

NEWSLETTER 2025



TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

NEWSLETTER 2025



Dear Esteemed Members,

2025 has been a year of consolidation, renewal, and purposeful collaboration for TESOL TÜRKİYE. Across our events, publications, and professional activities, the dedication of our professional councils, special interest groups, and members has been clearly reflected. Through steady cooperation and shared responsibility, our community has continued to grow stronger, creating meaningful opportunities for professional exchange and development. The progress achieved this year stands as a testament to the collective effort and commitment that define TESOL TÜRKİYE.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Melis Akdoğan Gündoğdu for her inspiring leadership and dedication during her term as President. Her vision and strong sense of responsibility have played a crucial role in bringing numerous valuable initiatives to life. We also extend our gratitude to Evrim Üstünlüoğlu, whose years of service and leadership have had a lasting impact on TESOL TÜRKİYE.

As TESOL TÜRKİYE moves forward, Aslı Yılmaz Ercan steps into the presidency, bringing with her extensive experience and a strong collaborative spirit shaped by her previous service on the Board. Her experience and energy mark an exciting new phase for our association. We also warmly welcome Ali Ceylan and Sultan Zeydan, who joined the Board of Directors in 2025. Their perspectives and expertise will be valuable assets as we continue our work together.

Looking to the future, we are motivated by the possibilities that lie ahead. Together, we aim to support innovation, strengthen professional connections, and work toward excellence as a dynamic and inclusive community.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER
YOU CAN EXPECT:

OUR HISTORY

OUR MISSION,
VISION AND
VALUES

BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

PROFESSIONAL
COUNCILS

SPECIAL INTEREST
GROUPS

AFFILIATES

NEWSLETTER 2025



6th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference

HISTORY

Everything started when a small group of teacher trainers got together to form a professional group. T-PLUS was born then, and it continued functioning as an informal professional organization. T-PLUS organized 10 big events over the period of 5 years giving a chance to ELT professionals to share their experiences.

When T-PLUS grew bigger, and reached around 200 members, it was time to change it to a formal association. For that reason, all the formalities to establish an association were completed and T-PLUS became TESOL in Türkiye.

In the year 2018, the dream about being an affiliate of TESOL International came true. The application process was completed and TESOL International approved TESOL Türkiye as a formal affiliate. Upon receiving this good news, the name of the association was changed as TESOL Türkiye.

MISSION STATEMENT

İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL) is a national association of ELT professionals committed to advancing the quality of English language teaching by contributing to the sustainable quality of teacher education and in-service professional learning in Türkiye through collaboration, open exchange of practice, research, standards, and advocacy.

NEWSLETTER

2025



VISION STATEMENT

To become an international association trusted for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching, teacher education and in-service professional learning.

The fundamental goals of İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL Türkiye), in line with the mission and vision statements specified above, are as follows:

- To provide a platform where a large community of teachers and teacher educators can exchange views, experiences, practices, research so as to learn from each other and offer mutual professional support
- To encourage collaboration for professional development and quality assurance
- To help members develop their professional areas of interest through Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- To develop links with Teachers' Associations throughout the world for teachers to share knowledge and experience globally
- To offer professional development opportunities and awards open to all members
- To offer practical assistance to those who wish to establish their own professional development center and/or to those who need professional development at an institutional level by offering courses, roadshows, webinars, local events
- To implement research based activities that will help understand the member needs for both personal and professional improvement

NEWSLETTER 2025



CORE VALUES

- Integrity guided by ethical and transparent action
- Professionalism demonstrated by excellence in standards, research, and practice that improve learning outcomes
- Commitment to life-long learning
- Respect for diversity





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Esteemed Members of TESOL Türkiye,

It is with great pride and a strong sense of responsibility that I write to you as the President of TESOL Türkiye for the 2025–2026 term. Building on the solid foundations established since 2017, I step into this role inspired by the collective strength and dedication of our community.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our former presidents; Bahar Gün, Sibel Tüzel Kandiller, Sinem Atamsoy Koşar, Evrim Üstünlüoğlu, and Melis Akdoğan Gündoğdu, whose leadership and vision have shaped TESOL Türkiye's growth over the years.

Our association continues to thrive thanks to the commitment of our SIG coordinators, executive committees, professional councils, and members, whose collaborative efforts create meaningful spaces for professional learning and connection.

I am honored to work alongside our Board of Directors, with Cristina Manea Gültekin as President-elect, and Melis Akdoğan Gündoğdu, Ali Ceylan, and Sultan Zeydan as board members. Together, we are committed to strengthening collaboration, fostering professional growth, and supporting the evolving needs of ELT professionals.

Looking ahead, my vision for TESOL Türkiye centers on connection, mediation, and shared growth, with a continued emphasis on the human dimension of teaching in an increasingly complex educational landscape. I would like to close with a thought that gently reflects the spirit of mediation:

"We do not meet at the edges of our differences, but in the spaces where understanding slowly takes shape."

Thank you for your trust and continued engagement. I look forward to a year of dialogue, cooperation, and meaningful professional growth.

With warm regards,

ASLI YILMAZ ERCAN

2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



ASLI YILMAZ ERCAN



CRISTINA MANEA GÜLTEKİN

PRESIDENT-ELECT



MELİS AKDOĞAN GÜNDÖĞDU

BOARD MEMBER



ALİ CEYLAN

BOARD MEMBER



SULTAN ZEYDAN

BOARD MEMBER



TEACH AND LEARN IN SPACES OF OTHER LANGUAGES



PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

- Associate Network Professional Council
- Events Planning Professional Council
- Membership Professional Council
- Promotion Professional Council



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

- Leadership and Management Special Interest Group (LAMSIG)
- Measurement, Evaluation, Testing and Assessment Special Interest Group (METASIG)
- Teacher Education and Development Special Interest Group (TEDSIG)
- Quality in English Language Teaching Special Interest Group (QUASIG)

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

ASSOCIATE NETWORK PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL

In the ever-evolving world of English Language Teaching, the true strength of an association is often found in the bridges it builds across borders. Within TESOL Türkiye, this essential work is carried out by the Associate Network Professional Council, or the ANPC. Rather than acting as a simple committee, the ANPC serves as a professional gateway, ensuring that Turkish educators are not only connected to international platforms but are also active leaders in shaping the future of global ELT.



The council's heart lies in its mission to cultivate a warm and robust network of partnerships with national and international associations. This is achieved through genuine outreach and the establishment of formal agreements that allow for a seamless exchange of knowledge and expertise. By working closely with our Special Interest Groups and documenting the best ways to affiliate with global bodies, the ANPC transforms high-level goals into real, everyday opportunities for our members to grow.

Our existing network stands as a beautiful testament to this collaborative spirit. Over the years, TESOL Türkiye has fostered deep and meaningful relationships with a diverse family of affiliates, including TESOL Ukraine, TESOL Spain, TESOL Greece, Nile TESOL Egypt, Kuwait TEFL, HUPE Croatia, NELTA Nepal, ELTA Serbia, CETE/TESOL Georgia, and BETA Bulgaria. These friendships have already produced remarkable results. We still feel the impact of the April 2024 joint conference and the International TESOL Affiliates Summit in İzmir. These gatherings were more than just academic events; they were spaces where we addressed heavy challenges like mobility and trauma-informed teaching, eventually producing a handbook that helps teachers create safe and supportive environments for their students.

We are now incredibly excited to welcome our newest partner, BELTA Bangladesh, into the fold. Their arrival brings a fresh perspective from South Asia, adding a new layer of pedagogical insight and strengthening our collective resilience as a global teaching community.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

ASSOCIATE NETWORK PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

Looking toward the future, we aim to deepen these bonds through initiatives that feel both impactful and accessible for everyone. We plan to host a series of collaborative webinars and regional conferences that bring together diverse voices from every corner of our network to discuss the realities of the modern classroom. To make our collaboration even more practical, we propose launching a Global Materials Exchange Hub. This would be a simple, shared digital space where teachers from all our affiliate partners can upload and download lesson plans, worksheets, and classroom activities tailored to our unique regional contexts.

Additionally, we would like to start an Affiliate Spotlight in our newsletters. This would involve a short, informal interview or a "day in the life" feature from a teacher in a partner association. By sharing these personal stories and practical resources, we can learn from each other's successes and challenges without the need for complex technology or massive time commitments. Through these efforts, the ANPC continues to show that while our classrooms may be local, our professional family is truly global.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

EVENTS PLANNING PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL

The Events Planning Professional Council (EPPC) continued to play a central role in supporting TESOL Türkiye's mission throughout 2025 by coordinating high quality conferences, webinars, workshops, and professional development initiatives. Working closely with the Board of Directors, Professional Councils, and Affiliates, EPPC focused on ensuring that all events were pedagogically relevant, inclusive, and aligned with the association's strategic priorities.



Throughout the year, EPPC contributed to shaping events that addressed current developments in English Language Teaching, responded to the diverse needs of TESOL Türkiye members, and foregrounded innovation, collaboration, and sustainability. The council, composed of ten dedicated ELT professionals working across different institutions and contexts, continued its work under the leadership of Aslı Yılmaz Ercan. EPPC members Esra Yatağanbaba, Tuğçe Temir, Aylin Selin Dewan Türündü, Songül Tomek, Mehmet Durmaz, Begüm Kut, İlknur Civan Biçer, Mine Bektaş, Neslihan Gözütok, and Pınar Sekmen (Project Reporter) contributed actively to the planning, delivery, and moderation of events throughout the year.

Webinars and Professional Learning Events

In 2025, EPPC coordinated a range of webinars and training activities in collaboration with TESOL Türkiye Trainers and partner councils. One notable initiative was the Revisiting Uncharted Realms Webinar Series, which aimed to explore emerging and underrepresented areas in ELT. The fifth session of the series, held in January, focused on mediation and emergent language in contemporary language classrooms. The session highlighted the shifting roles of teachers and learners, the relevance of mediation within the CEFR framework, and practical ways of creating space for emergent language alongside curriculum goals.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

EVENTS PLANNING PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

6th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference

A major milestone of the year was the 6th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference, held on 18–19 April 2025 and preceded by Pre-Conference Events on 17 April. Hosted by the Foreign Languages Education Department at Erciyes University in Kayseri, the conference brought together educators, researchers, and practitioners from across Türkiye and beyond.

Under the theme Future-Proof Learning: Rethinking Education to Inspire and Sustain Tomorrow, the conference emphasized the shift from teaching-centered to learning-centered approaches, learner autonomy, and the impact of technological and social change on education. Grounded in the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals, the event fostered dialogue on building equitable, adaptive, and future-ready learning environments for teachers, learners, institutions, and educational leaders.



Bridging Expertise: A Professional Development Collaboration Program

Running from February to May 2025, the Bridging Expertise Professional Development Collaboration Program represented one of EPPC's most comprehensive and collaborative initiatives of the year. Designed as a hybrid, multi-site program, it combined face-to-face workshops hosted at partner universities with follow-up online sessions, allowing broader national reach while maintaining local engagement.

The program brought together international and local trainers, creating opportunities for cross-contextual dialogue and the sharing of expertise across institutions. In total, five thematically connected workshops were delivered in collaboration with five host universities, addressing key pedagogical areas such as coursebook adaptation, learner engagement, AI-supported teaching, data-driven writing instruction, speaking fluency, and academic language development.

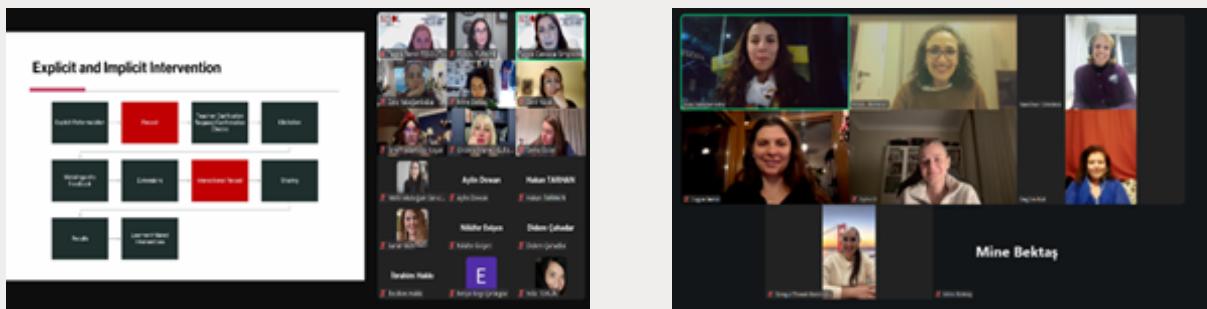
PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

EVENTS PLANNING PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

Each workshop was structured to foreground hands-on & classroom-ready practices, encourage reflective and collaborative professional learning, and respond directly to teachers' everyday instructional challenges across tertiary and preparatory programs.

Thematically, the program emphasized teacher agency, flexible pedagogy, and evidence-informed decision-making, aligning closely with TESOL Türkiye's broader vision of sustainable and context-responsive professional development. By pairing on-site interaction with online continuity, Bridging Expertise also modeled adaptable PD formats that can respond to diverse institutional and geographic needs.

Overall, the program strengthened inter-institutional collaboration, supported knowledge exchange between practitioners, and contributed to EPPC's ongoing efforts to design professional learning opportunities that are accessible, relevant, and impactful for TESOL Türkiye members.



Research, Innovation, and Partnerships

EPPC also supported initiatives that extended beyond short-term training events. In 2025, the TÜBİTAK 4005–funded project Kırılgan Hayallerden Güçlü Yarınlara was accepted, focusing on trauma-informed approaches in English language teaching within the framework of the Türkiye Yüzyılı Maarif Modeli. The project aimed to explore innovative, research-based practices to address learner vulnerability and resilience in ELT contexts, with academic contributions and support from TESOL Türkiye.

Additionally, EPPC played a key role in launching international collaborations, including the TESOL Türkiye & NILE partnership. The collaboration was introduced through a webinar on learner autonomy, highlighting practical strategies to support learners in taking greater responsibility for their learning through knowledge, skills, attitudes, and habits.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

EVENTS PLANNING PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)



TESOL Türkiye-Supported Project Secures TÜBİTAK Grant

TÜBİTAK 4005
YENİLİKÇİ EĞİTİM UYGULAMALARI
DESTEKLEME PROGRAMI
ÇAĞRISI SONUCLANDI

Aydın İl Millî Eğitim Müdürlüğü tarafından hazırlanan projebölgünden Marmara ve Türkçe Yazarlık Projesi
proje desteklenmeye hak kazanmıştır.

Sözcumen EİDÜ
İ-Millî Eğitim Mühendislik
<https://tesolturkey.org/tesol-turkey-supported-project-secures-tubitak-grant>

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

FREE WEBINAR

Bridging Expertise

A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

DERIVING LEXICAL BUNDLES THROUGH DATA-DRIVEN
RESEARCH FOR EXPLICIT INSTRUCTION TO ENHANCE
L2 WRITING FLUENCY OF ENGLISH PREP STUDENTS

26 May 2025 | 19:30-20:30

Esra Yatağanbaba
TESOL TÜRKİYE TRAINER

Heidi Demello
RELO/Marmara University Fellow

MEMBERS ONLY

FREE WEBINAR

Bridging Expertise

A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

ACTIVITY MEZES:
A TASTING EXPERIENCE

21 May 2025 | 18:00-19:00

Songül Tömek Batçeoğlu
TESOL TÜRKİYE TRAINER

Alissa N.
RELO/Çanakkale 18 Mart University Fellow

MEMBERS ONLY

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

**“REVISITING UNCHARTED REALMS”
WEBINAR SERIES**

Teacher Talk - Teacher Listen: Mediation and
Affording Emergent Language in Language Classrooms

with
Tugce Cankaya Simpson, PhD

8 JAN 2025, WEDNESDAY
20:00

Registration link:
tinyurl.com/mw8au9ay

FREE WEBINAR

TESOL Türkiye & NILE Collaboration Launch

TESOL
TÜRKİYE

NILE
PART OF THE MEC GROUP

PUTTING THE LEARNER IN THE
DRIVER'S SEAT: HOW TO DEVELOP
LEARNER AUTONOMY

2 October 2025 | 19:00 Türkiye - 17:00 UK

Anna Hasper

MEMBERS ONLY

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

MEMBERSHIP PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL



In 2025, the Membership Professional Council (MPC) continued its efforts to strengthen the membership system of TESOL Türkiye by prioritising accuracy, efficiency, and transparent communication. The National Associations Database (DERBİS) and the Google Mail Group were regularly updated to ensure reliable records and smooth member communication, including standardised welcome emails sent via the official MPC account.

All membership procedures remained fully online, enabling secure document submission and efficient registration. Data verification processes played a key role in preventing inaccuracies, while members were periodically encouraged to review and update their personal information.

Through these ongoing practices, the MPC reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining a reliable, member-centred, and well-functioning membership structure.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

PROMOTION PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL

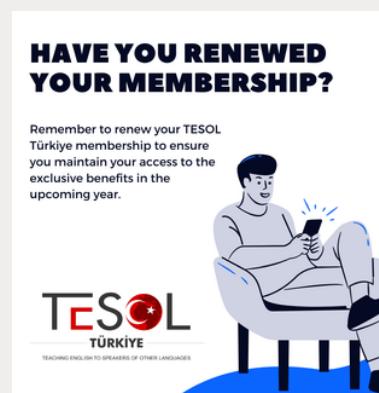
Throughout 2025, the Promotion Professional Council (PPC) actively supported TESOL Türkiye by disseminating information aligned with the association's mission and strategic objectives across various communication channels. Chaired by Sultan Zeydan, the council operated with a dedicated team comprising Şebnem Öztürk, Cemile Doğan, Ece Yavuzaslan, Sareh Mokhtari Joghataj and Merve Elbirlik Tülek.



The council operates by overseeing the content and editorial processes of the TESOL Türkiye publications (PEMO & newsletters), managing the announcements on the website and social media accounts, and coordinating the promotion and communication of conferences, events, and organizations.

Social Media

Throughout the year, the council successfully carried out various activities, including publishing infographics on the process of becoming a TESOL Türkiye member, providing updates on affiliates (TESOL Türkiye is affiliated with INGED, Free-access trainings provided by TESOL Türkiye and RELO, Ankara, Collaboration Launch Webinar between TESOL Türkiye & NILE), and grants (TESOL Türkiye Project "Kırılgan Hayallerden Güçlü Yarınlara" was accepted by TÜBİTAK 4005), announcing key details about the 6th TESOL Türkiye International ELT conference (e.g., dates, keynote speakers, sponsors, etc.), and promoting SIG events and webinars.



PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

PROMOTION PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

In addition to highlighting TESOL Türkiye events, the council broadened its outreach by sharing posts on significant occasions and global developments, such as International Women's Day, National Sovereignty and Children's Day, Commemoration of Atatürk, Youth and Sports Day, Victory Day, Republic Day, Teachers' Day, and the Kartalkaya fire tragedy. These efforts demonstrated TESOL Türkiye's solidarity and unwavering support for its community.

Website & Announcements

The TESOL Türkiye website, accessible at tesolturkey.net, is designed to offer a user-friendly experience while providing a wealth of updates and resources. A notable feature of the website is its dedicated section for the Professional ELT Magazine Online (PEMO). Guided by the PPC, this section was updated with insightful articles in January and July, showcasing the 14th and 15th issues of PEMO, which have significantly contributed to the professional development of ELT practitioners. The Announcements section served as a vital communication channel alongside social media platforms such as Instagram, LinkedIn, and X. Through this segment, the PPC regularly shared updates on association events, calls for volunteers for professional councils, new affiliate agreements, scholarship opportunities, and other key information, such as calls for papers, deadlines, and changes. This ensured that members could stay engaged and actively participate in the association's activities while taking advantage of various opportunities for contribution and collaboration.



PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS

PROMOTION PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

Professional ELT Magazine Online (PEMO)

In January and July of 2025, two editions of the Professional ELT Magazine Online (PEMO) were published, each packed with insightful articles. In January 2025, Newsletter 2024 was published, which features news, insights, and resources shared by TESOL Professional Councils, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and affiliates. Members can conveniently download PDF versions of the magazine, ensuring access to valuable content on a biannual basis.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Main Aim

TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG's aim is to facilitate connecting and developing managers and leaders in the field of English Language Teaching, both in Türkiye and abroad, through sharing resources, ideas, and good practices. We bring together academic managers, directors of studies, school owners, senior teachers, coordinators, supervisors, principals, deputy heads, and anyone else involved in or interested in leadership and management in language teaching organizations.

Objectives/Main Activities

Our main activities include:

- organizing workshops, seminars, training, discussion forums, and working groups for research and conferences
- facilitating networking among managers, leaders, coordinators, senior teachers and deputy heads through digital and face to face platforms
- taking part in national and international leadership events
- providing guidance, consultancy, mentoring and coaching through professional development activities and training
- organizing or facilitating social activities among members
- operating internationally, affiliating and conducting joint studies or cooperating with foreign associations/agencies

2025 Executive Board

Zeynep Oğul-Akın (Joint Coordinator)

Gökçe Erkan (Joint Coordinator)

Koray Tunç (Treasurer)

Ceren Aktay (Social Media Specialist)

Şebnem Öztürk (Event Organizer)

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



2025 Overview & Activities

Activity 1

LAMSIG WEBINAR

“Weathering the Storm – Succeeding as an ELT Leader Amidst Resistance with Resilience” – March 6, 2025.

The webinar was conducted by Beril Ayman Yücel.

The number of participants was 37.

Activity 2

6th TESOL Turkiye International ELT Conference-Pre-Conference Event

“Sine quibus non in leadership, management, and quality assurance” – April 17, 2025.

The session was conducted by Dr. Deniz Kurtoğlu Eken.

The number of participants was about 12.

Activity 3

Needs Analysis Survey for Future LAMSIG Events

The survey was completed by 29 ELT managers and the results were used to determine the themes of the upcoming LAMSIG events.

Activity 4

LAMSIG Biennial Conference

LAMSIG Biennial Conference was held on November 15 at Acıbadem Mehmet Ali Aydınlar University, Istanbul. The target audience was school managers, and anyone interested in leadership and management. There were 37 participants from 19 different universities.

The theme and sub-themes of the 2 sessions were set from the needs analysis results as following:

“Change management” by Nergis Uyan

“Digital leadership” by Koray Tunç

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Activity 5

LAMSIG Annual General Meeting

It was held on November 15, 2025. Activities of the last year were discussed, ideas for the new year activities / events were shared. Two new Executive Board members were elected.

2026 Executive Board

Zeynep Oğul (Joint Coordinator)

Koray Tunç (Joint Coordinator)

Ceren Aktay (Social Media Specialist)

İşil Silahtaroğlu (Co-event Organizer)

Şebnem Öztürk (Co-event Organizer)

Tuğba Nilgün Kın (Treasurer and Archivist)

Future Plans

- Organizing a quarterly series of webinars, talks, and panels, launching in February or March.
- Understanding members' needs and aligning events and activities with their expectations.
- TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference event on May 15, 2026: A 90-minute session will be conducted during the TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference titled Mediation in ELT for a Connected World, featuring an interactive session.
- Academy / Trainings / Podcasts: Arrange key sessions addressing managers' needs such as conflict management, team management, team building, crisis management, and professional development of middle management.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

THE MEASUREMENT, EVALUATION, TESTING AND ASSESSMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Main Aim

TESOL Türkiye METASIG serves as a hub for educational institutions and professional communities, fostering collaboration and engagement to:

- Address issues related to the design, development, and administration of both low- and high-stakes exams.
- Share practices, experiences, challenges, and ideas in testing, evaluation, and assessment across diverse educational contexts.
- Enhance awareness of assessment and evaluation approaches used in other programs.
- Build strong connections and networks between assessment teams across institutions.
- Exchange ideas on collaboration opportunities to improve testing and assessment practices.
- Establish a platform for sharing research findings and implications, whether from members' own studies or external researchers in the field.
- Ensure equal and fair access to training and professional discussion platforms for all members.

Objectives/Main Activities

TESOL Türkiye METASIG's core activities include:

- Hosting workshops, seminars, and discussion forums.
- Organizing training events and working groups focused on research and development.
- Facilitating networking opportunities for assessment teams, managers, and coordinators through digital and in-person platforms.
- Participating in national and international language assessment events.
- Providing guidance, consultancy, mentoring, and coaching through professional development initiatives.
- Coordinating or facilitating social activities among members.
- Engaging in international collaborations, partnering with foreign associations and agencies, and conducting joint studies.

TESOL Türkiye METASIG is dedicated to advancing the field of measurement, evaluation, testing, and assessment while fostering a sense of community and collaboration among its members.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

THE MEASUREMENT, EVALUATION, TESTING AND ASSESSMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



2025 Executive Board

Ayşegül Sallı (Joint Coordinator)
Taner Yapar (Joint Coordinator)
Arif Yıldızlı (Joint Event Coordinator)
Berkan Özkan (Treasurer/Joint Event Coordinator)
Hande Dağıstan (Social Media Coordinator)
Pınar Kılıç Ateş (Social Media Coordinator)
Şeyma Doğru (Membership Coordinator)

2025 Overview & Activities

This report presents the activities carried out by TESOL Türkiye METASIG during the 2025 activity cycle. Throughout the year, METASIG focused on strengthening language assessment literacy, promoting data-informed approaches to evaluation, and exploring the responsible use of artificial intelligence in language assessment. The activities included webinars, a pre-conference event, and an annual professional development event, addressing both research-informed perspectives and practical applications in diverse educational contexts.

Activity 1

METASIG Webinar "Reimagining Language Assessment Education with ChatGPT" 21 January 2025

METASIG initiated its 2025 activities with an online webinar focusing on the role of artificial intelligence in language assessment education. The webinar was delivered by Dr. Aslı Lidice Göktürk Sağlam, Lecturer and Researcher in English Language Teaching at the University of South-Eastern Norway. The session explored how ChatGPT can be integrated into language assessment training to support the development of teachers' language assessment literacy. Drawing on a mixed-method study, the speaker shared findings from an online flipped assessment course involving 27 pre-service English teachers at a Turkish university. Participants examined teachers' experiences and perceptions regarding the pedagogical use of ChatGPT in assessment education. The webinar provided both theoretical perspectives and practical implications for incorporating AI tools into teacher education, while encouraging critical reflection on the opportunities and challenges of AI-supported assessment practices.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

THE MEASUREMENT, EVALUATION, TESTING AND ASSESSMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Activity 2

METASIG Pre-Conference Event

"Measuring and Comparing Instructional Effectiveness: A Data-Informed Approach Using ANCOVA" 17 April 2025

This interactive pre-conference session focused on the use of ANCOVA (Analysis of Covariance) as a statistical method for evaluating instructional effectiveness across multiple classes at the same CEFR level. Through real-life institutional scenarios, participants explored how adjusting for initial learner differences allows for fairer comparisons of student achievement. Using live data, the session demonstrated how ANCOVA can be applied in practice and how the results can be interpreted to inform instructional and administrative decision-making. A case study comparing seven B1-level classes was discussed, highlighting both the strengths and limitations of relying solely on quantitative measures. The session also emphasized the importance of combining statistical analysis with contextual and qualitative insights when evaluating instructional quality.

Activity 3

METASIG Webinar "A Comparative Analysis of AI, SpeechRater, and Human Scoring in Speaking Performance Assessment" 12 November 2025

This webinar examined the comparative performance of AI-based scoring systems, ETS SpeechRater, and expert human raters in the assessment of speaking performance. The session was delivered by Dr. Taner Yapar and Ali Emre Karagül and focused on issues of fairness, reliability, and validity in both automated and human scoring.

The webinar explored the extent to which AI-driven scoring systems align with human judgment and discussed their potential to enhance consistency and objectivity in speaking assessment. Participants were introduced to current research findings and practical considerations regarding the use of automated scoring in institutional and high-stakes testing contexts.

The session contributed to ongoing discussions on the responsible and validated use of artificial intelligence in language assessment.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

THE MEASUREMENT, EVALUATION, TESTING AND ASSESSMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Future Plans

Looking ahead, the SIG has scheduled an annual event. This annual METASIG event was planned and coordinated as part of the group's 2025 activity cycle. However, due to some unseen circumstances, it will be held in January 2026.

Activity 4

METASIG Annual Event

Quality Assessment for Productive Skills: Current Trends and Practices

The event will bring together language assessment professionals to explore current trends, practical challenges, and research-informed practices in the assessment of productive skills.

The programme will focus on three main strands: improving writing rubrics for reliable and defensible scoring; practical and classroom-friendly approaches to assessing speaking; and evidence-based workflows for AI-supported assessment of productive skills. Through a series of hands-on workshops, participants will engage with both classical assessment frameworks and emerging AI-supported scoring practices. Sessions will address rubric design and refinement, speaking assessment practices, rater-related issues, and the implementation of AI-supported scoring models. Participants will be introduced to practical examples drawn from institutional contexts and will be encouraged to critically reflect on issues of reliability, validity, and fairness in productive skills assessment. The event will be held on 10 January 2026 at TOBB ETÜ Kırmızı Amfi in Ankara and will include contributions from experienced scholars and practitioners in language assessment. Discounts will be offered to TESOL Türkiye members, and participation will be free for SIG members.

Future Webinars

The SIG has contacted several names for webinars and waiting to hear from them. Once the names and dates are confirmed the event calendar will be updated and shared with the TESOL Turkiye Board.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

QUALITY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Main Aim

The mission of TESOL TÜRKİYE QUASIG is to promote and facilitate the establishment of a culture of quality in English Language Teaching through sharing resources, ideas, and good practices. Its scope is the field of English language teaching in Turkey, including university preparatory programs, undergraduate and graduate English support programs, secondary education establishments, and private language schools.

Objectives/Main Activities

QUASIG's main activities include the following activities:

- organizing workshops, seminars, training, discussion forums, and working groups for research and conferences;
- facilitating networking among stakeholders with an interest in quality in English Language Teaching, including but not limited to managers, leaders, coordinators, senior teachers and deputy heads through digital and face to face platforms;
- taking part in national and international events focusing on quality in English Language Teaching;
- providing guidance, consultancy, mentoring and coaching through professional development activities and training;
- organizing or facilitating social activities among members;
- operating internationally, affiliating and conducting joint studies or cooperating with foreign associations/agencies.

2025 Executive Board

Ian Collins (Joint Coordinator)
Mehtap Çiçen (Joint Coordinator)
Didem Mutçalioğlu
Donald Staub
Esma Şenel Bingül
İlkay Bülbül (Treasurer)
Özge Coşkun Aysal

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

QUALITY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



2025 Overview & Activities

Activity 1

QUASIG ONLINE Webinar

“Quality: I know it when I see it. A crash course in quality in language programs.” 3 December 2024

An online Zoom webinar titled “Quality: I know it when I see it – a crash course in quality in language programs” was delivered by Mehtap Çiçen and Ian Collins. The session focused on what quality means in education and, more specifically, on quality processes in language education.

Drawing on standards from a range of accreditation bodies, the webinar explored the concept of quality language education and examined how different quality frameworks approach common areas of practice. Key aspects of quality in language programs, including teaching and learning processes, assessment practices, and quality assurance mechanisms, were addressed through an interactive format.

The session was designed to be highly participatory, with guided questions, short activities, and discussion points encouraging participants to reflect on quality in their own institutional contexts. Through reference to multiple accreditation standards, participants were able to identify shared principles underpinning high-quality language education.

Approximately 60 participants attended the event and actively engaged throughout the session, contributing perspectives and insights on quality in language programs.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

QUALITY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Activity 2

QUASIG Workshop

"Working with the Accreditation Standards: How to construct your responses." 17 April, 2025

The presenters were the Joint Coordinators of QUASIG, Mehtap Çiçen and Ian Collins. This workshop used a fictional accreditation scheme (based around DEDAK, CEA, and EAQUALS standards) to explore how sites going through an accreditation self-study can approach responding to some key standards shared by all accreditation schemes (eg curriculum, student assessment, and planning standards). Participants actively engaged in various activities based around an extended case study, in which they identified key issues highlighted by various selected standards in an accreditation self-study and plan necessary changes to become compliant. By the end of the session, participants were able to analyze particular standards, evaluate a fictional site's practices by reference to those standards, and plan responses to selected prompts from a self-study template.

Around 60 participants took part, contributing ideas and working through tasks in small groups. At the end of the session, they were invited to reflect on how they may approach the self-study process differently.

Future Plans

- A webinar on eligibility issues for programs applying for accreditation will be held on 13 January, 2026, with Didem Mutçalioğlu and İlkay Bülbül presenting.
- During the PCE event at the TESOL Türkiye Annual Conference, QUASIG will present a workshop on mediating quality through accreditation, with a focus on the ethical use of AI in accreditations and the benefits of micro-credentials in promoting quality in training.
- QUASIG is also planning a one-day event to be held in September 2026, exploring further how to use AI tools in accreditation processes.
- As the QUASIG team, most of us will participate in the QUAAS (Quality Assurance, Accreditation, and Standardization) Conference in May 2025, contributing through plenary sessions, training, and workshops.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

TEACHER EDUCATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Main Aim

TESOL Türkiye "Teacher Education Special Interest Group" (TEDSIG) continued to empower educators through collaborative professional development, fostering innovative practices in teacher training, and addressing the dynamic challenges of in-service education in the year 2025.

As TEDSIG, we proudly introduce the dedicated members of our 2025 Executive Committee

2025 Executive Board

Bahar Gün (Joint Coordinator)

Beril Yücel (Joint Coordinator)

Hakan Tarhan (Treasurer)

Erkan Arkın (Joint Events and Membership Coordinator)

Sinem Atamsoy Koşar (Joint Events Coordinator)

Fatoş Uğur Eskiçırak (Social Media Coordinator)

2025 Overview & Activities

Activity 1

TEDSIG Webinar "Role of Professional Development in Performance Evaluation. (4th session of "TEDSIG Pedagogy Swap Series"), 19 March 2025

TEDSIG held the fourth session of its Pedagogy Swap Series on 19 March 2025 under the title "Role of Professional Development in Performance Evaluation." The online session brought together 10 TEDSIG members for an interactive and reflective professional dialogue.

The webinar focused on exploring the relationship between professional development (PD) and teacher performance evaluation in ELT contexts. Guided by key discussion questions, participants examined how PD practices can inform and enhance performance evaluation processes, the role of reflective practices in supporting continuous professional growth, and ways of aligning PD initiatives with measurable performance outcomes.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

TEACHER EDUCATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



The session encouraged experience-sharing and collaborative reflection, allowing members to draw connections between institutional evaluation practices and meaningful professional learning. The event once again highlighted the value of the Pedagogy Swap Series as a member-driven platform for critical discussion and professional exchange within the TEDSIG community.

Activity 2

TEDSIG Pre-Conference Event, TESOL Türkiye 6th International ELT Conference, Kayseri Erciyes University, 17 April 2025

TEDSIG organized a Pre-Conference Event on 17 April 2025 at Kayseri Erciyes University, prior to the 6th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference. The event aimed to bring together educators and SIG members for professional dialogue and knowledge sharing in the field of English Language Teaching. The programme began with registration between 13:00 and 13:20, followed by a Welcome and Introduction to TEDSIG session (13:20–14:00), during which participants were introduced to TEDSIG's mission, activities, and areas of focus within teacher education and development.

The academic programme continued with a plenary session entitled "The Power of the Critical Response Process in Teaching & Learning," delivered by Mary Scholl (14:00–15:00). The session focused on the role of critical response practices in enhancing teaching and learning processes and fostering reflective professional engagement. Following a break, the event concluded with a Common Session for all SIGs, "Brain-Friendly: The New Way of Learning," presented by Rachel Paling (15:30–16:30). This session addressed brain-friendly approaches to learning and offered insights into creating more effective and learner-centered educational experiences.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

TEACHER EDUCATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Activity 3

TESOL Türkiye TEDSIG & IATEFL TDSIG Joint Webinar, "Teacher Development Priorities in 2026", 17 December 2025

On 17 December 2025, TESOL Türkiye TEDSIG, in collaboration with IATEFL TDSIG, organized a joint members-only webinar entitled "Teacher Development Priorities in 2026." The online event brought together 29 participants from both SIGs for a focused discussion on sustainable teacher development and emerging priorities in the age of artificial intelligence. The webinar was hosted by James Taylor and Sammy Ming, members of the IATEFL TDSIG Executive Committee, and was structured into two complementary sessions.

In Part 1, "Engaging in Teacher Development," James Taylor explored how teachers can make informed and strategic decisions in their professional growth. The session addressed the development of Personal Strategic Plans, the role of Peer-Collaborative Development, and ways to ensure that teacher development efforts remain purposeful and impactful. In Part 2, "AI as a Catalyst for Sustainable PD," Sammy Ming examined the influence of generative AI on classroom practices and teacher roles. The session offered practical insights into interpreting AI-related policies, designing AI-aware assessment tasks, and facilitating meaningful classroom discussions around the ethical use of AI.

The joint webinar provided participants with valuable perspectives on future-oriented teacher development, combining strategic planning with practical applications of emerging technologies. The event further strengthened collaboration between TEDSIG and IATEFL TDSIG and highlighted the shared commitment of both SIGs to supporting professional growth in ELT.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

TEACHER EDUCATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP



Future Plans

Future Event 1

TEDSIG Webinar, "Evidence-Based PD: Focus on Impact" (5th Session of the TEDSIG Pedagogy Swap Series), 14 January 2026

TEDSIG will hold the fifth session of the Pedagogy Swap Series on 14 January 2026 at 20:00. The webinar, entitled "Evidence-Based PD: Focus on Impact," will focus on evidence-informed approaches to PD and explore ways of evaluating the impact of PD initiatives on teaching and learning.

Future Event 2

TEDSIG F2F Local Event, "Looking for Learning: Making Classroom Observations Evidence-Based and Impactful", FSM University, 14 February, 2026

TEDSIG plans to organize a face-to-face local event at FSM University entitled "Looking for Learning: Making Classroom Observations Evidence-Based and Impactful." This one-day event will focus on rethinking classroom observations as evidence-based, developmental professional learning experiences. The event will address how classroom observations can move beyond subjective impressions by focusing on objective evidence, pedagogically grounded criteria, and reflective professional dialogue. It aims to equip participants with practical perspectives on using classroom observations as a catalyst for data-informed and sustainable professional development.

Future Event 3

TEDSIG Session at 7th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference at TED Koleji, Bodrum, 15-16 May 2026

TEDSIG plans to organize a 90 mins session in connection with the 7th TESOL Türkiye International ELT Conference, which will take place on 15–16 May 2026 and will be hosted by TED Bodrum Koleji. The session aims to extend conference discussions by creating space for focused professional dialogue on teacher education and development. Further details regarding the programme and participation will be announced closer to the event.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

TEACHER EDUCATION SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP TEDSIG



Future Event 4

TEDSIG F2F Annual General Meeting (AGM), 23 January 2026

TEDSIG plans to hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 23 January 2026 at 12:00, at Izmir University of Economics, School of Foreign Languages. In the event that the required quorum is not met, a second AGM will be held on 14 February 2026 at 16:00 at Fatih Sultan Mehmet Vakıf University, with no quorum requirement. The AGM will provide members with an opportunity to review TEDSIG activities and engage in planning for the upcoming period.

Future Event 5

A Collaborative Online Event with TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG, March 2026

TEDSIG is in informal communication with TESOL Türkiye LAMSIG regarding a potential online collaborative event planned for March 2026. As part of this collaboration, it is envisaged that members of the LAMSIG Executive Committee may be invited as guest speakers to one of TEDSIG's webinars, with the aim of strengthening professional exchange and collaboration between the two SIGs. Further details regarding the format and content of the event will be shared once finalized.

AFFILIATES



THANK YOU FOR READING!



TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES



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