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# Youth Empowerment and Employability

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

**Why include AYBU in your consortium?** Youth employability in digital and green fields, coordinated through two running Erasmus+ youth projects. 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. Coordinator of three running KA220-YOU projects (2022, 2024 and 2025 calls) and partner in three more
2. Direct access to more than 26 000 students, including international students
3. A career planning and management centre for guidance services
4. Research on entrepreneurial intention and career success
5. Earlier youth projects on women's labour and on digital health

## 2. Thematic institutional profile

AYBU coordinates three running Erasmus+ youth partnerships, on cybersecurity career pathways, on the social inclusion of deaf young people and on the training of young equine practitioners, and is a partner in three more, including YouthGreen 5.0 on green skills. With more than 26 000 students, a Career Planning and Management Research Centre and research on entrepreneurial intention, career success and employability-oriented quality management, the university can reach young people directly and measure what improves their prospects.

### Relevant faculties, departments and centres

- Career Planning and Management Research Centre
- Business School
- Competitiveness and Innovation Research Centre (REKMER)
- Vocational schools

### Research and training infrastructure

- Career Planning and Management Research Centre
- Student clubs and international student community

## 3. Relevant previous projects

| Project number | Title | Action | Call | AYBU role | EU grant (project) | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2025-1-TR01-KA220-YOU-000361387 | Unlocking Cybersecurity Pathway: An Exciting Career Path for Youth | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2025 | Coordinator | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |
| 2025-1-TR01-KA220-YOU-000352941 | YouthGreen 5.0 – Fair Transition with Green Skills and Circular Economy | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2025 | Partner | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |
| 2025-1-TR01-KA220-YOU-000357710 | Next Generation Technology Engagement | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2025 | Partner | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |
| 2024-1-TR01-KA220-YOU-000252394 | Hearken the Youth: Fostering Social Inclusion of Deaf Youth through Sports Engagements | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2024 | Coordinator | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |
| 2023-2-TR01-KA220-YOU-000182116 | Cultural Heritage Recovery after Disasters and Conflicts - Understanding, Training, and Empowerment | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2023 | Partner | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |
| 2022-1-TR01-KA220-YOU-000089126 | Youth Equine Practitioners Training With innovative Methods | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2022 | Coordinator | EUR 250 000 | Ongoing |
| 2021-2-TR01-KA220-YOU-000049540 | DIGITAL YOUTH LIFE HEALTH PLATFORM | Cooperation partnerships in youth | 2021 | Coordinator | EUR 345 039 | 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. Semih Ceyhan | Business School – Management (Management and Organisation) | Lead of youth projects; entrepreneurship and project development teaching | AVESIS |
| Res. Asst. Ahmet Şükrü Pampal | Business School – International Trade and Business | Entrepreneurial education and intention; employability in higher education | AVESIS |
| Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emre Burak Ekmekçioğlu | Business School – Management (Management and Organisation) | Career success, soft skills and teamwork | AVESIS |

| Expert | Unit | Relevance to this theme | Profile |
|---|---|---|---|
| Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar | Business School – Management Information Systems | Coordination of digital skills projects for young people | AVESIS |

**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.

**Res. Asst. Ahmet Şükrü Pampal.** Research Assistant in International Trade and Business at the AYBU Business School and doctoral candidate in management and organisation, with a nine-month research stay at Trinity College Dublin Business School. He studies entrepreneurial education and intention, innovative work behaviour and knowledge sharing in SMEs, and has written on quality management and employability in higher education and on supply chain risk management. Teaching covers research assistant duties in international trade and business. Research record on AVESIS: 12 publications (2 in Scopus), Google Scholar h-index 2, 1 project.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Emre Burak Ekmekçioğlu.** Associate Professor of Management and Organisation and Vice Dean of the AYBU Business School, with 23 Scopus-indexed publications and a Scopus h-index of 9. He studies leadership, knowledge sharing, green human resource management and employees' environmental behaviour, mostly in small and medium-sized enterprises, and teaches organisational behaviour and teamwork. His survey and modelling expertise supports needs analysis and impact evaluation. Teaching covers organizational Behavior; Team Work and Group Dynamics. Research record on AVESIS: 71 publications (23 in Scopus), Scopus h-index 9 (262 citations), Google Scholar h-index 19.

## 5. Keywords

youth employability · career guidance · transversal skills · digital skills for youth · green skills for youth · entrepreneurial intention · career pathways · youth work · non-formal learning · NEETs · transition from education to work · soft skills · youth participation · international students · skills recognition

## 6. Alignment with Erasmus+ 2027

Youth field priorities on employability, quality of youth work and participation; digital and green skills.

| Relevant 2027 action | Deadline (Brussels time) | Grant per project | Role AYBU can take |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cooperation Partnerships in youth | 9 March 2027, 12:00 Brussels time | Lump sum EUR 120 000, 250 000 or 400 000 | Coordinator and partner |
| 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 |
| European Youth Together | 2 March 2027, 17:00 Brussels time | Up to EUR 500 000 per project (Guide p. 381) | Partner |

| Relevant 2027 action | Deadline (Brussels time) | Grant per project | Role AYBU can take |
|---|---|---|---|
| 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) |
| 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 |

# 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

- Improve career readiness of young people in digital and green fields
- Support youth workers and counsellors with practical tools
- Recognise skills gained through non-formal learning

## Potential activities

- Mapping of emerging career pathways
- Skills programmes combining online and in-person learning
- Mentoring with employers
- Tools for youth workers

## Work packages AYBU could lead or co-lead

- Career pathway mapping
- Skills programme
- Mentoring and employer links
- Recognition and sustainability

## Training modules AYBU could deliver

- Career paths in digital and green sectors
- Teamwork and communication for the workplace
- From idea to project

## Potential deliverables

- Career pathway maps
- Skills programme and platform
- Mentoring guide

- Youth worker toolkit

### Potential pilot activities

- Skills programme piloted with students and young people outside education
- Employer mentoring pilot

### Target groups AYBU can reach

- Young people aged 16–30
- Youth workers
- Career counsellors
- Employers

### Expected institutional contribution

- Project coordination
- Access to young people and students
- Programme and platform development
- Measurement of outcomes
- Employer links through the technopark

## 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

- Youth organisations

- Employment services
- Companies
- VET providers
- Municipal youth centres

# 10. Organisation identification

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|---|---|
| **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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|---|---|
| **Name** | Prof. Dr. Ali Cengiz Köseoğlu |
| **Position** | Rector |
| **E-mail** | ackoseoglu@aybu.edu.tr |
| **Telephone** | +90 312 906 10 04 |

## Main contact person

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| **Name** | Assoc. Prof. Dr. Musab Talha Akpınar |

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| **Position** | Associate Professor, Department of Management Information Systems; Vice Dean, Business School |
| **Unit** | Business School – Department of Management Information Systems |
| **E-mail** | mtakpinar@aybu.edu.tr |
| **Telephone** | +90 312 906 16 47 |
| **Academic profile** | https://avesis.aybu.edu.tr/takpinar |

## 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.