

## TESOL in Turkey

*(İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği)*

### Newsletter 2018

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## INTRODUCTION

“İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği” (TESOL in Turkey), the second non-profit professional association in Turkey, was officially founded in June 2017 by Asst. Prof. Dr. Bahar Gün, Başak Çermikli Ayvaz, Duygu Erdoğan, Asst. Prof. Dr. Evrim Üstünlüoğlu, Hakan Cavlak, Hande Çalık, Özge Coşkun Aysal, and Sinem Atamsoy Koşar after having functioned as T-PLUS (**Trainers’ Professional Learning and Unlimited Sharing**) since 2012.

- 1. Foundation of the association:** June 2017
- 2. General Assembly:** The first General Assembly was held on 8 December 2017 at Izmir University of Economics with 50 people from private and state universities around Turkey.
- 3. Establishment of the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board:** In accordance with Articles 8 and 10 of the Association’s Legislation, the following members were elected to the boards:

### **Board of Directors:**

- |                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Bahar GÜN             | President |
| 2. Yeşim ERASLAN         | Treasurer |
| 3. Beril YÜCEL           | Member    |
| 4. Yasemin YELBAY YILMAZ | Member    |
| 5. Sibel TÜZEL KANDİLLER | Member    |

### **Supervisory Board:**

- |                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Kenan DIKİLİTAŞ     | President |
| 2. Hande KEFELİ ÇALIK  | Member    |
| 3. Sinem ATAMSOY KOŞAR | Member    |

Since their election, the Board of Directors has devised the Association’s Internal Bylaw as well as the Bylaws for the respective Professional Councils. They have also supervised the translation of these as well as the Association’s Legislation into English.

- 4. Establishment of Professional Councils:**

Four Professional Councils were established in February 2018, these being:

1. The Affiliate Network Council
2. The Events Planning Council

### 3. The Promotion Council

### 4. The Research Council

In December 2017, one member of the Board of Directors was assigned as Board Liaison to each of the four Professional Councils. Each Board Liaison was given the task to prepare the Council Bylaw for the respective council. These bylaws include information pertaining to the purpose of the Council, duties and responsibilities of the members as well as the Board Liaison, terms of service and membership criteria. The members of the councils are as follows:

#### 1. The Affiliate Network Council:

Özge COŞKUN AYSAL

İlkay ÖZDEMİR

Funda AKGÜL

Onur ERGÜNAY

Burcu TÜGEN

#### 2. The Events Planning Council

Beril YÜCEL

Sinem ATAMSOY KOŞAR

İlknur KUNTASAL

Songül TÖMEK

Mehmet DURMAZ

Nesibe BİLGİÇ

#### 3. The Promotion Council

Sibel TÜZEL KANDİLLER

Hande KEFELİ ÇALIK

Melis AKDOĞAN

Sibel TAŞKIN ŞİMŞEK

Şila YOSULÇAY

Yaprak GÜLEÇ ÖĞÜTÇÜ

#### 4. The Research Council

Yasemin YELBAY YILMAZ

Duygu ERDOĞAN

Aslı YILMAZ ERCAN

Suzan ÖZGELEN

Nesrin ORUÇ ERTÜRK

Hande Işıl IŞIK MENGÜ

## **1. PROFESSIONAL COUNCILS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **1.1. Affiliate Network Council**

The Affiliate Network Council (ANC) supports İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL in Turkey) by helping to ensure a strong Affiliate Network. The ultimate objective of ANC is to connect the community of professionals involved in English Language Teaching and to establish relationships and partnerships with national and international associations and institutions dedicated to excellence in the field of ELT. Since the establishment of the council, among its accomplishments are:

- communicating with TESOL, IATEFL and İNGED,
- collaborating with professional councils and with the Board of Directors to start procedures to become an affiliate member of TESOL and IATEFL,
- promoting communication and collaboration among members of the English Language Teaching community on both national and international grounds by collaborating with the other councils and with the Board of Directors,
- searching for and providing scholarships such as the grant obtained from the US Embassy Regional English Language Office to enable the sharing of professional knowledge, information, and expertise by collaborating with relevant councils.

### **1.2. The Events Planning Council**

The Events Planning Council (EPC) supports İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL in Turkey) by ensuring that the annual conventions, regional events and roadshows are planned effectively in collaboration with other Professional Councils and Board of Directors. EPC sets overall goals for each event and provides advice and guidance as needed. The EPC ensures that the content and program of TESOL events are focused on current issues that impact the field of English language teaching, responsive to the diverse needs of members and the TESOL field, and aligned with the strategic direction of the association. Its accomplishments in 2018 are as follows:

#### **1.2.1. Roadshows**

Roadshows are two to three day training opportunities tailored according to institutional needs. In March 2018, Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University School of Foreign Languages requested such an opportunity from TESOL in Turkey. Having been recently accredited by the Pearson

Assured Center, Zonguldak BEU was required to carry out classroom observations, for which they requested assistance from the Association. On 22 – 23 March 2018, four members of TESOL in Turkey, all working as CPD officers in three different institutions were assigned the task of conducting 53 classroom observations. Following the observations, Hande Kefeli Çalık (Yasar University), Hakan Çavlak (Yasar University), İlknur Kuntasal (Middle East Technical University) and Melis Akdoğan Gündoğdu (TOBB University of Economics and Technology) met with the school management to share their findings of strong points and areas to consider.



On 7 – 8 June 2018, **Katip Çelebi University** in İzmir also requested guidance from TESOL in Turkey for setting up their CPD Unit. This time, Bahar Gün, Funda Şengün and Haldun Kaya, all members of the association and teacher trainers at Izmir University of Economics, provided support through a series of workshops and trainings that will lead to the initiation of the unit.



## 1.2.2. Local events

### 1.2.2.1. Local Event Ankara

This local/regional event took place in Ankara on **20 April 2018** at **TOBB University of Technology and Economics**. With the title “**The Road to Wholeness: \_\_\_? \_\_\_**”, the event mainly aimed at exploring ways to institutional effectiveness by focusing on the quality of teacher interactions. Members of the Board of Directors Yeşim Eraslan, Yasemin Yelbay Yılmaz and Beril Yücel were active organizers of the event, and through a simulation of possible problems encountered every now and then, participants found the opportunity to explore ways to achieve institutional wholeness. The event not only created a platform for colleagues to reflect on their own experiences/practices and come up with new perspectives to address issues but also created a collaborative environment where participants had the chance to meet colleagues from other institutions.



### 1.2.2.2. Local Event Izmir

“**E-N-G-A-G-E**”, the first local/regional event in Izmir took place on **2 June 2018** at **İzmir Saint Joseph High School** in Alsancak. Targeting K-12 teachers, the event evolved around the theme of exploring ways to engage students in lessons. The event not only gave attendees the opportunity to participate in workshops presented by TESOL in Turkey trainers, Sinem Atamsoy Koşar (Ege Universtiy), Funda Çetin (Izmir University of Economics), and Pınar Acar (Izmir University of Economics), but also enabled professionals to meet colleagues from other institutions and develop possibilities of collaboration.



### 1.2.2.3. Local

**TESOL** IZMIR LOCAL EVENT

EXPLORING THE WAYS TO  
ENGAGE THE STUDENTS IN THE  
LESSONS OF K-12 TEACHERS

**E** 9:30-10:00 Registration

**N** 10:00-10:30 Opening Speech  
Bahar Gün  
(TESOL in Turkey President)

**G** 10:40-11:10 Classroom Management  
Pinar Acar

**A** 11:20-11:50 Drama  
Funda Çetin

**G** 12:20-12:50 Storytelling  
Sinem Atamsoy Kosar

**E** 13:00-13:40 Closing

DATE: 2 JUNE 2018, SATURDAY  
VENUE: IZMIR SAINT JOSEPH HIGH SCHOOL



### Event Istanbul

On the same day, association members in Istanbul hosted their first local event, “**Strengthening Bonds through Art**”. 25 colleagues from both state and private universities in Turkey got together in an art class to create their own paintings. The experience gave participants the opportunity to build on their motivation, productivity and performance level as they felt stronger working towards the same aims, and experiencing the same concerns and needs. The sessions were led by Nesibe Bilgiç Atasay (Medipol University), Nezaket Özgirin (Sabancı University) and Aslı Yılmaz Ercan (Marmara University).



**TESOL** LOCAL EVENT ISTANBUL

**"STRENGTHENING  
BONDS THROUGH  
ART"**



Venue: Studio Masterpiece, Galata

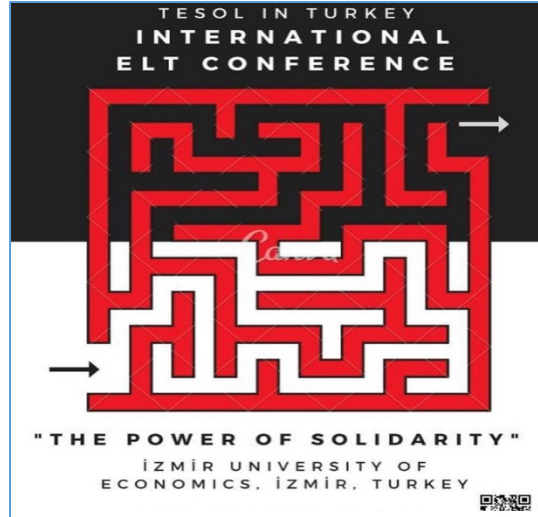
02.06.2018 | 13:00 PM

[HTTPS://TESOLINTURKEY.ORG](https://tesolinturkey.org) 

### 1.2.3. Annual Conference:

1<sup>st</sup> TESOL in TURKEY International ELT Conference will take place on 16-17 November 2018 and be hosted by İzmir University of Economics, İzmir, Turkey.

Submissions have been accepted for the conference and registration is on-going.



### 1.3. The Promotion Council

The Promotion Council (PC) is responsible for supporting İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği (TESOL in Turkey) by disseminating information that is aligned with the association's mission and strategic direction through various channels. With that purpose in mind, among its accomplishments in 2018 are:

- the Association's website for the flow of information regarding the organization's history, mission, vision, core values, internal bylaws, events (past and future), membership opportunities/requirements, contact information, newsletter and photo gallery,
- the first issue of the biannual *Professional ELT Magazine Online*, which includes an interview with Deniz Kurtoğlu Eken, reflections following ELT events, reflections on ELT matters, research findings, a resource center that includes techniques, tips, tested lessons, practical tools shared by members, book reviews and learner voices,
- the Annual Online Newsletter to share information regarding the association's endeavors,
- use of the social media to disseminate information related to upcoming events.

### 1.4. Research Professional Council

The Research Professional Council (hereafter RPC) informs, supports and guides research initiatives and priorities of the İngiliz Dili Öğretimi ve Mesleki Gelişim Derneği. Among the council's accomplishments in 2018 are:

- Determining the scope of the activities of the RPC for the upcoming year.
- Exploring partnership opportunities for joint research projects for the upcoming year.



## 2. PROJECTS

This year, two important projects, both funded by U.S. Department of State's AE-E-Teacher Program, were carried out. The first was a 16-contact-hour program offered by the US Embassy Regional English Language Office and TESOL in Turkey. The event took place at the İzmir Grand Wyndam Hotel between 27 and 29 June 2018. The program, aimed at discussing, revisiting and sharing ways of teaching grammar communicatively in a live setting, thus the word "unplugged" in the title. 19 fresh graduates from universities across Turkey including Hacettepe University, Gazi University, Dokuz Eylül University and Atatürk University joined the event. Six teacher trainers were involved in the delivery of the 12 sessions/workshops:

Sibel Tüzel Kandiller (Academic leader of the program. TESOL in Turkey)

Jen Lacano (US Embassy Regional English Language)

Melissa Van De Wege (US Embassy Regional English Language)

Bahar Gün (TESOL in Turkey)

David Fay (US Embassy Regional English Language)

Leslie Opp-Beckman (via Skype Oregon University)

The second project, which was the result of collaboration between the US Embassy Regional English Language Offices in Turkey and in Jordan and TESOL in Turkey, took place at the İzmir Grand Wyndam Hotel in early July. This 5-day event served as the initial meeting and ground work for the launch and delivery of the online Fostering Student Motivation (FSM) course in early 2019. The course is designed to help instructors who are working with teens and young adults to better understand and respond to low motivation levels in the English language classroom. Six local experts (four from Turkey and two from Jordan) were selected to take part in the seminar based on their expertise and their roles in their countries. Also, an expert from University of Oregon with vast experience in developing and delivering online professional development courses for English instructors led the expert team. The US Embassy Regional English Language Officer in Turkey was also present for necessary input.

David Fay, US Embassy Regional English Language Officer.

Leslie Opp- Beckmann, AEI Director of Innovative Programming, University of Oregon.

Bahar Gün, TESOL in TURKEY President, İzmir University of Economics

Yasemin Yelbay Yılmaz, TESOL in TURKEY Board Member, Hacettepe University.

Aslı Yılmaz Ercan, TESOL in TURKEY Member, Marmara University.

Burcu Tüğen, TESOL in TURKEY Member, Yaşar University.

Haneen Arikat, Queen Raina Teacher Academy (QRTA, Jordan).

Laila Abu Qatousah, Supervisor at Administration of Training & Educational Supervision- Ministry of Education, Jordan.



### **3. MEMBERSHIPS**

In December 2017, the number of participants to the General Assembly was 47. By September 2018, the number of members increased to 82. This number includes members from state universities and private universities as well as K12 teachers along with outside parties.