

 ABDULLAH GÜL ÜNİVERSİTESİ	Academic Freedom Policy	Document No:	POL-01
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1. Purpose

Abdullah Gül University (AGU) is dedicated to preserving and advancing the principles of academic freedom, which are essential for intellectual exploration, knowledge creation, and societal progress. This policy establishes AGU's commitment to fostering an environment where academic staff are free to research, teach, and engage publicly within their areas of expertise without fear of censorship, restriction, or reprisal.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all academic staff, including senior and junior faculty across all disciplines at AGU. It ensures that faculty at every career stage are supported in their right to academic freedom within research, teaching, and public engagement.

3. Policy Provisions

3.1 Research Freedom

AGU recognizes the importance of independent and innovative research in advancing knowledge and is committed to supporting both senior and junior academics in their research pursuits.

- **Senior Academics:** Senior faculty members are free to select research topics, design methodologies, and publish results without external influence or administrative interference. AGU actively encourages senior academics to pursue groundbreaking and interdisciplinary research that contributes globally.
- **Junior Academics:** Junior faculty members have equal freedom to choose their research focus and contribute new insights. AGU provides mentorship, collaboration opportunities, and resources for junior academics to ensure their development and engagement in impactful research.

3.2 Teaching Freedom

Academic freedom in teaching is crucial for a dynamic and inclusive educational experience.

- **Senior Academics:** Senior faculty are free to design and deliver courses that reflect their expertise, research findings, and pedagogical approaches. They are encouraged to integrate their research into coursework, offer diverse perspectives, and engage in meaningful discourse within the classroom and beyond.
- **Junior Academics:** Junior faculty are similarly empowered to develop and implement unique teaching strategies, encouraging critical thinking and exposing students to current research and diverse viewpoints. AGU supports junior academics in crafting curricula that reflect both foundational knowledge and emerging developments in their disciplines.

3.3 Public Engagement and Discourse

AGU believes in the importance of public scholarship and encourages faculty to share their knowledge outside the university.

- **All Academic Staff:** Faculty members, regardless of rank, have the right to engage in public discussions, speak at events, publish widely, and share insights on matters related to their research

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and academic interests. AGU values contributions to the wider community through public engagement, reinforcing the university's role in societal advancement.

4. Support Mechanisms

To protect and promote academic freedom, AGU has established the following support mechanisms:

- **Resources and Training:** AGU provides necessary resources, professional development, and training opportunities for faculty to exercise their academic freedom effectively.
- **Conflict Resolution and Protection:** AGU has put in place clear procedures to address concerns regarding potential violations of academic freedom. Faculty members can confidentially raise issues through designated channels, with assurance of prompt and impartial resolution to protect their rights.

5. Review and Compliance

AGU is committed to regularly reviewing this policy to ensure alignment with national laws and international academic standards. This review process ensures the policy remains relevant, supporting AGU's mission to uphold academic freedom and foster an intellectually open and stimulating environment.