



1973

**CUKUROVA**  
UNIVERSITY  
School of Foreign Languages

**CU SoFL**  
MAGAZINE ONLINE



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## **A Word from the Director**

Dear Reader,

This issue of our newsletter, Global Citizenship, is produced to remind readers of our obligations and responsibilities, our partnerships, and the intertwined relationships we share as global citizens. The world is fast evolving into ‘oneness,’ a singularity that acts very much alike wherever an individual may be on this beautiful globe. The fabulous images taken by the most recent Artemis II mission to the Moon illustrate both the beauty and the fragility of our Earth. Hidden in its dark blue oceans, millions of species roam the waters with a perpetual urge to survive, and the landmasses that harbour them shelter millions more. The struggle to exist is in full throttle! Among these species, we, the home sapiens, are probably the most aggressive and the most consumed by everlasting avarice. So much so that our bottomless pit of desires and greed is pushing us to the edge of a precipice, where the strong assume the power to nudge the weak into oblivion. A constant reminder of this potential danger, ‘global citizens’ strive to form unity, observe the need to extend a hand to the destitute, work in collaboration for the good of the community, and build a sense of socio-economic and humanitarian belonging, where the world’s assets are shared fairly and justly, all to work for the benefit of humanity and other living creatures peacefully and in unison. Happy reads...

Prof. Dr. Yonca ÖZKAN  
Director

## Institutional News in Brief

### Career Readiness Through Language Learning

16 February 2026



We successfully held the event titled “Language Learning and 21st Century Skills for Career Readiness.” Our guest speaker, Ezel GÜNEYLI, Factory Manager at Güneyiler Food Industry & Trade Ltd. Co., shared valuable insights on workplace competencies, communication skills, and the role of language learning in professional life. We sincerely thank our guest speaker and all participants for their engagement.

## OMNIALANG Now Open for Submissions

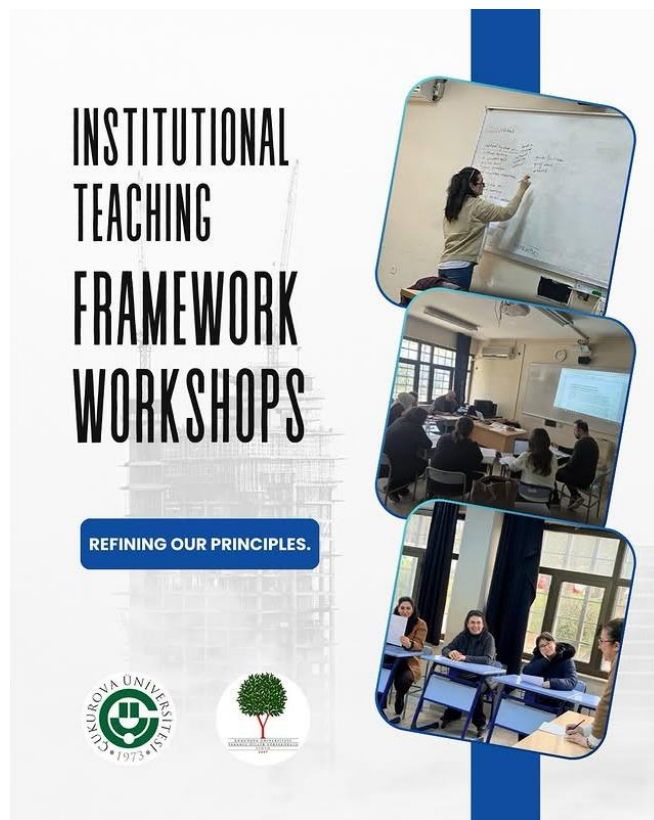
17 February 2026



OMNIALANG is an international, peer-reviewed, open-access academic journal that adopts an interdisciplinary approach to language studies, including linguistics, literature, translation studies, and related fields. The journal aims to provide a scholarly platform for innovative, critical, and original research that explores language as a dynamic and evolving continuum shaped by culture, history, and human experience. The journal is now open for academic contributions. For more information and manuscript submissions: <https://omnialang.com/index.php/pub>

## Building Our Teaching Framework

20 February 2026



We successfully conducted a series of workshops to collaboratively develop our Institutional Teaching Framework at CU SoFL. This shared framework will guide our classroom practices and will be included in our Staff Handbook and on our website as a reference point for our academic community. We thank all colleagues for their thoughtful contributions and professional engagement.

## Meet-Up Sessions: Sharing Best Practices

25 February 2026



The Meet-Up sessions were successfully held, bringing colleagues together to exchange effective practices and curriculum-aligned innovations, strengthening our teaching through collaboration.

## Strengthening Our Partnership with Adana Kız Lisesi

26 February 2026



As part of our ongoing collaboration with Adana Kız Lisesi, academic staff from CU SoFL met with 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students to deliver a presentation on the importance of language learning in today's world. Prof. Dr. Yonca Özkan, Dr. Figen Yılmaz, and Dr. Eda Kahyalar shared insights into how foreign language proficiency supports academic success, intercultural awareness, and future career opportunities.

We are pleased to continue strengthening this institutional partnership and engaging with prospective university students.

## Game-Based Learning with LangCube

8 March 2026



As part of our PDU events, Dr. Zekeriya Kazanci, the developer of the educational board game LangCube, delivered a session on innovative approaches to language teaching through game-based learning.

Developed at Uppsala University (Sweden) between 2019 and 2024 with the support of the Uppsala University Innovation Center, LangCube was designed to make foreign language learning more engaging, particularly in grammar instruction.

## English Education for Children's Homes

11 March 2026



**Language Education  
for Community  
Support**

Building Futures Through Language

**Our Aim**

- Learning English ✓
- Building confidence ✓
- Cultural awareness ✓
- Educational support ✓

The infographic includes the Çukurova University logo (top left), the Adana Seyhan Children's Homes logo (middle left), and two circular images: one showing a classroom with a teacher and students, and another showing two men signing a document in front of the Turkish and Çukurova University flags.

Within the framework of the protocol signed between Çukurova University School of Foreign Languages and Adana Seyhan Children's Homes Site, English language sessions have started for the children living in the Children's Homes.

The program began with the participation of Çukurova University Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Hacer Yapıcıoğlu Yıldızdaş and Quality Coordinator Prof. Dr. Nigar Yarpuz Bozdoğan, along with the administration and units of the School of Foreign Languages, reflecting the university's commitment to community engagement.

As educators, we are proud to support these children by introducing them to language learning and cultural awareness. Through this collaboration, we aim to contribute to their development while fulfilling our social responsibility.

## 2025–2026 Appraisal System Session

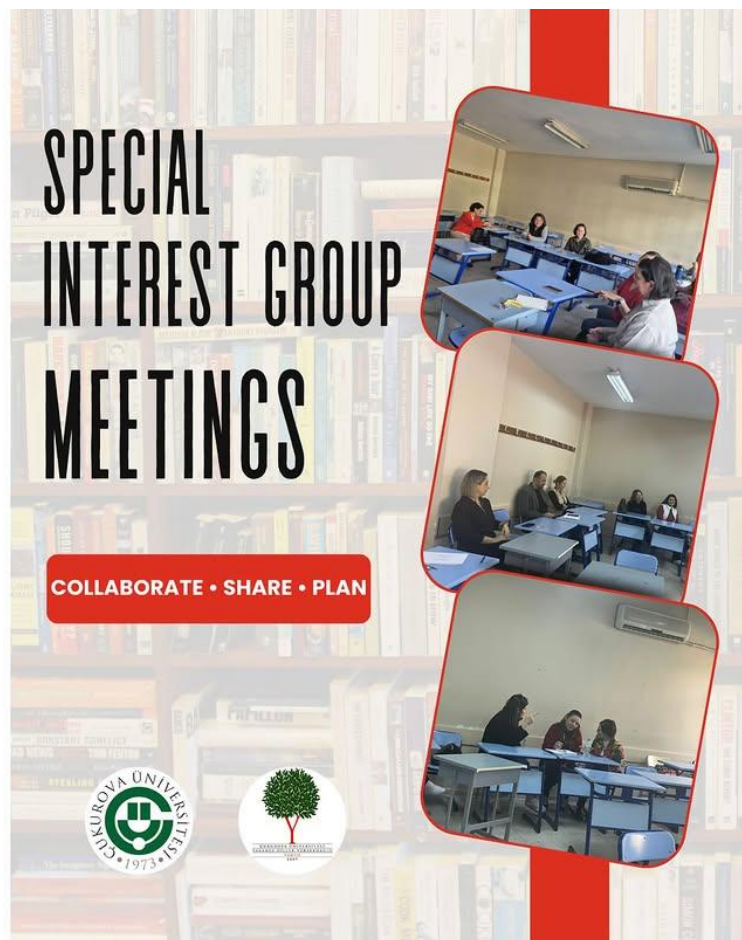
13 March 2026



Today we held a session on the 2025–2026 Academic Year Appraisal System at CU SoFL. During the session, key principles guiding our institutional development were discussed, including teaching quality, continuous improvement, collaboration, and teamwork. The session emphasized that quality in education is built through shared responsibility, dedication, and collective effort. Together, we continue working toward a stronger culture of quality teaching, professional growth, and institutional excellence.

## SIG Meetings for Semester Planning

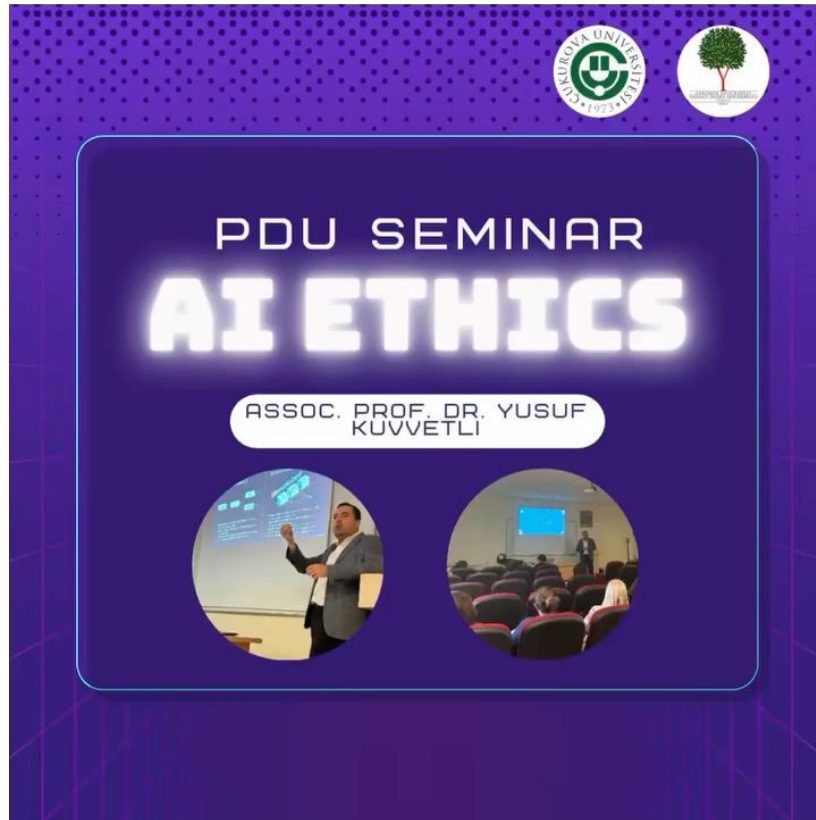
18 March 2026



Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings were held today, bringing colleagues together to plan second-semester activities. Each group engaged in collaborative discussions, sharing ideas and outlining their focus areas for the upcoming term. We thank all colleagues for their active participation and contributions.

## Exploring AI Ethics in Education

27 March 2026



As part of our PDU events, a seminar on AI Ethics was delivered by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Yusuf Kuvvetli, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. The session provided a comprehensive overview of artificial intelligence, addressing its core concepts, mechanisms of development and learning, its growing presence in everyday life, and the ethical implications and academic applications of its use. We thank Dr. Yusuf Kuvvetli for his valuable contribution.

## Teaching for Tomorrow: CDU Representation

30 March 2026



Our Curriculum Development Unit (CDU) Coordinator is representing CU SoFL at the “Teaching for Tomorrow” seminar this week. We are diving deep into sessions with experts like John Hughes and Alex Warren to bring the latest ELT innovations back to our classrooms. Our core focus?

Sustainability in Education: Integrating environmental and social responsibility into our language syllabus.

Future-ready Skills: Ensuring our students graduate with the critical thinking and visual literacy needed for the modern world.

## CU SoFL at DABKAF'26

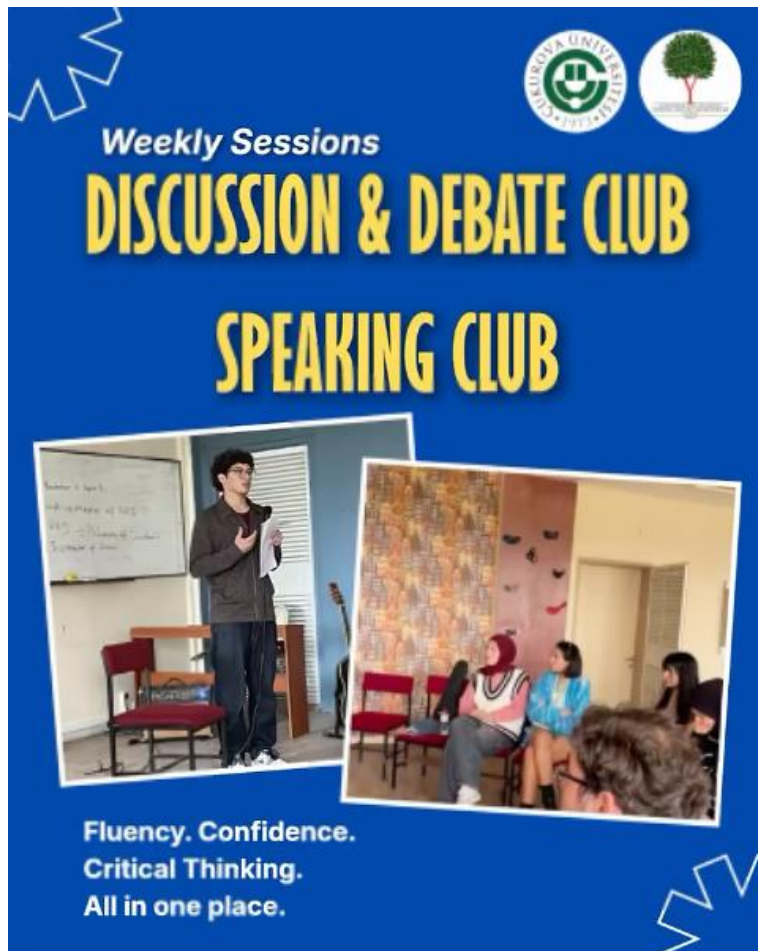
30 March 2026



We were proud to take part in DABKAF'26 with our CU SoFL units. With a rich program including panels, seminars, and hands-on workshops, the fair brought students together with professionals and career opportunities across different fields. It was a valuable experience to connect, engage, and support our students in shaping their future paths.

## Speaking & Debate Clubs Continue

1 April 2026



Our Speaking Club and Discussion & Debate Club continue with engaging sessions. From building fluency to strengthening critical thinking, students are actively developing their skills.

Speaking Club – Room 301 | Wednesday 13:00

Discussion & Debate Club – Room 309 | Wednesday 13:00

## Using NotebookLM in the Classroom

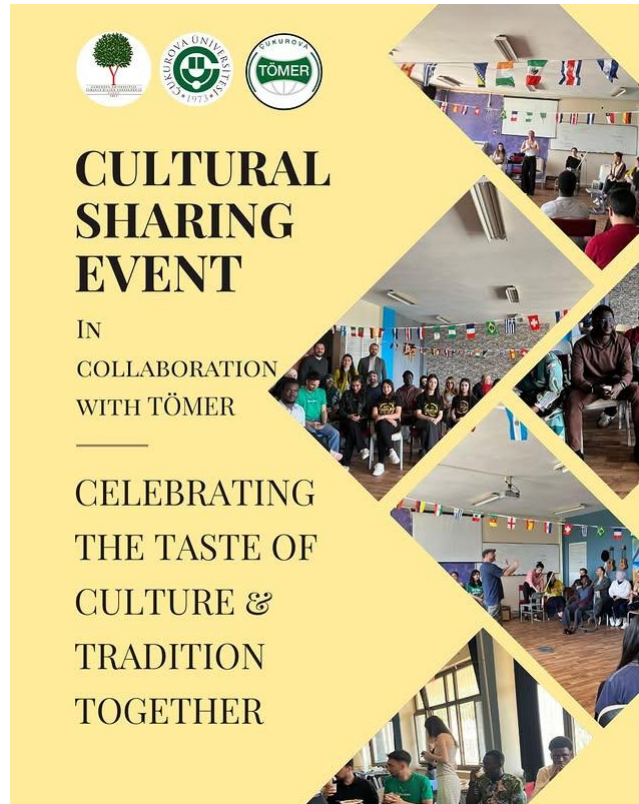
26 April 2026



Our PDU session on using NotebookLM in the classroom was successfully held. Led by Inst. Dr. Ali Avşar, the session focused on practical ways to integrate AI tools into teaching and support more effective learning experiences.

## Celebrating Culture with TÖMER

30 May 2026



In collaboration with TÖMER, and under the coordination of Inst. Dr. Serhat Koçak, we gathered with academic staff and students for a cultural sharing event. With the participation of SOFL administration, instructors, and units, the event provided a warm environment to share traditional Turkish flavours, snacks, and Turkish coffee while celebrating our cultural heritage.

## **Why CU SoFL MAGAZINE?**

### **AIMS AND SCOPE**

We wanted to create an online magazine for the School of Foreign Languages at Cukurova University to share experiences, to communicate, to network, and to find useful tips for teaching and learning English.

Aims:

- to create a digital environment for English learners and instructors at schools of foreign languages where they can share their knowledge, experiences, achievements, and useful tips for colleagues and students.
- to create an online magazine for talented prep year students who would like to develop their personal and academic skills.
- to invite both teachers and students for brainstorming about the challenges and achievements at preparatory schools.
- to engage more students into creative projects and organize contests, podcasts and vcasts, video materials.
- to publish the interviews/essays/reflections of English instructors and learners from different cities in Türkiye (also foreign instructors teaching in Türkiye)
- to create a dynamic community, new bridges and exchanges among schools of foreign languages, departments and institutions at Cukurova University and other universities to create a new community based on common personal and professional development goals.

### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- The submission should be a single-spaced Word document in standard 12-point font, Times New Roman. (Check the template)
- The submission should include your name, affiliation, the title of your work and brief biodata with a photo of the author/s. The biodata should not exceed 5-8 lines. (Check the template)
- The submission should be between 500 and 1500 words. It should not be longer than 2000 words.

#### **Please Follow the Submission Guidelines!**

- You can download the template from the following website: <https://CUSoFL.cu.edu.tr/cu/Dergi/Say%C4%B1lar>
- We only accept your submissions online via e-mail. Please send all your written works to the following e-mail address: [cusoflmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:cusoflmagazine@gmail.com)

#### **Note!!!**

We do not accept submissions from any other platforms.

## **PLAGIARISM POLICY**

All submissions should be original and authentic content. Plagiarism software is used to analyze the similarity index. The similarity index should not be more than %25. Please share the sources of any content, photos, graphics, etc. that you benefited from. If not, your submission will not be accepted for publication.

## **EDITORIAL TEAM**

Lect. Ezgi ÖKSÜZ: Managing Editor, Office 31  
Lect. Dr. Cemile BUĞRA: Team Leader, Office 12  
Lect. Dr. Neslihan GÜNDOĞDU: Copy Editor, Office 12  
Lect. Dr. Ali AVŞAR: Copy Editor, Office 16

## **MESSAGES FROM CU SoFL MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM**

### **Dear students,**

Our online magazine is open to you all. We accept all your creative written works such as news, memories, stories, letters, book or film reviews, poems, songs, scenarios, interview reports, etc. You are all welcome to send us any creative work of yours at any time during the academic year. You can even work collaboratively with your classmates or friends in other classes in our school. We would like to publish your creative works regularly.

We will have prompts or themes from time to time for the students who need some kind of inspiration but you can touch upon different kinds of issues that can grab the attention of your readers. You can also send your reaction letters to the written works for each issue. We will be happy to read and share them in the following issues.

Why should you write for this magazine?

- It can be an opportunity for you to improve your writing skills and share your creative skills and ideas with others on a platform.
- It can be an opportunity for you to realize your boundaries and maybe go beyond your limits through these writing experiences.
- It helps you explore yourself and discover your own voice as both a language learner and a writer.

Dear Colleagues/Contributors,

We are all looking forward to your contributions to our online magazine. It would be a great opportunity for our readers to benefit from your ideas and experiences. Let's create an inspiring space for each other!

### **Contact Info:**

For all your inquiries, please send an email to [cusoflmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:cusoflmagazine@gmail.com)

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We want to express our deepest appreciation for the efforts of everyone who contributed to our magazine.

**The Theme of the Fifteenth Issue:**

**Global Citizenship**

## **Biodata**

*Selin YÜCEL is a student at the English Language Department at Çukurova University.*

### **ONE WORLD, ONE FAMILY**

I used to think that Global Citizenship was only discussed by politicians or world leaders. But the more I think about it, the more I realize that Global Citizenship is actually about people like us, the students, the travellers and the people who use the internet to talk with people around the world.

I do not think that being a Global Citizen means having a special passport. It is a way of thinking. It is about understanding that someone who lives thousands of miles away from me is not that different from me. We all want the same things, to be safe, to be happy and to have a good future. Global Citizenship is the feeling of "I care about this " even if it is not happening to me when I watch the news or see something happening in another country. In my life Global Citizenship means being curious and not judgemental. It means trying to understand a culture, being kind to a stranger or simply caring about the environment because the Earth belongs to all of us. Every choice we make, in terms of what we buy or how we engage with individuals makes an impact.

Being a Global Citizen does not diminish my love for my country. It just means I have a bigger family now, which is the whole world. It is about building bridges instead of walls and I think that is the best way to move forward together.

Selin YÜCEL

## Biodata



*Ahmet KILINÇ is a student at Çukurova University English Language Department. He is also an electronic music producer from Tarsus. His work bridges language, sound, and philosophy—challenging the boundaries of interdisciplinary art.*

## LANGUAGE AND THE FUTURE — THE RISE OF GLOBISH

In the shifting ontology of the twenty-first century, where cognition and data have become interwoven in symbiotic networks, Timothy Leary’s warning, “Who controls your screen controls the programs in your mind,” needs more emphasis: the screen is no longer solely a medium carrying language and audiovisual transmissions across space but actively forms new experiences born from electron and photon spikes in our minds. Thus, a universal dialect emerges, in which words become mere vectors for their occipital connotation: Globish.

The prophecy Marshall McLuhan made has come true: mankind has become unified into a single village, in which each individual is essentially a mobile base station that encodes and decodes the same language of mind—made of electrons, waves, and rhythms. Language, primarily speaking, is streamlined to its functional essence, wherein the difference between machines and humans will continue to dissolve.

This reconfiguration embodies the pragmatic adaptation of consciousness with priority over syntax, leading to a paradigm shift in macroecological balance: changing dynamics of the world with individuals' adaptive measures for business adequacy, cultural differences becoming vague with the assimilation of identity, technological advancement, and potential mass migration movements in the future due to the climate crisis and vital resources becoming more difficult to reach.

Under this light, the English language is no longer bound to the custodianship of native speakers in the US or the Commonwealth; it has converged into a transnational current. With the omission of perfection over intelligibility, it has reconstituted itself primarily as a bridge of planetary mobility and exchange. In this case, non-native speakers cease to be disciples of form and accent; they instead become vectors in the macro-scale planetary exchange, with English becoming an instrument of global citizenship and agency.

With words flattening into mere vectors of connection, the erasure of local semantic boundaries is to be expected. Such occasions become not loss but convergence. Adaptation is the primary ethos of survival within this emergent register in an ever-accelerating technocultural matrix.

Ahmet KILINÇ

## **Biodata**

*We are students from Pre-Faculty 1, Class 206. We are all friendly and active. We enjoy learning English and improving our skills together.*

## **SILENT PEACE**

Beauty of the world  
No racism, quiet and peace  
Silence heals the wounds

Barış CANATAR

We are all humans  
Black white no matter what  
Racism is a waste

Öznur ESEN

Cultures live  
People live in it  
Countries are made with this  
Cultures turn into life

Samet AYYILDIZ

Humanity's face  
Brighter when they all are free  
Walls  
    begin  
        to  
          break

Yiğit Kaan SÜRER

## PAPERS PLEASE!

Men came to the border  
They gave their documents  
and returned cries

Eren ÇERÇİ  
Veysel Utku DALKILIÇ  
Nevzat DİKİCİ

## WAR OF SILENCE

An old silent war  
A bomb drops silently into hearts  
Hearts belong to people  
Bombs belong to people  
Silence drops to hearts

Mehmet Ali GÜLER

## GLOBAL PEACE

Nationalities  
One world, one heart, one future...  
We all are one

Emirhan FINDIK

Someone lives beyond borders  
A nomad was here  
Trying to feel free  
Free holds nothing of them now

Buğra KÜRKLÜ

A world in bloom  
Screams fill up the sky  
Bombs explode!  
Hope brings back the bloom

Technology age  
A new era  
Technology develops  
Into code  
We still hold hope

Ege Çağlar FİLİZ  
Irmak BOLAT

## GLOBAL SYMBOLS

Global citizenship and language are closely connected because language is the main tool people use to communicate, share ideas, and understand each other. However, communication is not always done with words. Just like spoken languages, flowers also have silent language. Through spoken language, people recognize cultures and express themselves. Also, flowers can express feelings such as love, respect, peace, or apology without using words. The silent language of flowers is a universal language which expresses emotions and meanings without words. Everyone around the globe can follow these symbols:

Rose

- Red → Love, passion
- White → Purity, peace
- Yellow → Friendship
- Pink → Admiration

Tulip

- Red → True love
- Yellow → Happiness
- Purple → Royalty

Daisy

- Innocence, purity, new beginnings

Sunflower

- Happiness, positivity, loyalty

Cherry Blossom

- Beauty, the shortness of life

Lily

- White → Purity, sympathy
- Orange → Confidence

Carnation

- Red → Love
- White → Good luck
- Pink → Gratitude

Lavender

- Calmness, grace, elegance

Orchid

- Beauty, strength, luxury

Azra Eylül BÜLBÜL

## WORLD PEACE

World peace is very important for every living thing. A world without peace brings unrest and unhappiness. We can see examples in history, like World War 1 and World War 2. Additionally, the war that is about to start. Everyone says wars start with disagreement between presidents. However, I think the real causes are greed and people do not truly love their own area. True peace begins in the country's borders. Ataturk says, "Peace at home, peace in the world."

Gaye ARSLAN

## BEYOND PREJUDICES

Many people have lived on these lands for centuries. We all lived our lives on the same piece of land, as if we were a single entity. We influenced each other and improved ourselves. However, some prejudices have already prevented our unity. Perhaps our languages, religions, and races are different, but these differences are what make us who we are. Therefore, we must break down these prejudices and respect each other.

Eda İLHAN

## ONE WORLD, MANY DIFFERENCES

There are many cultures, religions, languages and races in the world. Each of them is unique in its own way. These differences make us who we are.

If we approach them in a negative and prejudiced way, it can affect our personal development badly. We should be open-minded and understanding.

This world belongs to all of us. We share it together. No one has more rights than others, and no one is permanent in this world.

Instead of spending our lives hating people we don't even know, we should try to learn about different cultures and lifestyles as much as possible. Even small actions like respect and kindness can make a big difference.

The new generation should especially be raised more open-minded because they will shape the future. In this way, we can build a more peaceful world.

Eylül KUTLU

## **Biodata**

***Berfin KONAK** is a preparatory school student at the School of Foreign Languages, Çukurova University.*

***Cennet ONGUN** is a preparatory school student at the School of Foreign Languages, Çukurova University.*

## **A WORLD WITHOUT BORDERS**

Just think of the time when you can travel without a green or red small book. Without a passport or visa, without waiting for hours at the border. That is the dream of global citizenship. But what does it mean to be a citizen of the world?

A citizen of the world is a person who believes that we are all one big human family. The idea of citizenship without a passport means that the Earth belongs to everybody. If there were no borders, people could travel, live and work anywhere. It would be much easier to share our cultures, arts, and ideas.

Moreover, our world faces big problems like climate change or poverty. They have no borders. If we are citizens of the world, we can fight these problems together. We can take care of the whole planet, not only of our country.

Of course, to have a world without a passport is very difficult now. Governments need to organize their countries and protect their economy. But still, we are taking small steps. Now we can talk to any person in the world in a second. We read the same news, listen to the same music, and are parts of the same social media groups. In our minds, we are crossing the borders every day.

One day, a passport will only be in a museum. Until that time, we can practice to be citizens of the world by respecting other cultures and protecting our common home, Earth.

Berfin KONAK  
Cennet ONGUN

## **Biodata**

*My name is **Berra ÇELİK**. I am from Adana and I live in Adana. My department is nutrition and dietetics. I like my department. I am 18. I generally go for a walk at the weekend. I also like to travel.*

## **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**

From my point of view, being a global citizen is not only about living in a country where you were born or where you are living now. It involves a sense of responsibility about environmental, political, social issues all over the world. And people who realize global troubles and their consequences, are global citizens. These people take part in some volunteer work. Moreover, they are not limited to specific geographic or cultural boundaries and accept themselves as global citizens.

In my opinion, one of the most common features of global citizenship is a sense of responsibility. To be clearer, this feature includes different topics such as; situations all over the world (economic, climate change, human rights etc.), respect for differences and finding the solution for these problems, First of all, they empathize with people who do not have enough opportunities to survive, even if they do not live in their country. They are not people who just watch them and don't help them, instead they take action and participate in volunteer work. Moreover, their other feature and aim is to attract attention to human rights. They react in the face of violence, injustice, bullying and other bad situations. To be clearer these situations don't have to be in their own country. For instance, a global citizen can face situations of violence in different countries. And they feel uncomfortable. They communicate with people in high positions and help them. Also, they organise awareness organisations to prevent this issue from being common. Secondly, they care about climate change. Climate change concerns everyone all around the world. They use public transport to reduce carbon emission, recycling waste and work to protect nature. They know that this world is ours. Finally, they respect differences. They accept the people's cultural, religious, notional or linguistic differences.

To sum up, being a global citizen is not only living in a country. It means attracting attention to certain global issues such as violence, climate problems, human rights and equality problems etc. No matter where they are, they cannot be silent in the face of these issues.

Berra ÇELİK

## Biodata



*My name is **Arda YILDIZ**. I am studying in the preparatory class at Çukurova University, in the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering. While writing this text, I learned a lot of useful information and had a lot of fun.*



*My name is **Müferrih Can ORMAN**. I am studying in the preparatory class of YADYO. My department is mechanical engineering. I love watching and playing football. My favourite team is Galatasaray.*



*My name is **Kemal Yağız ÖZDESTİCİ**. I am studying in the preparatory school at YADYO. My department is econometrics.*



*My name is **Işıl HAMİYET**. I study Economics at Çukurova University. I am very happy to have contributed to this text.*

## THE MEANING AND TRADITION OF EASTER

Have you ever wondered why people celebrate Easter every spring? Easter is a very vital holiday for Christians because it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It takes place in the spring, usually between late March and mid-April, a season that also represents new beginnings, growth, and the fresh start of nature. During this time, flowers bloom, the weather gets warmer, and people feel more positive and hopeful. Beyond its religious meaning, Easter is celebrated in many fun ways around the world. Families often come together to share special meals, decorate eggs in bright colours, and organize activities like Easter egg hunts for children. In some countries, people also give chocolate eggs and gifts to each other as a symbol of joy and renewal, which makes Easter not only a religious celebration but also a time for happiness, togetherness, and creating special memories with loved ones. According to the Bible, Jesus was crucified and died on a cross. Three days later, he rose from the dead. This event is called the resurrection, and it gives hope to Christians around the world, showing that life is stronger than death and that good can win over evil. Many people attend church on Easter Sunday to pray, sing, and remember this important moment. Easter also represents a new beginning. Just like spring, which comes around the same time, Easter is a symbol of renewal and fresh starts. Nature becomes alive again, flowers bloom, and the weather gets warmer. Easter is also connected to forgiveness and sacrifice. Christians believe that Jesus died for the sins of humanity, and his resurrection shows that people can be forgiven and have a chance to live a better life, which

encourages people to be kind, patient, and helpful to others. There are plenty of Easter traditions, each with roots that go back to ancient times. Interestingly, many of these are not originally American traditions—they usually come from other countries and eventually became part of the holiday. One well-known example is the Easter Bunny. The name “Easter” comes from Eostre, a pagan figure who symbolized fertility, and bunnies are also known for their abundance and fertility. In ancient times, Easter typically occurred in the spring, which is also the month when rabbits start to breed. Another interactive Easter tradition is the Easter egg hunt. Today, children run to collect colourful eggs inside houses, backyards, and even playgrounds. These eggs are often filled with chocolate, candy, or small surprises. Historically, eggs were forbidden during Lent, the 40-day period before Easter, and became an important part of the celebration when the fast ended, especially for people who couldn’t afford meat. Different countries celebrate Easter in unique ways. In Europe, the religious aspect is more prominent, with various rituals and ceremonies. In Asia, traditional practices can be stricter, while in America, the holiday has more entertainment and commercial elements. For example, in Germany, people create “Easter trees” decorated with colourful eggs, while in Italy, religious rituals, including the Pope’s Easter mass at St. Peter’s Basilica, are more central. Italians also make and eat a dove-cake called ‘Colomba.’ Despite cultural differences, the common themes of Easter—rebirth, hope, and togetherness—are celebrated worldwide, bringing families and communities together.

Arda YILDIZ  
Müferrih Can ORMAN  
Kemal Yağız ÖZDESTİCİ  
Işıl HAMİYET

## Biodata



*Eliz UYGUN is a student at the English Language Teaching Department at Çukurova University. She is interested in language learning, communication and global issues. She enjoys learning about different cultures around the world and believes in the importance of cooperation in our world.*

## BEING A GLOBAL CITIZEN TODAY

Each day, the world connects more and, in my opinion, this is a reason why global citizenship is important. Being a global citizen is not only about the place you live in or where you go to travel. It is also related to being able to understand the problems and cultures of the people all around the world.

Nowadays, caring for people from other countries and cultures has become more crucial. I think that the most important part of global citizenship is believing that we all belong to one big community as human beings. We all share the same planet, world, even though we have different cultures, thoughts, ideas and lifestyles. For example; global issues such as global warming, climate change, wars and inequality affect all of us; not just one part of the world. Because of this reason we should think about the world as a whole and care about all of the people. We should not only be interested in what is happening in our own country. Another important thing is being responsible. Even one small action can affect the world. For example; we can use less plastic, save energy or do recycling to help the environment. Informing people and learning about global issues can help all of us while making our decisions for a better planet. Slowly, our small actions can create big benefits in the world when we act all together. This can be done by improving communication among people. Since we live in a technological world, now it is easier to communicate with people by using the internet, social media or other online platforms. In this way we can get information about other people's point of views or understand their perspectives but we should be careful while using the internet and we should think twice while believing or sharing ideas. This is not easy all the time and we should be aware of misunderstandings. However, this communication will make us more open minded and informed about each other's lives and culture.

To conclude, I think global citizenship is a must in today's global world where everyone has different problems. We should always be responsible people and stay connected to each other. The most important role is on us, the young people, because we are the future and every little step we take can make a change to make the world a better place to live in.

Eliz UYGUN

## Biodata



*Gülpınar ÖZÇELİK is an architect (Mersin University, Class of 2020) and Communication Science student at Cukurova University. Her work focuses on urban memory, visual storytelling, and documentary filmmaking. In her academic and creative practices, she engages with themes of collective memory, spatial transformation, and human–nature interaction.*

## BEYOND BORDERS: A GLOBAL CONSCIOUSNESS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Global citizenship today is no longer merely a sensitivity or an ideal; it is a necessity. Although geographical borders, cultural differences, discriminatory ideologies, lines of belonging, and political divisions continue to exist, the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the planet we inhabit are shared. A tree cut down in one place, a forest set ablaze in another, does not remain a local loss; it disrupts the balance of a shared ecosystem. An economic crisis in one country can shake the welfare of another society. And unfortunately, the violence we encounter every day—wars, femicides, abuse against children—opens deep wounds in the collective conscience of humanity. These events may seem to occur “far away,” yet they, in fact, constrict all of our worlds.

This is precisely where global citizenship comes into play: the ability to feel another’s pain beyond the boundaries of our own. Universal responsibility, then, is the transformation of this feeling into action. Being more sensitive to the environment, questioning our consumption habits, and speaking out against discrimination and violence are all parts of this responsibility. Acting with the awareness that we share a common planet despite geographical borders is essential; this is precisely why global citizenship matters today. It calls for a consciousness that goes beyond lines on a map and recognizes our interconnected responsibilities toward the environment, humanity, and all living beings.

A world shaped by constant exposure to violence risks normalizing what should never be accepted. Global citizenship, in this sense, is not passive awareness but active resistance—the courage to question, to speak, and to stand against injustice wherever it occurs. Because everything we normalize and remain indifferent to becomes the world we live in. And what we resist determines the world we still have a chance to build.

Gülpınar ÖZÇELİK

## **Biodata**

*Hasan AHKEMOĞLU works as an English instructor at the School of Foreign Languages, Çukurova University, where he also serves as an academic advisor to SAHNEDİL, one of Çukurova University's student clubs focusing on language and performing arts. He holds an MA degree in English Language Teaching from Çukurova University and is a graduate of Bilkent University, Department of American Culture and Literature.*

*In 2001, he earned a certificate in presenting and broadcast announcing from the Ankara Dialog Institution. He also completed the International Diploma Program in Marketing at UC Berkeley and undertook his academic internship program at the Oakland Film Office.*

*After returning to Türkiye in 2002, he received professional training in theatre and musical acting at the Müjdat Gezen Art Center (Actors Studio). Alongside his academic and artistic background, he has maintained a lifelong engagement with sport, exploring and practicing various disciplines to enhance overall well-being and quality of life.*

*His long-standing dedication to Aiki Jutsu reflects a deeper interest in practices that integrate physical discipline with awareness and balance. He holds the rank of black belt, 2nd Dan (Level 2) in Aiki Jutsu and approaches martial arts as a path of discipline, equilibrium, and mindful engagement rather than competition.*

## **LEARNING GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP, ONE STEP AT A TIME**

I did not grow up thinking that one day I would describe myself as a global citizen. To be honest, it was not even a phrase I used when I was younger. I only began to understand what it might mean after a number of experiences in different countries, and most of them were not dramatic moments. They were simple, human moments.

In 1993, I joined an intensive language program at Webber College in Florida. It lasted only one month, but it was the first time in my life that I lived and studied with students from different parts of the world. At that age, I was mostly thinking about improving my English. Looking back now, I can see that I was learning something else as well. I was beginning to see that people from very different backgrounds can live side by side more naturally than we sometimes assume.

A year later, I joined an international student camp in Haaksbergen in the Netherlands. At first, we stayed with host families. Later, we moved into scout-style tents near a forest. There were students from Japan, Finland, Sweden, Poland, Norway, and other countries. We travelled together, cooked together, and talked about our daily lives. What stayed with me was not only how different our traditions were, but also how familiar our hopes and concerns felt once we started talking honestly.

In 1998, I joined volunteer camps in the Czech Republic and Germany.

Near Litvínov, at Jezeří Chateau, we worked on restoration projects. Each day, students from a different country prepared the meals. In a very simple way, food became a way of getting closer to one another. Later, in Halle (Saale), Germany, I worked on restoring an old building. The work was tiring and physical, but it was also full of laughter, cooperation, and mutual respect. I think that was one of the times when I understood that cooperation is not really about speaking perfectly. It is more about sharing the same intention.

In 1999, I spent 45 days in Três Lagoas, Brazil, through a student exchange program, living with a host family. It was one of the happiest and most enjoyable periods of my life. At the same time, it

gave me a chance to experience another culture from inside daily life. That makes a difference. There is a big difference between seeing a place and actually living in it, even for a short while.

In the summer of 2000, I studied German at the Goethe Institute in Munich. In 2001, I joined an international marketing program in Berkeley, California. Studying with people from Asia, Europe, and America helped me understand how strongly culture shapes communication, decision-making, and even creativity. I started to see that thinking globally does not mean trying to make everything the same. It means respecting differences and still finding a way to work toward a common goal.

In 2004, I completed my military service as a reserve officer in Erzincan. This experience was very different from my time abroad, but it was just as important in another way. It helped me understand the diversity, realities, and social dynamics within my own country. At some point, I realized that understanding the world also requires understanding your own society. Otherwise, your view remains incomplete.

After my military service, I spent two years in Sofia, Bulgaria, and one year in Kyiv, Ukraine. During that period, I had the chance to travel across much of Europe. Seeing different markets, business cultures, and ways of life helped me understand how history, geography, and culture shape not only economic life, but everyday behaviour as well. These were not only travel experiences for me. They also widened the way I looked at people, systems, and social habits.

Today, as an instructor at the School of Foreign Languages at Çukurova University, I can still see the influence of all these experiences in my daily work. Every classroom, in its own way, feels like a small meeting point of different worlds. Students bring different perspectives, different expectations, and different concerns about the future. Sometimes I feel that my role is not only to teach language, but also to encourage openness, respect, and the confidence to communicate with people who may think or live differently.

When I think about global citizenship now, I do not think of titles or impressive labels. I think of shared meals, long conversations, hard work, misunderstandings, learning, and the ability to listen before reacting. These experiences also taught me something more personal. At a relatively young age, I began to learn how to deal with criticism in a more mature way. I cannot say I always succeeded. There were times when I misunderstood things, reacted too quickly, or simply handled situations badly. Even today, I know there are still parts of myself that need to be improved. Life does not place us in perfect conditions all the time, and it does not raise us inside comfort or certainty. Still, I have always believed in a constructive path of growth.

I think willingness plays a key role here. The willingness to improve, the willingness to stay open to change, and the willingness to be honest with yourself. Maybe that is also part of being a global citizen. Not only learning about other cultures, but also learning how to respond to difference, disagreement, and even criticism without immediately becoming defensive. Over the years, I have come to believe that global citizenship is shaped not only by where we go, but by what we do with those experiences when we return to ordinary life. I often tell my students that learning a new language is not only about learning new words. It is also about learning new ways to see. If my experiences have taught me one thing, it is this: Global citizenship does not begin at airports or universities. It begins when we become genuinely curious about how other people live. It grows when we choose understanding over quick judgment. And it becomes meaningful when what we learn changes the way we live with others. For me, global citizenship is not a destination. It is a lifelong process of learning, adjusting, and staying open to the world.

Hasan AHKEMOĞLU

## **Biodata**

*Mulla İbrahim MUTLU is an electrical and electronics engineering student at Çukurova University. My biggest dream is to build a great company in the future. I often read travel books and enjoy researching different cultures. I also love to travel. And let me not forget, I love Gaziantep, the city where I grew up.*

## **BEING A GLOBAL CITIZEN IN GAZIANTEP**

What does it mean to be a “Global Citizen”? Many people think it means traveling the world or speaking many languages. However, being a global citizen is actually about how we think and act in our daily lives, even in our own city. I believe that our city is a perfect place to practice global citizenship.

Gaziantep is famous for its history and delicious food. But beyond baklava and kebabs, it is a multicultural city. Today, people from different backgrounds and countries live together here. A global citizen respects these differences. When we talk to a student from another country at our university or help a tourist in the copper bazaar, we are practicing intercultural communication. Respecting different cultures is the first step of being a global citizen

Another important part of global citizenship is taking care of our environment. Climate change is a global problem, but the solution starts locally. In Gaziantep, we can see the importance of water and energy. For example, when we reduce our water usage at home or stop using plastic bags when shopping at Sanko Park or in other shopping malls, we are helping the whole world. A global citizen knows that a small action in Gaziantep can have a positive effect on the planet.

Education and technology also help us connect with the world. As preparatory school students, we are learning English. We can follow international news, watch documentaries about world problems and share our own culture with people online. Being a global citizen means using the internet to learn the truth and to connect with others in a peaceful way.

Finally, being a global citizen means being responsible. We should care about global issues like poverty or pollution as much as we care about local issues. We can participate in volunteer projects in our city or simply raise awareness among our friends

In conclusion, it doesn't matter where you live, you may practice being a global citizen. By respecting different cultures, protecting our environment and using our education to understand the world, we can make a big difference. Let's remember; we are not only citizens of a city or a country but also citizens of the world.

Mulla İbrahim MUTLU

## **Biodata**

*My name is Nisanur ŞİMŞEK. I am a student in the English Language Teaching department at university. I am interested in learning languages and exploring different cultures. In my free time, I enjoy listening to music, watching films, and spending time with my friends. I also like improving myself and learning new things about the world.*

## **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP IN TODAY'S WORLD**

In today's rapidly changing world, the concept of global citizenship has become more important than ever before. With the development of technology, communication, and transportation, people from different countries can easily connect with each other. This situation makes the world feel smaller and more connected. As a result, individuals are not only citizens of their own countries but also members of a global community.

Global citizenship first requires awareness. People should be aware of global issues such as climate change, poverty, inequality, and conflicts. These problems do not only affect one country; they affect the entire world. Therefore, it is important for individuals to follow global news and understand what is happening around them. When people are aware of these issues, they can develop empathy and become more sensitive to the problems of others.

Another important aspect of global citizenship is respect for diversity. The world is full of different cultures, languages, traditions, and beliefs. These differences should be seen as richness rather than problems. When people respect diversity, they become more tolerant and open-minded. For example, learning a foreign language helps people communicate with others from different cultures and understand their perspectives. This creates stronger connections between individuals and societies.

Responsibility is also a key element of global citizenship. Being a global citizen means taking responsibility for one's actions and their impact on the world. People can contribute to solving global problems through small but meaningful actions. For instance, saving energy, reducing waste, recycling, and helping others are simple ways to make a difference. Even though these actions may seem small, they can have a big impact when many people do them together.

Technology plays a significant role in global citizenship as well. Today, people can communicate instantly through social media, online platforms, and digital tools. This allows individuals to share ideas, learn from each other, and work together on global issues. However, it is also important to use technology responsibly. People should avoid spreading false information and should communicate respectfully in online environments.

Another important concept related to global citizenship is belonging. People naturally want to feel that they belong to a group or a community. Global citizenship expands this feeling beyond national borders. It helps individuals see themselves as part of a larger human community. This sense of belonging can increase empathy and encourage people to care about others, even if they live far away.

Moreover, global citizenship encourages active participation. It is not enough to only understand global issues; people should also take action. This can include participating in social projects, volunteering, or raising awareness about important topics. Young people, especially students, have a great potential to create positive change in society. Their ideas and energy can contribute to building a better future.

In addition, global citizenship promotes peace and cooperation. Many global problems can only be solved through collaboration between countries and individuals. When people work together, they

can find more effective solutions. Respect, understanding, and communication are essential for creating a peaceful and cooperative world.

In conclusion, global citizenship is an essential concept in today's world. It includes awareness, respect for diversity, responsibility, and active participation. It encourages individuals to think beyond their own countries and consider the well-being of the entire world. In a time when global challenges are increasing, being a global citizen is not only important but also necessary. By becoming more aware and responsible, individuals can help create a more just, peaceful, and connected world.

Nisanur ŐİMŐEK

## **Biodata**

*I am Nisanur TÜRKEN and I am a senior student in the French Language Teaching Department. My academic journey has been shaped by my interest in language teaching and intercultural communication. Besides my studies, I am also interested in creative arts and graphic design, and I enjoy combining mystical aesthetics with modern digital tools. I believe that education is one of the strongest bridges between cultures. As a future teacher, I hope to encourage global awareness in the things I create and share. My goal is to combine my language skills with what I have learned about teaching in order to contribute to a more inclusive world.*

## **BEYOND BORDERS: CULTIVATING THE GLOBAL CITIZEN IN A CONNECTED WORLD**

Today, the world is more connected than ever. Through technology, communication, and education, we are constantly exposed to people, ideas, and cultures from different parts of the world. In such a world, the idea of global citizenship has become increasingly important. It asks us to think beyond our immediate environment and consider how we relate to others on a wider scale.

Global citizenship is often misunderstood as simply traveling to different countries or speaking several languages. Although these are valuable experiences, global citizenship means much more than that. At its core, it is a way of thinking that reminds us that our lives are connected to a wider world. It also means understanding that many of the problems we face today, whether environmental, social, or economic, extend beyond national borders.

To be a global citizen is to care not only about one's own community, but also about the wellbeing of others. It means respecting your own culture while staying open to different ways of living and thinking. It also means recognizing that people in different parts of the world may face different realities, yet still share similar hopes, fears, and needs.

For language learners and future teachers, this idea is especially meaningful. Learning a language is not only about grammar, vocabulary, or pronunciation. It is also about understanding people better. When we learn a new language, we are also learning how others express themselves, how they see the world, and how culture shapes communication. In this way, language learning helps us develop empathy and a broader perspective.

As students at the School of Foreign Languages, we are in a special position. We are not only learning how to use a language, but also how to connect with people through it. We begin to notice that words carry culture, history, and emotion. Sometimes a single expression in one language reflects a way of thinking that cannot be translated exactly into another. Realizing this helps us appreciate the richness of cultural diversity.

As future educators, we will have responsibilities that go beyond teaching classroom content. We will also help shape the attitudes and perspectives of future generations. For this reason, it is important for us to teach students to respect differences, think critically, and develop awareness of the world around them. Education should not only give information; it should also help students become thoughtful, responsible, and open-minded individuals.

Global citizenship also requires action. It is not only an idea to talk about but also a responsibility to live by. It shows itself in how we speak to others, the choices we make, and how we react when we see injustice or inequality. In a world where division and misunderstanding are still so common, empathy, respect, and open dialogue matter more than ever.

In conclusion, global citizenship is a lifelong process of learning, questioning, and growing. It encourages us to look beyond borders and remember that we are all part of a larger human community. As we move forward in our academic and professional lives, we should carry this awareness with us. The world may be more connected today, but real understanding still requires effort. If we want a more just, peaceful, and inclusive future, we must learn not only to live in the world, but also to care about it and about one another.

Nisanur TÜRKEN

## **Biodata**

*My name is **Salih Ege ORHAN**. I was born in 2004, Ordu. Currently, I'm an ELT student at Çukurova University. I like listening to all types of music, talking with people from different countries and reading classic novels.*

## **BEYOND THE LINES**

Have you ever wondered why people in the world are so distant from one another, why we are divided into different countries, or why wars happen? Have you thought about the reasons behind people looking down on each other? When we reflect on these questions today, some of us will realize that they actually come from such ordinary... such simple causes. Regardless of race, gender, religion, or country, we are all human. And in reality, contrary to the borders drawn on maps, we are all the people of a single home: this planet.

The century we live in has connected us more tightly than ever before. The phones in our pockets, the movies we watch, and even the clothes we wear are the result of global teamwork. Yet, some people still hide behind mental borders and build their world around these borders while ignoring the actual planet they live in. Being a global citizen does not mean forgetting or giving up on your own culture. On the contrary, it means maintaining your identity while feeling a sense of responsibility toward all humanity.

Nowadays, none of the problems we face are strictly local. Even a minor issue in our own community can create a butterfly effect that impacts the rest of the world. Consider the Renaissance. It began with the invention of the printing press in a small workshop. What seemed like a local technical advancement created a massive butterfly effect. It spread ideas across borders, led to a revolution in education, and eventually changed the way the entire world thinks. A single spark in one city lit the fire of progress for all of humanity. In our modern world, look at digital activism. A single post from a teenager about a local environmental issue can go viral in hours. This small act of sharing can trigger a global movement, forcing international corporations to change their policies on plastic and pollution. A local voice today has the power to become a global wave of change.

Addressing what I asked at the very beginning, why we are so distant or why we look down on each other. I believe the cause of it all is miscommunication. We are so focused on our own 'languages' not just the words we speak, but our cultural and political languages that we fail to truly listen to one another. Miscommunication creates a void, and that void is quickly filled with prejudice, fear, and eventually, conflict. We aren't just divided by borders; we are divided by the things we leave unsaid or the things we misunderstand.

This is where we, as individuals, come in. To overcome this miscommunication, we must learn to speak the language of empathy. It's about listening not just to hear, but to understand.

When we replace our fear of the unknown with curiosity, we realize that a person on the other side of the world wants exactly what we want: a safe home and a future full of hope. To change the world. We must realize that the imaginary lines on our maps should not be fences that keep us apart.

Salih Ege ORHAN

## Biodata



*Sara HERRERA, English Teacher at YADYO, graduated in Language Sciences with a major in English Translation and Interpretation, from the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León in Monterrey México. Certificated by TEFL to Teach English as a Foreign Language with over 14 years of experience and currently studying her Master degree in English Language Teaching and a European Master in Language Teaching.*

### **A MEXICAN TEACHER, A TURKISH CLASSROOM AND GLOBAL CITIZENS**

My experience as an English teacher in Türkiye, particularly working with a group of orphan teenagers in a volunteer class that meets once a week, has deeply transformed the way I understand education, language, and the impact a teacher can have on students' lives.

When I reflect on how everything began and the path that brought me here, I still find it remarkable. More than just a professional or personal journey, I consider it a miracle. I am Mexican and studied linguistics, yet I never imagined that English would become the key that would open so many doors and take me so far from home. Nor did I imagine that my life could gain such meaning by influencing the lives of others—especially young people who represent not only the future of their own countries, but of the world.

I have been working with this group of students for about a month. There are around fifteen to twenty teenagers between the ages of 15 and 18, and we meet once a week to learn English. Although our time together has been relatively short, their lives have already had a profound impact on mine.

Their enthusiasm, curiosity, and willingness to learn have become a constant source of motivation. Each week, I enter the classroom determined to give my very best, because I have come to understand that what happens in that space can have a real and lasting impact on someone's life.

In this context, English stops being just an academic subject and becomes a powerful tool. Teaching this language means offering these young people a key that can open new opportunities for their future. It allows them to access knowledge, connect with people from different parts of the world, and aspire to a better quality of life.

Teaching English has changed my life—but remembering that it can also change the lives of those sitting in front of me gives even deeper meaning to what I do every day.

As part of this project, I have developed a teaching approach that focuses on making learning both engaging and meaningful. Each class includes interactive activities, games, and dynamic exercises designed to help students learn while enjoying the process. Over time, I have seen how they not only improve their language skills but also begin to feel more confident and motivated.

The main goal of this course is for students to understand something essential: English is not just a school subject—it is a bridge to the world.

According to UNESCO, global citizenship is not about holding a passport or traveling abroad, but about developing a mindset that recognizes our connection to a broader global community and values diversity and cooperation. \*

With this in mind, I have intentionally created opportunities for my students to experience this connection firsthand.

During some classes, I invite people from different countries to interact with the students. In addition, I work alongside international volunteer students, including a graduate student from Algeria and a Syrian student, who actively participate in classroom activities and conversations.

These interactions allow my students to experience something truly meaningful: communicating with people from different cultures using a shared language. For many of them, this is their first time speaking with someone from another country. In those moments, the classroom becomes a space where borders disappear.

This aligns with the idea that education should not only teach academic skills, but also foster empathy, respect, and a sense of shared humanity. As the United Nations highlights, education must help individuals “build more just, peaceful, tolerant and inclusive societies.” \*

One of the most meaningful experiences I have had with this group is hearing students tell me that they are no longer afraid of English. They once believed it was too difficult, but now they see it as something achievable. Some have even told me that they enjoy the class and feel proud of what they are learning.

This shift in perspective is, to me, one of the most significant achievements.

When I think about their future, I imagine young people with more opportunities, broader worldviews, and greater empathy for others. Through language, they are beginning to understand that the world is diverse, interconnected, and full of possibilities.

Educational experts emphasize that global citizenship education helps learners develop not only knowledge, but also values such as empathy, openness, and respect for diversity— skills that are essential in today’s interconnected world. \*

Being a global citizen, I have learned, goes far beyond the idea of traveling. From my place in the classroom, I now understand that I can be a global citizen by showing the world to my students. I can help them see that there are no limits—that they do not need to board a plane to develop a global perspective.

They can have a global mind, a global heart, and a global vision.

Education—and particularly learning a language like English—can be the key that opens doors and allows students to travel between cultures, even while they remain within the walls of a classroom.

For me, being part of this journey has been deeply meaningful. Every class reminds me that education has the power to transform lives—not only the lives of students, but also the lives of those who have the privilege of teaching.

Sara HERRERA

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## **Biodata**

*Hello everyone! I am **Esmā Şevval YILDIRIM**. I was born in Adana in 2005. I am studying international relations and political science at Çukurova University. I enjoy documentaries about people from different cultures, as well as historical films and series. I also hope to create my own documentary in the future.*

## **BEYOND ORDERS: BECOMING A GLOBAL CITIZEN**

Today global issues clearly show that people around the world are interconnected. This situation shows that individuals have responsibilities not only to their own countries, but also to the whole world.

The concept of global citizenship means that people see themselves not only as members of one nation, but also as part of the whole world. According to this idea, a true sense of belonging should not be limited by borders but should include all humanity. Differences in religion, language, and race should not separate people. Instead, they should be seen as a source of richness. For this reason, systems that focus more on economic profit than human needs should be questioned. These ideas became more real for me during a cultural festival I attended. In this festival, we had the chance to meet volunteers from different countries and continents. While everyone shared their own culture, we also introduced Turkish culture and compared different traditions. This experience showed that strong connections can be built between different cultures. During the festival, we danced with people from different cultures, learned about their traditions, and shared our own culture. This experience clearly showed that people can live together in a peaceful, friendly, and educational environment. It also helped us understand that no society is completely independent and that all societies are connected with each other. This shows that our sense of belonging should not be only to one country, but to the whole world.

In conclusion, global citizenship is not only an idea, but also an important responsibility. People should respect each other, accept differences, and support peace. A fairer and more sustainable world is only possible if we all work together. Therefore, every individual should see themselves not only as a citizen of one country, but also as a citizen of the world, and act in this way.

Esma Şevval YILDIRIM

## **Biodata**

*Şevval ŞAHİN*

### **WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A GLOBAL CITIZEN TODAY**

In today's interconnected world, being a global citizen is more important than ever. Global citizenship means understanding that we are all part of a larger community that goes beyond borders, languages, and cultures. It is about feeling responsible not only for our own country but also for the well-being of people around the world.

One of the key aspects of global citizenship is empathy. When we listen to others, learn about different cultures, and try to understand different perspectives, we become more open-minded individuals. This helps reduce prejudice and builds stronger connections between people.

Another important part is responsibility. Global citizens care about global issues such as climate change, inequality, and human rights. Even small actions, like reducing waste, supporting fair practices, or raising awareness, can make a difference. We may feel that our actions are small, but when many people act together, real change happens.

Belonging is also a central idea. Even though we come from different backgrounds, we all share the same planet. Feeling that we belong to a global community helps us respect diversity and value differences instead of fearing them.

In conclusion, being a global citizen means being aware, responsible, and connected. It is not about where we are from, but how we choose to act in a shared world. If more people embrace this mindset, the future can become more peaceful, fair, and united.

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## **GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**

### **Introduction**

In the past, many people considered global citizenship to be an unrealistic concept. For example, an editorial published in The New York Times in 1929 described it as a utopia that had not become real yet. However, the world has changed a lot since then. Because of globalization, technology, and communication, people today are more connected with each other than before. As a result, the idea of global citizenship has become more important in modern society.

According to a global survey reported by BBC journalist Naomi Grimley (2016), many people now identify themselves not only as citizens of their own countries but also as global citizens. The survey was conducted by GlobeScan for BBC World Service and included around 20,000 people from 18 different countries. The results showed that 51% of the participants saw themselves more as global citizens than only national citizens.

Global citizenship is not mainly about nationality or legal status. It is more related to awareness, empathy, and responsibility. A global citizen is someone who cares about humanity and global issues such as climate change, poverty, inequality, and human rights. They also try to understand different cultures and respect people from different backgrounds.

In addition, becoming a global citizen does not require being rich or travelling around the world. It is more about having an open mind and understanding that global problems can affect everybody. Even small actions, such as helping others or respecting cultural differences, can show the values of global citizenship.

In conclusion, global citizenship is no longer only an idealistic dream. In today's interconnected world, more people are starting to see themselves as part of a global community. A global citizen respects diversity, cares about worldwide problems, and thinks beyond national borders. As communication between societies continues to grow, the importance of global citizenship will probably increase in the future too.

### **References**

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### **IMPORTANCE OF GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**

In today's world global citizenship has become almost a necessity due to advancements in technology because it is easy to learn what happens around the world thanks to technology and social media. These make us understand what is going on around the world without knowing languages because every person in the world uses the same language, especially on social media. If something good or bad happens around the world, we all know about it and we all feel happy or sad. Being a citizen of that city is not important.

Knowing the language also is not important because we can see the emotions in those videos or photos we see on social media. That makes us a part of that country. When you understand how people feel in that country it is not important to be a citizen of that country. If you can empathize with those people, you are already considered a citizen of that country. In Turkiye, we experienced this in recent past years.

On 6th February of 2023 we experienced a terrible earthquake. When this earthquake happened, we got help from everywhere around the world. Lots of people came to Turkiye to help people who suffered from the earthquake. Most of them didn't know a single word in Turkish but they were here to help us because they saw people suffering from earthquakes on social media. They felt that we had to help them. They forgot about where they are from, where they live, how can we understand each other, they just wanted to help people. In that specific time, where they came from was not important. They were Turkish citizens for a short time. This profound sense of belonging to a nation not your own, fuelled by digital images and shared grief, defines the modern era of global connectivity. When technology bridges the gap between a screen in one country and a tragedy in another, the traditional concept of a "foreigner" begins to dissolve. This shift is not just about news; it is about the transformation of the human conscience through collective experience.

In the past, we were limited by the physical borders of our nations and the linguistic barriers of our cultures, but today, an Instagram story or a live stream can evoke a level of empathy that was once reserved only for our immediate neighbours. This "digital empathy" has become the backbone of global citizenship, suggesting that our responsibilities are no longer confined to the people who share our passport, but extend to anyone whose suffering we witness. The volunteers who arrived in Turkiye were the physical manifestation of a global village that refuses to let its members suffer in isolation. They proved that while politics might divide us, tragedy and technology unite us under a single banner of humanity.

As we move forward, this global identity will likely become even more ingrained in our daily lives, teaching us that to be a citizen of the world is to accept a shared duty for the planet. It means understanding that a crisis in one region is a crisis for all, and a victory for human rights in one corner is a victory for everyone.

By embracing this mindset, we ensure that the global response to the earthquake becomes the standard for how we treat one another. Ultimately, global citizenship is the realization that our shared capacity for love, pain, and resilience is the only language we truly need to master to build a better future together.

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