INVITATION LETTER

IMYB 2027 Düzce, Türkiye

Bees Know No Borders — **Neither Should the Dreams of Young Beekeepers**



WHEN	WHERE	EDITION
5–9 July 2027	**Düzce, Türkiye**	**15th IMYB**
Expression of Interest opens 6 Nov 2026	Between İstanbul and Ankara	Up to 50 national teams

Dear Beekeeping Friends,

We are delighted to announce that the **15th International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB 2027)** will be held from **5 to 9 July 2027** in **Düzce, Türkiye**.

PREVIOUS IMYB HOSTS

Czech Republic · Austria · Germany · Poland · Slovakia · England · France · Slovenia · United Arab Emirates · Northern Ireland · → Türkiye 2027

COORDINATED BY

International Centre for Young Beekeepers

HOSTED BY

DÜZCE UNIVERSITY

Beekeeping Research Development and Application Centre (DAGEM)

The International Centre for Young Beekeepers (ICYB), which coordinates the IMYB, has entrusted Düzce University Beekeeping Research Development and Application Centre (DAGEM) with the organization of IMYB 2027.

Following the success of previous IMYB events held in the Czech Republic, Austria, Germany, Poland, Slovakia, England, France, Slovenia, the United Arab Emirates and Northern Ireland, we are pleased to invite young beekeepers from around the world to experience all that Türkiye has to offer. Discover more about IMYB and its previous meetings at www.icyb.cz.

> **Türkiye is one of the world's leading beekeeping countries, ranking among the global leaders in honey production and bee colony numbers.**

With its rich beekeeping heritage, diverse flora and strong beekeeping culture, Türkiye offers a unique setting for bringing young beekeepers from different countries together.

Located in northwestern Türkiye, between İstanbul and Ankara, Düzce is renowned for its forests, biodiversity, agricultural landscapes and beekeeping traditions. The region will provide an inspiring environment for young beekeepers to learn, exchange knowledge and experience, discover new approaches to beekeeping, and build friendships across borders and cultures.

IMYB is more than a meeting. It is an international platform where the next generation of beekeepers comes together, shares its passion for bees, learns from one another and looks towards the future of beekeeping.

We warmly invite teams of young beekeepers from around the world to join us in Düzce and become part of this unique international gathering.

IMYB 2027
5–9 July 2027 · Düzce, Türkiye

IMYB 2027 Düzce, Türkiye — Main Information

1 Expression of interest

The Expression of Interest Form is the first step for countries considering participation in IMYB 2027.

The Expression of Interest Form will be available on the official IMYB 2027 Düzce website from **6 November 2026**: imyb2027.duzce.edu.tr

Countries considering participation in IMYB 2027 are kindly asked to complete and submit the Expression of Interest Form by **15 December 2026**.

By completing this form, a country informs the Host Organizing Committee and ICYB that it is interested in sending a team to IMYB 2027 and provides the name and contact details of its Country Contact. The information provided will be used for preliminary planning of accommodation, local transportation, competition facilities, meals, the overall program and visa support for countries that may require it.

The Expression of Interest Form is not a formal application and does not guarantee participation. The Host Organizing Committee and ICYB will review all submitted forms. All countries that submit an Expression of Interest Form will receive a response by **10 January 2027**, either confirming their eligibility to proceed with full registration or informing them that they cannot be accommodated.

Countries that receive a positive response will be invited to complete the Full Registration Form and proceed with payment.

2 Full registration

The link to the Full Registration Form will be included in the notification sent to countries that receive a positive response to their Expression of Interest. Eligible countries must complete the form by **28 February 2027**.

At full registration, countries will confirm their intention to participate and provide team details (young beekeepers and accompanying adults), if available. They must also complete payment of the Team Participation Fee of **€1,250 per national team.**

If team details are not available by **28 February 2027**, they should be submitted as soon as they are available, **and no later than 7 June 2027** (in exceptional cases). **The Host Organizing Committee must be notified of delays regarding submission of team details.**

Important note: Teams requiring a visa to enter Türkiye must submit the names and details of their participants and accompanying adults, and request visa support letters, by **31 March 2027**.

If a team withdraws and a waiting list exists, the place may be offered to the next eligible team on the waiting list.

3 Team requirements

Each country's team consists of a maximum of five people:



3 young beekeepers, aged 12–17
Participants must not turn 18 during the event.



Up to 2 accompanying adults (mentors)
Responsible for the young participants and must remain with them throughout the official program.

5
PEOPLE MAX. PER TEAM

4 Team participation fee

TEAM FEE

€1,250

per national team

Covers **three young participants** and **up to two accompanying adults**.

INCLUDED

- Accommodation during the official program.
- Meals provided as part of the official program.
- Local transportation in Türkiye in accordance with the official travel schedule.
- Competition materials and activities.
- Educational, cultural and social activities included in the official program.

NOT INCLUDED

- International travel to or from Türkiye, travel and medical insurance, visa expenses, personal expenses or activities outside the official program.

Payment must be completed by **28 February 2027**. Payments should be made in **Euros (EUR)** by bank transfer. All bank charges must be covered by the sending party. Detailed payment instructions, including bank account information, will be provided with the full registration notification.

5 Cancellation and refunds

Cancellation must be notified by e-mail by the Country Contact to the Organizing Committee at **imyb2027@duzce.edu.tr**, with a copy to the ICYB at **piza@icyb.cz**. The refund schedule applies after payment has been completed. The Team Participation Fee will be refunded as follows:

100 %
by 31 March 2027
refund, less bank charges

50 %
1 April – 31 May 2027
refund

0 %
after 31 May 2027
no refund

Note: No refunds will be issued if a registered team fails to attend the IMYB.

If IMYB 2027 is cancelled by the Organizer, all fees will be refunded in full. Refunds will be paid within 30 days.

6 Capacity

50 IMYB 2027 can accommodate up to **50 national teams**.

7 Language

EN The official working language of IMYB 2027 Düzce will be **English**.

8 Competition program

The IMYB 2027 competition will include a wide range of practical and theoretical beekeeping disciplines, which **may** include:

- A theoretical knowledge test
- Microscopy
- Identification of beekeeping tools and equipment
- Assembly of a beehive
- Assembly of a brood or honey frame
- Honey extraction
- Honey recognition and evaluation
- Identification of bee plants
- Identification of alternative pollinators
- Queen bee marking
- Grafting of honey bee larvae
- Other practical beekeeping tasks

Participants will compete **individually**, as **members of their national teams** and in **mixed international groups**. Results will be announced for each competition discipline.

The competition program will be complemented by educational, cultural and social activities. These activities will provide young beekeepers with opportunities to get to know their peers from around the world, exchange knowledge and experiences, and discover the natural and cultural heritage of Düzce and Türkiye.

\+ A dedicated program will also be organized for **accompanying adults**.

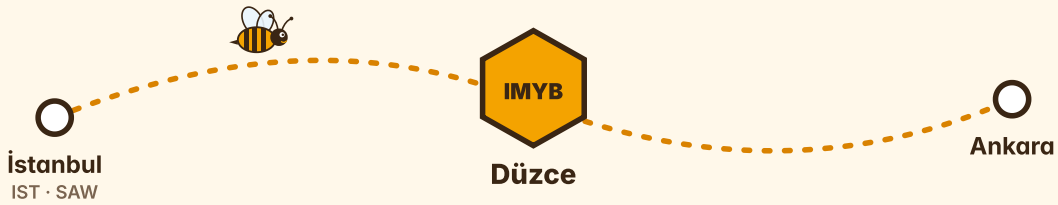
9 Country presentation

Each participating team will prepare a **five-minute country presentation**, which will be delivered over the course of the IMYB.

The presentation should introduce the team's country, beekeeping traditions, culture and young beekeepers in an engaging and creative way. Teams are encouraged to use elements such as traditional clothing, music, photographs, short videos or props to make their presentation enjoyable and memorable.

The aim of the country presentation is to give all participants an enjoyable opportunity to learn about one another's countries and cultures.

10 Location and transportation



More about Düzce as the host city: **imyb2027.duzce.edu.tr/en/sayfa/3144/host-city**

Düzce is located in northwestern Türkiye, between İstanbul and Ankara. The competition venue, accommodation facilities, local transportation arrangements and the detailed program will be announced to participating teams after full registration.

Participants may travel to Türkiye through the following designated airports:

IST İstanbul Airport

SAW Sabiha Gökçen International Airport

The Organizing Committee will provide onward transportation from the designated airports to Düzce and return transportation in accordance with the official travel program.

Detailed transportation instructions will be shared with participating teams before the event.

11 Contact and website

International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB 2027)
Düzce, Türkiye

WEBSITE imyb2027.duzce.edu.tr
E-MAIL imyb2027@duzce.edu.tr
ICYB www.icyb.cz

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

Prof. Dr. Meral KEKEÇOĞLU
Dr. Tuğçe ÇAPRAZLI AKCA

PHONE **+90 555 748 41 01** (also WhatsApp)

12 Important dates

6 NOV — 6 November 2026 OPENS
The Expression of Interest Form becomes available on the IMYB 2027 website.

15 DEC — 15 December 2026 DEADLINE
Deadline for submitting the Expression of Interest Form.

10 JAN — 10 January 2027
The Host Organizing Committee and ICYB review submissions and notify countries of the outcome.

28 FEB — 28 February 2027 DEADLINE
Deadline for completing the Full Registration Form and payment of the Team Participation Fee.

31 MAR — 31 March 2027 VISA DEADLINE
Deadline for teams requiring a visa to submit participant details and request visa support letters.

7 JUN — 7 June 2027 EXCEPTIONAL CASES ONLY
Final deadline for teams that do not require a visa to submit or update participant and travel details – for exceptional cases previously brought to the attention of the Host Organizing Committee.

5–9 JUL — 5–9 July 2027
IMYB 2027 in Düzce, Türkiye.

Young Beekeepers, One World, One Future!

Come to Düzce, Türkiye, from **5 to 9 July 2027**, and be part of an unforgettable international celebration of bees, beekeeping and friendship.



- Meet young beekeepers from around the world
- Share your knowledge
- Discover new cultures
- Challenge yourself
- Inspire the future of beekeeping

Bees Know No Borders.
Neither Should the Dreams of Young Beekeepers.

We look forward to welcoming you to Düzce!

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Meral KEKEÇOĞLU
Main Organizer, IMYB 2027
Düzce University – DAGEM

Jiří Píza
President
International Centre for Young Beekeepers (ICYB)

DÜZCE UNIVERSITY

IMYB 2027 International Meeting of Young Beekeepers DÜZCE / TÜRKİYE

ICYB International Centre for Young Beekeepers