Italian Embassy in Tirana. Rector of the University of Medicine, Tirana Prof. Dr. Arben Gjata, emphasized that the Academic Senate has decided to award this title recognizing and being aware of the valuable contribution that Prof. Fabio Roversi Monaco has given in the development of relations between the two countries and cooperation in the university plan. Prof. Fabio Roversi Monaco is a central figure in Italian, European and international university education and academia. He was the originator of the Bologna Process, which was contested with the signing of the Bologna Charter in 1989 by 29 member states of the European Union. The Bologna Charter is the basis of all European higher education systems. Prof. Fabio Roversi Monaco was the inventor of the Magna Charta Universitatum signed by 900 Universities' Rectors.

For further information about the events and academic activities of UMT, please consult the official website in the address: www.umed.edu.al



**VARNA FREE UNIVERSITY "CHERNORIZETS HRABAR"
OPENED ITS 30TH ACADEMIC YEAR!**

Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar" opened the academic year 2020/2021, which will mark the 30th anniversary of its foundation. Special guest of the ceremony was the Minister of Education and Science of Bulgaria Krasimir Valchev. The event was attended by the mayors of Varna, Smolyan and Rudozem, diplomats, rectors of universities, head teachers of secondary schools, representatives of the judiciary, social partners and employers related to the university.

The Minister of Education and Science Krasimir Valchev congratulated the leadership, the lecturers and students for their contribution to the 30-year growth and establishment of Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar" as a good educational institution. "VFU "Chernorizets Hrabar" shapes and completes the overall university profile of Varna - a real university city" the minister said. He addressed the mayors of the Rhodope region and stressed their active participation in support of the Smolyan University branch.

The guests took part in the Open Joint Meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Academic Council and the Student's Council:



"VFU" Chernorizets Hrabar "on the road to modernization of higher education", led by the President of the University, Assoc. Prof. Krasimir Nedyalkov, PhD.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/36PeFIC>



TWO MAJORS WILL FOLLOW THE SAME CURRICULUM AT VARNA FREE UNIVERSITY

The project of Varna Free University "Chernorizets Hrabar" - "Education in Partnership", which integrates classroom training and internship in a real working environment, has been launched. Students will study according to completely renewed curricula. The news is that all majors in the areas of Administration and Management, namely Economics, Informatics and Computer Science and Psychology will allow students to choose from broad-based training with a second major or advanced specialized training. Moreover, the tuition fees and the duration of the studies remain the same.



The admission to Varna Free University continues. The application is 24/7, entirely online - at

<http://ksp.vfu.bg/>



Read more: <https://bit.ly/3nwA7Ib>



THE ONLY ACCREDITED IN BULGARIA DISTANCE LEARNING IN INFORMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE IS AT VARNA FREE UNIVERSITY

The fourth consecutive programme accreditation for a period of five years was awarded to the professional area of Informatics and Computer Science of VFU "Chernorizets Hrabar" by the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency at the Council of Ministers. Varna Free University continues to be the only university in Bulgaria with a bachelor's degree in informatics and computer science accredited in distance learning.

Read more: <https://bit.ly/3jJSyXn>



The banner features the logo of Varna Free University (Варненски свободен университет Черноризец Храбър) at the top. Below it, the text reads "ПРОФЕСИОНАЛНО НАПРАВЛЕНИЕ ИНФОРМАТИКА И КОМПЮТЪРНИ НАУКИ". The bottom part of the banner shows two students, a woman and a man, holding a certificate that says "QUERYADA 2018". The slogan "Професии за бъдещето" (Professions for the future) is at the bottom.



Balkan Universities Association

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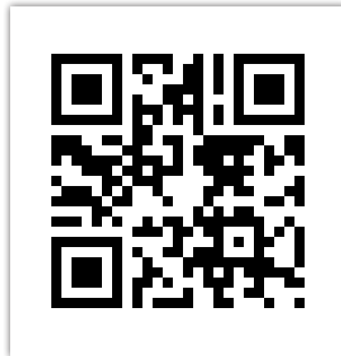
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