



TPF
INNOVATION &
SOCIAL IMPACT SUMMIT
2026

Beyond Innovation:
Designing the Future of Humanity

The Times Center

April 23, 2026



WELCOME

Dear Donors, Partners, and Friends,

Welcome to the TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit 2026.

It is a privilege and honor to bring together such a thoughtful and accomplished community—leaders, builders, thinkers, and changemakers—each contributing to shaping the future in their own way. At a time when innovation is advancing at extraordinary speed, this gathering offers a moment not only to engage with new ideas, but to reflect on the kind of world we are collectively designing.

This Summit was created with a clear intention: to convene voices across disciplines from technology, science, business, and arts, to philanthropy, around questions that extend beyond innovation itself. While the breakthroughs we are witnessing are transformative, they also require us to think more deeply about responsibility, equity, and long-term impact.

Let's make today not only about meaningful dialogues but also about a more equitable path for our future.

At the heart of today's gathering is an important idea: Principled Innovation.

The Summit directly supports a set of critical issue areas and partners working on the frontlines of change from equipping youth and NGO leaders with digital and AI literacy training to providing access to arts-based education and mental health and well-being services, to introducing climate-smart agriculture programs. Through Turkish Philanthropy Funds, the conversations that begin here are connected to real initiatives, real communities, and real impact on the ground.

Throughout the day, we will explore how innovation is reshaping systems from healthcare and climate to creativity and economic opportunity. But just as importantly, we will examine the principles that must guide this transformation. How do we ensure that progress remains human-centered? How do we design systems that are not only more advanced, but also more inclusive and resilient?

Equally meaningful are the moments offstage: the conversations, exchanges, and connections that emerge when diverse perspectives come together. It is often in these spaces that new ideas take shape and where collaboration begins.

In this way, the Summit becomes more than a convening. It links ideas with resources, and intention with tangible outcomes. It is our hope that the energy, insight, and connections generated today will continue to translate into meaningful support for the organizations and communities we serve.

We are deeply grateful to our speakers for bringing not only their expertise, but also their openness to engage with the broader questions of our time. And we thank each of you for being part of this community. Thank you for your curiosity, your commitment, and your willingness to contribute to a more thoughtful and impactful dialogue.

We hope that today offers not only insight, but also inspiration, and that it sparks ideas, partnerships, and contributions that extend far beyond this gathering.

With gratitude,



Mustafa Kemal Abadan
Chair



Şenay Ataselim Yılmaz, PhD
Executive Director



9:30 AM Registration

10:30 AM Introduction

Jülide Ateş
Master of Ceremonies

Opening Remarks

Mustafa Kemal Abadan
Chairman, Turkish Philanthropy Funds

10:45 AM Conversations on Innovation

Part I | Leading Innovation in a Time of Disruption

Hanzade Doğan, Tech Founder & Philanthropist
Ayşegül İldeniz, Technology Executive & Author

11:05 AM Part II | Transforming Human Health

Gökhan S. Hotamışlıgil, PhD, Harvard University
Ayşegül İldeniz, Technology Executive & Author

11:30 AM Panel: Designing Technology for Human and Social Impact

Umur Çubukçu, UbiCloud
Ece Kamar, PhD, AI Frontiers Lab, Microsoft Research
Aykut Karaalioğlu, Mobile Action
Yasemin Koloğlu, HKS
Moderator: Didem Altop, Treeo VC

12:30 AM Networking Lunch



-
- 2:00 PM** *A Moment of Reflection on Principled Innovation*
Zeynep Oğuz Bilimer
Board Member, Turkish Philanthropy Funds
-
- 2:10 PM** *Panel: Creativity in the Age of AI*
Grimanesa Amorós, Multimedia Artist
Pınar Demirdağ, Cuebric
Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol, New England Conservatory
Mary Solomon, Film Producer
Moderator: Ülkü Rowe, Lloyds Banking Group
-
- 3:15 PM** *Panel: Biotech & Wellbeing*
Prof. Hasan Ayaz, Drexel University
Arda Ural, PhD, Life Sciences, EY
Ercüment Tokat, Centerview Partners
Moderator: Wafaa El-Sadr, PhD, Columbia Global
-
- 4:20 PM** *Coffee Break*
-
- 5:00 PM** *Closing Fireside Chat:*
Beyond Innovation: Power, Narratives, and the Future of AI
Faruk Eczacıbaşı, Turkish Informatics Foundation
Stacey Vanek Smith, Journalist & Podcast Host
-
- 5:45 PM** *Closing Remarks*
Ahmet Bozer
Board Member, Turkish Philanthropy Funds
-
- 6:00 PM** *Summit Closes*

OPENING FIRESIDE CHAT

Conversations on Innovation **Part 1 | Leading Innovation in a** **Time of Disruption**

This opening conversation will explore what it means to lead and innovate in a rapidly changing world. In dialogue with Hanzade Doğan, the discussion will examine how leaders navigate uncertainty, build cultures of innovation, and respond to the societal implications of technological change. Drawing on her experience transforming organizations across media, technology, and entrepreneurship, the conversation will reflect on the opportunities and responsibilities that come with innovation today — and what it will take to shape a more resilient and forward-looking future.



Hanzade Doğan



Ayşegül İldeniz

HANZADE DOĐAN

Chairwoman, Dođan Group

Board Member, Aydın Dođan Foundation

Founder & Chairwoman, Nesine

Founder, D4 Ventures

Founder, Hepsiburada Group

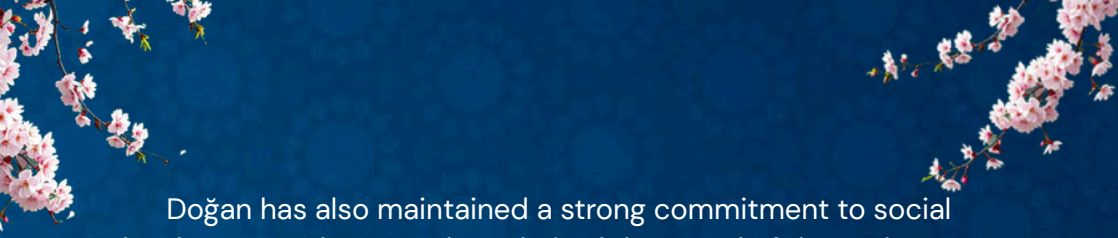
A leading figure in Türkiye's digital transformation, Hanzade Dođan is a technology entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist dedicated to supporting institutions that contribute to solving global challenges.

With the founding of Hepsiburada in 2001, Dođan played a pioneering role in the development of e-commerce in Türkiye. Under her leadership, the company evolved into one of the region's leading platforms and in 2021, became the first Turkish company to be listed on NASDAQ. In 2025, she sold her shares, successfully completing her vision of building and scaling one of Türkiye's most prominent digital brands, while enabling hundreds of thousands of businesses to integrate into the digital economy through its marketplace model.

Dođan continues to serve as Chair of the Board of Nesine, which she founded in 2006.

In 2020, she established D4 Ventures in London, focusing on technology investments and further strengthening her active presence in the international entrepreneurship ecosystem.

As of 1 February 2025, Hanzade Dođan has been serving as Chair of the Board of Dođan Holding. Prior to assuming this role, she held senior leadership positions across several of the Group's leading companies. Between 2003 and 2007, she served as Chair of Dođan Yayın Holding, and from 2006 to 2010, she held key roles at Petrol Ofisi, first as a Board Member and subsequently as Chair of the Board.



Doğan has also maintained a strong commitment to social development. She served as Chair of the Board of the Aydın Doğan Foundation from 2012 to 2022. Through her leadership of the “Daddy, Send Me to School” campaign, she contributed to reducing the economic and cultural barriers faced by girls in accessing education and played a significant role in narrowing the gender gap in secondary education. She continues to serve as a Member of the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

An influential figure on the international stage, Doğan serves as a Trustee of the Brookings Institution and actively contributes to the work of the World Economic Forum (WEF), including as a member of its Digital Platforms and Ecosystems Initiative. In 2021, she was named among Fortune’s “50 Most Powerful International Women.”

Doğan holds a BSc in Economics from the London School of Economics and an MBA from Columbia University, and she also serves as a Board Member of Columbia Business School.



AYŞEGÜL İLDENİZ

Technology Executive & Author

Ayşe İldeniz is a global technology leader focused on innovation, AI & smart technologies, and future vision based in San Francisco. She was chosen as one of the most creative people in the world by Fast Company (2015) and created award-winning products using smart technologies we use today. İldeniz served as the Vice President for New Devices Group at Intel Corporation.

Prior, İldeniz was the regional director for Türkiye, Middle East and Africa Region and EMEA board director at Intel. She joined Silver Spring Networks, a public smart energy company, in 2016 as COO and oversaw company's successful exit after smart city rollouts in Chicago, Singapore, Paris, Copenhagen, Dubai.

She currently serves as a board director at Dogan Holding, Pegasus Airlines, Zorlu Holding, and does consultancy and investment in Silicon Valley. İldeniz is the chair of TUSIAD Silicon Valley Network, a 2010 Eisenhower Fellow, board member of Turkish Philanthropy Funds and has won several awards for her international leadership. She is a tech columnist at Oksijen Newspaper in Türkiye and is the author of three books on tech and AI.

OPENING FIRESIDE CHAT

Conversations on Innovation

Part 2 | Transforming Human Health

In this conversation, Prof. Gökhan Hotamışlıgil, a leading scientist in metabolic disease research, and technology leader Ayşegül İldeniz explore how advances in biology, genetics, and technology are transforming our understanding of human health. Moving beyond the traditional model of treating illness after it appears, the discussion examines how scientific discovery, AI, and systems thinking are enabling a deeper understanding of disease at the cellular level, opening the possibility of earlier prevention, more personalized treatments, and entirely new approaches to health. Together, they reflect on the opportunities and responsibilities that come with this new era, where science, technology, and innovation converge to reshape the future of medicine.



Prof. Gökhan Hotamışlıgil



Ayşegül İldeniz




PROF. GÖKHAN HOTAMIŞLIGİL

*James Stevens Simmons Professor of Genetics
& Metabolism, Molecular Metabolism
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Entrepreneur*

Dr. Hotamışlıgil is the James S. Simmons Professor of Genetics & Metabolism, Director, Center for Cardiovascular Disease Prevention and Treatment (CAP-CVD), Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, Department of Molecular Metabolism and Nutrition. He is also an Assoc. Member of the Harvard-MIT Broad Institute, Harvard Stem Cell Institute and Joslin Diabetes Center.

Dr. Hotamışlıgil 's research efforts focus on the molecular basis of common and complex diseases. He is an internationally recognized leader with seminal contributions including the discoveries that defined inflammatory nature of obesity and diabetes and formed important pillars of the field of immunometabolism. Hotamışlıgil 's work also opened another field of study related to the role of endoplasmic reticulum in cellular and organismic metabolism, and its impact on metabolic diseases. He also discovered novel lipokines and lipid binding hormones, such as FABP4 and FABKIN integrating adipose tissue to other metabolic organs and regulate systemic metabolism in obesity and aging. Hotamışlıgil pursues interdisciplinary paths, collaborations, and alliances towards development of novel preventive and therapeutic strategies against obesity- and age-related diseases to improve health span. These programs have resulted in multiple patents and driven several drug development platforms, some currently in clinical trials. His work has resulted in 215 scientific manuscripts which have received >90,000 citations with an h factor of 125.



Dr. Hotamışlıgil has been recognized by fellowships and awards from the Markey and Pew Foundations, the J.S. Simmons Endowment at Harvard University and the mentoring award of the Harvard School of Public Health. He is an elected fellow of the AAAS and the recipient of the Outstanding Scientific Accomplishment Award of American Diabetes Association, the Wertheimer Award from International Association for the Study of Obesity, the Naomi Berrie Award from Columbia University, Science Award of the Vehbi Koç Foundation, Roy Greep Award of Endocrine Society, the International Danone Prize, and the EASD–NovoNordisk Diabetes Prize for excellence. Dr. Hotamışlıgil 's work in collaboration with Refik Anadol, on subcellular architecture of liver tissue was featured at the main exhibition of the Venice Biennale Architecture. Dr. Hotamisligil is a member of the Board of Trustees of Kadir Has University, Chair of the Scientific Board of Crescenta Biosciences and among the founders and directors of the Children's Wellness Center to support children who lost their limbs after the devastating earthquake in Türkiye.

PANEL

Designing Technology for Human and Social Impact

As technological innovation accelerates, the question is no longer only what we can build, but how we ensure these advancements serve humanity and the planet. This forward-looking conversation brings together leaders from technology, research, venture capital, and climate strategy to explore how digital infrastructure, artificial intelligence, mobile ecosystems, and climate innovation can be guided by responsibility and human values. Together, they will examine how technology and capital can be aligned to expand opportunity, strengthen resilience, and help shape a more equitable and sustainable future.



Umur Çubukçu



Didem Altop
Moderator



Aykut Karaaliođlu



Ece Kamar, PhD



Yasemin Kolođlu



UMUR ÇUBUKÇU
Co-founder, Ubicloud

Umur Çubukçu is the co-founder and co-CEO of Ubicloud, an open-source cloud platform that makes modern computing infrastructure more affordable and accessible. He previously co-founded Citus Data, a distributed database company built on the world's leading open source database PostgreSQL, which was acquired by Microsoft. After the acquisition, he led Microsoft's key data service products, and later served as a Partner at Y Combinator, working with many early-stage founders from around the world, with an emphasis on AI and open source software.

Umur holds degrees from Stanford University and Boğaziçi University, and is based in Silicon Valley. He is passionate about entrepreneurship, open technology, and supporting the next generation of builders.



ECE KAMAR, PhD

*VP of Research & Managing Director
AI Frontiers Lab, Microsoft*

Ece Kamar is Distinguished Scientist, Corporate Vice President and the Managing Director of the AI Frontiers Lab at Microsoft Research. She leads research and development towards pushing the frontiers of AI capabilities. Releases from her lab includes Phi family of models and libraries to empower agentic work, including AutoGen, MagenticOne and MagenticUI. Ece has a decade of experience studying the impact of AI on society and developing AI systems that are reliable, unbiased and trustworthy. She has been instrumental in building the Responsible AI efforts inside Microsoft. She serves as Technical Advisor for Microsoft's Internal Committee on AI, Engineering and Ethics. Ece received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from Sabanci University in Istanbul. She completed her PhD at Harvard University, where she has worked with Prof. Barbara Grosz on human-AI collaboration. Ece is an Affiliate Faculty in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Washington and is an Adjunct Faculty at Sabanci University. She was a member of the first study panel of Stanford's AI100. She is currently serving on the National Academies' Computer Science and Telecommunications Board (CSTB). She has been on the organizing committees of top AI and HCI conferences and received multiple best paper awards for her work.



AYKUT KARAALIOĞLU

Founder & CEO, Mobile Action

Aykut Karaalioğlu is a San Francisco-based entrepreneur and the Founder & CEO of MobileAction.

Driven by a lifelong passion for building businesses, Aykut moved from Ankara to Silicon Valley to solve the core challenges of the mobile app economy. Since founding MobileAction in 2013, he has scaled it into a global leader in app store intelligence and user acquisition. A committed angel investor and community builder, he is also the founder of Turks in Tech, a powerful network of over 15,000 members bridging the gap between Turkish talent and the global technology ecosystem.

YASEMİN KOLOĞLU

Climate Leader and Strategist

Yasemin Koloğlu is a Principal at HKS and leads HKS's Regenerative Design Group globally. She is the President of Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU), Senior Fellow with Architecture 2030 and a recognized leader in the building industry. She has 20+ years of experience in sustainable design, innovation beyond net zero strategies and implementation of regenerative approaches in the industry. She has proven expertise in generating scalable solutions for net zero carbon developments and businesses.

As an expert in sustainability and climate change, Yasemin serves on juries and advisory boards shaping low carbon/energy practice and policies across New York and nationally. She is the co-chair of AIA's Committee on the Environment and ULI's Council for Sustainability and Climate in New York, founding member of MEP2040.

Yasemin holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell University and an Executive MBA from IE Business School and Brown University.



DİDEM ALTOP

General Partner, Treeo VC

Didem Altop is a Turkish American venture capitalist, strategist, and community builder passionate about fostering innovation, collaboration, and positive impact. With over 25 years of experience across strategy, business development, and entrepreneurship, her career bridges corporate, entrepreneurial, and nonprofit ecosystems in the U.S. and Türkiye.

Today, as General Partner at Treeo VC in Miami, Didem invests in Alternative, immigrant-led B2B startups expanding into the U.S. market. She also serves as a board member and advisor to startups and family businesses, helping them scale and transform responsibly. Her professional journey began in management consulting, holding positions at The World Bank, Electronic Data Systems (EDS), Lockheed Martin Mission Systems, and IBM, where she focused on digital transformation, competitive and organizational strategy. She later founded ECOM Consulting & Project Finance, a boutique advisory firm specializing in corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainable development.

Didem went on to pioneer Türkiye's innovation ecosystem as the Co-Founder and Managing Director of Endeavor Türkiye, catalyzing a new generation of high-impact entrepreneurs and reshaping the national entrepreneurship agenda.

Beyond her work in venture capital, Didem has been a driving force in civil society. She is a Co-Founding Board Member of the Global Entrepreneurship Network in Türkiye (GEN Türkiye), a Co-Founder of YenidenBiz, helping women return to the workforce after career breaks, and an Executive Board Member of Turkish Philanthropy Funds.

Didem holds a B.A. in Economics from Johns Hopkins University and an M.S.I.A./M.B.A. from Carnegie Mellon University.

PANEL

Creativity in the Age of AI

As artificial intelligence enters the creative process, artists, technologists, and storytellers are rethinking the boundaries of imagination. This conversation explores how human-machine collaboration is transforming art, music, film, and design, raising new questions about authorship, originality, and cultural responsibility. Through real-world examples, panelists will demonstrate how emerging tools are reshaping creative industries while expanding access to storytelling in unprecedented ways.



Grimanesa Amorós



Ülkü Rowe
Moderator



Pınar Seyhan Demirdağ



Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol



Mary Solomon



GRIMANESA AMORÓS

Multimedia Artist

Grimanesa Amorós is a Peruvian-born American multimedia creative whose work explores community connections intersecting history, technology, and architecture. Her keen understanding of structure enables her to create monumental sculptures incorporating various elements such as video, lighting, and electronic components to create immersive environments and connect the viewer to their surroundings. Technology compliments the concepts of her work without defining it—a medium of expression. She draws upon important cultural legacies for inspiration and presents societal issues like mental health. Grimanesa Amorós' artwork ties the past, present, and future—pushing viewers to think beyond and challenging their initial perceptions.

Amorós is invited as a keynote speaker at museums, foundations, and universities, where her lectures empower young professionals, attracting future artists, students, and faculty working in architecture, science, and technology. Amorós has exhibited in the United States, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. She was a guest speaker at TED Global, a recipient of the NEA Visual Arts Grants Fellowships, and has the distinction of being part of the "Art In Embassies Program of the U.S." and the Civita Institute NE Chapter Fellowship Grant holder. Her work has been exhibited in numerous museums, including the Ludwig Museum, CAFA Museum, Katonah Museum, and Seoul National University Museum of Art.



PINAR SEYHAN DEMİRDAĞ

Founder & CEO, Cuebric

Pinar Seyhan Demirdağ is a globally recognized thought leader, founder, and creative technologist redefining the way humans and AI collaborate. She is co-founder of Cuebric, the world's first Creative AI production company, where she designs AI tools for storytelling, film, and product innovation, tools that expand human creativity rather than automate it. Her projects include the first generative AI VFX for a feature film and the first AI-driven commercial, which won a prestigious D&AD Award.

Pinar teaches millions through LinkedIn Learning, her course ranking #1 globally, and advises top tier companies like Dell, Canva, Vimeo, LinkedIn, and TBWA on AI strategy, ethics, and creative innovation. She regularly appears on global stages, including Harvard, MIT Media Lab, Bloomberg Screen Time, SXSW, TEDx, and Siggraph, and has been featured on CBS's 60 Minutes as a leading mind shaping the AI era.

Her perspective is rooted in a rare combination of creative and technical expertise: as one of the first artists displaced by AI, she intimately understands both the risks and opportunities of intelligent technology. Pinar shows how AI can serve as a tool to amplify human vision, intuition, and agency, advocating for a future where technology extends, rather than replaces, our most essential human qualities.

Bold, insightful, and magnetic, Pinar translates philosophy into action, helping creators, innovators, and organizations navigate the AI era with curiosity and impact. She builds products and platforms that prove human imagination is still the ultimate competitive advantage.



MEHMET ALİ SANLIKOL

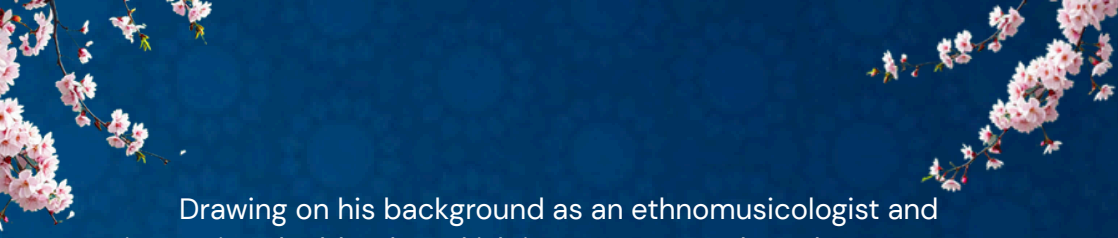
Music History & Musicology Professor

New England Conservatory

Composer & Performer

Mehmet Ali Sanlikol is a Grammy-nominated composer, pianist, singer, multi-instrumentalist, and one of today's most inventive voices at the intersection of concert music, jazz and global musical traditions. Equally at home on stage and in the academy, Sanlikol brings his signature blend of concert music and/or jazz with Turkish music where he features traditional Turkish instruments, his custom built electric oud and his very own digital microtonal keyboard, the Renaissance 17. Sanlikol demonstrates a style of writing and performance that is cosmopolitan, pluralist and inclusive without reducing or standardizing the musical languages which influenced it. His Carnegie Hall debut in 2016, featuring the premiere of his commissioned work Harabat/The Intoxicated with the American Composers Orchestra, marked a defining moment in his career. Since then, his compositions have been performed at Tanglewood's Ozawa Hall, featured on multiple recordings by the Grammy-nominated ensemble A Far Cry, and presented by leading institutions and festivals across the United States.

A musical polymath, Sanlikol has collaborated with some of the most celebrated names in the concert hall, jazz and contemporary music — including Dave Liebman, Billy Cobham, Miguel Zenón, Antonio Sánchez, Anat Cohen, Esperanza Spalding, John Patitucci, Yo-Yo Ma, The Boston Camerata, Okay Temiz and Erkan Oğur — and has appeared at major venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Shalin Liu Performance Center, National Sawdust, Jordan Hall, Kennedy Center, Théâtre de la Ville, and Arsenal de Metz. His works have been commissioned and performed by leading ensembles including, Blue Heron, A Far Cry and the American Composers Orchestra.



Drawing on his background as an ethnomusicologist and improviser, he blends Turkish instruments such as the zurna, ney, kös, and nekkare into orchestral textures, layering makam (modal systems) and usul (rhythmic cycles).

Sanlıkol studied jazz composition with Herb Pomeroy and Ken Pullig at Berklee College of Music, and later completed his Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition under Lee Hyla, George Russell and Bob Brookmeyer. A former fellow at Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, he now serves as Director of the Intercultural Institute at New England Conservatory, where he is also on the full-time faculty.



MARY SOLOMON


Film Producer

Mary Solomon is a Partner at Star Thrower Entertainment, a film and television production company based in Los Angeles.

Mary is a Producer on a wide range of movies, from the Oscar-nominated “King Richard” and Sundance darling “Ingrid Goes West” to “LBJ” and “8-Bit Christmas.” Mary is active in NYC theater world, helping to bring many plays and musicals to stages on and off Broadway, most recently “Beautiful: The Carole King Story.”

With a background in branding, public relations and storytelling, Mary currently sits on the boards of two national non-profits: The Roundabout Theatre Company and Film at Lincoln Center. Mary also advises other organizations on culture, media and fundraising opportunities.

Mary lives in New York and Los Angeles.



ÜLKÜ ROWE
CIO, Commercial
Lloyds Banking Group

Ülkü Rowe is a technology executive and cultural entrepreneur, currently serving as the Chief Information Officer for the Commercial Bank at Lloyds Banking Group. She is also the Co-Founder of the Turkish American Orchestra (TAO), which brings together musicians from Türkiye and the U.S. to promote cultural exchange through the universal language of music.

Previously, Ülkü was the Technical Director of Financial Services in Google Cloud's Office of the CTO, where she helped global financial institutions accelerate digital transformation through cloud, AI, and data innovation. Before Google, she held senior technology leadership roles at J.P. Morgan Chase and Bank of America.

Ülkü holds an M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a B.S. in Computer Engineering from Boğaziçi University.

She serves on several advisory and nonprofit boards, including University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Engineering, and University of Illinois Chicago.



PANEL

Biotech & Wellbeing

This conversation brings together leaders in biotechnology, neuroscience, finance, and global health to explore the shift from treating illness to preventing it. As advances in precision diagnostics, AI-enabled data analysis, neurotechnology, and neuroscience transform our understanding of human health, new opportunities are emerging to detect disease earlier and personalize care in unprecedented ways. At the same time, these breakthroughs raise critical questions about affordability, access, and how health systems must evolve to ensure innovations benefit people globally.



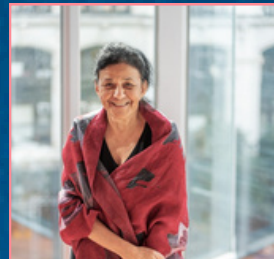
Prof. Hasan Ayaz



Arda Ural, PhD



Ercüment Tokat



Wafaa El-Sadr, PhD
Moderator



PROF. HASAN AYAZ

*Professor, Drexel University
Director, Neuroergonomics and
Neuroengineering Lab*

Hasan Ayaz, PhD is a Professor in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems at Drexel University and Director of the Neuroergonomics and Neuroengineering Lab for Brain Health and Performance Research (AyazLab.com). His research integrates wearable and mobile neuroimaging, physiological sensing, and behavioral methods to measure brain function in realistic everyday settings and translate neurophysiological evidence into improved training, clinical decision support, and human-centered system design. Over two decades, Dr. Ayaz has advanced miniaturized continuous-wave functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS) for mobile neuroimaging, developing brain-monitoring systems and widely used methods for data collection, processing, and analysis adopted across university, industry, and clinical labs worldwide. He led the software development for InfraScanner, the first handheld optical brain-monitoring device for traumatic brain injury, supporting early hematoma detection and deployed in 42 countries. An internationally recognized leader in neuroergonomics, he co-founded the International Neuroergonomics Conference series and the journal *Frontiers in Neuroergonomics*, where he serves as Field Chief Editor, and he co-edited the Elsevier Academic Press volume *Neuroergonomics: The Brain at Work and Everyday Life*. His translational portfolio includes industry and government collaborations across aerospace, defense, and other sectors, as well as multi-institutional clinical research applying wearable neuroimaging in pediatric populations and across neurological and mental health conditions. He earned his BS in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Boğaziçi University and his PhD in Biomedical Engineering from Drexel University.



ARDA URAL, PhD

*Partner & Americas Sector Leader
Life Sciences, EY*

Arda Ural, PhD is the EY Americas Life Sciences Sector Leader. In this role, he is in service to EY life sciences professionals in North and South America, helping them to solve their clients' most pressing issues at the C-suite level, building a sector community and upholding the principles of One EY.

Arda has a proven track record in pharma, biotech and med tech industry with 30 years of experience in general management, corporate strategy, marketing, new product development, and M&A including acquisitions, spins, divestitures and mergers.

Prior to joining EY, Arda was a Managing Director at another leading strategy firm, where he led the firm's Life Sciences M&A Practice for six years. Earlier, Arda worked as a VP of Strategic Marketing and a BU Lead at Becton Dickinson, a leading medical technology company. He also served as the SVP Marketing & Sales for a start-up biotechnology company Eyetech which concluded its IPO and later acquired by Astellas.

He is a frequent speaker at industry conferences, co-authors articles and regularly conducts media interviews in the life sciences industry. Recently, Arda was named a "Standout Leader" in the prestigious 2024 PharmaVoice 100.



ERCÜMENT TOKAT

*Co-President & Partner
Centerview Partners*

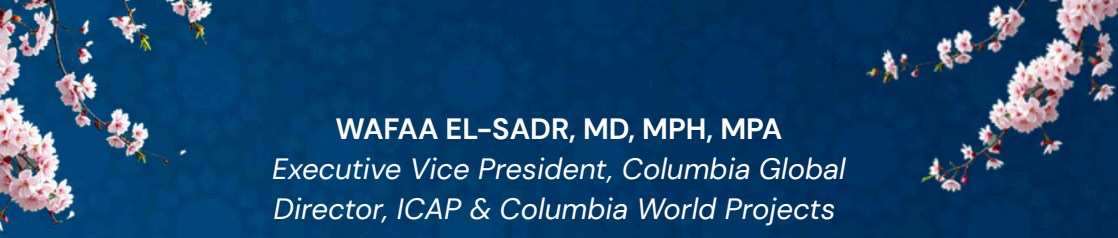
E. Eric Tokat is Co-President of Investment banking at Centerview Partners, a leading independent investment bank with offices in New York, San Francisco, Menlo Park, London and Paris.

Mr. Tokat has been critical in helping to build Centerview into a preeminent advisory firm and positioning it for continued success. As Co-President of Investment Banking, he works with fellow members of Centerview's senior management in overseeing and implementing the firm's strategy and continuing to develop its industry-leading client franchises.

Mr. Tokat is a founder of Centerview's Healthcare practice and has played an instrumental role in establishing the practice as the market leader in strategic advisory. Mr. Tokat has advised on more than 100 transactions over his career exceeding \$500 billion in total deal value, including many of the most important, industry-defining life sciences transactions of the past decade. He is a frequent speaker on Healthcare industry trends and has been quoted in leading publications including The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Bloomberg News and STAT News.

Mr. Tokat has been involved in numerous educational and charitable causes throughout his career and currently serves on a number of not-for-profit boards, including as: a trustee at the Brookings Institution, a member of the Board of Advisors at the IRC (International Rescue Committee), a member of the Board of Advisors at Columbia University Irving Medical Center and Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, as well as a member of the Board of Advisors of Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Tokat received his BA from Boğaziçi University and MIA from Columbia University.



WAFAA EL-SADR, MD, MPH, MPA
*Executive Vice President, Columbia Global
Director, ICAP & Columbia World Projects*

Wafaa El-Sadr is Executive Vice President for Columbia Global and an expert in global health and infectious diseases with longstanding experience supporting diverse major health challenges around the world.

El-Sadr has focused her career on advancing public health knowledge and putting that knowledge into action, establishing collaborative partnerships around the world to strengthen health systems, and engaging with communities to meet health threats and improve health outcomes, especially among vulnerable populations around the world.

She has led large-scale, innovative projects that have had decisive impacts on such pressing global health challenges as HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, antimicrobial resistance, emerging pathogens, non-communicable diseases, and, most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic.

El-Sadr received her medical degree at Cairo University in Egypt, a master's in public health from Columbia Mailman School of Public Health, and a master's in public administration from Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

She has had a distinguished research career with more than 500 publications to date in peer-reviewed publications. She is a MacArthur fellowship recipient as well as a member of the National Academy of Medicine, the Council for Foreign Relations, the African Academy of Sciences, and the Advisory Committee to the Director of the National Institutes of Health.

CLOSING FIRESIDE CHAT

Beyond Innovation: Power, Narratives, and the Future of AI

Artificial intelligence is reshaping economies, institutions, and societies at unprecedented speed. But the deeper question is not only about technological advancement — it is about how societies position themselves within this transformation.

In this closing conversation, Faruk Eczacıbaşı, President of the Turkish Informatics Foundation, joins journalist Stacey Vanek Smith to reflect on the emerging technological paradigm. From the risks of a widening digital divide to the role of networks, diaspora, and new narratives, the discussion explores how countries and institutions can help shape a more inclusive technological future.



Faruk Eczacıbaşı



Stacey Vanek Smith

FARUK ECZACIBAŐI

President

Turkish Informatics Foundation

Faruk Eczacıbaşı, Vice Chairperson of the Eczacıbaşı Holding Board of Directors, completed his undergraduate studies in business and economics and his graduate studies in business administration at the Technical University of Berlin. He began his professional career in 1980 in the Planning Department of Eczacıbaşı Holding. After serving as Product Manager at Eczacıbaşı Pharmaceuticals, he joined Padeko Pharmaceuticals, an Eczacıbaşı Group company, in 1987, first as Deputy General Manager and later as General Manager. In 1989, he founded Eczacıbaşı Information Inc. and for many years led the Group's e-transformation initiatives.

In 1996, he was appointed Vice Chairperson of Eczacıbaşı Holding. Today, he serves as chairperson or vice chairperson on the boards of several Eczacıbaşı Group companies. He has been serving as President of the Eczacıbaşı Sports Club since 1999.

Faruk Eczacıbaşı is president of the Turkish Informatics Foundation, founded in 1995 with the vision of "technology for good," through which he supports research and policy initiatives that promote Türkiye's transformation into an information society. Apart from science fiction and horror movies, he is keen on outdoor walking, jazz music, and contemporary arts.



STACEY VANEK SMITH

Journalist, Podcast Host

Stacey Vanek Smith is a journalist and podcast host highly regarded for her insight and reporting on work, business, and economics. She is known for bringing clarity, insight, and wit to the stories shaping our economy. Stacey is a columnist for Bloomberg Businessweek, cohosts the podcast Everybody's Business from Bloomberg Businessweek, and is special correspondent for public radio's Marketplace.

Previously, Stacey spent more than a decade at NPR, where she was a correspondent and host for Planet Money, founding host of The Indicator from Planet Money, and NPR's Global Economics Correspondent.

She is the author of *Machiavelli for Women* (Simon & Schuster, 2022), which explores the pay and promotion gap women and people of color face — and how to navigate them. The book features conversations with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, screenwriter Adele Lim (*Crazy Rich Asians*), and Michelin-starred chef Niki Nakayama.

A native of Idaho, Stacey grew up in Boise and on her parents' cattle ranch. She's a graduate of Princeton University and Columbia Journalism School, and has taught audio journalism at Princeton, CUNY, and Columbia. She lives in Brooklyn, New York. Stacey is the recipient of The Ferris Grant at Princeton University in 2019.



CLOSING REMARKS



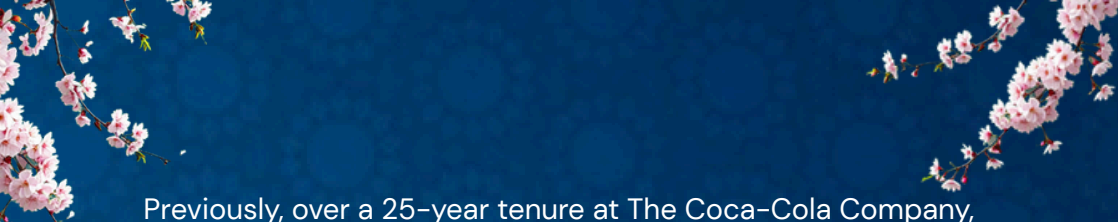
AHMET BOZER

Former EVP, The Coca Cola Company

Ahmet Bozer is a renowned global leadership thought leader and former President of Coca-Cola International, dedicated to supporting individuals in their personal and professional growth journey.

Following his distinguished career spanning over 30 years and drawing on his global business leadership experience, he developed an innovative, actionable model to unlock human potential. He recently released his groundbreaking book, *Soulgery*, which introduces this model—a dynamic way of thinking about oneself and life to accelerate growth as a natural consequence of lived experiences.

This transformative work helps readers harness their strengths, navigate challenges, and create a future rooted in purpose and meaning.



Previously, over a 25-year tenure at The Coca-Cola Company, Ahmet held numerous strategic leadership roles. Most recently, he served as the President of Coca-Cola International, overseeing operations in more than 200 countries outside North America, with retail revenues of approximately \$80 billion. Prior to this, he was responsible for key markets such as India, Russia, the Caucasus, Central Asia, Türkiye, the Middle East, and Africa. He began his tenure at The Coca-Cola Company in 1990 as a financial controller for the IT function in its U.S. operations.

Throughout his career, Ahmet served on various business councils, including the Brazil-U.S., U.S.-Pakistan, and U.S.-Turkey councils. In 2013, he was appointed Chair of the Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU), a position he held until his retirement in 2016.

Before The Coca-Cola Company, Ahmet worked in the computing auditing practice at Coopers & Lybrand. He began his career as an assistant professor at the DeVry Institute of Technology. Ahmet serves on the Advisory Board of Swire Coca-Cola and the J. Mack Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University, and on the Board of Directors of the Turkish Philanthropy Funds. He has also served on the boards of Coca-Cola Hellenic in Switzerland, HepsiBurada, and ESAS Holding in Türkiye.

Born in İstanbul in 1960, Ahmet's early curiosity about the world laid the foundation for his global career in strategic leadership. He earned a B.S. in Business Administration at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Türkiye, before relocating to the United States in 1981, where he completed a Master's in Business Information Systems from Georgia State University. He now lives there with his wife Fatoş. Fatoş and Ahmet have two children, Kerem and Esra.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



JÜLİDE ATEŞ

News Anchor & Moderator

Jülide Ateş won the Miss Turkey crown in 1990, and shortly afterwards she began her career in the media as a television journalist and presenter of TV shows. After many years of appearing on the television screen, she gained the admiration of viewers both as a successful, graceful woman and as an intelligent, highly qualified anchorwoman and TV host.

Anchoring news programs for a wide range of networks for many years has given Ateş the chance to work at the heart of the news and develop investigative skills. Her performance at conferences, panels and special organizations as host, presenter, moderator, or Master of Ceremonies reflects these skills. Jülide Ateş is meticulous in her work and focuses on perfection in any position she holds.

Ateş has received the “Best Television Newscaster Award” from many institutions and organizations through the years. In the year 2000, she was awarded an Honor Plaque by the Turkish Language Association.

Not only does Ateş have an excellent command of the Turkish language, but she is also very fluent in English, for which she is a much sought-after presenter at international organizations.



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The background is a dark green color with stylized illustrations of strawberries and flowers. There are three large strawberries: one in the top left, one in the top right, and one in the bottom right. There are also several smaller flowers: one in the top right, one in the middle left, and one in the bottom left. The strawberries are red with white seeds and green leaves. The flowers are light pink with yellow centers and green leaves.

Chobani.

Where innovation meets imagination

Chobani is humbled to sit at the table
as Visionary Sponsor of the TPF Innovation
& Social Impact Summit 2026 with thinkers
and doers who believe innovation must
serve everyone.



MESSAGES OF SUPPORT



Supporting the TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit is meaningful to me because it encourages an important conversation: how do we ensure that innovation serves humanity? As technology advances at an extraordinary pace, we must also strengthen the principles that guide our decisions. Creating spaces where leaders from different disciplines can reflect on these questions is more important than ever.”

-Haldun Tashman



MESSAGES OF SUPPORT



As a family, we are honored to support TPF and the 2026 Innovation & Social Impact Summit. TPF's ability to bring together global leaders and changemakers around bold, values-driven ideas is both inspiring and essential in today's world.

We deeply believe in TPF's mission to foster a more equitable and inclusive world through collaboration and action. It is a privilege to contribute to this effort and to stand alongside a community committed to creating lasting, meaningful impact.

-The Seçmen Family



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MESSAGES OF SUPPORT



I came to Silicon Valley with no network, no roadmap — just belief. Communities like TPF make that journey easier for the next generation of Turkish builders. Proud to support a platform that turns potential into global impact.”

-Aykut Karaaliođlu



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Street-Level Storytelling

At Firefly, we believe innovation is the spark behind lasting change. We're honored to support Turkish Philanthropy Funds at the Innovation & Social Impact Summit.



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For us, TPF Summit has never felt like just another gathering, it feels like a community we have grown with over the years. It is a space where capital, ideas, and purpose come together in a way that is both thoughtful and human.

What makes this platform truly special is the mix of people it brings into the same dialogue, experienced leaders, entrepreneurs, and innovators exploring ideas side by side. At 212, we believe progress is built on trust, shared learning, and genuine collaboration. Being part of TPF reflects how we see value creation, not only through financial outcomes, but through the strength of the community built along the way."

- 212



I am honored to support the TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit 2026. I deeply value TPF's vision of elevating this dialogue and fostering a platform where leaders can connect and exchange ideas on today's most pressing challenges at the intersection of technology and human values, further advancing its longstanding mission to drive meaningful, community-led change."

- Cansu Aık



As one of the founders of Turkish Philanthropy Funds, I am deeply proud of all that has been accomplished over the years. What began as a vision has grown into a powerful platform for high-impact philanthropy.

The TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit brings together an exceptional community of leaders and changemakers to exchange ideas and shape a more thoughtful, inclusive future. At a time of rapid global change, this kind of collaboration is more important than ever. I am inspired by the energy and shared commitment that define this gathering, and I look forward to the impact we will continue to create together.”

- Murat Ağırnaslı



Being part of the TPF Innovation and Social Impact Summit highlights how impactful it is when the right people come together with a shared purpose. Grateful to TPF for curating such a meaningful and forward-thinking gathering. It's rare to see conversations that both challenge convention and inspire practical action in the way this group does.

Excited to carry these ideas forward and continue contributing to initiatives that create lasting impact.

- Onur Akansel



Excited and grateful to be part of this inspiring community at the TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit 2026. Proud to see the success of our people across such a wide range of industries, creating meaningful impact. Looking forward to thoughtful conversations and new perspectives.”

- Mert Aktaş



Turkish Philanthropy Funds turns generosity into opportunity —across borders, across communities, and across generations. By connecting global citizens with local needs, TPF transforms giving into a force that empowers communities, strengthens resilience, and builds a more equitable future. Proud to be part of this mission.”

- Gamze Ateş



I am delighted to be a part of the TPF Innovation and Social Impact Summit. This biennial crowning of TPF's impact brings together an extraordinary constellation of talent and leadership from the Turkish community. This is an experience that draws you in with inspiring stories, rich conversations on the forces shaping our world, and deeper connection with our community.”

- Ahmet Bozer



Delighted to continue supporting TPF at this year's Summit, thoughtfully held once again on this meaningful day, a powerful reminder of the values that shape who we are today and the responsibility we carry toward future generations. In this spirit, TPF turns ideals into action, creating lasting impact. Having witnessed its journey, it is inspiring to see how it continues to advance progress with purpose. Congratulations to the TPF community for its vision and commitment.”

- Zeynep Cebioğlu



I am thrilled and excited to be part of TPF's Summit. Thank you, TPF, for bringing great and innovative minds together and for putting the ground work for social change."

- Benan Ellis



Heartfelt congratulations to TPF on another inspirational event & heartfelt gratitude to Haldun Tashman, whose vision of "doing good" has guided the five co-founders to embark on a journey of a lifetime 20 years ago! The following generation of leaders, donors, and supporters has been carrying our impact to greater heights ever since. TPF, with its impeccable reputation and action oriented mission, is now a global institution for philanthropic engagement. I am looking forward to spending a day with its vibrant community of leaders and changemakers on April 23, 2026."

- Özlenen Eser Kalav



Supporting Beyond Innovation: Designing the Future of Humanity is a reminder of the power of collective action. Sincere thanks to Turkish Philanthropy Funds for making this Summit possible and for bringing together such an inspiring community of leaders and change-makers. This dedication to innovation guided by purpose and human values is both timely and essential. This platform sparks collaboration, inspires new ideas, and drives meaningful impact for the betterment of society. Together, we can help shape a more resilient and inclusive future.“

- Tuba Fırıncıođlu



TPF has long recognized that charitable causes, technological innovation, and business development do not exist in vacuums; they are deeply interconnected. It also appreciates what it took Spider-Man some time to learn: with great power comes great responsibility. The exceptional TPF team deserves recognition for convening such a diverse group of global leaders to discuss and advance meaningful social impact. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of it.“

- Petek Gnay Balatřař



I am humbled and energized to be part of a group that turns conviction into action. The Innovation and Social Impact Summit is a powerful reminder that meaningful change begins with people who dare to think differently and have the courage to act on it. I'm grateful to TPF for creating this extraordinary platform where diverse voices, bold ideas, and shared values converge.”

- Can İkinci



Thank you Haldun Bey for your incredible vision and execution.

We are excited to be a part of TPF's Innovation and Social Impact Summit, which highlights entrepreneurship, innovation and forward-thinking initiatives within the TPF community. “

- Barbaros Karaahmet



Entrepreneurship at its best isn't just about building companies; it's about building capacity in the communities that shaped us. The TPF Summit brings together individuals who understand that responsibility and innovation are not competing forces, but complementary ones. As someone who works at the intersection of capital and impact every day, I'm energized by what this community represents: a commitment to turning resources into real outcomes for Türkiye and beyond. Proud to be part of this gathering, and looking forward to what we build together.”

- Enes Karakullukçu



Proud to be a part of this organization! I am looking forward to TPF's Summit to learn from such a diverse group of thinkers and leaders across tech, biotech, design, and business. Today's complex societal issues require the innovative thinking and entrepreneurial approach this community excels at. Let's move beyond dialogue toward collective action for a meaningful impact. ”

- Ersin Karaoğlu



I am very impressed by the professionalism and caliber of the TPF Team and organization. You have accomplished a great deal over the years.

I view TPF as the premier Turkish American organization, I am proud to be a supporter. This will be my first TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit, I am sure it will be an excellent and meaningful event.”

- Özgür Karaosmanođlu



I am grateful to be part of the TPF community and sincerely thankful to the organizers for convening such an inspiring event that strengthens our collective mission to serve. What makes gatherings like the TPF Summit so powerful is the shared conviction that meaningful change happens when people unite around a noble cause—helping others. True philanthropy goes beyond financial contributions; it reflects a collective commitment of time, intellect, compassion, and collaboration. When we bring our resources together—our ideas, our energy, and our dedication—we amplify our impact and create lasting value for communities in need.”

- Özgür Kılıç



TPF, we honor & celebrate your exceptional contributions, exemplary leadership, vision and unwavering dedication to elevating the generosity of the Turkish American Community to help out their motherland.”

- Hülya and Aydın Koç



In these exciting times, as technology evolves at an unprecedented pace, I am excited to be part of the TPF Summit where global leaders come together to explore how artificial intelligence, technology, and innovation can drive meaningful social impact. I commend Turkish Philanthropy Funds for fostering this vital dialogue, and I am proud to contribute to this shared mission, because the future is ours to shape!”

- Gökçe Gül Önder



Year after year, it's the community that shows up for one another that drew me to TPF, not just a single program or project. From tech education to disaster recovery, from the arts to public health, TPF doesn't just fund good work; it connects the people who make good work happen. This Summit reflects that spirit. To everyone who is attending: your presence here matters, and I'm honored to be among you.”

- Metin Özkuzey



TPF's Summit is the culmination of a full year's hard work to bring together like-minded people with varied backgrounds and experiences so that we can raise the bar yet another inch to better the lives of our precious communities. TPF is a great example of what can be achieved when a group of capable and determined people set their mind to support others who are desperately in need of help in all fronts. So proud to be a part of this community!”

- Rahmi Sayder



Real impact begins with a choice—the choice to care, to act, and to invest in others. Today’s challenges require more than intention; they demand collaboration across borders and sectors. When individuals act on their values—through philanthropy, innovation, and strategic investment—they create the momentum that drives lasting change. Thank you to TPF for building and sustaining this momentum year after year; choosing to be part of it is both a responsibility and a privilege.”

- Tülay Spicker



Legacy is not only what we leave behind, but what we build together. For our people, collaboration and supporting one another beyond the borders of our country is not a nice-to-have, but a necessity. Thank you to TPF’s leadership for bringing us together and creating the opportunity to make a meaningful difference for our collective future.”

- Doğakan Toka



We are truly honored to be part of the TPF Innovation and Social Impact Summit. TPF has always stood for something special — a community united to create positive change in Türkiye and beyond. We are looking forward to meaningful conversations and lasting connections with such inspiring group of people. See you on April 23rd!”

- Angie and Meriç Topbaş



We commend Turkish Philanthropy Funds for creating a platform to explore the most pressing challenges facing Türkiye and our planet. We are excited to participate in this gathering that brings together the Turkish-American community. We look forward to learning from and exchanging ideas with the thought leaders and innovators gathered at the 2026 TPF Innovation and Social Impact Summit. “

- Seran and Adil Trehan



TPF Summit is fast becoming the cornerstone for Turkish community from around the world to form meaningful and lasting connections. Knowing first hand the amount of time and effort required, I am grateful to the TPF team for putting together a best-in-class set of events and speakers, resulting in plenty of thought-provoking conversations. I feel extremely proud to be part of the TPF community.”

- Kerim Tuna



I have had the honor of witnessing TPF's extraordinary growth and impact on the Turkish American community from its early years all the way up to today. From building a bridge of philanthropy between US-based donors and recipients in Turkiye to stepping up during crises such as the tragic earthquake in 2023, TPF has proven to be an invaluable organization that directly impacts people in need. The TPF Innovation and Social Impact Summit is yet another example of TPF's innovative spirit in philanthropy through collaboration to make a meaningful impact! ”

- Aydın Tuncer



Supporting the TPF Innovation & Social Impact Summit is deeply meaningful to me. It is a rare space where ideas are not only imagined, but felt—where innovation is guided by values, and conversations quietly shape what the future can become. I believe the future is not something we wait for, but something we create—through intention, responsibility, and the courage to think beyond ourselves. I am honored to be part of this community, coming together to imagine, and build, a more humane world.”

- Alper Türken



Thank you, TPF, for your continued efforts to bring our community together and for your commitment to fostering a more impactful understanding of philanthropy. I am grateful to be part of this moment where we can uplift and motivate each other. Together, we have the collective strength to drive meaningful change, overcome challenges, and create a positive impact that resonates far beyond our immediate surroundings!"

- Aylin Uysal



It is my great privilege to support the Turkish Philanthropy Funds and participate in the 2026 TPF Summit. The work TPF does to connect philanthropists and organizations across borders creates meaningful, lasting impact in communities throughout Türkiye, the United States, and beyond. As an immigration attorney, I have witnessed firsthand the power of community, connection, and collective action. TPF embodies these values by building bridges between cultures and empowering changemakers to drive positive transformation. I am excited to join fellow community leaders on April 23rd to share ideas, forge new partnerships, and contribute to a vibrant philanthropic ecosystem that uplifts us all.”

- Muhammed Üzüm



We are proud to support the TPF’s Innovation and Social Impact Summit, a distinguished platform rooted in legacy giving, convening leading voices, innovators, and visionaries. In a period of rapid global transformation, such platforms are essential to strengthen collaboration, shape forward-looking ideas, and drive enduring impact. We value the opportunity to contribute and extend our appreciation to all who made this summit possible.”

- Anadolu Foundation



Special Thanks

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