



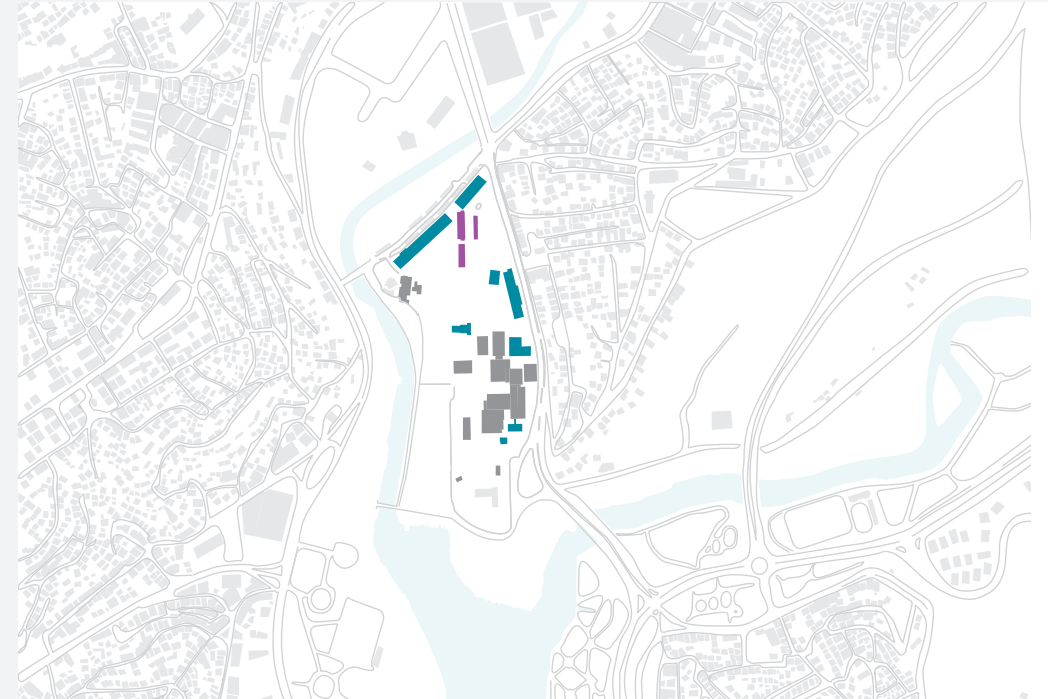
Istanbul Bilgi University [Bilgi]

Motto: Non scholae sed vitae discimus
 Founded: 1996
 Number of employees: 1,165
 Number of students: 9,065
 Percentage of foreign students: 1 %
 Ratio male / female students: 51% / 49%
 Number of faculties: 6
 Largest faculty: Law
 Annual budget: 12 m EUR [2006]

Santralistanbul

Motto: Santralistanbul – from electricity to culture and art
 Founded: 2007
 Campus area: 110,000 sqm
 Floor space: 40,000 sqm
 Number of employees: 350
 Number of students: 1,200
 Number of residents: 50
 Number of companies: 0
 Number of institutions: 7 incl. 2 Bilgi + art galleries
 Investments: 44 m EUR [2007]

Location: **Bilgi University is distributed over three campuses in the European part of Istanbul. All three campuses are built on former industrial sites in central, yet underdeveloped urban quarters and provide affordable land for the growing university while offering its academic community easy access to the social and cultural activities of the city. While the Dolapdere Campus benefits from its proximity to Taksim, a famed shopping, tourist and leisure district, the Kustepe Campus is located in the immediate vicinity of the multicultural area of Ortaköy, formerly a small village, which is renowned for its art galleries, nightclubs, cafés,**



bars and restaurants. The new Santral Campus is advantageously located on a peninsula at the Golden Horn in the region of Alibeyköy, a relatively poor part of Istanbul.

Development: **Istanbul Bilgi University was founded in 1996 as a private, non-profit institution with the intention of introducing a new look to the obsolete Turkish higher education system. From the outset, the concept of Bilgi was to have several smaller inner-city campuses instead of one large campus outside Istanbul. The aim was to create a network of specialized clusters that can benefit from the advantages of the city while simultaneously giving socioeconomic impulses to the surrounding urban quarters. Bilgi views this service to the areas in which its campuses are located as an integral part of its mission and is committed to providing a wide variety of opportunities for local community improvement. For example, the Santral site is being transformed from an industrial wasteland into a thriving academic and cultural park, reactivating the area and fostering direct exchanges with the surrounding neighbourhoods. By deliberately placing its campuses in a historic or semi-historic urban context, the University is creating more sustainable university centres and a more inspiring work environment.**



Bilgi's Santralistanbul Campus looking towards the Golden Horn.

Programme: The Bilgi campuses are typically comprised of a mixture of faculty buildings, libraries, dormitories and extracurricular facilities. Kustepe has an indoor sports hall and Dolapdere a semi-Olympic indoor swimming pool, basketball court, fitness centre and dance hall. In contrast, the Santral Campus is more oriented towards art and cultural production. With the opening of this campus, Bilgi has found a way to assist young artists and to give them the chance to establish themselves in the international art scene. The existing decommissioned power station has been converted to accommodate a civic library, an energy museum and the first contemporary arts museum in Turkey, all of which will be open to the public. In addition, several new school buildings have been added and existing buildings transformed to house the main administrative functions of the university, cafés, art galleries and artists' residences. Its role as an urban catalyst for Alibeyköy and ambition to become an internationally renowned art centre has often led Santral to be compared with the Tate Modern in London.

Morphology: The Bilgi campuses are made up of large building ensembles with a mixture of restored industrial buildings and new structures. The Kustepe and Dolapdere Campuses together comprise around 57,000 sqm, while the Santral Campus, covering 110,000 sqm, is considerably larger. These large-scale ensem-



bles are surrounded by smaller and denser neighbourhood structures. Through this contrast, the Bilgi campuses form enclaves within their surroundings. As is common in Turkey, the University's campuses are not accessible to the general public. Nevertheless, the intention of Bilgi is that the students actively participate in the urban life of Istanbul and the surrounding neighbourhoods, thus stimulating urban development in these areas. These catalytic enclaves are to create a network across the city, where knowledge is the driving force for development.

The City of Istanbul: Istanbul is Turkey's most populous and dynamic city and its cultural, financial, economic and educational centre. The city is home to more than 10 million people, making Istanbul one of the twenty largest cities in the world. Historically, Istanbul was the capital of the Roman, Byzantine, Latin and Ottoman Empires and bore witness to countless cultures. Today, Istanbul retains its rich cosmopolitan character and has been declared joint European Capital of Culture for 2010.

Kustepe Campus, Dolapdere Campus, and the renovated power station and new contemporary arts museum at the Santralistanbul.