



Neslihan İNAL MD

President of Association for Türkiye Child and
Adolescent Psychiatry.

ESCAP 2031-Istanbul Proposal

HOST



- TACAP The Turkish Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (TACAP)

-We are candidated to operate ESCAP 2031 meeting in Istanbul with our 34 years of experience and 629 resident, 749 specialist and 281 faculty members as members of The Turkish Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

The 34th National Congress of the Turkish Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: A Scientific Milestone in Türkiye



By: Dr Hakan Ögütlü, Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Diseases, Specialist and Clinical Associate Professor, University College Dublin School of Medicine, Ireland.

The 34th National Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Disorders Congress, organized by the Turkish Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (TACAP), was successfully held with broad participation from April 29 to May 3, 2025, at the Pine Bay Holiday Resort Hotel in Kuşadası, Aydın, Türkiye. The event, themed "Protecting Children and Youth in a Changing World," was spearheaded by the Association's President, Prof. Dr. Neslihan İnal, who

iacapap.org

World Infant, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Day (WICAMHD) 2025

Theme: Bridging Worlds: Mental Health Support for Displaced Children and Families

This theme underscores the importance of comprehensively understanding and addressing the mental health challenges encountered by displaced children and families as a result of crises, while simultaneously promoting inclusion and fostering understanding between displaced individuals and host communities.

Activity

WICAMHD 2025 Symposium

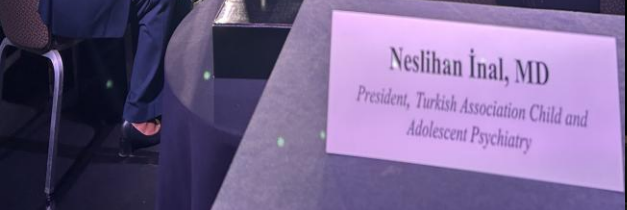
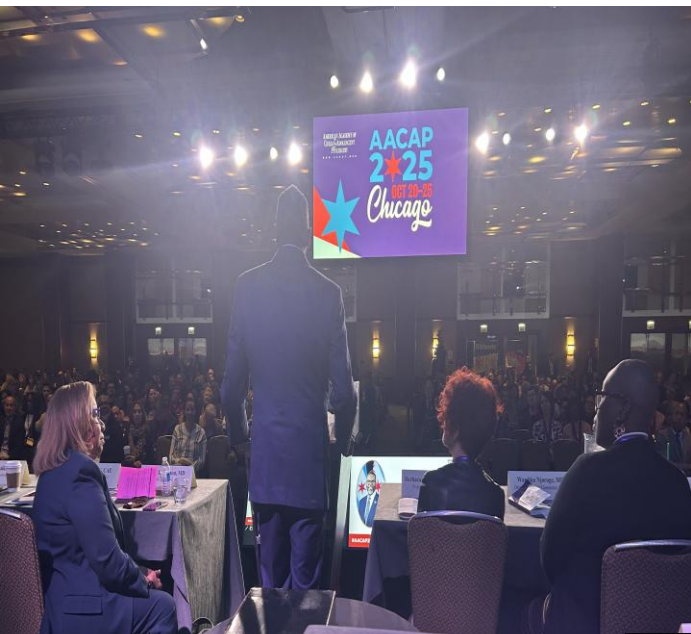
23 April 2022 is declared as World Infant, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Day (WICAMHD) by 4 organisations:

34. Ulusal Çocuk ve Ergen Ruh Sağlığı ve Hastalıkları Kongresi



UEMS-CAP MEETING IZMIR OCTOBER-2025





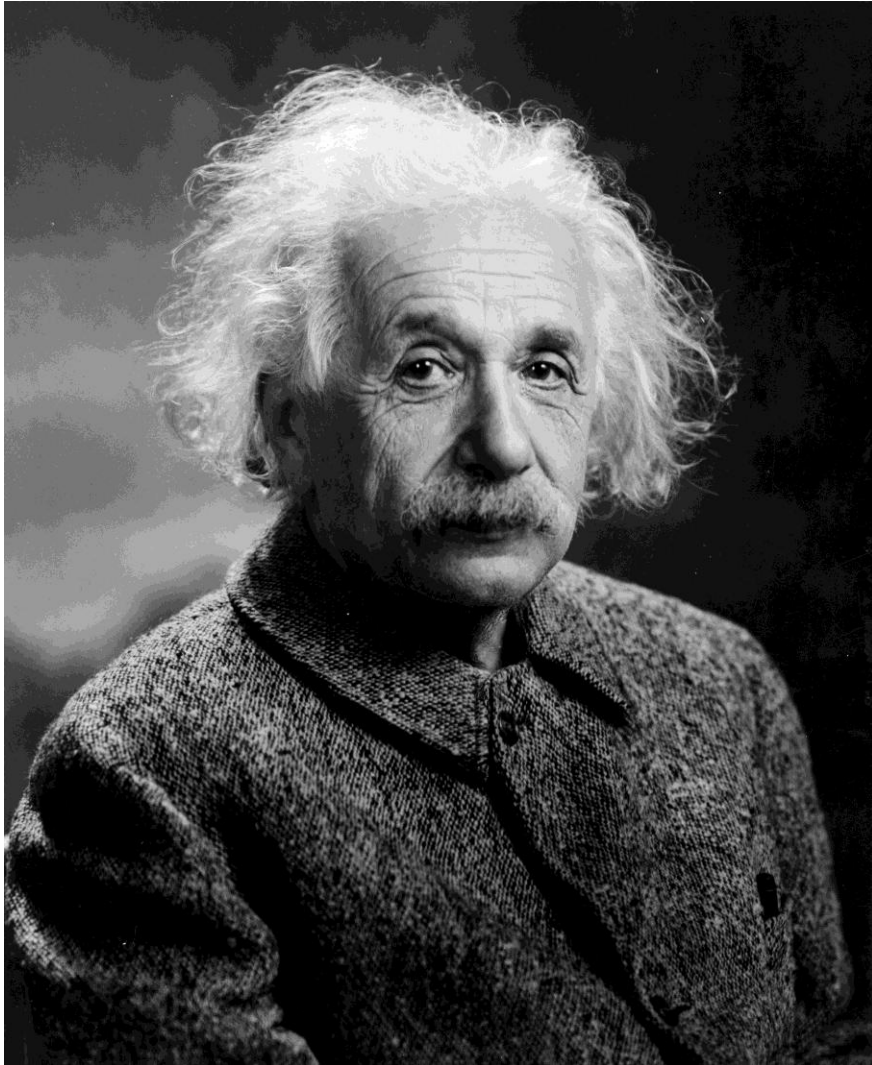
ICCA Ranking Trends of Istanbul (2018–2023)

Year	World Rank	Europe Rank	No. of Meetings	Source
2018	14th	7th	123	ICCA Report 2019
2019	17th	9th	109	ICCA Report 2020
2020	—	—	—	ICCA Report 2021
2021	13th	8th	72	ICCA Report 2022
2022	15th	9th	101	ICCA Report 2023
2023	16th	9th	117	ICCA Report 2024

“Istanbul has remained consistently within the Top 10 congress cities in Europe and shows a post-pandemic growth trend (+15% increase in 2023).”

Visa Policy Overview

- Many European Union and Schengen Area citizens can enter Türkiye without a visa for short stays (usually up to 90 days within a 180-day period).
- Citizens of countries that require a visa can easily apply for an e-Visa (Electronic Visa) through the official government portal: www.evisa.gov.tr. The e-Visa application typically takes a few minutes to complete and approval is usually granted within 24 hours.
- Türkiye is one of the most visited destinations in the world, hosting over **17 million international visitors annually (UNWTO, 2024)**. The country provides a **safe, welcoming, and hospitable environment** for international guests, supported by strong infrastructure and extensive international flight connections.



«What a sad era when it is easier
to smash an atom than a bias»

Albert Einstein

Institutional Bias

- Institutional bias involves discriminatory practices that occur at the institutional level of analysis, operating on mechanisms that go beyond individual-level prejudice and discrimination. If not interrupted, Institutional bias perpetuates the disparities in advantages that some groups have over others.

Henry, P. J. (2010). Institutional Bias. In J. F. Dovidio, M. Hewstone, P. Glick, & V. M. Esses (Eds.), *The Sage Handbook of Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination* (pp. 426–440). Retrieved from <https://agep-nc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Henry-chapter-institutiona-bias-2010.pdf>

The Harmful Impact of Discrimination and Prejudice in International Professional Organizations

In any international professional organization, unity and mutual respect form the foundation of effective collaboration. When prejudice or discrimination based on nationality or cultural background occurs, it undermines these principles and causes lasting harm — not only to individuals, but also to the organization's integrity and credibility.

- As the Turkish community within ESCAP, we find it difficult to understand the rationale behind seeking a “neutral host country.”

TACAP is a fully apolitical professional organization — and indeed, professional associations must remain apolitical by their very nature and ethical obligation.

- First, politicization can undermine trust. Members and the public may begin to question the organization's impartiality and fairness, which can damage its reputation and weaken its influence in professional and social spheres.

- Second, it can lead to internal divisions among members who hold differing political views. Instead of focusing on professional development and advocacy, energy may be diverted to political conflicts, reducing unity and effectiveness.

- Third, political involvement can jeopardize the organization's ability to collaborate with other institutions, both nationally and internationally, especially in environments that value neutrality and objectivity.

OUR FINAL WORD

- For over 35 years, TACAP has organized national congresses regularly and represents a well-established institution with more than 1,500 members and a strong international presence. Istanbul, as a city bridging East and West, provides a symbolic and accessible venue. **Turkiye, applying for the first time to host an ESCAP Congress, is in a position to strengthen ESCAP's influence, outreach, and inclusivity.**
- **To exclude Türkiye for political considerations alone would not only be unfair but also a significant loss for ESCAP's mission and values.**

OUR FINAL WORD

- For all these reasons, we sincerely appeal to your sense of fairness, understanding, and support, trusting that this matter will be reconsidered in light of ESCAP's commitment to democratic principles, diversity, and inclusion.