



TUDAV Turkish Marine Research Foundation

The Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV) was established in 1997 for the aim of conducting researches on marine sciences, protecting marine lives, educating public on marine environment and rising awareness on its importance in our life. It has published more than 50 books since its establishment as well as a scientific journal “Journal on the Mediterranean/Black Sea Environment” three times a year. TUDAV has conducted several researches and projects by the support of international institutions as well as by the support of private sectors. TUDAV organizes many workshops on current problems like pollution, especially in the Turkish Straits, marine biodiversity, sustainable fishery, marine protection areas and alien species. Moreover, it also makes an effort on the implementation of responsible fishery in Turkey by organizing seminars. It continues to advocate marine protected areas, to fight against IUU fishing, to protect marine environment from various pollution sources, and to monitor biodiversity in the Turkish waters. Recently it has started supporting the Turkish initiative on Antarctic expeditions. Any questions you might have about our seas or the activities of the foundation, you can send an email to; tudav@tudav.org

Turkish Marine Research Foundation

Activity Report 2017

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1.PROJECTS

1.1 Black Sea Watch Press Meeting, Varna- Bulgaria



The Black Sea Watch project was a joint initiative of the Green Balkans NGO, Bulgaria and TUDAV where the aim was to raise public awareness on biodiversity of the Black Sea, a fragile ecosystem facing many threats. The press conference of the Black Sea Watch project was carried out at Varna, Bulgaria by the Bulgarian partner Green Balkans. Project coordinator İlayda Destan Öztürk Turgut explained the activities of the Project that were held in Turkey.

1.2 Dissemination Activities of Black Sea Watch Project

Hotels, restaurants, life guard offices, nature conservation and natural park offices, fisheries cooperatives, fishing ports were visited around the coastal area of the Black Sea for dissemination activities. Leaflets were distributed on details about the project itself and using the smart phone applications were illustrated.



1.3 Capacity Building Activity of the Black Sea Watch Project



The last educational activity of the Black Sea Watch project was carried out in Beykoz Barbaros Hayrettin Paşa Denizcilik ve Su Ürünleri High School on February 14, 2017. During the program, students of the high school were educated about the biodiversity and ecosystem of the Black Sea. With the use of smart phones and tablets, they shared their first scientific data using the Black Sea Watch application.

1.4 Final meeting of “Strengthening the Conservation and Public Awareness”



The Gökçeada Underwater Marine Park Project was conducted by Turkish Marine Research Foundation in the framework of Civil Society Programme and financed by the Republic of Turkey and European Union. TUDAV's partner for the Project was the French foundation on environmental research, BiEAUdiversité. The final meeting of the Project was conducted on October 2-3 in the Legacy Ottoman Hotel in

Istanbul. Over 50 people participated in the meeting including our French partners, Ministry of European Union and Ministry of Food, Aquaculture and Livestock. In the last session of the meeting the importance of marine protected areas and necessity of increasing the number of marine protected areas in Turkey as well as permanent management plans were discussed.

1.5 JellyWatch Programme for CIESM

This program observes the jellyfish blooms in the coastal areas and the open waters. All the Mediterranean countries that have a coast to Mediterranean provide monthly observations. TUDAV provides all data collected by various institutions to CIESM.

1.6 Yayakarsa – National Monitoring Programme for Jellyfish and Gelatinous Organisms

The aim of the project was to monitor the unusual macrogelatinous zooplankton blooms to understand their trends and prevent hazardous effect of these organisms. The Project also aimed to encourage academia to address the issue, to collect data and to inform decision makers. Photos of alien macrogelatinous species and included informations such as when, where how many of them per square meter taken by volunteers and all these informations loaded to yayakarsa.org. This project also aimed to help the scientist who collect data for this dataset to publish paper together.



1.7 Workshop on Climate Change Adaptation for the Sea and Coast of Antalya



The needs assessment workshop for the project on Adaptation to Climate Change in Antalya was organized at Antalya Su Hotel on 15 December 2017. The project is financed by the European Union and Republic of Turkey within the framework of Capacity Building in the Field of Climate Change in Turkey Grant Scheme on September 2017. The project will be implemented jointly between TUDAV (as co-beneficiary) and the Antalya

Metropolitan Municipality (as lead organization). The workshop included presentations made on issues ranging from scientific to policy issues of climate change and marine environment made by the TUDAV team. Moreover, working groups had interactive discussions to prepare a SWOT analysis and to address a set of challenging questions. Different stakeholder groups participated in the workshop and discussed strengths and weaknesses on climate change adaptation of Antalya.

2. MEETINGS

2.1 Workshop on the Lionfish in the Eastern Mediterranean

The workshop on possible threats and solutions of the lionfish in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea was organized on February 9-10 2017 in Kemer, Antalya. 60 experts from 11 countries contributed to the workshop. After the meeting and workshop sessions in the first day meeting, the participants dived in the offshore waters of Kemer for Lionfish on the second day.



2.2 Press Release – Sharks, Rays and Skates Should be Protected

The Turkish Marine Research Foundation has publicly shared the National Cartilaginous Fish Conservation Action Plan for threatened species of sharks, rays and skates. The proposed action plan also suggests the protection of the threatened manta species whose catch have recently created great public reaction.



2.3 National Workshop for the Action Plan of Cartilaginous Fish Conservation



On March 10, to form the National, our foundation TUDAV organized a day-long workshop to discuss and draft the National Cartilaginous Fish Conservation Action Plan. A total of 27 key stakeholders participated including five from universities, four NGO representatives, an expert from the Ministry, head of a fishing cooperative and the public. Ban on the catch of twelve cartilaginous species was proposed in the draft National Action Plan in addition to the five species that already takes part in the notifications regulating the commercial and amateur fisheries.

2.4 Panel for Oil Pollution in Turkish Waters

Turkish Marine Research Foundation organized a panel for oil pollution on June 5 World Environment Day.



2.5 Meeting with the Minister of Science, Industry and Technology



The president of the Turkish Marine Research Foundation Dr. Bayram ÖZTÜRK shared the Foundation's activities and opinions on Antarctica directly with the Minister of Science, Industry and Technology Dr. Faruk ÖZLÜ.

2.6 First Turkish Deep Sea Workshop



The First National Deep Sea Workshop was held in Gökçeada Island, Turkey, located in the North Aegean Sea by Marine Biology Department, Faculty of Fisheries, and Istanbul University with the sponsorship of the Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV) on June 19. Approximately 30 researchers from 11 institutions attended and made a significant contribution to the workshop.

(http://www.tudav.org/images/2017/documents/Gokceada_Derin_Deniz_Calistayi.pdf)



2.7 Annual Meeting of Turkish Naval Forces Office of Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography



During the Annual Meeting of Turkish Naval Forces Office of Navigation, Hydrography and Oceanography that was organized at the İstanbul University on May 22-23, İlayda Destan ÖZTÜRK TURGUT showed a presentation of activities that took place for the period of 2016-2017, hosted by Institute of Marine Science and Management.

2.8 Activities Forum of Mediterranean Coast Guard

The Director of the Foundation made a presentation at the 6th Activities Forum of the Mediterranean Coast Guard on the protection of the Mediterranean. The Forum was organized in October with the participation of the coast guards of coastal countries in the Mediterranean Sea.



2.9 World Ocean Day

Turkish Marine Research Foundation contributed to the World Ocean Day activities by organizing two different sets of events on June 8 2017. To note, TUDAV was the only non-governmental organization from Turkey that actively contributed to the World Oceans Day.



3. ANTARCTICA

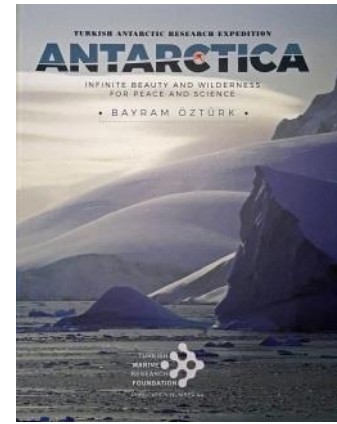
3.1 Asst. Prof. Dr. Arda M. TONAY, Deputy Director of TUDAV, Joined the 22nd Ukranian Antarctic Expedition



Asst. Prof. Dr. Arda M. TONAY joined the 22nd Ukranian Antarctic Expedition and returned after completing his scientific work and research. TONAY joined the expedition from the Ushuaia city of Argentina, he observed marine mammals during the cruise in the Vernadsky Base in Galindez Island.

3.2 A New Book on the Antarctica was Published

The book was written in English by the Director of the Foundation and published by the Turkish Marine Researches Foundation is 196 pages. The publication illustrates Turkey's Antartica adventure with authentic photographs taken by the author and examines the question of what needs to be done. TUDAV suggests that Antarctica and the **contiguous zone** should be declared indefinitely a marine protected area as they a common heritage of mankind.



4. MEDIA



4.1 Dolphins of the İstanbul Strait

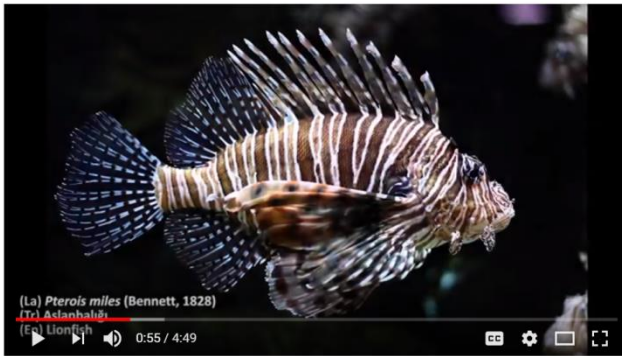
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ayhan DEDE and Asst. Prof. Dr. Arda M. TONAY prepared a special issue for a special report about the dolphins. The report explains the existence of dolphins in the İstanbul Strait since ancient times, shared the myths about them and gave information about their feeding zones, properties of their living in groups as well as a list of the dolphins favourite fish.

4.2 Hunting Weapons Must be Banned on Fishing boats! #WeaponlessFishing

TUDAV launched a campaign on *Change.org* to introduce a ban on the use of hunting weapons on fishing boats as a precaution to prevent the killing of dolphins and seals. This campaign was based on the death of numerous dolphins and seals including: two Bottle-Nosed Dolphins were killed in the Bosphorus (4 June 2017 and 26 May 2015), one Common Dolphin was killed in Gökçeada (26 December 2016), one Mediterranean monk seal was killed in Antalya (30 April 2013) by weapons.



4.3 A New Short Film on the Lion Fish

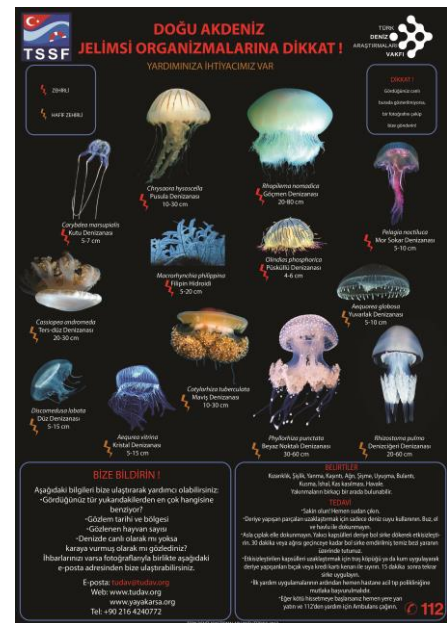


Lionfish in the Mediterranean - TUDAV

A New short film on the lion fish was prepared by TUDAV and its UTube channel in October 2017.

4.4 Poster for “Watch out for Gelatinous Organisms of Eastern Mediterranean

The poster was prepared by the Turkish Marine Research Foundation and printed by the Federation of Turkish Underwater Sports to increase awareness on possible threats of poisonous by gelatinous organisms (mostly jellyfish) on the coast of Eastern Mediterranean. In case of human contact these organisms may cause a variety of medical problems. The poster gives provides methods of treatment coping of consequences in case of emergency.



5. TUDAV'S 20th ANNIVERSARY

5.1 Turkish Marine Researches Foundation Celebrated 20th Anniversary



TUDAV's 20th anniversary was celebrated with a special evening at Moda Deniz Kulübü. The evening started with a cocktail party and progressed with dinner. After Prof. Dr. Bayram ÖZTÜRK's Welcoming Speech, The first National Science and Press Awards were awarded to innovative scientists and journalists who made and impact on marine issues in Turkey. The award-winning scientists are as follows: Ali KURUMAHMUT, Prof.Dr. Emin ÖZSOY, Prof. Dr.

Gökhan HALICI, Prof. Dr. Maide ÇİMŞİT, Prof. Dr. Murat SEZGİN, Doç. Dr. Mustafa YÜCEL. The award-winning journalists are as follows: Handan ERDOĞAN, Gökhan KARAKAŞ and Serkan TAHMAZ. The newly published book entitled "Antarctica: Infinite Beauty and Wilderness for Peace and Science" by Prof. Öztürk and the "2017 TUDAV Marine Report" were also introduced during TUDAV's 20th year anniversary.

5.2 Don't Drown Fish



The Turkish Marine Research Foundation initiated a new partnership with *Fairy* on its 20th anniversary. This partnership aims to minimize the effect of the chemical phosphate found in detergents that flow into the sea. The partnership will also promote and target implementing EU standards to reduce the amount of phosphates. As a priority, the public will be informed and warned against the impacts of eutrophication caused by the excess

amount of phosphate to marine life. The first activity was a photo exhibition entitled "Don't drown the fish". Celebrities and sea-loving people posed underwater for photographer Tamer Yıldız. There was an exhibition of these unique photographs at Moda Deniz Kulübü on 26 November 2017 and are currently being exhibited in various locations throughout Istanbul.



6. PUBLICATIONS

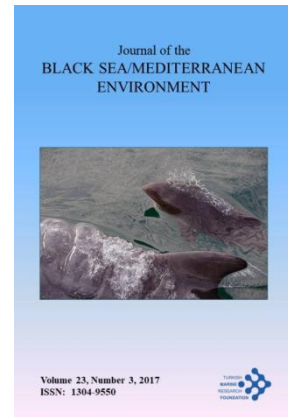
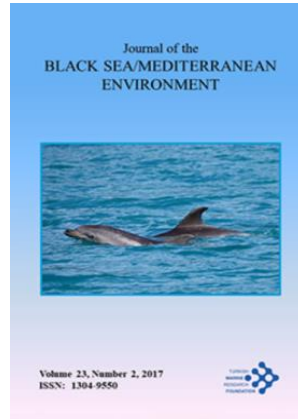
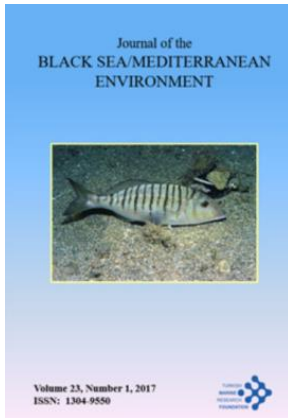
Cetacean surveys results of the first Turkish–Ukrainian Antarctic Research Expedition in 2016 has been published!

Five humpback whales were photo-identified individually by natural features on their flukes; one of them had a match in the Antarctic Humpback Whale Catalogue. The matched individual was first recorded at Ecuador nine years ago.

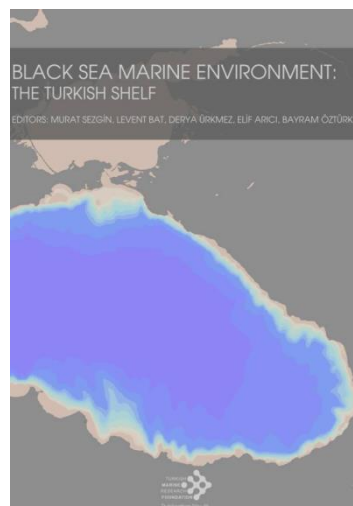
A Booklet for the Antactic Vegetation

The booklet on Antarctic Vegetation Monitoring which was written by Dr. Ivan PARNIKOZA ve Dr. Gökhan HALICI was published.

- **Journal of the Black Sea/Mediterranean Environment: Vol. 23, No. 1, 2 & 3**
Editors: Bayram ÖZTÜRK & Kasım Cemal GÜVEN ISSN: 1304-9550



- **Black Sea Marine Environment: The Turkish Shelf**
Editors: Murat SEZGİN, Levent BAT, Derya ÜRKMEZ, Elif ARICI, Bayram ÖZTÜRK



Papers Published in 2017

- Tonay, A.M., Yazıcı, Ö., Dede, A., Bilgin, S., Danyer, E., Aytemiz, I., Maracı, Ö., Öztürk, A.A., Öztürk, B., Bilgin, R. 2017. Is there a distinct harbor porpoise subpopulation in the Marmara Sea? Mitochondrial DNA Part A 28(4): 558-564.
- Öztürk, B., Tonay, A.M., Öz, M.İ., Yılmaz, I.N., Ergül, H.A., Öztürk, A.A. 2017. Sightings of cetaceans in the Western Antarctic Peninsula during the first joint Turkish–Ukrainian Antarctic Research Expedition, 2016. Turk J Zool 41: 955-961.
- Tonay, A.M., Dede, A.M., Öztürk, A.M. 2017. An unusual interaction between bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) and a harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*). J. Black Sea/Mediterranean Environment 23 (3): (in press)