



The Heart of the Seas Beat at TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland for 4 Days!

The world's largest Aviation, Space, and Technology Festival, TEKNOFEST, was held this year with the theme of Blue Homeland between August 28–31 at Istanbul Naval Shipyard Command. Open to the public between August 29–31, the event welcomed nearly 175,000 visitors over three days, bringing together technology and defense industry enthusiasts with a maritime focus. Hundreds of thousands of visitors filled the venue and participated with great interest and enthusiasm in all activities—from technology competitions to stage performances, breathtaking shows to insightful conferences.

Competitions Shaping the Future of the Seas

The final stage of the Blue Homeland Competitions, hosted by Istanbul Naval Shipyard Command, showcased innovative projects in maritime technologies. This year, three categories were organized: the Unmanned Underwater Systems Competition, the Unmanned Surface Vehicle Competition, and the Underwater Rocket Competition. A total of 2,698 teams applied, and following the preliminaries, 86 teams and 1,000 finalists competed fiercely to achieve top rankings.

President Erdoğan at TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland

On the opening day of the festival, President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan visited the venue. In his speech highlighting Victory Week, he said:

“Today, we are here at our Istanbul Shipyard Command. In two days, we will celebrate the 103rd anniversary of the Victory of August 30. In other words, we are truly honoring our Victory Week in the best way possible. Here, the flagship of our navy, TCG Anadolu, will also be open to visitors. Now, we are building something even greater; God willing, this will not be the last.”

Addressing the youth, Erdoğan added:

“We will not stop until we make this century the Century of Türkiye. With patience, determination, and sincerity, we will keep working.”

August 30 Victory Day Celebrations

The third day of TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland coincided with August 30 Victory Day celebrations. Thousands of citizens visited Istanbul Naval Shipyard Command to celebrate the national holiday and to see the naval vessels and leading products of Türkiye's defense industry. Türkiye's largest military vessel, TCG Anadolu, drew great attention from visitors.



A Festival Filled with Shows and Events

In addition to the technology competitions, a variety of events created unforgettable moments for visitors. As part of the TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland Conference series, Prof. Dr. Erhan Afyoncu and Prof. Dr. İlber Ortaylı delivered a lecture on Mediterranean and Ottoman Maritime History.

Special demonstrations by the Underwater Attack (SAT) and Underwater Defense (SAS) Commands, a mehter band concert, science shows, theater performances, dragon boat races, and choir performances were met with great admiration. The festival area was full of energy for four days with prize-winning quizzes, tug-of-war, rope throwing, and rope pulling competitions. Meanwhile, the booths of partners and participating companies attracted significant interest from citizens throughout the event.

The Pride of the Seas: Our Ships Met Visitors at Blue Homeland

The pride of Türkiye's navy welcomed thousands of visitors during TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland. Visitors had the chance to tour TCG Akhisar, TCG Alemdar, TCG Alanya, TCG Anadolu, TCG Atak, TCG Burgazada, TCG Ç-151, TCG İstanbul, TCG Nusret, TCG Oruçreis, and TCSG Güven. They also had the opportunity to see TCG SAVARONA, one of the most precious legacies of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

A special tour of SAVARONA was organized for the families and children of martyrs. The children of martyrs experienced deeply emotional moments aboard the ship, which is considered one of Atatürk's most valuable legacies.

Festival Concluded with the Award Ceremony

TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland concluded with the closing ceremony, where young participants received their awards. The ceremony was attended by TEKNOFEST Chairman of the Board Selçuk Bayraktar and Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces, Admiral Dr. Ercüment Tatlıoğlu. Both Bayraktar and Tatlıoğlu presented the awards to the young winners on stage and delivered the closing speeches of the event.

Awards were presented to the winners of the Unmanned Underwater Systems Competition, Underwater Rocket Competition, TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland Essay Contest, TEKNOFEST Blue Homeland Painting Contest, Rowing Races, Tug-of-War, Rope Throwing, and Rope Pulling competitions.

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