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NEWSLETTER

October-December 2025



Welcome to the October-December 2025 edition of our newsletter

This quarter brought together culture, digital awareness, environmental action and media freedom through a diverse set of activities that once again underlined the European Union's strong engagement with the Turkish Cypriot community. From the opening of EU Film Nights in Nicosia to high-level panel discussions addressing digital threats, cybersecurity and the EU's Green Vision, the EU Infopoint continued to create spaces for dialogue, learning and exchange.

The period also highlighted the EU's commitment to fundamental rights, sustainability and education. The 2025 EU Investigative Journalism Awards recognised outstanding investigative work, reinforcing the importance of press freedom and transparency, while Spanish language workshops organised in the context of the European Day of Languages promoted linguistic diversity and cultural understanding among young participants. In parallel, cyber security workshops delivered across different regions provided local community staff with practical tools to navigate the digital world safely. Join us as we look back at the highlights of October to December 2025.



Visit our website for detailed information or current events!

www.abbilgi.eu



EU Film Nights Opening Event



The EU Film Nights kicked off with an opening event held at the EU Infopoint in Nicosia in October 2025. The event, supported by the European Union, featured the screening of the compelling documentary *Once Upon a Time in a Forest*, which focuses on the struggle of young environmental activists in Finland to protect forests and defend nature. The documentary has been screened at international festivals and has received several awards.

The programme opened with speeches by the Ambassador of Finland to Cyprus, Päivi Peltokoski, and the Head of Unit of the European Commission's Cyprus Support Unit, Michel Vedrenne. In their remarks, they underlined cinema's important role as a tool that reflects diverse perspectives, experiences and traditions, while strengthening understanding and empathy among societies. Following the speeches, the event concluded with the film screening and a cocktail reception.



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Panel Discussion on “Digital Threats and the Human Factor: From EU Policies to Daily Life”

The EU Infopoint, in cooperation with the Chamber of Computer Engineers of the Turkish Cypriot community, organised a panel discussion titled “Digital Threats and the Human Factor: From EU Policies to Daily Life” as part of European Cybersecurity Awareness Month.



Supported by the European Union, the event addressed recent developments in the field of digital security, European Union policies, and the impact of risks encountered in the digital world on everyday life. The panel session featured presentations by Dr. Mateusz Labuz, researcher at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH); Prof. Dr. Arif Sarı, Information and Cybersecurity Expert and academic; and Ayşe Reyhan Boğar, Clinical Psychologist and researcher. Participants discussed the psychological, technical and policy dimensions of digital threats from a multidimensional perspective. The event concluded with a question-and-answer session.



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Panel Discussion Event: The EU's Green Vision: From Policy to Action

The EU Infopoint organised a panel discussion titled "The EU's Green Vision: From Policy to Action" as part of the EU's Green Vision campaign. Supported by the European Union, the event focused on the EU's "3 Billion Trees by 2030" initiative, outlining its objectives, the progress achieved to date, and its significance at both local and European levels.

The panel session featured presentations by Jeanne-Lazy Roux, Researcher at

the European Forest Institute; Prof. Dr. Özge Özden, Ecology Expert; and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nazim Kaşot, Biologist and Environmental Education Expert. The speakers provided in-depth insights into the policy and implementation dimensions of the EU's afforestation objectives from a multidimensional perspective. The event concluded with a question-and-answer session, allowing participants to engage directly with the speakers.



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2025 EU Investigative Journalism Awards Ceremony

The 2025 EU Investigative Journalism award ceremony was held in Nicosia with the participation of journalists and other stakeholders, during which the awards were presented to the winning journalists.

The first prize was awarded to Ayşemden Akın for her investigative series on organised crime networks in the northern part of Cyprus. The second prize went to Pınar Barut for her investigative series examining the trial process of five Greek Cypriots arrested in the northern part of Cyprus. The third prize was awarded to Serap Şahin for her investigative work on the “right to be forgotten”.



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Let's Explore EU Languages: Spanish Language Workshop

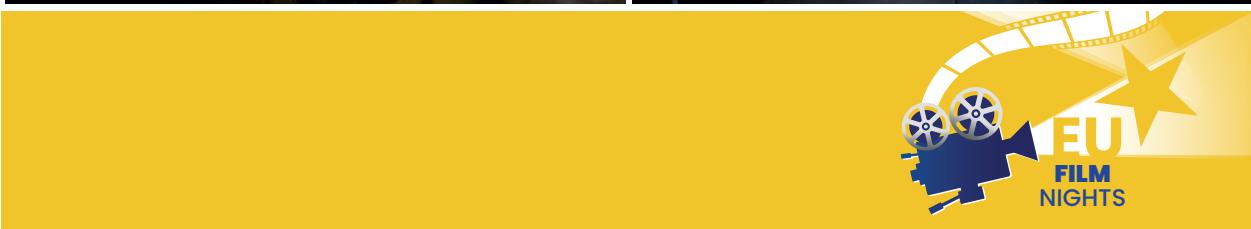
The European Day of Languages has been celebrated annually since 2001 on 26th September, with the aim of promoting linguistic diversity and multiculturalism across Europe. In line with this initiative, a series of events was organised in November to December 2025, focusing on teaching the basics of the Spanish language to participants from the Turkish Cypriot community.

The programme was structured into three separate groups, with each group attending three workshops. In total, seven sessions were conducted. These fun and interactive workshops introduced children to the basics of the Spanish language, including everyday words, simple conversations, and aspects of Spanish culture.



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EU Film Nights

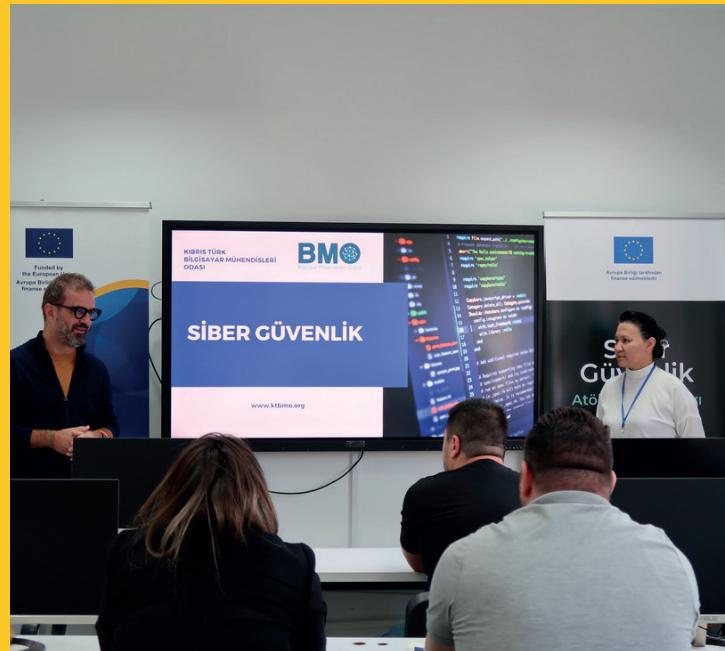
The EU Film Nights series of events aimed to promote European culture and values through cinema within the Turkish Cypriot community. The initiative provided a platform to showcase the richness and diversity of European cinema, while fostering intercultural dialogue and encouraging cultural exchange.

As part of the EU Film Nights series, eleven film screenings were implemented across Nicosia, Kyrenia, and Famagusta. The programme featured films from the following EU Member States: Finland, Cyprus, Slovakia, and Sweden.



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Cyber Security Workshops for local communities

A series of events aimed at raising awareness of the online environment among staff of local communities were organised in November and December 2025. These sessions provided participants with practical guidance on how to protect themselves in the digital space and recognise common online threats. In total, ten sessions were delivered across different regions and locations within the Turkish Cypriot community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

This newsletter is published by the EU-funded project “Technical Assistance for Providing Information Services, aimed at bringing the Turkish Cypriot community closer to the European Union through the EU Infopoint.” The project’s goal is to enhance public knowledge and understanding of the EU, its values, policies, and its role in Cyprus settlement support. This is achieved by operating the EU Infopoint and implementing strategic communication tools and activities, including promotional and cultural events, seminars, workshops, campaigns, competitions and similar activities.



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