

PART ONE

General questions and Discussion

1. There aren't significant changes in the situation of PhD candidates in our country as compared to last year. Recently, there has been becoming bad in the situation of junior researchers. Our association considers those changes a deterioration.

3. To raise research funds

To support for PhD candidates, post-docs and other junior researchers

4. As actions or activities our national association hadn't been involved in this year.

Our association's future planned activities: to attend conferences and workshops related to Education and Research & Development.

5. Our national association define its area of activities:

To represent doctoral candidates and junior researchers at the nation level in matters of education, research, and professional development of their careers.

To advance the quality of doctoral programmes and the standards of research activity in Turkey.

To promote the circulation of information on issues regarding young researchers; organize events, take part in debates and assist in the elaboration of policies about Higher Education and Research in Turkey.

To establish and promote co-operation between national associations representing doctoral candidates and junior researchers within Europe.

6. Not yet. Eurodoc contributing can be very importance and useful to while we make a PhD survey or plans for the future.

7. Establishment of a system of credits

Promotion of European co-operation in quality assurance with a view to developing comparable criteria and methodologies

Promotion of the necessary European dimensions in higher education, particularly with regards to curricular development, interinstitutional co-operation, mobility schemes and integrated programmes of study, training and research

Bologna Process and Lisbon Strategy

8. Turkish higher education system, already having a 2-tier system in all the higher education institutions, a credit system and transcripts similar to ECTS and DS, going through English quality assessment exercises and ABET evaluation of the USA in 1990's have not experienced any major difficulties in implementing most of the objectives of Bologna Declaration. It is the target of the Council of Higher Education to establish the national quality assurance agency in 2005 and have a reasonable number of evaluations completed before the ministers meeting to be held in 2007. The draft law for the regulation and the recognition of professional qualifications is expected to be ratified by the Parliament before the end of June 2005. The full participation in the mobility programmes and the framework programmes have already been realised. The Turkish higher education system aims at being a part of the EHEA and ERA with centers of excellence attracting researchers and highly reputable programmes at all

levels to attract the students from the other nations of the EHEA and ERA as well as the countries of the world.

Such as in the ECTS system – as a proper means of promoting the most widespread student mobility. Credits could also be acquired in non-higher education contexts, including lifelong learning, provided they are recognised by receiving Universities concerned.

Labour Conditions

14. The system differs from each other (subjects). Normally after taking lectures Ph.D candidate should prepare a report about the subject or attend an exam (depends on the lecturer). There is a certain rule about Ph.D candidate they have to take an exam before writing their dissertation. It shows the capability of Ph.D candidate.

16. Turkish NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Center) Office has been established under the supervision of the Council of Higher Education (YOK) in April 2003 and it has been working with the assistance of approximately 20 personnel. The Turkish ENIC (European Network of National Information Centers of Academic Mobility and Recognition) Office has been operating under the Council of Higher Education (YOK) since 1998. The main objective of the Turkish ENIC/NARIC offices is improving academic recognition of diplomas and periods of studies by promoting information and experience exchange in the Member States of the EU, the EEA countries and the candidate countries of the EU. Turkey has been one of the signatory countries of Lisbon Recognition Convention as of December 1, 2004. The Convention will come into force after the approval of the Cabinet and the ratification by the Parliament.

The Diploma Supplement has been introduced in the Turkish higher education system within the context of participation in the EU education, training and youth programmes. The Turkish higher education institutions are used to issue transcripts similar that of North American universities. Therefore, the introduction of the Diploma Supplement into the Turkish higher education system has been relatively easy. The national DS template has been formed in line with the UNESCO-CEPES and UNESCO standards with the coordination of the Council of Higher Education; and a standard Turkish DS model has been disseminated to the universities. From the 2004-2005 academic year onwards, all universities are ready to issue DS with the diploma to all students, free of charge, in English and/or in Turkish.

19. ERASMUS programme was started in 2003-2004 as a pilot study in a number of universities. In pilot programme the number of outgoing students was 124 and that of incoming students was only 17. 2004-2005 is the full implementation year for ERASMUS. Within the ERASMUS programme, in the Fall Semester of the academic year 2004-2005, the number of incoming students is 183, that of outgoing Turkish students is 475, the number of incoming teaching staff is 2 and that of outgoing Turkey teaching staff is 55. It is expected that the numbers of outgoing and incoming students will reach 1150 as of the Spring Semester of the academic year 2004-2005.

There are different types of funding opportunities for Ph.D candidates. The Council of Higher Education, Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education (MEB) and other institutions provide the funds for Ph.D candidates not only for their research in Turkey but also in abroad."The Supreme

Council of Science and Technology (SCST), chaired by either the Prime Minister (or his Deputy), the ministers of S&T - related ministries, the President of the Higher Education Council, the undersecretaries of State Planning Organisation, Treasury and Foreign Trade, the President and a vice president of the Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) and the presidents of the Nuclear Energy Council and the Union of Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The general secretariat to the SCST is TUBITAK. In 1993, the strategic choice of

a) not only to achieve excellence in scientific and technological research,

b) but also to turn scientific and technological findings into economical and/or social benefits was made. Accordingly, the S&T Policy of Turkey has since then been based on the establishment of a national innovation system. The outcome of the implementation of this policy increased the R&D realised by business enterprise from 20% to over 33, R&D financed by business enterprise from 27% to 43%, GERD in % of GDP raised from 0.32% to 0.64%, R&D personnel per 10,000 labour force raised from 7.5 to 13.1." (Source: Turgut Tumer, "Overview of S&T Policy of Turkey, Past, Present and Planning for the Future", TUBITAK, 30 June 2000)

20. EU HE programmes (such as Socrates), framework programmes and other institutional scholarships are offered to foreign researchers to come to Turkey.

21. In Turkey there is no legal obstacle in the establishment and recognition of joint degrees and/or joint study programmes. Universities can set up and carry out joint degree programmes through international partnerships with the approval of the Council of Higher Education (YOK). Currently, some universities have been offering joint study programmes leading to a dual Bachelor's degree, by bilateral agreement with a non-European partner, the State University of New York in USA. In addition, one university has been offering joint study programmes for individual cases at the Doctorate level within the context of the bilateral agreements with some universities in Europe.

Currently, the number of universities offering joint degree programmes is very limited. It is expected that more universities establish international partnerships with European universities in a near future and thus, this contributes to improve the European dimension in higher education in Turkey.

Within the framework of agreements between a Turkish state university and several French universities, 4 joint programmes leading to the dual Doctorate Diploma have been launched. These joint doctorate programmes are as follows:

1. Joint Doctorate Programme between the Department of Civil Engineering and Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris.
2. Joint Doctorate Programme between the Department of Chemical Engineering and INSA of Lyon (Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon).
3. Joint Doctorate Programme between the Department of Mathematics and Université Louis Pasteur- Strasbourg I.
4. Joint Doctorate Programme between the Department of Aerospace Engineering and University of Poitiers, ENSMA

The students are responsible for fulfilling the doctorate degree requirements of both universities. The research and dissertation are carried out under the supervision of co-supervisors from both universities and the students are supposed to submit one dissertation. They defend the thesis before the examining committees in Turkey and France. For the time being, there are 3 students enrolled in these programmes.

Gender Equality

26. In Turkey, there are not notable differences in gender distribution especially in academia. The figures are comparable and it is easily seen that the proportion of women academicians are more than men.

PART TWO: FIGURES

1. There are 53 state and 24 foundation (private non-profit) universities in Turkey which are all governed by the same Higher Education Law no. 2547 enacted on November 4, 1981. There are totally 1910 doctoral programmes in 215 institutions and 45 faculties of medicine. These programmes are:

- 561 health sciences
- 509 social sciences
- 664 science
- 176 another specialization programmes.

Doctoral Programme		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Language and Literature	781	3,1
Mathematics and Science	2827	11,4
Health Sciences	3479	14,0
Social Sciences	3350	13,5
Practical Social Sciences	6672	26,9
Technical Sciences	5790	23,3
Agriculture and Forestry	1529	6,2
Art	407	1,6
TOTAL	24.835	100

Source: Council of Higher Education(YOK), November 2004 report

2.

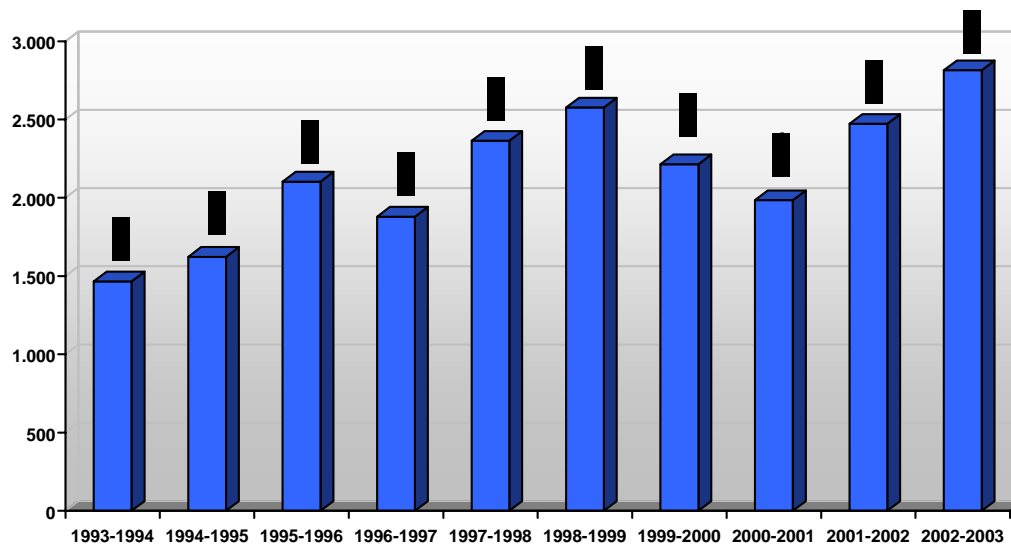
■ Ph.D students

100.000
90.000
80.000
70.000
60.000

3. The average age for entering the Ph.D programme is about 27-28 in Turkey.The PhD/Doctorate programmes consist of a minimum of seven courses, with a minimum of 21 credits, a qualifying examination, a dissertation proposal, and a dissertation.The duration of Doctorate programmes varies depending on the field of study. According to the Article 19 of the Regulations on Graduate Education the period allotted for the completion of the Doctorate programmes is eight semesters. However, the regulations enacted by the senate of each institution specify the procedures to be followed in the case of students who can graduate in a shorter period of time.Students who have passed all of their credit courses and whose dissertation proposal has been accepted, but who have not submitted their dissertation by the end of their eighth semester, and hence, have been unable to apply for their dissertation defense, may, upon the recommendation of the department concerned and the approval of the Graduate School Administrative Board, be granted an extension of a maximum of four semesters for the dissertation defense.Students enrolled in a doctorate programme are required to submit and defend the dissertation orally before an examining committee.

The dissertation defense consists of an oral presentation followed by a question-and-answer period. Following the dissertation defense, the examining committee decides by absolute majority whether to accept, reject, or require revision of the dissertation. If the committee has required the student to revise the dissertation, the student, having made the necessary changes, defends the thesis again, before the same committee, within six months at the latest.A recent change on the Regulations on Graduate Education, which took place on August 19, 2003, permits the Bachelor's degree holders to enlist directly the Doctorate programmes provided that the students' performance at the Bachelor's degree level is evaluated as exceptionally high and his/her application is approved by the relevant authorities of the university. For these students, the Doctorate programmes consist of a minimum of 14 courses, with a minimum of 42 credits, a qualifying examination, a dissertation proposal, and a dissertation.

4. In 2002-2003,2.815 Ph.D candidates defended their dissertation and the trend for the candidates has gradually increased for five years.Average age of the Ph.D candidates at the time of completion of the doctorate is about 31-32.



Source: Council of Higher Education(YOK),November 2004 report

5.Nominal length of Ph.D programmes is 4-5 years.It depends on the programme requirements. There are no official part time programmes for Ph.D candidates.

6.There is no certain proportion for completing the Ph.D within the time.However,The candidates are generally completing their degree within the allotted time or maybe some extra years(1-2) more.

7. There aren't interim qualifications who do not complete the doctorates.More than half of the Ph.D candidates complete their degrees.

8.The Ph.D candidates registered at a university where they are continuing their degree.Their related programmes are important for their registrations.At university, they register directly the institute according to their field.(such as Institute of social sciences,Institute of Science)

9. Ph.D candidates considered as students.They have same regulations for other graduate degree students.They have to pay fee for each term.It changes semester by semester.Average fee is almost 200 Euro per semester.If Ph.D candidate works in an institution for the doctorate time period under the Higher Education Law no. 2547(50/d or 33.issue),they are known as scholarship students so they don't have to pay the fee till the end of their Ph.D period.

10. Funding for research activities provided by Council of Higher Education is 112.995 billion Turkish Lira in 2003 (about 66.470.588 Euro) In 2004 this figure decreased to 94.310 billion Turkish Lira.(about 55.476.470 Euro) The fund is less 17 % than 2003.

11. The average salary of the doctorate candidates who employed at a university as researcher is about 500 Euro.If Ph.D candidate don't work at a university,they can look for a job in private sector.This salary can change from sector to sector.

12. Ph.D candidates have same rights as civil servants in Turkey (social rights,health issues,taxes and etc.). On the other hand,this rights are restricted by the Higher Education

Law no. 2547.It means if Ph.D candidate works at a university during doctoral period and after finishing the doctorate he or she took an appointment as teaching staff (assistant professor,lecturer etc.),this rights will keep during the career.If not,the rights about Ph.D candidates end.

13.-14. In Turkey,Ph.D candidates are responsible not only their lectures but also attending and assisting teaching duties in case of necessary declared by mentor.It takes generally one or two years.This experience helps especially Ph.D candidates who think more academic than the others.They are not usually paid any money during the doctoral period.

15. Ph.D candidates intend to involve in a collaboration between academia and industry during their Ph.D.Besides,They are encouraged to write dissertation or their researches related to sector so as to provide benefit not only for academic but also sectoral.

16. The Council of Higher Education allocate some of the Ph.D candidates who are promoted as research assistant during their Ph.D degree for research activities to some universities in abroad.These countries and their proportions indicated below : (outgoing)

Year	Number of sending Ph.D students to abroad for research activity by Council of Higher Education
1994	500
1995	300
1996	200
1997	200
1998	200
1999	100
2000	80
2001	100
2002	80
2003	80
2004	80

COUNTRIES	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	TOTAL
<u>THE USA</u>	67	138	55	66	67	60	745	64	169	85	40	56	50	47	32	53	41	1835
<u>GERMANY</u>	7	17	4	13	13	13	44	2	11	5	5	1	7	2			1	145
<u>AUSTRALIA</u>						1	14	1		1	1							18
<u>AUSTRIA</u>	2	2	1	3	3	2	3		1	1	1	1	1			1		22
<u>AZERBAIJAN</u>						1												1
<u>BELGIUM</u>		2					1			1	1				2		1	8
<u>BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA</u>												1						1
<u>REPUBLIC OF CHINA</u>												1						1
<u>DENMARK</u>					1		1						1					3
<u>FINLAND</u>								1		1	1							3
<u>FRANCE</u>	5	12	7	4	8	3	13	5	9	2	3	9	8	2	1	4	9	104
<u>SOUTH KOREA</u>													1					1
<u>HOLLAND</u>		1		2	1		3	1	1	1			1	1	1	2	1	16
<u>ENGLAND</u>	38	208	112	127	110	74	446	52	93	57	17	21	8	9	10	11	8	1401
<u>SPAIN</u>																1		1
<u>ISRAEL</u>											3	3						6
<u>SWEDEN</u>				2							2							4
<u>SWITZERLAND</u>	6	1	2	3	1	1	2								2			18
<u>ITALY</u>			1	1		1										1		4
<u>JAPAN</u>				2	1		1	3	1		1	1						10
<u>IRELAND</u>										1								1
<u>CANADA</u>	24	17	3	3		2	6	1		4	1	3	3	1	3	1	1	73
<u>KAZACKISTAN</u>							1											1
<u>HUNGARY</u>			1			1												2
<u>NORWAY</u>		1	1															2
<u>BELARUS</u>															1			1
<u>RUSSIA</u>					3		2			2				1	1		1	10
<u>NEW ZEALAND</u>										1								1
<u>GREECE</u>								1										1
TOTAL	149	399	187	226	208	159	1282	131	285	162	76	97	80	63	53	74	63	3694

There are incoming junior researchers every year to Turkey for a certain time period for their researches. However, there is no exact statistics to gauge the balance between incoming and outgoing.

17. More than 80% of Ph.D candidates continue their researches as academic staff at a university or institution after defending their Ph.D.

18. In Turkey, it is really hard to expose young researchers to R&D departments in companies. During their Ph.D period or after finishing Ph.D, some sectors want to hire and take a beneficial use of the results of the researchers and provide an opportunity for them. However, it is not so much except big companies or holdings (such as KOÇ, SABANCI etc..)

19. The average salary of young doctors is about 700 Euro in the academic sector (at a university as an assistant professor) and in the private sector this salary changes related to the sector but the average is 700 – 1000 Euro.

20. Two members as individual representatives of Turkey:

- **Assistant Professor Bülent Açıma**-Anadolu University, Department of Economics.
- **Research Assistant Volkan Altıntaş**-Akdeniz University, Institute of Social Sciences.