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# UNIGE-REPUBLIC OF TURKEY: A REVIEW OF TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIPS

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## 1. Contextualization

Standing across Europe and Asia, Turkey is home to 76 million inhabitants and is influenced by a diverse cultural heritage. After the implosion of the Ottoman Empire over the course of World War I, the region entered the Turkish War of Independence in 1919 until the Treaty of Lausanne established the Republic of Turkey in July 1923. A radical program of political, economic, social, cultural and religious reforms was then undertaken, following a process of westernization.

More recently, in 1984, Turkey became a candidate for the accession to the European Economic Community (and, in due course, to the European Union). Despite the reluctance of the EU in the long process of accession due to geographical and political considerations, Turkey has strong institutional ties with the old continent. Notably, it became a member of the Erasmus program in 2004, which has encouraged and facilitated the signature of partnerships between Turkish universities and the University of Geneva, although sparingly.

**Figure 1: Key data on Turkey and reference countries**

	Turkey	CH	China	USA
<b>General</b>				
Population (million)	76	8	1'364	319
Surface area (sq. km)	783'560	41'285	9'562'911	9'831'510
Population density (people per sq. km)	99	207	145	35
GDP, PPP (billion current int'l \$)	\$1'460	\$461	\$18'031	\$17'419 (2014)
GDP per capita, PPP (current int'l \$)	\$19'226	\$56'940	\$13'217	\$54'629 (2014)
Unemployment (% of total labor force)	10%	4%	5%	7% (2014)
Youth unemployment (% of labor force 15-24)	19%	9%	n.a.	16% (2013)
Ease of doing business index (1=easier)	55	20	90	7 (2014)
<b>Education</b>				
Labor force with tertiary education (% of total)	18%	34%	n.a.	n.a. (2012)
Enrollment in tertiary education (% gross)	79%	56%	30%	89% (2013)
Share of youth not in education, employment or training	35%	9%	n.a.	16% (2011)
<b>Research</b>				
R&D expenditure (% of GDP)	0.9%	n.a.	1.8%	2.8% (2011)
Researchers in R&D (per million people)	987	n.a.	963	3'979 (2011)

Today, over a quarter of the Turkish population is part of the youth (15 to 29 years old), which is mainly due to a baby boom in the 1980s. This growing cohort coupled to economic and social development<sup>1</sup> led to a sharp rise in the demand for higher education in the country. It resulted in a spectacular growth of the sector in the last decade, with nearly 100 new universities established since 2006. The enrolment increased sixfold between 1981 and 2000 and then doubled between 2000 and 2010

<sup>1</sup> Economic reforms were adopted in the 1980s and output per worker more than doubled in the next two decades, but the Turkish economy still lags behind most of Western and Central Europe. Its GDP per capita is about 30% of the EU average.

to about 3.5 million students. Similarly, the number of teaching and academic staff increased by 60 percent between 2000 and 2010 to about 100,000. The public expenditure on higher education rose from 0.7% of GDP in 2000 to 1.3% of GDP in 2011 and that of research and development from 0.53% in 2002 to 0.92% in 2012, still much below the 2.5% OECD average.

The job market did not however assimilate this large outflow of new graduates. The Turkish Statistical Institute estimates that a quarter of the jobless in the country were university graduates in October 2014. Furthermore, over 18% of the Turkish youth was unemployed in 2015, down from 25% in April 2009.

This process of rapid growth was coupled with one of pro-active internationalization in recent years. As part of the effort to reach the government's 2023 goal to be part of the world's 10 biggest economies,<sup>2</sup> current policies aim at increasing the number of international applications in Turkish universities and the number of incoming exchange students.

**Figure 2: Map of Turkey**



<sup>2</sup> The Republic of Turkey will celebrate its centenary in 2023. Its economic goal is to rank among the world's 10 biggest economies. To move from its current 17th position, Turkey will have to grow on average 8% per annum.

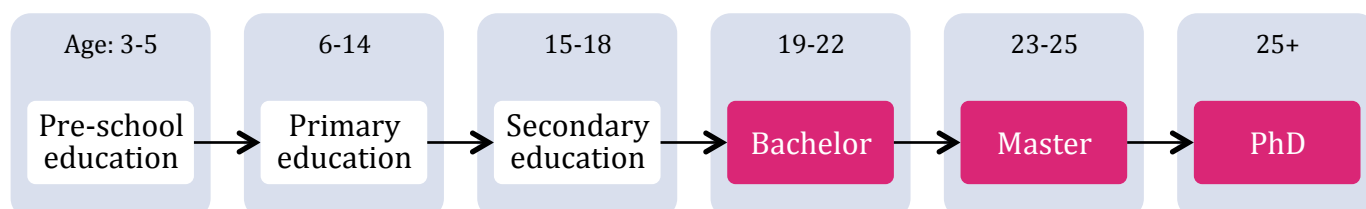
## 2. Educational system

### 2.1. Structure

The current structure of education in Turkey is based on the 1981 Higher Education Law, which confers supervisory authority to a centralized Council of Higher Education (YÖK). Students are granted access to universities based on three criteria: their high school grade point average, their performance at a central university exam and their list of preferred majors and institutions. In 2014, over 1.2 million candidates took the undergraduate placement exam. A third of them were placed in undergraduate degree programs and another third in two-year associate degree programs (see below). 35% of the applicants were taking the test for the second time.<sup>3</sup> The Turkish high school diploma (Lise Diploması) is necessary but not sufficient to study at a Swiss university. UNIGE, for example, also requires two successful years at a recognized university, which is a requirement similar to countries such as Spain, Russia and Ukraine.

Turkish higher education is compatible with the Bologna three-cycle system since 2001 and is composed of Bachelor degrees (4 years), Master degrees (2 years) and Doctoral degrees (3 to 4 years). The first cycle is typically entered at an age of 19 years old, but a preparatory language year is sometimes undertaken previous to a bachelor degree at least partially taught in a foreign language. This system holds for all programs with the exception of dentistry, pharmacy, medicine and veterinary medicine that are structured in a single five-year degree (6 years for medicine).

**Figure 3: Turkish Education System at a glance (Pre-school to PhD)**



The 176 Turkish universities can be divided into two types: state universities (103) and non-profit private<sup>4</sup> universities (73). Public universities typically charge low tuitions in international perspective (\$80-\$500 per year for Turkish nationals<sup>5</sup>, \$240-\$1500 for international students), whereas private universities are highly expensive (\$5,000-\$20,000 per year). These amounts are non-negligible in comparison to the country's median monthly wage of about \$2,538.<sup>6</sup> Although scholarships are available (see below), the bulk of students are enrolled in state universities (93% in

<sup>3</sup> See [http://www.todayszaman.com/national\\_university-placement-results-announced-59000-openings-remain-empty\\_353967.html](http://www.todayszaman.com/national_university-placement-results-announced-59000-openings-remain-empty_353967.html).

<sup>4</sup> Also known as non-profit foundation universities.

<sup>5</sup> Students from the following countries and regions pay the same tuitions as Turkish nationals in public institutions: Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Bashkortostan (Russia), Dagestan (Russia), Karachay-Cherkessia (Russia), Nakhchivan (Azerbaijan) and Tatarstan (Russia).

<sup>6</sup> Gallup average for 2006 to 2012: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/166211/worldwide-median-household-income-000.aspx>.

the academic year 2013-2014), mainly in the three largest Turkish cities (Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir).

Turkish is the main language of instruction in the majority of universities. Nevertheless, an increasing number of universities use English as a medium of instruction in at least some programs. The Middle East Technical University in Ankara and Bogazici University in Istanbul were the two first public institutions in Turkey to primarily use English in their programs. They were then followed by a number of non-profit private universities such as Bilkent University in Ankara and Koç University in Istanbul. These programs are typically preceded by one year of language classes for students who do not provide proof of fluency in English. Indeed, although students receive several hours of weekly English instruction during their secondary education, they typically have a rather poor level of proficiency when entering university (Turkey is ranked 47th out of 63 globally and last in Europe in the EF English Proficiency Index under the label « very low proficiency »). Conversely, Turkish lessons are given to international students. Some universities also use solely French or German, such as Galatasaray University and Türkisch-Deutsche Universität, respectively.

The academic year is divided into a fall and a spring semesters. The fall semester typically spans from the beginning of October to the end of December with exams taken throughout January. The spring semester spans from mid-February to the end of May, with exams taken in the first half of June. Some universities also offer summer school programs in July and August.

Due to the large country size and a concentration of universities in Istanbul and the capital Ankara, distance education has been very popular in Turkey since the 1980s. The government mandated Anadolu University to provide this type of programs through an Open Education Faculty in 1982 using, at the time, the television and mail services. It now registers nearly 300,000 new distance education students annually, which makes it the second largest university in the world by enrollment.<sup>7</sup> Other universities also offer similar or hybrid programs, which brings the share of distance education to 39% of all students in the academic year 2008-2009.

In addition to universities (including institutes of high technology), postsecondary vocational schools offer two-year Associate degrees mainly in technical fields (e.g. machinery technicians), applied social sciences (e.g. hotel management), health services and agriculture.

## **2.2. Governance and academic freedom**

Academic freedom in Turkey is not yet on a par with that guaranteed to American and Western European universities. It is not effectively protected by the law, which may restrict the independence of the academic body in particular with respect to their political and religious views.

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<sup>7</sup> See <http://www.irma-international.org/viewtitle/11822/> and <http://www.eurodl.org/?p=current&article=690>.



The Council of Higher Education (CoHE), whose actions have been regularly criticized since its inception, strictly oversees higher education institutions including non-profit private universities. The political influence on its decisions is non-negligible, given that the President of Turkey himself appoints a third of its members, including its president. This influence from the highest level of the executive power also goes down to the level of academic institutions. The rectorship of a university is chosen by the President of Turkey among three candidates, pre-selected by the CoHE among six candidates holding the academic title of professor and elected by the faculty members of the university by secret ballot. Gokhan Cetinsaya, CoHE president until 2014, stated that it has become unworkable as a bureaucratic institution and that it should be abolished, but reforming the CoHE requires changing the Constitution. Recent attempts to amend higher education laws have been unsuccessful but a restructuring of Turkish higher education is expected to take place rather sooner than later.

### 3. International relations

#### 3.1. Academic cooperation

In recent years, the strategy of the Turkish government has been to strengthen official academic partnerships with foreign countries. It recently signed agreements with Morocco, Sudan and Vietnam and formed a Balkan Universities Association in 2014 meant to facilitate collaboration between the multi-ethnic Turkish regions and countries of the former Yugoslavia, Greece, and Bulgaria. In a multilateral perspective, Turkey is a member of Erasmus+ and some have argued that the country should increase bilateral cooperation and collaboration with Erasmus+ partners as a way to maximize student mobility between the EU and Turkey.<sup>8</sup> In a bilateral perspective, Turkey recently put in place its own exchange program with a global reach called Mevlana.

##### 3.1.1. Erasmus+ Program

On 1st April 2004, Turkey became the 31st participating country to the Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci and Youth Programmes, later known as Erasmus and Erasmus+. Today, approximately 130 Turkish higher education institutions participate in the Program. Ankara University (70<sup>th</sup> with 588 students), Ege University (89<sup>th</sup> with 518 students) and Anadolu University (92<sup>nd</sup> with 509 students) are among the universities sending the most students on Erasmus exchanges. According to the Turkish National Agency, Turkey sent abroad 30,000 students and 6,500 teaching staff and received 9,000 students and 4,300 teaching staff between 2004 and 2010, thus exhibiting a large imbalance. The government seeks to attract more foreign students in Turkey as part of the strategy to achieve its 2023 goal to be part of the world's 10 biggest economies.

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<sup>8</sup> Oguz G., « Erasmus Student Mobility In Higher Education Institutions: The European Union And Turkey », accessible at [http://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/1017981/1668225/YKB17\\_Oguz\\_MOBILITY\\_IN\\_HIGHER\\_EDUCATION\\_INSTITUTIONS.pdf/ed299641-76a0-4cdf-bad8-bceb4fa86a18](http://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/1017981/1668225/YKB17_Oguz_MOBILITY_IN_HIGHER_EDUCATION_INSTITUTIONS.pdf/ed299641-76a0-4cdf-bad8-bceb4fa86a18).

### 3.1.2. Mevlana Exchange Program

The Mevlana global exchange program was set up by the Turkish government to answer the deficit in incoming relative to outgoing students. It seeks to attract more foreign students (for one or two semesters) and staff (between one week and 3 months) and contribute to the internationalization of the Turkish higher education system. Partner institutions must be recognized by the Turkish government and a bilateral Protocol is signed for a period of 5 years. A scholarship and travel allowances are granted to both incoming and outgoing scholars. Institutions included in the Erasmus program cannot however take part in this exchange agreement at least for now. Interestingly, the Middle East Technical University lists Switzerland in the category “Exchange and Mevlana Partners”,<sup>9</sup> which raises the question of a potential future partnership under the umbrella of the Mevlana Program.

### 3.1.3. International summer schools in Turkey

A number of renowned universities organize summer schools in Turkey for their students, which could be a neat way for UNIGE to offer quality short programs in Turkey looking forward. For example, Harvard proposes an eight-week summer school in Istanbul on history and human rights that brings together students and faculty from Harvard and Sabancı University.<sup>10</sup> The six-week “Duke in Turkey” program focuses on culture, politics and gender in the Middle East and is taught at Bogazici University in Istanbul.<sup>11</sup> Arizona in Turkey is an eight-week Turkish language summer school organized yearly in Izmir and taught by a combination of University of Arizona and Dokuz Eylül University faculty.<sup>12</sup> In Western Europe, Lund University also participates in a summer school on human rights in Istanbul. Unlike its US counterparts, the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul (SRII) covers travel to and accommodation during the course.<sup>13</sup>

### 3.1.4. Gülen movement schools

On a side note, Turkish elitist education is often known abroad through the Gülen Movement Schools founded by the imam Gülen, an opponent to President Erdogan. With a network of about 300 private schools in Turkey and 1,000 abroad serving an estimated 2 million students, the movement formed a large share of the current elite in Turkish police, legal system and business. Moreover, it is very common for the students affiliated with the Gülen movement to do extremely well in public placement exams and international science Olympiads.<sup>14</sup> The movement is represented in Switzerland by the Sera School in Zurich and could thus be a source of contacts. The Sera School offers secondary level education and its school attendance is composed

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<sup>9</sup> See <http://ico.metu.edu.tr/exchange-mevlana-partners>.

<sup>10</sup> See <http://www.summer.harvard.edu/programs/study-abroad/istanbul-turkey>.

<sup>11</sup> See [http://globaled.duke.edu/Programs/Summer/Duke\\_in\\_Turkey](http://globaled.duke.edu/Programs/Summer/Duke_in_Turkey).

<sup>12</sup> See <https://global.arizona.edu/study-abroad/program/arizona-turkey>.

<sup>13</sup> See <http://srii.org/Page/summer-school>.

<sup>14</sup> See “YGS results announced, top scorers from Gülen-inspired schools”, Today’s Zaman, 19 March 2015, [http://www.todayszaman.com/national\\_ygs-results-announced-top-scorers-from-gulen-inspired-schools\\_375760.html](http://www.todayszaman.com/national_ygs-results-announced-top-scorers-from-gulen-inspired-schools_375760.html).



at 70% of Turkish speakers born in Switzerland. These students mainly come from affluent families, given that the tuition is set at 1,250 CHF per month.<sup>15</sup>

### 3.2. Research cooperation

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), established in 1963, is the leading agency incentivizing and coordinating research and development in Turkey. Its responsibilities include bilateral cooperation agreements with foreign governments and institutions. As part of its mandate, it provides financial support for common scientific meetings, exchange of scientists and scientific visits (see also section 3.4).

Turkey has been associated with the EU research framework programs since 2003. Under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7), 950 projects received almost €200m in EU funding. The success rate of Turkish FP7 calls stands in the bottom decile (i.e. 90% of countries did better) at 16.1%, compared to a global average of 21.8% (see Figure 4). Between 2007 and 2015, 750 Turkish researchers were funded by the Marie Curie Actions and the budget attributed to Turkish organizations in this context was €37.5m.<sup>16</sup>

**Figure 4: retained proposals (in € million) and corresponding success rates for FP7 calls**

Countries	Applicants in retained proposals								Success rates	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total	2013	Total
France	2'194	1'443	1'906	1'581	1'703	1'995	1'153	11'975	21.8%	25.1%
Switzerland	694	525	765	552	615	701	418	4'270	21.0%	24.7%
Germany	3'036	1'835	2'736	2'316	2'661	2'938	1'720	17'242	22.5%	24.1%
UK	2'635	1'842	2'568	2'325	2'600	2'958	1'788	16'716	19.2%	22.6%
Greece	685	397	618	437	519	549	330	3'535	15.3%	16.4%
<b>Turkey</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>1'122</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>16.1%</b>
Romania	234	133	140	127	148	151	72	1'005	12.6%	14.6%
<b>All countries</b>	<b>21'989</b>	<b>14'548</b>	<b>20'837</b>	<b>17'887</b>	<b>20'175</b>	<b>21'869</b>	<b>13'392</b>	<b>130'697</b>	<b>19.30%</b>	<b>21.80%</b>

In 2014, the country also gained full access to Horizon 2020 through association status.<sup>17</sup> Turkish universities that received the largest contributions so far are given in figure 5. The “Conference on Turkish Universities in the European Research Area” took place in Ankara in October 2015 with a goal to strengthen research and innovation capacity and facilitate cooperation with the EU under Horizon 2020. The organizing committee included the six leading Turkish universities participating in the Framework: Bogazici University, Bilkent University, Istanbul Technical University, Koç University, Sabanci University and Orta Doğu Teknik University.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>15</sup> See “A Zurich, les espoirs de l'imam Gülen”, Le Temps, 29 March 2014,

[http://www.letemps.ch/Page/Uuid/e42c4f70-b6b1-11e3-a0d1-942b46fba33b/A\\_Zurich\\_les\\_espoirs\\_de\\_limam\\_G%C3%BClen](http://www.letemps.ch/Page/Uuid/e42c4f70-b6b1-11e3-a0d1-942b46fba33b/A_Zurich_les_espoirs_de_limam_G%C3%BClen) and the Sera Schule website (in German) at <http://www.seraschule.ch/ueber-uns/unsere-privatschule/>.

<sup>16</sup> See [http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/funded-projects/statistics/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/funded-projects/statistics/index_en.htm)

<sup>17</sup> See <http://horizon2020projects.com/global-collaboration/turkey-becomes-latest-h2020-partner/>.

<sup>18</sup> See <http://truniera.org/>. The network of National Contact Points (NCPs) lists TÜBİTAK's 27 contacts by functions and research fields at the following address:

**Figure 5: research projects under Horizon 2020: top 5 Turkish universities by EC contribution as of November 2015<sup>19</sup>**

University	EC Contribution	Share of total	Nb of projects
KOC UNIVERSITY	3'949'048	12%	9
BOGAZICI UNIVERSITY	1'174'113	4%	4
ISTANBUL TECHNICAL U.	1'171'033	4%	5
SABANCI UNIVERSITY	893'257	3%	8
EGE UNIVERSITY	570'738	2%	4

The Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) represented by State Secretary Mauro Dell'Ambrogio visited Turkey in June 2012 in order to identify common interests and assess opportunities to increase scientific cooperation between the two countries. During two days, the Swiss delegation visited the Council of Higher Education and TÜBİTAK in Ankara, as well as the most important national research center Tübitak MAM in the Istanbul area.<sup>20</sup> More information on the outcomes of these meetings could not be found.

### 3.3. Degree-seeking mobility

The effort of internationalization proved relatively successful in recent years. In 2014, the number of applications from international students seeking university admission in Turkey was 90,000 from 176 countries, a major jump from 56,000 in 2013 and 44,000 in 2012. The number of international students who eventually enrolled in a Turkish university in 2014 was around 55,000 (1.1% of the world's international students). The majority originates from the two developing nations Azerbaijan (1<sup>st</sup>) and Turkmenistan (2<sup>nd</sup>) due to their geographical and linguistic proximity. Three EU nations – Germany (3<sup>rd</sup>), Greece (4<sup>th</sup>), and Bulgaria (7<sup>th</sup>) – are also among the top ten sending countries.

A 2011 study found that incoming international students from developed countries chose Turkey mainly for private rationales, whereas those coming from developing countries were driven mainly by academic and economic rationales.<sup>21</sup>

When it comes to the outflow, Turkey is among the top 15 sending countries globally, accounting to about 100,000 outgoing students every year.<sup>22</sup> According to UNESCO,<sup>23</sup> top receiving countries of Turkish students were the United States,

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[http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national\\_contact\\_points.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/support/national_contact_points.html).

<sup>19</sup> Calculated based on data from <https://open-data.europa.eu/en/data/dataset/cordis-h2020projects-under-horizon-2020-2014-2020>.

<sup>20</sup> "Puissance scientifique montante, la Turquie pourrait devenir un partenaire plus important pour la recherche Suisse", SER, 12 June 2012, <https://www.news.admin.ch/message/index.html?lang=fr&msg-id=44906>.

<sup>21</sup> Kondakci Y., "Student mobility reviewed: attraction and satisfaction of international students in Turkey", *Higher Education* 62:5 (Nov 2011), pp. 573-592.

<sup>22</sup> According to ICEF Monitor, "The factors driving international student mobility to and from Turkey", 25 April 2015, <http://monitor.icef.com/2015/04/the-factors-driving-international-student-mobility-to-and-from-turkey/>.

<sup>23</sup> See <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Pages/international-student-flow-viz.aspx>.

Germany and Bulgaria in the 2012-2013 academic year, and Switzerland ranked 14<sup>th</sup>.

In a 2013 British Council survey of more than 4,800 Turkish students, 95% expressed wishes to go abroad. The main reason they did not pursue such opportunities, according to the survey, was the expense.

### **3.4. Mobility scholarships**

About 13,000 incoming international students currently receive financial aid from the Turkish government. Outgoing research scholarships are also available for Turkish PhD students and post-doc researchers. In 2014, Turkey allocated about \$96 million for government scholarship programs, the highest amount ever.

#### **3.4.1. Türkiye (IN)**

Türkiye Scholarships are higher education scholarships proposed by the Turkish government to international students who wish to study in Turkey. They consist of monthly allowances and cover, among others, housing in public universities, tuition, health insurance, and a share of transportation costs to and from Turkey.

Specific scholarships include the fields of Turkish language, Islamic studies, religious studies, medical sciences, science and technology and social sciences. Whereas some scholarships are available to all international students, some are restricted to students from developing countries, in particular Turkish-speaking countries, the Balkans, the Black Sea region, and the Middle East and Africa. The list of scholarships for foreign students is available at the following address:

<http://www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/index.php/en/turkiye-burslari/burs-programlari>.

#### **3.4.2. TÜBİTAK (IN and OUT)**

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) offers scholarships for Turkish and international students and researchers in most academic fields.

##### Scholarships IN

A number of scholarships are available for undergraduate and graduate international students as well as researchers coming to Turkey. *Undergraduate* scholarships are granted to international students who are medal winners of the International Science Olympiads.<sup>24</sup> The Graduate Scholarship Programme targets international *master* and *PhD* students in the fields of natural sciences, engineering and technological sciences, medical sciences, agricultural sciences, social sciences and humanities.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>24</sup> See <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/undergraduatesgraduates/international-programmes/content-2205-undergraduate-scholarship-programme-for-international-students>.

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/undergraduatesgraduates/international-programmes/content-2215-graduate-scholarship-programme-for-international-students>.

It consists in monthly stipends between 1,500 and 1,800 Turkish Liras (equivalent to \$493-\$593), tuition fees and health insurance coverage. Fellowships are also available to foreign *scientists* coming in Turkey to give workshops, conferences or lectures, or conduct R&D activities, in the fields mentioned above.<sup>26</sup>

In addition to these programs, the CO-FUNDED Brain Circulation Scheme is a program proposed by TÜBİTAK in partnership with the European Commission's FP7 that seeks to attract research talents in Turkey for a period of around 12 months.<sup>27</sup>

### Scholarships OUT

According to the information available in English, only PhD and post-doc researchers have access to public financial support to go abroad. Three different programs exist. The International PhD Fellowship Programme is available to *Turkish* PhD candidates pursuing their studies at research centers and universities abroad. The International Research Fellowship Program is reserved to PhD candidates *registered in Turkey* and going abroad when the research project cannot be performed with Turkish infrastructure.<sup>28</sup> The International Postdoctoral Research Scholarship Programme supports post-doc research projects conducted abroad.<sup>29</sup>

Smaller IN and OUT scholarship programs are described in English on the website of Ozyegin University at the following address:

<http://www.ozyegin.edu.tr/Ogrenci-Hizmetleri/Burs-ve-Finansal-Destek/Burs-veren-kurumlar?lang=en-US>.

## **3.5. International conferences and fairs**

### **3.5.1. EAIE 2013 in Istanbul**

Europe's largest international higher education conference was held in Istanbul, Turkey in 2013. Turkish higher education was put in the spotlight during these four days. One of the seven members of the conference programme committee, Ayse Inan of Koç University, was Turkish. 9 campus tours were organized and included Istanbul University, Bogazici University and Koç University.<sup>30</sup> Members of the Middle East Technical University and Bogazici University presented the first session of the conference, called "Introduction to higher education in Turkey", and another session highlighted the internationalization of Turkish higher education. The list of the 18 Turkish universities holding a stand at this fair is provided in Annex 3.

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<sup>26</sup> See <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/postdoctoral/international-programmes/content-2221-fellowships-for-visiting-scientists-and-scientists-on-sabbatical-leave>.

<sup>27</sup> See <http://www.cocirc.tubitak.gov.tr/>.

<sup>28</sup> <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/undergraduatesgraduates/national-programmes/content-undergraduate-graduate-scholarships-for-turkish-citizens>.

<sup>29</sup> See <http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/postdoctoral/national-programmes/content-postdoctoral-scholarships-for-turkish-citizens>.

<sup>30</sup> Other campuses were Istanbul Bilgi University, Yıldız Technical University, Sabanci University, Yeditepe University, Istanbul Kültür University and Kadir Has University.

### **3.5.2. EAIE 2015 in Glasgow**

The most recent EAIE conference took place in Glasgow, Scotland, in September 2015 with 5050 participants from 90 countries. A large number of Turkish universities were represented at this fair.<sup>31</sup> More detail on the seven universities holding a stand is provided in Annex 3.

### **3.5.3. QS Fair 2011 in Istanbul**

Unlike the previous events that are meant to connect higher education professionals, promotional fairs that target international students are regularly organized around the world, notably by QS. A delegation from UNIGE's International Relations Office regularly attends the QS Fair in Istanbul. According to a 2011 report by Olivier Vincent, Deputy Director of the International Relations Office at UNIGE, Turkish students are particularly interested by courses in English (except for Galatasaray University students who speak French) and by the International Organization MBA (IOMBA), biochemistry and the master in finance. In February 2015, 59 students registered at the UNIGE stand. Out of these, 43% intended to study FAME (finance, accounting, management, accounting) and 39% STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematic). About half of them mentioned scholarships as a source of funding.

### **3.5.4. International Education Fairs of Turkey (IEFT)**

IEFT organizes the largest education promotional fairs in both Turkey and the Middle-East, and welcomes over 300 exhibitors from more than 150 institutions and 25 countries every year. In April 2015, fairs were held in Ankara, Istanbul (European and Asian sides), Izmir (west), Adana (south) and Eskisehir (north west). Foreign exhibitors are organized into "country villages". Currently, these include 11 countries (7 from Europe), but not Switzerland although the country was ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in terms of the visitors' interest.<sup>32</sup> More information is available at: <http://ieft.net/>.

## **3.6. Rankings**

In order to allow for informed decisions when selecting key future partners, it is helpful to consider a number of "objective criteria". This is what university rankings attempt to achieve, although their methodologies are subject to much criticism. This section first considers some well-known international university-level rankings and a national field-level ranking based on entrance exam scores.

### **3.6.1. International rankings**

The first approach – international rankings – is interesting because Turkish universities started very recently to appear in these. There were only one or two Turkish universities in the Times Higher Education (THE) top 200 world universities in the past – except in the 2011 and 2012 rankings, when there were none. In 2015, four universities (Middle East Technical University, Bogazici University, Istanbul Technical University and Sabanci University) were part of the top 200 and two

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<sup>31</sup> The full list of Turkish participants is available upon request.

<sup>32</sup> More statistics on their website at [http://ieft.net/content/about/ieft\\_visitor\\_profiles.aspx](http://ieft.net/content/about/ieft_visitor_profiles.aspx).

(Bilkent University and Koç University) were part of the top 400. The latest ranking for 2016 includes 11 Turkish universities (see Figure 6) but downgraded the most prestigious ones below the 250<sup>th</sup> rank.

**Figure 6: Leading Turkish institutions according to selected international academic rankings (most recent as of October 2015)<sup>33</sup>**

↓ INSTITUTION RANKING →	THE Global	QS Global	Leiden Global	ARWU (Shanghai) Global	US News	THE Emerging economies	THE Top 100 under 50	FT European Business School	IDEAS REPEC Economics
Year	2016	2015	2015	2015	2016	2015	2015	2014	2015
Koç U.	251-300	481-490	-	-	-	29	51	67	Top 7%
Bilkent U.	351-400	394	-	-	389	19	28	-	Top 8%
Sabancı U.	351-400	441-450	-	-	-	15	13	73	-
Middle East Technical U.	501-600	431-440	559	-	217	3	-	-	Top 9%
Boğaziçi U.	501-600	441-450	-	-	220	7	-	-	Top 9%
Istanbul Technical U.	501-600	551-600	584	-	280	8	-	-	-
Hacettepe U.	601-800	651-700	587	-	606	82	-	-	-
Istanbul U.	601-800	701+	631	401-500	560	51	-	-	-
Erciyes U.	601-800	-	669	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yıldız Technical U.	601-800	-	-	-	730	-	-	-	-
Anadolu U.	601-800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ankara U.	-	701+	738	-	562	-	-	-	-
Cukurova U.	-	701+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gazi U.	-	-	647	-	703	-	-	-	-
Ege U.	-	-	660	-	513	-	-	-	-
Selçuk U.	-	-	689	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dokuz Eylül U.	-	-	719	-	-	-	-	-	-
Atatürk U.	-	-	740	-	-	-	-	-	-

The QS World University Ranking is quite consistent in terms of the selected candidates. It also adds two other universities at ranks lower than 600: Ankara University and Cukurova University. 10 Turkish universities are included in the Leiden Ranking but only three in the Top 600; the two Technical Universities previously mentioned and Hacettepe University. Istanbul University is the only

<sup>33</sup> Times Higher Education Ranking 2016: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2016/world-ranking#!/page/0/length/25>.

QS World University Ranking 2015: <http://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2015#sorting=rank+region+=+country=134+faculty+=+stars=false+search=>.

Leiden Ranking (size-dependant) 2015: <http://www.leidenranking.com/ranking/2015>.

Academic Ranking of World Universities 2015: <http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2015.html>.

US News Best Global University 2016: <http://www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities/rankings>.

Times Higher Education BRICS and Emerging Economies 2015:

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2015/brics-and-emerging-economies>.

Times Higher Education 100 Under 50 Ranking 2015: <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2015/one-hundred-under-fifty>.

Financial Times European Business School Rankings 2014:

<http://rankings.ft.com/businessschoolrankings/european-business-school-rankings-2014>.

Ideas REPEC Ranking of economic institutions (last 10 years):

<https://ideas.repec.org/top/top.inst.all.html>.



Turkish higher education institution to figure in the ARWU Ranking (Shanghai Ranking) between the 401<sup>st</sup> and the 500<sup>th</sup> ranks. Finally, the U.S. News Ranking seems to put even more weight on hard sciences, granting the first and third places to the technical universities METU (217<sup>th</sup>) and ITU (280<sup>th</sup>), respectively. Bogazici University completes the podium.

These numbers appear particularly poor in global perspective. Put back in the context of developing countries however, Turkish institutions are part of the elite, with five institutions in the top 20 and three others in the top 100 of the THE BRICs and Emerging Economies 2015. Considering the recent growth of the sector in Turkey, it is also important not to compare apples with oranges. The THE Top 100 under 50 restricts the ranking to young universities of under 50 years old. Sabanci University (13<sup>th</sup>), Bilkent University (28<sup>th</sup>) and Koç University (51<sup>st</sup>) appear to be the most promising institutions through these lenses.

Furthermore, Sabanci University and Koç University are part of the Financial Times top 100 European Business Schools, and Koç University and Bilkent University are part of the top 7% and top 8% in economic research, respectively, according to the Ideas Repec Ranking. These three English-language universities would thus represent interesting partnerships looking ahead.

### 3.6.2. Ranking based on entry exam scores

The second approach is based on the average academic level of students entering Turkish programs as measured by their scores at the central entrance university exam discussed in section 2.1. This measure is a rather solid indicator of the fields of excellence of leading Turkish universities in an academic – more so than research – perspective. Figure 7 provides the 2015 top performers by field, which surprisingly do not include the technical universities. The full ranking is available in Annex 5.

**Figure 7: top institution by field based on students' entry exam scores**

Rank	University, city	Field	Additional info	Base points		
				2013	2014	2015
1	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Medicine	English, full scholarship	537	542	537
2	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Electrical Engineering	English	533	532	524
6	GALATASARAY, İSTANBUL	Law		525	-	521
7	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Computer Engineering	English, full scholarship	527	521	517
9	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Industrial Engineering	English	522	526	516
18	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	English Language and Comparative Literature	English, full scholarship	517	508	507
21	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Mechanical Engineering	English	509	515	504
26	BİLKENT, ANKARA	Translation and Interpretation	EN, FR, TU, full scholarship	512	496	496
30	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Economics and Administrative Sciences	English, full scholarship	491	503	493
39	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	English Teaching	English	515	501	484
47	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Business	English	482	493	482
64	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Civil engineering	English	486	498	479
69	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Psychology	English, full scholarship	470	482	477
71	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Chemical and Biological Engineering	English, full scholarship	500	490	476
82	BİLKENT, ANKARA	Architecture	English, full scholarship	477	487	474
84	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Linguistics	English	-	-	473
98	GALATASARAY, İSTANBUL	French Language and Literature		490	478	470
103	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Sociology	English, full scholarship	450	471	469
112	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	Political Science and International Relations	English	473	481	467
120	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Media and Visual Arts	English, full scholarship	472	490	465
126	KOÇ, İSTANBUL	Mathematics	English, full scholarship	459	479	464
171	BOĞAZİÇİ, İSTANBUL	History	English	465	470	457

## 4. Collaboration with UNIGE

### 4.1. Swiss-European Mobility Program (ex-Erasmus)

The choices available to UNIGE students wishing to study in Turkey are currently limited to three and all located in Istanbul. Galatasaray University, a French-language university, accepts law, management, social sciences and humanities students and researchers and is thus UNIGE's primary partner since April 2009. Istanbul University is UNIGE's oldest Turkish partner (2006) and is open to students from the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting. The partnership with Koç University was specifically set up for psychology students.

This section provides a selection of quotes from previous UNIGE exchange students (3 reports for Galatasaray University and 1 for Istanbul University), as well as a summary of a visit report by Olivier Vincent. Overall, the students report having greatly benefited from the cultural and personal experience of living in Istanbul, but are particularly critical of the academic level in their host institution, described as extremely poor relative to UNIGE.

**Figure 7: current exchange programs proposed by UNIGE in Turkish institutions**

Établissement	Cadre d'échange ▲▼	Faculté(s)	Domaine d'études	Bachelor	Master	Doctorat	Enseignants/chercheurs
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	GSEM	Management	Oui	Oui	Oui	Oui
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	ELCFs	Littérature (Français langue étrangère)	Non	Non	Non	Non
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	SDS	Sociology and cultural studies	Oui	Oui	Oui	Oui
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	GSEM	Economy	Oui	Oui	Oui	Oui
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	Lettres	Philosophy and ethics	Oui	Oui	Oui	Oui
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	Droit	Law	Oui	Oui	Oui	Oui
Istanbul Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	FTI	Foreign languages (translation)	Oui	Oui	Oui	Non
Galatasaray Üniversitesi	Programme ERASMUS	SDS	Political science / International relations	Oui	Oui	Oui	Oui
Koç University	Programme ERASMUS	FPSE	Psychology	Oui	Oui	Oui	Non
Koç University	Programme ERASMUS	FPSE	Psychology	Oui	Oui	Oui	Non

#### 4.1.1. Galatasaray University

##### Quotes from 3 previous Erasmus students:

- « L'Université Galatasaray est la plus réputée du pays »
- « Le campus de l'université est très petit et il y a très peu d'étudiants. Les classes n'ont que 15-20 étudiants au maximum, parfois même beaucoup moins. »
- « Les cours sont d'un niveau beaucoup plus faible que celui de l'Université de Genève, sauf pour ceux enseignés par des professeurs francophones. »
- « Le niveau de langue des étudiants turcs est plutôt mauvais et d'ailleurs, ils n'hésitent pas à poser leurs questions en turc aux professeurs qui répondent également en turc. »
- « L'Université avait changé tous ses cours : soit ils ne sont plus proposés, soit le professeur décide subitement de le donner en Turc. »
- « Peu après la rentrée, on nous a envoyé un mail avec la liste des cours que l'on pouvait choisir. Cette liste contenait une dizaine de cours en français et en anglais (majoritairement en anglais), de tous niveaux (Bachelor, Master et Doctorat). »

- « Il n'y a pas besoin de Visa pour venir en Turquie, par contre une fois sur place il faut un permis de séjour/résidence (Ikamet en turc). C'est une opération très longue et délicate. (...) Chaque individu a le droit à un séjour de maximum 90 jours, sur une période de 180 jours, en Turquie. »
- « De manière globale, mon expérience a été une réussite totale. »

### **Summary of Olivier Vincent's report:**

The University of Galatasaray replaced the famous Lycée Galatasaray, a school that used to open the doors to the leadership of the Ottoman administration, in 1992 through a partnership with the government of François Mitterand. It is a small institution with an excellent reputation (top 5 in Turkey).

The meeting took place with Prof. Füsün Türkmen (director of the Centre de Recherche et de Documentation sur l'Europe and Erasmus coordinator for international relations, who lived 8 years in Geneva and studied at HEI), Ms Dilek Anadol (secretary general and coordinator for Erasmus/LLP) and Ms Yesim Gürbüz (Erasmus coordinator for economics and administration studies). Discussions revolved around the following topics :

- BARI students have full access to law, economics and political science courses.
- Obtaining the Turkish visa is complicated because exchange confirmations are sent in July, which is already too late to start the process. Ms Anadol is the contact point for this.
- Ms Anadol proposes that UNIGE should join the mobility network Galatasaray-Universités françaises, based in Paris I / La Sorbonne, which may release funds for « OUT » scholarships. See <http://consortium.gsu.edu.tr/>. Other sources of funding may be available from the Galatasaray Alumni Network or from the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF).

#### **4.1.2. Istanbul University**

### **Quotes from 1 previous Erasmus student:**

- « Le niveau de l'université d'Istanbul est bien moins élevé que celui de l'Université de Genève. Les cours que j'y ai suivi ne sont donc pas très intéressants, les étudiants sont absents, immatures ou endormis. De plus, le panel de cours dispensés en anglais, français ou allemand est très réduit et il m'a été très difficile de rassembler assez d'ECTS (à savoir 30) pour que mon semestre soit validé. Le niveau des examens est, lui aussi, relativement proche des contrôles du collège/lycée. »
- « La liste de cours que je pensais pouvoir suivre ne m'a pas servi à grand chose car la plupart de ces enseignements n'étaient pas possibles pour moi. »
- « L'administration a toujours été prête à m'écouter et a m'aider, bien qu'ils ne parlaient pas un mot d'anglais (même dans les bureaux Erasmus!) »
- « La vie à Istanbul est très agréable, il est relativement facile de trouver un logement et d'en changer s'il n'est pas satisfaisant »

### **Summary of Olivier Vincent's report:**

Istanbul University is the oldest in Turkey (member of the Coimbra Group, 70,000 students). A large number of disciplines are taught and it benefits from an excellent reputation in the country (top 5). It is the Turkish institution that sends the most students to UNIGE (1 per year in the FTI).

The main points discussed in a meeting with Dr Arsun Yilmaz (coordinator Erasmus translation) and Ms Yasemin Fidan (responsible for IN students) were:

- English and French courses are proposed in the Department of Interpretation, so Turkish knowledge is not essential. The languages proposed for Traduction students are French, German and English.
- Summer school is proposed one month before the start of the academic year.
- Only little internal mobility is possible, with a maximum of two courses per faculty outside the one mentioned in the agreement.
- Turkish bachelor degree lasts four years and students leave for an exchange in the third year.
- Turkish students coming to Geneva often find it difficult to successfully complete the courses of the FTI because these require a very high level of proficiency in French.

## **4.2. Common publications**

Elsevier's SciVal and Microsoft's Academic Search were used to collect information on recent links between collaborators of UNIGE and their peers in Turkish institutions. These tools contain data on publications and affiliations and span a large portion of the literature in particular in "hard" sciences and in the English language. Because this approach does not allow for a comprehensive review of co-authorship, a special focus has been put on papers published in relatively close collaboration.

### **4.2.1. SciVal**

A large number of academic papers have been identified using the SciVal tool and the Turkish institutions with the most co-authorship with UNIGE are reported on Figure 6.

Somehow surprisingly, universities with which UNIGE has current European Mobility partnerships do not seem to have similarly strong research ties with Geneva. Galatasaray University and Koç University have no co-authorship, which might stem from the fact that these universities are small or have a focus on social sciences, and Istanbul University is ranked 18<sup>th</sup> with 18 co-authored publications.

It is important to note the strong bias caused by publications in "hard sciences", in particular the field of physics, and those written in English (only publications in English were found). In fact, most publications retrieved through this method are research papers in physics with dozens and often hundreds of co-authors. Due to the presence of the CERN in the Geneva area, local researchers are frequently part of

research projects, which does not mean that any close collaboration has been carried out with a Turkish scholar.

**Figure 8: Turkish universities with most co-authored publications (SciVal)**

Turkish Institution	Co-authored publications	Citations per Publication
Bogazici University	379	29
Ankara University	329	29
Gazi University	315	29
Dogus Universitesi Istanbul	311	29
TOBB University of Economics and Technology	311	29
University of Gaziantep	310	29
Dumlupinar Universitesi	186	41
Istanbul Technical University	182	42
Middle East Technical University	162	26
Ege University	63	48
Izmir Institute of Technology	53	34
Cukurova University	52	35
Mersin University	51	34
Kafkas Universitesi	50	35
Suleyman Demirel University	49	35
Gaziosmanpasa University	41	31
Hacettepe University	27	40
Istanbul University	18	44
TUBITAK Marmara Research Center	8	9
Marmara University	7	20
Istanbul Aydin University	6	2
Sabanci Universitesi	5	211
Akdeniz University	4	4
Gulhane Military Medical Academy	4	53
Baskent University	3	47
Bilkent University	3	480
Cumhuriyet University	3	6
Firat University	3	20

To partially deal with this issue, Annex 2 provides the list of the publications from seven leading universities (see section 3.7) that can be defined as close collaboration, arbitrarily defined as papers published with up to 20 co-authors.

#### 4.2.2. Microsoft Academic Search

To widen the scope of research, additional publications were identified with the help of Microsoft Academic Search. In that case, searches had to be carried out institution by institution such that only the top universities (including the ex-Erasmus partners but excluding the institutes of technology) were considered. The 11 recent publications found are thus not comprehensive but particularly relevant for this report. The reader is encouraged to consult Annex 2 for the detail.

### 4.3. Turkish students and researchers

Turkish students and researchers visited or collaborated with UNIGE through the Erasmus Program (13), the Bourse d'Excellence (2), the Bourse de la Confédération (5), one Ph.D. thesis cotutelle and Geneva Summer Schools (2). They originate from 11 universities or research centers:

1	Anadolu University	Bourse de la Confédération
1	Ankara University	Bourse de la Confédération
2	Bogaziçi University	Bourse de la Confédération, bourse d'excellence
1	Fatih University	Bourse de la Confédération
3	Galatasaray University	Erasmus
1	Hacettepe University	Geneva Summer School
1	Istanbul Teknik University	Bourse de la Confédération
10	Istanbul University	Erasmus, cotutelle
1	Koç University	GSS
1	Marmara University	Erasmus
1	Mineral Research and Exploration General Directorate (MTA)	Bourse d'excellence

These connections could create opportunities for partnerships in the future. For example, the first scholar listed in the database, Şerif Ali Tekalan, visited the Faculty of Medicine of UNIGE as a Boursier de la Confédération between 1981 and 1983 and is now the rector of Fatih University in Istanbul. He notably represented Fatih University Medical School during a visit at UNIGE in November 2000.

The complete list of 23 students and scholars is provided by type of relationship and chronologically in Annex 1.

### 4.4. SNF research projects

33 projects that received funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation have included some form of collaboration with Turkish universities, according to the SNF P3 Research Database ([p3.snf.ch](http://p3.snf.ch)).

Two of these projects were undertaken at UNIGE and are detailed below.

1) "Comment et pourquoi les enseignants décident du redoublement de certains élèves?"

Lead: Marcel Crahay

Faculty: Faculté de Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Education

Period: 01.12.2010 - 31.07.2014

Collaboration: In-depth/constructive exchanges on approaches, methods or results with Institute of Social Sciences, Yildiz Technical University, Istanbul.

2) "Episodic Mesozoic to Tertiary ore-forming events along the Lesser Caucasus and adjoining tectonic provinces"

Lead: Robert Moritz



Faculty: Département des sciences de la Terre

Period: 01.11.2011 - 31.10.2014

Collaboration: in-depth/constructive exchanges on approaches, methods or results with MTA (Mineral Research & Exploration General Directorate), Ankara.

Other Western-Switzerland universities also cooperated with Turkish institutions. The University of Lausanne worked with Bilkent University (psychology), the University of Neuchâtel with Galatasaray University (sociology), the University of Fribourg with Yıldız Teknik University (religious sciences), and the EPFL with Koç University (mathematics), Bogazici University (biomedical engineering), Izmir Institute of Technology (endocrinology) and Middle East Technical University (electrical engineering).

#### **4.5. Other types of links**

Targeted web searches also identified a number of projects, conferences, researchers or publications related both to UNIGE and Turkey.

#### **Unité d'Arménien at UNIGE**

The Unité d'Arménien (Lettres), led by Prof. Valentina Calzolari Bouvier ([Valentina.Calzolari@unige.ch](mailto:Valentina.Calzolari@unige.ch)), has been involved in a number of ways with experts of Turkey or the broader region.

- May 2015: Journée internationale d'étude on "Le cataclysme ottoman et le génocide des Arméniens : nouvelles approches, nouvelles issues", featuring Hülya Adak of Sabanci University and Cengiz Aktar of Bahçeşehir University ([program](#)).
- October 2014: conference by Prof. Cengiz Aktar, Turkish political scientist, journalist and writer who taught at Galatasaray University and Bahçeşehir University. Title: "Le travail de mémoire en Turquie: la nouvelle visibilité et audibilité des minorités religieuses et ethniques".
- Spring 2013: Prof. Hans-Lukas Kieser ([details](#)) came to UNIGE to give a course: "La Turquie et le Caucase, une histoire de ruptures et de solidarités à éclairer (19e-20e siècles)" ([course description](#)). Prof. Kieser is historian of the late Ottoman Empire and Turkey, Professor of modern history at the University of Zurich and president of the Research Foundation Switzerland-Turkey in Basel ([www.sfst.ch](http://www.sfst.ch)).
- November 2010: the Centre de recherches arménologiques was associated with the international research project "International Higher Education Support Program (HESP)" on "The Caucasus and Byzantium from Late Antiquity through the Middle Ages". Turkish institutions collaborating on this project included Bogaziçi University, the British Institute at Ankara and the Orient-Institut Istanbul (see project [page](#)).

## Publications on Turkey without formal collaboration

Archive ouverte ([www.archive-ouverte.unige.ch](http://www.archive-ouverte.unige.ch)) helped identify a number of UNIGE scholars who recently published on Turkey-related topics, without being formally connected to a peer from a Turkish institution as co-author.

- Kaddous Christine (Droit). “Le rôle de la Cour de justice dans l'interprétation de l'accord d'association CEE-Turquie” in Bonnet, Baptiste. *Turquie et Union européenne : état des lieux*. Bruxelles: Bruylant. 2012, pp. 79-103.
- Martini Rossana (Earth and Environmental Sciences). “Geology and Correlation of the Mersin Mélanges, Southern Turkey”, *Turkish Journal of Earth Sciences*, Vol. 20, 2011, pp. 57-98. With co-authors.
- Yilmaz Ozcan (Unité d'histoire contemporaine, Lettres):
  - “Diaspora et communautés de migrants de Turquie en Suisse”, Office fédéral des migrations (ODM), Berne, 2010. With co-authors.
  - “Syrie : Ankara contre Téhéran ?”, *Politique étrangère*, 2014, No 3, pp. 121-133.
  - “Kurdish Nation Formation in Turkey Through Hroch's A-B-C Model: the Role of Modernization in the Transition to the Phase C”, in Eisenberg, Jaci and Rodogno, Davide (Eds.), *Ideas and Identities: A Festschrift for Andre Liebich*, Bern, Peter Lang, 2014, pp. 103-121.
  - “Turquie-Union européenne : les raisons et conséquences de la relance des négociations”, *Papier d'actualité*, Fondation Pierre Du Bois, no 1, 2014.
  - “La question kurde en Turquie : retour aux années 1990 ?”, *Confluences Méditerranée*, N° 84, 2013, pp. 159-171.
  - “L'exile et le nationalisme : le cas kurde au début du XXe siècle”, *Relations internationales*, n° 141, 2010, pp. 7-24.
  - “Le processus d'adhésion de la Turquie à l'Union européenne. Effets sur les institutions, la société et la politique turques”, in Arcidiacono, Bruno, Milzow, Katrin, Marion, Axel, Bourneuf, Pierre-Etienne (Eds), *L'Europe vingt ans après la fin de la guerre froide : nouvelle Europe, nouvelles Europes ?*, Bruxelles, New York, P.I.E Peter Lang, 2012, pp. 235-247.

## UNIGE courses on Turkey

### La Turquie contemporaine : Etat et identités

Code J2H047, spring semester 2016

Ozcan Yilmaz

GSI, Bachelor in International Relations

“Ce séminaire a pour but d'offrir des clés de compréhension de l'histoire de la Turquie contemporaine. On analysera le passage de l'empire à un Etat-nation, le processus de modernisation, de l'occidentalisation du pays et les conséquences sur ses composantes religieuses et ethniques.”

**La Turquie et le Caucase : une histoire de ruptures et de solidarités à éclairer (XIXe - XXe siècles)**

J\_32G4246, annual

GSI, Bachelor en Arménien

Previously taught by H.-L. Kieser

**Histoire des rapports entre le Caucase et la Turquie : de l'Empire Ottoman aux conflits actuels**

Code 32G4246, spring semester 2016

Vicken Cheterian

Lettres, Unité d'Arménien, Bachelor et master en Arménien, Bachelor et Master en Histoire, Master Russie – Europe médiane, Master Moyen-Orient

*“Ce cours traite des relations entre l'empire Ottoman et ses sujets arméniens, de l'émergence de la question arménienne, de la montée du nationalisme ainsi que du génocide pendant la première guerre mondiale. Comment expliquer le long silence qui suivit l'holocauste de la première guerre? Quelle rôle la négation du génocide a-t-elle joué dans la genèse du conflit du Haut Karabakh? Enfin comment le développement de la société civile a réintroduit la question des minorités dans l'actualité turque.”*

**Ecrivains arméniens de la Diaspora et de Turquie au XXe siècle**

Code 34G4087, Spring semester 2016

Valentina Calzolari Bouvier

Lettres, Unité d'Arménien, Master en Arménien

## 5. Key facts on leading universities

### *Bogazici University*

**Founded:** 1971

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 14,967

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** English (100%)

**Accommodations:** special dorm for international students

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 379 (SciVal) and 2 (Microsoft Academic Search)

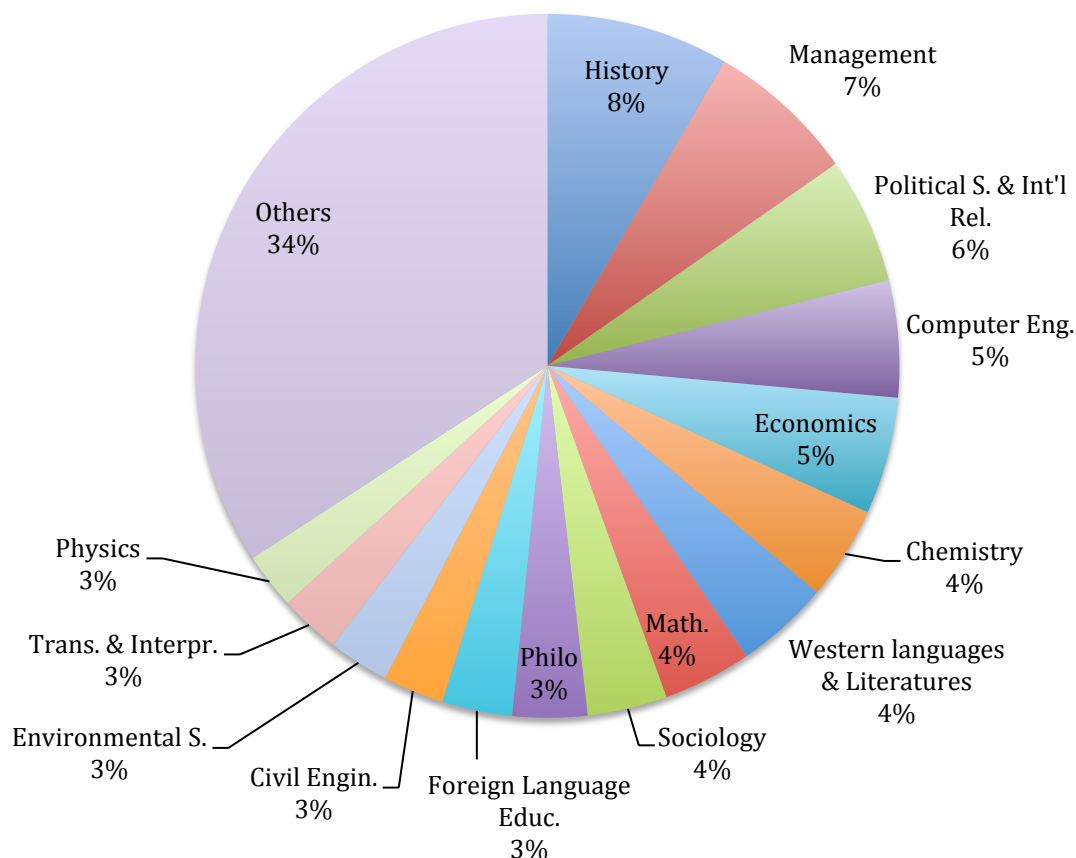
**Students with links to UNIGE:** 2 boursiers (Confédération & excellence d'excellence)

**Miscellaneous:** 500 international students and 120 exchange students

**Website:** <http://www.boun.edu.tr/en-US/Index>

**Exchange partners include:** Uni Basel, Uni Zürich, HSG, Universität Wien, UCL (Leuven and London), Warwick, Sciences Po, Humboldt, Bocconi, Boston, Columbia, NYU. Full list: <http://www.intl.boun.edu.tr/?q=node/50>

### BOGAZICI UNIVERSITY Exchange agreements by fields



### **Galatasaray University**

**Founded:** 1992

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 2,500

**Areas of studies:** economics, law, communication, engineering, arts and sciences.

**Language of instruction:** French and Turkish

**Accommodations:** no facilities

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** 3 Erasmus students

**Miscellaneous:** founded through an agreement between the French and the Turkish governments.

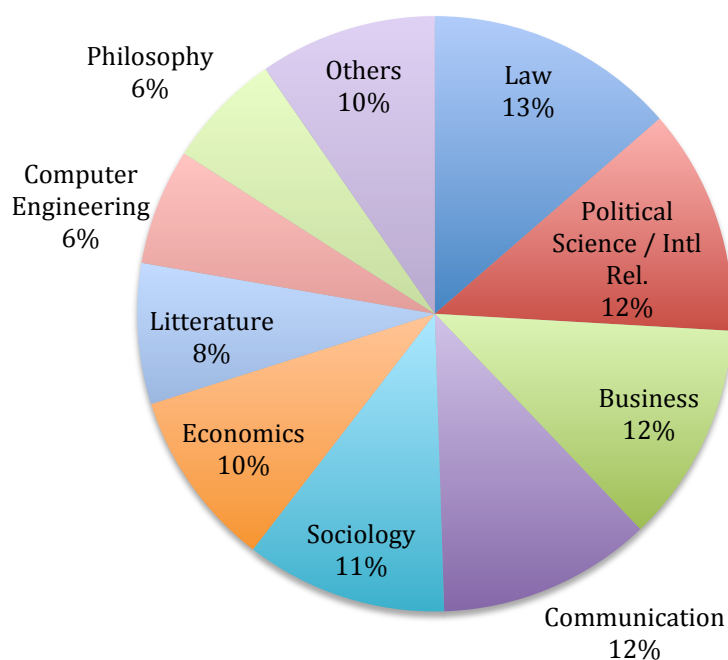
**Website:** <http://gsu.edu.tr/en/>

**Exchange partners include:** Uni Fribourg, Uni Neuchatel, Unil, Unige, most French universities, UCL (Louvain), ULB, Autonoma de Madrid and de Barcelona. Full list:

<http://uio.gsu.edu.tr/tr/erasmus/ogrenim-hareketiligi/anlasmalar>

### **GALATASARAY UNIVERSITY**

#### **Exchange agreements by fields**



### ***Bilkent University***

**Founded:** 1986

**Location:** Ankara

**Type:** private

**Number of students:** 12,399

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** English

**Accommodations:** on-campus dormitories guaranteed for international students

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 3 (SciVal) and 2 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

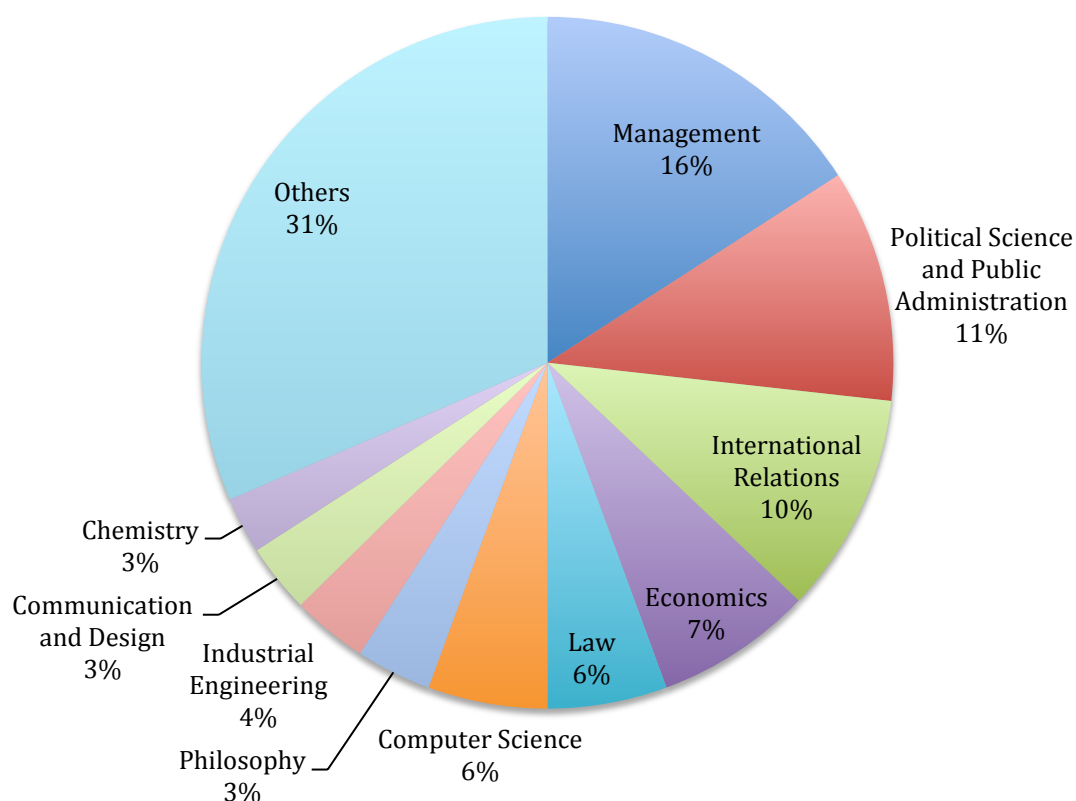
**Miscellaneous:** first non-profit foundation university in Turkey

**Website:** <http://w3.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/>

**Exchange partners include:** Uni Bern, Uni Zürich, Uni Luzern, EPFL, UCL (Louvain), Sciences Po, TU Berlin, Bocconi, Edinburgh. Full list:

[http://www.exchange.bilkent.edu.tr/exchange\\_partners.html](http://www.exchange.bilkent.edu.tr/exchange_partners.html)

### **BILKENT UNIVERSITY** **Exchange agreements by fields**





## **Koç University**

**Founded:** 1993

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** private non-profit

**Number of students:** 3,675

**Areas of studies:** social sciences, humanities, economics, science, engineering, law and medicine.

**Language of instruction:** English (100%)

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

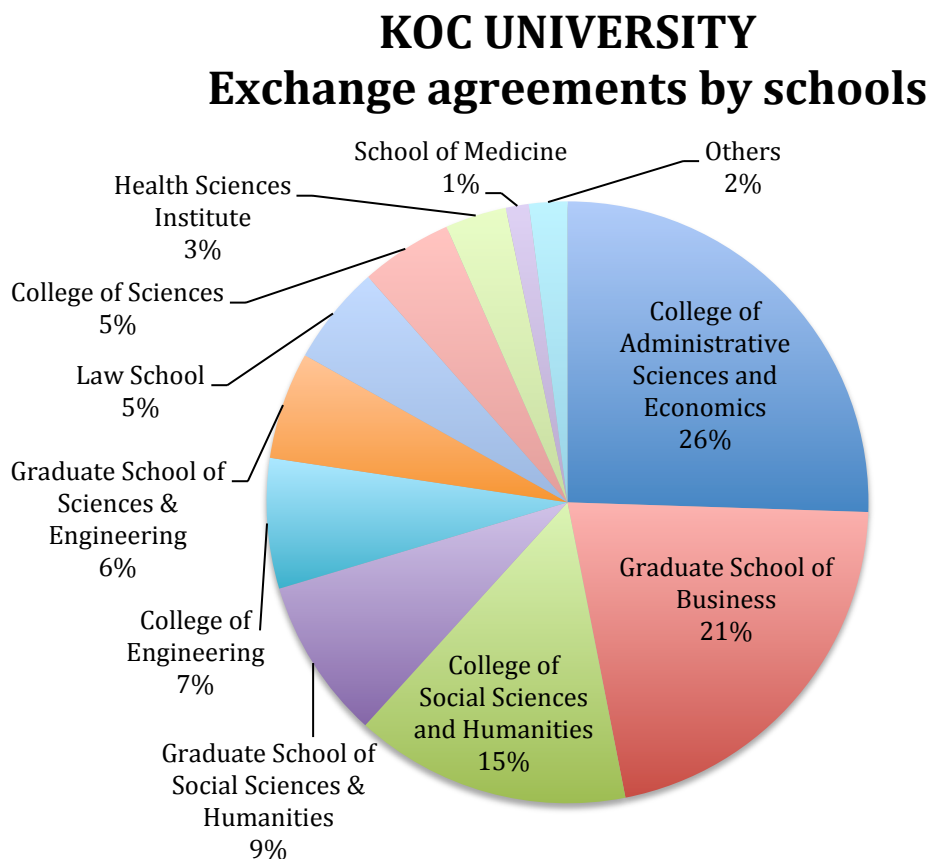
**Students with links to UNIGE:** 1 GSS student

**Miscellaneous:** n.a.

**Website:** <https://www.ku.edu.tr/en>

**Exchange partners include:** Unige, Unil, HSG, Uni Wien, UCL (Louvain), HEC Paris, Sciences Po, Humboldt, TU München, Uni College Dublin, Stockholm School of Economics, LSE, Warwick, Georgetown, Northwestern, Berkeley, Uni of Michigan.

Full list: <https://oip.ku.edu.tr/node/586>



### ***Middle East Technical University***

**Founded:** 1956

**Location:** Ankara

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 26,500

**Areas of studies:** engineering, architecture

**Language of instruction:** English (100%)

**Accommodations:** dormitories and residences

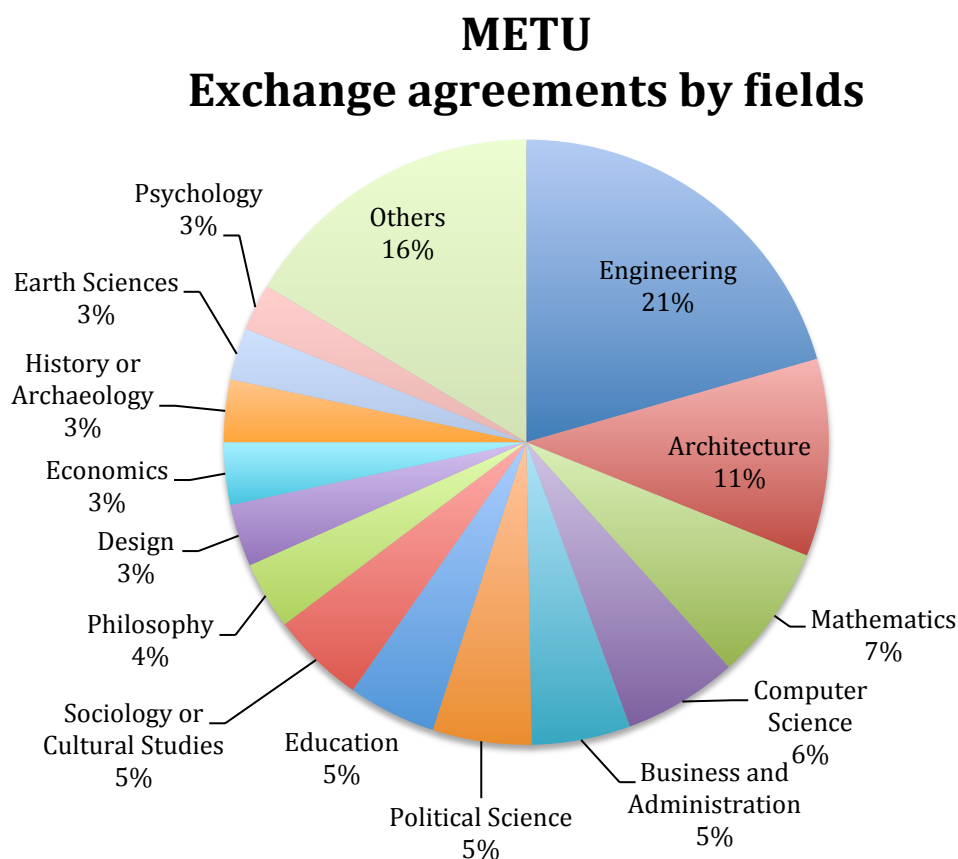
**Common publications with UNIGE:** 162 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** 1/3 of the 1000 students with the highest scores at the standardized test attend METU. Accept only the top 1% of approximately 1.5 million applicants.

**Website:** <http://www.metu.edu.tr/>

**Exchange partners include:** Uni Zürich, Uni Bern, Uni Wien, Sciences Po, Humboldt, Politecnico di Milano and Torino, UCL (London), Carlos III Madrid. Full list: <http://ico.metu.edu.tr/erasmus-partners>



### ***Sabanci University***

**Founded:** 1996

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** private

**Number of students:** 2,978

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** English

**Accommodations:** guaranteed housing for international students

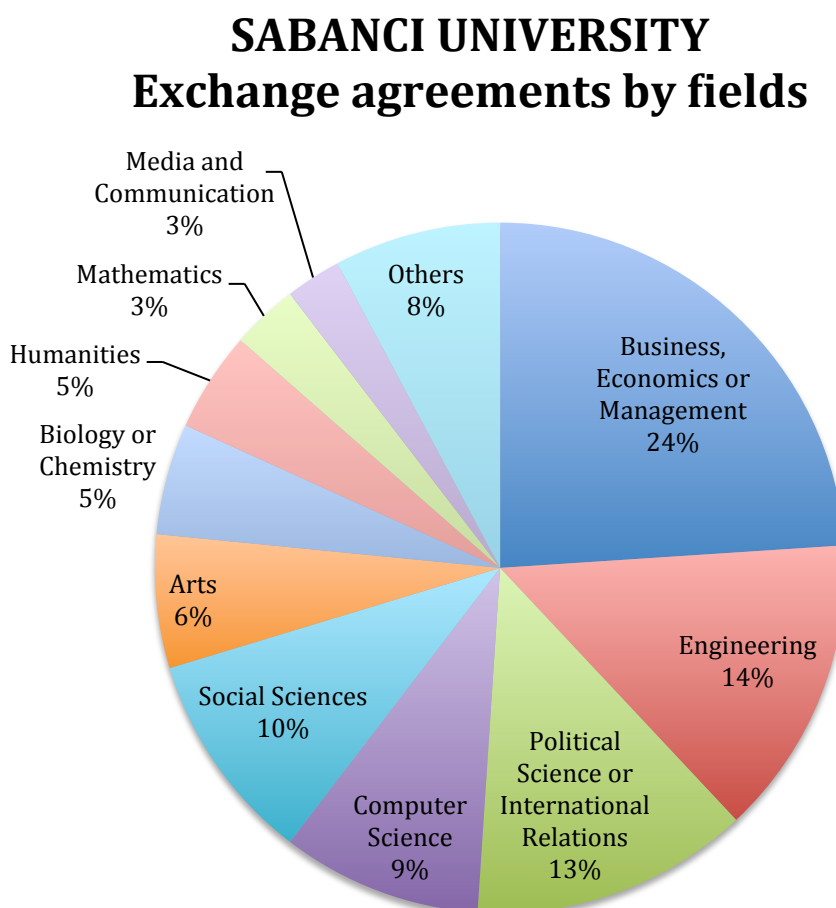
**Common publications with UNIGE:** 5 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** n.a.

**Website:** <https://www.sabanciuniv.edu/en>

**Exchange partners include:** Uni Bern, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Uni Wien, ULB, Sciences Po, Freie Uni Berlin, TU München, Bocconi, Uni of Barcelona, Boston Uni. Full list: <http://iro.sabanciuniv.edu/partners>



### *Istanbul University*

**Founded:** 1453

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 88,500

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English (medicine and economics and business)

**Accommodations:** limited

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 18 (SciVal) and 4 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** 9 Erasmus students, 1 cotutelle

**Miscellaneous:** 464 Erasmus agreements with 237 European universities in 26 countries.

**Website:** <http://www.istanbul.edu.tr/english/>

**Exchange partners include:** Unige, Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz, Freie Uni Berlin, Humboldt, Edinburgh, Complutense de Madrid, Uni of London, Uni Wien, Paris School of Management. Full list:

<http://erasmusprogram.istanbul.edu.tr/Students/uaikagreements.aspx>

### *Istanbul Technical University*

**Founded:** 1773

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 51,958

**Areas of studies:** engineering, architecture

**Language of instruction:** Turkish and English

**Accommodations:** on-campus housing

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 182 (SciVal) and 1 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** 1 boursier de la Confédération

**Miscellaneous:** 119 international partnerships

**Website:** <http://www.itu.edu.tr/en>

**Exchange partners include:** ParisTech, Toulouse, UCL (Louvain), Politecnico di Torino and di Milano, Carlos III de Madrid, Westminster. Full list: [Link](#)

### *Anadolu University*

**Founded:** 1958

**Location:** Eskişehir (north-west)

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 30,565 (2.7 million including distant education)

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English (100% for business and engineering)

**Accommodations:** no facilities

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** 1 boursier de la Confédération

**Miscellaneous:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Turkish university sending the most Erasmus students (92<sup>nd</sup> overall). 2<sup>nd</sup> largest university in the world when including distance education.

**Website:** <https://www.anadolu.edu.tr/en>

**Exchange partners:** <http://app.uib.anadolu.edu.tr/tr/agreement/list>

### **Ankara University**

**Founded:** 1946

**Location:** Ankara

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 37,789

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish

**Accommodations:** dormitories for international students

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 329 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** 1 boursier de la Confédération

**Miscellaneous:** founded by the first President of Turkey, Atatürk. Turkish university sending the most Erasmus students (70th overall).

**Website:** <http://en.ankara.edu.tr/>

**Exchange partners:** [http://foreignrelations.en.ankara.edu.tr/?page\\_id=68](http://foreignrelations.en.ankara.edu.tr/?page_id=68)

### **Atatürk University**

**Founded:** 1957

**Location:** Erzurum (north-east)

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 33,544

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English (for Erasmus students)

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** [http://www.atauni.edu.tr/index\\_2.html](http://www.atauni.edu.tr/index_2.html)

**Exchange partners:** -

### **Cukurova University**

**Founded:** 1973

**Location:** Adana (South)

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 47,161

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English (engineering, economics)

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 52 (SciVal) and 1 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** <http://www.cu.edu.tr/eng/>

**Exchange partners:** <http://international.cu.edu.tr/eng/detay.aspx?pagelid=1469>

### ***Dokuz Eylül University***

**Founded:** 1982

**Location:** Izmir

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 66,559

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English (business, maritime, natural sciences)

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** <http://www.deu.edu.tr/deuwebv2/en/>

**Exchange partners:** [http://international.deu.edu.tr/?page\\_id=139&lang=en](http://international.deu.edu.tr/?page_id=139&lang=en)

### ***Ege University***

**Founded:** 1955

**Location:** Izmir

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 46,581

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 63 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Turkish university sending the most Erasmus students (89<sup>th</sup> overall)

**Website:** <http://ege.edu.tr/>

**Exchange partners:** <http://www.ege.edu.tr/d-1079/lsbirligiProtokolleri.html>

### ***Erciyes University***

**Founded:** 1978

**Location:** Kayseri (center)

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 59,355

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** mostly Turkish

**Accommodations:** no facilities

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** <http://en.erciyes.edu.tr/>

**Exchange partners:**

<http://intoffice.erciyes.edu.tr/ustmenu1.asp?id=82&euid=0&sid=35>



### *Gazi University*

**Founded:** 1982

**Location:** Ankara

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 50,000

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English (engineering, business, economics)

**Accommodations:** no facilities

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 315 (SciVal) and 2 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** [http://gazi.edu.tr/?language=en\\_US](http://gazi.edu.tr/?language=en_US)

**Exchange partners:** <http://erasmus.gazi.edu.tr/posts/download?id=97828>

### *Hacettepe University*

**Founded:** 1967

**Location:** Ankara

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 36,112

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, English, German, French

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 27 (SciVal) and 2 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** 1 GSS student

**Miscellaneous:** Erasmus partner with 300+ universities and bilateral agreements with 447 bilateral agreements.

**Website:** <https://www.hacettepe.edu.tr/english/#>

**Exchange partners:** <https://appabofisi.hacettepe.edu.tr/en/agreement/list>

### *Selçuk University*

**Founded:** 1975

**Location:** Konya (center)

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 52,000

**Areas of studies:** all

**Language of instruction:** Turkish, most faculties have courses in English.

**Accommodations:** residences

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** [http://www.selcuk.edu.tr/default\\_en.aspx](http://www.selcuk.edu.tr/default_en.aspx)

**Exchange partners:** <http://www.selcuk.edu.tr/erasmus/birim/web/sayfa/ayrinti/7386/tr>

***Yildiz Technical University***

**Founded:** 1911

**Location:** Istanbul

**Type:** public

**Number of students:** 21,000

**Areas of studies:** all but medicine

**Language of instruction:** Turkish (70%), English (30%)

**Accommodations:** dormitories

**Common publications with UNIGE:** 0 (SciVal) and 0 (Microsoft Academic Search)

**Students with links to UNIGE:** -

**Miscellaneous:** -

**Website:** <http://www.yildiz.edu.tr/en/>

**Exchange partners:** <http://www.iro.yildiz.edu.tr/en/iro/5/List-of-Partners/85>

## 6. Resources

Study in Turkey, general information for international students,  
<http://www.studyinturkey.gov.tr/>.

Türkiye Scholarships: <http://www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/index.php/en/turkiye-burslari/burs-programlari>.

TÜBİTAK scholarships:  
<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en/scholarship/undergraduatesgraduates/national-programmes>.

« Higher Education System in Turkey », The Council of Higher Education:  
<https://www.yok.gov.tr/documents/10348274/10733291/TR'de+Y%C3%BCksek%C3%B6%C4%9Fretim+Sistemi2.pdf/9027552a-962f-4b03-8450-3d1ff8d56ccc>.

Erasmus+ Program Turkish National Agency: <http://www.ua.gov.tr/en/home>.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey:  
<http://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en>.

« How to abolish the Board of Higher Education », University World News:  
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20141028172430112>.

«The factors driving international student mobility to and from Turkey », ICEF Monitor consulting report, 24 Avril 2015: <http://monitor.icef.com/2015/04/the-factors-driving-international-student-mobility-to-and-from-turkey/>.

« Alarming unemployment figures among university graduates in Turkey »:  
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/alarming-unemployment-figures-among-university-graduates-in-turkey.aspx?PageID=238&NID=77410&NewsCatID=347>.

Research Foundation Switzerland-Turkey (Basel): [www.sfst.ch](http://www.sfst.ch).

Archive ouverte UNIGE: [www.archive-ouverte.unige.ch](http://www.archive-ouverte.unige.ch).