

Project Management Update from Turkey



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AFTER NATIONAL PROJECT MANAGER'S CONFERENCE 2018



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Opening speech in a professionally organized event looks quite challenging. If it is “9. Ulusal Proje Meslek Konferansı” by “Türk Proje Yönetim Meslek Enstitüsü (TYPME)”, this opening is way beyond. Top level professionals from various fields gathered to listen to my humble suggestions on project management. Going a few weeks back off March 21st 2018, I have met the lead team of TYPME. They explained the main theme of the event; “Butterfly Effect”.

At the very moment, I could not stop thinking about my 25 years of project management background and attribute it to the “dark side of the butterfly”, meaning all difficulties that had been overcome. So, I tried to present the audiences, not how to be successful, but rather how to avoid. Every individual that you meet on this event has own deep experience and very open to share the view point about issues in project lifecycle. Most of them are the mentors of project management in related companies.

One afternoon may seem to be short having well-prepared presentations and an impressive panel discussion, it was undoubtedly long enough to get an essence of latest topics.

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UPMK 2018 conference was a quite well organized event in terms of discussion topics, time schedule, speakers and attendees. It basically helped us for awareness regarding the recognition of project management as a dedicated occupation branch, related standards, certifications, actions taken to achieve those and of course issues on this road map. The original theme “Butterfly Effect” gave a magic touch to the whole event. The Industry 4.0 panel, in which I was among speakers, was a good opportunity to discuss different aspects of Industrial revolution, challenges, and threads, social and economic affects, futuristic thoughts on global changes, new structures, models for our civilization. We, as all panelists addressed all technologies underneath Industry 4.0 beginning with IoT, Cloud, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data and examined their importance in a very intellectual manner.

In my speech, I was also fortune enough to present Readiness for the Future of Production Report, published quite recently at 12 January 2018 by World Economic Forum, which had a lot of indicators to talk about.

Rewards ceremonies were also nice and enjoyable. All competitors were proud of their work and happy to be part of the organization. It was a good experience for me and my colleagues attending the evet, and we hope to join conferences in the following years, as well.

About the Author



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İpek Sahra Özgüler graduated from the Istanbul University with the Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering and from Middle East Technical University with an MSc degree in Software Management. She became a certified PMP in January, 2012 and a certified SCRUM Master in 2014. She works as international correspondent at PMWJ. Before joining PMWJ, she worked for global multinational companies and leading local companies such as Coca Cola, Deloitte, Turkcell Superonline, Havelsan and TAV IT. Over the years, she has gained extensive experience in managing various medium and large scale projects, programs and portfolios.

Her article named “When I Decided to Develop Multi Processing Project Manager’s System” was published in the book “*A Day in the Life of a Project Manager*”. She has published several articles in the *PM World Journal* and one in PMI’s *PM Network* magazine. İpek is actively involved in sailing, writing and discovering new cultures.

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