**Gurkan Yesilyurt**

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**Head of Registry**

**Admissions**

**Cranfield University**

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**August 2021**

**LETTER OF TUITION FEE REDUCTION REQUEST**

**Dear Ms. Greening**

I'm Gurkan Yesilyurt. I have been accepted to the PhD program in the Defense and Security department of Cranfield University. Receiving this acceptance has been one of the most important turning points in my life. I'm so glad. Because what I've been through in Turkey in the last 5 years has been really tough. Aware of these challenges, Mr. Andrew McDowell, with whom I have worked in NATO for 3 years, pointed out these in his reference letter. (Annex-1).

I would like to elaborate this. Till 2017 I was wonderful Turkish Staff Officer full of military diplomatic missions both in NATO and General Staff, drafting speech notes of Turkish CHOD, accompanying Defence Minister of Turkey to the NATO meetings. But in 2017 January I was retired from my duties without my consent. I was uncertain about what to do next in my life.

I decided to move to Europe where I and my family would be more secure. That's why I came to France with my wife and 4 kids. I applied for residency in France as it is not safe for me and my wife to return to my country for now.

Meanwhile I searched a new domain in which I would build my career. Becoming academic personnal fits me most since I had 3 masters degree. Having a PhD degree will pave the way for me to reach this ambition. As I state in my interview, I will do my PhD in order to become a academic personel.

However, **the tuition and taxes of this PhD programme are way too high** for me to pay. I have to wait 4 more years before I can retire in Turkey and receive a pension. I do not have any other income. I had some difficulties with my family in Turkey. I am currently living with the 1200 Euros that the French Government gives me on a monthly basis.

However, **my economic situation** **is not completely zero.** I have 30,000 euros. This can cover my tuition fees only from UK fee level. Since I plan to cpome to Shrivenham by myself, this is also enough to cover life expenses there.

I convey all this to you with all my sincere feelings. My only goal is that the high tuition and tax fees do not hinder my education. For this purpose, I have applied to many institutions for scholarship opportunities. I also applied to Refugee Organizations because I have an asylum request in France. In the appendix, you can see the institutions I have applied to so far (Annex-2). I will continue to search from now on. I am in the process of issuing a CAS document until September in my registration process. My only request from you so that my education will not be interrupted is the application of UK tuition fees to me.

Yours sincereley,

Gurkan Yesilyurt

Annexes:

Annex 1: Mr.Andy McDowell’s Reference Letter

Annex 2: Scholarship Applications so far