

2026 IEEE Region 8 Volunteer Training Workshop (VLT)

27-28 June 2026

Point Hotel Barbaros, Istanbul, Türkiye

Preliminary Agenda

Saturday 27 June 2026

8:30 Registration @B2 Floor

9:00 @Diamond Ballroom - B2

- Welcome speech, by Dušanka Bošković (R8 Director) - 5 min
- Welcome speech, by Nizamettin Aydin (Türkiye Section chair) - 5 min
- R8 Member Activities, by Habib M. Kammoun (R8 VC, MA) - 10 min
- R8 Technical Activities, by Tiziana Tambosso (R8 VC, TA) - 10 min
- R8 Student Activities, by Theodoros Chatzinikolaou (R8 VC, SA) - 10 min
- VLT in Region 8, by Abdullateef Aliyu (R8 Zone Rep.) - 5 min
- How to Make Teams Come to a Decision? by Dušanka Bošković (R8 Director) - 45 min

10:30 Networking and Coffee Break

11:00 @Diamond Ballroom - B2

- IEEE Volunteer Tools (vTools), by Peter Magyar (R8 LM), Lee Crudgington (R8 ChCC), Khaldoun Taktak (R8 SAC) - 20 min
- IEEE OU Analytics, by Mohab Mangoud (R8 MD), Harout Topjian (R8 MD) - 20 min
- IEEE Funding Opportunities
 - IEEE Foundation, by Marko Delimar - 3 min
 - IEEE HTB, by Samarth Deo - 3 min
 - IEEE Students, by Khaldoun Taktak - 3 min
 - IEEE YP, by Mohamed Saeed Darweesh - 3 min
 - IEEE WIE, by Wafa Ben-Hmida - 3 min
 - IEEE LM, by Peter Magyar - 3 min
 - IEEE Entrepreneurship, by Iraqi Ali - 3 min
- IEEE AI Ethics, by Ali G Hessami (IEEE AI Ethics Certification Programme) - 15 min

12:30 Group Photo

13:00 Lunch @View Point restaurant 18 Floor

14:00 **[Students]** @Diamond Ballroom - B2

IEEE Student Activities from Zero to Hero, by Khaldoun Taktak and Neemat Abdelrahman (R8 SAC)

- Overview of Student Activities in IEEE
- Strategic Planning for Section Student Activities
- Section's Role in Student Success
- Student Branch Program Overview
- Supporting SBs Administration and Activities
- Financial Management for Student Branches, by Adam Jastrzebski (R8 Treasurer)
- Support for Section Student Activities and Student Branches

[Chapters] @Onyx 1 - B2

Running a Successful Chapter

- Introductions and Goal Sharing, by Lee Crudgington (R8 ChCC)
- Chapter and Technical Council Introduction
- Overview of Chapters and Chapter Vitality Best Practice
- Committee: Responsibilities, Recruitment and Elections
- Exercise: Administration - Event and Committee Reporting

[MD] @Onyx 2 - B2

- Introduction to Membership Development, by Mohab Mangoud (R8 MD chair) - 30 min
- Retention & Recruitment Strategies, by Nadine Abbas (R8 MD) - 30 min
- Recruiting and Retaining Members Beyond Academia, by Sohaib Qamar Sheikh (R8 AFI) - 30 min

15:30 Networking and Coffee Break

16:00 [Students] @Diamond Ballroom - B2

Step Into the Spotlight: IEEE Student Experience, by Mohamed Ali Zormati and Doğa Umaç (R8 SAC)

- Introduction to IEEE Student Membership
- Professional Development and Career Support
- Social Impact Activities for Students
- Young Professionals and Student Transition, by Mohamed Saeed Darweesh, Cybele Ghanem, Moataz Alaa (R8 YP)
- Why Collaboration and Engagement Drive Success, by Wafa Ben-Hmida (R8 WIE)
- Student Awards from MGA and R8
- IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest
- IEEE Region 8 Student Hardware Contest

[Chapters] @Onyx 1 - B2

Sharing Lessons and Good Practices for chapters

- Chapter, Section and Society - Collaboration for Vitality, by Eduardo Audiche (R8 ChCC)
- Student Chapters: Working with Society, Chapters and Sections, by Krishna Ajith (R8 ChCC)
- IEEE Computer Society, by Islam Tharwat
- Chapter Annual Planning

[MD] @Onyx 2 - B2

- MD Action plans, by Hela Lajmi (R8 MD) - 30 min
- Sharing Lessons and Good Practices for sections - 90 min

18:00 End of Day 1 workshop

19:15 Travel from Hotel to Cruise station

20:00 Bosphorus Dinner Cruise

Sunday 28 June 2026

9:00 [Students] @Diamond Ballroom - B2

Section Student Activities Planning Workshop, by Khaldoun Taktak, Neemat Abdelrahman, Doğa Umaç, Mohamed Saeed Darweesh, Cybele Ghanem, and Moataz Alaa (R8 SAC and R8 YP)

- Group Activity: Prepare a Yearly Calendar for Section SAC Activities
- Wrap-Up: Section SAC Yearly Activity Calendar Overview
- Group Activity: Organize an Activity for your Section's Students
- Wrap-Up Flash Presentations

[Chapters + MD] @Onyx 1-2 - B2

- IEEE OU. Finance management, by Adam Jastrzebski (R8 Treasurer) - 30 min
- Section Vitality, by Andrejs Romanovs (R8 SVD chair) - 30 min
- Action for Industry Blueprint, by Sohaib Qamar Sheikh (R8 AFI) - 30 min

10:30 Networking and Coffee Break

11:00 [Students] @Diamond Ballroom - B2

Soft Skills Advancement Workshop, by Abdullateef Aliyu, Mohamed Ali Zormati, and Wafa Ben-Hmida (R8 SAC and R8 WIE)

- A dive into project management
- A dive into leadership and team management skills
- Interactive Group Activity on Collaboration and Teamwork

- Presentations and Wrap-Up

[Chapters + MD] @Onyx 1-2 - B2

- IEEE Conference Sponsorship, by Tiziana Tambosso (R8 VC, TA) - 30 min
- Role of Section Conference Coordinators, by Ilhem Kallel (R8 CoCC) - 30 min
- Conference applications, by Mohamed Saeed Darweesh (R8 CoCC, R8 YP) - 30 min

12:30 @Diamond Ballroom - B2

- Knowledge Sharing and Closing Remarks

13:00 Lunch @View Point restaurant 18 Floor

Program at a Glance

Workshop	Student Activities Diamond	Chapters Onyx 1	Membership Development Onyx 2	Student Activities Diamond	Chapters & MD Onyx 1-2
Time	Saturday 27 June 2026			Sunday 28 June 2026	
8:00	Breakfast			Breakfast	
8:30					
9:00	Opening R8 VCs, ZR, Committees How to Make Teams Come to a Decision?			Section Student Activities Planning Workshop	IEEE OU. Finance management Section Vitality Action for Industry Blueprint
9:30					
10:00					
10:30	Coffee break (B2 Floor)			Coffee break (B2 Floor)	
11:00	IEEE vTools IEEE OU Analytics IEEE Funding opportunities, IEEE Ethics			Soft Skills Advancement Workshop	IEEE Conference Sponsorship Role of Section Conference Coordinators Conference applications
11:30					
12:00					
12:30	Group Photo			Knowledge Sharing and Closing remarks	
13:00	Lunch (View Point restaurant 18 Floor)			Lunch (View Point restaurant 18 Floor)	
13:30					
14:00	IEEE Student Activities from Zero to Hero	Running a Successful Chapter	Introduction to MD Retention&Recruitment Strategies R&R Beyond Academia	Attendees departure	
14:30					
15:00					
15:30	Coffee break (B2 Floor)				
16:00	Step Into the Spotlight: IEEE Student Experience	Sharing Lessons and Good Practices for chapters	MD Action plans Sharing Lessons and Good Practices for sections		
16:30					
17:00					
17:30					
18:00					
18:30	Bosphorus Dinner Cruise				
23:00					