



MEMUR-SEN CONFEDERATION

# EĞİTİM-BİR-SEN

EDUCATORS' TRADE UNION BULLETIN

YEAR: 4 / NO: 5 / DECEMBER 2018

## 13<sup>th</sup> Turkey Meeting Took Place in Antalya



### Final declaration of the international symposium on “Globalization, Education and Trade Unions”



### We communicated our report “A Glance on Higher Education 2018: Monitoring and Evaluation”



### We communicated our report “A Glance on Education 2018: Monitoring and Evaluation”





**EĞİTİM-BİR-SEN**  
EDUCATORS TRADE UNION

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Printing:

Hermes Offset 0312 384 34 32

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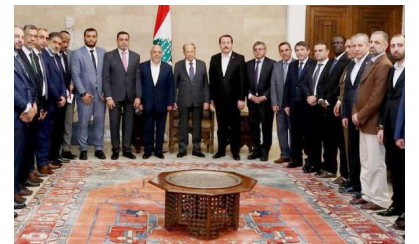
We signed a cooperation agreement with Czech and Moravian Teachers Union (CMOS PS)



Çakırcı participated to the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Delegates Conference of KNUT



Yayla participated to the conference titled Humanism in Education



Ali Yalçın paid a visit to Beirut

**Ali YALÇIN** / President of Eğitim-Bir-Sen and Memur-Sen

## We Are a Trade Union with a Cause

As it's the case in many institution trade unions also are founded according to social, cultural and historical facts of their countries. As Educators' Trade Union (Eğitim-Bir-Sen) we describe ourselves as the combatant for right, labour, freedom and justice. Educators' Trade Union since the day it was founded struggle to protect the right of every worker without paying attention to workers' religion, ethnicity and ideology. Educators' Trade Union won't give passage to tyranny and cruelty it's why as Educators' Trade Union we gain strength day by day.

As Educators' Trade Union we give a huge importance to our primary aims which are right, justice and cooperation. In this purpose we visited many countries and strengthen our relations. Those who said that the world became a global village never said that it was easier for them to exploit it. Walter Benjamin describes capitalism as "capitalism is a cultic religion, without mercy or truce, leading humanity to the 'house of despair'."

We are trying to do our best as trade unionist in this world which is enclosed with savage capitalism and which became a global village. Recent conditions make the cooperation between unions unavoidable. It is why today we signed cooperation agreement with many labor organizations all over the world. Recently we organized an international symposium with the participation of 89 trade unions and 4 regional organizations from 77 countries. Totally 175 unionists were present during our international symposium titled "Globalization, Education and Trade unions".

As Educators' Trade Union we are decided to expand our cooperation all over the world. We believe that by joining our forces we can change the world. We as human being have to make the world a better place for the next generation and the next generation has to do the same thus generation by generation our world will be a planet without tyranny, injustices and cruelty. We all together have to be hopeful for the future.

## Visit to the Turkish Embassy and the **Education Union in Uzbekistan**



**P**resident of Eğitim-Bir-Sen and Memur-Sen Mr. Ali Yalçın and accompanying delegation paid a visit to the Trade Union of Education, Science and Culture Workers of Uzbekistan.

Within the 41<sup>st</sup> board of presidents Yalçın came together with Mr. Ravshan Bedilov President of the Trade Union of Education, Science and Culture Workers of Uzbekistan. Yalçın gave some information about the activities of Eğitim-Bir-Sen.

Yalçın emphasized the importance of cooperation and the experience sharing between trade unions. Yalçın said "I believe that as brother countries by sharing our experiences and working together we can get stronger. This is the reason why we are here today."

Yalçın said "As Eğitim-Bir-Sen we are going to do an International Symposium on Globalization, Education and Trade Unionism from the 31<sup>st</sup> of August to the 1<sup>st</sup> of September we expect the participation of trade unionists from 80 countries. We are honored to invite you to the symposium."

Mr. Ravshan Bedilov said that he was very pleased to receive Eğitim-Bir-Sen's delegation and he added "It will be a great pleasure for me to participate to the symposium and share my experiences with other unionists from all over the world."

Mr. Ali Yalçın and accompanying delegation paid a visit to the Turkish Embassy located in Tashkent capital city of Uzbekistan.

We signed a bilateral cooperation agreement with the  
**National Union of the Teaching Profession  
 Malaysia (NUTP)**



On behalf of National Union of the Teaching Profession (NUTP) assistant secretary general Mr. Aminuddin Bin Awang and accompanying delegation paid a visit to Eğitim-Bir-Sen and made a meeting with Ali Yalçın.

Deputy President of Eğitim-Bir-Sen Latif Selvi, Vice presidents Ramazan Çakırcı, Mithat Sevin, Hasan Yalçın Yayla and Atilla Ölçüm were present at the meeting. Yalçın gave some information about Eğitim-Bir-Sen.

Yalçın emphasized that not only in Turkey but all over the world they are struggling to put an

end to the cruelty. Yalçın added "We believe that we need to struggle all together to put an end to the labour exploitation. Together we are stronger it's why as Eğitim-Bir-Sen we signed bilateral cooperation agreement with more than 55 unions from 50 countries. We organized training program for youth trade unionists from all over the world. Our cooperation will continue."

Assistant secretary general Mr. Aminuddin Bin Awang said "The aim of our visit is to share experiences with Eğitim-Bir-Sen. We believe that by sharing experiences we can be useful for each other. In the next days a meeting will be held for trade unions from Asia-Pacific Region. We will be glad to see Eğitim-Bir-Sen among us for this meeting."

At the end of the meeting a bilateral cooperation agreement has been signed between Eğitim-Bir-Sen and NUTP.



## Educators' Trade Union (Eğitim-Bir-Sen) and Independent Education Union of Albania (SPASH) made a joint meeting



Educators' Trade Union and Independent Union of Albania (SPASH) made a joint meeting on education in Istanbul.

President Ali Yalçın said "Educators' Trade Union with its 426.645 members is the largest trade union of Turkey. This means that SPASH has a powerful partner. Our cooperation will continue. As Educators' Trade Union we are working for our members, our country and for humanity."

Yalçın emphasized that Educators' Trade Union is against all discrimination and he added "As Educators' Trade Union we believe that no importance of ethnicity, ideology and gender our effort is the same. Protecting the right and effort of workers is equivalent to protect the right of all humanity. Educators' Trade Union is against all

kind discrimination, injustice and exploitation. Thus we attach importance to solidarity and we are in cooperation with labor organizations from all over the world. One of these organizations is SPASH. We will improve our cooperation with SPASH."

President of SPASH Nevruz Kaptelli said "Within the frame of our cooperation agreement with Educators' Trade Union we will continue to work in collaboration and make joint meeting."

Kaptelli thanked Yalçın and the Educators' Trade Union for their effort to create good relation with labor organizations from the four corners of the earth.

Educators' Trade Union's Vice-president Mr. Atilla Olçum and Hasan Yalçın Yayla were present at the program.



## We shared our experiences with the **Federation of Mongolian Education and Science Unions (FMESU)**



Educators' Trade Union (Eğitim-Bir-Sen) Vice-president Şükrü Kolkısa paid a visit to the Federation of Mongolian Education and Science Unions (FMESU). Kolkısa made a meeting with the president of FMESU Mr. Jalkhor Batzorig. Kolkısa said "First of all I want to thank you for your kind invitation and I have to say that as the largest trade union of Turkey we are very pleased to be here."

The relation between Turkey and Mongolia is increasing day by day and I believe that in parallel the relation between our labor organizations will also increase said Kolkısa and he added "We attach a huge importance to share our experiences and we want to benefit of experiences of other labor organizations."

Kolkısa invited the representatives of FMESU to the International Symposium on "Globalization, Education and Trade Unions" which will be held on

31<sup>st</sup> of August to the 1<sup>st</sup> of September Kolkısa said "We expect the participation of trade unions from 80 countries in our symposium and we will be very pleased to see a delegation from Mongolia among us."

President of FMESU Jalkhor Batzorig emphasized that Turkey and Mongolia have a good relation and he added "After now we will develop our relation with Educators' Trade Union. I have to say that we will be very pleased to participate to the international symposium. These kinds of symposiums are very efficient to solve problems concerning education."

After his meeting with Jalkhor Batzorig, Kolkısa visited Mr. Hayankhyarvaa Amgalanbaatar President of the Confederation of Mongolian Unions. Kolkısa paid a visit to the Turkish Embassy in Ulaanbaatar and met the Ambassador Mr. Mühittin Yılmaz.



## Visit to Kazakhstan Education Workers Union (KTUESW)



Educators' Trade Union (Eğitim-Bir-Sen) deputy president Mr. Latif Selvi paid a visit to Kazakhstan Trade Union of Education and Science Workers. Selvi made a meeting with Maira Amantayeva president of KTUESW. Amantayeva and Selvi shared their experiences on unionism.

Selvi emphasized that as Educators' Trade Union they are working to improve the working conditions of all workers not only in Turkey but all over the world and he added "In this context as Educators' Trade Union we signed bilateral cooperation agreement with more than 55 unions from 50 countries. We attach a huge importance to improve our relation with Kazakhstan."

Selvi invited Maira Amantayeva to the international symposium on "Globalisation, Education and Trade Unions" which will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> of August to the 1<sup>st</sup> of September "We will be very pleased to the participation of Mrs. Amantayeva to our symposium" said Selvi.

### **Amantayeva: This meeting is the first step of our future cooperation**

Amantayeva said "You made us very pleased by coming here. It's the first time that we meet with a representative from Educators' Trade Union. Our relation will increasingly continue. I once again want to say that I will be honored to participate to the symposium."



# Selvi participated to the symposium organized by Teachers' Council of Thailand



The teachers' Council of Thailand organized a symposium themed "Professional Learning Community" in Bangkok capital city of Thailand.

Selvi made a presentation on "Access to Education and Innovation." During his presentation Selvi gave examples from Turkey he said "In Turkey we give a huge importance to innovation in our schools. We improved our schools in terms of technology during the recent years."

### We are all equal

Selvi "Unfortunately today those who hold the reins of power consider themselves superior to others. However we all have to know we are all equal."

### Meeting with labor unions' representatives

Selvi had a talk with trade union representatives and academician from Korea, Japan, Indonesia and Malaysia. Selvi also came together with the secretary general of Teachers' Council of Thailand Dr. Somsak Donprasit. Selvi and Somsak Donprasit discussed about relation between Turkey and Thailand.



## Education is a fundamental right



International symposium on “Globalization, Education, and Trade Unions” started in Istanbul with the participation of the Deputy Minister of National Education Mr. Mustafa Safran and Kahramanmaraş MP Habibe Öçal.

Ali Yalçın in his inaugural speech said “We built our symposium on three important points ‘globalization, education and trade unions’. We want to evaluate, to know and to identify the term globalization as unionist and educator.”

### **Problems that impose globalization hinder us to return to self**

Yalçın emphasized that problems imposed by globalization hinder human beings to return to self and he added “On one hand the will of human for being an individual on the other hand the desire of states/system to raise individuals and an education system which try to cover the contradiction between both. Indeed universalism is based on the relations between ‘individual and mass’. In a word the individual is confined in mass. As educators and unionists we have to inquire this matter. According to us education and unionism shouldn’t be only result-oriented. Therefore we have to study and examine the process carefully.”

### **Safran: Education is the most powerful aspect of Globalization**

Deputy Minister of National Education Mustafa Safran emphasized that globalization is the term most discussed these last fifty years. Safran said “Education is the most powerful aspect of globalization. Education is a term used frequently with globalization. Sometimes Education is seen insufficient to overcome changes that bring globalization. And sometimes it is seen as the field where conversion is constant. In all cases expectations towards Education are high.”





## 13<sup>th</sup> Turkey Meeting Took Place in Antalya

Educators' Trade Union's 13<sup>th</sup> Turkey Meeting took place in Antalya. President of Educators' Trade Union Ali Yalçın delivered a speech during the opening ceremony of the meeting. In his speech Yalçın said that Educators' Trade Union is a hope not only for Turkish people but for all humanity.

With more than 1 million members Memur-Sen Confederation is the largest labor organization of Turkey. As Memur-Sen this year we represented Turkey in the ILO said Ali Yalçın and he added "For the first time in the history of Turkey a confederation of public employees represented Turkey in the ILO. This is a milestone for the history of unionism in Turkey. As Memur-Sen in the ILO meeting we touched upon many subjects like injustices, cruelty and labor exploitation. These problems are faced all over the world. We clearly expressed that neoliberalism is dangerous for humanity."

Yalçın said "We paid a visit to 45 unions from 37 countries. Also we received 94 unions from 77 countries. We organized a training program in cooperation with TODAİE in which we provided training for 49 young unionists from 45 countries."

Ali Yalçın finished his speech by saying "We signed bilateral cooperation agreement with 78 unions from 56 countries. Totally 175 unionists from 77 countries participated in our symposium titled "Globalization, Education and Trade Unions." This symposium gathered 93 labor organizations in Turkey. Thus we could share our experiences with the rest of the world."

The 13<sup>th</sup> Turkey Meeting of Educators' Trade Union ended with consultation between departmental administrations and the board of manager.

## “Educational Dimension of Globalization” and “Globalization of Education and Trade Unionism”

sessions were held in the symposium  
“Globalization, Education and Trade Unions”



In the symposium “Globalization, Education and Trade Unions”, two sessions were held entitled “The Educational Dimension of Globalization” and “Globalization of Education and Trade Unionism.”

### **With the ideological influence of globalization, the world rapidly becomes standardized**

Speaking in the session titled “Globalization of Education and Trade Unions,” Latif Selvi, Deputy President of Eğitim-Bir-Sen, stated that the globalization, which was dominated by ideological oversight, forced the natural flow of life unnecessarily, and consequently resulting in tragedy, mental and spiritual trauma and even persecution. “As a phenomenon, globalization gives cultures the opportunity to know each other; as an ideology, globalization aims to spread a certain perception and understanding. Today, with the ideological influence of globalization, the world rapidly becomes standardized. The same concepts, same models, same styles, same fashion, same foods, same ways, same vehicles, same cars, same goods, and same architects. All these sameness bring out the same human-being, dream, and standardization.

The ideology of globalization, called globalism, has invented a world that leaves people without choice.” he said.

### **Houssami: The only need for educated young people to lead by self-reliance is education**

Speaking at the session on the Educational Dimension of Globalization, Jamal Houssami, President of the Arab Educational Organization, noted that the new system should be reworked at the point of re-reforming the education system, and that it is necessary to devote effort to a good education system and that “the only need for the new generation.”

### **Sossion: Together we can contribute to improving the quality of education and changing the situation in the world**

KNUT President William Sossion said that education is the key for everything. “We see across the world that the education of children is influenced by the influences of this globalization and different types of education models emerge. Governments, nations and non-governmental organizations can unite to



increase the quality of education and contribute to changing the situation in the world. There are no shortcuts to this, all nations have to contribute.”

#### **Romer: Teacher Education and Continuous Professional Development**

Martin Romer, former European director of ETUCE, noted that one of the most important issue in this forum as the education of teachers in many countries. “OECD once stated: No teaching is better than the quality of the teacher. Sounds evident, but looking at the initial teacher education today it is my view that most of it in most countries is out of date. Most teacher education doesn't give the coming teachers the necessary tools and knowledge on how to tackle the challenges of today. In many cases, we are still educating teachers like we did 30-40 years ago. And after final education we expect the teacher to last maybe 30-35 years and in many cases without access and support to continuous professional development.”

#### **Amantayeva: If the social status of the teacher is higher, the state will be more successful**

Maira Amantayeva, President of the education union of Kazakhstan KTUESW, noted that “We are experiencing the fact that when teachers have higher level of education, that country is more successful. The fruit of our labor depends on the good of education. If the social status of the teacher is higher, the state will be more successful. Education is a very difficult process and depends heavily on the country's economy. We should not

hesitate to communicate the teachers' problems to the authorities as unions. The benefits we obtain will increase the satisfaction of the people and the peace of mind. ”

#### **Fuentes: Information shall be used effectively for making better policies**

Former President of the CLATE Julio Durval Fuentes noted that they are confederations representing employees in the public and in different fields: “We want to see the role of the state as an organism that responds to the necessary needs, rather than limiting it only as an administrative regulator. When we say education strategies today, we have to look at all the trends. History is a resource that will provide us with a non-capitalist view of education. Without them, unfortunately it is impossible for us to come from the top of this world crisis. If education is to be improved, it must be delivered to institutions that advocate workers and workers' rights. Information shall be used effectively for making better policies. ”

#### **Mustafa: We have not seen such a bad “global village” in human history**

The head of the Arab Teachers' Union, Hisham Nimer Mustafa, said that despite the fact that technology has been removed from many disadvantages, this global village contains many pains within itself also, saying, “Our hope was that this global village contained peace itself too. We have not seen such a bad global village in human history. A very small fraction of the world has the most wealth and prosperity and with the rest of humanity shares hunger and poverty.”

## We organized five workshops in four languages



On the second day of the international symposium on “Globalization, Education and Trade Unions” we did workshops on “Globalization and Education”, “Equal Opportunity in Education and Trade Unions”, “Sustainability and Education”, “New Trends in the Education Sector and Trade Unions”. The workshops were in English, French, Arabic and Russian.

### **Globalization, Education and Trade Unions**

Trade unions representatives from Romania, Bangladesh, Kosovo, Nigeria, Singapore, Indonesia, Gambia, India, Cape Verde, Tanzania, Denmark, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Somalia, El Salvador, Mozambique and Argentina participated to the workshop on “Globalization and Education.” The workshop was conducted by Sanja Sprem head of the Croatian Teachers’ Union. Ms. Sprem said “Trade unions need to help teachers to improve their skills.”

### **Equal Opportunity in Education and Trade Unions**

Trade union representatives from Iran, Nepal, Northern Cyprus, Serbia, Czech Republic, South Africa, Kenya, Pakistan, Namibia, Thailand, Vietnam, Eritrea, Zambia, Albania, Somalia, and Mongolia participated to the workshop on “Equal opportunity in Education and Trade Unions.” The workshop was

conducted by the vice president of the Teachers’ Council of Thailand Dr. Tinsiri Siribodhi. Ms. Siribodhi said “The workshop was very beneficial for us. We did a workshop with 17 representatives from different countries thus we could see different point of view.”

### **New Trends in the Education Sector and Trade Unions**

Trade union representatives from Ukraine, Latvia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Estonia, Russia, Tajikistan, Kirgizstan and Lithuania participated to the workshop on “New Trends in the Education and Trade Unions” the workshop was conducted by the vice president of ESEUR Mr. Vadim



Dudin. Dudin said “Trade unions which are organized in education sector have to take more initiative.”

**Sustainability and Education**

Trade union representatives from Morocco, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Niger, Chad, Mauritius, Guinea, Benin, Cameroon, Mali and Ivory Coast participated to the workshop which was conducted by the head of the Education Workers of Morocco Mr. Abdelillah Dahman. Dahman said “We all agree to struggle against the negative aspects of globalization. We are next to an improvement which will preserve our values and culture.”

**Equal Opportunity in Education and Trade Unions**

Trade Union representatives from Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Bahrain, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, Mauritania, Sudan, Algeria, Jordan and Libya participated to the workshop. The workshop was conducted by the director of Education International Arab Countries Cross-Regional Structure Mr. Huseyin Boujarah. Boujarah said “We touched upon democracy in education, equal opportunity and privatization. Only in countries where there is a real democracy trade unions can have a real duty and be involved in the decision-making process.”

After the consideration session of workshops participants hold the floor and expressed their opinion and suggestion.



## We have signed bilateral agreement with education unions from 25 different countries



As Eğitim-Bir-Sen, we have signed educational cooperation agreement with the education unions of 25 countries.

President Ali Yalçın made a short speech at the signing ceremony of the bilateral agreement aimed at developing mutual relations, strengthening friendship ties and ensuring the continuation of the solidarity in the field of education. He underlined that important evaluations and negotiations were made in the symposium "Globalization, Education and Trade Unions." Yalçın stressed that "Our color of skins, our eyes are different but the color of our tears is the same. Although our perspectives are different, our sorrows are the same; our problems are common as laborers. We can overcome global problems only by producing universal solutions. For this we must consolidate our strengths, increase our partnership, share our experiences and be in solidarity."

Following the speech, the bilateral agreements were signed between Eğitim-Bir-Sen (Educators' Trade Union of Turkey) and Benin National Education Union SNEP, Djibouti Secondary School and High School Teachers' Union SYNESED, Czech Republic Educational Employees' Union CMOS PS, Indonesian Educators' Union PGRI, Ivory Coast Secondary School Teachers' Union SYLEG, Gambia Teachers' Union, Ghana Education and Training Employees' Union TEWU, Guinea Federation of Educational Trade Unions FSPE, Iranian Workers' Union, Kazakhstan Education and Science Employees Union KTUESW, Latvian Education and Science Employees Union LIZDA, Mongolian Education and Science Employees Union TUESWM, Namibia Teachers Union TUN, Nigeria Education Union NUT, Uzbekistan Education, Science and Cultural Employees Union NTUESCWU, Pakistan Educational Employees Association TEWU, Russian Education and Science Employees Union ESEUR, Senegal Free Educational Associations SELS-A, Tajikistan Education and Science Union TUES RT, Tanzania Educators' Union TTU, Libyan Trablus Teachers' Union, Morocco Democratic Education Organization, Morocco Free Education Union, Palestine General Teachers' Union, Northern Iraq Teachers' Union.



## Final declaration of the international symposium on **“Globalization, Education and Trade Unions”**



77 countries, 89 trade unions and 4 international organizations totally 175 representatives and young trade unionists participated to the international symposium on “Globalization, Education and Trade Unions.”

During the two-day symposium we made two discussions on “Educational Dimension of Globalization” and “Globalization of Education and Trade Unionism.” We also did workshops on “Globalization and Education”, “Equal Opportunity in Education and Trade Unions”, “Sustainability and Education”, “New Trends in the Education Sector and Trade Unions”. The workshops were in English, French, Arabic and Russian. The final declaration has been declared at the end of the symposium below is the final declaration:

As representatives of the 89 trade unions of teachers and other employees in the education sector from 77 countries who participated at the “Globalization, Education and Trade Unions” International Symposium hosted by Educators’ Trade Union (EĞİTİM-BİR-SEN) in Istanbul, Turkey between 30 August - 1 September 2018,

**We hereby declare that:**

- We need to act together in order to ensure the protection of basic human rights and dignity, efforts, freedom and universal principles. We express to the world once again that we are against any injustices in the national and global area. We are against all oppression and we are with oppressed people to defend their rights and struggle with them.
- We strongly believe that it is necessary and possible to establish a decent working environment for everyone based on the universal principles and values regarded as the common accumulation of humanity, in which human dignity is absolutely protected and the value of labour is undeniable. Decent work is a paramount tool in the search for social justice, and all of its aspects must be respected by governments, employers and workers’ representatives.

- We emphasize that the duty of the states is to provide mechanisms for the resolution of disputes that are fair to all sectors, recognizing the differences and inequalities between each actor in the search for social justice.

- Having in mind the concept of “universal social justice”, we will maintain our goals and struggle for sustainable development and inclusive social security rights and practices and decent work principles.

- We believe that education is the most powerful weapon against ignorance and various forms of exploitation. It is our responsibility as unions to struggle against: child labour, precarious work and unprotected workers.

- As education sector employees and trade unions in each continent, region and country have their unique characteristics, we strongly state that common values, trade union actions, and targets should be fostered and maintained.

- We think that the best way to protect education and trade unions in a globalised world is to educate our children and increase investment in high quality education.

**We pledge to:**

- Demand our governments to support and develop high quality education in a globalised world in cooperation with the teacher’s trade unions.
- Demand our governments to give full access and support to continuous professional development for all teachers.
- Demand our governments to guarantee equal opportunities for all, regardless of religion, opinion, gender and ethnicity, and respect national identity.
- Demand our governments to promote education based on development of our pupils’ competencies and skills which will enable them to act in an international democratic environment in order to promote and respect diversity.



## We communicated our report **“A glance on Higher Education 2018: Monitoring and Evaluation”**

Educators' Trade Union's General President Mr. Ali YALÇIN made public the report 'A Glance on Higher Education 2018: Monitoring and Evaluation' prepared by Educators' Trade Union. Yalçın emphasized that education is the main vehicle for prosperity. Yalçın said "Education is one of the most important factors in developments of individuals."

With this report our main goal is to have a better and high quality education system said Yalçın. Yalçın added "In this report thus to statistical data we have the opportunity to see in which field our education is increasing and in which areas is decreasing. This report pointed out problems in the education system. Now, it is time to find solutions to these problems and to put an end to inequalities. A high quality, effective and productive higher education system is imperative for the future of our nation."

Yalçın said "As the report shows us the higher education in Turkey needs to be improved. In Turkey there are 200 higher education institutions and 7 million students. When we consider the number of students the higher education system

of Turkey is the largest of Europe but when we consider the number of institution Turkey is under the European average according to OECD data."

The percentage of post graduation of women older than 25 has increased of 50% between 2009 and 2017 and reached the percentage of 16,2%. While the percentage post graduation of men older than 25 is 21,2%. We can clearly see that there is amelioration but still the gap between men and women is high indicated Yalçın.

Yalçın touched upon the problem concerning the employment of bachelors. Yalçın said "When we examine the employment rate of bachelors in OECD countries we can see that Turkey employment rate is under the average of OECD countries. While the rate of employment of post graduates people are equal to the average of OECD countries. The rate of employment of PhDs in Turkey is higher than the average of OECD countries."

After the speech of Yalçın, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mr. Bekir S. Gür made a detailed presentation on the report.



## Educators' Trade Union (Eğitim-Bir-Sen) goes to the polls

Educators' Trade Union was founded by Mehmet Akif İnan and his friends in 1992 in order to protect the right and to improve the work conditions of education workers. Since its creation Educators' Trade Union is working for the development of democracy. A must for democracy are the elections. As an organization which tries to developed the democracy Educators' Trade Union goes to the polls.

In accordance with the decision taken by the board of manager the elections will start the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September and will continue till February 2019. The election will be done in three steps the first step will be in September 3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> the second step will be in November 3<sup>rd</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> and the last step will be in February 2019. The election will end with the 6<sup>th</sup> ordinary general assembly.

**With its 426.645 members Educators' Trade Union is the largest trade Union of Turkey. Below is the electoral process:**

- September 3<sup>rd</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> departmental administrations will declare voter list
- September 9<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> election of workplace representative will be done
- September 17<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> application of candidate for being delegate
- September 24<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> voter lists composed of delegates and members will be declared
- September 6<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> departmental administrations will elect representatives and delegates
- At least 15 days before the general assembly departmental administrations will declare their decision concerning the general assembly and they will share their decision on their website.
- Election of delegates will be done between November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> these delegates will form the assembly of departmental administration and the assembly of supreme board.
- In February 2019 the 6<sup>th</sup> ordinary congress will be done.

We wish all the best for our union, members and all education workers.

## We participated to the congress of the Independent Trade Union of Education of Albania (SPASH)



Eğitim-Bir-Sen (Educators' Trade Union) vice president Şükrü Kolkisa participated to the 7<sup>th</sup> congress of SPASH organized in Tiran, Albania.

In his speech during the general assembly Kolkisa emphasized the importance of trade unions to bring innovation to education.

Kolkisa evoked that as Educators' Trade Union they organized an International symposium on "Globalization, Education and Trade Unions" in which 175 representatives participated from 77 countries.

Kolkisa said "Most of our colleagues who are here today were present in our symposium. Problems concerning education that we talked today are similar to those that we discussed during the symposium. If we want to solve our problems and overcome the obstacles faced in education we have to work together and share our experiences. I believe all together we can solve all problems. Finally I want to thank Mr. Kaptelli for his kind invitation. I wish all the best to SPASH and Albanian education."

### **Kaptelli thanked Mr. Ali Yalçın**

During his speech in the general assembly SPASH president Kaptelli thanked Mr. Ali YALÇIN and he added "I want to thank the President of Eğitim-Bir-Sen and Memur-Sen Mr. Ali Yalçın for his support. He was very helpful and we had the opportunity to share our experiences. In this context a little plaque of appreciation will be given to Eğitim-Bir-Sen delegation."

At the end of the congress Nevrus Kaptelli has been reelected for five years.

## We signed a cooperation agreement with **Czech and Moravian Teachers Union (CMOS PS)**



Eğitim-Bir-Sen vice president Atilla Olçum made a meeting with the representatives of CMOS PS. Olçum thanked CMOS PS president Mr. Frantisek Dobsik for their kind invitation and gave some information about Eğitim-Bir-Sen.

Olçum evoked that they organized an international symposium on “Globalization, Education and Trade Unions” in order to find permanent solution to global problems. Olçum said “We invited trade unionists from all over the world to discuss problems faced in education. In this context we give a huge importance to exchange experiences.”

Olçum said “As Eğitim-Bir-Sen we do not only point out problems but we also propose a solution for each single problem.”

Olçum also touched upon their project concerning orphans. This project consists to save enough money every month to cover the expenses of orphans. Thus our children learn to be helpful said Olçum.

CMOS PS president Mr. Frantisek Dobsik thanked Mr. Olçum to accept their invitation. Dobsik said “I should say that your projects are very impressive. As CMOS PS we also give a huge importance to the exchange of experiences it's why today we are going to sign a cooperation agreement with you thus we can improve our cooperation and share our experiences.”

After the meeting a cooperation agreement has been signed between CMOS PS and Eğitim-Bir-Sen.



## We signed a cooperation agreement with the **Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences**

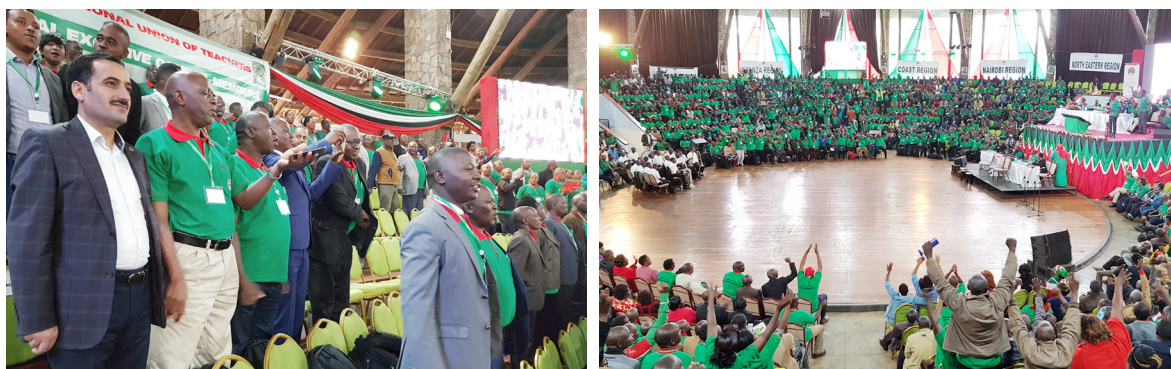
We signed a bilateral cooperation agreement with the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS). Habil Qurbanov head of ANAS made a meeting with Eğitim-Bir-Sen's president Ali Yalçın. During the meeting Qurbanov and Yalçın exchanges their ideas about education and trade unions.

Afterwards Qurbanov and Latif Selvi signed the cooperation agreement. Selvi said "As Educators' Trade Union of Turkey we give a huge importance to cooperate and share experiences with education unions from all over the world. Today we signed an agreement with Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences, as you know Turkey and Azerbaijan are brother countries."

### **Qurbanov: We want to increase our relation**

ANAS president Qurbanov said "There is a good entente between Turkey and Azerbaijan. These two countries are very close to each other. Today by signing this cooperation agreement we take the first step. We want to increase our relation. We believe that this agreement will be beneficent for both sides."





## Çakırcı participated to the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Delegates Conference of KNUT

Educators' Trade Union vice president Mr. Ramazan Çakırcı participated to the conference organized by Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT). The conference titled "The Right to Education Means the Right to a Qualified Teacher" took place in Nairobi.

### **As trade unionists we have to work together**

Çakırcı evoked the importance of working in cooperation and he added "As Educators' Trade Union I bring you the salutation of our members. I'm very happy to be here with you. I have to say that as Educators' Trade Union we give a huge importance to cooperate with different trade union from all over the world. There is a sentence which is really affecting me our skin color can be different but our elbow grease is the same. Unfortunately today the income of three richest families is more than the half of the world population. We have to work together against this wild capitalism."

### **Sossion: We have to prevent the intervention of foreigners to our curriculum**

KNUT's President Wilson Sossion said "No one can underestimate the role played by teachers in those days when we were fighting for our independence. Kenya National Union of Teachers was founded in 1957, Kenya get its independence in 1963. As KNUT we were founded before the independence and struggle for the independence of our country. Now we believe that as our country our education also needs to be independent. We have to prevent the intervention of foreigners to our curriculum."

Ramazan Çakırcı congratulated Sossion and his team and he invited them to the 6<sup>th</sup> congress of Educators' Trade Union.



## Yayla participated to the conference titled **Humanism in Education**

Educators' Trade Union vice president Hasan Yalçın Yayla participated to the conference organized by the Bulgarian Teachers Union. Yayla in his speech during the conference said the first step to live in harmony is to protect fundamental human right.

### **Humanism couldn't achieve its goal**

Yayla said "At the beginning we all thought that humanism was going to put an end to injustices but today we can see that humanism couldn't achieve its goal. We as trade unionists we have to find a way which will put an end to injustices. Decent work is a fundamental right for everyone."

### **The curriculum should be based on humanitarian values**

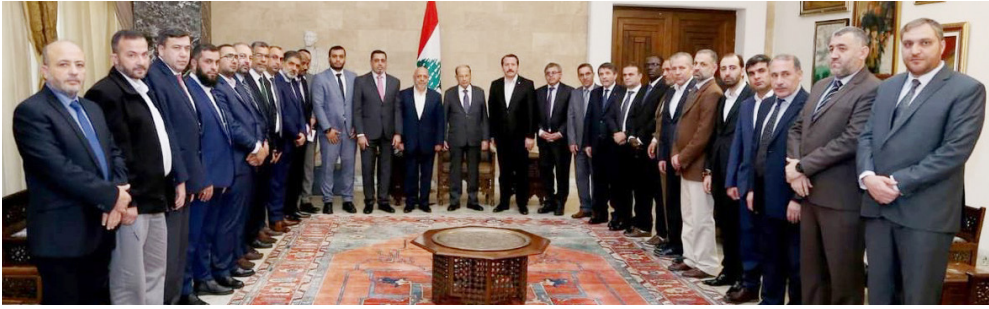
Yayla said "We have to teach to our children universal values and fundamental human rights. We have to reshape our curriculum according to these values. We shouldn't forget that we do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

President of Bulgarian Teachers Union Yanka Takeva thanked Yayla for his speech.

Yayla also had a short conversation with Krasimir Valchev Minister of National Education of Bulgaria.







## Ali Yalçın paid a visit to Beirut



Eğitim-Bir-Sen and Memur-Sen President Ali Yalçın paid a visit to Beirut, Lebanon on the occasion of Global Unions Coalition in Support of al-Quds and Palestine's meetings and official visits to show solidarity with the Palestinian workers.

Eğitim-Bir-Sen and Memur-Sen President Ali Yalçın went to Lebanon within the framework of various meeting and official visits to show solidarity and support of Palestinian workers. In Beirut, delegation also paid a visit to Lebanese's President Michel Aoun, Chairperson of Parliament, the Governor of Beirut and the General Confederation of Lebanese Workers' President Bechara Asmar.

The Delegation went to the Lebanese-Palestinian border to protest Israeli occupation and show solidarity with oppressed Palestinian and to be the voice of Palestinian workers. Delegation carrying Palestinian, Turkish flags chanted slogans in support of Palestinian resistance. "Israel must withdraw from occupied the occupied territories." said Yalçın here.

Global Unions Coalition in Support of al-Quds and Palestine's Delegation including representatives from Jordan, Lebanon, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Sudan, Mauritania, Palestine, Senegal as well as Turkey also come together and discussed the problem of Palestinian workers suffered from the Israeli occupation and aggression. The delegation condemned the massacres and oppression and called on trade unions organizations to act against Israel and criticized the ones that have remained silent.



## We communicated our report **“A Glance on Education 2018: Monitoring and Evaluation”**

Eğitim-Bir-Sen's General President Mr. Ali YALÇIN made public the report 'A Glance on Education 2017: Monitoring and Evaluation' prepared by Eğitim-Bir-Sen Research Center (EBSAM).

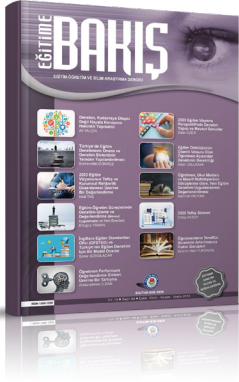
Minister of National Education Mr. Ziya Selçuk, Vice-minister Mustafa Safran and Ibrahim ER, and Eğitim-Bir-Sen's board were present during the press conference. Yalçın in his speech said "One of the major problems in our education is the lack of teacher. When we check the data of OECD countries we can see that in Turkey teacher shortage are about 130.500."

Yalçın emphasized that the UN within its 2030 program of sustainable development gives a huge importance to quality education. Yalçın added "Education is one of the most important factors in developments of individuals. We can only increase the prosperity and personal income by education. As you know in our days every country invests in education. The expenses in education should increase because education is a profitable investment for every country and for the future of our world."

It's very important to compare current data with antecedent data and developed countries' data. Thus we can see where we are compared to the rest of the world said Yalçın and He added "This database report is very important in terms of independent evaluation. In our report we used data from OECD, MEB, ÖSYM and TÜİK. I have to say that the Ministry of National Education shared with us private data. Herein I want to thank the Minister of National Education Mr. Ziya Selçuk to be so helpful to us."



**EĞİTİM-BİR-SEN**  
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## “A Noble Struggle”



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