

Final Meeting of DIRNA Project Coordinated by Khazar University

The opening ceremony of the event on June 11, 2026, began with a performance by the Chamber Orchestra of Khazar University. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Rector of Khazar University and DIRNA project coordinator Dr. Razia Isaeva emphasized the project's pivotal role in strengthening the research potential of universities. She stated that the primary objective of the project is to collect, preserve, and ensure international accessibility of scientific outputs — including articles, books, research papers, and other academic publications — produced by Azerbaijan's higher education institutions within a unified electronic archive network. The rector noted that the project makes a significant contribution to the development of the electronic archive system in the country, increasing the visibility of research activities, and integrating Azerbaijani universities into the international scientific community.

Project partner and Rector of Izmir Institute of Technology, Professor Dr. Yusuf Baran, also addressed the audience, speaking on the importance of international cooperation in the fields of science and innovation.

Following the opening ceremony, a video reel reflecting the project's three-year activities and achieved outcomes was screened. Within the framework of the meeting, Professor Yusuf Baran delivered a presentation on "Science Leadership," sharing his views with participants on the role of scientific leadership in contemporary higher education institutions and the directions for developing the research ecosystem.

The next session was announced open by event moderator Arzu Gayitmazova for the presentation of three-year activity reports by partner universities. Within the session, detailed reports on the work carried out during the project, results achieved, collaboration opportunities established, and future directions were presented by representatives of the project's European partners — Izmir Institute of Technology (Türkiye), University of Jyväskylä (Finland), and the University of L'Aquila (Italy).

On the second day of the final meeting, June 12, representatives of the project's local partner universities presented the work completed, opportunities created, and achievements attained within the framework of the DIRNA project. During the sessions, the opportunities generated by the project in the areas of research data management, development of institutional repositories, and digitalization of academic activities at Azerbaijani higher education institutions were extensively discussed.

A presentation of the Research Information Management System (RIMS) platform — developed by Khazar University and regarded as one of the project's key outcomes — was also held as part of the meeting. The platform's functionality, capabilities, and analysis were

demonstrated to participants by Hafiz Muhammad Azeem Akram, lecturer at the Department of Computer Science at Khazar University.

At the close of the event, a final presentation on Khazar University's three-year project activities and achieved results was delivered by Aytac Misgarly, Director of the Library and Information Center of Khazar University. She brought to the participants' attention the achievements realized over the course of the project, the digital solutions developed, and the future development prospects of the established cooperation network. The event concluded with closing remarks and an exchange of views among participants.

The DIRNA project has contributed to significant outcomes in strengthening research potential at Azerbaijani higher education institutions, forming a network of institutional repositories, and implementing modern digital solutions in the management of academic activities.





























