



PRESS RELEASE

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Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation (TİKAV) Scholars Crowned Their Four-Year Development Journey with Graduation

Supported by the Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation for four years with scholarships, training, mentorship, culture-art, and volunteering activities within the scope of the Individual Development Program, the 16th Group scholars celebrated their graduation with a ceremony. At the ceremony, which hosted emotional moments and colorful stage performances, certificates and specially prepared gifts were presented to the graduates.

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Supported by the **Turkish Human Resources Education and Health Foundation (TİKAV)**, founded by Akfen Holding, within the scope of the **Individual Development Program (BGP)**, the **16th Group scholars** experienced the excitement of graduation by completing their four-year development journey.

Continuing to contribute to the personal, social, and professional development of young people in its 27th year, TİKAV accompanied its scholars as their journey full of effort and success was carried into a new era through the graduation program. **Akfen Holding Chairman of the Board and TİKAV Honorary President Hamdi Akın, Akfen Holding Board Member and UGO Committee Chair Pelin Akın Özalp, TİKAV Chair of the Board of Directors Hülya Kırçuval, and the mentors** who accompanied the scholars in all their achievements throughout four years also attended the graduation ceremony.



TİKAV's Individual Development Program 16th Group scholars crowned their four-year story full of effort, development, and success with a special program consisting of **professional trips, an Istanbul trip, panel talks, a concert, and a graduation ceremony**.

At the graduation ceremony, which started with the screening of the TİKAV Promotional Video, **TİKAV Chair of the Board of Directors Hülya Kırçuval** addressed the scholars and guests. In the program, the promotional video of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Program, for which TİKAV carries out the Turkish representation, was also shown.

MEANINGFUL THANKS FROM SCHOLARS TO THEIR MENTORS

In one of the most emotional parts of the graduation ceremony, the scholars read their letters on stage, in which they described their four-year development process, the experiences they gained throughout the program, and their dreams for the future. Inviting the mentors who guided them throughout their journey to the stage, the scholars presented them with appreciation plaques.

The ceremony continued with a tango performance prepared by the scholars and a video screening consisting of fun moments experienced throughout the program. A choir formed by the scholars performed the song "Sözlerimi Geri Alamam" and an adaptation of the work "Neler Oluyor Hayatta" specially prepared for graduation day. Afterwards, certificates, gifts, and special artwork prepared for them were presented to the graduates at the ceremony.

KIRÇUVAL: "BEING ABLE TO LEAVE A MARK ON EACH OF YOUR JOURNEYS IS A GREAT HAPPINESS FOR US"

TİKAV Chair of the Board of Directors Hülya Kırçuval stated the following in her speech at the graduation ceremony:

"Today, we are celebrating here not only the graduation of our young people completing their university education, but also strong individuals stepping into a new life who have learned to know themselves, take responsibility, produce together, and contribute to society for four years. With the Individual Development Program, we aim to support our scholars' social, cultural, and personal development alongside their academic journeys. Being able to leave a mark on each of your journeys is a great happiness for us. In your future life, we believe you will add value to your environment with your self-confidence, knowledge, and sense of social responsibility. We want you to know that our bonds will always continue on this journey you embarked on as a part of the TİKAV family."

AKIN: "YOUR SUCCESS FURTHER STRENGTHENS OUR BELIEF IN THE FUTURE"



Addressing the graduates, **Akfen Chairman of the Board and TİKAV Honorary President Hamdi Akin** used the following expressions in his speech:

"Today, we are witnessing together the completion of an important four-year journey spent with effort and development. Under the roof of TİKAV, you gained significant experiences not only in your educational life, but also in your personal and social development. We established TİKAV to reduce the gap between the opportunities possessed by young people studying in the east and west of Turkey. Our goal was to strengthen equality of opportunity in education and offer equal opportunities to young people in every aspect of life. One of the most important issues for us was to create a sustainable and long-term program under the roof of TİKAV. My trust in young people is full. With this trust we have in youth, we continue to follow in the footsteps of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk on the path he showed us. From now on, great duties fall upon you. You need to work hard, successfully maintain the tasks you undertake as productive individuals, and add value to our country. Your success further strengthens our belief in youth and the future. I congratulate each of you from the heart and wish you success in the new period of your life."

A FOUR-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PREPARING YOUTH FOR LIFE

Being one of TİKAV's long-term endeavors, the Individual Development Program offers a holistic development model that supports university students not only in their academic education, but also in their personal and social development.

Participating in the program starting from the first year of their university life, scholars are supported for four years with **training, seminars, mentorship work, volunteering activities, culture-art events, institutional visits, and professional development programs in addition to financial scholarship support.**

Aiming to develop scholars' communication, leadership, teamwork, personal awareness, and social responsibility skills, BGP prepares young people in a multifaceted way for the professional and social life they will start after graduation.

TİKAV CONTINUES ITS EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED PROJECTS IN ITS 27TH YEAR

Founded in Ankara on January 15, 1999, by the Akin Family to implement the social responsibility projects of Akfen Holding, TİKAV has continued to reach different segments of society since its establishment with sustainable projects carried out in the fields of education, personal development, and social solidarity. The main sponsorship of the foundation is undertaken by the Akin Family and Akfen Holding.



Placing the understanding of investing in people at the center of its work, TİKAV carries out its projects under three main headings: **the Individual Development Program, National Projects, and The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award – Türkiye**. The foundation aims to contribute to generating long-term and permanent solutions to social issues through its education and development-based projects.

Having reached a wide audience to date, ranging from university students to youth, women to children living in rural areas, and business representatives to different social segments, TİKAV decisively continues its efforts supporting equality of opportunity in education and contributing to the personal and social development of young people.

Inspired by the modernization goals of the Republic and Atatürk's approach based on reason and science, TİKAV, together with its scholars, continues to produce social benefit-focused projects for a more equal future where young people can display their potential.