













“Every civilization produces its own technology and every technology its own culture and value”

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Speaking at the TÜBA Prizes Ceremony, President Erdoğan said: “We should keep in mind that every civilization produces its own technology and every technology its own culture and value. Our ancestors constructed mosques with the aim of building the finest houses of prayer. And the techniques and technologies, employed in the construction of those mosques, reflect our civilization. Similarly, inns, caravansaries, bridges on trade routes are heritages of our civilization. If you do not produce your own technology and science, you cannot be determinative of its culture and value.”



President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan delivered a speech at an awards ceremony, held by the Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) under the auspices of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey.

Also attending the ceremony were Deputy Prime Ministers Nurettin Canikli and Tuğrul Türkeş, Chief of General Staff Gen. Hulusi Akar, President of the Constitutional Court Zühtü Arslan, President of the Council of State

Zerrin Güngör, Minister of Science Industry and Technology Faruk Özlü, Minister of Economy Nihat Zeybekci, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Livestock Faruk Çelik, Minister of Development Lütfi Elvan, Minister of Health Recep Akdağ, President of the Council of Higher Education Yekta Saraç, academics and guests.

AWARDED SCIENTISTS

Prof. Şerif Mardin of Istanbul Şehir University was awarded the TÜBA Academy Prize in the category of Social Sciences and Humanities, Prof. Mary-Claire King of University of Washington in the category of Health and Life Sciences and Prof. Omar Yaghi of University of California, Berkeley in the category of Basic and Engineering Sciences. "On behalf of my country and my nation, I congratulate our Professors over their contributions to science and humanity," President Erdoğan said.

"31 scientists from various fields have been awarded as part of the Young Scientists Awards program. 2 scientists have been awarded in the categories of engineering and social sciences as part of the Best Authored and Translated Books Awards program. 4 scientists have been granted the Remarkable Work Award," President Erdoğan noted.

"JUST LIKE ALL ELSE, SCIENCE IS FOR THE PEOPLE"

"We have made considerable progress in this process to build a new and great Turkey on a path enlightened by science. That is the reason why we, as the Presidency, take under our auspices projects and award ceremonies of TÜBA and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK). We are still far from our goals. We cannot say we fully have achieved our goals. However, given the outcomes we have achieved in the last 14 years, we see that we are on the right path. First, we will achieve our goals for 2023 and then, we will realize our goals for 2053 and 2071. Then and only then, we will have contributed to building a much nicer, fairer and safer world for both our country and our friends and the whole mankind," President Erdoğan said.

"Countries' and societies' understanding of security has changed radically. In the past, the concept of security was perceived as protecting merely the borders and interests. Now, it has expanded to include threats against all economic, social, cultural assets," President Erdoğan said.

"IF YOU DON'T PRODUCE YOUR OWN TECHNOLOGY AND SCIENCE, YOU CANNOT BE DETERMINATIVE OF ITS CULTURE AND VALUE"

"Measures taken by the military, judiciary and the police force are only the visible side of the security approaches. In order to complete the cycle of security, a struggle must be put up in a vast area ranging from science to arts, education to sports, investments to media," the President underscored.

"In order to succeed in this struggle, we have to be present and lead in all areas," President Erdoğan said, and added: "We should keep in mind that every civilization produces its own technology and every technology its own culture and value. Our ancestors constructed mosques with the aim of building the finest houses of prayer. And the techniques and technologies, employed in the construction of those mosques, reflect our civilization. Similarly, inns, caravansaries, bridges on trade routes are heritages of our civilization. If you do not produce your own technology and science, you cannot be determinative of its culture and value."

"RATIO OF R&D EXPENDITURE TO GDP HAS RISEN TO 1.06%"

"In the last 14 years, we have attached great importance to science, scientists and scientific work and made substantial progress," President Erdoğan said.

Underscoring that Turkey's R&D expenditure has exceeded \$20 billion in 2015 for the first time in its history, President Erdoğan said: "We have increased the ratio of R&D expenditure to GDP from 0.5% up to 1.06% in 14 years, but this is not enough. We will increase it up to 3%," adding that the number of personnel, working in R&D, has risen from 29 thousand to 122 thousand.