**ODTÜ Profile:** Orta Doğu Teknik Üniversitesi (ODTÜ), founded in 1956, is an international research university, which seeks excellence in serving the country, region and the world. This well-deserved reputation is partly a reflection of its leading position in terms of international scientific publications and share of research funds from national scientific research funding agencies, primarily The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK), among the most prominent universities of Turkey. Moreover, ODTÜ – as an international research-intensive university – is among the leading universities in Turkey in terms of depth and breadth of international research projects and the amount of funds generated from research activities. Research revenues account for 20-25% on average of annual ODTÜ expenditures, including all payroll costs.

ODTÜ has actively taken part in and managed various projects under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), especially the Framework Programmes (FP) as well as other international projects, such as COST, Erasmus, Newton-Katip Çelebi Fund, etc. In this context, **as of** **November 1, 2021**, ODTÜ has 410 international projects (either signed or in Grant Agreement phase). Among these projects, 200 are supported by the EU Framework Programmes with a total budget of 780 M€ within which ODTÜ’s share of 47.3 M€ while 210 of ODTÜ’s international projects are funded other programs such as Erasmus, GCRF and US Embassy, etc. with a total budget of 97.5 M€ and ODTÜ's share of nearly 14 M€.

In terms of national R&D projects, where TÜBİTAK is the leading funding agency, METU has a prominent position amongst Turkish universities with 1100+ funded projects having a total budget greater than 500 MTL (approx. 80 M€ with January 2020 conversion rates). At any given time, ODTÜ has approximately 400 R&D projects nationally funded by TÜBİTAK and various ministries and 60 R&D projects internationally sponsored, mainly by the EU Research and Innovation Framework Programmes. This record of accomplishment translates into ODTÜ bringing in about 9% of the FP-sourced research funds acquired by Turkey until now.

Moreover, ODTÜ is committed to intensify and accelerate the alignment of the European Research Area (ERA) and Turkish Research Area (TARAL) based on the five ERA priorities, as one of the founding members of the Alliance of Turkish Research Universities[[1]](#footnote-1). The ERA priorities ODTÜ is currently focusing on includes ERA Priority #3: An Open Labour Market for Researchers. In order to fulfil the requirements of this priority ODTÜ has been a EURAXESS Service Centre since 2015, has endorsed its commitment to the 40 principles of the “European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers” in October 2018, has submitted its GAP Analysis and Action Plan for the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R) for assessment by the European Commission in December 2019 and recently become the first university in Turkey to be qualified to obtain the Human Resources Excellence in Research Award in August, 2020.

Last but not least, it is important to point that the language of education in ODTÜ is English. Moreover, ODTÜ strategically values the prevention of inbreeding by prioritizing the employment of researchers who have had international experience at doctoral and/or post-doctoral level(s). Thus, a significant portion of ODTÜ’s faculty is constituted of incoming researchers from Europe and/or Third countries (mostly USA).

1. https://ec.europa.eu/research/iscp/pdf/news/eu-turkey\_joint\_conclusions\_122016.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)