

10th METU INTERNATIONAL STAFF TRAINING WEEK

From Experience to Excellence: Signature Sessions from 10 Years of METU Staff Week in the Era of Digital Transformation (70th Anniversary Edition)

Blended Intensive Program (BIP)

June 8-12, 2026

2026 marks a milestone year for Middle East Technical University: while we proudly celebrate our **70th anniversary**, we also host the **10th edition of the METU International Staff Training Week**, a flagship event that has grown into one of Türkiye's most established and innovative internationalization events. This year's Staff Week is conceived as a special "*10th Staff Week-METU 70th Anniversary Edition*", bringing together a carefully curated selection of the most insightful, impactful and memorable sessions delivered throughout the past decade. Rather than simply revisiting these sessions, we re-examine them through the lens of today's rapidly evolving digitalization era — exploring how internationalization practices, institutional models, and mobility processes have transformed under the influence of digital tools, EWP infrastructures, and AI-driven innovation. In this way, the program blends METU's ten years of accumulated experience with a renewed, forward-looking perspective shaped by our role as Türkiye's officially recognized EWP Champion.

In line with the **Blended Intensive Program (BIP)** format, the event will begin with an online session featuring the **European Commission and the Turkish National Agency**, followed by a rich and interactive on-site program in Ankara. As a tribute to the past decade, participants will experience curated "best-of" sessions.

Continuing a beloved tradition, the program will also feature the Networking and Intercultural Learning Visit to Cappadocia, offering participants a unique opportunity to explore one of Türkiye's most iconic landscapes.

With its combination of deep experience, innovative content, digital leadership, and decade-long internationalization expertise, the 10th METU International Staff Training Week promises a memorable and future-shaping experience for all participants.

5
JUNE
FRIDAY

13.30-13.45 Opening Remarks & Introduction of Participants (*Online Session*)

13.45-14.45 The Role and Introduction of Digital Tools in Erasmus+ Procedures (*Online Session*)

1. Ahmet Çörekçioğlu, *Turkish National Agency*
2. Dr. Nur Seda Temur & Ms. Cansu Bolgöl, *METU ICO*

Online Meeting Link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/397211236618209?p=8OLOJxxMeQY1oL6ITK>

09.15-09.45 Registration / Welcome Coffee

09.45-10.15 Key Note Speech: From Past to Future: 10 Years of Internationalization and the Rise of Digital Mobility

Prof. Dr. Ömer Delialioğlu, Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator, Advisor to the President

10:30-11:00 Introduction to METU & International Cooperation Office & 70 Years of International Vision

&

11.00-11.15 Special Anniversary Session / Best of 10 Years: Highlights, Milestones and Lessons Learned (showcase from previous Staff Week sessions)

Dr. Burcu Akpınar, METU ICO Coordinator

Visit to METU Research Centers

11.30 ROMER

12.00 BIOMATEN

12:30-13.00 Campus Tour with Shuttle Buses

13.00 Arrival at METU Çarşı (main food court)

13.00-14.15 Free Time

14:15-15:30 Banking Procedures (only) for Erasmus+ ICM (KA171) participants

19:00 Welcome Dinner (hosted by METU ICO) at **KASTRO NO:3 Restaurant** (please see the last page for the location)

8
JUNE
MONDAY

Day 1

Research Center

9
June

TUESDAY

Day 2

Research Center

09:30-10:15 Signature Session 1/ Multicultural Campuses: International and Local Student & Staff Integration in the era of Digitalization*

Ms. Cansu Bolgöl, Overseas Mobility Coordinator

Ms. Naz Çetin, Overseas Mobility Specialist and Agreements Coordinator

**This session will be followed by a group workshop where participants will further examine, in practical terms, how integration should function in the digital era and what the most effective models and practices look like across institutions.*

10:15-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-11:45 Group Workshop and Group Discussion on Best Integration Models and Practices

11:45-12:00 Sharing Group Workshop Results

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break (at participants own expense)

13:45-14:45 Signature Session 2 Panel: What is the Optimum Infrastructure for Effective Internationalization in the era of Digitalization? Comparing Institutional Structures and Strategies

Moderator: Mrs. Işıl Tipioğlu Baş, European Mobility Coordinator

- Maria Raquel Amigo Garcia, University of León
- Natalia María Sánchez Vivares, Universidad del Rosario
- Mariam Razmadze, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University
- Eriona Adhjari, University of New York Tirana

14:45-15:15 Coffee Break

15:30-17:00 International Erasmus Exchange Day (Partner booths with posters and materials, networking and cultural exchange)

10-11

JUNE

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

Day 3-4

Networking and Intercultural Learning Visit to Cappadocia

07:00 Buses will depart from METU Culture and Convention Center

Location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/DMHaoNZWsy4yqW7q9>

12
JUNE

FRIDAY

Day 5

Research Center

09:30-11:00 Closing Remarks & Digital Feedback Session

11:00-11:15 Delivery of Participation Certificates

11:15 End of the Program for Erasmus+ KA131 and self-funded participants

11:15-12:30 Banking Procedures (only) for Erasmus+ ICM (KA171) participants

12:30 End of the Program for Erasmus+ ICM (KA171) participants

- ***Important Notice:**

In line with the requirements of the Blended Intensive Programme (BIP), an online session will be held on 5 June (Friday). Access links for the online sessions will be shared with participants via email in due course. The on-site programme on the first day will begin at 09:30, and all participants are kindly requested to be at the METU Research Center by that time.

- The physical program and presentations will take place at **METU Research Center**. [Location on Google Maps](#)
- No participation fee is required for the METU Staff Week 2026, but there will be a fee for the Cappadocia trip, which is part of the program. Details regarding the trip and participation fee are being shared with participants via email.
- Please be noted that this program is tentative and it is subject to change
- **KASTRO NO:3 Restaurant Address**

Kale Mah. Gözcü Sok. No:3 Altındağ/Ankara, Türkiye [Location](#)

RESTAURANT'S LOCATION



STAFF WEEK ORIENTATION BOOKLET



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