It’s well known that uncontrolled industrialization and urban development cause serious contamination problems in the sea water. Toxic metals which are mainly belong to the heavy metal group are very important pollutants. (1)

Starting from the primary levels of the food chain, they can easily be transported into the marine products, in which they can also be accumulated. Marmara Sea has a water body smaller than its neighboring seas, namely Black Sea and Aegean Sea. The wastewaters from different polluting sources reach the sea of Marmara and the sea products are being contaminated, with seasonal hazardous chemicals of which we have concerned with the heavy metals. Although many research works have been performed on the subject, it is important to define the present situation in order to notice the public as well as administrative authorities.

All fish samples were collected on March 2008. Especially three of the samples were Red mullet, Barbus, and Whiting have been selected as deep sea fish samples. The others, Blue Fish, Small blue fish, and Anchovy are abundant and commercially valuable species in the Marmara Sea. Sample preparation and analysis were made according to the procedure described by Zahou et al. 1998 (2) Following to the acid digestion, all the samples have been analyzed for 6 elements (Cu, Zn, Ni, Cd, Cr) by use of graphite furnace atomic absorption spectroskopy. The quality of data are also be checked by the analysis of the certified reference materials.

The preliminary results showed that the heavy metal contamination of the fish meat are in the range below their standard limits established for the sea products.

References:
