ISSUE 76 MARCH 4TH, 2022

# Bi-Weekly News for KU's International Community

The latest news, views and announcements

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# Mask and HES Code Mandate Update

Health Minister Fahrettin Koca revealed late Wednesday that Turkey is scrapping the outdoor mask requirement as the COVID-19 pandemic eases.

Koca said that **masks will no longer be mandatory indoors** "if **ventilation is adequate**" but added that they are still crucial in certain environments, such as around immunocompromised people or those with diseases that can make a COVID-19 infection lethal.

Venues will no longer require people to scan their HES code on entry. Additionally, COVID-19 tests will not be required for those without symptoms.

Koca also said that only 8% of people who tested positive for COVID-19 and died last month had no other diseases, adding that the "remaining 92% were diagnosed with pre-existing conditions."

As of now, there are no changes to the measures on KU campuses and dorms. Make sure to stay updated!

For further questions:

covid@ku.edu.tr

Source: <u>Daily Sabah</u>

# **Update Regarding Address Registration**

According to a new mandate, from now on, you will be able to register your address at the Migration Directorate, **not** at the District Civil Registry Office. An appointment is no longer required, you may simply visit them with the necessary documents to complete the process.

#### **Istanbul Migration Directorate in Fatih:**

<u>İstanbul İl Goç İdaresi Müdürlüğü, Hirka – İ Şerif Mahallesi, Vatan</u>
<u>Caddesi No: 64/34091, Fatih/İstanbul</u>

You can find detailed information by clicking below.



Residence Permit Document Submission

This month, ICO will be organizing a **Help Desk** for residence permit applications on **Tuesday**, **15 March**, **from 10 AM to 5 PM**.

The Help Desk will be located at the **Student Center**, -3 Floor, Room B335.

\* Only for international students. Faculty, researchers, staff members and their families can individually consult ICO.



#### **Important notes:**

- Spring semester exchange students should <u>only</u> follow the information given at the orientation and via email.
- Before the submission date, you should fill out the <u>Document Submission Form</u> and you should show the screenshot of the filled form while submitting your documents to the Help Desk.
- You can renew your SRP if there is 60 days or less time to the expiration of your SRP.
- Late submissions will not be accepted. Please mind the document submission date and time.

  Missing the deadline means waiting for the next document submission date.
- Applications with missing documents or data will not be accepted. Make sure you double-check the list of required documents on our <u>website</u>. Having a missing document will cause you to wait until next month's document submission period. If your visa/visa exemption period expires, this delay may result in a fine that you will need to pay. Therefore, it is very important to make sure your documents are complete.
- It is mandatory to use a **biometric** (in ICAO standards) **photograph** in the residence permit applications. You can find the ICAO standards on our <u>website</u>, in the list of required documents on the relevant pages.
- You should stay in Turkey until your application gets evaluated. If you depart before, your application will get rejected automatically.
- If you are making a late application, please make sure that you write and attach a **letter of excuse** in Turkish (Template can be found on our website, in the list of required documents on the relevant pages.)
- Please mind the <u>campus entry regulations</u> to enter campus.

### **Turkish Practice Hours**

#### Spring '22 sessions are here!

We are welcoming the new semester with our beloved event Online Turkish Practice Hours (TPH). It is a great opportunity for our international community members who are learning Turkish to practice their Turkish conversational skills in a friendly environment.

You are welcome to join us and practice your Turkish conversational skills with fellow KU students and staff!

#### What's New for Spring '22?

- There will be 2 volunteer native speakers each session: one leader, one supporter
- 2.ICO will provide a certificate of participation at the end of the semester for those who attend at least 5 sessions
- 3. In addition to KU community, there will be students from <u>UNIC partner</u> universities



#### **Beginners:**

Fridays, 1-2 PM

#### Intermediate:

Wednesdays, 2-3 PM

#### Interested in Joining the Sessions?

- 1. **Subscribe to the TPH mailing list** to receive related meeting details. You can subscribe by filling out the **subscription form**. Please make sure your KU Gmail account is accessible.
- 2. **Follow** this WhatsApp group link and type "Merhaba!" ("Hello!" in Turkish) to your new friends in the group and introduce yourself. Our volunteers will welcome you.

**Important Note:** TPH is available **ONLY** for KU affiliates, their family members, students from <u>UNIC Partner Universities</u>!

For more information: ico.ku.edu.tr/get-involved/learn-practice-turkish/

# 'Snow Screen Film Fest' Starts in Turkey's East

A movie festival named "Snow Screen Festival" in which spectators will get a chance to watch movies projected on a screen made of snow has started in the **eastern province of Kars** between 3-7 March, in the memory of Tuncel Kurtiz, a legendary actor who died in 2013.

Within the scope of the activities, local artists have built a 2-meter-high screen and a huge portrait of Kurtiz made of snow on the frozen Lake Çıldır.

The mastermind behind the festival is Reis Çelik, a director who shot a documentary called "İnat Hikayeleri" in Kars with Kurtiz in 2003.

"It was our dream to hold a 'snow screen festival' here. Now I will actualize the fest in the memory of him," Çelik told Demirören News Agency.



Source: <u>Hürriyet Daily News</u>

## **Upcoming Events**

4-17 Mar 2022

M	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
28	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

- **6** Spring Clothes Swap
- **(2)**
- **9** Language Exchange Meetup #1
- **(2)**
- **9** Zorlu PSM Lokalize: Vera Concert
- 0
- **13** Byzantium in Popular Culture Exhibit at Pera Museum



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