

10th METU ERASMUS+ 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 **Cappadocia cultural trip**, 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.

JUNE
FRIDAY

8
JUNE
MONDAY
Day 1
Research Park

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

1. European Commission, Directorate-General Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, Higher Education Unit (tbc)
2. Turkish National Agency (tbc)

09.30-10.00 Registration / Welcome Coffee

10.00-10.30. Opening Remarks: Introduction to METU and International Cooperation Office & 70 Years of Internationalization

Dr. Burcu Akpınar, METU ICO Coordinator

10:30-11:00 Key Note Speech: From Past to Future and Beyond Digitalization: AI, Ethics and the Evolution of International Education

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

11.00-11.30 Special Anniversary Session / Best of 10 Years: Highlights, Milestones and Lessons Learned (showcase from previous Staff Week sessions)

Visit to METU Research Centers

11.30 GUNAM (tbc)

12.00 BIOMATEN (tbc)

12:30 Departure of Shuttle Buses from METU Research Park and Arrival at Çarşı (main food court)

12.45-13.45 Free Time

14.00-15.30 Campus Tour (with shuttle buses from METU Culture and Convention Centre)

15:30-17:00 Banking Procedures (only) for Erasmus+ ICM (KA171) participants

17:30 Departure of Shuttle Buses from METU Culture and Convention Centre to Dinner

19:00 Welcome Dinner (hosted by METU ICO) at METU Eymir Lake Side

21:30 Departure of Shuttle Buses from Dinner Venue to METU Campus

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

(one of the highest-rated sessions from previous editions)

9 June

TUESDAY

Day 2

Culture &
Convention
Center

**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

10:45-12:00 Sharing Group Workshop Results

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

13:30-14:45 Signature Session 2 (*one of the highest-rated sessions from previous editions*)

Panel: What is the Optimum Infrastructure for Effective Internationalization in the era of Digitalization? Comparing Institutional Structures and Strategies

Presenter 1

Presenter 2

Presenter 3

14:45-15:15 Coffee Break

15:30-17:00 Erasmus+ Partners Gathering / Global Day

10-11 JUNE

WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY

Day 3-4

CAPPADOCIA TRIP

12 JUNE

FRIDAY

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

Day 5

Culture &
Convention
Center,

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), one session
- will be held online on 5 June 2026. Access links for the online sessions will be shared with
- participants via email in due course.
- The on-site programme will start on the first day-8 June, 2026
- No participation fee is required for the METU Staff Week 2026, but there will be a modest 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



Co-funded by
the European Union

"The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein."