## 6th European Conference on Severe Storms (ECSS)

Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 3-7 October 2011

## Conference report by European Meteorological Society Young Scientist Travel Award Recipient Abdullah Kahraman Istanbul Technical University, Turkey

6th European Conference on Severe Storms (ECSS) was held in Palma de Mallorca, Spain in October 2011. The conference gathered highly respected scientists in the world working in the field as well as young researchers and students. The presentations' ingredients had a good balance varying from results of VORTEX-2, the most comprehensive experiment about tornadoes in history, to numerical modelling and forecasting/nowcasting severe weather, as well as remote sensing, climatology and impacts of severe convective storms and relevant phenomena. The scientific level of the presentations as well as the quality of the organization was excellent.

Although my research subject is on severe convective storms, it was my first time in ECSS. My presentation "Severe Hail Climatology of Turkey" is the first study about collecting information on severe hail occurences in the country. With my two co-authors, I have investigated the historical severe hail records from various sources including local newspapers to official weather reports, and started to build a climatology. This is considered to be a first step to initiate research on severe weather events in the country. Not only during the poster session, but also whole conference, I had the opportunity to discuss the annual, diurnal and geographical distribution of severe hail in Mediterranean region and southeastern Europe with several scientists and colleagues. I am happy for the appreciation of the work, although this was a beginning and there are still a lot of things to be done, from classification to case-based research. The feedbacks motivated me to go thoroughly on research of severe convective storms and extreme weather events as much as the general atmosphere of the conference did.

Meeting scientists like Charles Doswell III, whose papers are headstones for my studies was a great experience. I also had the possibility to meet people studying quasi-tropical cyclones of Mediterranean Sea and numerical modelling of severe storms, which was very useful for my present studies. Meeting ESTOFEX members and attending a one day workshop of Chuck Doswell was also very beneficiary. After the intense conference week, I can say that I'm scientifically and socially satisfied more than my expectations.

I would like to thank to European Meteorological Society for the Young Scientist Travel Award, which made me to attend this very important conference possible. I am also thankful to Dr Groenemeijer and other organizers from ESSL and UIB, as well as Martina Junge from EMS for their efforts and helps.