

THE UNITED STATES AND TURKEY: COOPERATION IN THE SPACE AGE

TURKISH AMERICANS REACHING FOR THE STARS



Bertan Bakkaloglu is the Semiconductor Professor in Arizona State University's School of Electrical, Computer and Energy Engineering. He is best known for designing the side camera of the Perseverance rover, which landed on Mars in February 2021!

Betül Kacar is an astrobiologist and molecular biologist who is the Assistant Professor of Astrobiology at the University of Arizona. She leads a team of 12 scientists as part of NASA's latest efforts to study the origins, evolution, and distribution of life in the universe.



NASA IN TURKEY: THE LAKE WITH THE SECRETS TO LIFE ON MARS

Minerals and rock deposits found in Lake Salda in southwest Turkey are the nearest match on Earth to those by the Jezero Crater where the Perseverance rover landed and which is believed to have once been flooded with water. American and Turkish planetary scientists have been carrying out research on the lake's shorelines and will compare the sediments from Salda with the minerals collected from Mars!



TURKISH AMERICAN COMPANIES: GOING TO THE MOON AND BEYOND



The Sierra Nevada Company, owned by Turkish-Americans Eren and Fatih Ozmen, built NASA's Dream Chaser spaceplane, which is capable of carrying up to seven people and cargo to and from low Earth orbit. It is expected to arrive on the Moon later this year, the first of six trips due to take place between now and 2024.

KordSA, a Turkish composites and reinforcements producer with hundreds of employees across the United States, manufactures the inflated balls of the Orion capsule, which will carry astronauts into deep space while ensuring their safe return to Earth!



TURKEY'S SPACE PROGRAM & 2023 MOON LAUNCH



In February 2021, Turkey unveiled its 10-year space program that includes missions to the moon, sending astronauts into space, and developing internationally viable satellite systems. Turkey plans to establish first contact with the moon in 2023, when the country marks the centennial of the founding of the Turkish republic.