

THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE- TÜRKİYE

APRIL - MAY - JUNE
2026

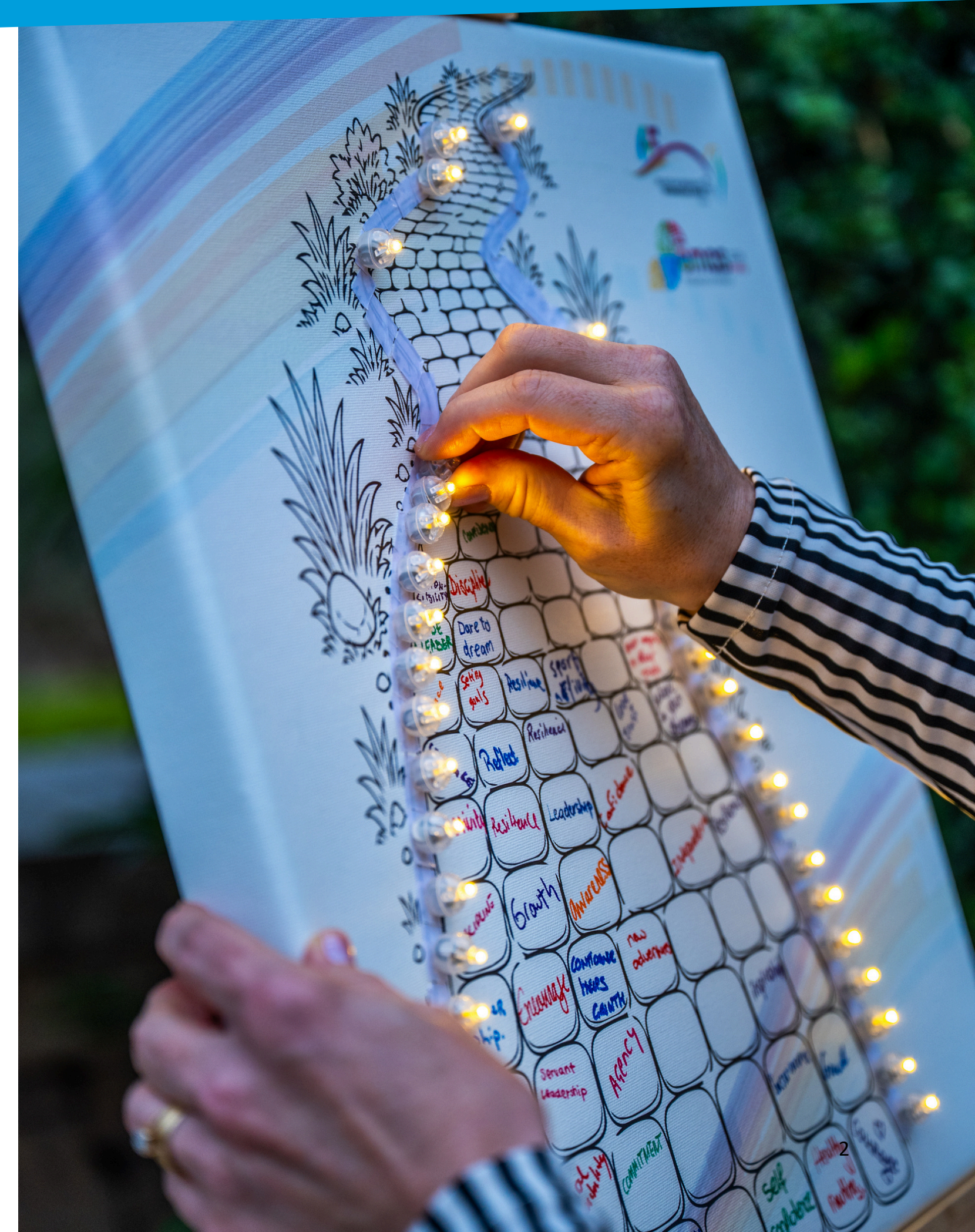
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Message from Sezen Savaş Oğuz



As the International Award for Young People-Türkiye delegation, we attended the EMAS Regional Conference held in Malta in May. Representing our country with our National Office team and two Award Leaders from different regions of Türkiye, this organisation proved to be a fantastic meeting point for shaping future youth strategies on a global scale.

From the very beginning of the conference, I knew that what awaited me was not just a heavy schedule of meetings, but a partnership of energy that transcended borders. Coming together with award network stakeholders from many different countries, we transparently discussed how each nation implements and develops this programme within its own local conditions. In this multi-voiced environment, it was a wonderful experience to see how we are all running towards the same common goal whilst walking different paths. Right at the heart of these shared insights, the most powerful concept of the process—and the one that resonated with me most throughout the conference—came to the forefront: Human Skills.

In today's age of artificial intelligence and screens, any search engine can provide you with the most satisfying academic planning in a matter of seconds. However, no algorithm can teach a young person empathy, the flexibility to stand back up when they fall, the resilience to cope with uncertainty, or the true weight of being part of a team. In the sessions in Malta, I saw clearly that the Award Programme we run strengthens those very "human skills" that young people are beginning to lose in this digital world, whilst offering them a holistic development journey that will guide them throughout their lives.

To let us experience this philosophy from the inside, they even involved us directly in some field activities under the name "Award in Action". Breaking away from grand theoretical discussions to observe on-site, as a teacher, a student's effort in that process and the genuine excitement they felt whilst taking each step, provided me with a beautiful and heartfelt insight into the journey.

Message from Sezen Savaş Oğuz



The synergy we captured here directly prompted us to reflect upon new international projects and partnerships. Throughout the conference, we drew inspiration from that shared pool where each country showcased its own successful field experiences and best practice models. By focusing on Erasmus+ projects—the most powerful and widespread way to bring such global partnerships to life—we have already taken exciting steps to establish far more active and high-profile collaborations within this international network for the upcoming period, representing Türkiye.

I returned from Malta with a refreshed educator's energy, alongside new insights and ideas regarding the future of education. Let us not forget: we do not merely have young people complete a programme, we instil in them the courage to "remain human" and write their own stories in this digital age. I wish a wonderful process ahead to all our young people who will write their own stories in the new term, and to my fellow travellers.

Sezen Savaş Oğuz

IAYP-TR Award Leader



2026 2nd Ordinary National Committee Meeting

The IAYP-TR 2nd Ordinary National Committee Meeting was held online on June 16, 2026.

Members of the National Committee, the Board of Directors, and the National Office staff participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, current developments of the programme, strategic priorities, and implementation processes were discussed. There was an exchange of views on field practices, volunteer processes, and sustainability.

This meeting served as an important platform to strengthen the institutional structure of The International Award for Young People – Türkiye, to carry out decision-making processes through collective wisdom, and to enhance the overall impact of the programme.

With the contributions of our National Committee and Board members, we will continue our work with determination.



EMAS Regional Conference

2026 / Malta

As The International Award for Young People- Türkiye, we attended the EMAS Regional Conference held in Malta between 11 and 15 May 2026!

Award Leaders, Board Members, National Award Authority (NAO) teams, and Youth Ambassadors from 17 different countries came together to strengthen the regional impact of the Award and build a shared future.

The conference, which was also attended by Martin Houghton-Brown, the Secretary General of the International Award Foundation (IAF), was attended by our Vice Chair of the National Committee and National Coordinator, L. Nilüfer Yılmaz, and our Training Coordinator, Kivanç Aker, representing Türkiye and the Award Programme.



Within the scope of the conference, the first Award Leaders Meeting of the "NextGen Award Leaders" Erasmus+ project, implemented in co-operation with the Czech Republic NAO and in partnership with the International Award Foundation (IAF), also took place. Our Award Leaders from Türkiye, Sezen Savaş Oğuz and Burçin Değirmenci, participated in this special project aiming to empower young leaders, sharing their experiences and strengthening our regional ties.

This gathering was much more than a conference; it was a celebration of co-operation and leadership enabling young people to lead change.





The Duke of Edinburgh Cup 2026

The Duke of Edinburgh Cup 2026 Türkiye Qualifier was held on 8–9 May with the participation of 110 players in total.

Erdem Mustafa Orman and Muhammed Ali Aydın qualified for The Duke of Edinburgh Cup World Final, to be held at Windsor Castle on 27 September 2026, and were invited to a special dinner hosted by The Duke of Edinburgh.

The winning athletes received their awards from Mr Fikret Öztürk, Mr Murat Karaduman, and John Casserley.



Upcycle İstanbul

The Upcycle İstanbul Art & Design Festival celebrated its 5th anniversary this year with the theme "Heal(ing)"!

During this 5-day inspiring festival, we took our place as The International Award for Young People- Türkiye (IAYP-TR) under the umbrella of TİKAV.



We were proud to support this meaningful event, where transformation was discussed through various activities from ecological art exhibitions to workshops.

Within the scope of the festival, our Chair of the TİKAV, Hülya Kırçuval, shared her valuable insights with the participants during the Upcycle Istanbul Talks session titled "Where Does Transformation Begin?".

We would like to thank everyone who met with us, visited our stand, and contributed to this wonderful journey of transformation hosted by QNB Terminal Kadıköy!

We continue to transform and heal together for a sustainable future.





Training Programmes

Supervisor Trainings

- We successfully delivered two separate Supervisor Trainings in İstanbul on 3–5 April 2026 and 1–3 May 2026, with the participation of 35 volunteers in total.
- Throughout the training, applications within the programme processes and approaches towards volunteer support were addressed.
- Furthermore, during the training, participants had the opportunity to familiarise themselves more closely with the process through case studies and experience sharing regarding the delivery of the programme.

We would like to thank all our volunteers for their hard work and contributions!





ADVENTUROUS JOURNEYS

128 GROUPS

84 GROUPS

38 GROUPS

6 GROUPS



461

PARTICIPANTS



217

PARTICIPANTS



31

PARTICIPANTS

709 PARTICIPANTS

63



JOURNEY COMPLETED

42



JOURNEY DAYS

46



PARTICIPATING
AWARD CENTRE

BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD ADVENTUROUS JOURNEYS WERE COMPLETED WITH A TOTAL OF 709 PARTICIPANTS IN İSTANBUL, ANTALYA, ESKİŞEHİR, ANKARA, MERSİN AND ERZURUM!





ADVENTUROUS JOURNEYS





ADVENTUROUS JOURNEYS





ADVENTUROUS JOURNEYS





AWARD CEREMONIES

Özel PEV Okulları

10 APRIL 2026

TED Adana Koleji

4 MAY 2026

Nişantaşı Anadolu Lisesi

15 APRIL 2026

Şişli Anadolu Lisesi

8 MAY 2026

Özel İstek Antalya Lara
Okulları

17 APRIL 2026

Özel Çorlu Nazmi Arıkan Fen
Bilimleri Okulları

10 JUNE 2026



ÖZEL DEV
OKULLARI

İSTEK

ANTALYA
OKULLARI



Nazmi Arıkan
FEN BİLİMLERİ
Eğitim Kurumları





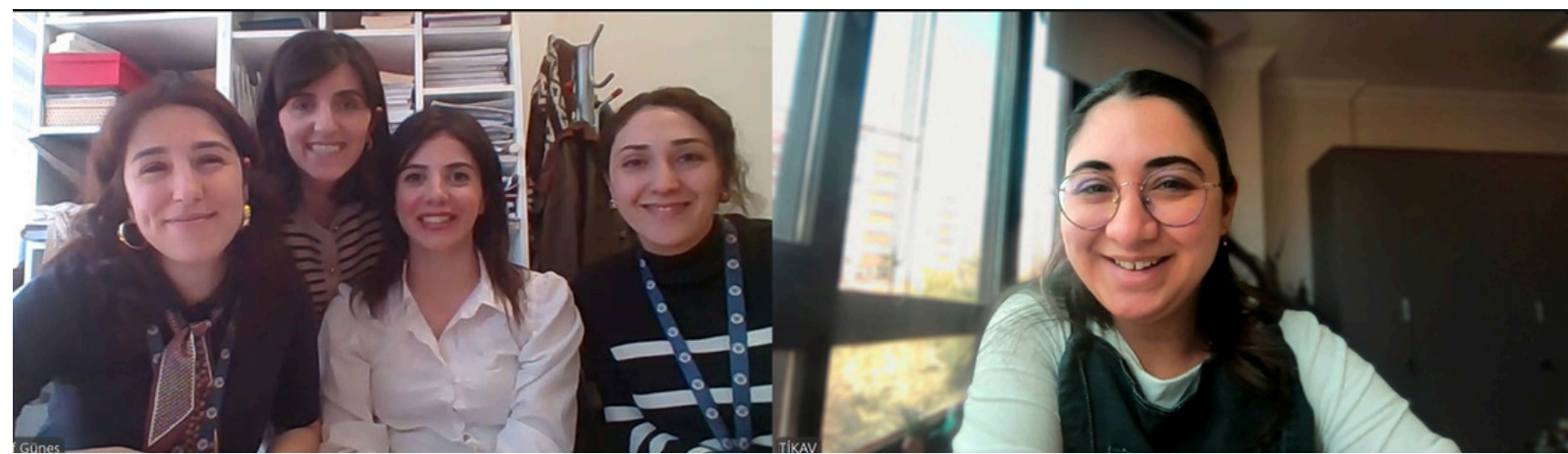
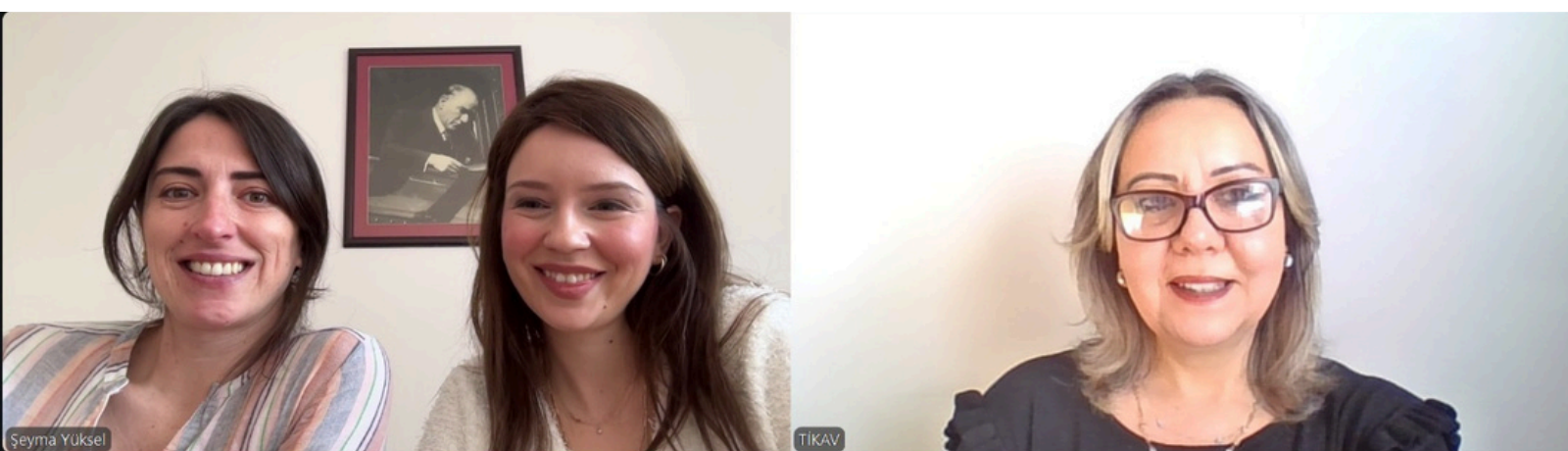
EVALUATION VISITS



- Yarın İçin Bugün Derneği (YİBDER)
- Bilkent Erzurum Laboratuvar Lisesi
- Özel Vizyon Anadolu Lisesi Marina Kampüsü
- Özel Ataşehir Modern Bilimler Akademisi (MBA) Anadolu Lisesi

- Özel Seymen Koleji
- İstek Atanur Oğuz Okulları
- Özel Denizatı Anadolu Lisesi
- TED Tekirdağ Koleji
- ODTÜ Geliştirme Vakfı Okulları Özel İzmir Lisesi
- İstek Özel Kaşgarlı Mahmut Okulları

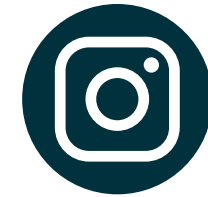
- Kocaeli Sınav Koleji
- Özel Yeni Yol Okulları
- ODTÜ Geliştirme Vakfı Özel Denizli Anadolu Lisesi
- Özel İstek Belde Anadolu ve Fen Lisesi





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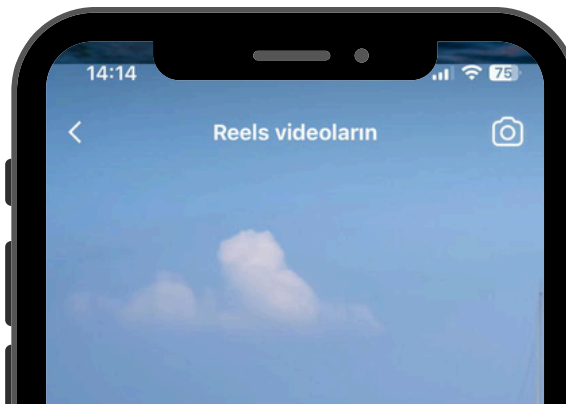
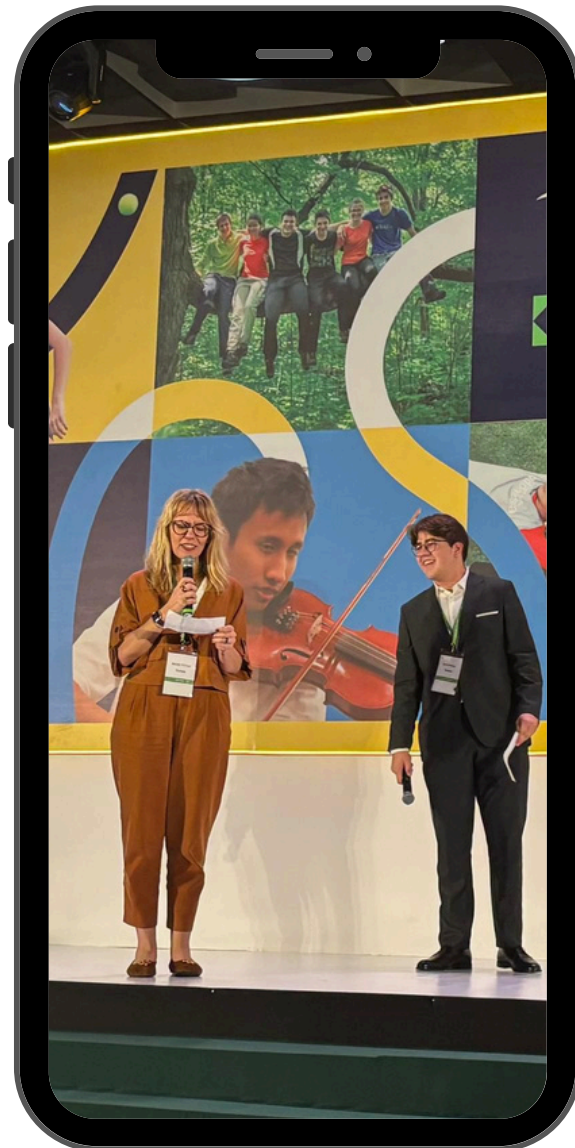
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