

# WBAF WORLD CONGRESS 2018

FULL PROGRAMME



A professional portrait of a man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned blue tie. A small Hungarian flag pin is visible on his lapel. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be an indoor setting with warm lighting.

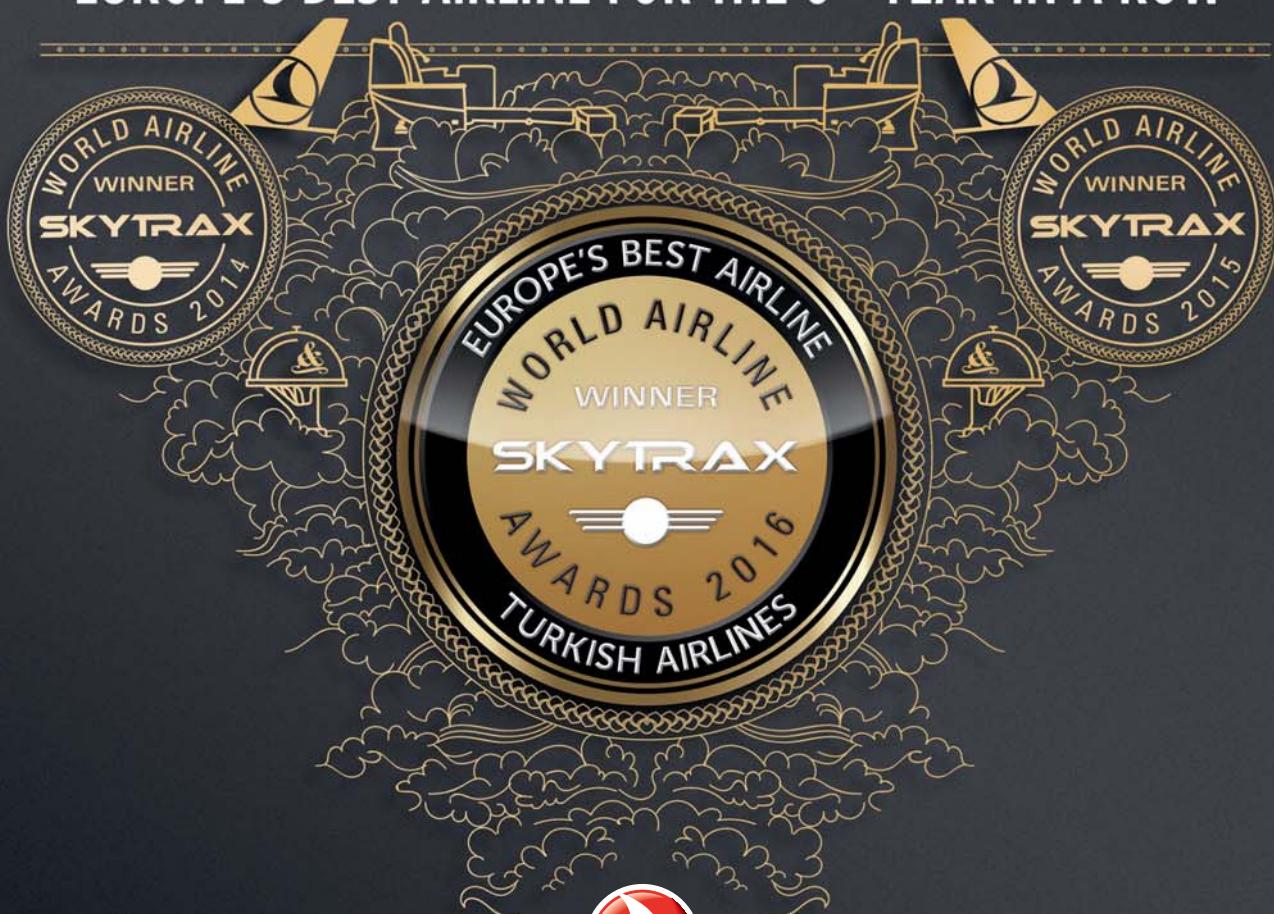
State Secretary, Ministry for National  
Economy, Delegation Leader of V4

## Balázs Rákossy

INNOVATIVE STARTUPS IN  
THE VISEGRÁD COUNTRIES  
AND THEIR ROLE IN  
ECONOMIC CONVERGENCE  
OF CENTRAL AND  
EASTERN EUROPE



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# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

**18 – 20 February 2018, Istanbul**

SUNDAY

## 18 February

**Swissôtel The Bosphorus  
Istanbul**

**12pm – 3pm**

Global Exchange Forum,  
a pre-Congress event  
(open to all participants)

**3pm – 5pm**

WBAF High Commissioners  
Annual Meeting  
(by invitation only)

**5pm – 6pm**

WBAF Board Meeting  
(by invitation only)

**6pm – 7pm**

EBAN Board Meeting  
(by invitation only)

MONDAY

## 19 February

**Swissôtel The Bosphorus  
Istanbul**

**8am – 9am**

Registration Process

**9am – 6:30pm**

WBAF World Congress 2018  
Angel Investors  
Annual Meeting  
Take Invest Summit

**7pm – 8pm**

Chairman's Reception for the  
World Excellence Awards  
VIP Gala Dinner

**8pm – 8.30pm**

Red Carpet Entrance

**8.30pm – 11pm**

World Excellence Awards  
VIP Gala Dinner

TUESDAY

## 20 February

**Swissôtel The Bosphorus  
Istanbul**

**8am – 9am**

Registration Process

**9am – 6:00pm**

CEO-Preneurship Summit 2018  
FinTech Summit 2018  
Impact Investment  
Summit 2018  
WBAF Investment Academy

**6pm – 6:30pm**

Closing ceremony



# Welcome, Global Shapers

19 February 2018

**D**ear WBAF Delegate, On behalf of WBAF, I am pleased to welcome you to this year's meeting of the World Business Angels Investment Forum.

Today in Istanbul, we have hundreds of Angel Investors, Angel Network Managers, policymakers, academics, high-growth business owners, bank executives, presidents of international associations, and stock exchange executives — from 82 countries.

## What is behind this meeting?

We are here to address a very important challenge: We all know that access to finance for startups, scale-ups, entrepreneurs and high-growth businesses is one of the critical issues of the 21st century. But today we also face another important challenge: easing access to finance for Angel Investors for their second or third or further rounds of investment.

Last year 320,000 business angels invested €6.7 billion in Europe and \$26 billion in the US. The total investment worldwide is expected to be \$50 billion dollars in the coming years. If we want to increase the efficiency of these investments — along with market size — we have to leverage the investment capability of these Angels.

## Why is this so important?

The reason is simple: Only Angel Investors have the know-how and the networks to fast-track startups and scale-ups into the world's capital and equity markets. If we can create an innovative financial plan for early exits, this will mean more jobs in a shorter period of time.

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**"Only Angel Investors have the know-how and the networks to fast-track startups and scale-ups into the world's capital and equity markets."**

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So, at this year's forum, we are focusing on how corporate businesses and wealth management institutions can foster open innovation and deliver more business value by setting up partnerships with angel investors, startups, scale-ups and SMEs.

As the global leaders of early-stage investment markets (stock exchange executives, experts, policymakers, academics, bank executives, active members of early-stage investment markets,

and WBAF delegates), we are all coming together to create new ways for Angel Investors to access finance.

Today we are here to shape the global agenda of the early-stage equity markets of the world.

Welcome to WBAF World Congress 2018 and welcome to Istanbul!

I am delighted to welcome you to Istanbul for this special international event.

By working together across borders, with a common vision, and with these smart dynamics in mind, we are well placed to bring about positive change in the global economy. Your efforts to convert the world economy to a smart economy in cooperation with the World Business Angels Investment Forum is highly valued.

You are sure to find WBAF World Congress 2018 a rewarding experience!

Yours sincerely,

*Baybars Altuntas*

**BAYBARS ALTUNTAS**

CHAIRMAN, WORLD BUSINESS ANGEL INVESTMENT FORUM (WBAF)

baybars.altuntas@wbaforum.org



**WBAF**  
World Business Angels  
Investment Forum



# The Davos of the Global Early-Stage Investment Community

Revered ecosystem thought-leader and President of the European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), **Candace Johnson**, reflects on WBAF's successful journey since 2015, and looks toward a bright future for this global Angel Investor community.

**A**s we prepare to come to this year's WBAF World Congress 2018, I think back to all of the wonderful Forums from the last three years. This year we will have a full two and a half days of excellent, insightful presentations, and discussions on the most important topics and issues informing our early stage investment ecosystem.

Already in 2015, the first WBAF was ahead of the curve; defined by its very innovative proposition to provide a forum where Business Angels could come together from all over the world; discover what other Angels were doing; exchange best practices; and learn from not only their peers in their own sector, but also from those in government, corporations, financial and educational institutions, chambers of commerce, etc.

Be it the Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey, Deputy Prime Minister of Macedonia, the UK Minister of Trade, Ministers from Albania, Kosovo, Zambia, Bahrain, leaders of some of the largest corporations in the world - not to mention the presidents of Stock Exchanges, Chambers of Commerce and large investment funds; over the years, WBAF has hosted them all. We have all benefited from their counsel, their predictions, and their insights, just as they have

benefited from our Business Angel investing perspective, needs, and recommendations. WBAF has been a true forum in the best sense of the word; with not only great speeches, discussions, workshops, pitching, and mentoring, but also plenty of time scheduled for networking, brainstorming, and taking in the fabulous heritage of Istanbul.

with Corporate Ventures for More Innovation in 2016 and 2017. These have all lead to this year's topic on Connecting Angel Investors with Wealth Management Institutions. Each of these topics has inspired all of us to look at our early-stage investment ecosystem in a new light, and to grow and learn as a result.

Whereas most people would say that Baybars Altuntas, the Chairman of WBAF is a master promoter and genius marketeer, it is at the WBAF where his true passion and gift as an educator comes to the fore. The meticulous documentation, the training sessions, the topics, the speeches, the speakers — all have been done with a plan to bring about systematic growth in early-stage investing throughout the world.

Many organisations have tried to put in place global infrastructures around the promotion and dissemination of early-stage investing and Angels Investing. The only one that has truly succeeded in making an impact, and bringing about a paradigm shift in the appreciation and importance of Business Angels - and the Smart Finance they bring across the world stage, is the World Business Angels Investment Forum. The European Trade Association for Business Angels and Early Stage Markets (EBAN) is very proud to be partners with this seminal event. ■

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**"Each of these topics has inspired all of us to look at our early-stage investment ecosystem in a new light, and to grow and learn as a result."**

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Alongside the geographical focus from the first years and the luminaries addressing the Forum, each year has had a specific topic. In the inaugural 2015 forum, the topic was Easing Access to Finance from Start-up to Scale-up to Early Exit. This was followed by Developing Public-Private Partnerships to Empower Angel Investments and Partnering



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# **ANGEL INVESTORS CONFERENCE 2018**

*Unlocking the Potential for Innovation: Angel Investors Partnering with Family Offices and Wealth Management Institutions*

**19 February 2018, Monday**

**Swissotel The Bosphorus Istanbul  
Fuji Hall**

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**09:00 Grand Opening Ceremony**

**11:30 Panel 1**

**WBAF Agenda 2018: Expected outputs from Summit Chairs**

For the first time ever, the World Business Angels Investment Forum, as the biggest annual gathering of the world early stage equity and investment markets, will have 5 important summits running concurrently: the WBAF Annual Conference 2018 for angel investors, the Take Invest Summit 2018 for start-ups and scale-ups, the FinTech Summit 2018 for finance executives, the Impact Investment Summit 2018 for impact investors, and the CEO-Preneurship Summit 2018 for CEOs of global \$100-million-dollar-plus companies. Each will address the main challenges and opportunities of the world economy in 2018. This session is to give an overview of what are we going to talk about in these summits, how we built the content, how we designed WBAF 2018 and what the main criterion were for the selection of invited speakers. At the end of this session, you will have an idea about the expected outputs of WBAF 2018.

**Moderator**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia

Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

Inderjit Singh, Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum (WENF), Singapore

Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany

**11:50 Panel 2**

**Global Action Plans of Global Leaders: Unlocking the potential for innovating and developing global partnerships for economic development and for achieving the sustainable development goals of the United Nations**

On 25 September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with a new set of development goals that are collectively

called the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Agenda is a culmination of many years of negotiation and was endorsed by all 193 member-nations of the UN General Assembly, both developed and developing – and applies to all countries. Then-UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon noted that “the new agenda is a promise by leaders to all people everywhere. It is an agenda for people, to end poverty in all of its forms – an agenda for the planet, our common home.” In this session, you will hear about the 2018 action plans of global leaders of early and post-early stage equity markets in response to the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Moderator**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

Abdul Malek Al Jabaar, President, The Middle East Association for Business Angels (MBAN), UAE

Harry Tomi Davies, President, The African Trade Association for Business Angels (ABAN), Nigeria

Prof Arif Ergin, President, The Scientific & Technological Research Council (TUBITAK), Turkey

Arda Ermut, President, World Association of Investment and Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Turkey

Matthew Gamser, Chief Executive Officer, SME Finance Forum - IFC, USA

Dawn Hetzel, World President, Junior Chamber International (JCI), USA

Josep Miquel Piqué Huerta, President, International Association of Science Parks (IASP)

Hashim S. Hussein, Head, The United Nations Industrial Development Organization - ITPO, UNIDO

Candace Johnson, President, The European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), Belgium

**12:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

**12:45 VIP Lunch – by invitation only**

**14:00 Panel 3**

**New Rules of Wealth Management: Including more angel-backed investments and private equity in a diversified family office portfolio**

Any family making use of wealth management services has a twofold responsibility: to understand where their money is going and to understand their relationship to it. Unfortunately, until now, inclusion of early stage investments in the portfolios managed by family offices and wealth management executives were very close to none. So it is now time to start a dialogue between wealth management executives and players of early stage equity market such as angel investors, accelerators, private equity and crowdfunding platforms. This panel aims to develop a dialogue on including early stage investments in wealth management portfolios. How can we develop a start-up portfolio to attract more family offices to invest? How can we help families develop a good understanding of start-up and scale-up investments? How can we mitigate the risks of early stage equities to attract more wealth management in the ecosystem? This session will propose an innovative methodology to attract global wealth management for early and post-early stage equity markets.

## **Moderator**

**Peter Jungen, Peter Jungen Holding GmbH, Germany, Emeritus President of the European Business Angels Network (EBAN), Germany**

Peter Cowley, Serial Entrepreneur and Angel Investor. UK Angel of the Year 2014/15, UK  
Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom  
Zsolt Katona, Chief Executive Officer, MFB Invest, Hungary

**14:40**

## **Presentation**

### **Financial Crime Prevention Revolution**

Within Today's World everyday we faced with a new kind of financial crime activity and our weapons are very primitive. AI and machine learning technologies which utilised with a good payment industry knowledge, will be the next gun and shield to manage our risks.

Ahmet Vefik Dincer, Chief Executive Officer, Fineksus, Turkey

**14:45**

## **Presentation**

### **Investment Opportunities in South East Turkey**

Karacadag Development Agency was established in 2009 and is responsible for Diyarbakir and Sanliurfa provinces (TRC2 Region) which are the biggest cities of Southeastern Anatolia Region. Diyarbakir and Sanliurfa are located in the historical "fertile crescent", within the ancient fertile lands between Tigris (Dicle) and Euphrates (Firat), Mesopotamia. The human history and agriculture were shaped in this region. The region are located in the 6th region according to incentive system of The Ministry of Economy and benefiting from the most incentive elements such as customs duty exemption, VAT exemption, tax reduction, social security premium supports, land allocation and, interest support. This session will give a brief presentation to the participants about both investment and angel investment opportunities of TRC2 Region.

Dr Hasan Maral, Secretary General, Karacadag Development Agency, Turkey

**14:55**

## **Panel 4**

### **Angel Investment as a New Investment Instrument for Islamic Finance**

By the end of 2018, Islamic finance assets will reach \$2.7 trillion, which is 2% of global finance assets. Islamic banks, in addition to local and international players of capital markets, are set to benefit from this growth sector. But when you examine Islamic investment assets and portfolios, early stage investments are almost non-existent. Angel investment, on the other hand, is booming globally and is expected to reach a \$50 billion market size by 2020. What is interesting is that angel investment is 100% compatible with Islamic investment principles and, perhaps surprisingly, the Islamic finance ecosystem is not yet familiar with angel investment., How can we create an awareness of angel investment in Islamic finance ecosystem?

How can we develop co-investment funds between Islamic finance instruments and angel investors? How can we change the mindset of investors in Islamic countries to move from investing in real estate to investing in start-ups?

**Moderator**

**Kaiser H. Naseem, Head, IFC Banking & Digital Finance Advisory Services MENA and Central Asia, UAE**

Sheikh Ebrahim bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Former Minister of Housing, Chairman of Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions, Bahrain

Salah Jelassi, Regional Director, Islamic Development Bank Group Regional Office in Turkey  
Meliksah Utku, Chief Executive Officer, Albaraka Turk, Turkey

**15:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

**16:00 WBAF Case Study**

**Investing in the right team? Or Invested by the right team?**

Murat Kolbasi is the president of Arzum, a leader in the Small Domestic Electrical Appliances Sector. Ahmet Faralyali is the co-founder of Mediterra Capital Partners, a Turkey focused private equity fund manager. Murat made the decision in 2008 to bring in PE investors in a company which was until then completely family controlled. Mediterra Capital Partners is now a significant equity holder in Arzum. This decision has significant implications on the business. Both parties will explain why and how the decision was made, what benefits they each see from the partnership and what challenges they have faced.

**Moderator**

**Ian Sosso, Founder & Managing Partner, Monte Carlo Capital, Monte Carlo**

Ahmet Faralyali, Founding Partner, Mediterra Capital Partners, Turkey

Murat Kolbasi, President, Arzum, Turkey

**16:15 Panel 5**

**Driving your exit strategy: Early exit or not? When is the best time to sell a company?**

“Early exits” refers to a strong trend in the 21st century economy, driven by buyers who want to acquire companies in the \$10 to 30 million [value] range. With “internet acceleration,” entrepreneurs can often create values in that range just 2 or 3 years from startup. The combination of those values, and that timing, are of as an early exit. Interest rates are lower than they have been in our lifetime, the private equity funds are back, and the corporate acquirers are very receptive. What should be the structure of the typical early exit ? Once a business owner makes the decision to sell, what are some of the mistakes them make in approaching a transaction? What are the telltale signs that a business (or entrepreneur) is ready for an early exit?

**Moderator**

**Banu Taskin, Head of Private Banking, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey**

Paulo Andrez, Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal

Dusan Stojanovic, Founder & Director of True Global Ventures, Awarded Best Angel of Europe in 2013, Singapore

Brad Bulent Yasar, Co-Founder, Blockchain Investors Consortium (BIC), USA

**16:45**

**Panel 6****The G20 Agenda on Angel Investment and Early Stage Investment Markets: Converting public finance to smart finance in cooperation with angel investors**

Promoting innovation and sustainable industrialisation requires easy access to finance and financial services that facilitate investment. The IFC estimates there are more than 360 million to 440 million formal and informal micro, medium, and small enterprises (MESMEs) worldwide. According to the World Bank Enterprise Surveys, many of these firms cite limited access to finance as one of their main constraints to growth. However, for the first time ever, proposals approved by G20 leaders last July in Hamburg included a reference to the importance of angel investment as an innovative source of finance to fuel innovation and the entrepreneurship ecosystem. This panel session will build on the G20 framework to try to ease access to finance globally. How can G20 countries include more public money to early stage investment markets? What would be the best pathway to connect know-how, mentorship, and the network of angel investors with G20 economies to support financial freedom for start-ups, scale-ups and high-growth businesses? How can we convert the G20's public finance to smart finance in co-operation with angel investors?

**Moderator**

**Matthew Gamser, Chief Executive Officer, SME Finance Forum - IFC, USA**

Yassin S. Al Suroor, Chairman of Saudi International Chamber of Commerce, ICC Executive Board Member & WCF G20 Representative, Saudi Arabia

Candace Johnson, President, The European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), Belgium  
Bellini Qin, Director of External Alliance, Bolstra Group, China

**17:15**

**WBAF Sharks**

It is not only startups that pitch to investors to raise funds to fuel their businesses; fund managers pitch for exactly the same reasons. One of the partners of a fund will pitch to potential LPs to convince them to put money into his \$82 million impact investment fund. WBAF sharks, all highly experienced investors, will put challenging questions to the fund managers before making their decision. This hot session is a real learning session that will give insights into the mindset of investors in the process of making an investment decision.

**Moderator**

**Andrew Work, Head Content Strategist, Asia Pacific, NexChange, Hong Kong**

Fund Raiser: Cem Baytok, Managing Partner, Idacapital, Turkey

Shark Paulo Andrez, Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal

Shark Haydar Colakoglu, Board Member, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey

Shark Zsolt Katona, Chief Executive Officer, MFB Invest, Hungary

**17:30      Awards Ceremony for WBAF Media Partners Supporting Entrepreneurship**

**18:00      Closing Remarks**

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# **TAKE INVEST SUMMIT 2018**

*Connecting Start-ups & Scale-ups with Angel Investors: Helping the Next Generation of Great Companies Move Forward*

**19 February 2018, Monday**

**Swissotel The Bosphorus Istanbul  
Bern Hall**

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**14:00      Opening Ceremony**

**Welcome Speech**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

**Key Note Speech**

**Inderjit Singh, Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum (WENF), Singapore**

**SMEs need to become global players**

SMEs need to become the next growth engine for the world. For that to happen, homegrown SMEs need to become global players. The question is why we have been unable to produce a sizeable pool of such SMEs in every country. While each country and their governments need to develop a strong ecosystem to support their start-ups and SMEs to grow locally and globally, Inderjit Singh notes that companies themselves have to be ready by transforming themselves by adopting new business models, technology and innovation and be willing to take on bigger but calculatable risks to grow globally. In his keynote speech, Singh will show ways for SMEs to go global faster.

**Key Note Speech**

**Callum Laing, Partner, Unity Group, Singapore**

**The Investors Paradox. Why financial innovation is key to entrepreneurial success.**

The number of startups has mushroomed, yet the number of IPO's has halved in the last 20 years. Paradoxically, it has never been easier to invest in good companies, yet never been harder to exit. This has caused a disconnect between well intentioned finance and the entrepreneurs that create the value in the world. In this presentation Callum Laing outlines 2 innovations that are reconnecting finance with value and helping business to create more impact.

**Key Note Speech**

**Hedda Pahlson-Moller, Board Member, EBAN, Luxembourg**

**The Rise of Impact Investing: Business Angels securing the future of sustainable business and finance**

Sustainability and responsible investing are in the spotlight – and Business Angels have a

critical role to play in this emerging asset class! A strong movement of investors defining non-financial returns (alongside financial returns) in the domains of societal and environmental impact have produced results validating the asset class. While social investing may be more ‘patient capital’ than their traditional counter-parts, the performance of funds specialized in impact investing have captured the attention of the financial service and corporate sectors. Impact Investing had been relegated as a niche - an ‘alternative’ product for a small target market, which wealth managers and philanthropists alike viewed with skepticism. But we have seen an unambiguous and steady increase in assets invested in the nebulous world of ‘impact’ and showcasing impressive results. Buffered by growing public awareness/interest in the social impact space, a new ecosystem is developing and spilling over into ‘mainstream’. The pipeline of investment-ready projects will come from the Business Angels skilled in selecting and supporting the most promising solutions of tomorrow. Business Angels – TIIME (#ImpactImperative) to earn our wings!

**14:30**

### **Panel 7**

**The role of corporates in supporting angel-backed businesses to achieve global growth: Working with corporates to boost start-ups' potential and to accelerate globalisation of companies**

This panel discussion will describe a new roadmap that will leverage early stage investment markets by positioning corporate ventures as a bridge between angel investors and VCs. The panel will discuss the benefits of increased involvement of corporate ventures in early stage investment markets, where start-ups, scale-ups, high-growth businesses and SMEs will find early exit opportunities within their own market. Other challenging questions to be discussed: Which are the better bridges to IPO: corporate ventures or VCs? What should start-ups backed by angel investors expect from corporate ventures and vice versa? Are VCs more open to angel investors backed by corporate ventures, or to corporate ventures backed by angel investors? Where should start-ups position themselves on this road map?

#### **Moderator**

**Paulo Andrez, Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal**

Nikhil Agarwal, Senior Advisor, Federation for Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), India

Wayne Clarke, Founding Partner, Global Growth Institute, UK

Eythor Jonsson, Lecturer, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

**15:00**

### **Panel 8**

**Crowdfunding rules for global entrepreneurs: how to use crowdfunding to secure finance and convince angel investors**

Until very recently, anyone running a private company in the UK would have automatically turned to private equity or venture capital when looking for their first slice of equity capital. But recently published research suggests this conventional route to fund-raising no longer

offers the greatest prospects of success; online crowdfunding platforms are now more likely to provide the financing such companies are looking for. Given that these two businesses didn't even exist six years ago (Crowd cube launched in 2011 while Seedrs came along in 2012), that is remarkable. Between them, the two platforms funded more than 250 companies last year, with 45,000 investments from users in these companies' equity. That maturation is set to continue, argue platform bosses, with institutional money now entering the equity crowdfunding marketplace for the first time, facilitating larger fund-raisings. "2017 will be the year in which institutional capital begins to play a meaningful role in equity crowdfunding," says Jeff Lynn, the CEO of Seedrs. "We are now beginning to see the first exits from investments made at the beginning of the equity crowdfunding era... where we are today is roughly where peer-to-peer lending was when institutional investors first entered that space." This session will discuss how start-ups and scale-ups can benefit more from the increasing efficiency of crowdfunding platforms and how start-ups can use crowdfunding platforms to convince potential angel investors to invest in their businesses. It will also outline the rules for securing more finance in a shorter period of time on crowdfunding platforms.

#### **Moderator**

**Charles Sidman, Founding Member, Angel Capital Association (ACA), USA**

Albert Colomer, President, BANC Business Angels Network, Spain

Ismail Haznedar, JAIN Angel Investing Network (JAIN Global)

Vitaly Polekhin, President, Russian Business Angels Association, Russia

### **15:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

### **16:00 Fireside Chat**

**The Altuntas Start-up Compass Theory: An entrepreneurial road map to success from start-up to scale-up to exit**

Many universities have developed their business curriculum and the teaching of entrepreneurship to align with the Start-up Compass Theory, which proposes nine steps an entrepreneur has to consider: from wannapreneurship to innovation, on to entrepreneurship and marketing and sales, and then to branding to institutionalisation and franchising, before finally progressing to leadership and angel investment. While the inclusion of this approach in educational programmes and workshops attests to its success, it has only recently been evaluated and scientifically validated by a research team of the London City College of Sheffield University. This session will be moderated by the head of the research team, Prof Panayiotis H. Ketikidis.

with

Prof Panayiotis H. Ketikidis, Chairman, South East Europe Research Center (SEERC), Greece

### **16:15 Panel 9**

**What is the importance of a good working entrepreneurial ecosystem for creating more**

## **liquidity for start-ups, easing access to finance for scale-ups, easing access to skills for angel investors and securing early exits for high-growth businesses?**

With new trends developing in global capital markets such as corporate venturing, angel investment, crowdfunding, private equity, and sovereign wealth to empower economies, some countries are struggling to take on of some of these investment methods – crowdfunding, for example – despite proven positive economic impact and the need for such a financial instrument. This panel will discuss how innovative policies can be developed and what the role of public–private partnerships might be in this process. The panel will attempt to put forth a concrete approach to changing the mindset of individuals who are in decision-making positions, both in public and private institutions. Any policy that supports entrepreneurs and SMEs directly, or that supports the supporters of entrepreneurs and SMEs, is useful, including converting public money to smart money by involving more angel investors and corporate ventures. A critical game-changer question will be addressed: How can we create an entrepreneurial ecosystem by bringing all stakeholders around the same table to create more liquidity, ease access to finance and accelerate early exits?

### **Moderator**

**Tuba Terekli, Managing Director, Leads Angels, Saudi Arabia**

Alejtin Berisha, President, Kosovo Business Angels Network (KOSBAN), Kosovo

Hakan Erturk, General Manager, Directorate General of Financial Sector Relations and Exchange, Turkey

Miguel Martin, Founder, Immerxing Hub, Spain

**17:00**

### **WBAF Hot Topic**

**The valley of death funding gap: opportunities for super angels to fund the best startups around the world**

According to the latest 2016 EBAN figures, the average investment for a business angel in Europe was EUR 22,500, and EUR 166,000 for an angel network. At the same time, venture capital investment starts EUR around EUR3-5 Mio. It is extremely challenging for a business to find anywhere between EUR500K and EUR 3 Mio: too big for angels, too small for VCs. This is the valley of death in the funding cycle. Ian Sosso is a business angel, founder of Monte Carlo Capital and winner of the best performing new EBAN member for 2016. Ian explains his investment strategy, from deal sourcing, to due diligence, funding and working with the businesses. Ian explains how, by focusing on businesses in the valley of death, by being able to finance them in the subsequent financing rounds, and by bringing in an global eco-system of support, whilst remaining a business angel, he manages to attract incredible business from both sides of the Atlantic.

By Ian Sosso, Founder & Managing Partner, Monte Carlo Capital, Monte Carlo

**17:30**

### **Plenary Session**

*Please go to Fuji Hall*

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# **CEO-PRENEURSHIP SUMMIT 2018**

*in cooperation with Global CEO Alliance Club*

**20 February 2018, Tuesday**

**Swissotel The Bosphorus Istanbul**

**Fuji 1 Hall**

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**09:00      Opening Ceremony**

**Welcome Speech**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

**Key Note Speech**

**Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey**

**Transitioning From CEO to Angel Investor**

There is nothing new about angel investment, but at this point in time, it is emerging as a crucial asset. Angel investment in early-stage equity markets is an essential component of short- and long-term economic health, and more than financial assistance, startups need CEO input and know-how that can help fill the gaps in entrepreneurs' skill sets. Many CEOs have extensive networks and over the years have accumulated vast experience in overcoming challenges in business, but they tend to retire after careers that are marked by significant achievements. They miss out on the chance to help fledgling businesses generate revenue and add to their portfolios. Paul Doany, the legendary CEO of Turk Telekom, has invested in numerous startups as an angel investor and now, in his keynote address, he will share with CEOs some important takeaways from his own experience.

**Key Note Speech**

**Peter Jungen, Peter Jungen Holding GmbH, Germany, Emeritus President of the European Business Angels Network (EBAN), Germany**

**Corporate World and Angel Investment**

CEOs are human power with a good collection of management skills and a wide network. Entrepreneurs too are human power, but their strengths are in creative thinking and an independent working style. Through angel investment, the two different mindsets can come together with a common goal: scaling a business and creating a global success story. Peter Jungen will talk about the journey from corporate world to startup and angel investment world which promises to be an exciting and thrilling ride, for those who are willing to get in the driving seat.

**Address of**

**Husnu Ozyegin, Founder & Chairman, Fiba Holding, Turkey**

**09:45****Panel 10****The CEO debate: How relevant is a CEO background in starting a business?**

Starting a new business and managing a business require different skills. CEOs of multi-million-dollar companies have excellent experience in managing businesses. But what is the relevance of their management skills when it is time to invest in a start-up? How can they benefit from their CEO background to make the right decisions when investing in start-ups? How can they unlock the power of their networking to accelerate the start-up businesses they invest in? In this session, CEOs will attempt to define the pros and cons of their professional background for early stage investment markets.

**Moderator**

**Nikhil Agarwal, Senior Advisor, Federation for Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), India**

Haydar Colakoglu, Board Member, TEB Holding, Turkey

Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

Turgut Guney, Chief Executive Officer, Cardtek, Turkey

**10:15****Panel 11****Challenges and opportunities of turning CEOs into angel investor**

CEOs are human power with a good collection of management skills and a wide network. Entrepreneurs too are human power, but their strengths are in creative thinking and an independent working style. The two different mindsets will come together with a common goal: scaling a business and creating a global success story. Assuming that most start-ups have no management background, what obstacles are waiting for CEOs? How can you create a common language with a start-up? What should you expect from entrepreneurs once you have invested in their business? What opportunities present themselves when you invest in a start-up as a former CEO? This session will discuss the challenges and opportunities waiting for CEOs-turned-investors. Given the importance of corporate venture capital (CVC) for scaling up new businesses, what sort of opportunities are there for former CEOs to help connect start-ups with CVC?

**Moderator**

**Matthew Gamser, Chief Executive Officer, SME Finance Forum - IFC, USA**

Peter Cowley, The Best Angel Investor of UK in 2015 and 2016, UK

Hakan Akbas, Senior Advisor of Albright Stonebridge Group in Turkey and Founding Partner of Global Dealings Group in US

Dogan Taskent, Board Member, Swiss Chamber of Commerce, Turkey

**10:45**

## **Fireside Chat**

### **The growing influence of women over the world's wealth as investors**

This session will discuss how global capital markets can include more women in the investing ecosystem and what the benefits from the network of women investors are. This session will discuss the growing influence of women (those who earn as well as those who inherit) over the world's wealth as investors as well as influencers in the financial, philanthropic and corporate sectors.

#### **Interviewer**

**Harry Tomi Davies, President, The African Business Angels Network (ABAN), Nigeria**

#### **Guest Speaker**

**Leyla Alaton, Board Member of Alarko Holding & President of Alvimedica, Turkey**

**11:00**

## **Coffee Break & Networking**

**11:30**

### **Meetup 2018: Licensed Business Angels of Turkey**

**The Undersecretariat of the Treasury, the Directorate General of Financial Sector Relations and Exchange, Republic of Turkey**

#### **Language of the session: Turkish**

The Undersecretariat of the Treasury introduced a new system to encourage angel investments in Turkey. The law regarding the promotion of angel investments was enacted in Turkey in 2012, and the system was launched in 2013 with the secondary legislation. It introduced a new instrument for SMEs at their early development stage that are having funding difficulties that aims to increase professionalism and improve the business culture and ethics among angel investors, to make angel capital an institutionalized and trustworthy source of finance, and to make angel investment attractive through state support.

This meetup will bring together licensed angel investors of Turkey to pursue this agenda:

- Action plans for 2018
- Exploring innovative ways to leverage the startup ecosystem
- Collecting feedback from angels about the new \$100-million angel fund backed by TUBITAK
- Creating a platform to share experiences on angel investments between angel investors
- Positioning Turkey Growth and Innovation Fund (TGIF) to boost early stage equity market in Turkey

**Chaired by**

**Hakan Erturk, General Manager, Directorate General of Financial Sector Relations and Exchange, Turkey**

Dr Sahin Gok, Vice President, The Scientific & Technological Research Council (TUBITAK), Turkey  
Yavuz Kaynar, Fund Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), Turkey

**12:30 VIP Lunch – by invitation only**

**Key Note Speaker: Mehmet Simsek, Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Turkey**

**14:00 Panel 12****The importance of global networking for early exits**

The biggest expectation of start-ups from their angel investors is to accelerate the exit process. But exits are the least understood aspect of investing and entrepreneurship. Very little has been written about exits; the emphasis is usually on starting, financing and growing technology companies. Most of the debates on exit strategies are directed towards business owners who want to retire. More recently, there have been a number of discussions and training sessions on exit transactions for venture capitalists. This is not surprising, considering that most venture capital (VC) agreements give the VCs full control to decide when and how all shareholders will benefit from an exit transaction. Exit opportunities have changed dramatically in the past few years, however. Today, it's more likely that a company will be sold without ever having an investment from a venture capitalist. Exits are also happening much earlier than before. Most exit transactions today are in the under \$30-million valuation range. These exits are often completed only two or three years after start-up. The goal of this session is to discuss the importance of global networking for achieving more successful, more frequent and more profitable exits. How can CEOs develop a global network that will accelerate the exits of the businesses they invest in? If a CEO has no global network, is it a better strategy to invest as an angel group member, instead of investing individually?

**Moderator**

**Charles Sidman, Founding Member, Angel Capital Association (ACA), USA**

Naim Kocer, Board Member, Azimut Portfoy, Turkey

Murat Kolbasi, President, Arzum, Turkey

Baş Oney, Managing Partner Globalturk Capital & Country Representative of EMPEA, Turkey

**14:30 Panel 13****Which is better for CEOs? Investing in start-ups or investing in scale-ups? Putting less with more risk or putting more with less risk?**

OECD statistics reveal that only 1.2% of start-ups are able to reach angel finance, and one in every ten scale-ups who has reached angel finance is able to create a success story. So, what could be take-home message from CEOs who are planning to make angel investment? Is it

a better idea to focus only on start-ups with an opportunity of putting in less money with a lower success rate or is it a better idea to focus on scale-ups by putting a little bit more money with a higher potential success rate? Putting less with more risk or putting more with less risk? This session will also discuss how CEOs can mitigate risk in their first angel investments.

### **Moderator**

**Amal Daragmeh Masri, Editor-in-Chief, Middle East Business Review, Palestine**

Arton Celina, Chief Executive Officer, BPB Bank, Kosovo

Balazs Hendrich, Consul General of Hungary in Istanbul

Bostjan Skalar, Chief Executive Officer, World Trade Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Slovenia

**15:00**

### **Panel 14**

**Why are CEOs important for early stage equity markets?**

Most angels see themselves as ‘value-added investors’, meaning that they derive as much personal satisfaction from helping a new business owner as they do from contributing capital to the venture. Many were previously successful business owners. Angels bring with them ‘value added’ benefits including prior industry experience, valuable knowledge about business itself, an ability to mentor, creative ideas, and contacts. Angels who are valued beyond their financial contribution are more likely to assist start-ups in ways never imagined.

### **Moderator**

**Fadi Saab, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Trans Capital Finance (TFC), Lebanon**

Kenan Colpan, Chief Executive Officer, ITU Ari Teknokent, Turkey

Humphry Hatton, Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte, Turkey

Mehmet Nane, Chief Executive Officer, Pegasus Airlines, Turkey

**15:30**

### **Coffee Break & Networking**

**16:00**

### **Fireside Chat**

**How to bring the CEO of a start-up and the CEO of a multi-million-dollar corporation to the same page**

Founding and growing an industry-transforming company is probably one of the hardest jobs anyone could ever do. There are no fixed rules in start-ups. Their mentors always seem to give them conflicting advice, and the books and blogs are so full of useful tidbits that it is hard to know what to prioritise. Sometimes start-ups find themselves staring into space wondering if they are working on the right things. On the other hand, CEOs of multi-million-dollar corporates do have fixed rules, and they know what they have to do. What, therefore, are the pros and cons of these two different types of CEO joining forces? How can we facilitate a learning process between these two different types of CEO? This session will be a good platform to hear

more about important lessons learned by CEOs who have invested in start-ups.

### **Interviewer**

**Callum Laing, Partner, Unity Group, Singapore**

### **Guest Speaker**

**Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey**

**16:30**

### **Panel 15**

**Virgin investors: What should CEOs expect in their first angel investment?**

An experienced angel investor who was a CEO of a multi-million dollar corporate reported: 'It turns out to be easier than I expected, and also more interesting. The part I thought was hard, the mechanics of investing, really isn't. You give a start-up money and they give you stock. You'll probably get either preferred stock, which means stock with extra rights like getting your money back first in a sale, or convertible debt, which means (on paper) you're lending the company money, and the debt converts to stock at the next sufficiently big funding round. There are sometimes minor tactical advantages to using one or the other. The paperwork for convertible debt is simpler. But really it doesn't matter much which you use. Don't spend much time worrying about the details of deal terms, especially when you first start angel investing. That's not how you win at this game. When you hear people talking about a successful angel investor, they're not saying "He got a 4x liquidation preference." They're saying "He invested in Google." That's how you win: by investing in the right start-ups. That is so much more important than anything else that I worry I'm misleading you by even talking about other things.' In this panel discussion, you will hear the reaction to this position from a number CEOs .

### **Moderator**

**Paulo Andrez, Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal**

Ari Korhonen, Business Angel of the Year 2014, Finland

Pinar Massena, Chief Executive Officer, Workinton, Turkey

Sinan Oncel, Chief Executive Officer, Twigy, Turkey

**17:00**

### **Panel 16**

**Insights from former CEOs: Navigating opportunities in your new life after you retire**

In their retirement, corporate CEOs have more time to mentor start-ups, scale-ups, high-growth businesses and SMEs. They come with a good financial package and a vast network that they have built over the years. The only thing they may lack is know-how: they need to learn about the principles of investing in start-ups and about founding a company from scratch. By the same token, SME entrepreneurs and founders of start-ups need support in the form of mentorship, know-how, networking, and finance to grow their businesses. In this session, you will hear more about the experiences of former CEOs who have invested in start-ups. How can CEOs prepare themselves to be qualified angel investors in their retire-

ment? How can they go on empowering world economies by investing in start-up businesses? How can they learn to be a qualified angel investor by taking minimum risk?

### **Moderator**

**Candace Johnson, President, The European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), Belgium**

Abdul Malek Al Jabaar, President, The Middle East Trade Association for Business Angels (MBAN), UAE

Tijen Mergen, Founder, Power of Happiness, Turkey

Ersin Pamuksuzer, Founder, TheLifeCo and StartersHub, Turkey

## **17:30 Plenary Session**

### **Moderator**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia

Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

Inderjit Singh, Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum (WENF), Singapore

Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany

## **18:00 Closing Remarks**

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# **FINTECH SUMMIT 2018**

*Democratising access to finance: Financial inclusion through fintech*

**20 February 2018, Tuesday**

**Swissotel The Bosphorus Istanbul  
Fuji 1 Hall**

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**09:30      Opening Ceremony**

**Welcome Speech**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

**Key Note Speech**

**Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany**

**Meet the Author of “FinTech Innovation” discussing banks business models in the digital era**

FinTech innovation is the opportunity to master a global shift in financial services, as their business models are due to transform from transactional revenues to the offering of real services. The capability to create client-centric digital platforms will divide winner from laggards in the digital era, all based on artificial intelligence to augment clients' capability to make financial decisions and add value to the role of intermediaries. Digital payments are the gateway to the banking relationships, and the biggest contributor to big data for the creation of banking services centred on personal journeys and experiences.

**Key Note Speech**

**Juwan Lee, Founder and CEO, NexChange, Hong Kong**

**Global Fintech: Ecosystem and Trends**

Fintech has emerged as a special category of human innovation requiring a full ecosystem of co-development across technological, legal, regulatory and even psychological and conceptual realms. Mr Lee will examine the complex interactions of the global ecosystem, major trends influencing its development and how fintech is changing lives, business and the global financial order.

**Key Note Speech**

**Brad Bulent Yasar, Co-Founder, Blockchain Investors Consortium (BIC), USA**

**Fintech on the Chain: Future of Global Financial Inclusion**

Blockchain projects that are aiming to change the face of traditional banking and finance system are already gearing up for significant impact. With the current limitations of the conventional centralized banking and finance systems, over \$2B people globally are unable to access banking and credit facilities that most in the western world take for granted. Block-

chain technology and cryptocurrencies have the potential to eliminate these inequalities with the technological solutions that they propose. Whether it be digital identity solutions using blockchain in parts of the world where local governments are unable or unwilling to issue unique identity documents to their constituents or microloans and affordable and safe cryptocurrency based money transfers, decentralization of these services allow us to have technological solutions to problems that have plagued these communities that are left behind by the traditional socio-economic systems.

### **Key Note Speech**

**Filipe Araujo, Vice President, Porto City Hall, Portugal**

### **Smart Cities: Improving cities for startups through technology**

Banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI), and governments' smart cities initiatives are providing a lot of traction in terms of revenue and potential. Fintech companies and 'newcomers' are pushing traditional BFSI customers to take new initiatives alongside running their businesses the traditional way, forcing them to redefine the way they do business. This keynote speech by the Mayor of Porto, one of the smartest cities of Europe, will give important insights on improving cities for entrepreneurs through technology.

**10:15**

### **Panel 17**

#### **A cashless world: Driving cashless societies through financial technologies**

The trajectory of individual countries towards cashless will be shaped by consumers' willingness to ditch cash and the readiness of businesses to accept and promote cashless transactions. Governments and regulators will be the key enablers in the development of infrastructure and policies for business and consumers and the facilitators of the transition to a cashless future. New technologies bring new digital alternatives to cash, such as mobile wallets and internet banking, in addition to credit and debit cards. A recent mobile banking survey shows that 34% of individuals in Europe would readily go cashless if given a choice. This panel will attempt to define digital alternatives for a cashless economy. How can governments and regulators come together to create a favourable environment for the fintech ecosystem to accelerate the adoption of mobile banking and digital payments? In this session you will hear insights from different countries about attempts to transition to a cashless society. As cashless takes hold, banks and insurance companies and their network of partners (fintechs, payment companies, and third-parties across other industries) will have to remake the model of financial services. What are the necessary first steps toward this transformation?

### **Moderator**

**Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany**

*Intro by Soner Canko, Chief Executive Officer, Interbanks Credit Cards Center - BKM, Turkey*

Pelin Guven, Vice President, Interbanks Credit Cards Center - BKM, Turkey

Kaiser H. Naseem, Head, IFC Banking & Digital Finance Advisory Services MENA and Central Asia, UAE

Dakshesh Patel, Chairman & CEO, Zymppay, UK

**11:00 Coffee Break & Networking**

**11:30 Key Note Speech**

**Matthew Gamser, Chief Executive Officer, SME Finance Forum - IFC, USA**

**Neglect the nerds at your peril! Why SMEs are the future of fintech, and why angel investors must pay attention to fintech?**

SMEs and SME financing have not been center stage in most discussions of fintech. Yet this may be the market segment that can benefit most from the innovations fintech bring to financing. So it should not be surprising that, of late, we're seeing a slow, but steadily rising profile of SMEs and key SME finance topics in fintech discussions. Fintech offers the potential for massive improvement in both quality and efficiency in financing SMEs, including financing by angel investors. It makes more timely and more appropriate financing available, and more affordable. The keynote will explore why fintech is focusing more on SME, and what vast potential this is revealing.

**11:45 Panel 18**

**Encouraging innovations outside mainstream banking: How should one respond to fintech innovation?**

The most important problem for banks is that, as they struggle with digitalisation barriers in banking, they are being simultaneously squeezed by having to keep pace with changes in customer behaviour. Some companies create subsidiary fintech businesses in order to encourage innovations outside mainstream banking, while others aggressively turn their business models inside out. This panel will discuss why financial institutions will need to change all of their business models in the near future. What will be the implications of the transformation from a 'financial products distribution channel' to a 'financial consulting distribution channel' for the financial services industry? What is the exact place of technology companies in the new world of banking? In this session, panellists will attempt to identify potential financial industry responses to fintech innovation.

**Moderator**

**Hayri Telekoglu, Marketing & Central Sales Director, TEB Private Banking, Turkey**

Abdul Malek Al Jabaar, President, The Middle East Trade Association for Business Angels (MBAN), UAE

Paulo Andrez, Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal

Gurhan Cam, Deputy CDO & President of Innovation Committee, Denizbank, Turkey

**12:30 VIP Lunch – by invitation only**

**Key Note Speaker :** Mehmet Simsek, Deputy Prime Minister, Turkey

**14:00 Key Note Speech**  
**Dusan Stojanovic, Founder & Director of True Global Ventures, Awarded Best Angel of Europe in 2013, Singapore**

### **ICOs in Financial Services and the rise of Security Tokens**

**14:15 Panel 19**  
**Access to finance in the fintech's entrepreneurial roadmap: What is the smartest capital for fintechs from start-up to scale-up to exit?**

This session will attempt to explore the best type of finance for fintechs from start-up to scale-up to exit. How can crowdfunding platforms, accelerators and personal finance carry a fintech business to angel investors at the seed stage? What sort of angel investor is good for fintech businesses? How can angel investors connect fintech scale-ups with corporate ventures? What are the expectations do CVCs expect from fintech businesses? What would be the best mix of finance for fintech start-ups? What is the best exit strategy for fintechs, and which source of finance would serve best to execute an exit strategy? Panel discussants will define different roles and different financial supports for fintech at different stages of the entrepreneurial journey.

**Moderator**  
**Ari Korhonen, Business Angel of the Year 2014, Finland**

Tal Garih, Strategic Planning Manager, Alarko Group of Companies, Turkey  
Eythor Jonsson, Lecturer, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark  
Barbaros Ozbugutu, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, Iyzico, Turkey

**14:45 Panel 20**  
**Blockchain in the next generation of banking**

Blockchain is arguably the most disruptive technological innovation in decades. It is built on the concept of a distributed consensus ledger, which leverages a network of computers that jointly create, evolve, and keep track of one immutable history of transactions. That is, it provides a distributed and decentralized digital infrastructure that empowers transactions or exchange of value — including financial assets and auto-executable contracts — in a secure and trusted environment. Banks, fintech startups and other parties are already experimenting with blockchain technology across a number of cases such as KYC, AML, remittances, payments, trade finance, clearing and settlements. In this session, panellists will be sharing their views of blockchain, market trends, industry experiments, and platforms and future roadmaps with live PoC.

## **Moderator**

**Serkan Fergan, Business Development Director, TEB Retail and Private Banking Group, Turkey**

Dusan Stojanovic, Founder & Director of True Global Ventures, Awarded Best Angel of Europe in 2013, Singapore

Brad Bulent Yasar, Co-Founder, Blockchain Investors Consortium (BIC), USA

Viktor Romanuk Wanli, Founder at Kinguin.io Pre-ICO 15.2., Poland

## **15:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

## **16:00 Fireside Chat**

**Why “now” is an inflection point for Artificial Intelligence?**

By 2020, 50B devices and 200B sensors will join the internet and will generate data that will be transferred at an unimaginable speed around us. Artificial Intelligence (AI) will enable us to extract insights from this huge amounts of data and the innovation that will take place by using these insights will transform the world in dramatic ways in the coming decades. In this session, Ferruh Gurtas will define what AI is, talk about why “now” is an inflection point for AI although this topic has been around at least since 1950s, and finally describe how AI will transform different industries and what the role of Intel technologies will be in all of this?

### **Interviewer**

**Uygar Doyuran, General Manager of GE Digital, Turkey**

### **Guest Speaker**

**Ferruh Gurtas, The Innovation Programs and Partnerships Director for Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA), Intel Corporation**

## **16:15 Panel 21**

**The role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in digital transformation**

Artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and related data-driven technologies have moved to the forefront of the business technology agenda. Together, they promise real-time analysis, immediate adaptability, and scalable automation. But the actual implementation of AI varies dramatically from function to function — and there are unique challenges to each application. In this session, panellists will examine how AI systems are transforming business operations, rewriting business strategy, and creating new engines for rapid, disruptive growth. The panel will look at best practices in AI for both business and technology professionals in such areas as core AI systems, business intelligence and analytics, commerce, and payments.

**Moderator**

**Harry Tomi Davies, President, The African Trade Association for Business Angels (ABAN), Nigeria**

Simge Alpargun, Territory Services Leader, IBM, Turkey

Uygar Doyuran, General Manager of GE Digital, Turkey

Cavit Yantac, Software Engineering Manager and Chief Evangelist, Microsoft MiddleEast & Africa, Turkey

**17:00****Fireside Chat****Data analytics for better decision making**

It is estimated that about 90% of all the data in the world today has been created in the past few years. IBM estimates that more than 2.5 exabytes - that's 2.5 billion gigabytes (GB) - of data is generated every day. However, it is also estimated that about 75% of the data is unstructured, which means that it is of no real use to the one generating it. Increasingly, companies have begun to realize that in order to stay competitive through better decision making and enhancing value of its propositions, they need to better use the available data through a combination of analytics, business intelligence and product development through their entire value chain. So how can companies manage data and develop a data driven strategy to enhance their business effectiveness. These and others issues will be the topic of discussion with Kaiser Naseem at the Fireside Chat.

**Interviewer**

**Modwenna Rees-Mogg, Editor-in-Chief, Angel News, UK**

**Guest Speaker**

**Kaiser H. Naseem, Head, IFC Banking & Digital Finance Advisory Services MENA and Central Asia, UAE**

**17:30****Plenary Session****Moderator**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia

Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

Inderjit Singh, Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum (WENF), Singapore

Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany

**18:00****Closing Remarks**

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# **IMPACT INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2018**

*Mobilizing private and public capital in innovative ways for the social good*

**20 February 2018, Tuesday**

**Swissotel The Bosphorus Istanbul  
Geneve Hall**

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**10:00      Opening Ceremony**

**Welcome Speech**

**Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia**

**Welcome Speech**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

**Key Note Speech**

**Sanem Oktar, President, The Women Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey (KAGIDER), Turkey**

**Key Note Speech**

**Candace Johnson, President, The European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), Belgium**

**Address of**

**Dr Hashim S. Hussein, Head, The United Nations Industrial Development Organization - ITPO, UNIDO**

**Address of**

**H.E. Lutfiye Ilksen Ceritoglu Kurt, Member of Parliament, The Grand National Assembly of Turkey**

**11:00      Panel 22**

**Global perspectives of impact investing and triple bottom line**

There is an increasing realisation that, along with philanthropy and government aid, private enterprise can contribute to solving social and environmental problems. At the same time, growing numbers of investors are expressing a desire to “do good while doing well.” These are impact investors, who seek opportunities for financial investments that produce significant social or environmental benefits. However, the rapid growth in the field of impact investing has raised issues such as how to assess impact as well as concerns about potentially unrealistic expectations that social impact and market-rate returns can be simultaneously achieved.

This panel session will attempt to define the main challenges of impact investors in early stage investment markets and opportunities to address the challenges.

### **Moderator**

**Robert Rubinstein, Chairman & Founding Partner, TBLI Group, The Netherlands**

Nilufer Aktas, Director, Angel Investment Platform, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey

Yvette Go, Head of Social & Environmental Impact, EIF, Luxembourg

Zeynep Meydanoglu, Country Director, Ashoka, Turkey

**11:30**

### **Panel 23**

**Regional focus: Financing innovation through impact investment in South East Europe**

The promise of impact investing investments made with the intention of generating measurable social or environmental outcomes alongside a financial return is appealing to governments and advocates around the world as they wrestle with complex challenges like economic inequality, climate change, natural resource loss and degradation, hunger, homelessness, and failing schools. For example, in the United States, the ability to attract and apply private capital to address these issues has led to, among other things, an increased focus on the role that public policy can play in incentivizing and shaping the ecosystem for impact investing. What about South East Europe? How do policymakers respond to increasing demands for impact investment? What are the opportunities and challenges in the impact investment ecosystem of South East Europe? In this session, important players of South East Europe's capital markets will share insights from the region.

### **Moderator**

**Prof Panayotis H. Ketikidis, Chairman, South East Europe Research Center (SEERC), Greece**

H.E. Besim Beqaj, Minister of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Republic of Kosovo

Michael Gold, Chief Executive Officer, Crimson Capital, Czech Republic

Ozgul Ozkan Yavuz, Secretary General, Istanbul Development Agency, Turkey

**12:30**

### **Panel 24**

**Blockchain for Social Impact: The increasing role of technology in impact investing and social entrepreneurship**

Today more than ever, we want to take a stand against the injustices we see around the world. Just as our consumption choices send signals to corporations about what is important to us in the things we buy, so do the choices we make concerning our finances. Luckily, an increase in demand fuelled by technological advances has led to more options than ever before. Many of us feel that we cannot be impact investors without having millions of dollars to invest, but most of us can activate the money we have to support the issues we care about. This session will start a dialogue on the intersection of technology and impact investing. Panellists will discuss the benefits of using technology and the importance of being connected to the on-the-ground impact.

How does technology help make access to financial options available to more people? Are there downsides of removing the human connection to the businesses you invest in? Panellists will discuss what is currently available and what they see as the future trends in this space.

### **Moderator**

**Nena Dokuzov, Chief Executive Officer, Nordung Blockchain Hub, Slovenia**

Srdja Ivezkovic, PE/VC Investment Advisor, Croatia

Vlado Milošević, Outreach and Advisory, Cofound.it, Slovenia

Stephan Peters, Managing Director, Sanzaru Initiatives, Luxembourg

### **12:30 VIP Lunch – by invitation only**

**Key Note Speaker: Mehmet Simsek, Deputy Prime Minister, Turkey**

### **14:00 Presentation**

#### **EIF Social Impact Tool Kit**

EIF-managed financial product for social impact investing will be presented, in particular (i) the Social Impact Accelerator (SIA) and (ii) EFSI social impact instruments:

- (i) SIA is a vintage 2013 social impact fund-of-funds of EUR 243m with 11 investments in portfolio to date.
- (ii) EFSI social impact instruments are part of the European Union growth plan to foster social innovation in the EU by financially supporting social SMEs through accelerators and incubators, social impact bond schemes and co-investments with business angels

By Cyril Gouiffes, Investment Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), France

### **14:20 Panel 25**

#### **How to start a social impact venture fund**

Challenges of starting a Social Impact venture fund are manifold as impact venture funds are becoming increasingly instrumental in promoting social inclusion, providing alternative sources of employment for marginalized social groups, and contributing to growth. In addition to financial return targets, they are also supposed to pursue explicit social impact investment targets at the level of their portfolio companies; measure and report on social impact performance achieved at social enterprise level, in addition to financial return performance; and follow strong environmental, social and governance standards in their own activities.

### **Moderator**

**Cyril Gouiffes, Investment Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), France**

Mathieu Cornieti, President, IMPACT Partenaires, France

Elemer Estzer, Chairman, Portus Buda Group, Hungary

Dinko Novoselec, Chief Executive Officer, Feelsgood Capital, Croatia

**15:00**

## **Fireside Chat**

### **Social Impact Highlights of the 4th Global Entrepreneurship Report**

Entepreneurial succes is primarily determined by profitability however social impact is now core to how entrepreneurs assess business performance. Over 2,700 leading entrepreneurs from around the world responded for the fourth edition of the Global Entrepreneur Report prepared by Scorpio in partnership with BNP Paribas Wealth Management. The main takeaway is that investments with a positive impact on society now dominate the agenda.

#### **Interviewer**

**Nilufer Aktas, Director, Angel Investment Platform, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey**

#### **Guest Speaker**

**Tasha Vashisht, Senior Manager, Scorpio Partnership, UK**

**15:15**

## **Fireside Chat**

### **Women leading the way in impact investing**

More high net worth women have engaged in impact investing, inspired others, influenced advisors, and served as champions of change to accelerate the development of an inclusive and vibrant impact investing ecosystem. As a result, there is in an expansion of sustainable capital to address the most pressing social and environmental issues worldwide. This session will discuss how global capital markets can include more women in the impact investing ecosystem and what the benefits from the network of women investors are.

#### **Interviewer**

**Charles Sidman, Founding Member, Angel Capital Association (ACA), USA**

#### **Guest Speaker**

**Danelia Arsovska, President, Macedonian Chambers of Commerce, Macedonia**

**15:25**

## **Presentation**

### **Immersing into IMPACT: Investment opportunities for VR/AR**

Industry analysts believe that virtual reality has the potential be more immersive than any technology before it. This technology's unique ability to connect us and create empathy by opening our eyes to someone else's perspective is unmatched. Education through immersive experiences creates awareness, and can lead the world to act together on global issues we are all facing today. To find the best and most immersive experiences, VR First organizes competitions in which developers all around the world present and contribute with their ideas of a common future. Seeding these projects will allow us to advance technology and make us more responsible than has ever been possible.

By Ferhan Ozkan, Co-Founder, VR First, Germany

**15:30 Coffee Break & Networking****16:00 Panel 26****Women on the Silk Road of Impact**

The panel will address the challenges, threats and opportunities facing women as impact entrepreneurs and investors in their endeavors to be more active in the industrial arena, including: access to financial resources and new technologies, building support networks, improving technical and managerial skills and addressing social and cultural barriers. The role of impact investing in revitalizing the economic ties of the countries of East and West of the traditional Maritime-Continental Silk Road by developing partnerships between entrepreneurs and disseminating best practices will be emphasized.

**Moderator**

**Douja Ben Mahmoud Gharbi, President, Center of Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Development (CEDE), Tunisia**

Dr. Shehla Javed Akram, President, Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Pakistan  
Sabah K. Almoayyed, Managing Partner, Intellect Resources Management W.L.L., Bahrain  
Maria Hala, Chair, Hala Partners, Greece

**16:45 Panel 27****Industry scope: How can impact investors take more active role in achieving good health and well-being as defined in the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations**

Financial inclusion improves health by giving people the ability to manage their medical expenses and rebound from a health crisis. Research suggests that out-of-pocket payments for health care in developing countries are a major reason that some people remain in poverty. In the absence of an efficient public healthcare system, the burden of medical costs rests on poor people themselves. Financial services such as medical insurance can provide a formal channel for mitigating the risks of health emergencies. Women in particular have a high demand for health insurance products to address the common health concerns associated with pregnancy and childbirth, including greater susceptibility to infection. This session will attempt to explore how impact investors and social entrepreneurs can take a more active role in the health industry. It will also discuss how impact investors can contribute to more financial inclusion, which will create social good for the health of a country's population, along with options for public and private institutions to make an impact.

**Moderator**

**Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia**

Zakir Hussain, Founder & Chairman, Usense Innovative Solutions, India  
Deniz Misir, Family Officer, V22 International Advisory J.S.Co., Turkey  
Sara Watson, Global Director, Ready Nation International, USA

**17:30 Plenary Session**

*Please go to Fuji I Hall*

**Moderator**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia

Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

Inderjit Singh, Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum (WENF), Singapore

Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany

**18:00 Closing Remarks**

# **WBAF INVESTMENT ACADEMY**

*Contributing to the development of skills and expertise and to foster the kind of creative thinking that leads to innovation*

**20 February 2018, Tuesday**

**Swissotel The Bosphorus Istanbul  
Bern Hall**

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**09:00 JCI Workshop**

## **Benefiting from the Global Youth Empowerment Fund**

Young people are not the future, they are the present. Young people today are connected, motivated and inspired to identify challenges in their communities and take action to build a better future. The Global Youth Empowerment Fund invests in young people by offering grants, training and mentorship to youth-led community initiatives that advance the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. Hear the stories of impact from these inspiring projects, learn about the framework of the Global Goals and learn how you can get involved in investing in young people.

### **WBAF Faculty Members to lead the session**

Dawn Hetzel, World President 2017, Junior Chamber International (JCI), USA  
John Stamm, Director of Global Philanthropy, JCI, USA

**10:00 WBAF Workshop**

## **From Idea to ICO in 6 months**

What exactly is an ICO? And why is it significant? Initial Coin Offering, commonly known as an ICO, is gradually becoming an accessible means for startups and existing businesses to raise funds. ICO might be the new IPO. But is it, really? Or is it even better? This session will aim to explain the complex process of setting up an ICO while describing the creation of a business plan, tokens, cryptocurrency, preparation of an adequate ICO campaign and methods of raising funds to launch ICO successfully.

### **WBAF Faculty Member to lead the session**

Viktor Romaniuk Wanli, Founder at Kinguin.io Pre-ICO 15.2., Poland

**11:00 WBAF Short Course**

## **How to become a business angel**

This course introduces the angel investment system to those considering investing in start-ups, SMEs or high-growth companies, using their own money and contributing their own know-how. The basic principles of angel investment are discussed, along with practical advice for investing as a qualified an-

gel investor. This is an ideal course for professionals from listed companies who can invest a minimum of 5,000 EUR per year, CEOs of companies who can invest a minimum of 5,000 EUR per year, anyone with an entrepreneurial background who can invest a minimum of 5,000 EUR per year. For anyone new to angel investing, this is an invaluable training session covering the basics of investing, aiming to help investors avoid the pitfalls new business angels often encounter.

### **WBAF Faculty Member to lead the session**

Harry Tomi Davies, President, African Business Angels Network (ABAN), Nigeria

### **12:30 VIP Lunch – by invitation only**

**Key Note Speaker: Mehmet Simsek, Deputy Prime Minister, Turkey**

### **14:00 WBAF Master Class**

#### **Invest in the FinTech r-evolution**

Financial Services are facing a perfect storm: margins squeeze due to zero to negative interest rates in Europe, Japan and US, reputational damage in the aftermath of the Global Financial Crisis, increasing capital charges, skyrocketing compliance costs, generational shifts towards mobile oriented Millennials, progressive disintermediation by technology enabled startups (AI, blockchain, digital, mobile payments, robo-investing). FinTech companies have grabbed the opportunity globally to create transformational compelling propositions that can ultimately replace or revolutionize the operating models of incumbent institutions. Yet, innovation is not an easy journey and requires venture funding, transferable competences, entrepreneurial talent, educational humus and legal easiness. Proactive financial centers and forward looking regulators in New York, London, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Singapore (to name a few) have started to flex their muscles in the attempt to gain a competitive international advantage by helping FinTech innovation to find its ways and promoting sound transformation of banking, asset management and insurance industries. FinServ marketplace has never been so competitive creating threats for incumbents and opportunities for innovators. This masterclass will help identify key trends globally, strengths and weaknesses of new technology shaping the FinTech r-evolution.

### **WBAF Faculty Member to lead the session**

Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany

### **15:30 Coffee Break & Networking**

### **16:00 WBAF Master Class**

#### **Agglomerate: from idea to IPO in 12 months**

If you are the owner of a small or medium business and you are successful, you have probably found yourself with the problem: how do you get to the next rung on the entrepreneurial business ladder – how do you go from a business runner to a business owner? How do you make more wealth, find more time and grow your business? Should you IPO, the entrepreneur's dream, or should you merge and acquire

other businesses? Should you carry on growing organically? Look for funding? How do you take the next step and get yourself that yacht?

Agglomeration shows how normal business owners, across all business sectors, can come together to use the capital markets for what they were originally intended: funding the growth of great businesses that are creating real value in the world for their clients and the wider community. In this masterclass, using the case study of the Marketing Group PLC, Callum Laing shows how small businesses are using a collaborative approach to level the playing field with big companies and getting ahead while maintaining their independence.

### **WBAF Faculty Member to lead the session**

Callum Laing, Partner, Unity Group, Singapore

### **17:30 Plenary Session**

*Please go to Fuji I Hall*

#### **Moderator**

**Baybars Altuntas, Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey**

Renata Brkic, Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia

Paul Doany, Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

Inderjit Singh, Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum (WENF), Singapore

Paolo Sironi, FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany

### **18:00 Closing Remarks**



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**Abdul Malek Al Jabaar** 

President, The Middle East Trade Association  
for Business Angels (MBAN), UAE

# Abdul Malek Al Jabaar

*President, The Middle East Trade Association for Business Angels (MBAN), UAE*

Angel and Early stage investments Insights from the Middle EastI was visiting KAUST ( king Abdulalla university of science andtechnology) and touring the innovation center. I have been participating in an impressive start up computing at KAUST a year ago, and the evolution, progress and entrepreneurship breeze that I saw in my most recent visit was amazing. Things are differently changing and on the right track. I'm seeing real innovation and the full ecosystem in place; mentor shop, bootcamps, acceleration, pre seed funding as well as seed and follow up funding. Really amazing. Start ups receiving attention of big companies like Aramco, Sabic and others as well as investments from these big companies.

Recently we have seen an impressive ecosystem in Dubai being evolved.The Future Accelerator in Dubai stands as one of the most promising initiative. From its name, this accelerator opens its door to any entrepreneur who wants to put his innovation into action to shape the future of Dubai. Smart Dubai Office is looking for innovative smart solutions to make the life of dubai residence happier, smoother and to guarantee the best experience in the world.Few years ago when I started with Mena Apps, the road looked very long and at certain moments I felt it will take a long time before we see real initiatives. We started small initiatives in Jordan and Palestine. I participated in start up conditions and boot camps in few places. I was not saying.

I to any invitation I receive to talk about innovation and start ups as well as the importance of building the ecosystem to enable the arab world to face the challenges that are we are living of ahead of us. Now, I have to apologies from speaking opportunities and events focused on start ups and entrepreneurship in the region, since there are so many events happening monthly.Today we have tens of locally driven events as well as global events that moved to the region. The region is still virgin both in terms of market potential with 350+ million market that most of them are young as well as a talented, motivated and eager to succeed young entrepreneurs. Seed Stars World, Get in the Ring, MIT, Girls in Tech and many other global players are

witnessing an amazing start up spring in the Mena region. Many international angel investors are coming to the region as well. I have personally invested in 35+ start ups, with 40% of them start ups with female founders. When I joined EBAN, I was the only Arab that is part of the leading European Angel Network and now we have MBAN ( the Mena business angel network) and working with global partners to set up a hybrid VC/Angel fund in Mena. Now, we have angel groups in dubai, KSA, Kuwait, Jordan, Tunisia, Egypt and all over the place. The world business angel investment forum (WBAF) is an other key platform that is becoming the bridge between Europe, the works and the Mena region. The new initiatives and work that WBAF brings every year is contribution

a lot to the development of a vibrant and sustainable angel environment in the Mena region. Angel investors play a key role in the success of an entrepreneurship ecosystem. They provide much more than the seed finding or follow up finding. They provide guidance, mentor shop and more importantly they open markets and introduce to key customers. This is not a CSR exercise and should never be looked at from this angle. This is a win-win-win formula. This is the  $1+1=3$  formula. I don't want to give the impression that we reached the top of the mountain? Not at all. More to be done for sure. The above initiatives abs information should be a door opener and should encourage more players. It should open the door for more partnerships and cooperation. We are enter-

ing 2017 and I'm one of those who believe that this year will be the turning point in the history of this region. We will witness major steps towards have some MENA cities as global innovation hubs that will attracts innovators from around the world. Dubai stands as the first in this line, and I'm confident other cities will follow. The WBAF is a platform that we should use to spread the successful stories and best practices into the MENA region. The success story of Bourca Istanbul of building a market for start ups should be duplicated in dubai as well as other stock markets. The public/private partnership that WBAF has managed to successful establish is yet an other model that can be followed and duplicated in the region.



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**Abdulaziz bin NasserAl-Khalifa** 

Chief Executive Officer, Qatar Development Bank (QDB), Qatar

# Abdulaziz bin Nasser Al-Khalifa

*Chief Executive Officer, Qatar Development Bank (QDB), Qatar*

Abdulaziz bin Nasser Al-Khalifa is the CEO of Qatar Development Bank (QDB), the leading development and financing body driving the growth of Qatar's private sector and its contribution to GDP. He previously held leadership positions at QDB, where he was the Executive Director of Strategy & Business Development for three years, serving simultaneously as Vice President of several internal and external committees. Prior to

joining QDB, Abdulaziz worked at Qatar Shell as a Business Development Manager for nearly three years and held technical and managerial positions at The Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation for six years prior to that. He has extensive experience in the SME, private and entrepreneurship sectors. He played a leading role in the launch of several flagship development initiatives, including the Al Dhameen Partial Guarantee

Program, Tasdeer Qatar Export Development Agency and the Housing Loan Program for Qatari citizens. Abdulaziz holds an MBA degree from Qatar University, a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of California and has received several specialized diplomas from Harvard and INSEAD Universities.



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**Prof Ahmet Arif Ergin** 

President, The Scientific & Technological Research Council (TUBITAK), Republic of Turkey

# Ahmet Arif Ergin

*President, The Scientific & Technological Research Council (TUBITAK), Republic of Turkey*

Prof. Dr. Ahmet Arif ERGİN has been appointed as the TÜBİTAK President at the end of the prescribed period according to Article 5 of TÜBİTAK Law No 278. The decision regarding appointment of Prof. Dr. Ahmet Arif ERGİN for the TÜBİTAK Presidency has been published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Turkey. Prof. Dr. Arif ERGİN, who was born in 1970 in Ankara, received his bachelor degree in Electric and Electromechanical Engineering at Middle East Technical University (METU), master and doctoral degree in Electronics and Computer Engineering at University of Illinois, Urbana – Champaign (USA). He carried out his academic life in Gebze Technical University (Gebze Institute of Technology with the former name). He has served in various positions in

this University including his vice presidency. He performed as a part time lecturer at Bahçeşehir University and Naval Academy. Up to now, Prof. ERGİN has written 3 book chapters, 35 international articles and more than 50 statements and he has educated 18 master degree and 8 doctoral degree students. He has established and run the first electromagnetic outdoor measurement field of Turkey in Gebze Technical University. He took part in many projects such as MİLGEN, SOM and National Warrior Plane with his scientific studies as a radar wave and acoustical engineering expert. Prof. ERGİN, firstly started his career in Engineering in ASELSAN and held various positions as Senior Researcher and Chief Scientist since 2001 for the military and civil projects in

TÜBİTAK Gebze Campus. Moreover, he contributed the projects conducted by the TAI, Roketsan, Yonca Onuk and TÜBİTAK SAGE. He also held administrative and professional positions in different companies in Technoparks in accordance with the Law on Technology Development Zones. Prof. ERGİN was appreciated as the awardee of The Young Scientists Award Programme (GEBIP) by Turkish Academy of Sciences (2007), TÜBİTAK Science Incentive Award (2008) and Undergraduate Educator Award of the Year by the Gebze Institute of Technology (2008). Prof. ERGİN has worked as President of TÜBİTAK BİLGEN and the Chairman of the Executive Board of TÜBİTAK Marmara Research Centre Technopolis since February 2014.



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**Ahmet Faralyali** 

Founding Partner, Mediterra Capital Partners, Turkey

# Ahmet Faralyali

*Founding Partner, Mediterra Capital Partners, Turkey*

Ahmet is a co-founder and Managing Partner of Mediterra and serves on the investment committee. Prior to founding Mediterra, Ahmet was with KKR in London where he had the responsibility of expanding KKR's investing activities in

Turkey. He has been involved in several leveraged buyout and growth equity transactions in Turkey and in Europe and executed the largest buyout in Turkey at its time of completion, the UN Ro Ro acquisition. Ahmet served on the Board of

Directors of Pages Jaunes (PAJ. PA) and UN Ro-Ro. Ahmet has an MBA from Stanford University, BSc in Applied Mathematics and BA in Business Economics from UCLA. Ahmet serves on the Board of Directors of Arzum, ACP and Tavuk Dunyasi.

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**Ahmet Vefik Dincer**

Chief Executive Officer, Fineksus,  
Turkey

# Ahmet Vefik Dincer

*Chief Executive Officer Fineksus, Turkey*

Ahmet Vefik Dinçer has been working on global payments and financial crime prevention tools since 2003. He has been graduated from Istanbul University Engineering Faculty, Electronics Engineering department in 2002 and started his career as a soft-

ware developer. He worked for several Payment and AML joint projects in EMEA region with Microsoft and SWIFT as a Team Leader and Product Manager. He has also Master of Business Administration degree from Galatasaray University. Now he is

working for Fineksus as General Manager. Fineksus is the market leader of its geography for Payment and Financial Crime Prevention business area.



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**Albert Colomer** 

President, BANC Business Angels Network, Spain

# Albert Colomer

*President, BANC Business Angels Network, Spain*

Albert has been at the forefront of the angel investor movement in Spain. In 2002, he co-founded and became executive director of the Business Angel Network Catalunya BANC, the first Spanish angel network, which he led. Additionally in 2006 he co-founded ESBAN, a private foundation to raising awareness and promoting angel investment and Business Angels Networks in Spain. Since 2003, Albert is

member of the Board of EBAN. Albert has been appointed by the Parliament of Catalonia as member of the Advisory Board of the Catalan Institute of Finance, the public credit institution of the Government of Catalonia. During his career, Albert has gathered a profound knowledge of the entrepreneurship skills. As a consultant, advisor, coach or business angel, His experience in entrepreneuri-

al field, over 25 years, has helped thousands start-ups and entrepreneurs to born and grow. He is co-founder (1986) and executive director of CPAC (Fundació Privada per a la Promoció de l'Autoocupació de Catalunya), an independent charity with a mission to help people and organizations to be entrepreneurs.



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Alejtin Berisha

President, Kosovo Business Angels Network (KOSBAN), Kosovo



# Alejtin Berisha

*President, Kosovo Business Angels Network (KOSBAN), Kosovo*

Alejtin Berisha is an entrepreneur, educator and an investor from Kosovo and the Founder of Kosovo Business Angels Network (KOSBAN). He is the Co-founder and CEO of Universum College, Kosovo's most entrepreneurial and innovative College. He teaches entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation in several universities, is an affiliate faculty for MOC Program at Harvard Business School and is the National TeamLeader for Global Entre-

preneurship Monitor (GEM); Alejtin is the Co-Founder of iziSurvey – an offline surveying application and the founder of several businesses, mostly in education. He is an innovator in higher education, was featured in the cover page of CIO Magazine (Albanian), and was the host of 'We have a Job for you' TV Show at Radio Television of Kosovo, modeled after 'Apprentice' with Trump/Shugar. Alejtin is a regular commentator in local and international media.

He is the Founding Curator of Prishtina Hub at World Economic Forum's Global Shapers Community, a fellow at New York University and a former Executive Board Member at EAIR – the European Higher Education Society. He has studied at Universities of Bath and Sussex (UK) and South East European University in Macedonia.



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**Amal Daraghmeh Masri** 

Editor-in-Chief, Middle East Business Review, Palestine

# Amal Daraghmeh Masri

*Editor-in-Chief, Middle East Business Review, Palestine*

Dr Amal Daraghmeh Masri - Has an honorary Doctorate from GODSU University-USA. High Commissioner at World Business Angel Investor Network. Decorated by French Republic with Chevalier Legion of Merit d'Ordre National. First Prize Winner of "Best Woman Entrepreneur in MENA". Listed as One of Ten Global Women Entrepreneur & Leaders" by the International Council of the Small Enterprises-USA. Won the title of "Arab woman Role Model-Amal is CEO of Ougarit Group, Editor in Chief, and Founder at Middle East Business Magazine. Dr Masri holds many positions in local business organizations working for the advancement of women in Palestine and

across the Arab world:these include being the head of Local Economic Council of AlBireh Municipality, board member of Islamic Reporting Initiative IRI-UK, and former President of Business Women Forum. Regionally and internationally. She is founder and former board member of Middle East Business Women's Network, member of the Arab International Women's Forum-London and was on the steering committee of the Fostering Women Entrepreneurs in the ME initiative. She is member of the advisory board and shareholder of Mixberry Media - USA and a member of the Palestinian-American Chamber of Commerce. She is H President of Palestine Accueil (FIAFE Paris).

Mrs Masri organizes and heads economic events that tackle economic issues such as unemployment. She was voted as being one of the 'Top Ten Influential Arab Women working in Public Relations in the Arab world' and 'Model Arab Woman', regularly appears on TV and radio, in Palestine and overseas: In 2010, she organized the 1st PR Conference in Palestine, the third of a kind regionally. She speaks at international conferences: New Arab Women's Forum in Beirut and the Arab EU Summit in Athens, Union for the Mediterranean Spain etc. Amal is married to Khaled Masri, her business partner. She has two daughters and one son. Amal was educated in France.



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**Andrew Work**

Head Content Strategist, Asia Pacific,  
NexChange, Hong Kong



# Andrew Work

*Head Content Strategist, Asia Pacific, NexChange, Hong Kong*

Andrew Work is the Head Content Strategist at NexChange, a social media platform for the finance industry and steward of the FintechO2O brand and events. He is the founder and Editor in Chief of Harbour Times and the convenor of Harbour Times Forums. The former Executive Director of The Canadian

Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, he is also currently the President of The Canadian Club of Hong Kong. Mr Work is also the former President of The McGill Society of Hong Kong (B.Sc. 1994) and a graduate of the University of Victoria (MBA). He has MC'ed events for the IFC/World Bank's SME

Finance Forum in Beijing, interviewed and hosted world leaders, Nobel Prize laureates and even small children! His work has seen him take the stage in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Singapore, Geneva, Athens and more.



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**Arda Ermut, President** 

World Association of Investment and Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Turkey

# Arda Ermut

*President, World Association of Investment and Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Turkey*

President of the Investment Support and Promotion Agency of Turkey (ISPAT), Arda Ermut started his professional career at the Prime Ministry of Turkey in 2005, working as a Media and Public Relations Consult-

ant at the Prime Ministry office in Istanbul. He took over the position of Project Director with the establishment of ISPAT in 2007 under the auspices of the Prime Ministry, and progressed through various leadership roles

at the Agency. Following his promotion to the position of 'Chief Project Director' in 2010, he led teams in charge of the Middle East and Southeast Asia regions.



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**Ari Korhonen** 

Business Angel of the Year 2014, Finland

# Ari Korhonen

*Business Angel of the Year 2014, Finland*

Ari is an angel investor and entrepreneur. He is the founder of the Lagoon Capital investment company. He invests in tech companies both privately or from Lagoon Capital. Ari has been a successful technology entrepreneur for 20 years and a full time business angel for over 11 years. He developed his company Komartek into an international success story. Komartek was bought in 2004 by WM-data (presently CGI). His position in WM-data was Vice President. Within the last 11 years, Ari has made angel investments in 34 companies. In those he has participated totally to 107 investment rounds. The companies invested in include

Small Giant Games, MariaDB, DealDash, Miradore, Sympa and Strossle. Of these investments, he has had four successful exits; Severa, Paytrail, Octo3 and The Switch. Ari is also an investor in venture capital funds which include Seedcamp, 500 Startups, True Global Ventures and Spin-top Ventures. Of these investments, he has had one successful exit; Seedcamp fund II. In Spin-top he is also a Senior advisor. Ari is an Investment council member in Finnish Industry Investments. Ari was elected by FiBAN (Finish Business Angels Network) as Business Angel of the Year in Finland in 2014. He is a co-founder of FiBAN and Vice Chairman of the Board

during 2010-2012. Ari has been an EBAN (European Business Angels Network) board member and Vice-President during 2012-2016. He was awarded EBAN Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016. He is also an active member of EstBAN, NFBAN, etc... Ari has been featured by EU-Startups as one of the top 40 of Europe's most active and most influential angel investors. Ari was awarded Honorary Doctorate in Economics and Business Administration by Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT) in 2017. He holds a Master of Science degree in engineering from LUT.



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**Arton Celina**

Chief Executive Officer, BPB  
Bank, Kosovo



# Arton Celina

*Chief Executive Officer, BPB Bank, Kosovo*

Arton Celina was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the BPB Bank in Kosovo in May 2016. He started his career in the banking and microfinance institution - KEP in 1999, to continue in ProCredit Bank since 2002. Mr. Celina joined the team of TEB Bank JSC

Kosovo in 2007, initially as a Regional Manager, to be later appointed Head of Sales and Marketing. Since 2013 Mr. Celina has held the position of the Deputy Managing Director in TEB Bank JSC in Kosovo, in the business segments. Mr. Celina has graduated from the Faculty

of Economics at the Prishtina University. He graduated from his post-graduate studies in the field of management at UBT and in 2013, he received his PhD in the field of Business Administration by SMC University in Switzerland.

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**H.E. Balazs Hendrich**

Consul General of Hungary in Istanbul

# Balázs Hendrich

*Consul General of Hungary in Istanbul*

Balázs is a business strategist, a management consultant and a business developer, but also the head of the diplomatic mission of Hungary in Istanbul. He graduated in International Business School with Oxford Brookes University and got his second degree from Corvinus University in Budapest. During his

professional career he worked for commercial banks, Hypobank and Erstebank focusing on corporate and asset based financing, leasing. Since 2001 he worked, as an entrepreneur, running his consulting company, Grid Consulting, which mainly has been working for the energy industry in Central and

Eastern Europe. Since 2014 he is working for Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, as a consul general in Istanbul. Balázs is a proud father of 4 boys, whom keep him always on the edge.



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**Balázs Rákossy**  
State Secretary, Ministry for National Economy, Delegation Leader of V4

# V4 CONNECTS

# Balázs Rákossy

*State Secretary, Ministry for National Economy, Delegation Leader of V4*

Lawyer, 42. Speaks English, German, French and Russian. He was born in Pécs, and he also studied there. He got his law degree at the Faculty of Law of the Janus Pannonius University of Sciences in 1995. After this he obtained master's degrees in law at the universities of Oxford and Maastricht, specialized in European and comparative law. His professional fields are economic and commercial law, the law of the European Union, competition law, and financial and investment market regulation. In the period of the first Orbán government (1998-2002)

he was political advisor and director general for József Szájer who was heading the Fidesz parliament group at the time. Between 2002 and 2004 he was legal advisor for the Budapest agency of the European Committee, and he was responsible for the legal preparations of the accession negotiations that led to Hungary's adherence to the European Union. From 2004 he has been legal director of national and international companies both in Hungary and abroad (Pfizer, British American Tobacco, MOL). In the period of the second Orbán govern-

ment, between 2010 and 2012 he was director general for Mihály Varga, State Secretary leading the Prime Minister's Office at the time. After that he became director general for the Minister without Portfolio assigned to relations with various financial organizations (IMF, WB, EBRD, etc.). From March 2013 he has been director general of the Minister of National Economy.



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**Banu Taskin** 

Head of Private Banking, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey

# Banu Taskin

*Head of Private Banking, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey*

Banu was graduated from Ankara Atatürk High School in 1984 than she continued education at the Middle East Technical University Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences Department of Economics. Banu began business life Korfez Bank FX Trader in 1990, worked from 5 years after Bank Capital than Boyner Holding also worked as Treasury Manager. She joined İş

Investment in 2001 as Manager of Investment Advisory Unit and she continued her position until 2007 and she left from there as Executive Vice President of Investment Advisory. Banu moved to Türk Ekonomi Bankası ( TEB ) in 2007 and she took responsibility of Private Banking Business management as Director of Sales & Marketing. For a short while she

changed her business focus and she got a Vice President position at Harvey Nichols, Turkey. Banu turned back TEB in 2010 and she is still responsible Private Banking Business management as a head of country BNP Paribas Wealth Management and group coordinator of TEB Private Banking .



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**Barbaros Ozbugutu** 

Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer,  
iyzico, Turkey

# Barbaros Ozbugutu

*Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, iyzico, Turkey*

Barbaros Özbuğtu has more than 15 years of professional experience in global payment and telecom segment, including Telefonica O2 and First Data. During this time, he also acted as the Head of SME Sales of TeleCash, a subsidiary of First Data and shortly after as the VP Sales Germany of Klarna. In 2013, Barbaros founded his own

payment company in Istanbul. He now acts as the co-founder and the CEO of iyzico, one of the fastest growing start-ups in Turkey. iyzico is transforming the payment processing experience for businesses of all sizes through its bank-integrated, fraud-protected payment platform tailored to the nuances of the Turkish market. Obtaining

the BRSA license and being compliant with PCI-DSS, more than 100 people at iyzico go beyond seamless payments and help businesses transform to an excellent online shopping experience. With over 300.000 online sellers, iyzico gains more penetration into the Turkish e-commerce market each day.



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**Barış Oney** 

Managing Partner Globalturk Capital &  
Country Representative of EMPEA, Turkey

# Barış Oney

*Managing Partner Globalturk Capital & Country Representative of EMPEA, Turkey*

Barış Oney has over 30 years of worldwide and diverse experience in the areas of pre and post investment management, private equity, mergers & acquisitions and IPOs. His qualifications extends to strategic, managerial and financial advisory as a CEO, CFO, board member/advisor, investment banker, corporate finance advisor, strategic/international business development manager and as a project manager and engineer. As the Founder and Managing Partner of Globalturk Capital, he has been acting as a venture partner for Turkish companies in capital raising from private equity investors or strategic buyers and staying as a co-investor in companies after the investments are realized. He has further managed more than 100 cross-border M&A,

private equity, IPO, privatization, due diligence and valuation projects on the sell and buy side for clients, both large conglomerates and small to mid-market companies. Prior to establishing Globalturk Capital, his assignments covered setting up and/or managing investment banking/corporate finance advisory practices in three of the most renowned financial institutions in Turkey: Deloitte (Partner), Yapı Kredi Yatirim (acting AGM) and TSKB (Director), and the strategic /international business development – M&A Department of the Turkcell Group (Group Head). He also acted as a project manager, project engineer and advisor in numerous projects in the oil and gas and chemicals sector i.e. P&G, Fluor Daniel, TPAO and Genel Energy. Barış

Öney holds a MSc. Degree from the U. of Texas at Austin as a Fulbright scholar; a BSc. Degree from the Middle East Technical University; and a Corporate Finance Diploma from The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales – ICAEW. He further holds a Management and Corporate Finance Certificates from the University of Tulsa and the New York Institute of Finance. He is a graduate of TED Ankara Koleji. Apart from his Board Membership at Tempo Call Center and Sistem 9 Medya Digital Signage Company, Barış Öney currently serves at the Executive and Advisory Boards of numerous other companies and leading business organizations in Turkey and abroad. He is also EMPEA's Country Representative in Turkey.



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**Baybars Altuntas** 

Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF)

# Baybars Altuntas

*Chairman, World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Turkey*

Former Senior Advisor of the Elite Programme of the London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG), entrepreneurship and innovation guru, global leader, best-selling author, angel investor, columnist, star of the Turkish version of the television show Dragons' Den, Chairman of the World Business Angels Investment Forum (WBAF), Vice President of the European Trade Association for Business Angels, Seed Funds, and Early Stage Market Players (EBAN), President of the Business Angels Association of Turkey (TBAA), the World Entrepreneurship Forum Ambassador to Turkey and the Balkan countries, and President of Deulcom International. One of the top global speakers on entrepreneurship, innovation and angel investment

invited by former US President Obama to speak at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit in Kenya. Recipient of the European Trade Association of Business Angels (EBAN) award for the Best Individual in Europe Globally Engaging with the Global Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in 2014 (Ireland), 2015 (Netherlands), 2016 (Portugal) and 2017 (Spain). The only entrepreneur to be granted a personal audience with former President Obama at the Presidential Summit on Entrepreneurship in Washington, DC. Developer of the world-renowned entrepreneurship theory, the Altuntas Start-up Compass Theory, researched by Sheffield University and used in numerous MBA programmes. Advisory board member of the South East Europe Research

Council in Greece. Appointed as JCI Ambassador, following Ban Ki-moon, former Secretary General of the United Nations. Profiled regularly by leading international media such as CNN International and Bloomberg. A co-author of Planet Entrepreneur: The World Entrepreneurship Forum's Guide to Business Success Around the World, published by Wiley (2013). Author of Off the Bus, Into a Supercar! How I Became a Top TV Star and Celebrated Investor, published by Balboa Press (2014) and translated into Chinese, Croatian, Albanian, and Macedonian.

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**Bellini Qin**

Director of External Alliance,  
Bolstra Group, China

# Bellini Qin

*Director of External Alliance, Bolstra Group, China*

Bellini Qin is a Board Director of Bolstra Group (BG). BG is dedicated to accelerate the development of corporate services for global small and medi-

um-sized enterprises (“SMEs”). With the mission of building a set of digital supply chain management and finance solutions in China and worldwide, BG

serves as a platform for top-tier financial and technological innovations. Bellini has two novels published in China.



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## H.E. Besim Beqaj

Minister of Innovation and Entrepreneurship,  
Republic of Kosovo

# Besim Beqaj

*Minister of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Republic of Kosovo*

PhD. Besim Beqaj is newly appointed Minister of Innovation and Entrepreneurship on 9th of September 2017. Before being appointed as a Minister in the Ministry of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Mr. Beqaj served as a Member of the Parliament of Republic of Kosovo during the previous legislature. Prior to this, from 2013 until 2014 Mr. Beqaj was Minister of Finance, from 2011 until 2013 was Minister of Economic Development, from 2010 until 2011 was Minister of European Integration. Mr. Beqaj was also Political Advisor in the Prime Minister's Office in the Republic of Kosovo and simultaneously, he was appointed as National Coordinator for the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

Mr. Beqaj served as President of the Kosovo Chamber of Commerce from 2005-2010 and has been re-elected for two mandates. During that period, achieved to raise business community association as one of the main factors for the economic development in our country. Mr. Beqaj obtained the title of BSc. and MSc. and Doctoral Studies (PhD) at the University of Zagreb in Croatia. And also completed the European Doctoral Program in Management and Management of Small Businesses at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain and Vaxjo University, Sweden. In addition, Mr. Beqaj has completed the PhD in Development and Management of New Products in Kosovo at the University

of Prishtina. Mr. Beqaj was part of the Fulbright program where he has lectured and conducted academic research in the field of Economic Integration in South East Europe at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago Kent College of Law. Moreover, his experience is enhanced by academic teaching, as he has the status of the Academic Professor at Public University "Hasan Prishtina" since 1996, where Mr. Beqaj lectures International Business. In addition to Albanian language as a native language, Mr. Beqaj speaks fluently English and Serbo-Croatian, and also is served with German language.



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**Bostjan Skalar** 

Chief Executive Officer, World Trade Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Slovenia

# Bostjan Skalar

*Chief Executive Officer, World Trade Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA), Slovenia*

Boštjan Skalar is a CEO of World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies. WAIPA is the umbrella organization of worldwide investment promotion agencies established in 1995 in Geneva with UNC-TAD's initiative. Previously he served as a Director of Slovenian Public Agency for Promotion of Investment, Internationali-

zation, Entrepreneurship and Tourism (SPIRIT). He is also a former Consul for Economic Affairs in Turkey. He studied in the Faculty of Economics in Maribor where he graduated in marketing. He has effectively managed companies in the automobile sector, the printing industry, worked with cladding materials and also worked in the

real estate sector where his travels took him to many countries. He has over 20 years of management experience and is one of the global leaders in investment promotion with a private-sector focus.



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**Brad Bulent Yasar** 

Co-Founder, Blockchain Investors Consortium (BIC), USA

# Brad Bulent Yasar

*Co-Founder, Blockchain Investors Consortium (BIC), USA*

Brad is an entrepreneur, investor, mentor, and advisor who has started and bootstrapped several companies from inception to maturity over the past 20 years. Brad is currently the co-founder and Managing Partner of Krowd Mentor, a strategic crowdfunding advisory firm focusing on ICOs, cryptocurrencies, blockchain, and token powered organizations. As the co-founder for Blockchain Investors Consortium (BIC) with over \$5 Billion dollars allocated to blockchain and cryptocurrency projects and has access to extensive dealflow and experience analyzing disruptive technologies, Brad has participated in dozens successful crowd sales, which have raised over \$500 million from 10,000s of investors since 2016. Brad also

served as managing director of Yasar Corporation where he mentored, advised and invested in more than 50 companies. Passionate about where the worlds of technology and marketing collide, Brad is frequently invited to speak at events related to entrepreneurship, angel investing and business strategy. Most recently, he presented at GCC, Digital Hollywood, and ITU Gate Accelerator Program. A big believer in coaching younger generations of entrepreneurs, Brad serves as a mentor for the Pepperdine Alumni Association. Brad holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and a Bachelor of Science degree in International Business Management (1999) from Pepperdine University (Malibu, California) and a Bachelor of Science degree

in Applied Sciences Math (1996) from Académie de Grenoble (France). His charitable efforts focus on Goodwill Industries, the LA County Museum of Art, the LA Philharmonic and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, to name a few. Born in Turkey in 1976, Brad lived and traveled throughout Europe; England, France, and Greece to name a few and migrated to the United States in 1996. Brad is fluent in English, French, Turkish and has basic knowledge of German, and Spanish. Brad currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Nadine, and son, Max. "I'm all about empowering people. Team members. Our clients. You name it. It's my job to clear a path for success."

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**Callum Laing**   
Partner, Unity Group, Singapore

# Callum Laing

*Partner, Unity Group, Singapore*

Callum Laing has been an entrepreneur for 20 years across multiple countries and sectors. During that time, he has started, built and ultimately bought and sold half a dozen different businesses. He is the author of two best selling business books, and is one of the pioneers behind the 'Agglomerate' methodology to help small businesses access

the capital markets. A Partner at The Unity Group Private Equity, Laing is also co-founder of The Marketing Group PLC. As part of his commitment to the entrepreneurial community, he has interviewed and promoted more than 500 entrepreneurs and leaders throughout Asia over the past few years. Regularly featured in the media, Laing is

an accomplished speaker on entrepreneurship and small business especially 'Assets, Alliances & Acquisitions'. Both his books echo his philosophy that we are moving from an era of competition into an era of collaboration. He is a keen sportsman and lives in Singapore with his wife and two young daughters.



# Candace Johnson

*President, The European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), Belgium*

Sophia Business Angels, FRANCE. Candace Johnson is co-initiator of SES/ASTRA and SES Global, the world's pre-eminent satellite group. She is also founding President of Europe Online Investments S.A., the world's first internet-based online service and satellite broadband network, and founder of Loral Cyberstar-Teleport Europe, Europe's first independent private trans-border satellite communications network. Ms. Johnson is also founding President of the VATM, the Association of Private Telecom Operators in Germany and founding President of the Global

Telecom Women's Network (GTWN). Candace Johnson is also President of Johnson Paradigm Ventures (JPV) which is a principal founding shareholder with AXA, Caisse des Depots, Bayerische Landesbank, and the SPEF of Sophia Euro Lab, Europe's first trans-border early-stage investment company based in Sophia Antipolis. JPV is also a principal founding shareholder in London-based Ariadne Capital, "Architecting Europe.net", one of the earliest supporters and promoters of Skype, the global VoIP phenomenon. Candace is also a member of the Advisory Board of numer-

ous European and US ventures as well as being a Member of the Board of Governors of EDHEC (France), the University of Haifa in Israel, Sabanci University in Istanbul Turkey, and a Senior Enterprise Fellow for the University of Essex. She has been a featured speaker in the OECD International Entrepreneurship Forums in Shanghai, Riga, and Cape Town. She holds Masters Degrees with Honors from the Sorbonne and Stanford Universities, a Bachelors Degree from Vassar College and her high-school degree from Punahou.



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**Cavit Yantac** 

Software Engineering Manager and Chief Evangelist,  
Microsoft MiddleEast & Africa, Turkey

# Cavit Yantac

*Software Engineering Manager and Chief Evangelist, Microsoft MiddleEast & Africa, Turkey*

Cavit Yantac is Chief Evangelist and Software Engineering Lead for Microsoft Middle East and Africa, leading high impact software engineering projects in areas like Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Cloud Computing, High Scale Data, etc. Prior to his current role, he was leading Microsoft Turkey's activities among Developers, Students, Academia, Startups and IT Professionals as well as

partnering with companies and individuals to create next generation innovative solutions, leveraging emerging technology. His focus areas include Educational technologies, Internet of Things, Big Data, Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. Selected as one of Turkey's most influential 100 tech-leaders by the DigitalAge magazine in September 2016, Cavit Yantaç has been with Microsoft for 12 years.

Prior to Microsoft, he's worked for Nexum Bogazici, a German-Turkish consulting, IT and interactive design company, and completed consulting projects in Turkey, Europe and the US. Cavit holds a degree of MBA from University of Georgia and a BA degree from Bogazici University, Turkey.



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**Cem Baytok**   
Managing Partner, Idacapital, Turkey

# Cem Baytok

*Managing Partner, Idacapital, Turkey*

Cem has over 15 years of PE/VC and over 20 years of entrepreneurial experience. Since 2003, He took managing director and lead investment manager roles in Turkey in investment funds where he made several PE/VC investments at different sizes (250k-100m USD), have worked on different asset classes and

financial structures (Growth PE, VC, LBO, MBO, ABS, IPO and M&A) and concentrated on different industries (telecommunication, internet enabled services, financial services, supply chain logistics, healthcare, agriculture and cleantech). He also worked at CXO levels in several of investments, taking

on post investment management responsibilities. He is managing partner of idacapital, investing early stage innovative and impactful startups in Turkey through idacapital innovation fund.



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**Dr Charles Sidman** 

Founding Member, Angel Capital Association (ACA), USA

# Charles Sidman

*Founding Member, Angel Capital Association (ACA), USA*

Dr Charles S. Sidman, MBA, PhD, is an angel investor and managing partner of ECS Capital Partners, LLC, an innovative early-stage venture fund based in Bar Harbor, Maine, USA, but operating globally. He is a founding member of the American Angel Capital Association, past president of the Crowdfunding Professional Association, and a frequent

advocate for, contributor to and speaker on financial and entrepreneurship issues in Washington, D.C. and beyond. Dr. Sidman retired as Professor of Molecular Genetics, Biochemistry and Microbiology from the College of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati, where he also served for many years as Professor of Management in the College of Business and in the

university-wide Honors Scholars Program. His education includes a PhD in Immunology from Harvard University, an MBA specializing in Management from the University of Cincinnati, and sabbatical study in Complex Systems at the Santa Fe Institute.



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**Cyril Gouiffes** 

Investment Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), France

# Cyril Gouiffes

*Investment Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), France*

Cyril has been an investment manager within the venture capital team of EIF for the last five years. He is responsible for the management of EIF social impact instruments portfolio at EIF: Social impact funds investments Social Impact Bonds, co-investment with Impact Business Angels and Investments in impact incubators. His entire career within EIF has been ded-

icated to impact related activities, starting with microfinance in 2008. In this context, he was responsible for the implementation of the JASMINE programme, an EU initiative aimed at boosting the institutional capacity of microfinance institutions in Europe. Prior to joining EIF, Cyril gained unique field experience working with microfinance institutions in the Middle

East. Cyril is an occasional lecturer on impact investing at EM Lyon and studied at Toulouse Institut d'Études Politiques where he received a Masters in Development Economics with a focus on poverty alleviation and local development.



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**Dakshesh Patel** 

Chairman & CEO, Zympay, UK

# Dakshesh Patel

*Chairman & CEO, Zympay, UK*

A successful career in Commercial and Investment Banking including former CFO of the Global Debt business of NatWest Markets. Recent experiences have included the Executive lead in the restructure of a leading UK Bank into core and non core bank and the successful deleveraging of non core activities. Providing strategic advisory and execution to large Institutions in their transformation of their transaction banking businesses. Corporate Advisory work in structured and project financing for Sub Sahara Africa. Now leading the development

of an innovative and disruptive FinTech venture, ZymPay, which has a vision to deliver a seamless global digital payments service working with strategic banking and Institutional partners to deliver diaspora payment services and serve the under banked sector. Sub Sahara Africa being core to its solution delivery. Zympay won recognition recently at the Paris Fintech Forum, where we pitched with 50 companies and ZymPay was awarded the Paris Fintech Start Up Award for Innovation and Financial Inclusion. ZymPay has pioneered a world leading solution to enable

Emerging Markets Institutions to market their services for products such as insurance (e.g. funeral and health plans) and investment savings products through digital channels with ZymPay managing all global collection and FX management in the countries where diaspora work. This service removes the need for expensive money transfer by diaspora to their home countries and reduces significantly the customer acquisition and service costs for insurance and investment management groups.



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**Danela Arsovska** 

President, Macedonian Chambers  
of Commerce, Macedonia

# Danela Arsovska

*President, Macedonian Chambers of Commerce, Macedonia*

Danela Arsovska is the President of Macedonian Chambers of Commerce, Chair of Macedonian Union of Employers' Organizations and Macedonian Representative in the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) World Council. With over 15 years of management experience in the private sector, she is a leader of the Macedonian Business community, more than 10 years contributing with expertise in Investment Law, Investor-State Dispute, Energy – Oil & Gas, Construction & Transport, International Tax Law as well as Labor & Em-

ployment Law. Arsovska is an advocate for women's rights, one of the Macedonian Women Entrepreneurs Association founders, as well as initiator of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the Macedonian business sector. She is member of the Economic Council of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, National Council for European Integration in the National Assembly–Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, Committee on European Affairs in the National Assembly–Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, National Council

of Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Macedonia and Board Member of the National Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Council of Republic of Macedonia. Arsovska is a member of the World Bank International Centre for Settlement of Investments Disputes ICSID in Washington and the OSCE Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in Geneva. She is also a Court Member of ICC International Court of Arbitration in Paris.



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**Dawn Hetzel** 

World President 2017, Junior Chamber International (JCI), USA

# Dawn Hetzel

*World President 2017, Junior Chamber International (JCI), USA*

Dawn Hetzel, nominated by JCI USA, was elected 2017 JCI President at the 2016 JCI World Congress in Quebec City, Canada. Born March 31, 1977, in Washington, D.C., Hetzel received a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from Purdue University in 2000 and post-graduate degrees of Doctor of Jurisprudence and a Masters of Business Administration from Indiana University. She was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan in November 2009. Hetzel worked as a lobbyist in Indiana for six years and as an attorney for the State of Michigan for four years. She currently resides in Lansing, Michigan.

Hetzell joined JCI Indianapolis of JCI USA in February 2002. She joined her local board of directors in 2003 and served as Local

Chapter President in 2005. After serving as chapter president, she served on the state board of directors for the next three years, serving as State President of JCI Indiana in 2008. Hetzel went on to serve JCI USA for the next four years, including General Legal Counsel in 2011 and National Vice President in 2012. In March of 2012, Hetzel moved to Lansing, Michigan and became active with JCI Lansing, while still supporting her home chapter and state organizations. In November of that year, Hetzel was appointed to serve as JCI General Legal Counsel for 2013. She was subsequently elected to serve as JCI Executive Vice President in 2014 and was assigned to the Americas, where she chaired the Conference of the Americas in Medellin, Colombia.

In 2015, Hetzel supported JCI President Ismail Haznedar and the 2015 JCI Board of Directors and Appointees as the Chief Executive Assistant to the President. Hetzel has attended seven JCI World Congresses, eleven JCI Area Conferences and six JCI Global Partnership Summits. She has been honored as JCI Senator No. 68200 and is a Phil Pugsley Patron of the JCI Foundation. She speaks English. In her spare time, Hetzel enjoys running and triathlon training. She has completed several half-marathons, marathons, sprint and Olympic distance triathlons and one half-ironman distance triathlon. As JCI President, Hetzel believes that young active citizens have a responsibility to be informed, involved, and take ownership of

the problems facing their communities. We must be actors instead of spectators, workers instead of customers. When we take an active interest in our communities and understand the issues happening around us,

instead of just waiting for things to happen, we enable change in our communities that creates momentum toward something new, something better. As active citizens, we must work to unite all sectors of society to create

sustainable impact because it's not just someone else's future – it is our future. We are JCI and together we will Build a Better Future!



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**Deniz Misir** 

Family Officer, V22 International Advisory J.S.Co.,  
Turkey

# Deniz Misir

*Family Officer, V22 International Advisory J.S.Co., Turkey*

Deniz Misir is a global family office and investments specialist. Deniz is a purpose-driven entrepreneur, who established Turkey's first internationally operating virtual MFO V22 International Advisory J. S. Co. in 2013. V22's mission is "Family Well-being and Prosperity; Bigger Family being the World herself" and serves with "Wealth Structuring & Planning; Asset

Allocation; Investing Strategy and Deal Origination". Deniz frequently contributes in global family office, private wealth, and family business conferences and brings in the "expert generalist" know-how from both the developed and emerging markets and across disciplines. Before V22, Deniz served the Netherlands Government in roles of "Area Director to Turkey at Nether-

lands Foreign Investment Agency" and as "Senior Investment & Economic Officer". Educated for both at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul/Turkey; Deniz holds a B.A. degree in Economics and an Executive M. B. A. degree. She also completed Picte's "Family Office Masterclass" and Wilson's "Qualified Family Office Professional Program".



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**Dinko Novoselec**

Chief Executive Officer, Feeldgood Capital, Croatia



# Dinko Novoselec

*Chief Executive Officer, Feeldgood Capital, Croatia*

Dinko Novoselec is one of the most experienced fund managers in Croatia with an impeccable track record. He was the CEO of the AZ pension fund, the largest Croatian non-bank FI with AUM of €4.5 billion (a JV of the Allianz Group & Unicredit's ZABA), leading the teams from the fund inception in 2001 to 2017. Under Dinko's leadership the fund won a 40% market share & defended it for 15 years, while annually delivering 6% net

return on the pensions & a net yield of 24% to its shareholders (best Croatian performer in the class). He was pivotal in numerous PIPE-like deals where the fund took significant minority block positions in Croatian companies (Podravka, Luka Rijeka, Imperijal Rab, Koncar, Ilirija etc.) and thereafter guiding their governance. Previously he served as a board member in ZBI, the leading regional mutual fund manager of ZABA where

he was the portfolio manager, and was also the bond portfolio manager / broker in the Croatian central bank (HNB). Dinko successfully led numerous projects, initiatives & teams, and as such has a golden rolodex of FI, governmental and corporate network connections in Croatia, Slovenia & wider.



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**Dogan Taskent** 

Board Member, Swiss Chamber of Commerce, Turkey

# Dogan Taskent

*Board Member, Swiss Chamber of Commerce, Turkey*

After graduating from ETH Zürich with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1993, Mr. Taskent joined MIT for research and Polytechnic Institute of New York University for the Electrophysics and Technology MBA degrees. During 1998-2005, he worked as a R&D engineer, expert consultant and instructor at Lucent Technologies Bell Laboratories. During that timeframe he lead major fiberoptic trans-

mission system deployments. Since 2006, as Partner of Arkan & Ergin Corporate Finance, he has been working development of Turkish startup ecosystem and the technology transfer environment. He listened 2000+ startup projects, mentored 200+ startups, has been involved in establishment of 100+ startup and worked with 50 technology transfer offices. He is the founding President of MIT

Enterprise Forum in Turkey, an active member at the Advisory Board of the Endeavor Turkey and founding Board member of the Ege University Technopark. He has been Chairman of the Board at the Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Turkey and also the Vice-President at the Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK) responsible for Switzerland.



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**Douja Ben Mahmoud Gharbi**

President, Center of Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Development (CEDE), Tunisia



# Douja Ben Mahmoud Gharbi

*President, Center of Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Development (CEDE), Tunisia*

Serial entrepreneur, Business and Entrepreneurship consultant and Mentor with a strong community development motivation. UNIDO expert on Entrepreneurship and Investment Promotion. President of CEDE- Entrepreneurship Center and Endogenous Development, Vice-President of CONECT- Confederation of Citizen Companies in Tunisia and vice-president of FPM- Finance Participative en Méditerranée. Was an active and board member of the National Young Entrepreneurs Association and the National Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs from 1996 to 2011, Served also as Tunisian Hub Manager to the MENA Businesswomen's Network. Speaker on entrepreneurship,

women entrepreneurs, Investment promotion and development, invited at the Presidential Obama Summit on Entrepreneurship in Washington, DC in 2010, at the US-Maghreb Entrepreneurship Conference in Algiers, at WIEF Business-women Forum 2010 in Malaisia and 2008 In Koweit, at OCDE conference « beyond crisis :supporting young enterprises », at WED Conference« Better knowledge, experience sharing and successful approaches towards WED promotion in the Arab region » Jordan in 2009 and other international conferences in Africa and around the word.Specialized in project management, entrepreneurship and employment projects, and Mentoring as volunteer witin

the business organizations and associations CEDE, CONECT, CJD, CNFCE and FPM and also as a consultant within UNIDO, linxeo... Focus on ecosystems development, value chains development, CSR strategies, Social Business, business counselling and training.Has a master degree from the University of Economics and Management of Tunis. Condensed training in Business Administration by the Beyster Institute of the University of California (MEPI Program in San Diego-USA), training on export techniques, management and capacity development of Women in Africa (ICT and Trade Facilitation Office Canada program), Business Training and counselling of UNIDO (ARCEI Program).

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**Dusan Stojanovic**

Founder & Director of True Global Ventures, Awarded Best Angel of Europe in 2013, Singapore

# Dusan Stojanovic

*Founder & Director of True Global Ventures, Awarded Best Angel of Europe in 2013, Singapore*

Dušan Stefan Stojanović is a Swedish entrepreneur, angel investor and founder of True Global Ventures. He is based in Singapore. Stojanović has made 18 investments mainly in Fin-Tech (including payments) and digital media. Out of these 18 investments, he had seven exits and no investment has closed down. In 2009, he was nominated as one of Europe's "Top 5 Angels", and in 2013, he was awarded the "Business Angel of the Year in Europe" by EBAN after having three positive exits in a single week, something which was previously unheard of. At the end of 2010, he founded True Global Ventures and is its single largest shareholder. True Global Ventures is an investment vehicle investing in serial

entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley, New York, Beijing, Hong Kong, Singapore, Stockholm, Paris and Berlin. At the start of 2013, he set up True Global Ventures 2, an investment vehicle consisting of almost exclusively serial entrepreneurs investing exclusively in serial entrepreneurs based in New York, Silicon Valley, Beijing, Singapore, Hong Kong, Berlin and Stockholm within Fintech (including payments) and Digital Media. Dušan's investing style can sometimes be viewed as controversial, since it demands each partner to be active instead of being "passive investors". He only accepts investors who have done an exit themselves as entrepreneurs and have done at least two angel investments. Most partners have

done about 20 investments. As opposed to the traditional VC model, he believes that 32 partners focused on a couple of investments per year is of better help for ambitious entrepreneurs and ultimately driving high returns. Dusan has also contributed to a number of different organizations and entrepreneurs through donations. After his three exits in 2012, he donated a portion of his proceeds to save the last Tesla Lab, the Tesla Science Centre on Long Island, New York State. He is also made a smaller donation to the Tesla Statue in Palo Alto. In 2015, after another exit of his portfolio companies, he set aside funds to donate to female entrepreneurs and Tesla-inspired innovators. It has been noted that he is a

distant relative to Nikola Tesla himself and is a strong supporter of all things Tesla. Dušan

finished High School at Sigrid Rudebeck Gymnasium, in Göteborg, Sweden and finished an

International Business Degree at Gothenburg University and Commercial Law in 1994.



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**Elemer Estzer** 

Chairman, Portus Buda Group, Hungary

# Elemer Estzer

*Chairman, Portus Buda Group, Hungary*

Elemér Eszter is Chairman of the Board of Directors at PBG FMC Ltd., a venture capital firm founded in 2011. The primary goal of the company is to maximize the value of managed funds entrusted to it by external investors, and to facilitate the market success of small and medium enterprises, who generate a substantive export income for Hungary. PBG FMC Ltd. manages a venture capital fund containing a mix of EU and private money since the 24th of February, 2014. Elemér Eszter – after graduating from Pázmány Péter Catholic University

– studied economy and political science at Christendom College in Virginia, United States. He started his career in 2002 at Citi Bank Ltd. Afterwards, between 2004-2008, he was the cofounder of Cryo-Innovation Inc., which was acquired in 2012 by the Swedish public listed company Vitrolife. Portus Buda Group (PBG) Ltd. was founded in 2007. Eszter Elemér, as a cofounder, is an executive officer at the company, which managed 15 acquisitions, 8 real estate development deals, and 10 asset management projects over the past decade. The aim of

PBG Ltd. is to assist the major Hungarian Churches and their institutions to operate on a more sustainable basis. In 2009 Elemér Eszter contributed to the founding of SSP Inc. in the US on behalf of investors and is a member of the board ever since. In 2015 Eszter Elemer was a co-founder of the Hungarian Social Impact Investors Association; from 2017 he is the President of the Association. Eszter Elemer is a cofounder and CEO of Impact Ventures Ltd. (2017), which will manage the first CEE Social Impact Fund.



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**Ersin Pamuksuzer** 

Founder, TheLifeCo and StartersHub, Turkey

# Ersin Pamuksuzer

*Founder, TheLifeCo and StartersHub, Turkey*

Ersin Pamuksüzer, is The Co-Founder of Basaksehir Living-Lab and Co-Founder of StartupBootcamp, İstanbul and StartersHub, İstanbul. With these investments in the last few years, Ersin is aiming to support the Innovation and Startup environment in Turkey and the region. Ersin has started a Mentor Movement in June 2017 which targets developing the quality and profile of Mentors in Turkey as well as channelling the excess money in old economies into the startup world or in other words into new economy. Ersin is also the Founder of the Well-Being companies “The LifeCo” and “SAF” brands. The LifeCo company was formed in 2005 and is providing services in

Well-being therapies and natural healing at its centers in Istanbul, Bodrum, Antalya and Phuket, while SAF was formed in 2006 as a catering services providing healthy and nutritional food to public and chain stores produced in its kitchens in Istanbul. “The LifeCo” company has international reputation with more than 60% of its customers from various parts of the world with a majority from Europe, Middle East and Australia. Ersin Pamuksüzer started his career in Ericsson Telecommunications company in Sweden in 1981 and was the General Manager of Ericsson Turkey for long years. He ended his Ericsson career in 2006 and moved into the well-being sector. During the

Ericsson Turkey period He initiated the formation of Turkey’s leader GSM Operator Turkcell in 1993 as well as a number of other Telecom companies in the region, and has been a Board Member of Turkcell and Turkcell’s International operations until 2006. During this period Turkcell has also become one of the worlds most innovative companies and the largest GSM operator of the region. Ersin Pamuksüzer has a B.Sc. in Electronic Engineering from Linkoping University, Sweden and MBA degree from Upsalla University, Sweden.



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**Eythora Jonsson** 

Lecturer, Copenhagen Business School,  
Denmark

# Eythora Jonsson

*Lecturer, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark*

Dr. Eythora Ivar Jonsson is the founder of Accelerate Business which runs accelerators programs like the Growth-Train ([www.growth-train.dk](http://www.growth-train.dk)) and CBS MBA Accelerator ([www.acceleratevaluecreation.com](http://www.acceleratevaluecreation.com)). Dr. Jonsson is an entrepreneur and an academic, affiliated with Copenhagen Business School and the University of Iceland. He created the first accelerator in Iceland in 2008 and has since run 15 accelerator programs and created five different types of accelerators in the Nordic countries. In 2006 Dr. Jonsson founded an advisory board program, the A-Board, in collaboration with Copenhagen Business School Full-time MBA

program, which has created advisory boards for more than 100 Nordic fast growing companies. Dr. Jonsson has founded or co-founded several start-ups and institutions in the Nordic countries and assisted hundreds of start-ups as a CEO of innovation centre, accelerator programs and investor conferences like Seed Forum. He has taught more than thousand students entrepreneurship at five different universities. Dr. Jonsson was the first researcher to explore board evaluations and effectiveness in Iceland. He founded the first research centre in corporate governance in Iceland and has created programs for Icelan-

dic companies to improve the corporate governance in association with NASDAQ OMX, Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of industries, as well as accounting firms like KPMG, PWC and Deloitte. Dr. Jonsson has written more than 700 articles for specialized journals and magazines about business and economics. He wrote the first book about entrepreneurship published in Iceland. Dr. Jonsson is the chair of EURAM (European Academy of Management) conference 2018, which will be held in Reykjavik Iceland.



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**Fadi Saab** 

Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Trans Capital Finance (TFC), Lebanon

# Fadi Saab

*Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, Trans Capital Finance (TFC), Lebanon*

Fadi Saab has an enriching professional track record over the past 40+ years in Private Equity, Investment Banking, Corporate Finance, Aviation, Tourism, Hospitality, Logistics, and Strategic Management Consultancy. After graduating from INSEAD in Fontainebleau with a MBA in Finance, he started a banking career at SIB - London and JP Morgan Guarantee - New York, to become later one of the youngest VP's of Bankers Trust (BTCo NY) - responsible for the International Investment Management Group in the MENA region. Established Trans Capital Holding in the late 80's and was Chairman & CEO of several companies operating between Europe and the Middle East in aviation, tourism and hospitality (North African Avia-

tion, TransMed Airlines, TransAlsace Airlines and Trans Tourism International). In mid 1990's he provided consultancy services to the Investment Development Authority of Lebanon (IDAL) - Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Minister of Public Works & Transportation, Minister of Tourism. Fadi was Chairman & CEO of TMA, Lebanon's national cargo airline for 12 years till 2008, thereafter was Founder/Chairman and/or CEO of several investment and operating companies in Germany, Denmark, France, Spain, and Lebanon (Top Capital Finance, Aqua Capital Invest, Midtown Hotels; Arab Leasing, United Food Technologies Group, Aqualife A/S, AquaCulture Technologies). In addition to being Founder & Chairman of Trans

Capital Finance (UK), Trans Capital Invest (UK), and Pine Real Estate Development (Lebanon), he is an active participant in various economic or business associations, and numerous NGO's promoting Integrity; Anti-corruption; Governance Principles, and Quality Standards (B20 Task Forces, Better Business Group, MENA-OECD Working Group, ICCLebanon, AmCham Lebanon, IOD Lebanon, and Lebanese Society for Quality). Fadi participates regularly as co-organizer or speaker at major economic & financial conferences, while providing several advisory tasks to promote SME development for various international organizations in France, Spain, Turkey and Lebanon.



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**Ferhan Ozkan** 

Co-Founder, VR First, Germany

# Ferhan Ozkan

*Co-Founder, VR First, Germany*

Ferhan Ozkan is leading VR First with a mission is to enable young VR/AR developers and give them all the support they need to turn their projects into successful startups. His influential journey started when he founded a pre-incubation center funded by World Bank, guiding 8 startups to successful industry exits. Soon afterwards, he

established the revenue generator digital platform Playstore.com distributing games of the top publishers worldwide. As elected Vice-Chair of the IEEE VR/AR Standards Group, he works on bringing the industry closer together, while focusing on empowering the major stakeholders with his expertise and global network. He founded

VR First, a global organization which has already attracted over 800 universities from all around the world to join on its mission of the democratization of innovation. At various conferences, he is passionately addressing to a wide range of audience sharing his vision on the upcoming leap of immersive transformation.



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**Ferruh Gurtas**

The Innovation Programs and Partnerships Director for Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA), Intel Corporation



# Ferruh Gurtas

*The Innovation Programs and Partnerships Director for Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA), Intel Corporation*

Ferruh Gurtas is the Innovation Programs and Partnerships Director at Intel Corporation for Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) region since Nov'16. In this role he is responsible from Intel's corporate responsibility strategies aiming to ensure that the next generation of innovators are diverse in terms of geography, economic status, ethnicity and gender. Prior to that role he was the Corporate Affairs Director for Middle East, Turkey and Africa region for 10 years driving government affairs, education, entrepreneurship and women empowerment programs in the region. In 2011 he took on additional worldwide responsibility as WEF (World Economic Forum) Partnership

Manager in charge of Intel's engagement with WEF around the world including participation to Davos Annual event. He represented Intel Corporation at global entrepreneurship and education programs of US State Department and at Entrepreneurship Advisory Group of WEF for MENA region and he was a member of the advisory board of Business Angels Association of Turkey (TBAA). He is also acting as a "Coaching Champion" at Intel since 2009 and completed CTI Co-active Coaching certification program accredited by ICF (International Coaching Federation) in 2014. Ferruh Gurtas has a BSc degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from Middle East

Technical University, Turkey and MSc degree in Communications and Signal Processing from Imperial College, London. After working as a software engineer at Nortel in telecommunications sector, he joined Intel Corporation in 1997 and has taken various roles in different countries in sales, marketing, business development and operations before joining the Corporate Affairs Group in 2006. Ferruh lived 3 years in UAE and 3 years in UK and currently is based out of Istanbul, Turkey. Besides work, he enjoys travelling, reading books and doing various sports like football, tennis, golf, horse-back riding and Bikram Yoga.

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**Filipe Araújo**  
Vice-Mayor, Porto City Hall, Portugal

The background features a dark blue gradient with faint images of hot air balloons and a city skyline.

# Filipe Araújo

*Vice-Mayor, Porto City Hall, Portugal*

Filipe Araújo is Porto's Vice-Mayor and City Councillor for Innovation and Environment, Chairman of the Board of Directors of AdePorto (Porto's Energy Agency), Chairman of the Board of Directors of Porto Digital Association (supports the Porto City Council in the development of e-government projects and online services), board member of LIPOR- Inter-municipal Waste Management

of Greater Porto, Vice-Chair of Eurocities Environment Forum, advisory board member of Portuguese Association for the Development of Communications, and advisory board member of MIL (Media Innovation Labs) of Porto University. He has a degree in Electrical Engineering (Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto) and holds a M.Sc. in Telecommunications (UMIST - University of Man-

chester Institute of Science and Technology, Manchester, UK). He was a guest Professor at the Faculty of Science of University of Porto, between 2007 and 2011 and a Municipal Deputy of Porto between 2005 and 2009. Other relevant executive functions include Service Manager in a telecommunication company and board member of the Youth Foundation.



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## H.E. Dr. Gjorge Ivanov

President of the Republic of Macedonia

# Gjorge Ivanov

*President of the Republic of Macedonia*

President Dr. Gjorge Ivanov was born in Valandovo, on May 2, 1960. His father's name is Alek-sandar, and his mother's name is Todora. After completing his primary and secondary education in Valandovo, he started his law studies at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. In the course of his studies, he became politically active in the liberal and reformist-oriented youth organizations. In 1988, he began his seven-year long career as journalist with the national broadcaster "Macedonian Radio Television", where he was ultimately promoted to the position of Editor of the Third Programme. During his media career, he was also active in the political system reformation

efforts. After the collapse of the one-party model and guided economy of the then Yugoslavia, Gjorge Ivanov's activism in the youth movements was aimed at promoting political pluralism and free market economy. He proceeded with this activity at the University, where he started working in 1995. He earned a Master's Degree in Political Science, elaborating the thesis entitled: "Civil Society - New Contradictions of an Old Debate". His PhD thesis was focused on building democracy in divided societies, particularly elaborating the case of the Republic of Macedonia. At the Political Studies Department within the Iustinianus Primus Faculty of Law in Skopje,

Professor Ivanov worked on introducing new scientific views on politics among his students, teaching them political theory and political philosophy. Thus, he promoted new teaching methods which helped open Macedonian academia to the Western universities, bringing contemporary literature closer to the students and connecting Macedonian faculties to global databases, even in the early stages of development of the Internet. In 1999, he was appointed Visiting Professor to the South-East Europe Programme at the University in Athens, Greece. Aware that opening Macedonia to the West would be a process requiring efforts of several up-coming generations, Professor

Gjorge Ivanov became active in the European Union TEMPUS Programme for the Republic of Macedonia, introducing reforms in the curriculum and Master Programmes in English language. As professor, he stayed and delivered lectures at a number of foreign universities and participated in many international projects. He was Head of the Political Studies Department and Vice Dean of the Iustinianus Primus Faculty of Law in Skopje. Gjorge Ivanov is a leading expert in the field of civil society and among the very firsts to introduce systematic research of this area in the Macedonian academic society. He was a consultant to prominent think-tanks and research centers. Generations of leaders have passed his training in political management. Professor Ivanov is one of the co-founders of the first Macedonian political science journal "Political Thought". He is founder of the first Political Science Association in independent Macedonia. Ivanov is also one of the founders of the Institute for Democracy, Solidarity and Civil Society, a renowned Macedonian think-tank which has helped shape the political landscape in Macedonia and served as guide to many young talents in the politics. Although never a party member, Professor Gjorge Ivanov was active in designing the reform policy of the political party VMRO-DPMNE, the party that supported his presidential nomination at the 2009 elections. During his first term in office as president, he sustained

a record diplomatic agenda with more than 200 bilateral meetings with heads of state; more than 150 meetings with prime ministers, speakers and heads of diplomacy; more than 100 official, working and informal visits and participations at international events. During his tenure, he held more than 430 meetings with other foreign dignitaries, high and senior officials of international organizations and religious leaders. He hosted over 40 official and working visits of heads of state to the Republic of Macedonia. He welcomed thousands of citizens of various ethnic and religious groups, professional associations and non-governmental organizations in the President's Office. He was a patron of numerous domestic and international cultural, scientific and sporting events. He has decorated a number of individuals and institutions in the country and abroad, including five former and current heads of state. During his presidency, he never forgot to meet and discuss with students. He delivered lectures not only at all public universities in the Republic of Macedonia, but also at the top foreign universities as part of many of his official visits. He received the best students and conveyed their suggestions and remarks to the rectors of the universities and the competent Ministry, in order solutions to the challenges to be jointly found. He introduced the "Best Young Scientist" award. He became recognizable with the School for Young Leaders, which

has provided new knowledge, experience and skills to more than 150 young people. With his commitment thereof, he has attracted over 100 renowned university professors, statesmen and experts as lecturers at the School. Professor Gjorge Ivanov has received numerous invitations to give lectures at renowned universities in the European centers. In October 2009 in Ankara, he was awarded the title Doctor Honoris Causa at the TOBB University of Economics and Technology, one of the most prominent private universities in Turkey, where the President spoke on "The Millet System – Forgotten History or Recipe for the Future". The title Doctor Honoris Causa a second one during his term of office, was awarded to President Ivanov by the Rector of the Istanbul University in March 2011. On that solemn occasion, Professor Gjorge Ivanov held a lecture on "The Megapolis as a Societal Management Model of the 21st Century". In October 2011 in Bucharest, Romania, President Ivanov received the title Doctor Honoris Causa at the Christian University "Dimitrie Cantemir". The last awarded title Doctor Honoris Causa, was received by the macedonian president in Nevsehir, Turkey, at the University "Haci Bektas Veli" in April, 2015. In October 2013, he was named Honorary Professor at the Southwestern University of Finance and Economics in Chengdu, China, and in February 2014, he gave a lecture and was named Honorary Professor

at the prestigious Moscow State University "Lomonosov". In September 2011, President Ivanov was awarded the highest Order of the St. Lazarus Order from Jerusalem. In December 2013, President Ivanov was awarded the Order of St. George's House of Habsburg-Lotringen. In March 2012, in Salzburg, President Ivanov was sworn in as Protector of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. In December 2013, President

Ivanov became a member of the World Academy of Arts and Sciences. This is only a small part of the activities of President Ivanov during his term of office, in which he is dedicated, on a daily basis, to the strengthening of the state unity at the national level and opening of new horizons for the Republic of Macedonia, for the Macedonian economy, education, science, culture, art, sports and creating a better future for young people. Led by

the principle of openness to all in the foreign policy and diplomacy, President Ivanov contributes to cherishing the existing and establishing new friendships and partnerships for the Republic of Macedonia in Europe and throughout the world. At the presidential elections held in April 2014, President Ivanov was re-elected for a new five-year term of office. President Ivanov is married and has one child.



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**Gurhan Cam** 

Deputy CDO & President of Innovation Committee,  
Denizbank, Turkey

# Gurhan Cam

*Deputy CDO & President of Innovation Committee, Denizbank, Turkey*

After BSc Degree of Management Engineering, Gurhan started his professional life in Fortisbank as Management Trainee on Corporate Banking. By ending 3 years in banking, Gurhan converted his career to IT business and soon became Department Head of Core Banking & Treasury Projects and accordingly Department IT Head of Retail Banking. Throughout his 8 years IT career Gurhan has successfully built business in both local and international projects. At March 2012 Gurhan has attended the foun-

dation team of Digital Generation Banking at DenizBank as Department Head of Innovative Special Projects. By returning to banking business he has played leading role in building up new generation digital products and business models in past 5 years. He is one of the architects of DenizBank Digital Strategy powered by many BrandNew Challenging Banking Products. He has spent many effective efforts resulting with DenizBank's "Most Innovative Bank Of The World" and "Global Innovator" titles winning in

3 years in a row. Through the pipeline he gained the MSc degree on "Strategic Marketing and Brand Management". Now he is working as Deputy CDO, responsible from Mobile Platforms, Direct Banking, Fintech Banking, Cloud Banking and Digital Payment Systems including Strategy, Product, Channel and Marketing management. He is also President of Innovation reporting to Management Board and coordinating the Corporate Innovation processes all around the bank.



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**Hakan Akbas** 

Senior Advisor of Albright Stonebridge Group in Turkey  
and Founding Partner of Global Dealings Group in US

# Hakan Akbas

*Senior Advisor of Albright Stonbridge Group in Turkey and  
Founding Partner of Global Dealings Group in US*

Hakan Akbas is a Senior Advisor of Albright Stonebridge Group in Turkey and Founding Partner of Global Dealings Group in US with more than 25+ years of progressively responsible, international experience directing as many as 5,000 employees with revenues in excess of \$2.5 billion in Turkey, the US, Europe, and China. Based in Istanbul and Washington, DC, Mr. Akbaş brings to clients operating experience in leading companies with commercial diplomacy, strategy development market-

ing strategy, global business development including mergers & acquisitions, PPPs, and joint ventures and leading business transformation. From 2006 to 2011, Mr. Akbaş was the Executive Vice President of Corporate Strategy, Business Development, and Insurance Businesses of €15 billion Sabancı Group. He also advised Güler Sabancı, chairperson of Sabancı Group and one of world's top 3 most powerful women by Financial Times in 2012. Previously, Mr. Akbaş was the co-founder and Managing

Director of Business Development Operations for Xerox Global Services with sales of \$10 billion. Mr. Akbas is a Turkish Treasury certified angel investor advising his portfolio companies in various industries. He serves on the boards of several public and private companies. Mr. Akbaş earned an MBA from the Simon Graduate School of Business at the University of Rochester in US, and BS degree in Industrial Engineering from Boğaziçi University in Turkey.



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**Hakan Ertürk** 

General Manager, Directorate General of Financial Sector Relations and Exchange, Turkey

# Hakan Ertürk

*General Manager, Directorate General of Financial Sector Relations and Exchange, Turkey*

Hakan has been serving as the Head of Department for Financial Instruments and Market Development at Turkish Treasury since 2011 and his works are focused primarily on entrepreneurship ecosystem to improve access to finance for SMEs. His department is now actively working on venture capital issues to strengthen the financial ecosystem through developing public policies for business angels and business

angel networks. Mr. Ertürk actively took part not only in the creation of business angels and funds of fund programs but also in improving the quality and volume of business angel investments. He is also dealing with the implementation of the fund of funds system which was established in early 2014 to support the venture capital funds and co-investment funds. Besides, he also works on improving other alternative fi-

nancing instruments to increase access to finance. He graduated from Ankara University, Department of Economics in 2000 and started his career at Turkish Treasury as an auditor. In 2008, he got his MBA (Finance) degree from University of Illinois in the United States. Currently, he is working on a doctorate in venture capital at Department of Business Administration in Ankara University.



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**Harry Tomi Davies** 

African Business Angels Network (ABAN),  
Nigeria

# Harry Tomi Davies

*African Business Angels Network (ABAN), Nigeria*

Harry Tomi Davies (TD) is an ICT Expert with a background of technology management for FTSE 100 level companies in the UK, US and Africa. He directs and advises a broad range of organisations globally, writes and blogs (occasionally) while maintaining a significant network of connections across most of the major social media platforms. He is a regular public speaker and mentor of a broad

range of individuals with a personal goal of “maximizing the creation of social and economic value using digital technologies better”. He is an acclaimed expert in project management of technology systems analysis, design & implementation, an area that is the subject of his 2014 book “The African Project Manager”. TD’s focus in the last decade has been on technology based entrepreneurship in Africa where he

invests, mentors and continues to work on developing an ecosystem of technology start-ups around co-working spaces, incubators, accelerators, angel funding, VC Capital, entrepreneur capacity development, national and state government policies. He is the founder of the Lagos Angel Network and President of the African Business Angels Network (ABAN).



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**Dr Hasan Maral** 

Secretary General, Karacadag Development Agency, Turkey

# Hasan Maral

*Secretary General, Karacadag Development Agency, Turkey*

Hasan has been working as Secretary General of the Karacadag Development Agency (TRC2 Region) since 2015 and his works are focused primarily on regional development to raise a common understanding of development in the region by promoting cooperation between public, private sectors and the non-governmental organizations, to prepare regional devel-

opment plans with a participatory and strategic approach and to implement them effectively, to enforce local capacity and increase productivity, to raise competitiveness and investment attraction of the region by improving the investment climate, in order to facilitate a sustainable social and economic development. He graduated from Dicle University, Faculty of

Agriculture in 2003 and started his career at Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock as an agriculture engineer. In 2012, he got his doctorate degree from Çukurova University and also graduated from Anadolu University, Department of Economics in 2014.



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**Dr Hashim S. Hussein**

Head, The United Nations Industrial Development Organization - ITPO, UNIDO



# Hashim S. Hussein

*Head, The United Nations Industrial Development Organization - ITPO, UNIDO*

Dr. Hashim S. Hussein is the Head of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization - Investment & Technology Promotion Office (UNIDO-ITPO) and Director of the Arab International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Investment Training (ARCEIT) – Kingdom of Bahrain. Dr. Hussein has acquired rich experience in the field of Industrial Development as well as Investment and Technology Promotion in the last 22 years. He's had extensive experience of over 20 years in SME and Entrepreneurship development and He is an international

advocate for Women's Economic Empowerment. He holds a PhD (Honors) in International Law from the Universite de Nantes, France. He obtained a Doctoral Research Programme from the University of Maryland at College Park, Centre for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM), Maryland, U.S.A in the year 1989. He has worked at various responsibility levels in different countries like USA, Egypt, Sudan, Austria and the Kingdom of Bahrain. He joined UNIDO in 1991 as a Program Officer posted in the Kingdom

of Bahrain to eventually become the Head of UNIDO-ITPO in 1996. Dr. Hussein is also the Director of the Arab International Center for Entrepreneurship & Investment (AICEI) in which he played an instrumental role in its establishment in Bahrain in 2001. Through AICEI, he initiated and developed the Enterprise Development & Investment Promotion Program (EDIP) which is currently implemented in over 49 countries from Uruguay, Africa, the MENA region and all the way to China.



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**Haydar Colakoglu**   
Board Member, TEB Holding, Turkey

# Haydar Colakoglu

*Board Member, TEB Holding, Turkey*



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**Hayri Telekoglu** 

Marketing & Central Sales Director, TEB  
Private Banking, Turkey

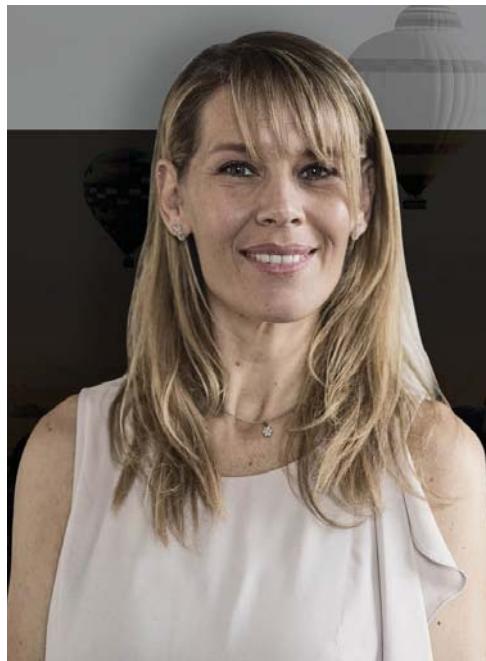
# Hayri Telekoglu

*Marketing & Central Sales Director, TEB Private Banking, Turkey*

Hayri graduated from Middle East Technical University, Department of Sociology in 1998. Between 2006-2008 he held his executive MBA degree in Bilgi University Istanbul /Turkey. Hayri began his banking career as a member of Corporate Banking Management Trainee in 1998 and he continued his position until 2000 in Bank Kapital . He started to work in Treasury Department as a ALM Assistant Specialist and then continued his career as a Corporate Banking Relationship Specialist until

2000. Hayri moved to GARANTİ BANK / ISTANBUL as a SME Banking Portfolio Manager in 2000. He worked in the same position from 2000 to 2002. Hayri became a Product Development Manager in 2002 at CRM & Marketing Department and he worked there until June 2005 as Retail and Small Business Banking Product Development Manager at GARANTİ BANK /ISTANBULHe joined TEB / BNP Paribas Joint Venture in June 2005 and he has been leading to Retail Bank-

ing Product Development and Brand Communication Management. After 2007 he became Marketing and Communication Senior Manager of TEB Private Banking. In 2015 Hayri took digital marketing project leader role at BNP Paribas Wealth Management in Paris . Since 2016 he is the Director of TEB Private Banking Marketing and Central Sales.



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**Hedda Pahlson-Moller**

Board Member, EBAN, Luxembourg



# Hedda Pahlson-Moller

*Board Member, EBAN, Luxembourg*

Hedda Pahlson-Moller is a Business Angel, Board Member, Adjunct Professor, and out-spoken advocate for all things IMPACT through TIIME.org. The common denominator between the initiatives has been mobilizing capital and resources towards positive social and environmental impact, leveraging the power of diversity and entrepreneurship. Hedda invests through OMSINT, an impact investment vehicle, and does Advisory and Advocacy through TIIME.org, a Social Impact Cat-

alyst. Hedda has spent the last 10 years as Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship and Social Entrepreneurship at Sacred Heart University and lectures on Social Innovation and Social Enterprise at the University of Luxembourg. She is an Executive Fellow at Essex University. Hedda sits on the boards of the European Business Angel Network (chairing EBAN Impact), LBAN and Rising Tide Europe (women's angel fund). She is advisor to the Luxembourg government on Sustainable

Development (CSDD) and sits on the advisory board for the Vodafone F-Lane Accelerator for Women Empowerment as well as Equilibre, a Think Tank for Gender Complementarity. Her previous board positions include European Venture Philanthropy Association and Luxembourg Microfinance and Development Fund – organizations she still actively supports alongside her TONIIC 100% membership.



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**Humphry Hatton** 

Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte, Turkey

# Humphry Hatton

*Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte, Turkey*

Humphry Hatton is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Deloitte Turkey. Before moving to Turkey in 2016, he was the former CEO of Deloitte's Corporate Finance businesses in the Middle East, and previously he was a Board Member of the UK firm Deloitte LLP and headed up their Forensic & Dispute Services practice for 11 years. He was a member of the Deloitte global executive committees for both Forensic Services and

all Financial Advisory services for several years. Humphry has worked extensively with clients in many countries around the world and in a wide variety of industries, but the majority of his practice has been for clients in the financial services industry, particularly banking, as well as working with many of the leading law firms in the world. As a client practitioner Humphry has led some of the most complex forensic assignments

ever undertaken across a range of areas such as litigation and arbitration proceedings, asset tracing and recovery, financial services and corporate accounting investigations and regulatory compliance work. He is a regular speaker on compliance and regulatory matters, as well as matters of wider economic and financial interest relating to the development of business activity.

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**Husnu Ozyegin** 

Founder & Chairman, Fiba Holding, Turkey

# Husnu Ozyegin

*Founder & Chairman, Fiba Holding, Turkey*

Husnu Ozyegin is a Turkish businessman, the owner of FIBA Holding which is a group of finance related companies. He is a self-made billionaire whose net worth is \$3 billion. Ozyegin is the wealthiest man in Turkey. Ozyegin was born in 1944 in Izmir, Turkey. He studied in one of the most elite academies in Istanbul 'Robert College' and graduated from there in 1963. According to Ozyegin, he had only thousand dollars when he went to the United States. There he enrolled at the Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon and graduated with a BS degree in civil engineering. After that, he pursued further studies and attended the Business School at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts obtaining

an MBA degree. He remained in U.S for 3 more years after which he decided to take up an offer from the Pamukbank that was under the ownership of his old school friend Mehmet Emin Karamehmet. He was 32 when he started working there as a general manager. He turned around the bank that was going into a loss before Ozyegin became a part of it. He worked as managing director and general manager of Yapi ve Kredi Bankasi and he remained on this position till 1987. Ozyegin was a member of the Executive Board from 1974 to 1977. After fulfilling his duties at the Pamukbank, Husnu Ozyegin realized that he wanted to have his own bank. He founded the Finansbank in October 1987. Ozyegin expand-

ed Finansbank to 200 branches in 9 countries of Europe apart from Turkey. He initiated several other business mostly finance companies which he joined together under the name 'Fiba Holding' with 8,500 employees in more than 20 countries. Ozyegin made several investments in high demand industries including energy and retail, real estate and construction of shopping centers and condos in the central local business districts. He bought the retail business of supermarket chains called Endi, Gima, Greens and Spar in 1966. Ozyegin made a franchising contract with the famous retail chain of Britain 'Marks & Spencer'. He also bought a bank called 'Sakura bank'.



# Ian Sosso

*Founder & Managing Partner, Monte Carlo Capital, Monte Carlo*

Ian founded Monte Carlo Capital in 2009 to invest his own assets in early stage companies. Over the years Monte Carlo Capital attracted a group of sophisticated individuals who invest as a group between \$500K and to \$3Mio in each business. Monte Carlo Capital looks for the best start ups around the world: businesses with a clear edge, strong intellectual property or looking to disrupt an industry, and has build a portfolio of exceptional companies in sectors ranging from biotech and medical devices to artificial intelligence, robotics, fintech, robotics and consumer products. Ian is regularly the lead investor and is involved in each step of the deal, from deal

sourcing, to due diligence, deal structuring, and often joins the board or the advisory board. Before founding Monte Carlo Capital, Ian was, until 2009, the regional managing director and head of capital markets in Asia for Commerzbank where he was managing all capital markets activities in Asia, including equity derivatives, credit, precious metals, foreign exchange, debt capital markets, as well as the treasuries of HK, Singapore and Shanghai. Ian started his career in 1993 and previously worked in Paris, London, Tokyo, Singapore and Hong Kong with HSBC, UBS and JPMorgan, holding positions in trading, sales and financial engineering. Over the years, Ian has been a keynote speaker in numerous

conferences in China, HK, Singapore, Taiwan, Korea, Malaysia, Russia and Monaco. Ian currently lectures venture capital to MBA and finance MSc students at the International University of Monaco, and a regular speaker at leading business school. He is also a board member of the Monaco Venture Capital Association. Ian joined the European Business Angels Network (EBAN), in 2016 and recently won the best performing new member award at the annual conference of EBAN in Malaga. EBAN is the pan-European trade association for the early stage investor community and gathers member organisations in 59 countries.

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**Inderjit Singh**

Co-President, World Entrepreneurship Forum  
(WENF), Singapore

# Inderjit Singh

*CEO, Solstar International Pte Ltd, Serial Entrepreneur and Former Member of Parliament*

Inderjit is a rare combination of experiences, managing a multi-national company, a serial entrepreneur, angel investor and a Policy Maker. An engineer by training and having worked at Texas Instruments for 13 years, he embarked on his entrepreneurship journey at the age of 37 by starting United Test and Assembly Center, a large semiconductor company once valued at \$2b when listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange. After exiting UTAC, Inderjit started a few other successful companies. In addition to starting his own companies, Inderjit is also an active Angel investor and mentor, having invested in about 20 companies over the last 15 years. Inderjit has extensive experience in the field of entrepreneurship

– as an entrepreneur, starting a few companies around the world, as an investor, investing in start-up, and as a policy maker, helping create a good ecosystem through policy changes, and in educating the next generation of entrepreneurs. Inderjit’s passion for entrepreneurship has seen him being a leading global and national voice on the importance of entrepreneurship in society. Inderjit is a Co-President of the World Entrepreneurship Forum, a global organization on entrepreneurship development and the World Business Angel Forum. Inderjit was also the founding President of The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) Singapore chapter. Inderjit served as a Member of Parliament (MP) in Singapore

from 1996-2015. As a politician, Inderjit served in various capacities, including as Deputy Government Whip and as Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Finance and Trade & Industry. In Singapore, as the Deputy-Chairman of the Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE) for several years, he actively drove the transformation of the entrepreneurship ecosystem in Singapore and helped shape many policies to better support start-ups, small and medium businesses in Singapore. He is the author of the sold out popular book called “The Art and Science of Entrepreneurship” which captures his entrepreneurial experiences. Inderjit is also an inventor with 3 patents to his name.

Inderjit holds a B. Engineering (Hons) degree from the Nanyang Technological University and a MBA from University of

Strathclyde, UK. He is currently a Board Member of the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Chairman of the Board of

NTUitive, the innovation company of NTU.

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**Ismail Haznedar**

JAIN Angel Investors Network (JAIN Global), USA

# Ismail Haznedar

*JAIN Angel Investing Network (JAIN Global)*

Ismail Haznedar is a Strategist and a Certified Management Consultant (CMC) and Fellow Member of Strategic Planning Society (SPS). Born in 1976 in Tetovo, Macedonia, Ismail Haznedar graduated from Middle East Technical University (METU), earning a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Business Management in 2000. He also completed Masters Degree on Marketing from Marmara Uni-

versity in 2005. He speaks Turkish and English. Presently he is President of JAIN Global, a New York based Angel Investing Network, and Managing Director of Stratejik Isler, a management consultancy company based in Istanbul, Turkey. He is a Certified Management Consultant (CMC) and Fellow Member of Strategic Planning Society (SPS). Ismail Haznedar is Former President of Junior Chamber

International (JCI), leading global network of active citizens. Haznedar was elected as 2015 President of the JCI, leading global organization during 100th Anniversary and served as 2016 JCI Senate Chairman. He is honored to be a life time member and Senator, is Foundation Member and Certified National Trainer (CNT).



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**Ivan Jovetic** 

President, Montenegrin Business Angels Network (MEBAN), Montenegro

# Ivan Jovetic

*President, Montenegrin Business Angels Network (MEBAN), Montenegro*

Ivan Jovetic, MSci is an entrepreneur and (re)searcher focused on private business, research and education institutions. He holds MSci in Economics and expects PhD in International Economy from University of Donja Gorica. Ivan Jovetic is co-founder and co-owner of MSI INVEST Ltd. based in Montenegro. MSI INVEST is an entrepreneurial project involved in several sectors including hotel and tourism industry and property management. Mr. Jovetic is Teaching Fellow at University of Donja Gorica (UDG [www.udg.edu](http://www.udg.edu).

me) where he is teaching several courses. UDG is university that fosters entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial culture. Since 2005 he works at the Institute for Strategic Studies and Prognoses (ISSP [www.issp.me](http://www.issp.me)) first as researcher and then as Senior Analyst. At the ISSP he has been involved in numerous projects including projects for European Commission, UNIDO, UNDP, Securities Commission of Montenegro, Ministry of Finance of Montenegro, Ministry of Economy of Montenegro, MED program and etc. Currently he also acts as the Executive director of

CE<sup>2</sup>S (Centre for European Education and Studies) an organization trying to enhance entrepreneurship and start-up eco system in Montenegro as well as to promote education. CE<sup>2</sup>S is managing Montenegrin branch of regional SuperFounders acceleration platform. He has been contributor to several daily and monthly publications in Montenegro and region. Mr. Jovetic is also co-founder and President of Montenegrin Business Angels Network.



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**John Stamm** 

Director of Global Philanthropy, JCI, USA

# John Stamm

*Director of Global Philanthropy, Junior Chamber International (JCI), USA*

John Stamm serves as Director of Global Philanthropy at JCI. He is responsible for engaging corporations, foundations and individuals in order to create partnerships and secure financial resources. His work enhances the strength and sustainability

of JCI's many programs, including the Global Youth Empowerment Fund, Peace is Possible, the JCI Foundation, JCI Events and many member projects at the local, national and international level. Before JCI, Stamm was a management and strategy

consultant in New York City and also started his own tutoring company. He currently serves as the Vice President of St. Louis Area Mensa.



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**Josep Miquel Piqué Huerta**  
President, International Association of  
Science Parks (IASP)

# Josep Miquel Piqué Huerta

*President, International Association of Science Parks (IASP)*

Josep Miquel Piqué is President of IASP (International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation) and Executive President of La Salle Technova Innovation Park. He is expert of the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) of the European Commission, and member of the Team of Specialists on

Innovation and Competitiveness Policies of the United Nations Commission for Europe (UNECE). He has promoted several hybrid organizations taking the partnership model University-Industry-Public Administration. In the field of public administration has been CEO of the District Innovation - 22 @ Barcelona. Among other

projects, he has participated in the team of Barcelona European Capital of Innovation. He has published several papers in publications and congresses on Innovation Ecosystems, Open Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

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**Juwani Lee**

Founder and CEO, NexChange,  
Hong Kong

# Juwani Lee

*Founder and CEO, NexChange, Hong Kong*

Juwani Lee is an entrepreneur, venture capitalist, fintech, blockchain and social media influencer and investment professional with three decades of financial services and investment industry experience, managing portfolios and organizations on behalf of multi-billion dollar hedge funds, proprietary trading desks, asset management and venture capital firms. He is the Founder and CEO of NexChange, an innovation venture ecosystem as a service, specializing in fintech, insurtech, blockchain, AI and healthtech. Mr Lee is a Co-founder and

Director of the Hong Kong Blockchain Centre. Most recently, Medium has placed him as one of the top 8 influencers of the Asian blockchain community. He is the organizer for both Hong Kong Fintech Week and Healthtech O2O, a part of StartmeupHK Festival. From an investment perspective, Mr Lee is the CEO of Arrakis Ventures, a venture capital firm focused on early-stage technology startups. He is the former CIO of Shanghai's largest asset management firm and spent many years at JP Morgan in a variety of roles from principal investments to

heading equity within asset management division. Mr Lee was a pioneer in managing technology portfolios on behalf of hedge funds like SAC Capital, Continuity Capital and Osprey Capital and asset managers like Rothschilds and Montgomery. He funded many star companies in the Silicon Valley, Taiwan's Hsinchu Science Park, Korea and Israel and was an early investor in Netscape and Yahoo and has an Engineering degree from the University of California Berkeley.



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**Kaiser H. Naseem** 

Head, IFC Banking & Digital Finance Advisory Services MENA and Central Asia, UAE

# Kaiser H. Naseem

*Head, IFC Banking & Digital Finance Advisory Services MENA and Central Asia, UAE*

A global thought leader, disruptor and innovator with an entrepreneurial flair, Kaiser works as an international development banker and has conceptualized and developed new institutions and business models in challenging environments. Core competencies include New Ventures, MSME Banking, Project Financing, Team Building, Change Management, Business Development and Good Governance. Kaiser is a strategic

thinker with strong ethical standards and focus on results. With exceptional business acumen and broad experience on a global stage he has served on the BODs of several international companies and provided strategic advice to senior management and business owners. With an MBA in Finance from the Asian Institute of Management in Manila, an MS in Metallurgical Engineering from Moscow Institute of Steel & Alloys, a

certification on “Strategy in the Age of Digital Disruption” from INSEAD, and over 36 years of international experience in development banking and finance, Kaiser has developed a network of diverse professionals in every corner of the globe whom he leverages to make sure that the UN Sustainable Development Goals are at the center of all business decisions.



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**Kenan Colpan** 

Chief Executive Officer, ITU Ari Teknokent, Turkey

# Kenan Colpan

*Chief Executive Officer, ITU Ari Teknokent, Turkey*

In his 25-year-experience, Mr. Kenan Colpan has taken efficient part for two sector-leading American brands to take an active role in Turkey's market and accomplished many export-based projects. Mr. Colpan has worked as a managing partner in his start-ups which later he successfully managed their exits. Graduated from Econom-

ics Department at Istanbul University, Mr. Colpan still works as the General Manager of Istanbul Technical University's Science-park, İTÜ ARI Teknokent and ITU Foundation's subsidiary company, 3M R&D Inc. While being the General Secretary of the ITU Foundation, Mr. Colpan is also the board member of ITU's Technology Transfer

Office, İTÜNOVA TTO, and Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Turkey. Currently, Mr. Colpan and his team show an intensive effort to establish "Istanbul Technical University's Entrepreneurship Hub" in which it is aimed to be the regional power and the center of attraction.

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**Leyla Alaton** 

Board Member of Alarko Holding & President of Alvimedica, Turkey

# Leyla Alaton

*Board Member of Alarko Holding & President of Alvimedica, Turkey*

Leyla Alaton is one of the brightest figures of Turkish business life. She comes from a strong tradition of family business. Alaton draws attention with her unique style and brave ideas. She works tirelessly to help women achieve success in their business careers and improve their social status in a self sufficient manner. Alaton specifically speaks on and helps larger audiences understand the issues of entrepreneurship, innovation and women employment with her vast experience. Leyla Alaton was actively in business life since 1986 and climbed the steps up her career fast thanks to a sophisticated analytic skill. Following her education in USA, she started her career in 1986 at Alarko Holding, founded by her

father Ishak Alaton and his partner Dr. Uzeyir Garih and managed promotion and marketing of Alkent – Etiler Uydusehir and Alsit Villakent projects. She was named as the “Businesswoman of the Year” by the National Center for Productivity in 1992. She was listed among the “Leaders of the Future” at the Davos World Economic Forum in 1993. In the same year, she founded Megatrend Public Relations and Consulting Company. She provided consultancy service for global giants including Aérospatiale and Alcatel. Alaton is an active member of many non-governmental organizations including GYİAD (Young Businessmen Association) Founding Membership, GIF (Global Relations Forum) Membership, New

Museum, New York Leadership Council Membership, Make A Wish Association Board Membership, Darüşşafaka Education Institutions Consulting Committee Membership, Contemporary Art Istanbul Consulting Committee Membership, WPO (World Presidents’ Organization) Membership and “Cartier Women’s Initiative Awards” jury membership. She was also a jury member of the TV show “Do You Have An Idea” where she helped young entrepreneurs with their fresh ideas using her years of experience. Supporting women employment Alaton is a known advocate for women in business and social life. She encourages entrepreneur women on many platforms she is involved in, whether as a

speaker or an invitee, and takes active action through a number of organizations to achieve this goal. One of these organizations is KAGİDER (Women Entrepreneurs Association), where she is a founding member. Leyla Alaton is an active speaker in demand on issues of women's rights, improvement of their social status and entrepreneurship on TV shows, college meetings and various other organizations. Art-lover Alaton is well-known for her enthusiasm in arts, in addition to her business ca-

reer, as well as her collections and a sophisticated interest in painting and modern arts since her college days. Alaton has a unique approach to art: "Arts should tranquilize those who are confused and confuse those who are tranquilized". Alaton is a member of Contemporary Art Istanbul Consultative Committee and has a huge collection of paintings. Who is Leyla Alaton? Leyla Alaton, born in Istanbul attended Şişli Terakki, Lycée Sainte-Pulcherie and Notre Dame de Sion schools. She has

a Business Management degree from Fairleigh Dickinson College in USA. She also holds a Master's degree in Social Sciences from New York University. Alaton is a board member of Alarko Holding A.Ş., Alvimedica and Tibbi Ürünler San. ve Dış Tic. A.Ş. Leyla Alaton was granted with Légion d'Honneur, the highest decoration in France, for her positive contributions to Turkish-French relations.



# Lutfi Elvan

*Minister of Development of the Republic of Turkey*



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**H.E. Lütfiye İlksen Ceritoğlu Kurt** 

Member of Parliament, The Grand National Assembly of Turkey

# Lutfiye Ilksen Ceritoglu Kurt

*Member of Parliament, The Grand National Assembly of Turkey*



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**Maria Hala, Chair**   
Hala Partners, Greece

# Maria Hala

*Chair, Hala Partners, Greece*

Maria Hala is an investment professional with experience at private equity and asset management. She has been concentrated on the expansion of the Greek entrepreneurial ecosystem and the establishment of the local informal venture capital community. By providing mentoring and coaching on ventures standing at seed and early stages of their investment cycle, her ultimate goal is to contribute on their commercialization and on advising them on their equity

funding paths. Maria is focused on three industries, namely medtech, agritech and fintech. Maria is an active member of EBAN. She is also a member of the Hellenic Spanish Chamber of Commerce and of MIT EF Greece, whereas she has served as a judge at their StartSmart competitions. As a Certified Fund Manager, accredited by the Hellenic Capital Market Commission, Maria has spent more than 17 years of her professional life at asset management indus-

try. She received an M.B.A. in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, from Imperial College, London, whereas through her thesis she provided the first academic study over the profile of Greek business angel investors. Also, she holds an MSc in Business Finance (Brunel University, London) and a BSc in Marketing (University of LaVerne, California).



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**Mathieu Cornieti** 

President, IMPACT Partenaires, France

# Mathieu Cornieti

*President, IMPACT Partenaires, France*

Mathieu Cornieti is the CEO of IMPACT Partenaires, a French leading impact investing management company. He served

previously as Chief Financial Officer at Scaleo Chip and Managing Director at Solideal. He started his career as an entrepre-

neur and in the PE department of Rothschild & Co.

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**Matthew Gamser** 

Chief Executive Officer, SME Finance Forum -  
IFC, USA

# Matthew Gamser

*Chief Executive Officer, SME Finance Forum - IFC, USA*

Matthew Gamser is CEO of the SME Finance Forum, the world's leading center for knowledge exchange, good practice promotion and networking for the finance industry in this field. The SME Finance Forum is managed by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) for the G-20 countries' Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion. The SME Finance Forum has over 140

banks, fintech companies and development banks from more than 60 countries as its members. Dr. Gamser has over 35 years' experience in private enterprise and financial sector development. He has worked for IFC, the private sector arm of the World Bank Group, for 13 years in various positions from Washington, DC, and Hong Kong. Prior to that he spent 25

years in management consulting and in senior leadership in an international NGO. He holds A.B. and A.M. degrees from Harvard University, and M.Sc. and D.Phil degrees from Sussex University (UK), where his work focused on the management of technological change.



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**Mehmet Nane** 

Chief Executive Officer, Pegasus Airlines, Turkey

# Mehmet Nane

*Chief Executive Officer, Pegasus Airlines, Turkey*

Born in 1966, Mehmet T. Nane obtained his undergraduate degree in International Relations at Boğaziçi University, İstanbul, in 1990 and his graduate degree in International Banking and Finance at University of Heriot Watt, Scotland in 1993 with UK Government's FCO scholarship. He also participated Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program in 2013. After various managerial positions in Türkiye Emlak Bankası, Demirbank and Demir Invest, he joined Sabancı Holding within which he held roles including Vice President of the Strategic

Planning and Project Development Department, Director of the Retail Group and General Secretary of Sabancı Holding. Mehmet T. Nane has held the position of General Manager at Teknosa on April 2005. He previously served as Vice Chairman of the Teknosa Board of Directors between the founding date, March 2000 and April 2005. On August 2013 he has been appointed as the General Manager of CarrefourSA and held this position till 2016. On March 2016 he became the CEO of Pegasus Airlines. Currently Mehmet T. Nane is the Deputy

Chairman of TAMPF-Turkish Federation of Shopping Centers And Retailers, the Board Member of TOBB- Retailing Council of Turkish Union of Chamber of Commerce GS1 Turkey Foundation, the Chairman of TOBB- Retailing Council of Turkish Union of Chamber of Commerce, the chairman of SEV-Health and Education Foundation and Chairman of the Association of Turkish Graduates of Harvard Business School.



## H.E. Mehmet Simsek

Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Turkey

# Mehmet Simsek

*Deputy Prime Minister, Republic of Turkey*

Mehmet Simsek serves as a Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey since November 24, 2015, responsible for the management of macroeconomic policies. He previously served as the Minister of Finance (2009-15), one of the longest serving Finance Ministers of Turkey, and as the Minister of Economy (2007-09). He was elected to the Parliament in 2007, 2011 and 2015 representing the Justice and Development Party (AK Party). DPM Şimşek has formulated fiscal policy which has helped Turkey recover strongly from the global financial crisis. He has also undertaken far reaching reforms founding the Tax Audit Board, simplifying tax regulations, enhancing taxpayers' rights, and reducing

the shadow economy. Before entering politics, he worked for Merrill Lynch in London for seven years as an economist and strategist and later as head of Fixed Income Strategy and Macro Economic Research for the emerging EMEA region. From 1998 to 2000, he was a senior economist and bank analyst at Deutsche-Bender Securities in Istanbul. Earlier in his career, he worked on Wall Street for UBS Securities in New York (1997) and as a senior economist at the US Embassy in Ankara (1993-97). DPM Şimşek holds a B.S. in Economics from Ankara University and worked as a research assistant in the University's International Economics and Economic Development Department. He also studied in England

after being awarded a Turkish State Scholarship. He holds an M.PHil in Finance and Investments from Exeter University. DPM Şimşek is also a member of the Global Economic Symposium (GES) advisory board. DPM Şimşek was born in 1967, in a small village in Batman, a province in Southeastern Turkey. He is married, has twin girls, and a boy. He is fluent in Turkish, English and Kurdish. DPM Şimşek was nominated as one of the 500 most powerful people on the planet by Foreign Policy in 2013, and awarded as the "Finance Minister of the Year for Emerging Europe 2013" by Emerging Markets magazine.



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**Meliksah Utku** 

Chief Executive Officer,  
Albaraka Turk, Turkey

# Meliksah Utku

*Chief Executive Officer, Albaraka Turk, Turkey*

Mr. Utku was born in Ankara in 1968. He graduated from Mechanical Engineering Department of Boğaziçi University (Istanbul, 1990). He completed his graduate studies in London School of Economics (1990-1992) and Master's Degree on economic development in Marmara University (Istanbul, 1998). In 2004, he served as consultant to General Manager of Albaraka Turk. In 2006 -

2007, he was head economist in Albaraka Turk. In addition, he was an economics columnist for Yeni Şafak newspaper for over 10 years (1995-2009). He later worked as Investor Relations Manager from 2007-2009. He continued as CIO - Assistant General Manager in December 2009 and was appointed as CFO - primarily responsible for Financial Affairs, Budget and Financial Reporting and Cor-

porate Communication Departments. He was a board member of Borsa Istanbul from 2013 to 2016. Currently he is the acting General Manager of Albaraka Turk since October 2016. In addition he is the President of Participation Banks Association of Turkey.



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**Michael Gold** 

Chief Executive Officer, Crimson Capital, Czech Republic

# Michael Gold

*Chief Executive Officer, Crimson Capital, Czech Republic*

Michael Gold is Managing Director of Crimson Capital Corp., an international development firm founded in 1991. He has 38 years of experience, 23 of which have been in emerging markets, and specializes in increasing access to finance, innovation, entrepreneurship, competitiveness, privatization, trade, SME development, and legal, policy and regulatory reform. His ac-

tivities have resulted in over \$7 billion USD in debt and equity financing, FDI, privatizations, PPPs and export transactions in developing countries. He has been active in the Balkans since 1995. Mr. Gold serves on the boards of development oriented organizations and helped found several innovation, ICT and renewable energy centers and associations. He is currently

a founder and member of the board of the Kosovo Business Angels Network (KosBAN), a member of the board of the American Chamber of Commerce in Kosovo, and chairman of the board of the Local Development Fund.

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**Miguel Martin**   
Founder, Immerxing Hub, Spain

# Miguel Martin

*Founder, Immerxing Hub, Spain*

Miguel Martin is a qualified lawyer, International eMBA & BA investor with 15 years living & working experience across Europe, LATAM, CEE & MENA focusing on international business development & investment for MNCs like Carrefour and Mecalux, startups in Spain & Poland and his own projects. He is the founder & co-investor at Immerxing Hub, an innovative tech & talent accelerator offering one-stop specialised space with VR/360/AR academy, demolab, coworking and investment pro-

gram to boost the immersive talent & startups ecosystem across industries and locations with already two hubs in Spain and now expanding to UK, Mexico & Morocco. In collaboration with WBAF, Miguel Martin is leading the setting-up of the first cross-border & vertical Business Angels Network specialised on immersive techs, projects & startups investment opportunities and being an active speaker & investor in major VR/360/AR tech events such as Asia VR/AR Fair, World VR/AR, Telefonica

VR Hackaton, SpainVRStartups. Additionally to immersive techs, Miguel's expertise, networking and investment interest focus on EdTech, PropTech & TravelTech being a proactive member of Spanish startup & BA community and a regular participant in tech/startups events as investor, mentor and/or jury in Telefonica AOF & Bolt Accelerators, MWC/4YFN Investor Network, South Summit and Business Angels industry events.



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**Modwenna Rees-Mogg** 

Editor-in-Chief, Angel News, UK

# Modwenna Rees-Mogg

*Editor-in-Chief, Angel News, UK*

Modwenna is a graduate of St Andrews University. She has two decades of business experience working in corporate finance in the City of London and in business angel investment and venture capital. She set up her own business in 2003 as an online media and live events business. From £1,000 of start up capital working out of her front room, she has grown the business to become the leading information provider and commentator on the business angel market in the UK at [www.angelnews.co.uk](http://www.angelnews.co.uk). In recent years her business has also launched

Pitching for Management [www.pitching4management.com](http://www.pitching4management.com), a live recruitment series, the VCT & EIS Investor Forum [www.thevctandéisinvestorforum.com](http://www.thevctandveisinvestorforum.com), The Great British Private Investor Summit [www.privateinvestorsummit.com](http://www.privateinvestorsummit.com) and The Great British Workforce Revolution [www.workforcerevolution.co.uk](http://www.workforcerevolution.co.uk). She is a non executive director of Albion Tech and General VCT, which is quoted on the London Stock Exchange, a board member of the UK Business Angels Association and a Visiting Fellow at the Bettany School of Entrepreneurship,

Cranfield University. She is the author of Crowdfunding, How to raise money and make money in the crowd - a guide to operating a business in, raising money from and being an investor in the crowdfunding market. She is also the author of Dragons or Angels, the unofficial guide to Dragons' Den and a handbook for people wanting to become or raise money from business angels. She regularly contributes articles to the press and has contributed to Business Gurus, which was published in March 2012 by Crimson Publishing.



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**Muhammed Ahmed Faris**



Ex General of the Syrian Army & The Neil Armstrong of the Arab World, Syria

# Muhammed Ahmed Faris

*Ex General of the Syrian Army & The Neil Armstrong of the Arab World, Syria*

Ex General of the Syrian Army  
& The Neil Armstrong of the  
Arab World, Syria  
I was born on 26 May 1951. I

was a Syrian military aviator.  
I am the first Syrian and the  
second Arab in space. Enrolled  
in the Syrian Air Force College

1971- 1973. I graduated with  
the rank of a first lieutenant “  
military aviator”.



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**Murat Kolbasi**   
President, Arzum, Turkey

# Murat Kolbasi

*President, Arzum, Turkey*

Murat Kolbasi's professional career began in 1988 at Arzum where he was positioned as the Sales and Business Development Manager after graduating from Marmara University with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1987. Following this managerial position, he became Vice President of Arzum in 1996, within which he developed sales and marketing strategies to increase Arzum brand equity. Murat Kolbasi was elected as Chairman of Arzum in 2008. That same year, he signed an asset purchase agreement with Ashmore Asset

Management Inc., partnering 49% of the company shares with the UK-based private equity fund. Upon termination of 5 years agreement with Ashmore, he took an active role on signing partnership agreement with Meditarra Capital Partners owning 51% of company shares in 2013. He takes role as a board member at Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK) and he is also Coordinator Chairman of Asia Pacific Business Councils and Chairman of Turkish Chapter at Turkey-China Business Council, an active member of the Turkish and Hong Kong,

Turkish and Australia Business Councils at Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEİK) along with his memberships at the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce (İTO), The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), Independent Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association (MÜSİAD), Turkish Industry & Business Association (TUSİAD), Young Entrepreneur's Committee (GGK) and Turkish Coffee Culture and Research Association. Murat Kolbasi speaks English, is married and has two sons.



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**Naim Kocer**   
Board Member, Azimut Portfoy, Turkey

# Naim Kocer

*Board Member, Azimut Portfoy, Turkey*

Born in 1959, Naim Kocer obtained an MA on Management Sciences in 1983, followed by a PhD on Asset Management at Dauphine in 1987. In 1988, he began his career in the Bank Indosuez in Quantitative Asset Management. In 1992, he evolved to the Equity Department as an IPO markets responsible and continued his career in the Stock brokerage within the area of European Stocks Sale. In

2003, he accepts the position of senior country officer of Calyon, former Credit Agricole Indosuez in Turkey, function he pursued until December 2007. Alongside a friend, he co-founded TVK, a shipyard company and sold 50% of it to Carlyle in 2008, followed by its complete sell in 2011. He then co-founded, with two associates, the asset management company Notus AM, focused on private and institutional asset

managements. In 2016, he sold the society to the Italian asset management group Azimut Gestione SPA, while remaining a board member. Naim Kocer is also the Foreign Trade Advisor for France in Turkey. Other than French and Turkish, Naim speaks English, Italian and Macedonian.



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**Nena Dokuzov** 

Chief Executive Officer, Nordung Blockchain Hub, Slovenia

# Nena Dokuzov

*Chief Executive Officer, Nordung Blockchain Hub, Slovenia*

Nena Dokuzov is an expert in management of EU funds, including financial instruments and other repayable forms of funds. As a head of Department for system and control in the Government office for regional development and local self-government she was actively involved in creation of management and implementation system of EU funds for the programming period 2007 – 2013. As Head of Department for EU Operational programmes at the Ministry of economic

development and technology she was responsible for management EU structural and cohesion fund for Slovenia. As a Head of Department for social entrepreneurship, cooperatives and economic democracy she created systemic solutions for social economy in Slovenia, including the measures for establishment of the ecosystem for social economy – startup community, supporting environment and financial mechanisms. As member of expert groups on the EU level (Coordination commit-

tee for funds, GECES – Expert Group of European Commission for social entrepreneurship) her contribution to policy making process was significant. She is a member of management board of National Association for Social Economy and participating in a variety of projects, including the creation of financial supporting environment for impact investment in Slovenia.



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**Nikhil Agarwal** 

Senior Advisor, Federation for Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), India

# Nikhil Agarwal

*Senior Advisor Federation for Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), India*

Dr Nikhil Agarwal is India's foremost Innovation and Policy expert. He is currently convener of Denver based policy think-tank IndiaGlobal and Senior Advisor with FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) on government innovation. In 2017, he was nominated as Fellow of IC2 Institute, University of Texas at Austin. In 2014, Indian Prime Minister urged Indian diaspora to return to the country to serve the motherland. Dr Agarwal responded to the call and joined Mr N. Chandrababu Naidu government in Andhra Pradesh as Chief Executive Officer (AP State Innovation Society) to kickstart the statewide innovation agenda between 2015-2017. He was involved in developing

large scale innovation projects such as 300 acres' cyber security industrial park, rural innovation labs, incubation centres, startup ecosystem, setup INR 1 billion startup fund to name a few. He is instrumental in forging important national and international relationships for the state. In the past, he was the President and CEO of Cambridge Global Partners (CGP) and researcher at University of Edinburgh. He is also the founder of Entrepreneur Café – a global movement spread in 110 cities and six continents, connecting over 45,000 entrepreneurs. Dr Agarwal has founded businesses and advised firms on strategic matters in last 20 years of his career. He has worked with global multinationals like Cadbury's, FIC and

Zensar (RPG Group). He has lectured at leading universities like Virginia Tech Polytechnic & State University, University of Bradford and University of Cambridge. His articles, interviews and work has been extensively covered in international media including Harvard Business Review Blog, Forbes, CNN Money, BBC Radio, The New York Times and Economic Times. Professor Agarwal has served on many international think tanks and held leadership positions in global organizations. Between 2006 -13 he served as high-level-advisor to United Nations Global Alliance on ICT & Development (UN-GAID). He was the International Advisory Board Member at World-Entrepreneurship-Fo-

rum (WEF) and Open Mind Foundation. He was the first Asian to be elected as Co-Chair of prestigious Internet Society Advisory Council (ISOC-AC) for 2008-10. He has co-founded many companies and organizations including QuestionBox.org & EntrepreneurCafe.org.

He is recipient of ‘Excellence in Promoting Innovation in Governance’ by Govt of Rajasthan, India. He has traveled extensively around the world and worked with global institutions, corporations and multinationals. He has published over 70 research papers, conference publications,

editorials and articles in leading publications. Professor Nikhil Agarwal is alumnus of University of Cambridge and University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom.



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**Nilufer Aktas, Director** 

Angel Investment Platform, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey

# Nilufer Aktas

*Director, Angel Investment Platform, Turk Economy Bank (TEB), Turkey*

Nilüfer Aktas is a professional with experience at wealth management, marketing, business development and strategic advisory. She leads the only Bank sponsored angel investment network in the World which aims to keep track of technological innovations having a special interest on Fin Techs and also share this accumulated knowledge with private banking clients in order to enlighten

the smart investors with smart money. Apart from creating and managing various innovation brands and digital as well as physical platforms for community building, she is one of the co-leaders of a unique fintech collaboration project called Fin Tech Future Four. Pro-bono advisor to the first cooperative structured AR/VR company in Turkey (creative industries) together with various mentoring

cases to Women led start ups and social impact projects, she believes in multi dimensional & multi purpose life experiences. The companies and teams she selected for support have achieved various awards in competitions as well as recognition at reputable platforms like Horizon 2020 led by European Commission.



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**Ozgul Ozkan Yavuz** 

Secretary General, Istanbul Development Agency, Turkey

# Ozgul Ozkan Yavuz

*Secretary General, Istanbul Development Agency, Turkey*

Ozgul Ozkan Yavuz is the Secretary General of İstanbul Development Agency and a member of the Board of Directors of the European Association of Regional Development Agencies (EURADA). Before holding this position, she was General Manager of the İstanbul Convention & Visitors Bureau while serving in the Executive Board of European Cities Marketing Association. She hold various positions

in Ministry of Culture and Tourism between 1997 – 2014, serving in diplomatic mission as Culture & Tourism Attaché in Turkish Embassy to The Hague, Netherlands and as Director for International Relations & Tourism in Istanbul 2010 European Capital of Culture Agency, among other administrative posts. She graduated from the Faculty of Architecture in the Middle East Technical Uni-

versity with a Bachelor degree (Hons.) on Urban and Regional Planning. She had MSc degrees from Centre for Urban and Regional Studies in the University of Birmingham (2000) and from Urban Policy Planning and Local Governments Programme of Middle East Technical University (1998).



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**Prof Panayotis H. Ketikidis** 

Chairman, South East Europe Research Center (SEERC),  
Greece

# Panayotis H. Ketikidis

*Chairman, South East Europe Research Center (SEERC), Greece*

Professor Ketikidis is the Vice Principal for Research, Innovation & External Relations of CITY College - An International Faculty of the University of Sheffield, and the Chairman of

the Management Committee & Academic Director of the Doctoral Programme at the South East European Research Centre (SEERC). He has over 25 years of experience in management,

education, research, and competitive research funding with various networks established as a result of this experience.

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**Paolo Sironi**

FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons  
Financial Services, Germany



# Paolo Sironi

*FinTech Thought Leader, IBM Watsons Financial Services, Germany*

Paolo Sironi is recognised author of portfolio management and financial innovation. In his current role as FinTech Thought Leader and Spokesperson for IBM Investment and Risk Analytics, he links strategic innovation in Finance and Technology, demonstrating international expertise in Wealth and Asset Management, Risk Management, Trading and Digital transformation. Pioneer in understanding the practical implications of AI and FinTech

digitalisation to manage institutional risks and personal wealth, he founded a FinTech joint-venture (2008) to integrate investment management and Goal Based Investing principles. The company became a part of IBM (2012) following the acquisition of funding partner Algoritmics, world leader of risk management architectures. Paolo has a decade-long quantitative expertise; he was previously head of market and counterparty risk modeling at Banca Intesa

Sanpaolo. Author of “FinTech Innovation: from Robo-Advisors to Goal Based Investing and Gamification” (Wiley 2016), “Modern Portfolio Management: From Markowitz to Probabilistic Scenario Optimisation” (Risk-Books, 2015), co-author of “The FinTech Book” (Wiley, 2016). Paolo’s posts can be read on specialised media, LinkedIn, Twitter @thepsironi or his personal website thepsironi.com

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**Paul Doany**

Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey

# Paul Doany

*Chief Executive Officer, Turk Telekom, Turkey*

In the past 5 years, Dr. Doany focused on ICT Venture Capital, managing investments in early stage IT/internet companies and renewable energy. In the preceding 12 years, he was with the Saudi Oger Group, having served as founding CEO of Oger Telecom and CEO of Türk Telekom for 5 years. During his tenure with Saudi Oger Group, he led the acquisition of 55% stake in Türk Telekom during privatization tender, the public listing on BIST, as well as acquisition of IT companies and international

wholesale operations (Pantel, rebranded as Türk Telekom International). He also led the successful bid for including operational startup until the full launch of Cell C in South Africa. Prior to that, he was in the telecommunications consultancy business for 14 years as Managing Director of Dar Consultants (London), as well as Director/Partner of Dar Al Handasah Consultants (Shair & Partners), having built its telecom practice, as well as assisting with expansion into transportation/

economics (over 3,000 employees across all disciplines). He also served as Senior Lecturer in the AUB in Beirut, in the Electronics/Communications Department for a period of 4 years. Dr. Doany holds a PhD in Communications Engineering (UMIST, Manchester, UK, 1981); MSc in Digital Electronics & Communications Engineering (Bradford University, UK, 1978), and BE in Electrical/Electronics Engineering (AUB, Beirut, 1977).



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**Paulo Andrez** 

Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal

# Paulo Andrez

*Emeritus President, EBAN, Portugal*

Paulo Andrez is an angel investor with an active portfolio of 14 companies. One of his investments reached 25 million euros in revenues within the first year, for which he received an award “Best European Angel Investment” in 2012. Paulo is a Board Member of Entrepreneurship Agency DNA Cascais, which supported more than 250 startups in the last decade, and a Board Member of FNABA, the Portuguese Business Angel Federation. Paulo was appointed

President Emeritus EBAN, European Business Angel Network, after serving as President until 2014. Since 2012, Paulo has been working with a number of European governments in the field of Early Stage Investment policies and Business Angels Co-Investment Funds design. He is also a member of the European Commission Advisory Group “Innovation in SMEs”. Paulo is an IT Engineer and has a MBA from the Nova University in Lisbon. In 2000, he participated

as an entrepreneur in the IPO of Novabase in Euronext, Portuguese largest IT provider with more than 2000 employees in 30 countries worldwide. He has a background as serial entrepreneur and is frequently invited as speaker, guest lecturer and expert in innovation, entrepreneurship and early stage investment. Since 2012, Paulo has been holding a series of workshops worldwide on the topic of startup risk mitigation.



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**Pelin Guven** 

Director, Interbanks Credit Cards Center  
- BKM, Turkey

# Pelin Guven

*Director, Interbanks Credit Cards Center - BKM, Turkey*

Pelin Guven serves as senior vice president of Strategy and Information Management at BKM, majorly focuses on card payment industry strategies and regulation management since she joined BKM at 2012. BKM has been established in 1990 in order to handle clearing and settlement operations of domestic card payments in Turkey. She has taken a significant role within the management team of BKM that led the transformation of the company investing

on digitalization, focusing on healthy expansion of digital payments ecosystem, a company who cares social benefit and inherits this mindset to its employees through its company DNAs. Due to centralized position of BKM, she is coordinating communication of development strategies of industry, financial inclusion, consumer awareness programmes that are baselined with data analysis. Prior to BKM, Pelin worked for Accenture Consulting where she has

undertaken projects on both banking and insurance industry under financial services umbrella regarding customer focused transformation, process and organizational restructuring programmes. Earlier in her career, she completed several projects in information technologies at Finansbank. She received her undergraduate degree in Computer Engineering at Boğaziçi University.

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**Peter Cowley** 

Serial Entrepreneur and Angel Investor, UK Angel of the Year 2014/15, UK

# Peter Cowley

*Serial Entrepreneur and Angel Investor. UK Angel of the Year 2014/15, UK*

Peter is a Cambridge University Engineering/Computing graduate who has founded and run over ten technology and construction businesses for 35+ years and, since then, has angel invested in over 55 startups mainly in Cambridge and London, having been UK Angel of the Year for 2014/15. He is a non-executive director of five

of those startups and a board observer of four others. Peter is chair of the Cambridge Business Angels, is a Fellow in Entrepreneurship of the Cambridge Judge Business School and has mentored countless entrepreneurs. He setup and runs the Martlet early stage corporate angel investment fund of Marshall of Cambridge, which has

invested £5M in 40+ startups, and is a member of the investment committee of the £100M UK Government Angel CoFund. For over 15 years, Peter has been involved in charity and social enterprise governance as chair and treasurer of various trustee boards.

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**Peter Jungen** 

Peter Jungen Holding GmbH, Germany, Emeritus  
 President of the European Business Angels Network  
 (EBAN), Germany

# Peter Jungen

*Peter Jungen Holding GmbH, Emeritus President,  
 The European Trade Association for Business Angels (EBAN), Germany*

Peter Jungen, Chairman of Peter Jungen Holding GmbH, is co-founder resp. investor in numerous start-ups in Europe and in the US like Idealo GmbH, the leading German comparison shopping platform. He is Founding President of Business Angels Netzwerk Deutschland (BAND) resp. Co-Founder and President (2001-2004) of the European Business Angels Network (EBAN), a founding Board Member of the China Business Angels Network (CBAN), Beijing and a member of the New York Angels. He is a member of the Advisory Council, Deutsche

Bank AG, and Board member of the New York Philharmonic. He is Honorary Chairman, "Center on Capitalism and Society", Columbia University and Advisory Board Member of the Columbia Center for Global Economic Governance, Columbia University. He is a Member of the Board of the Friedrich von Hayek Institute, Vienna, a member of the International Josef Schumpeter Society and of the Mont Pelerin Society and a member of the OECD Steering Group on SME and Entrepreneurship. He is Governing Board Member of the "Institute

for New Economic Thinking" (INET). He is a former member of the Presidency of the Federation of German Industries (BDI). The leading German business magazine „Wirtschaftswoche“ named Peter Jungen one of the 100 most important personalities who shape the future of the „New Economy“. In 1999 Peter Jungen was awarded the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (Großes Bundesverdienstkreuz) by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany.



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**Pınar Massena** 

Chief Executive Officer, Workinton, Turkey

# Pınar Massena

*Chief Executive Officer, Workinton, Turkey*

Pınar Massena, who is a well-known business woman with her projects in customer experience and innovation, started her professional business life in 1988 at Emek Sigorta. Between 1993-2001 she worked as the Deputy General Manager in Demir Sigorta, İnter Sigorta and Emek Sigorta respectively. As Mrs. Massena became the General Manager of Advantage Sigorta in 2001 in Boyner Holding, where she succeeded important projects during her career, she worked as the founding CEO of the companies operating in insurance, health, service and tourism area for 10 years. Pınar Massena created the Back-Up Project, which is thought as a case study under the title "Customer Delight" in Global

Marketing textbook prepared by Harvard and Yale professors and managed this Project for 10 years. In addition to that, she has broken new ground in customer satisfaction and managing the needs in Turkey. After the Backup Project, she started Dr. Backup Project, which is the first family practice project in the private health sector in Turkey. She has recorded all the health data of 36.000 people and their families digitally and followed up of these data closely. Having created a brand-new category and sector in the customer relationship management with the Back-up Project that she carried out in Boyner Holding, she became the Executive Committee Member of Çelebi Holding in 2011. As she was perform-

ing her Executive Committee Member duty in Çelebi Marina, Little Ceasers and Çetur for two years, she has also continued her works to continue her entrepreneurial soul during her busy schedule. After being the Turkey Representative of the Canadian WSI, a world giant in digital marketing field, in 2013 Mrs. Massena has given consulting in the establishment and development of different projects in E-house Digital company, which she founded together with her son. She performed as the CEO of Batığöz Health Group between 2015-2016 years during the company's institutionalization and investor preparation periods. As she was continuing her Independent Member of the Board duty in Martı Hotels &

Marinas and Martı Gayrimenkul, her career path crossed with the start-ups and young entrepreneurs in September, 2016. Pınar Massena is the CEO of

Workinton, the leading institution in co-working space which has become the living space of the start-ups including internet based technologies that are seen

as the new generation economy in our country. She is married with two kids, and she speaks English.



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**Renata Brkic** 

Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia

# Renata Brkic

*Founder, Feelsgood Social Impact Investment Fund, Croatia*

Renata is a serial entrepreneur and investor, CEO and owner of the company active in licensing, consulting and organization of worldwide supply chain operations for licenced products. Renata holds a Degree in Economic from the University of Zagreb and an EMBA from Cotrugli

Business School. She is strongly devoted to fostering social impact orientation in business. As the Head of the Social Impact Investment Hub Professor Balthazar, Renata is responsible for the revival of the Professor Balthazar character and his becoming the first artistic

socially responsible brand in the South East Europe. She invests in wonderful ideas that do not necessarily have fast payback, but that can change the world for better and push the human race forward. Mother of three.



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**Robert Rubinstein** 

Chairman & Founding Partner, TBLI Group, The Netherlands

# Robert Rubinstein

*Chairman & Founding Partner, TBLI Group, The Netherlands*

Mr. Rubinstein is the Chairman and Founding Partner of TBLI Group Holdings B.V. with headquarters in The Netherlands. The Company was founded in 1998 with the mission of integrating ESG and TBLI into the culture and strategy of international corporate business and investment companies. Mr. Rubinstein has been instrumental in championing Sustainable and IMPACT investment dedicated to solving social issues. Prior to TBLI, Mr. Rubinstein had an extensive career in publishing. He founded the first bicycle magazine in The Netherlands, FIETS

in 1981, and Source magazine in 1995, a publication focused on integrating “profits and principles” as a message to the business community. FIETS and Source were based in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. FIETS was sold to VNU Magazines and it is still in circulation today. Mr. Rubinstein taught courses in Sustainable Finance at the Rotterdam School of Management from 2003–2006 and in his career has delivered many lectures at international business schools and universities. Rubinstein is a tenacious public speaker on both TBLI and ESG

at global conferences and has been asked to speak at numerous engagements including the Global Reporting Initiative, the inaugural Impact Investing Israel Summit and World Pension Council in Singapore. TBLI was asked to organize a session at COP21, Paris in December 2015 and more recently, Mr. Rubinstein was invited at the request of Natural Step, a leading advisor on Sustainability for the Swedish corporate sector attended by King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden.

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**Rui Moreira**

Mayor of Porto, Portugal

# Rui Moreira

*Mayor of Porto, Portugal*

Rui de Carvalho Araújo Moreira was born in Porto on August 8, 1956. He is a businessman. He attended the German School of Porto, the National Lyceum Garcia de Orta and graduated in Business Administration in 1978 from the University of Greenwich (London) obtaining the award for best student of the year. Back to Portugal and to his hometown he has come up as a voice in defence of the interests of Porto and Northern Region,

organizing and participating in conferences on the subject and writing in the press, where it was usual chronicler. He was also a political commentator on several television stations. He has been an international sailor obtaining titles of national champion in senior and junior in various classes. He was a member of the Advisory Council FC Porto. In 2001 he was elected president of the Commercial Association of Porto, a position

he held until 2013. In parallel he has held advisory positions in the areas of trade, culture and higher education at the University of Porto and at the Catholic University. Rui Moreira led an independent bid for the Porto City Council and was elected on 29 September 2013. He took possession as the Mayor of Porto on October 22, 2013.



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**Sabah K. Almoayyed** 

Managing Partner, Intellect Resources Management W.L.L., Bahrain

# Sabah K. Almoayyed

*Managing Partner, Intellect Resources Management W.L.L., Bahrain*

Mrs. Sabah Khalil Almoayyed is the Managing Partner of Intellect Resources Management W.L.L., a management consultancy firm and the Chairman of Flat 6 Labs Bahrain, a Start-up Accelerator. She is widely recognized as a veteran banker and an advocate of promoting innovation, leadership and entrepreneurship within industries and organization and is a regular speaker at various regional and international forums. Mrs. Almoayyed was the General Manager at Eskan Bank

Bahrain and has held numerous top executive positions at commercial, investments and real estate / mortgage banks. She has been a board member both as independent and or executive board member of several banks, vocational training, universities and schools including the Supreme Council for Women and Council for Higher Education. Currently, she is an Independent Board Member of one of the largest jewelry company in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. She has led premier financial

institutions both in the private and public sector where she has taken them to unprecedented heights during her tenure. Mrs. Almoayyed holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and Business Administration from the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, and a Masters in Business Administration degree from Kelastat Business School, University of De Paul, Chicago and has attended executive management programs at leading universities in the USA.



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**Dr M. Sahin Gok** 

Vice President, The Scientific & Technological Research Council (TUBITAK), Turkey

# Mehmet Sahin Gok

*Vice President, The Scientific & Technological Research Council (TUBITAK), Turkey*

Born in 1980 in Izmir, Dr. Gok completed his undergraduate education in Kocaeli University, Department of Industrial Engineering in 2002 and he started to work as a lecturer at Gebze Institute of Technology in the same year. He completed his master's degree in 2005 with his thesis on ERP Systems at Gebze Institute of Technology. He held position at the Carlson School of Management in the University of Minnesota as a visiting scholar in 2009-2010. He received his Ph.D. title by presenting his doctoral thesis on "Productivity Analysis and Mathematical Modeling" at Gebze Technical University in 2012. After working as a guest lecturer within the scope of his post-doc study at the Department of Industrial Engineering

in Marmara University, in 2013 he started to work as an assistant professor at Gebze Technical University. Throughout his academic career, he has published many articles in several reputable international academic journals and presented them at prestigious academic conferences. He is currently serving as reviewer and editor in international refereed academic journals. He teaches graduate courses on Entrepreneurship, Management Information Systems and Innovation Projects. He worked as the Head of Department of Numerical Methods at Gebze Technical University and is still the Deputy Head of the Department of Business Administration. He served the positions like management and president consultant within

both private and public sector through which he involved at executive level in the development and coordination of long-term strategies to achieve business growth and enhanced profitability. His appointment as advisor to the President of the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) in 2015 stands as a recent example to his roles of executive level consultancy. At the same time, Dr. Gok is the Chief Inspector of Quality Management Systems. Since March 2017 he has been serving as TUBITAK Vice President responsible for Technology and Innovation Funding Programmes Directorate, Technology Transfer Office Directorate and Turkish Management Sciences Institute (TÜSSİDE).



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**Salah Jelassi** 

Regional Director, Islamic Development Bank Group Regional Office in Turkey

# Salah Jelassi

*Regional Director, Islamic Development Bank Group Regional Office in Turkey*

Mr. Saleh Jelassi, is currently the Regional Director at the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Group Regional Hub in Turkey. Before being appointed to lead the establishment and operationalization of IDB Group Country Office in Turkey, Mr. Salah Jelassi held for more than 14 years various senior positions in the IDB Group including those pertaining to economic research, trade and operational areas. His work as the Technical Advisor to the President of the IDB Group during the period 2007-2014

has equipped him with a unique exposure to the various development challenges and a profound understanding of strategic and policy issues in the IDB Member Countries. Through high level policy dialogue with the country and by implementing innovative development solutions, he has successfully positioned the Bank Group's as a preferred development partner of Turkey. In earlier stages of his career, Mr. Jelassi served in various positions, including academia, Research & Training and finance. Mr. Jelassi

has pursued his PhD studies in Economics and obtained a Masters Degree in Economics from Bilkent University, Turkey in 1996. He has attended several leadership and professional development courses from renowned training institutes such as Ashridge Business School, Thunderbird Executive Training, etc. Mr. Jelassi has also participated in many conferences, seminars, international meetings on various developmental issues.

# Sanem Oktar

*President, The Women Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey (KAGIDER), Turkey*

Born in İzmir, Turkey, Sanem Oktar graduated from Bornova Anadolu High School, then followed by Marmara University as a major of International Relations. Sanem's career started in Colgate Palmolive Türkiye in 1993 where she worked as Key Account Manager and Trade Marketing Manager for 3 years. She established her first company Tribeca Communication Consultancy in 1997. Just after 2 years, she then became one of the founding partners of Tribal Sales & Marketing Support Services . In order to expand her marketing services business, she later founded her database marketing company, directComm in 2000. In 2002 she formed a partnership with the American Peppers Rogers Group and became one of

the Founding Partners of Peppers Rogers Türkiye (PRG). In 2009 in order to focus only on directComm Marketing Group, Sanem liquidated her shares in PRG. She lastly founded Limonsocial Social Media Agency in 2011. In 2015, WPP announces that GroupM, the leading global media investment management group, has acquired a majority stake in direct Comm Marketing Group, a leading provider of integrated direct marketing services in Turkey. She is also become partner and CEO of Wunderman İstanbul since July,2017. She defines herself as serial entrepreneur. She was one of the Top Ten Women Entrepreneurs of Turkey in 2010. She is still quite active in directComm and Limonsocial as Managing Partner.

Sanem was also one of the 12 founding members of Turkish Direct Marketing Association (TDMA) in 2005 and served as the President and Head of Board 2007-2009. Having worked for leading brands in various sectors of Turkey in communication, sales and marketing consulting, her numerous work and projects have been awarded many times. She has been active member of KAGIDER, the Women Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey since 2010 and has volunteered in many women empowerment projects as leader, mentor or participant. In May 2015, she has been elected as the President of KAGIDER. She is also a member of W20 Steering Committee. She is married and has two daughters.



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**Sara Watson** 

Global Director, Ready Nation International, USA

# Sara Watson

*Global Director, Ready Nation International, USA*

The success of any company or country depends on the ability of people to develop new ideas, solve problems, and work in teams. All of these characteristics start in the earliest years of life. During the first five years, a child's brain develops one million synapses—neural connections that support learning and skills—every second, with the brain growing to 90% of its adult weight. Differences in brain performance between children in higher and lower income families are evident as early as nine months old. Economists have found that investments in effective early childhood programs for disadvantaged children have a rate of return that exceeds the stock market. This aspect of human capital

development now permeates the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically 2.2, 3.2 and 4.2. For this reason, business leaders worldwide are helping create an environment that gives children a fair start, to become the future employees, customers, citizens and neighbors that their communities and nations need. They are supporting community programs, using their employee and customer networks, speaking out in the media, advocating for public investments, and pursuing a variety of social impact investments that target this group. Innovative products and services are bringing quality early learning to a variety of countries, at a fair and sustainable price. Companies not in the children's sector are using their

excess capacity to support early childhood, or applying their expertise to this sector. Early childhood is also becoming a new target for venture capital firms. This workshop will provide the business case for impact investing in early childhood as a proven economic strategy, the range of investments companies are making now to provide young children the foundation for adult success, and how companies can develop their own options. Dr. Sara Watson is the Global Director of ReadyNation/ReadyNation International, a business membership group that supports executives to advocate for public and private investments that build the future workforce. She has worked with local leaders to create business

networks for early childhood in Uganda, Romania and Australia. She co-chairs the Advocacy Task Force for UNICEF's Early Childhood Development Action Network and is a Fellow of the Salzburg Global Semi-

nar. Previously she was Vice President at America's Promise Alliance and directed The Pew Charitable Trusts' 10-year national campaign for preschool, which contributed to doubling public investments. She has

a B.A. from Carleton College, and Master of Public Policy and Ph.D. degrees from the Harvard Kennedy School.



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**Serkan Fergan** 

Business Development Director, TEB Retail and Private Banking Group, Turkey

# Serkan Fergan

*Business Development Director, TEB Retail and Private Banking Group, Turkey*

Serkan graduated from Kadıköy Anadolu High School in 1988 and continued his studies at Yıldız Technical University Computer Sciences Engineering Dept. and İTÜ Control and Computer Engineering Masters program. After two long term traineeships in Italy and Canada, he started his career at Pamukbank Information

Systems Group. He continued this position until 2000 when he joined Dışbank, Fortis. He worked as Head of Application Development Department of the Bank until 2011. After a short start-up experience, he consecutively worked at Verifone, ICBC and Türk Telekom. Following his experience in various responsibilities and roles, he

joined TEB Retail and Private Banking Group and is working as Business Development Director since 2017. In his current position, he's aiming to develop partnerships with Fintechs proposing solid business value, leverage new business models on Fintechs' innovative solutions.



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**Sheikh Ebrahim bin Khalifa Al Khalifa** 

Former Minister of Housing, Chairman of Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions, Bahrain

# Shaikh Ebrahim Al Khalifa

*Former Minister of Housing & Chairman of Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions, Bahrain*

Sheikh Ebrahim bin Khalifa Al Khalifa is the Honorary Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the UNIDO Arab International Regional Centre for Entrepreneurship & Investment (AI-CEI); Chairman of Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions. He has a long history in developing tool and programs linking non-financial to financial services regionally and internationally. He is also a strong advocate of women economic

empowerment in Africa and the Middle East. A graduate of Law, Sheikh Ebrahim has held a number of key positions in the Kingdom of Bahrain. A former Minister of Housing from 2007 to 2011; Undersecretary of Finance (1993 to 2007), he has also been the Deputy Governor of Bahrain Monetary Agency (now Central Bank of Bahrain) (1982 to 1993). Sheikh Ebrahim has been Chairman, Gulf International Bank; Chairman of Bahrain Development Bank;

Chairman and Managing Director, Gulf Aluminium Rolling Mill Company (GARMCO); the Chairman of Bahrain Institute of Technology. He is also a Board Member of Aluminium Bahrain (ALBA) and Board Member of Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO). Sheikh Ebrahim is a strong advocate of youth economic empowerment through entrepreneurship development.



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**Dr. Shehla Javed Akram** 

President, Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Pakistan

# Shehla Javed Akram

*President, Women Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Pakistan*

Dr. Shehla Javed Akram is one of the successful women entrepreneurs in Pakistan. She became a pioneer in the field of healthcare when she launched Pakistan's first hospital for acute medical care. She then broke into the traditionally male dominated sector by setting up a pharmaceutical industry and became the CEO of a real estate development company, JS Developers. In the public sector Dr. Shehla struggled for seven years to get approval for establishing separate Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Pakistan. This innovative idea occurred after she won as executive mem-

ber in LCCI election on open merit in year 2002 and realized that women entrepreneurs cannot excel in a male dominant chamber mainly because of their own inhibitions and that women specific product needed a more dedicated platform. Finally the national assembly passed the bill for addition in SRO to allow Women Chambers at provincial/divisional/district levels and thus became the founder president of the WCCI in Pakistan. As a result from a single seat representation in 2002 it has increased by 172% till to date. This increased representation has also encouraged

SME policy makers to define better gender specific policies along with improved legislation for status of women. Under her leadership WCCI has become internationally recognized with ECOSOC. She became the First Vice President of the Federation of Chambers. She also represents as director on Boards of PAMCO, SDC Punjab, PCSW and Ambassador for International Women (OPS). She recently was honored with Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah Award.

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**Simge Alpargun** Territory Services Leader, IBM, Turkey

# Simge Alpargun

*Territory Services Leader, IBM, Turkey*

Simge Alpargun received her Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from Bilkent University, in 1999, and her MBA degree from Koç University, in 2007. Having started her career as an application developer in Garanti Technology, Simge Alpargun acted as a strategic advisor to reputable financial institutions in Turkey,

Middle East, Africa and Europe during her tenure in Accenture and Peppers and Rogers Group. After her 10 plus consultancy experience, she was appointed to the senior vice president of Akbank Direct Banking as the accountable leader for digital strategy and digital transformation of the bank. Since March 2016, Simge Alpargun works as

the Business Development Executive for Financial Services in IBM Turkey and is the leading person for the country's business development in breakthrough topics like Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence and Design Thinking based Digital Reinvention.



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**Sinan Oncel** 

Chief Executive Officer, Twigy, Turkey

# Sinan Oncel

*Chairman, Twigy, Turkey*

United Brands Association of Turkey -Chairman(Chairman of the Board of Director-twigy)  
Born in 1965 Istanbul. Graduated from Işıklar military high school in 1983, and in 1987 graduated from marmara uni-

versity,faculty of economics administrative sciences, management. In 1988 graduated from Istanbul University, institute of business economics. Same year established his own company. At the same time he is the chair-

man board director of United Brands Association of Turkey, and also works in non-governmental organizations as volunteer. He has one child.



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**Soner Canko** 

Chief Executive Officer, Interbanks Credit Cards Center - BKM, Turkey

# Soner Canko

*Chief Executive Officer, Interbanks Credit Cards Center - BKM, Turkey*

Soner Canko is CEO of BKM, the Interbank Card Center in Turkey. Dr Canko graduated from Istanbul University, Faculty of Political Science, Public Administration Department. He also received a master's degree and PhD from Istanbul University, Faculty of Economics.

Dr Canko's career commenced in 1990, and he has held sales, management and consulting roles at Procter & Gamble, Citibank and Hewlett Packard. When he was the CEO of Bilesim Payment Systems, Dr Canko also served on the Board of Directors of BKM (Inter-

bank Card Center of Turkey) as member and Chairman. He was the founder and CEO of First Data Turkey and, finally, Assistant General Manager of Ziraat Bank.



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**Srdja Ivezkovic** 

PE/VC Investment Advisor, Croatia

# Srdja Ivezkovic

*PE/VC Investment Advisor, Croatia*

Srdja Ivezkovic is an experienced hands-on VC & SME PE investment / ecosystem development professional. Among the handful early VC professionals in MENA, Srdja has participated in some of the region's landmark transactions & managed some of its pioneering funds (for EFG-Hermes). He developed business and innovative quasi-equity products for generalist SMEs

in Central Asia & Caucasus through the lens of a development finance institution (for EBRD). As an independent, he advised on investment vehicles & related management processes for a number of asset managers in Africa and Southeast Europe. With over 70 principal private market transactions completed including 24 exit realizations, Srdja participated in more than

\$200 million principal investment transactions. Srdja is a seasoned non-exec (15 board seats), interim exec (4 executive roles), investment manager (2 funds managed, multiple designed) and a business angel (2 start-ups).

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**Stephan Peters** 

Managing Director, Sanzaru Initiatives, Luxembourg

# Stephan Peters

*Managing Director, Sanzaru Initiatives, Luxembourg*

Stephan is co-founder and lead investor of EQL.Ventures, an early-stage impact investment fund, offering fair financing and promoting diversity and gen-

der-lens investing. Stephan helps corporations and governments handle transformational change and implement high-growth strategies. Stephan has extensive

experience in the FS, TMT and FMCG sectors across Europe and the Emerging Markets.



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**Tal Garih** 

Strategic Planning Manager, Alarko Group of Companies, Turkey

# Tal Garih

*Strategic Planning Manager, Alarko Group of Companies, Turkey*

Born in 1985, Tal Garih studied a double major in International Relations and Psychology at the University of Virginia where he graduated from in 2007. In 2010, he completed his graduate studies with honors at New York University, mastering a joint degree in International Business and Politics. Tal has been working in various roles within the Alarko Group of Companies since 2010. Currently, he is the Strategic Planning Manager at Alarko Holding. In addition, he serves as the Chairman of the Board and faculty member of Bahçeşehir University's Graduate School of Business, and as a Board Member of "Yeni Bir Lider Derneği / A New Leader Association". Starting his career, Tal worked as a consultant in

Brussels and Washington, representing the interests of Turkish companies in their efforts to harmonize practices and expand towards Europe and the US. After his return to Turkey, Tal joined Alarko and worked as a Marketing Analysis and Operations Supervisor at its Tourism Group, Hillside, between 2010 - 2012. He was in charge of directing brand management, pricing, campaigns, customer satisfaction and communications activities. In 2013, Tal rotated to the Energy Group, where Alarko shows a strong growth commitment, and served as the Energy Business Development Manager. His focus was mainly on renewable energy, operation management, feasibility assessments, forward power

trading and corporate relations. In addition to his role in Alarko, Tal is also active in the social responsibility domain. Serving as the Chairman of the Board and faculty member of Bahçeşehir University's Graduate School of Business, Tal teaches global strategic management courses in the university's MBA programs. He aims to upgrade the graduate school's standards and procedures through the incorporation of best practices regarding the management of the Business School. Furthermore, Tal is a Board Member of "Yeni Bir Lider Derneği / A New Leader Association". Working together with Turkey's leading companies, NGO's and governmental institutions, the organization gears towards crafting the

next-generation of Leaders in Turkey. Its mission is to continuously identify and develop talented and motivated young Turkish individuals with tailored growth opportunities. Tal's areas

of interest include novel technologies, geo-politics, renewable energy, economic globalization, managerial psychology and eastern philosophies. Furthermore, Tal is an animal lover and Yoga

and Kung Fu are among his hobbies. He speaks fluently English, Turkish and Hebrew.



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**Tasha Vashisht**

Senior Manager, Scorpio Partnership, France



# Tasha Vashisht

*Senior Manager, Scorpio Partnership, UK*

Tasha Vashisht is a Senior Manager at Scorpio Partnership. She leads a number of our flagship thought leadership programmes and also supports clients across the Wealth Management sector

with market insight and strategy consulting engagements. Tasha holds a Master's degree in EU politics and government from the London School of Economics and a Bachelor's degree in

Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) from the University of Oxford.



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**Tijen Mergen** 

Founder, Power of Happiness, Turkey

# Tijen Mergen

*Founder, Power of Happiness, Turkey*

Tijen Mergen graduated from Bosphorus University, Department of Electrical Engineering with Master of Science degree. She began her professional career in 1982 at Apple Computer as a sales representative. She then worked at NCR Corp. For 13 years and held various management positions. Between 1994-1998, she was the Sales and Marketing Manager for the Finance Industry at NCR Central and Eastern Europe region, covering 24 countries. Between the years 1998-2003 she was the General Manager of Bilkom A.Ş. (Apple Turkey). During her Bilkom years, she received an award from the International Public Relations Association (IPRA) for the project "iCan", which promoted to develop

movies and music among the universitiy students by using apple technology. She played a key role in the Koc Group Co takeover of Bilkom from Komici Group Co. In 2000, Mergen received the "Business Woman of the Year 2000" award from Dünya Newspaper. Between the years 2003-2005 she produced and presented the television program, "Bilgi Vizyon", for CNBCE, a program about the development of the global Technological sector. Between 2004-2013 she had been working for Dogan Media Group which was the leading media Group in Turkey. Between 2004 - 2010, she was the steering comitee member at Dogan Gazetecilik AS, as Chief Sales, Marketing and Corporate Communication

Officer . She was in charge of newspaper sales & marketing as well as the digital media and other web projects belong to the group. Between 2010 - 2012 she was working at Hurriyet Gazetecilik AS, as Chief Marketing Officer and Steering Committee Member. In 2013, she was at Dogan Holding, working with top management to develop new businesses in new developing industries. Mergen was also the member of board of directors of Doğan Gazetecilik between 2013-2017. Since Oct 2013, she built her own company, TEK Girişim LTD giving consultancy to support corporates to develop and conduct social responsibility projects. At the same time she became the co-founder of Happiness at work Platform

who gives consultancy, training, coaching and mentoring services to the corporates at all levels to increase the motivation and engagement in the workplaces.

She is giving “Strategic Marketing and Branding” courses to the graduate students at Bahçeşehir University for the last four years. She is also one of the founders

of KAGİDER, an NGO who promotes and supports women entrepreneurs and was the Board Member between 2009-2013.



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**Tuba Terekli**  
Managing Director, Leads Angels, Saudi Arabia

# Tuba Terekli

*Managing Director, Leads Angels, Saudi Arabia*

Tuba Terekli is the co-founder and CEO of Qotuf Al Riyadah Development Company, and is a well-known entrepreneurship advocate, policy maker and ecosystem architect. Qotuf is the first private entrepreneurship foundation in Saudi Arabia, which works to formulate the entrepreneurial ecosystem for all different sectors. Working with the various chambers, ministries, universities, accelerator programs, and venture capitals, Tuba has effectively used her global networks from many countries to help develop entrepreneurship and women empowerment initiatives but she is more known for her role as the “accelerator lady”, whereby she had addressed the lack of proper growth vehicles for innovative businesses and is the founder of the first private

sector run accelerator in Saudi Arabia, Flat6Labs Jeddah. Qotuf has achieved many firsts in its launch year as executing the first “Best Investment Opportunity Competition”, “the Creative Business Cup GCC” various e-commerce platforms for home based businesses, establishing investment events and networks, in addition to key government initiatives for SME sector that serve 13 regions of the Kingdom with key ministries. Qotuf also serves as the country host for Global Entrepreneurship Week and other KAUFFMAN foundation programs in Saudi Arabia and runs the GEW Board that is comprised of the 23 SME support entities of KSA. Tuba is a regular speaker and activist in numerous global forums and conferences, in addition to her roles as a

founding member of the Middle East Venture Capital Network, Saudi-Turkish Business Council Viceand think-tank participant in many regional government activities. She is also the Saudi representative to the B20 for the year 2015. Tuba also founded the first female-managed healthcare consultancy in the region, which had been awarded by National Arab US Chamber of Commerce as one of the region’s most promising projects. Tuba holds a Bachelor’s in Computer Science from Saudi Arabia, a Master’s in Business Administration from the UK and various Advanced Study degrees from the USA. She is also the co-founder and member of numerous local and international institutes. Being an active mother of four is her favorite past-time.



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**Turgut Guney**   
Chief Executive Officer, Cardtek, Turkey

# Turgut Guney

*CEO, Cardtek*

Turgut Guney is the CEO of Cardtek since April, 2017. Cardtek provides innovative payment systems solutions and system integration services globally. Guney has 25 years of experience in financial technologies. He is leading Cardtek's new investments, international business development and globalization strategy. Guney is a well

known experienced name of Turkey in information technologies, financial technologies and payment systems. Formerly he worked at Akbank as Chief Operations Officer. Having worked in USA between 1992-1997 in different positions as an advisor, Guney was Chief Information Officer of Turkish Economy Bank between 2001-2011. Grad-

uate of Hacettepe University, Computer Sciences Engineering as his major, Guney has a MS degree from USA Southern Illinois University, Computer Sciences Engineering. Photography is one of several hobbies of Turgut Guney. He has lovely photographs and great stories. He is also a motorcycle fan.



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**Ugur Talayhan** 

Regional Vice President, Swissotel  
The Bosphorus, Turkey

# Ugur Talayhan

*Regional Vice President, Swissotel The Bosphorus, Turkey*

With 27 years of experience in the hospitality industry, a veteran Turkish & British hotelier has started his career as Chef at 17 years old then moved to London and where he was appointed as an Executive Chef in London at 27 years old, then as Food & Beverage Manager then respectively moved from London to Portugal, Dubai, China that he had various management roles

and finally back to Istanbul after 21 years, as of mid of 2017 where his journey has started. He returned back to home with a worldwide hospitality experience that to be utilized at his recent appointment within the Accor Hotels as being Regional Vice President, Luxury Brands, Accor Hotels, Turkey and General Manager, Swissôtel The Bosphorus, Istanbul. He became

a pioneer in Turkey with his worldwide achievements and initiatives in his field. In spare time, he enjoys cooking for friends and family and socializes with colleagues, he is married with one son of 11 years old.

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**Uygar Doyuran**

General Manager of GE Digital, Turkey

# Uygar Doyuran

*General Manager of GE Digital, Turkey*

Uygar Doyuran, holds BS (1994) and MS (1996) in Electrical & Electronics Engineering from Middle East Technical University. Doyuran worked in Aselsan till 2002 in design and implementation of extensive Telecommunication and Defense Systems. Between 2002 and 2005, he acted as the Director of

Business Development and Project Management in Meteksan leading large scale healthcare IT projects in Turkey, Middle East, Russia and East Europe. Doyuran joined Intel in 2005, where he led solution sales projects in Healthcare IT, Enterprise IT, Digital Transformation and IoT in Middle East, Turkey and Af-

rica. Since 2016, Uygar Doyuran is the General Manager of GE Digital Turkey focusing on Digital Transformation in Manufacturing, Energy, Healthcare and Transportation verticals.

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**Viktor Romaniuk Wanli**

Founder at Kinguin.io Pre-ICO 15.2., Poland

# Viktor Romaniuk Wanli

*Founder at Kinguin.io Pre-ICO 15.2., Poland*

Viktor Romaniuk Wanli is an entrepreneur and visionary in the gaming and the eSports ecosystem since 2007. In 2013 he pioneered the secondary market for digital games, by creating the first marketplace where gamers

could monetize extra cd-keys. This year the secondary market is projected to surpass one billion dollars annually. CEO of Kinguin.net, a marketplace for digital games with 6,5 million users. CEO of Team Kinguin

SA, the number one eSport organization in Poland. CEO of Kinguin Franchising Systems a company created with the purpose to establish eSports hubs around the world.



A photograph of Vitaly Polekhin, a man with a beard and glasses, speaking into a microphone. He is wearing a dark suit jacket and a black shirt. The background is a dark blue banner with white text. On the left side of the banner, there is a large image of a hot air balloon.

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**Vitaly Polekhin** 

President, Russian Business Angels Association, Russia

# Vitaly Polekhin

*President, Russian Business Angels Association, Russia*

President of National Business Angels Association. Head of SKOLKOVO Business School Investor club. Angel Investor of the Year 2015 by Russia Venture Awards. Managing partner of VENTURE ANGELS seed and

early stage investment fund. Shareholder and Supervisory Board Member of Addventure venture fund. Education: Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO Executive MBA. Lomonosov Moscow State Uni-

versity MBA. MIT Sloan School of Management, UC Berkley Haas School of Business, Harvard Business School. PhD in Philosophy

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**Vlado Milošević**

Outreach and Advisory, Cofound.it,  
Slovenia

# Vlado Milosevic

*Founder, Cofound, Slovenia*

Vlado is an entrepreneur and an engineer, experience in power engineering and technical innovations; one of his ventures involved electric vehicle

infrastructure in 2008. The last venture before Cofoundit was co-founding a crowdfunding platform in Slovenia. His biggest and most inspiring challenge

is helping Cofound.it choose and coach some of our amazing projects.



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**Wayne Clarke** 

Founding Partner, Global Growth Institute, UK

# Wayne Clarke

*Founding Partner, Global Growth Institute, UK*

Wayne Clarke is a founding partner of the Global Growth Institute based out of the UK/Netherlands, and from 2007 until 2012 was the managing and international partner of the advisory arm of Best Companies, who produce the Sunday Times Top 100 Companies lists. He began his career at Deloitte and went on to help BDO, the fifth largest accounting network, to achieve a top 20 ranking in the Sunday Times Best Companies lists. Wayne is an economics graduate and has spent over 16 years helping to improve the performance of organisa-

tions through improved people engagement. He works throughout the world designing and delivering strategic growth focused programmes within the private and public sector. To date he has worked with more than 500 CEOs/boards and thousands of managers in over 30 countries. He is also a co-founder of the 'HR In The Boardroom' programme delivered with Xinfu, the Chinese CEO advisory specialists. Wayne is an international keynote speaker and has been recognised for three consecutive years by HR Magazine as one of the top 25

"Most Influential Thinkers" and is a visiting lecturer on the MBA programme at Cass Business School in London and Dubai. In 2012 at the New York JCI/UN Partnership Summit, he was formally recognised as a JCI Ambassador for his work in promoting the principles of JCI and the United Nations Foundation; previous recipients of this ambassadorship include current UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki Moon. In July 2014 he was invited to speak alongside Chelsea Clinton at the UN in New York.



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**Yassin S. Al-Suroor**

Chairman Of Saudi International Chamber Of  
Commerce, ICC Executive Board Member & WCF  
G20 Representative, Saudi Arabia

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# Yassin S. Al Suroor

*Chairman Of Saudi International Chamber Of Commerce*

*ICC Executive Board Member & WCF G20 Representative Saudi Arabia*

Mr. Yassin Al Suroor has been advising various government agencies on cross-country investments. He is also leading well reputed multinational companies for the past 20 years. He has successfully developed BOT and BOO Projects which have

been recorded in the financial market. Mr. Al Suroor is the Board Member of Regional and International Companies and Chairman of Arab Economic and Business Group (A'amal Group) and Prime Cosmos Assets Ltd. He plays Global role

as Chairman of Saudi ICC, Executive Board member of ICC, Executive Committee member & G20 Representative of WCF and Globally Member of B20 / G20 Group.



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**Yavuz Kaynar** 

Fund Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), Turkey

# Yavuz Kaynar

*Fund Manager, European Investment Fund (EIF), Turkey*

Yavuz Kaynar is a Fund Manager at the European Investment Fund managing the EUR 200M Turkish Growth and Innovation Fund and EUR 160M Istanbul Venture Capital Initiative. Prior to EIF, Yavuz was part of EBRD's EUR 100M Venture Capital Fund, financing early and growth stage companies

in the region. Before joining EBRD, Yavuz was the CTO of iLab Ventures, one of Turkey's largest Internet investment and portfolio management houses. Yavuz has extensive experience working with start-ups competing in the Internet space as well as Fortune 500 companies developing new products to reach

wider audiences via the internet. Yavuz received a BS degree from University of Virginia in Systems Engineering and an MBA from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



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**Yvette Go** 

Head of Social & Environmental Impact,  
EIF, Luxembourg

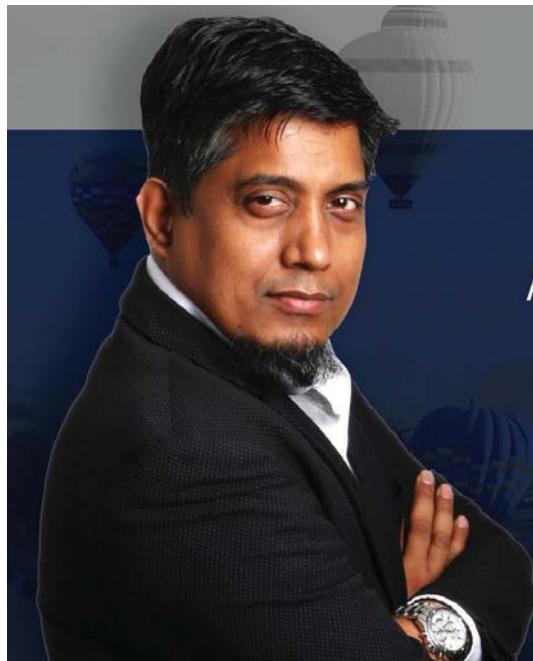
# Yvette Go

*Head of Social & Environmental Impact, EIF, Luxembourg*

Yvette Go is Head of Social and Environmental Impact Investments in the venture capital (VC) team of the European Investment Fund (EIF). She leads the team and strategy focused on equity investments delivering societal impact, in parallel to generating financial returns. With the team, she manages over EUR 400M in funding dedicated to social impact, invested through a variety of financial instruments ([http://www.eif.org/EIF\\_for/social-impact-funds/index.htm](http://www.eif.org/EIF_for/social-impact-funds/index.htm)). Before joining

EIF in 2015, she worked at the cleantech VC firm SET Ventures for 7 years a.o. leading their investment in MicroShade, an innovative company in energy-efficient window solutions. She also co-led the fundraising for Shaerpa's first social impact fund (now merged with SI2, investing in social enterprises in the Benelux). During the first 10 years of her career, Yvette held various roles of increasing responsibility at the multinationals DSM and Shell, until she moved from her position as

global product portfolio manager for a business generating EUR 300M annual sales into venture capital. She is a guest lecturer at Nyenrode Business University (Netherlands), teaching "How to finance" to social entrepreneurs. Yvette holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from IESE Business School (Global Executive MBA 2008, Spain) and a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering from Delft University of Technology (Netherlands).



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**Zakir Hussain** 

Founder & Chairman, Usense  
Innovative Solutions, India

# Zakir Hussain

*Founder & Chairman, Usense Innovative Solutions, India*

With design at my core, my evolution has followed a path less traveled from animation, print and digital media to user experience. My discovery of UX at a later stage in my career transformed my life, it nourished my urge to explore human psychology and persuasion. UX / UI completes my desire to bring excellence in my life and its principals permeate every aspect of my being. I have over 16 years of experience in the field of User Experience across Strategy, Research, Interaction Design, Information Architecture, Prototyping and Testing. UX has challenged me in every sense node to strive to bring

value to the User. I have been drawing human principles as a base and emotion with means to bring connection to the user's heart. The variety of verticals in my career has given me the flavor and all the ingredients I need today to engage in any business. Catching pain points and bringing in simple & elegant solutions to further enhance the value chain has been my primary goal. To add to my strength, I have been imparting my skills to a team of handpicked candidates that can deliver tomorrow's technologies today. Despite spending so much time and energy in my personal journey in UX, I still feel like a student and hum-

ble team member with desire to make the practice of UX a thought process of the millions. I am a CEO of ILM Innovative Solutions Pvt. Ltd. and USense Innovative Solutions Pvt. Ltd. My aim is to help companies to get more value driven software design and development. I'm a firm believer in the lean methodology and its integration into the UCD framework. As a part of my passion to spread UX knowledge I have delivered seminars on various many platforms including Conferences, Institutes, Corporates & Schools.



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**Zeynep Meydanoglu**   
Country Director, Ashoka, Turkey

# Zeynep Meydanoglu

*Country Director, Ashoka, Turkey*

Zeynep is the Turkey country director for Ashoka - the leading global platform for social entrepreneurs and changemakers across 97 countries. Prior to Ashoka, Zeynep was the Program Director of TÜSEV (Third Sector Foundation of Turkey), the country's leading think-tank and umbrella organization for

non-profits. She has 10 years of experience in capacity building, infrastructure development and innovating for a stronger civil society and philanthropy in Turkey. Zeynep is also a deputy board member of Destek Vakfi (Foundation for Supporting Civil Society) and supports several women's organizations

on a volunteer basis. Born and raised mostly in Istanbul, Turkey, Zeynep has a double Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Cultural Studies from McGill University, Montreal, Canada. She currently attends Istanbul Bilgi University's MA Program in Human Rights Law.



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**Zsolt Katona** 

Chief Executive Officer, MFB Invest, Hungary

# Zsolt Katona

*Chief Executive Officer, MFB Invest, Hungary*

MFB Invest, a subsidiary of the Hungarian Development Bank (MFB), provides development and venture capital funding on the Hungarian capital market, covering a wide range of sectors such as machinery, manufacturing, energy, health care, services and technology. Apart from greenfield projects, MFB Invest focuses on small and medium-sized enterprises in an established phase of their life cycles with growth potential and capex plans. Hiventures sets-up and performs fund management for venture capital funds dedicated for investing in innovative, start-up and early-stage growth

small- and medium-sized enterprises. Hiventures aims at incubation (pre-seed), seed, and growth stages, thus fostering young or to-be-established companies with focus on research, development and innovation. Top executive management position in running the day-to-day operation of the Budapest Stock Exchange (BSE), part of the CEE Stock Exchange Group including Austria, Czech Republic, Slovenia and Hungary. Formulating the company's strategy, as well as developing the overall Hungarian capital market, including projects of creating dedicated SME market for easy

access to capital for Hungarian and regional SMEs thus supporting economic growth and job creation. Joined ING's Hungarian securities trading, research and corporate finance effort in 1995 after setting-up local entity. Developed ING's local presence to highest standards as well as gaining top market share in stock exchange trading. Participated in several corporate finance and investment banking transactions, including bond issuances and M&A deals.



# THE WORLD EXCELLENCE AWARDS & VIP GALA DINNER

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