

Research Article

An investigation on the institutional structures for the employment of gifted youth in Turkiye

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Abstract

It is seen that the studies and researches that have been carried out only on the axis of education of gifted youth have focused on improving their entrepreneurial skills and providing employment after the pandemic. Along with the pandemic, there is a change in the career preferences of gifted youth. So, how is this situation supported on the basis of countries? How are institutions structured? It is aimed in this research to examine the answer to the question on the axis of Turkiye. In this study, in which descriptive scanning model and document analysis method were applied, institutions and organizations that support the employment of gifted youth on the basis of the state and private sector were determined and it was determined in what way they provided support. It is recommended that this research be a pioneer for future studies on the employment of gifted youth, and that more research should be conducted on issues such as employment of gifted youth, career choice, and entrepreneurship.

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Introduction

Especially during the pandemic period, with the interruption in many areas, it is seen that the economy gains second place after the health field, which is given the most importance by the society. Some changes have occurred when gifted youth prefer high-paying money and prestige, and occupations (such as medicine and engineering). In a study, it was determined that the most preferred profession was doctor (Ozcan, 2017). It is now seen that many gifted young people in the field of economics have started to make career choices. The role of digital media is also important in the career choice of gifted youth, and there are increasing estimates that its influence will increase (Kara, 2019). Gifted researchers, who focus only on the education of gifted youth, often complain that the educational needs of these children are not met. The pandemic has shown educators that it is necessary to focus on the sustainability of education. In the sustainability of education, it has been seen that the concept of "school" has changed and talented youth can meet their educational needs from many online environments. In this process, a free using of the Renzulli Learning platform (renzullilearning.com, 2023) was made for gifted children. In addition, it has been observed that online learning platforms such as Mensa (mensa.org, 2023) that provide international support education for gifted students are effective. Along with the crisis in the global markets during the pandemic process, many online trainings on topics such as economic literacy, trading, technical analysis have been opened on platforms such as youtube. In technical analysis,

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the ability to perform technical analysis has come to the fore, especially with the interest of young people in virtual currency exchanges such as bitcoin.

Today, it has come to a period when entrepreneurship education and entrepreneurship skills development trainings will be more popular than gifted youth education programs and creativity development programs (Tortop, 2023). Teachers have opinions about determining out-of-school environments in the development of entrepreneurial skills and providing this training in these areas (Karaduman and Kavan, 2022). In this respect, countries need to create resources, opportunities and opportunities that will provide employment for gifted youth. This research aims to examine the studies on the employment of gifted youth in Turkey.

Method

In this study, descriptive survey model was used as research model. Institutions and organizations, supports and scholarships created by the private sector and the state for the employment of gifted youth will be examined. In this respect, structures such as the technoparks of universities and the support given by the state for small businesses will be examined.

Results

First of all, the supports provided in secondary and high school periods in order to encourage gifted youth in the field of entrepreneurship will be examined, and then university-level incentives and supports will be discussed.

Incentives and supports provided to gifted youth in secondary and high school periods in Türkiye

Middle school term project competitions

“This is my work project competition” is held every academic year so that students can make scientific research projects, reveal their own products and obtain patents during the secondary school period. This project competition is supported by the The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK). However, this project competition has changed its name in recent years. This competition does not contribute to the students' transition points to higher education. However, it is seen that some problems arise in this competition due to the increasing popularity of schools and the motivation of students and families. Tortop (2013) made a detailed research on this subject and revealed the problems that deviated from the aims of the competition. In this competition, with the support of TUBITAK, students are provided with information about the patent processes related to their projects and awareness is created. However, this awareness cannot be said to be at a high level.

High school project competitions

In this project competition organized by TUBITAK, the number of competition areas was increased. Project competitions are also held in the field of writing, which has now become an important talent field. This project competition is a prestigious competition and it affects the future careers of students. However, it is not possible to fully say that there is widespread awareness in parts such as the patenting processes of the produced project.

University level incentives and supports

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK)

TUBITAK is the country's most prestigious institution in the development and support of scientific and technological innovations under the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey. It introduces itself on its website as follows;

TUBITAK, which adopts the vision of being an innovative, guiding, participatory and sharing institution in the fields of science and technology, serving to increase the quality of life of our society and the sustainable development of our country, supports academic and industrial research and development studies and innovations, and conducts Research-Technology-Development studies in line with national priorities. In addition to its functions of operating the D institutes, it determines the Science and Technology policies of our country and publishes books and magazines to increase this awareness in all segments of society. The domestic

and international academic activities of scientists are supported and encouraged with scholarships and awards, and it is aimed to increase the competitiveness of our country by funding the projects of our universities, public institutions and industry (tubitak.gov.tr, 2023)

In line with its goals and objectives, TUBITAK provides support for gifted youth to develop themselves and to provide employment. These supports are in the form of national and international scholarships, project incentives, R&D supports.

Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB)

KOSGEB is a public institution established to increase the role and efficiency of small and medium-sized enterprises in the economy, to increase their competitiveness and to realize industrial integration in accordance with economic developments (KOSGEB, 2023). This institution is an institution under the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey and has a structure in all provinces. It supports entrepreneurs in many fields such as entrepreneurship, research and development, business development, growth and internationalization, financing, technology centers, guidance and consultancy services, rapid support for micro and small businesses. In addition, it also makes domestic fair announcements and international commercial trip announcements. It can be said that KOSGEB is a very important institution for gifted youth to establish and develop their own businesses and to provide employment.

Development Agencies in Türkiye

These agencies are also affiliated to the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey. There are 26 development agencies operating in Turkey. The objectives of these agencies are expressed as follows.

As development agencies, we aim to mobilize local development dynamics in our country, to use regional resources and potentials in the best way, to ensure that development covers the whole country in a more balanced and total manner, and to ensure that our citizens' access to opportunities is as equal as possible (ka.gov.tr, 2023)

These agencies provide support for the development of human capital and promotion of social entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship fields can be supported by these development agencies for gifted youth.

Technology Development Zones (Teknopark)

These formations are organizations under the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey. It is defined as;

Technology Development Zone; They are academic, social and cultural sites established to enable entrepreneurs, researchers and academicians who want to produce new or advanced technology goods and services to carry out their industrial and commercial activities near or near universities and to benefit from these universities. (teknopark.sanayi.gov.tr, 2023)

Among the aims of this organization; "Creating job opportunities for researchers and skilled people" is also included. Especially on the campuses of universities, there are these formations called "Technopark". In these technoparks, university students as well as academics at the university can establish their companies. These institutions, which provide opportunities and support for academicians to commercialize the innovation they have developed, are found in the majority of foundation and state universities.

Conclusion

The new agenda of gifted youth is now entrepreneurship and employment. Because the classical goals of the gifted youth, such as being a doctor, were replaced by more money-making and prestigious areas after the pandemic. They are supported by the state and private sector to establish their own companies, receive scholarships, incentives and patents. Turkey is among the developing countries and is among the top 20 economies of the world. There are support education institutions for the education of gifted youth. However, although they have very important institutions regarding the opportunities for employment and support of gifted youth, it cannot be said that teachers and families are very aware of

this issue. In this research, the relevant institutions were examined and a pioneering role was assumed for future research on the employment of gifted youth. In future studies, it is recommended to carry out researches such as awareness and consciousness about these institutions, studies and practices for their effective use.

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