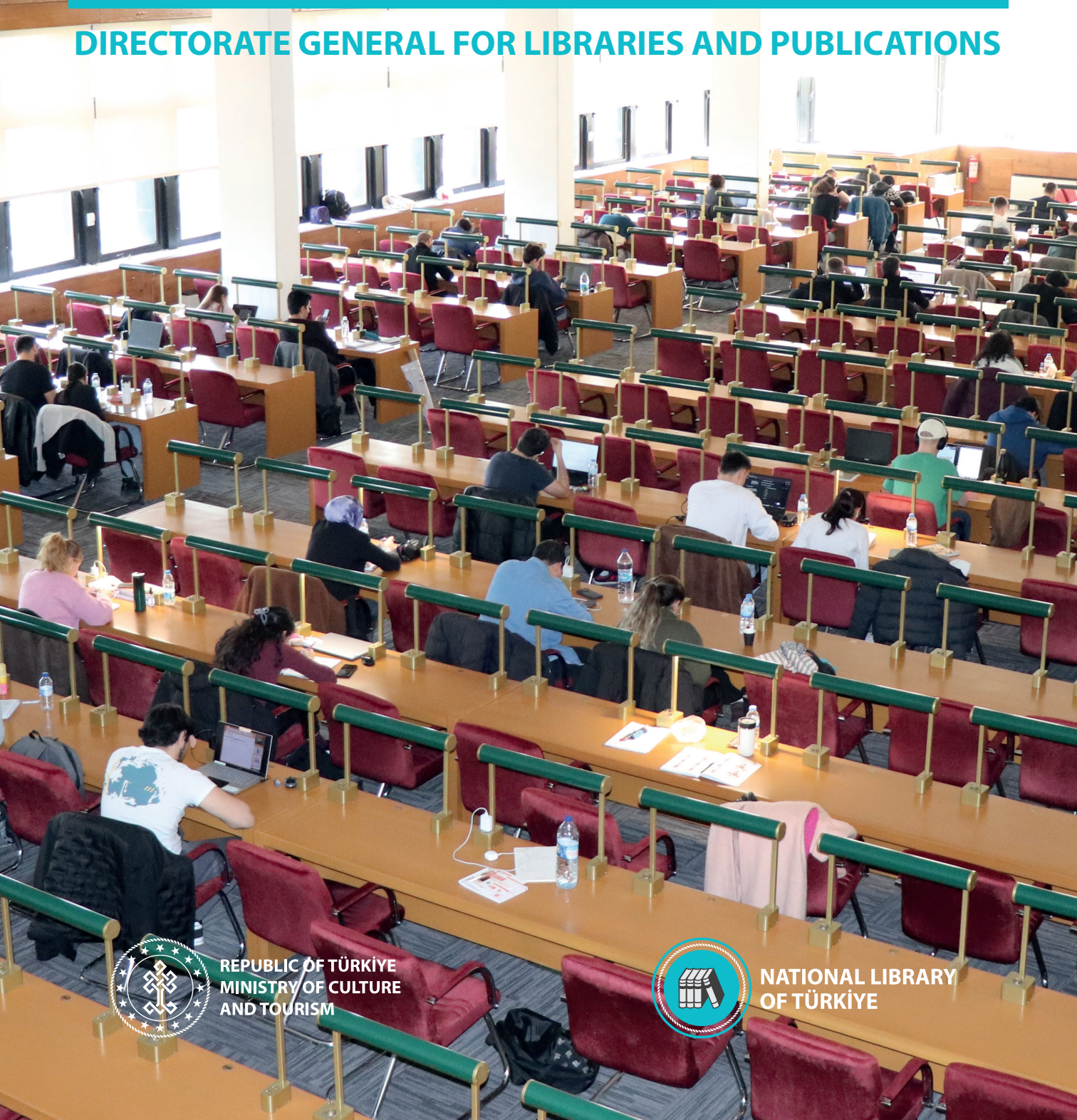


THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF TÜRKİYE ANNUAL REPORT 2025

DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR LIBRARIES AND PUBLICATIONS



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
AND TOURISM



NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF TÜRKİYE



THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF TÜRKİYE ANNUAL REPORT 2025

**DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR
LIBRARIES AND PUBLICATIONS**



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
AND TOURISM



NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF TÜRKİYE

Contents



Foreword by the Director General for Libraries and Publications, 6



Directorate General for Libraries and Publications, 8



The National Library of Türkiye, 10 History of the National Library of Türkiye, 10 Collection of the National Library, 11 Library Services at the National Library, 14



Main Works and Projects Conducted by the National Library, 18 Safeguarding Türkiye's Published Heritage: Legal Deposit Works, 18 A Historic Record in Cataloguing: National Bibliographic Control System Project, 20 A Breakthrough in Digitization: Preserving Cultural Heritage for Future Generations, 22 Bringing the National Library to Every Province: The National Digital Library Project, 23 Expanding Access for Visually Impaired Users: The Talking Library, 25 Millions of Digital Resources at Researchers' Fingertips, 27 Completing the National Memory: Müferrika Project, 28 Shaping the Future of Libraries: The AI based Smart Library Project, 28 Kâşif: The Digital Backbone of Library Services, 29 Transforming Access to the Turkish National Bibliography, 30 National Library Treasures on Display Across Türkiye, 30 A Renewed National Library: Modernization

The National Library of Türkiye Annual Report 2025



and Accessibility Works, 32
International Works Conducted by the National Library, 34
Hosting the 7th Conference of Directors of Economic
Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member
States' National Libraries, Ankara, 35
89th IFLA World Library and Information
Congress (WLIC), Astana, 36
Visit to the National Archives of Kazakhstan
and the Kazakhstan
Academic Library, Astana, 37
Conference of Directors of National Libraries
(CDNL) 2025 Annual Meeting, 38
39th Annual General Meeting of the Conference of
European National Librarians (CENL), Edinburgh, 39
First International Conference on Cultural Heritage, Skopje, 40
Southeast European National Librarians
(SEENL) 2025 Annual General
Meeting, Skopje, 41
22nd Kosovo Library Week, Pristina, 42
Memorandum of Understanding Signed Between the National
Library of Türkiye and the National Library of Tajikistan, 43
Strengthening International Visibility and Cooperation , 45



Highlights of 2025, 46
Contact, 47

Foreword by the Director General for Libraries and Publications

Dear Colleagues,

National libraries are among the most important institutions that preserve a nation's cultural memory, transmit accumulated knowledge to future generations, and support scientific research. As the national bibliographic center of Türkiye, the National Library of Türkiye continues to contribute to the country's intellectual and cultural life through its rich collections, advanced research infrastructure, and digital services.

The year 2025 has been a productive period during which the National Library further expanded its collections, accelerated its digital transformation initiatives, and strengthened its international representation. Through legal deposit, acquisitions, donations, and exchange programs, the Library's collections continued to grow, while cataloguing and bibliographic activities improved researchers' access to information.

As part of ongoing efforts to preserve and transmit our cultural heritage to future generations, millions of pages were digitized throughout 2025, significantly facilitating access to information resources for researchers. Supported by electronic databases, digital library services, and locally developed software infrastructures, the National Library has successfully continued its technological transformation in line with the requirements of the digital age.

Through improvements in user services, more qualified and accessible services were provided to researchers. With its various reading and research halls, digital services, and cultural activities, the Library welcomed a large number of users throughout the year. In addition, within the scope of modernization and improvement works carried out in the National Library building, arrangements were made to enhance user comfort in reading halls, new research spaces equipped with advanced technological facilities were established to facilitate access to information for users and individuals with disabilities, and important steps were taken to further improve accessibility services.

The National Library also continued to play an active role in international cooperation activities. Representatives of the Library participated in meetings and conferences organized by international library organizations such as IFLA, CDNL, CENL, SEENL, and ECO, while cooperation with national libraries of various countries was further strengthened through joint initiatives promoting professional exchange and knowledge sharing. Within the framework of the 7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries, Directors



of National Libraries from ECO Member States were hosted in Türkiye in November 2025. These activities contributed to sharing Türkiye's experience in librarianship on international platforms and fostering new opportunities for cooperation.

In the coming period, the National Library will continue its efforts with determination in line with its mission to preserve our cultural heritage, facilitate access to information, and further develop digital transformation initiatives.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all colleagues who contributed to the preparation of this annual report, and express my gratitude to all institutions and stakeholders supporting the development of the National Library.

Taner BEYOĞLU
Director-General

Directorate General for Libraries and Publications

Together with the National Library of Türkiye, the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications provides library services throughout the country through a widespread network consisting of 1,355 libraries.

Figure 1. Libraries that serve under the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications

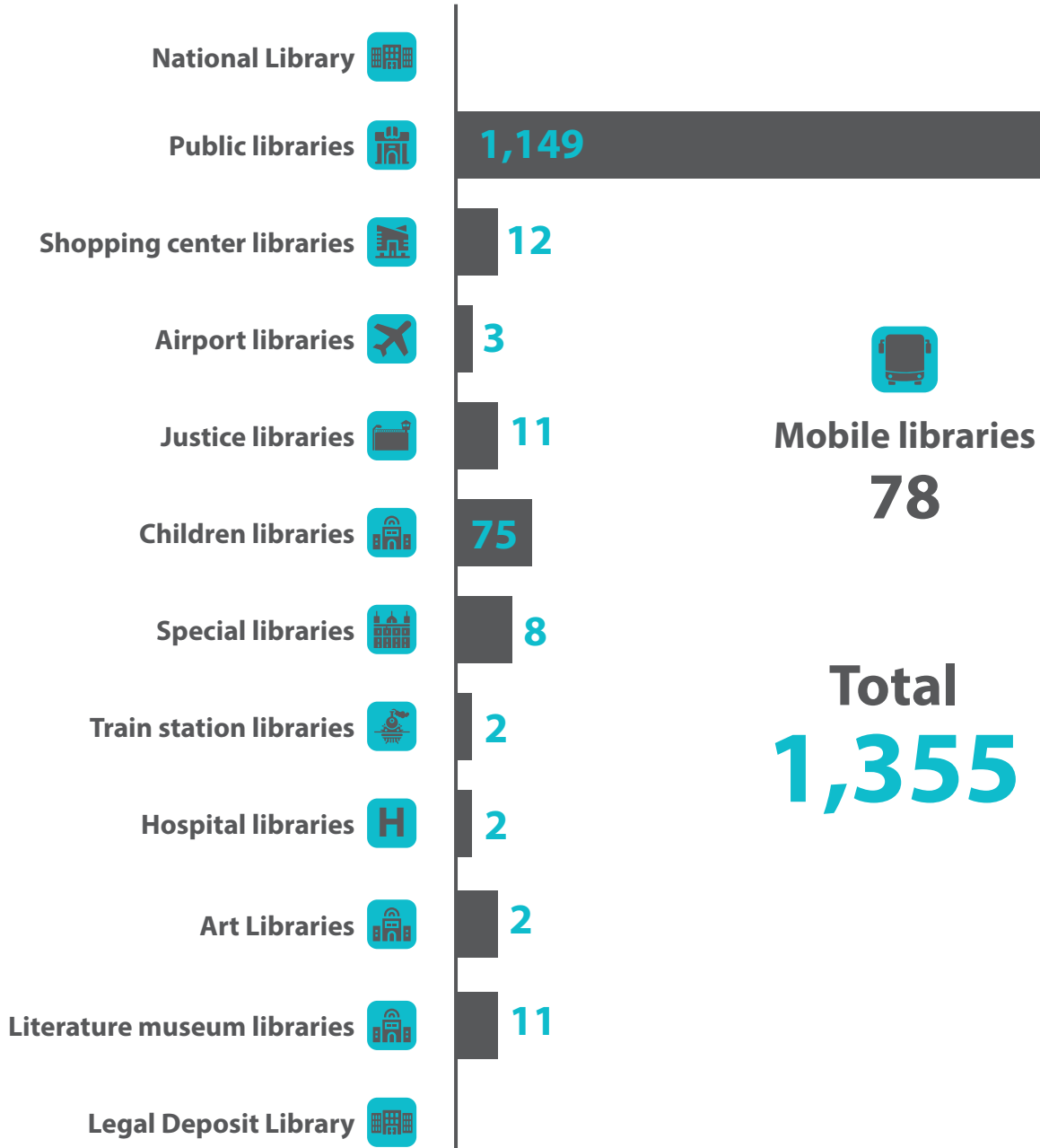


Figure 2. Reyhanlı County Public Library



The National Library of Türkiye

History of the National Library of Türkiye

The foundations of the National Library of Türkiye were laid on 15 April 1946 in Ankara under the leadership of Adnan Cahit Ötüken with the establishment of the “Preparatory Office for the National Library.” As the collections expanded rapidly, the Library was moved in 1948 to the building on Kumrular Street in Kızılay, which currently operates as the Adnan Ötüken Provincial Public Library.

The National Library attained its institutional status through Law No. 5632, enacted on 23 March 1950. Its scientific and professional structure was further strengthened by a supplementary law adopted in 1955. Within this framework, the establishment of the Bibliography Institute provided an institutional basis for bibliographic production and documentation activities.

In response to the growing collections and expanding service requirements, the construction of a modern library building was initiated. The new Library building, completed in 1982, was opened to users in 1983 in the Bahçelievler district of Ankara.

With the introduction of the Presidential Government System in 2018, the administrative structure was reorganized, and the National Library continued its works under the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications.

As the national bibliographic center of Türkiye, the National Library plays a significant role in preserving the country’s cultural heritage and facilitating access to information for researchers by collecting publications issued in Türkiye through the legal deposit system. With its rich collections and advanced research infrastructure, the National Library continues to serve as one of the country’s principal reference centers for scholarly research.



Figure 3. Building on Kumrular Street

Figure 4. Books on the shelves in the Library



Collection of the National Library

The National Library of Türkiye aims to preserve and transmit to future generations materials related to Turkish culture, art, history, literature, and architecture, as well as works representing the country's visual and auditory cultural heritage. Within this framework, efforts are carried out to enrich the Library's collections through the acquisition of rare and unique materials held by antiquarian booksellers, collectors, and private archives.

Through these activities, the collections of the National Library continue to expand with original materials reflecting Türkiye's cultural and historical heritage.

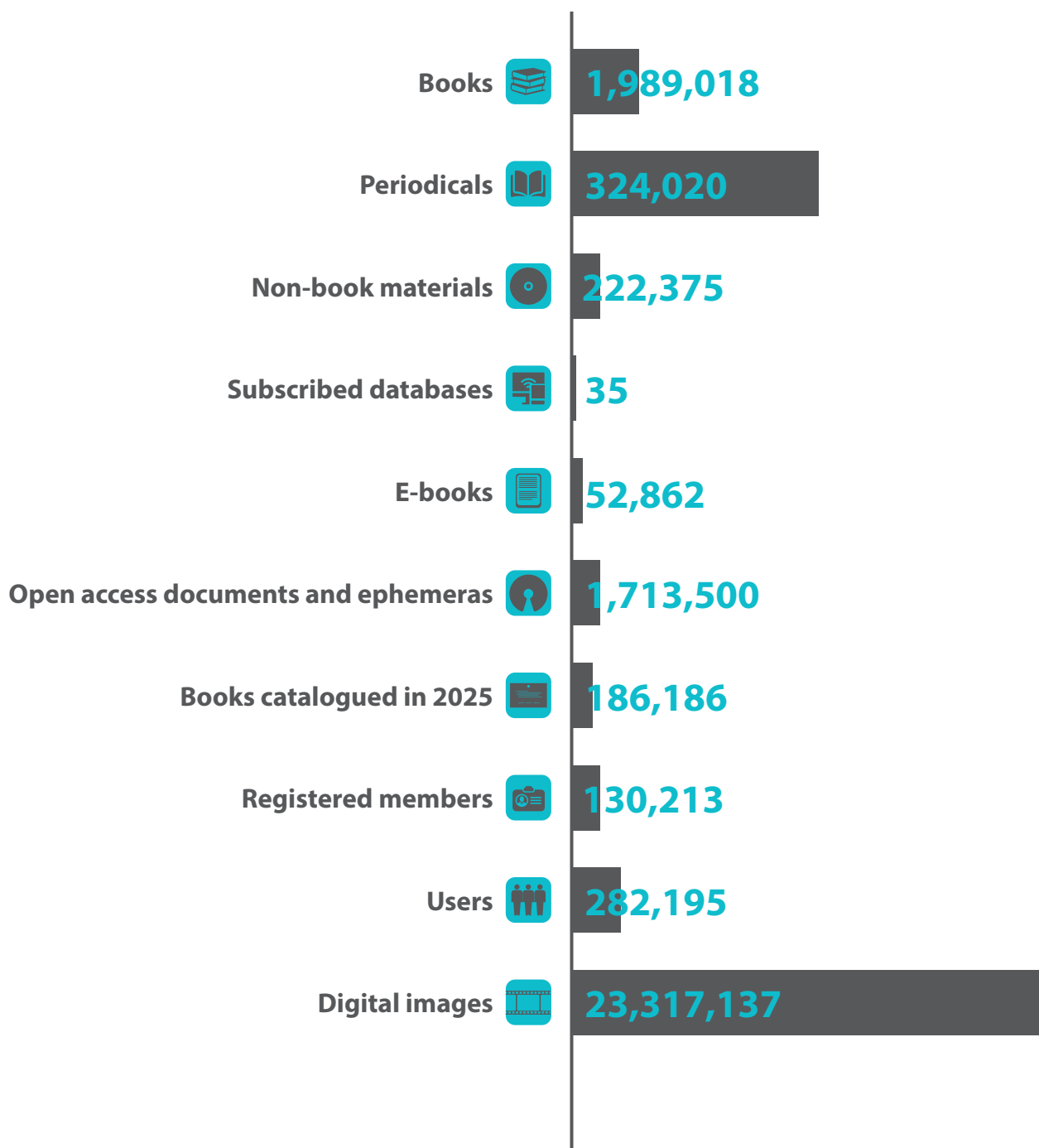
The National Library of Türkiye provides services to its users with a collection comprising 1,989,018 printed books, 52,862 e-books, 324,020 bound periodicals, 222,375 non-book materials, 1,713,500 ephemeral materials, and 23,317,137 digitized images.

These figures demonstrate that the collections of the National Library continue to grow not only in terms of printed publications, but also through a wide variety of materials reflecting Türkiye's cultural heritage.

Table 1. Materials in the National Library collection (2021-2025)

Material type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Book	1,545,352	1,632,589	1,689,166	1,827,921	1,989,018
Periodical (in volumes)	293,799	302,043	310,472	313,859	324,020
Periodical (in types)	45,285	49,483	55,104	55,544	56,171
Banner	31,033	31,069	31,146	31,233	31,372
Brochure	12,341	12,387	12,532	12,570	12,621
Digital recording (Movie, CD/DVD)	5,715	5,802	6,021	6,032	6,088
Digital recording (Graphics, CD/DVD)	7,596	7,652	7,795	8,080	8,176
Digital recording (Music, CD/DVD)	7,206	7,266	7,282	7,379	7,379
Digital recording (Thesis CD/DVD)	16,927	17,597	18,453	18,884	19,424
Figure	444	444	444	444	444
Photo	13,545	15,385	18,485	19,513	20,479
Engraving	29	29	29	29	29
Map	6,762	6,768	6,785	6,831	6,879
Postcard	11,473	11,477	11,500	12,249	12,249
Training set	412	454	506	537	587
Sheet music	6,769	8,454	11,612	15,112	20,212
Plastic plaque	4,263	4,263	4,264	4,265	4,265
Stamp	2,994	2,994	2,994	2,994	2,994
Reproduction	3,890	3,891	3,894	3,897	3,899
Table	618	619	619	619	630
Calendar	2,599	2,652	2,681	2,693	2,720
Stone plaque	6,203	6,203	6,203	6,203	6,203
Illumination	256	272	272	272	272
Printmaking	94	94	94	94	94
Document	154	154	246	294	351
Information card	1,599	1,799	1,812	2,012	2,127
Invitation	2,222	2,222	2,222	2,222	2,222
Diploma	38	38	38	38	38
Photo album	449	450	459	472	472
First day envelope	437	481	481	522	541
Lobby banner	11,848	11,848	11,848	11,848	11,848
Letter	487	487	525	525	525
National Lottery Ticket	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001	2,001
Money	155	167	167	168	168
Plan	284	284	285	285	285
Deed	80	80	80	80	80
Puzzle	75	100	110	125	131

Figure 5. General statistics of the National Library on collection, user and services



Library Services at the National Library

Throughout 2025, the National Library carried out a wide range of activities aimed at facilitating access to information, enhancing the quality of services provided, and ensuring that cultural heritage reaches diverse segments of society.

The Library serves a total of 130,213 registered members and 282,195 users annually. During the year, 65,510 new memberships were registered. The average number of users served per day was approximately 1,100.

Within the scope of collection services in 2025, the National Library responded to user requests for:

- 33,293 books submitted by 2,863 users,
- 24,983 periodicals submitted by 5,574 users, and
- 3,385 non-book materials submitted by 76 users.

Reference and consultation services related to the book collections were provided to 8,191 researchers through face-to-face communication, telephone, and e-mail. In addition, digital copies of 766 books were supplied through the remote document delivery service. Consultation services concerning rare works and special collections were also provided to a total of 396 researchers via face-to-face meetings, telephone, and e-mail.

A total of 3,069 materials acquired through purchase, donation, or transfer—including works in Arabic, Persian, and Ottoman Turkish, as well as periodicals, journals, sheet music, postcards, documents, letters, calligraphic works, imperial decrees, and similar materials—were identified, catalogued, and incorporated into the National Library collection.

As part of ongoing efforts to preserve, digitize, and improve access to manuscripts and rare works, bibliographic information for 16,911 manuscripts written in Arabic script available in the Digital Library was reviewed and corrected during 2025.

Approximately 28,000 manuscript volumes formerly held in the National Library collection and transferred to the Ankara Regional Directorate of the Presidency of the Manuscripts Institution of Türkiye in 2019 continued to be made accessible to researchers through the Digital Library system. Furthermore, through cooperation with the Juma Al Majid Center for Culture and Heritage in Qatar, approximately 8,000 manuscript volumes held in various libraries around the world remained available for scholarly use.

Within the framework of collection preservation activities, conservation and restoration work was carried out on 2,194 books and 7,304 periodicals in 2025. In addition, binding operations were completed for a total of 6,844 periodical volumes, consisting of 3,078 newspaper volumes and 3,766 journal volumes.

Figure 6. Before-and-after images of insect-damaged areas on a manuscript folio following conservation treatment

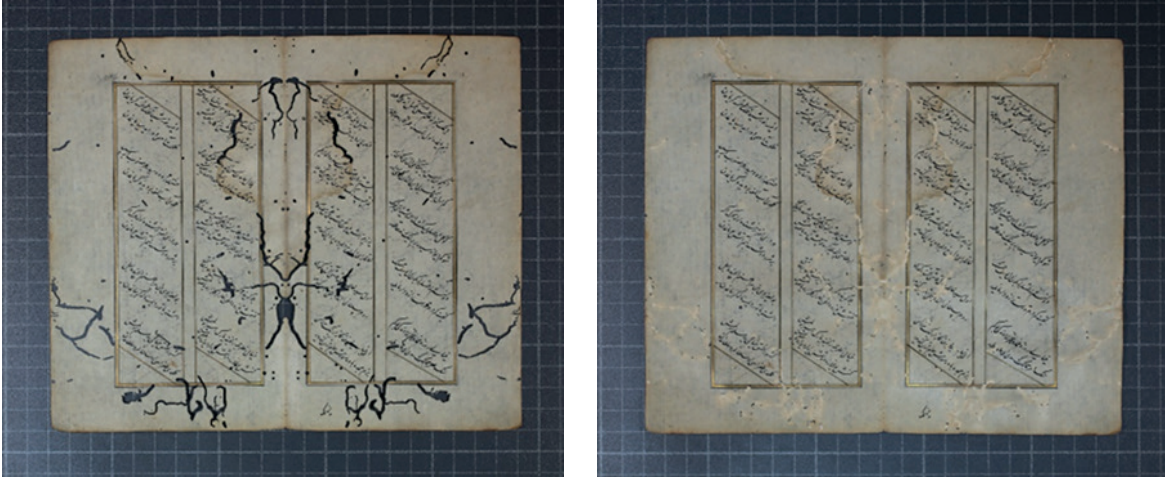
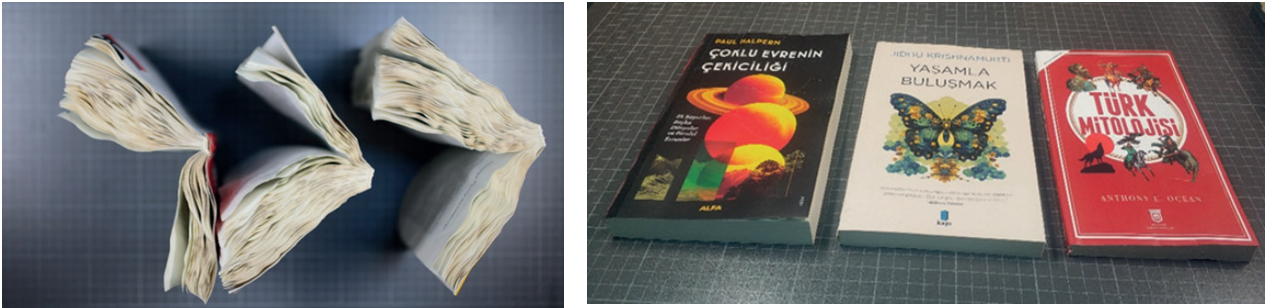


Figure 7. Before-and-after conservation images of water damage on books



Library services are provided to users in 10 reading and study halls with a total seating capacity of 1,686 persons in the National Library.

Table 2. User Reading and Research Halls at the National Library (2025)

Name of Hall	Capacity
Adnan Ötüken Reading Hall	422
Dr. Müjgan Cunbur Hall	444
Halide Edip Adivar Hall	144
Prof. Dr. Sebahattin Zaim Academics Hall	87
Ibn Sina Digital Hall	61
Conference Hall	338
Yunus Emre Conference Hall	98
National Library Digital Hall (Piri Reis)	49
Atatürk Documentation Center	8
Altınay Sernikli Periodicals Hall	35
Total	1,686



Figure 8. Adnan Ötüken Reading Hall

In addition to the services listed above, the National Library continued to serve as an important cultural center throughout 2025 by hosting cultural and academic events that brought together various institutions, academics, artists, and researchers.

Within this framework, 450 visit programs were organized during the year for schools and various institutions, while conferences, panels, talks, exhibitions, and performing arts events were held in the halls of the National Library.

The National Library continues to serve as a center that facilitates access to information through its user-oriented service approach while strengthening social interaction through cultural and academic activities.

Figure 9. Number of events held at the National Library in 2025



Main Works and Projects Conducted by the National Library

Safeguarding Türkiye's Published Heritage: Legal Deposit Works

A significant portion of printed materials published within the borders of Türkiye (including books, periodicals, films, posters, etc.) are collected under the framework of Legal Deposit Law No. 6279 through the Legal Deposit System integrated with the ISBN–ISSN system. The deposited copies are made available to researchers through the legal deposit libraries consisting of the National Library of Türkiye, the Presidential Nation's Library, İstanbul Beyazıt State Library, İzmir National Library, İstanbul University Library and Documentation Department, and the Library of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye.

In parallel with developments in electronic publishing, e-book legal deposit activities have also continued through the Electronic Legal Deposit System (EYDeS). The steady increase observed in the number of deposited e-books in recent years continued throughout 2025.

According to 2025 data, the total number of printed books (87,618) and e-books (31,929) received by the National Library through legal deposit reached 119,547. In addition, 381,700 issues of periodicals under 10,742 titles were deposited and incorporated into the collections of the National Library.

Figure 10. Number of printed books and e-Books received through Legal Deposit at the National Library (2021–2025)

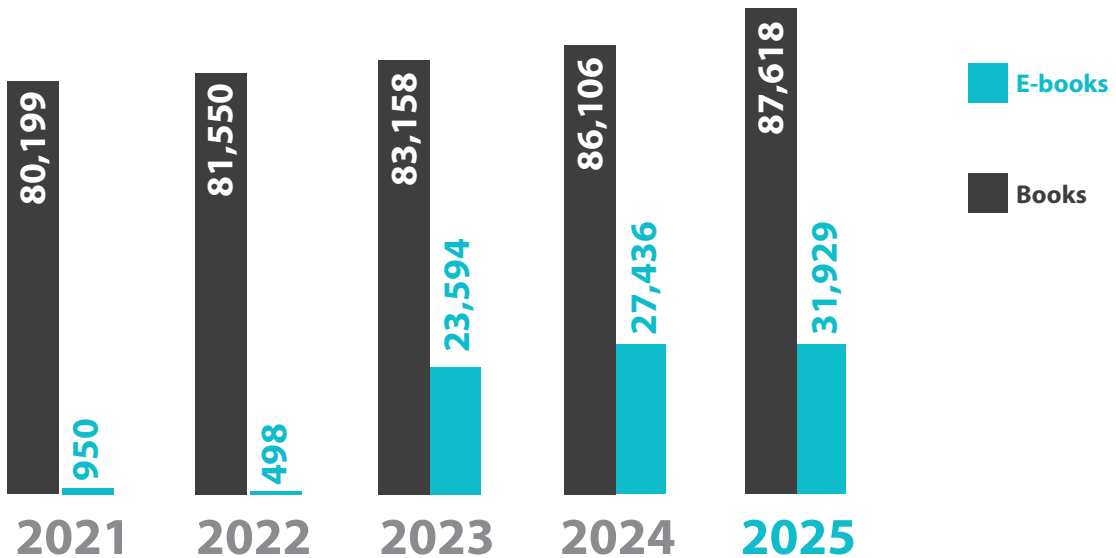
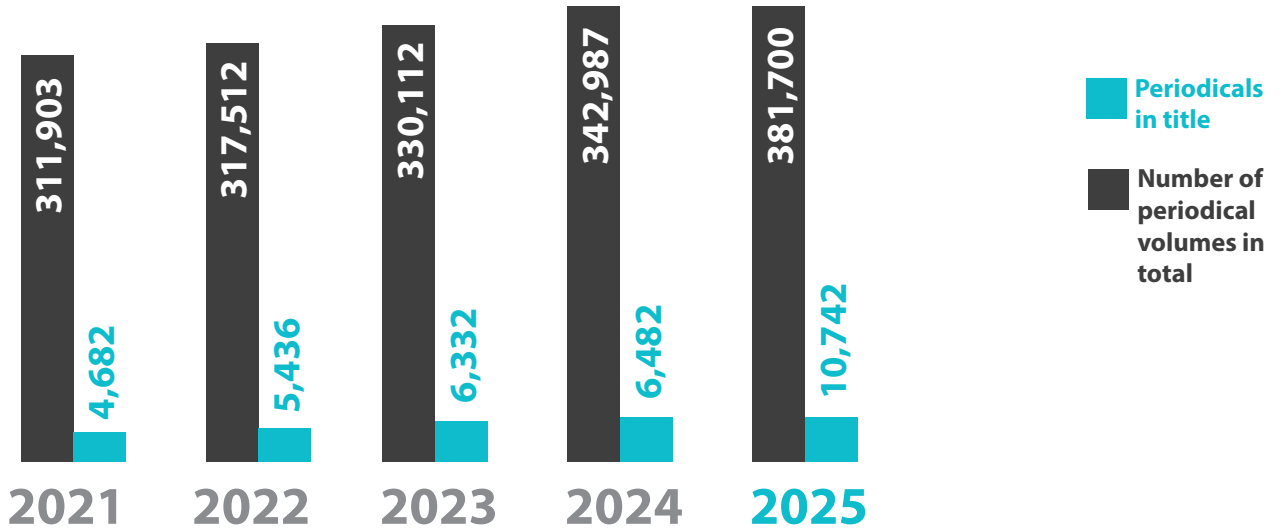


Figure 11. Periodicals in the archive of the National Library



Figure 12. Number of periodicals received through Legal Deposit at the National Library (2021–2025)



A Historic Record

A Historic Record in Cataloguing: National Bibliographic Control System Project

Launched in 2024 through cooperation between the National Library of Türkiye and Rami Library, the National Bibliographic Control System Project aims to catalogue printed and electronic publications received through legal deposit in accordance with international standards and make them accessible to researchers.

Within the scope of the project, integration was established between the two institutions through the Kâşif Library Automation System. Thanks to the infrastructure supporting multi-user access and remote connectivity, cataloguing processes were significantly accelerated.

Through the integrated system architecture developed within the project, bibliographic records of printed and electronic publications are presented in integration with digital library collections and databases, enabling researchers to access up-to-date and reliable information more efficiently. This approach makes an important contribution to establishing a more effective and sustainable national bibliographic control system in the digital age.

The activities carried out within the project have been expanded beyond printed publications to include digital publications received through the Electronic Legal Deposit System (EYDeS). In this context, the cataloguing of electronic publications began in 2025, and a significant volume of digital content was made accessible to researchers.

As a result of these efforts, 186,186 items were catalogued at the National Library in 2025, representing the highest annual cataloguing figure in the history of the Republic. In addition, the cataloguing processes of approximately 20,000 electronic publications received through the Electronic Legal Deposit System (EYDeS) were completed.

Figure 13. New record in cataloguing at the National Library in 2025

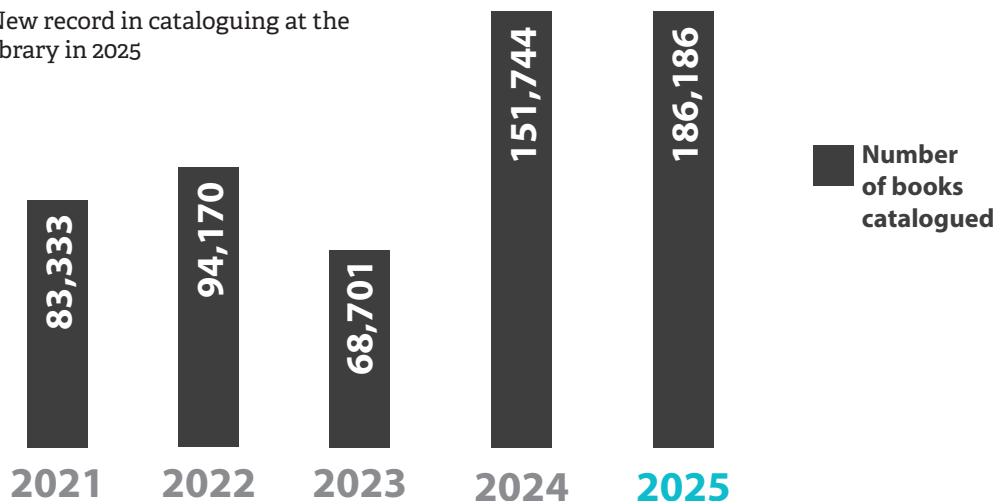


Figure 14. Cataloging Department



The project has contributed to the standardization of cataloguing processes, strengthened cooperation among libraries, and enabled the shared use of bibliographic data. Furthermore, the project has provided a practical training environment for young librarians involved in the process, thereby supporting their professional development.

Breakthrough

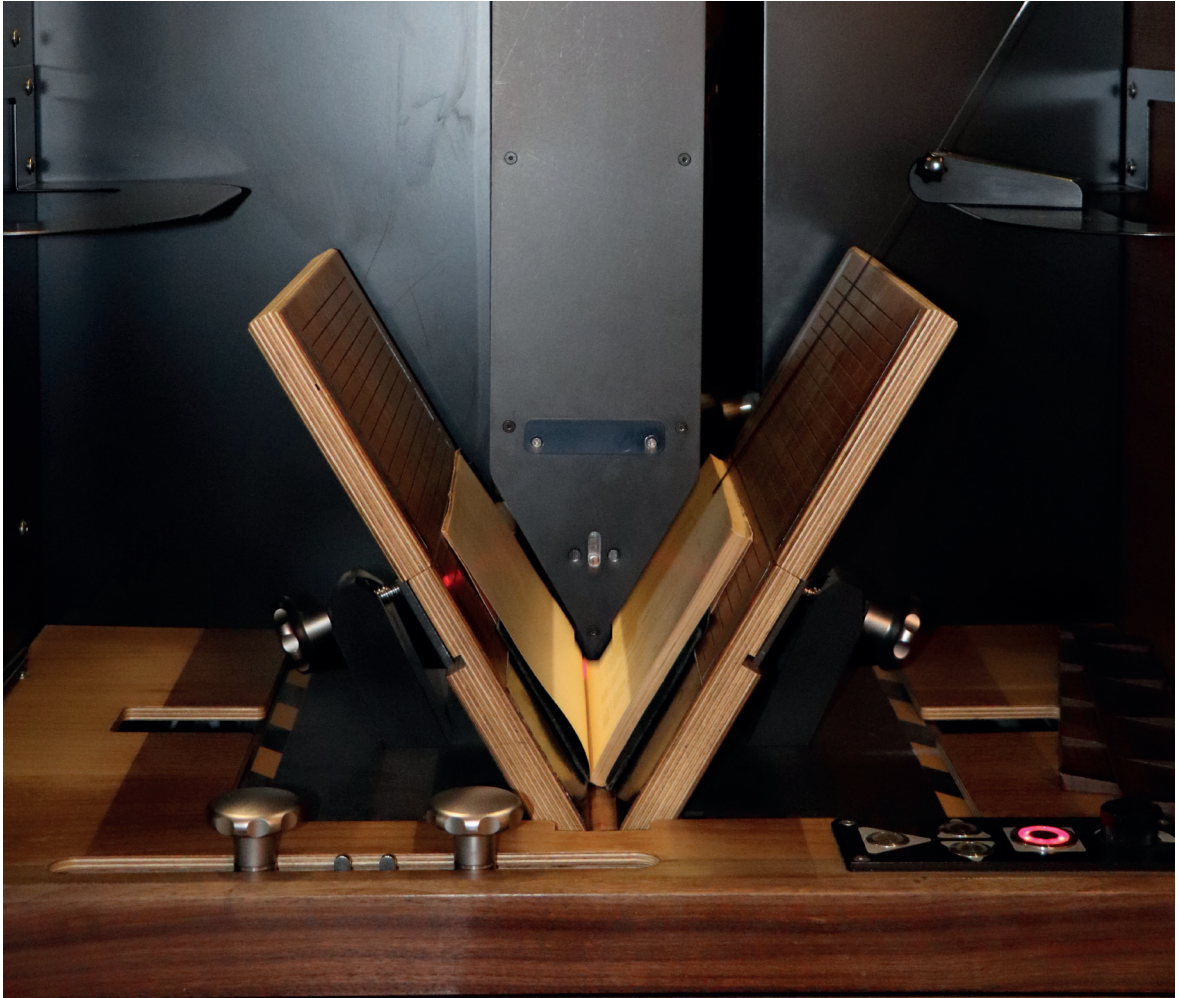
A Breakthrough in Digitization: Preserving Cultural Heritage for Future Generations

Digitization works are carried out to preserve periodicals, books, and non-book materials (such as posters, maps, and postcards) within the collections of the National Library, to transmit them to future generations, and to facilitate researchers' access to these materials.

Within this framework, a total of 2,132,697 images were digitized during 2025. Between 2014 and the end of 2025, a total of 23,317,137 images from the collections of the National Library were transferred into digital format.

Through its ongoing digitization activities, the National Library continues to build one of Türkiye's largest digital cultural heritage collections.

Figure 15. A scanner with other devices in the Digitalization Department



National Digital Library

Bringing the National Library to Every Province: The National Digital Library Project

Developments in information technologies have fundamentally transformed access to information in libraries and increased users' expectations for fast, easy, and location-independent access to knowledge. While developing its digital services, the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications adopts the principles of equal access, user-oriented service, and technological sustainability.

Within this framework, the National Digital Library Project aims to digitize books, periodicals, manuscripts, and non-book materials within the collections of the National Library and make them accessible throughout the country. While contributing to the preservation of cultural heritage, the project also enables researchers to access information resources quickly and efficiently.

Figure 16. National Digital Library Access Station in a public library

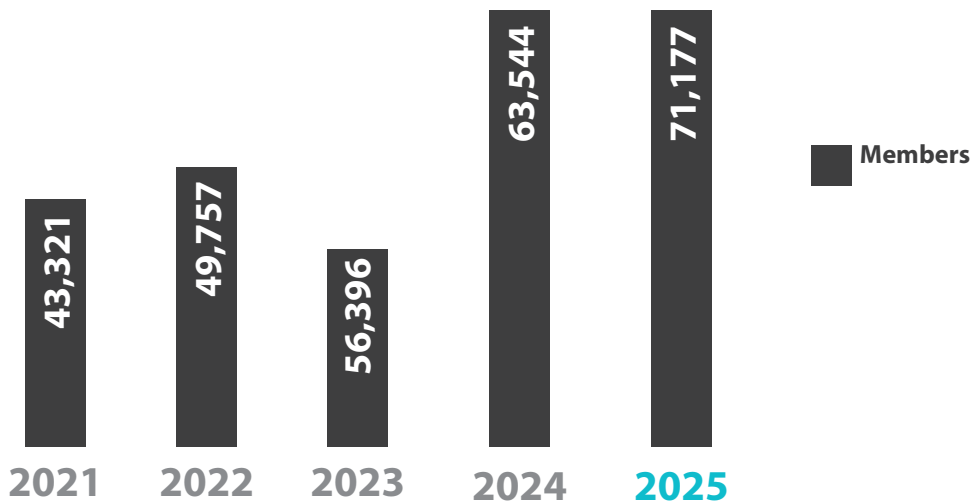


Through the digital platform and access infrastructure developed within the project, users are able to benefit from the collections through different access models depending on copyright status. Copyright-free materials are made available online, while secure access to copyrighted content is provided through dedicated systems.

As part of the National Digital Library Project, 100 digital access stations established across Türkiye stand out as an important initiative expanding library services nationwide. Through these access stations installed in public libraries in many provinces, users are able to access the collections of the National Library from their own cities.

Thanks to the digital access stations and the advanced system infrastructure developed within the project, access to information is extended beyond the limitations of physical spaces. In this way, the National Library continues to serve as a pioneering institution strengthening equal access to information in the digital age.

Figure 17. Number of members of the National Digital Library



Talking Library

Expanding Access for Visually Impaired Users: The Talking Library

The Talking Library Collection of the National Library provides services to visually impaired users through an audio library archive approaching 7,000 audiobooks. Audiobooks are accessible through the Library's website and mobile application.

The audiobooks are narrated by volunteers in a total of 24 recording studios located in 7 provinces, 11 of which are situated within the National Library.

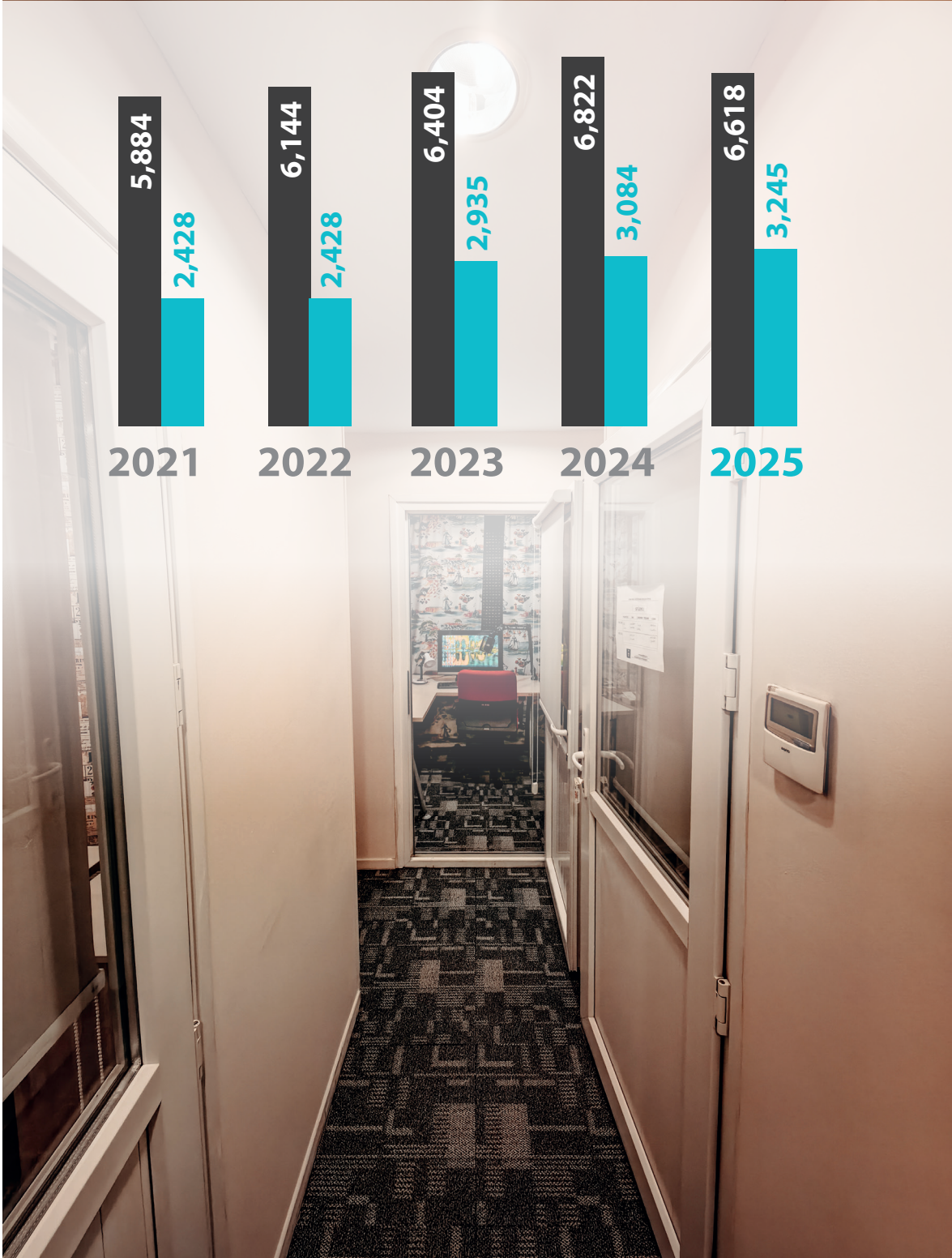
In addition, preparations for the AI-supported narration of works requested by visually impaired users have largely been completed, and the integration of newly narrated works into the collection is expected to begin soon.

The Talking Library service continues to serve as an important social responsibility initiative supporting equal access to information for visually impaired individuals.

Figure 18. The Talking Library studio



Figure 19. Number of members and the audiobooks of the Talking Library



Millions of Digital Resources

Millions of Digital Resources at Researchers' Fingertips

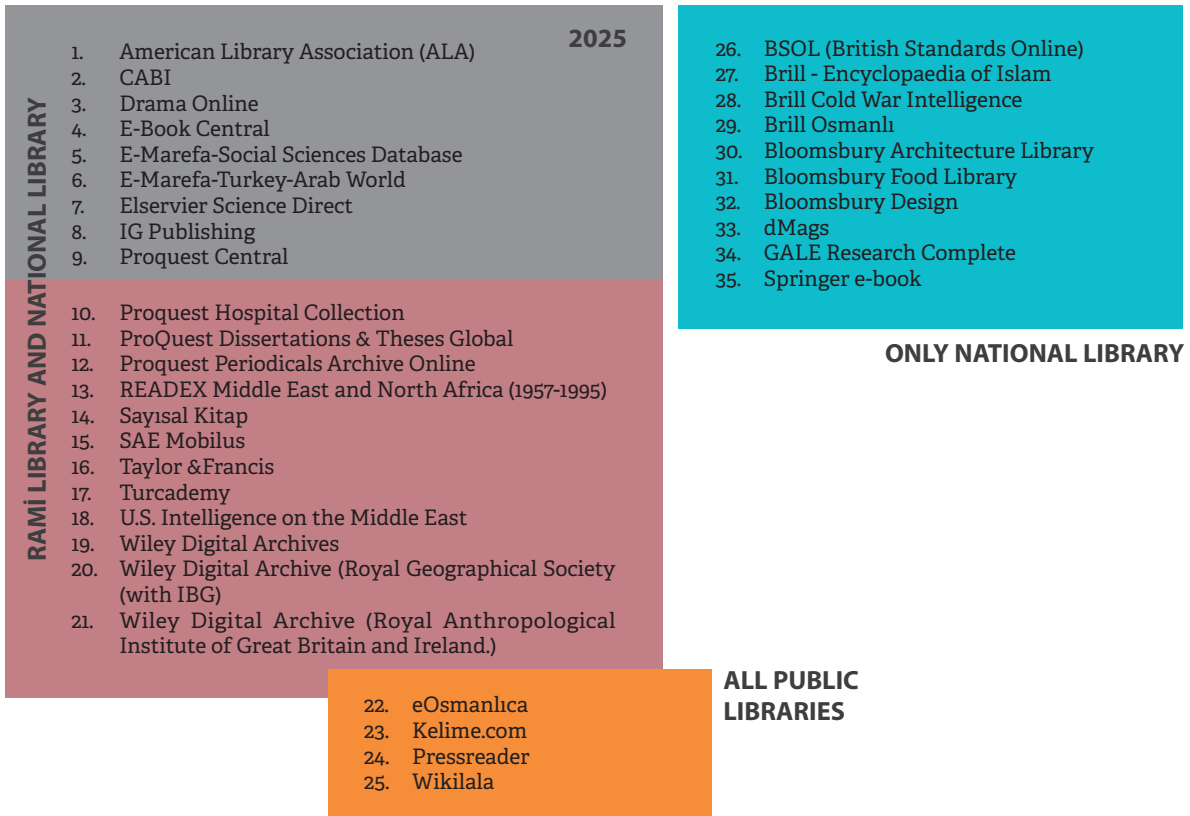
In line with the transformation in methods of access to information, the National Library began offering subscriptions to electronic databases in 2006, and the scope of these services has expanded significantly over time. Within this framework, hundreds of thousands of e-books, millions of digital documents, and numerous academic journal archives are made available to users through dozens of databases.

Thanks to remote access services provided within the framework of license agreements, researchers are able to access electronic resources independently of time and location using their usernames and passwords without requiring any additional technical configuration.

The National Library's approach to digital services is developed in line with the principles of accessibility and inclusiveness. Through these services, access to information for different user groups is facilitated, while digital technologies are utilized to transform library services into broader social benefit.

As of 2025, users of the National Library have remote access to 35 electronic databases. Within this scope, access is provided to 52,126 e-books, more than 1,713,000 digital documents, and journal archives covering over 800 different titles.

Figure 20. Selected databases accessible through the National Library and other libraries



Completing the National Memory

Completing the National Memory: The Müteferrika Project

Launched within the National Library in 2024, the Müteferrika Project aims to acquire publications identified as missing from the collections of the National Library and to digitize copyright-free works for public access.

Within the scope of the project, 11,983 books have so far been incorporated into the collections of the National Library. In 2025, based on publications issued since 1991, a total of 54,000 books were reviewed through the library automation system, and 1,110 works identified as missing from the legal deposit collections were acquired through purchase.

In addition, within the framework of the project, a total of 150,530 periodicals — consisting of 280 journals and 150,250 newspapers obtained from public libraries in 48 provinces — were incorporated into the collections of the National Library.

Shaping the Future of Libraries: The AI-Based Smart Library Project

Along with rapid developments in information technologies, libraries have entered a process of digital transformation in which access to information, guidance services, and user interaction have gained a new dimension. In particular, AI-based applications analyze user behavior and make library services more intuitive, personalized, and interactive. In line with this transformation, the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications continues to develop innovative projects.

Within this framework, the AI-Based Smart Library Project aims to provide integrated library services through a unified digital platform. Services such as borrowing and returning materials, catalogue searching, reservations, and event tracking are carried out more efficiently and through user-oriented AI-supported systems.

AI-supported voice assistants and kiosk systems developed within the scope of the project



Figure 21. AI-based chatbot station

enable users to access library services through a natural and user-friendly interaction model. The system continues to be improved in line with pilot implementations and user feedback carried out at Rami Library.

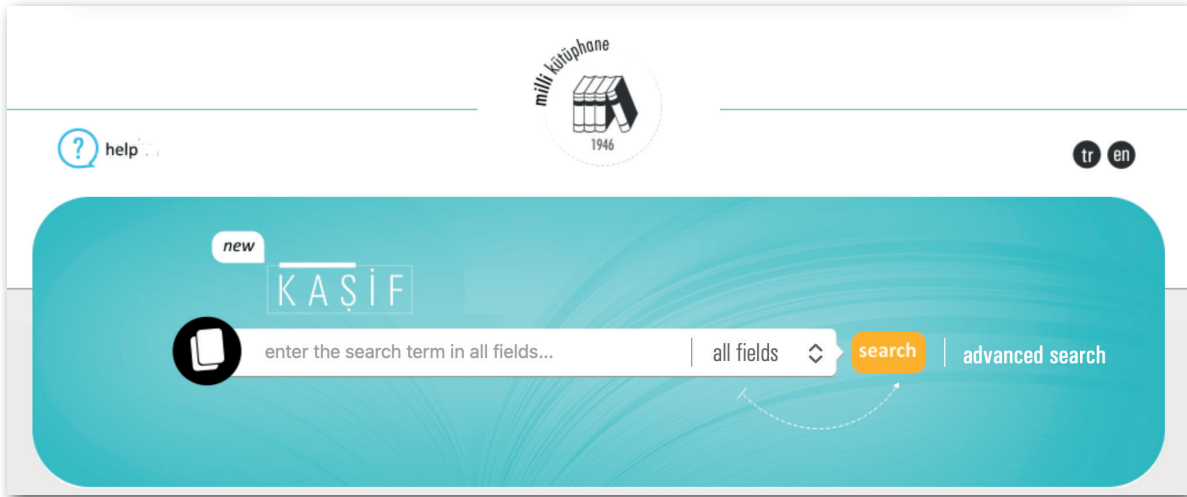
The model developed by the Directorate General reached the pilot implementation stage in 2025 and continues to be tested in different libraries. In addition, infrastructure works for the “Super App” project — which will integrate the e-Kitabım, e-Dergim, Etkin Kütüphanem, Kitap Artı, and Kitap Yolu applications — have been completed, and the testing phase has begun.

Kâşif: The Digital Backbone of Library Services

The Kâşif Library Automation System, a locally developed software solution created by the National Library, serves as the main technological infrastructure for the delivery of library services. Through the system, a single bibliographic record can be shared and used jointly by different library units, while users are able to perform online material searches, requests, and reservation transactions through the Discovery Tool.

The Kâşif system operates in integration with the Digital Information Management System, Digital Library, Electronic Legal Deposit System (EYDeS), Turkish National Bibliography, Bibliography of Articles, circulation and access control systems, as well as e-Government services. Throughout 2025, the database was regularly updated, and software development and improvement activities continued in line with user needs and feedback.

Figure 22. Kâşif Library Automation System



Turkish National Bibliography

Transforming Access to the Turkish National Bibliography

Developed in 2024, the Turkish National Bibliography System is a web-based application designed to ensure the systematic preparation of bibliographic records for publications issued in Türkiye and to provide researchers with online access to these records.

The system aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Turkish National Bibliography activities while reducing the time and workforce required for bibliographic preparation processes. Through the system, researchers are able to search Turkish National Bibliography records online by year.

The Turkish National Bibliography System makes a significant contribution to recording publications issued in Türkiye within the framework of national bibliographic control.

National Library Treasures on Display Across Türkiye

Within the scope of the 2025 Türkiye Culture Route Festival, a series of thematic exhibitions were organized in different cities to showcase rare works and archival materials from the collections of the National Library. These exhibitions aimed to increase the visibility of the National Library's collections and bring cultural heritage together with the wider public.

The exhibitions organized within the framework of the festival reflected the richness of the National Library's collections through different themes:

- **“From Literature to Yeşilçam” Exhibition (Nevşehir):** The exhibition explored the place of Turkish cinema in cultural memory and its relationship with literature. Through posters and literary works, the social and cultural dimensions of Yeşilçam cinema were presented to visitors.

Figure 23. “From Literature to Yeşilçam” Exhibition (Nevşehir)”



- **“Treasures of the National Library: Âşık Veysel” Exhibition (Ankara):** Through a selection of sheet music, photographs, gramophone records, and periodicals, the exhibition introduced visitors to the artistic world of Âşık Veysel and his place within Anatolian culture.

Figure 24. “Treasures of the National Library: Âşık Veysel” Exhibition (Ankara)



- **“Treasures of the National Library: Pierre Loti and İstanbul” Exhibition (İstanbul):** Through letters, newspaper articles, and visual materials, the exhibition examined Pierre Loti’s observations of İstanbul and his relationship with Turkish culture.

Figure 25. “Treasures of the National Library: Pierre Loti and İstanbul” Exhibition (İstanbul):



- **“Social Life and Family in the Şer’iyye Registers” Exhibition (Mardin):** The exhibition presented social life, family structure, and the legal system of the Ottoman period through historical judicial records.

Figure 26. “Social Life and Family in the Şer’iyye Registers” Exhibition (Mardin)”



- **“Anatolian Photography Studios” Exhibition (Malatya):** Through original photographs preserved in the collections of the National Library, the exhibition highlighted the development of photography in Anatolia and its role in social memory.

Through these exhibitions, the National Library stood out not only as an institution preserving its collections, but also as a cultural institution sharing them with society by creating spaces for cultural interaction in different cities. The activities organized within the framework of the Türkiye Culture Route Festival made an important contribution to the dissemination of cultural heritage and to increasing the public visibility of library services.

A Renewed National Library: Modernization and Accessibility Works

In response to the increasing number of users and evolving service requirements, the National Library building underwent a comprehensive renovation and modernization process in 2025. Within the scope of these works, both interior spaces and technical infrastructure were significantly improved.

Arrangements were made in the reading and research halls to enhance user comfort; flooring, electrical infrastructure, and lighting systems were renewed, and ergonomic desks and seating areas were installed. The halls were reorganized to provide a modern and user-friendly working environment. In addition, new digital working spaces were established and existing areas were improved in order to ensure the effective delivery of digital services.

Certain underutilized spaces within the Library were repurposed and transformed into working, meeting, and service areas. Within the framework of accessibility efforts, an Accessible Services Hall was established to ensure equal access to services for all users.

As part of the outdoor improvement works, garden areas were renovated, an automatic irrigation system was installed, and institutional outdoor usage areas were reorganized. Furthermore, unused technical spaces were converted to ensure more efficient use of available facilities.

One of the most significant components of the 2025 modernization works was the installation and modernization of fire detection and suppression systems. Developed in accordance with national and international standards, the new system significantly strengthened the building's early detection, guidance, and emergency response infrastructure, thereby considerably enhancing user safety.

For 2026, further works are planned, including the expansion of office spaces, improvement of working conditions in digitization units, renovation of foyer areas, and modernization of ventilation systems. Through these efforts, existing spaces are intended to become more functional, secure, and user-oriented.

Figure 27. Renovated Reading and Research Halls of the National Library



International Works Conducted by the National Library

The National Library continues its activities within a strong network of cooperation with the international library community. Through collaborations carried out with international organizations such as IFLA, CDNL, CENL, SEENL, and ECO, the Library contributes to knowledge and experience sharing, the digital transformation of libraries, the preservation of cultural heritage, and the development of international cooperation.

Throughout 2025, the National Library participated in various meetings, conferences, and training activities in order to strengthen cooperation with the international library community, while also hosting several important international events. Within the framework of these activities, studies focusing on digital transformation, preservation of cultural heritage, knowledge sharing, and the development of interlibrary cooperation were carried out, and Türkiye's experience and practices in the field of librarianship were shared on international platforms.

Figure 28. 7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries, Ankara



Hosting the 7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries, Ankara

7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries was hosted by the National Library in Ankara between 19–21 November 2025. The meeting brought together representatives of the ECO Secretariat and the ECO Cultural Institute, Directors of National Libraries from ECO member states, and representatives of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in observer status.

The main session of the meeting was held on 20 November 2025 at the Adnan Ötügen Provincial Public Library, Türkiye's first national library. The theme of the meeting was determined as "Digital Transformation, Knowledge Exchange, and Capacity Building for the Future of Libraries." Discussions focused on the digital transformation of libraries, information sharing, and the strengthening of regional cooperation.

Within the framework of the conference, Director General Mr. Taner Beyoğlu was unanimously elected Chair of the Conference for the 2025–2027 term, further strengthening Türkiye's role in the development of regional library cooperation. It was also decided during the meeting that the 8th General Meeting of the Conference would be hosted by the National Library of Kazakhstan in 2027.

During the closing session held on the final day of the program, the outcomes of the meeting were evaluated, and common areas of cooperation aimed at strengthening information sharing, digitization, and institutional capacity across the ECO region were discussed.

Figure 29. 7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries, Ankara



89th IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC), Astana

The 89th IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) was held in Astana, Kazakhstan, between 18–22 August 2025 with the participation of more than 1,600 delegates from over 110 countries. The delegation representing the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications was headed by Director General Taner Beyoğlu and included Head of Foreign Relations Branch Merve Yavuzdemir, Culture and Tourism Expert Orhan Açıkgöz, and Librarian Esmâ Bağcı.

Within the framework of the Congress, Director General Taner Beyoğlu participated as a keynote speaker in the panel titled “Developing Governance and Driving Innovation across the Turkic World,” moderated by IFLA Secretary General Sharon Memis on 21 August.

In addition, three poster presentations prepared by the Directorate General were exhibited during the Congress poster sessions, introducing to the international library community Türkiye’s practices and projects related to reading culture, sustainability, and the integration of libraries and technology.

Figure 30. Delegation of the Directorate General at the 89th IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC)



Figure 31. Keynote Speech delivered by Director General Taner Beyoğlu during the 89th IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC)



Visit to the National Archives of Kazakhstan and the Kazakhstan Academic Library, Astana

In addition to the IFLA WLIC program, Director General Taner Beyoğlu visited the National Archives of Kazakhstan and the Kazakhstan Academic Library on 21 August 2025. During the visits, Mr. Beyoğlu was welcomed by Director of the National Archives of Kazakhstan Zhandos Boldykov and President of the Kazakhstan Academic Library Seitova Kumis Karsakbayevna.

Within the scope of the visit, various departments of the National Archives of Kazakhstan and the Kazakhstan Academic Library were toured, and detailed information was obtained through on-site observations and presentations. Furthermore, views were exchanged regarding possible future cooperation activities between both institutions and the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications.



Figure 32. Visit to the Kazakhstan Academic Library

Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) 2025 Annual Meeting

More than 60 representatives of national libraries from different regions of the world participated in the Annual Meeting of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL), held online on 17 November 2025. Organized under the theme “When Collections are Threatened: Leading National Libraries in Difficult Times,” the meeting addressed issues such as the protection of cultural heritage, disaster risk management, the impact of climate change on libraries, and the sustainability of cultural heritage under conditions of war. Director General Taner Beyoğlu also participated in the meeting as Vice Chair of CDNL.

During the meeting, Professor Peter Stone, President of Blue Shield International, presented international efforts related to the protection of cultural heritage, while Dr. Robert Glasser evaluated the impacts of climate change on cultural heritage institutions. In addition, Oleg Serbin, Director of the Yaroslav Mudryi National Library of Ukraine, shared information on preservation and digitization activities carried out in Ukrainian libraries under wartime conditions.

Participants also exchanged views on collection preservation experiences and disaster preparedness processes of national libraries during periods of crisis.

Figure 33. CDNL 2025 Annual Meeting held online



39th Annual General Meeting of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL), Edinburgh

The 39th Annual General Meeting of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) was held in Edinburgh between 15–17 June 2025 under the hosting of the National Library of Scotland. Directors and representatives of national libraries from across Europe participated in the meeting.

The National Library of Türkiye was represented at the meeting by Director General for Libraries and Publications Taner Beyoğlu and Culture and Tourism Expert Orhan Açıkgöz.

Within the framework of the meeting, Director General Taner Beyoğlu delivered a presentation during the afternoon session on 16 June titled “Leading Transformation, Shaping the Future: The Role of the National Library of Türkiye in the Age of Artificial Intelligence,” in which he shared the National Library’s experiences in the use of AI-based technologies with the participants.



Figure 34. Presentation delivered by Director General Taner Beyoğlu during the 39th CENL Annual General Meeting

Figure 35. Participants of the 39th CENL Annual General Meeting



First International Conference on Cultural Heritage, Skopje

The National and University Library “St. Clement of Ohrid” in Skopje, North Macedonia, organized the First International Conference on Cultural Heritage titled “Innovation, Sustainability and Legal Frameworks for Preservation and Engagement” on 29–30 September 2025 in Skopje, North Macedonia. Bringing together experts, academics, and practitioners from North Macedonia, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Poland, Latvia, Bulgaria, Türkiye, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Slovenia, Ireland, the Vatican, Germany, and Serbia, the conference served as a dynamic forum for discussing innovative strategies, sustainable approaches, and legal frameworks related to the preservation and accessibility of cultural heritage.

Türkiye was represented at the conference by Deputy Director General Betül Kiminsu, Deputy Director General Mehmet Demir, Culture and Tourism Expert Orhan Açıkgöz, and Researcher Sacide Gülsoy.

Within the framework of the conference, Deputy Director General Betül Kiminsu delivered a presentation titled “Living Heritage: Rami Library as Model of Sustainable Transformation and Urban Commons”

Figure 36. Delegation of the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications at the First International Conference on Cultural Heritage

Figure 37. Presentation delivered by Deputy Director General Betül Kiminsu at the First International Conference on Cultural Heritage



Figure 38. Southeast European National Librarians (SEENL) 2025 Annual General Meeting



Southeast European National Librarians (SEENL) 2025 Annual General Meeting, Skopje

Held on 30 September 2025 concurrently with the First International Conference on Cultural Heritage in Skopje the meeting provided a platform for participants to exchange views on the development of a common regional artificial intelligence strategy. Representatives from North Macedonia, Kosovo, Greece, Bulgaria, and Türkiye shared their ongoing AI-related activities ranging from cataloguing and digitization processes to chatbot stations and large-scale data centers.

The National Library of Türkiye was represented at the meeting by Deputy Director General Mehmet Demir and Culture and Tourism Expert Orhan Açıkgöz.

During the discussions, participants emphasized the need for a regional artificial intelligence strategy shaped according to the specific needs of each library. It was also underlined that regular online meetings should be organized in order to share progress, exchange case studies, and invite experts to contribute to the process. In addition, it was decided that the SEENL 2026 Annual General Meeting would be held in Kosovo at the end of September in conjunction with Kosovo Library Week.

22nd Kosovo Library Week, Pristina

Hosted by the National Library of Kosovo “Pjetër Bogdani,” the 22nd Kosovo Library Week was held in Pristina between 5–8 October 2025 under the theme “The Library, between Tradition and Innovation”. The delegation representing the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications was headed by Deputy Director General Mehmet Demir and included Head of Foreign Relations Branch Merve Yavuzdemir and Librarian Merve Ödeşen Ünver.

Within the framework of the program, which was opened with a speech by Mr. Mehmet Demir, bilateral meetings were held with representatives of the National Libraries of Albania, North Macedonia, and Kosovo. Possible areas of cooperation in digital archiving, accessibility services, and training programs were discussed.

Sessions organized during the event addressed topics such as digitization, preservation of cultural heritage, artificial intelligence applications, and inclusive library services, while Türkiye’s national library policies and digital transformation initiatives were shared with international participants.

In the opening session of Kosovo Library Week, Mrs. Merve Yavuzdemir delivered a presentation titled “The Future of the National Library: Balancing Tradition and Innovation in Library Services in Türkiye.”

Türkiye’s participation in Kosovo Library Week contributed to strengthening international cooperation in the field of librarianship and enhancing regional knowledge sharing.

Figure 39. Opening Speech delivered by Deputy Director General Mehmet Demir during the 22nd Kosovo Library Week



Figure 40. Presentation delivered by Head of Foreign Relations Branch Merve Yavuzdemir during the 22nd Kosovo Library Week



Memorandum of Understanding Signed between the National Library of Türkiye and the National Library of Tajikistan

As the Directorate General for Libraries and Publications, efforts to strengthen international cooperation and enhance knowledge and experience sharing among national libraries continue with determination. In this context, relations established through multilateral platforms provide important opportunities for the implementation of joint projects in the field of librarianship and for the preservation of cultural heritage.

Within the framework of the 7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 20 November 2025 between the National Library of Türkiye and the National Library of Tajikistan.

Through this Memorandum of Understanding, the two National Libraries aim to strengthen knowledge and experience sharing, support digitization activities, contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage, and further develop professional cooperation between the two institutions.

Figure 41. Memorandum of Understanding signed between the National Library of Türkiye and the National Library of Tajikistan



Strengthening International Visibility and Cooperation

The National Library of Türkiye continues to strengthen its presence within the international library community through active participation in professional networks, international conferences, collaborative projects, and institutional partnerships. Through its engagement with organizations such as IFLA, CDNL, CENL, SEENL, and the ECO Conference of Directors of National Libraries, the National Library contributes to the exchange of knowledge and expertise while promoting Türkiye's experience in librarianship, digitization, cultural heritage preservation, and user-oriented library services.

In recent years, the National Library has also played an increasingly active role as a host institution for major international library events. Following the CENL Annual General Meeting hosted in Ankara in 2022 and the SEENL Annual Meeting hosted in Ankara in 2024, the 7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries was successfully organized by the National Library in Ankara in 2025. These events have strengthened regional and international cooperation while enhancing the visibility of the National Library on the global stage. As a result of its growing international engagement, the National Library has established an extensive network of institutional partnerships and, as of 2025, has signed a total of 44 Memorandums of Understanding with national libraries and related institutions worldwide.

The National Library is regularly represented at international meetings through presentations, professional contributions, project initiatives, and collaborative activities. Participation in international platforms has provided opportunities to share experiences, develop new partnerships, and contribute to discussions on the future of libraries, digital transformation, and the preservation of cultural heritage.

The growing international profile of the National Library was further reflected in 2025 through leadership roles and professional appointments within major international library organizations. Director General Taner Beyoğlu was elected Vice Chair of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL), while representatives of the Directorate General assumed positions in various IFLA sections. These developments demonstrate the increasing recognition of the National Library of Türkiye as an active and valued partner within the international library community.

Highlights of 2025

The National Library in 2025

186,186 items catalogued

The highest annual cataloguing performance in the history of the Republic was achieved.

2,132,697 images digitized

The total digital collection exceeded 23 million images.

65,510 new memberships registered

The number of library users increased significantly.

Stronger international representation

Active participation was ensured in the platforms of IFLA, CENL, CDNL, SEENL, and ECO.

New international cooperation initiatives

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the National Library of Tajikistan.

Keynote speech at the IFLA Congress

Director General Taner Beyoğlu served as a keynote speaker at IFLA WLIC.

7th Conference of Directors of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) Member States' National Libraries was held in Ankara

Türkiye assumed a leading role in regional library cooperation.

Contact

Directorate General for Libraries and Publications, National Library of Türkiye

Foreign Relations Branch

Address: Emek, Wilhelm Thomsen Street No: 4

Bahçelievler, Çankaya, 06490 Ankara / Türkiye

E-mail: kygmdisiliskiler@ktb.gov.tr

Telephone:

+90 312 470 53 42

+90 312 470 54 34

+90 312 470 82 87

+90 312 470 82 88



REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR LIBRARIES AND PUBLICATIONS