



SDG 11 Report on: Sustainable Cities and Communities

1. RESEARCH

Fairs and Weddings in the Cyprus Turkish Entertainment and Bağdat Hanım ile Hafız Hikâyesi

Research done by [Department of Turkish Language Teaching](#) of Near East University (NEU) made presentations at the 2nd International Develi-Âşık Seyrani (well known minstrel) and Turkish Culture Congress.

Academicians from Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan participated in, and made presentations titled as "[Fairs and Weddings in the Cyprus Turkish Entertainment](#)" and Âşık Şeref Taşlıova's "[Bağdat Hanım ile Hafız Hikâyesi](#)"; providing details regarding proverbs, episodes and folkloric features.

The research focused on the significance of fairs and festivals for the Turkish Cypriot culture, in addition to the importance of weddings for the local folks. It revealed the significance of weddings and festivals for the Cyprus Turkish entertainment culture. They stress that fairs and festivals stand out as an entertainment element that provides social solidarity. Even though the festivals organized today have increased the entertainment dimension especially for children, festivals in the past and today have a large economic function. Just as it is the case in the world, one of the most important features of festivals is related to spending, consumption and reproduction due to social recovery.

2. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Culture and Folklore

[Cooperation Protocol Signed](#) between Near East University and Union of Cyprus Turkish Municipalities. Based on this protocol Near East University has started to educate the public together with Turkish Cypriot Municipalities Union President on industry, economy, agriculture, health, public trust, labor force and local governments of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

Within the scope of the "Friday Interviews" program held by [Near East Institute](#) of Near East University, [Turkish Cypriot Municipalities Union](#) President and Güzelyurt Mayor who gave a seminar titled "Local Governments in the TRNC".

The issues of the industry, economy, agriculture, health, public trust, labor force and local governments of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus were evaluated.

Exhibition

GÜNSEL recently met with Turkey at the [MÜSİAD EXPO](#) fair and received intense interest.

3. LEARNING AND STUDENTS

Free Public Courses

[Massive Open Online Courses](#) can be accessed remotely by getting a username and password. With this service the philosophy of lifelong learning, free information will be available in many areas such as health, education, psychology, communication, social sciences, administrative sciences and engineering has been [achieved](#).

Once the users complete all studies within the course content, an e-certificate will be issued within the scope of Massive Open Courses by Near East University. The electronic certificates, which can be registered in digital environment, will be confirmed later on through the medium.



Free public membership to Near East University Grand Library

[Near East University Grand Library](#) has opened up its 650 million electronic resources for free public use with online membership due to these extraordinary and uncertain times we are all living due to Covid-19.

During times of struggle against the coronavirus pandemic the Near East University Grand Library has [opened online free membership](#) to its electronic resources so as to enable book lovers and researchers to access information remotely, free of charge. Accordingly, people who have become members of the NEU Grand Library will be able to search the electronic databases that the library is a member of, access journals, articles and research, and conduct a book research.

The library has access to 650 million electronic resources from all over the world with more than 60,000 electronic journals which all together offers a wide variety of access to information. As Cyprus' first and only library open 7/27, Near East University Grand Library proudly announces that it comprises more than 2,200,000 books.

4. OPERATIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Building on brownfield sites - Walled City Museum

During 2018-2020 our university has renovated the old Ziraat Bankasi building in the city center and converted to "[Walled City Museum](#)". The opening did occur on [15 November 2020](#).

Our university makes investments that will bring a different dimension to the cultural and artistic life of the country, ensure the integration of society with art, and increase the value given to art and artists, brings together art lovers with the "Walled City Museum".

In support of building on brownfield sites, the museum, which will be put into service with the restoration of the old Ziraat Bank building at the Kyrenia Gate with the initiative of the Günsel Family, which attaches great importance to the integrity of the society, will mediate the sharing of Cyprus' cultural identity with the national and international art environment.

Walled City Museum at Kyrenia Gate and Günsel Art Museum in Dereboyu can be visited free of charge until the end of [January 2021](#). The Walled City Museum accepts visitors between 9.30-17.00, 6 days a week, except Mondays.

Electric Car – GÜNSEL B9

As a university while we are carrying out our efforts for mass production of [GÜNSEL](#) auto model [B9](#) which is a 100 percent electric car designed and developed within the body of Near East University. The vehicle, which can travel 350 kilometers on a single charge, was produced by combining 10 thousand 936 parts in total. The engine of the vehicle has a power of 140 kW.

5. ON NUMBERS

Publications: 312 total where: 128 on Social Sciences, 112 on Environmental Science, Agriculture and Biological Sciences, 34 Arts and Humanities, 32 on Energy, 6 Multidisciplinary.