

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY
AND
REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
FOR THE YEARS 2026-2028¹**

Within the framework of “the Scientific and Technical Cooperation Agreement between Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Italy” signed in Rome on February 21st, 2001 and entered into force on June 7th, 2005, the Italian – Turkish Joint Commission was held in Ankara on October 30th 2025 to examine the present state and further development of scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2026-2028.

The Italian delegation was headed by the Ambassador of Italy to Türkiye, H.E. Giorgio Marrapodi, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

The Turkish delegation was headed by Prof. Orhan Aydın, President of TÜBİTAK.

Members of the two delegations are listed in **Annex I**.

The institutions in charge of the coordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, are:

for the Italian Party: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for Country Promotion;

for the Turkish Party: The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) affiliated to the Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Industry and Technology.

The following agenda items of the Joint Commission were adopted by the Parties:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries
2. New Executive Programme: Joint Research and Development Projects jointly selected for funding
3. Final provisions

1. Review of the Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries

The Parties recognized the pivotal importance of science and technology for the economic, social and cultural relations between the two Countries. Both Parties, considering the good relationships, stressed the need to further promote bilateral cooperation in the field of science, technology and innovation. The Parties also emphasized the relevance of ongoing scientific collaborations between Universities and Research Centres of the two Countries, highlighting the importance of further strengthening the partnerships between Italian and Turkish scientists.

¹ Due to the excessive number of applications received for the call, the term of the Executive Programme has been shifted from 2025–2027 to 2026–2028.

2. New Executive Programme

In the period between 30th September 2024 and 15th November 2024 a joint call was launched to collect bilateral project proposals within the following priority research areas:

- Climate change;
- Energy transition;
- Health;
- Prevention and mitigation of natural hazards;
- Science and Technology applied to cultural heritage.

The criteria that were adopted to select the joint research and development projects to be funded for the years 2026-2028 were as follows:

- Scientific/Technological Excellence;
- Methodology;
- Project Management;
- Importance of collaboration;
- Impact.

On the basis of the above criteria, the Parties reached consensus on the selection of 7 (seven) joint research and development projects which were considered eligible for financial support and are listed in **Annex II**.

Funding for these projects may be granted on a national basis, within the limits of the national annual budgets of the two Countries, and upon evaluation of the financial requests to be submitted by the corresponding Principal Investigators according to the guidelines provided by the relevant authorities in the two Countries.

3. Final provisions

The Parties agreed to convene the next session of the Joint Commission, either in person or through a virtual platform.

Details of the next session of the Joint Commission, such as date and agenda, will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

The present Executive Programme will be in force between 1st January 2026 and 31st December 2028 and will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, but no longer than one year after its expiration.

Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be authorised by the competent Ministries in both Countries and has to be discussed through diplomatic channels.

All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out within budget limits and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.

Annexes I, and II are attached hereto and represent integral parts of the present document.

Signed in Ankara in two originals written in English language, each text being equally authentic.

For the Italian Party	For the Turkish Party
	
Giorgio Marrapodi Ambassador of Italy to Türkiye	Prof. Orhan Aydın President of TÜBİTAK

Annex I

Members of the Delegations

ITALIAN DELEGATION	TURKISH DELEGATION
Ambassador of Italy to Türkiye, H.E. Giorgio Marrapodi	Prof. Orhan Aydın-President of TÜBİTAK
Cons. Amb. Marco Silvi Head of Bilateral Scientific Cooperation Office, MAECI	Ambassador Mr. Hami Aksoy- Acting Director General for Science and Technology Policies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Türkiye
Cons. Amb. Andrea Della Nebbia, Embassy of Italy in Ankara	Dr. Dursun Can Özcan-Director of Bilateral and Multilateral Division
Segr. Leg. Andrea Zoppo, Embassy of Italy in Ankara	Dr. Eylem İstem Bali- Chief Expert
Claudio Barchesi, Scientific Expert, MAECI	Mazhar Atasoy, Third Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Türkiye
Prof. Vladia Monsurrò, Scientific Attaché, Embassy of Italy in Ankara	Elçin Çalışkan-Senior Expert
Zeynep Demirtas, Trade Expert, Embassy of Italy in Ankara	

Annex II

Joint research and development projects selected within the framework of the Executive Programme of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Republic of Italy and the Republic of Türkiye for the years 2026-2028

No	Turkish partner	Italian partner	Research Area	Project title
1	Arzu Karahan	Lucia Manni	Climate Change	Evaluating and Predicting the Impacts of Climate Change on Ascidian Distribution: From Local to Regional Scales (EPICA)
2	Melih Ertan Çınar	Rossana Sanfilippo	Climate Change	The vulnerability and RESilience of COralligenous assemblages in changing MEDiterranean ecosystems
3	Sadiye Velioglu	Elena Tocci	Energy Transition	HYdrogen Purification Efficiency: UncoveRING Molecular Constraints in State-of-the-Art MEMbranes
4	Uğur Teğın	Stefan Wabnitz	Health	Multiphoton Imaging System with Spatiotemporal Fiber Lasers for Real-Time Optical Biopsy
5	Zeynep Alagöz	Marco Lucio Lolli	Health	Development of Next-Generation Broad-Spectrum Antivirals: Prepare for Future Pandemic Risks
6	Ömer Mercimek	Gabriele Milani	Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Hazards	Seismic Corner Collapse Mechanisms in Masonry Structures through Experimental, Numerical, and Field Studies across Italy and Turkey: From Lab to Field
7	Nida Naycı	Andrea Micheletti	Science and Technology applied to Cultural Heritage	Development of Permanent and Affordable Structural Health Monitoring Technologies for Historic Masonry Monuments