ERASMUS+ 2027 · THEMATIC PROFILE 29 OF 35

Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality

Partner Identification Form · Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU), Türkiye

Why include AYBU in your consortium? Women's employment, entrepreneurship and return to work, supported by project experience and research. AYBU is a public university in Ankara with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and 28 Erasmus+ cooperation projects in the Commission's project database since 2014, 17 as coordinator. One contact for every thematic profile: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar, mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr.

1. Five reasons specific to this theme

1. Participation in a youth project on young women's labour-market empowerment
2. A completed project supporting mothers after childbirth
3. Published research on the gender of top managers and firm innovation
4. A Family and Society Research Centre
5. Female academics in senior research roles across the Business School

2. Thematic institutional profile

AYBU took part in the Erasmus+ youth project Empowerment of Youth Women Labour through Non-Formal Learning and in MotherCare, which supported mothers in the post-partum period. Research at the Business School has examined how the gender of the top manager relates to firm innovation performance, and a Family and Society Research Centre works on family and social cohesion. The university can combine labour-market research with training for women entering or returning to work.

Relevant faculties, departments and centres

- Family and Society Research Centre
- Business School
- Career Planning and Management Research Centre
- Continuing Education Centre

Research and training infrastructure

- Training materials from earlier projects
- Career guidance services

3. Relevant previous projects

Project number	Title	Action	Call	AYBU role	EU grant (project)	Status
2022-1-NL01-KA220-ADU-000086205	PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PEDAGOGIC SUPPORT TO THE MOTHERS IN POST-PARTUM PERIOD	Cooperation partnerships in adult education	2022	Partner	EUR 120 000	Completed
2019-3-TR01-KA205-079605	Empowerment of Youth Women Labour Through Non-Formal Learning	Strategic Partnerships for youth	2019	Partner	EUR 103 924	Completed

Source: European Commission, Erasmus+ project lists, export of 19.11.2026. Grant = total EU grant of the project as awarded.

4. Key academic experts

Expert	Unit	Relevance to this theme	Profile
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Seda Ekmen	Business School – International Trade and Business	Gender of top manager and firm innovation performance	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Lead of the women's labour and MotherCare projects	AVESIS
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Merve Karacaer	Business School – International Trade and Business	Former head of department; finance and sustainability research	AVESIS
Asst. Prof. Dr. İsmail Çağrı Doğan	Business School – Management (Management and Organisation)	Career research; gender equality tagged work	AVESIS

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Seda Ekmen. Associate Professor of International Trade and Business at the AYBU Business School, with a doctorate in economics from Middle East Technical University. She works on international trade, global value chains, logistics performance, structural change and the environmental effects of foreign investment, with articles in the International Journal of Finance and Economics and Environmental Science and Pollution Research, and has studied gender and firm innovation. Teaching covers international economics and trade courses. Research record on AVESIS: 40 publications (5 in Scopus), Scopus h-index 2, 5 projects, 7 theses supervised.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Semih Ceyhan. Associate Professor of Management at the AYBU Business School, teaching strategic management, entrepreneurship, project development and sustainability in business. His research addresses SME performance, green human resource management, green information systems and digital technology use. He has worked on Erasmus+ partnerships since 2014, leads AYBU's team in Empathetic Classrooms and served as senior expert in an EU technical assistance project. Teaching covers strategic Management; Project Development and Management; Entrepreneurship; BUS 318 Sustainability and Business.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Merve Karacaer. Associate Professor of International Trade and Business at the AYBU Business School and head of that department from 2019 to 2024. Her research links corporate sustainability, socially responsible

engagement and firm performance, green supply chain management and the economics of oil and gas markets, with publications in Borsa Istanbul Review and a book on the BIST Sustainability Index. Teaching covers international trade, finance and business courses. Research record on AVESIS: 32 publications (3 in Scopus), 98 citations on Google Scholar, 3 projects.

5. Keywords

women's empowerment · gender equality · women's employment · women in management · female entrepreneurship · return to work · non-formal learning for women · work–family balance · post-partum support · gender and innovation · women in digital fields · mentoring · financial independence · equal opportunities · labour-market participation

6. Alignment with Erasmus+ 2027

Inclusion and diversity with a gender equality focus; employability and entrepreneurship of women.

Relevant 2027 action	Deadline (Brussels time)	Grant per project	Role AYBU can take
Cooperation Partnerships in adult education	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in youth	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Cooperation Partnerships in vocational education and training	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000	Coordinator and partner
Small-scale Partnerships (school education, VET, adult education, youth)	9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time	Lump sum EUR 30 000 or 60 000	Partner (or coordinator for a newcomer consortium)
Capacity Building in the field of youth	2 March 2027, 17:00 Brussels time	Up to EUR 300 000 for projects targeting Regions 1, 2 and 3; up to EUR 450 000 for Region 9 (Sub-Saharan Africa), including youth exchanges and youth participation activities (Guide p. 358)	Partner

7. What AYBU can contribute

Contributions described here are potential contributions based on verified institutional capacity; they become commitments only in a signed proposal. Named experts are proposed on the basis of their published work and their participation in a given proposal is subject to their confirmation.

Potential project objectives

- Increase women's access to skilled employment and entrepreneurship
- Support mothers returning to learning or work
- Promote women's progression into management

Potential activities

- Barrier analysis for women's employment
- Skills and confidence programmes
- Mentoring by women leaders
- Employer guidelines

Work packages AYBU could lead or co-lead

- Barrier analysis
- Skills programme
- Mentoring
- Employer and policy engagement

Training modules AYBU could deliver

- Digital and financial skills for women returning to work
- Entrepreneurship for women
- Leadership and negotiation

Potential deliverables

- Barrier analysis report
- Skills programme
- Mentoring guide
- Employer guidelines

Potential pilot activities

- Skills programme pilot with women job-seekers
- Mentoring pilot with women students

Target groups AYBU can reach

- Young women and women returning to work
- Women entrepreneurs
- Employers
- Trainers

Expected institutional contribution

- Labour-market and firm-level research
- Training design from earlier projects
- Mentoring through female academics
- Evaluation
- Dissemination

8. Management, quality and dissemination capacity

EU projects at AYBU are run by academic project teams with support from the Business School's projects office and the Competitiveness and Innovation Research Centre (REKMER). Financial administration follows Turkish public financial management and control legislation (Law No. 5018); EU grants are kept in dedicated project accounts and the university is subject to external audit by the Turkish Court of Accounts. In the Commission's project database AYBU appears in 28 Erasmus+ cooperation, policy and Jean Monnet projects from call years 2014–2026, 17 of them as coordinator; 9 are running today.

For each project AYBU proposes a quality plan with internal peer review of deliverables, milestone monitoring and partner feedback surveys. The university operates an institutional quality management system under the national Higher Education Quality Council framework, and Business School staff include an accredited external evaluator of that Council.

AYBU disseminates through its institutional website and faculty pages, official social media accounts, a community of more than 26 000 students and about 2 600 staff, its partner universities and its links with ministries, municipalities, chambers and Teknopark Ankara. Multiplier events and training activities can be hosted on its Ankara campuses, and online courses can be delivered through the Distance Education Research Centre.

Results can be sustained through courses in degree programmes, certificate programmes of the Continuing Education Centre, online delivery by the Distance Education Research Centre and follow-up funding from national programmes such as TÜBİTAK. Open publication of materials is the default.

9. Partners we would like to work with

- Women's organisations
- Employment services
- Chambers and business women's networks
- Adult education providers
- Municipalities

10. Organisation identification

Legal name (national language)	ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT ÜNİVERSİTESİ
Legal name (Latin characters)	ANKARA YILDIRIM BEYAZIT UNIVERSITESI
Name in English	Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (AYBU)
Organisation ID (OID)	E10137893
PIC	952723525
National / fiscal ID	9600521531
Type of organisation	Higher education institution (tertiary level); Public (state) university; non-profit public body
Erasmus Charter for Higher Education	Erasmus Charter for Higher Education holder — Erasmus code TR ANKARA15

Established	21 July 2010 (decision published in the Official Gazette)
Registered address	AYBÜ Etlik Milli İrade Binası, B-Blok, Ayvalı Mah. Gazze Cad. No: 7, Etlik, Keçiören, 06010 Ankara, Türkiye
Main campus	Esenboğa Merkez Külliyesi, Dumlupınar Mah., 06760 Çubuk / Ankara
Region (NUTS)	TR51 – Ankara
Website	https://aybu.edu.tr
General e-mail / telephone	basin@aybu.edu.tr / +90 312 906 10 00

11. Institutional representative and contact

Legal representative

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Main contact person

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12. Links

- University: https://aybu.edu.tr
- Business School: https://aybu.edu.tr/isletme/en
- Academic profiles (AVESIS): https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr
- AYBU projects in the Erasmus+ project database: https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects

Data verified on 20.11.2026. Institutional figures from aybu.edu.tr and AYBU records; project data from the European Commission's Erasmus+ project lists; staff data from AVESIS.