



# Promoting refugees' access to higher education

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[www.eurieeducationsummit.com](http://www.eurieeducationsummit.com)

# Education as a core refugee right

- The right of refugee children to receive education is reflected in the 1951 Refugee Convention (s. 22)
- Turkey's Law on Foreigners and International Protection guarantees the right to primary and secondary education to international protection applicants.
- UNHCR's Global Education Strategy (2012-2016) promotes access to a **continuum** of education opportunities
  - Early childhood education
  - Schooling
  - Higher education
  - Adult education, including language learning

# Rationale for promotion of refugees' access to higher education

- Supports UNHCR mandate to ensure that refugees live with dignity and are prepared to be productive members of societies in which they live
- Personal and societal benefits of refugees having access to higher education
  - Promotes self-reliance and access to higher skilled employment
  - Is an investment in human capital and capacity
  - Encourages social cohesion – language learning, social networks
  - Ensures productive engagement in youth – reducing negative coping mechanisms
  - Refugee role models – encourages completion of primary and secondary schooling

# Refugee access to higher education – globally & in Turkey

- Worldwide - less than 1% of university-age refugees are enrolled in higher education programmes
- Turkey: approximately 450,000 Syrian refugee youth are between 18 and 25.
- 15,000 Syrians enrolled in universities (YOK/ Higher Education Council)
- High demand for university education – 13,000 applications for UNHCR & YTB scholarships
- In spite of government tuition fees waiver for Syrians, less than 4% are enrolled in universities



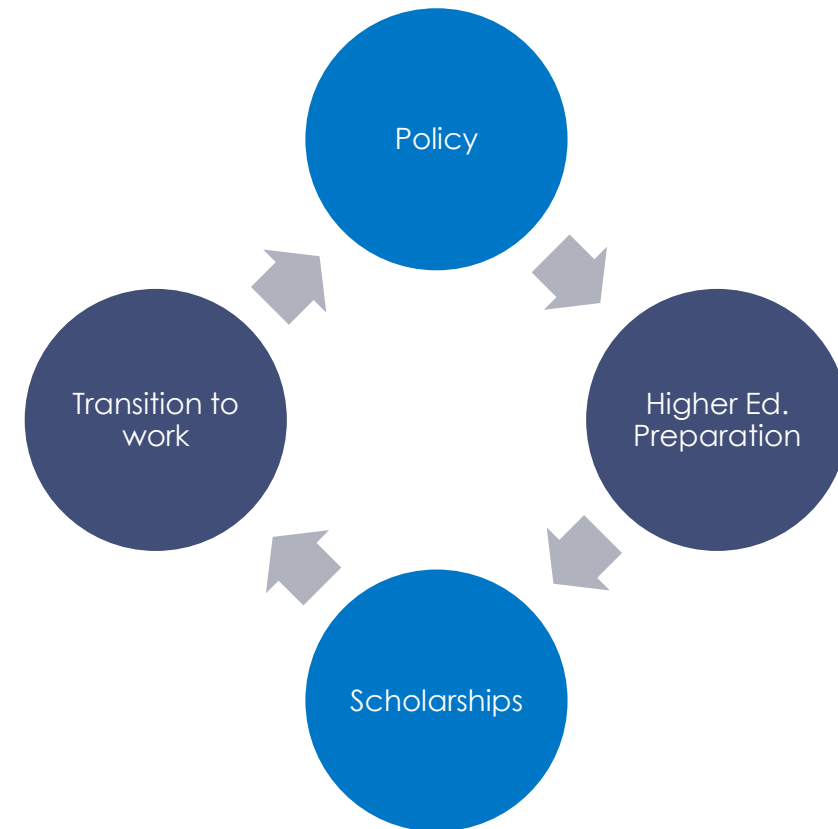
Three Syrian refugee scholarship holders in Sanliurfa

# Barriers to higher education access in Turkey

- Low secondary school completion rates
- Documentation - Lack of proof of secondary school completion
- Proficiency in the language of higher education instruction
- Cost of advanced Turkish language programmes (up to 2000 USD per person)
- Lack of awareness of enrolment procedures and available services
- Economic pressure to contribute to family income
- Insufficient places in prestigious academic programmes (engineering, medicine etc)
- Non-Syrian refugees must pay foreign student fees (500-1500 USD)

# UNHCR's efforts to address barriers to higher education access

- **Support access to national systems through** partnership with Presidency for Turks Abroad (YTB) & Higher Education Council (YOK)
- **Policy support to the Ministry of National Education** to facilitate documentation of secondary education & **policy advocacy**
- Address language barrier – provide **higher education preparation programme**
- Reduce economic burden of education – **scholarships & grants**
- Provide **information** on higher education admission – **outreach**
- **Transition to employment**



# Higher education preparation program

- Enables students to meet language proficiency requirements for university admission
- 9 month intensive certified Turkish language programme (TOMER)
- Students receive a monthly stipend
- **2017 – 1600 (Jan-Aug); 1700 (Sept '17 to July '18)**



Program kapsamında dil kursu ücreti ve aylık burs sağlanacaktır. Programa Türkiye'de bulunan Suriye vatandaşları yabancı kimlik (99 ile başlayan) veya Pasaport numaralarıyla başvurabilir.



Bu proje Avrupa Birliği ve Türkiye Cumhuriyeti tarafından finanse edilmektedir.

هذا المشروع تم تمويله مشتركاً من قبل الاتحاد الأوروبي والحكومة التركية



الممولون سيتكفلون بتغطية كافة دروس اللغة التركية والتمهيد الشهري للسوريين الذين لجؤوا إلى تركيا بإمكانهم أن يقدموا إلى هذا البرنامج من خلال رقم بطاقة التعريف للأجانب (الذي يبدأ ب 99)

**Suriyeliler İçin**  
Üniversiteye Hazırlık  
**İleri Düzey**  
**Türkçe Eğitim**  
**Programı**

تعليم  
اللغة التركية  
للمستوى العالي  
التدريبية  
للسوريين



#### Başvuru Şartları

Yaş : 17-24  
Başvuru Belgeleri : Geçici Koruma Kimliği veya Pasaport  
Mezuniyet veya Denklik Belgesi  
Başvuru süresi : 18.10.2016 - 31.10.2016  
Başvuru adresi : turkiyeburslari.gov.tr  
Sorular için : suriye@ytb.gov.tr



#### شروط التقديم

العمر: 17-24  
الوثائق: • شهادة التخرج  
• وثيقة أو شهادة المعايير  
• هوية الحماية المؤقتة  
أو جواز السفر  
31.10.2016 - 18.10.2016  
فترة تقديم الطلبات: turkiyeburslari.gov.tr  
الموقع: suriye@ytb.gov.tr

# DAFI scholarship programme

- DAFI – UNHCR’s global scholarship programme
  - 25 years and now in 40+ countries
- Turkey is now the largest DAFI scholarship programme in the world
  - 821 scholarship holders + 300 to be awarded in Sept 2017
- In Turkey - implemented in partnership with YTB
- Includes mandatory community service – develops youth leaders in refugee communities

Developing refugees' academic and professional potential to become tomorrow's leaders in their communities

T.C. BAŞBAKANLIK  
YURTDIŞI TÜRKLER  
VE AKRABA TOPLULUKLAR BAŞKANLIĞI



**FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDY**

**UNHCR DAFI SCHOLARSHIPS IN TURKEY**

**suriye.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr**

**Eligibility:**

- Be 18-26 years old
- High academic achiever
- Have proof of high school completion
- Syrian & registered with Turkish authorities
- Wish to study a course relevant to future employment
- Want to contribute to your community

**Scholarship package:**

- 2 and 4 year degree programme
- At a Turkish university
- Tuition costs and stipend for accommodation, transportation and living expenses
- Workshops for DAFI Türkiye scholars

**Application procedures:**

- Online application deadline: 31 July 2016
- Interviews in August
- Applications free of charge

DAFI Turkey scholarships are implemented in partnership with the Türkiye Bursları Programme

Federal Foreign Office

DAFI TÜRKİYE BURLARI SCHOLARSHIPS



