

# DISCUSSION & GAMES PANELS SPEAKERS

## ● Innovation in Education

**Estíbaliz Hernandez** is a researcher at Mondragon Innovation & Knowledge (MIK), the research center for organizational management of Mondragon Corporation and is also the Director of the Degree in Business Administration at the Faculty of Business of Mondragon University (Basque Country, Spain), where she is a lecturer too. Both MIK and the University of Mondragon are part of the Mondragon Corporation, a leading Spanish business group, integrated by 250 business cooperatives with presence in 41 countries that employs more than 80 000 people. Her research has been mainly conducted in the field of innovation, entrepreneurship, new business model generation and knowledge management. She is a PhDc in the domain of User Driven Innovation in Service Industries, and holds a degree in Business Administration from the University of Deusto (Spain) and the Hoge Hotelschool Maastricht (Holland) and an MBA Master from the University of Mondragon (Spain).

**Pilar Tovar** is a Social Educator and Educational Psychologist who works at Fondo Formación Euskadi (Trápaga, Basque Country). She holds a Master Degree on Human Resources and a Master Degree (with Honours) on Social Innovation and Culture Industries and is also an expert on Community Correct Process (PROCC Methodology). For several years, she has jointly been leading Demola Basque Country node as part of the Demola network: a co-creation and open innovation project. Pilar, along with her team, guides companies and students by giving them the opportunity to work together, learn from each other and develop new joint solutions (DEMOS) in a highly innovative environment. As a coach, mentor and facilitator of these projects, she designs her own tools and methodology in social business (Value creation proposition) and open innovation. ("Design Thinking", "Thinking out the box", "learning by doing and solving problems"). Pilar is also a social entrepreneur. For years she has been leading projects with schools, Public Care centers and the Community in healthy diet, launching building relationship promoting social Cohesion, networks, etc.

**Magda Ropotan** is an Innovation Consultant and Design Thinking Facilitator from Romania. After 13 years of working in human resources for large corporations, such as Honeywell, Genpact and IKEA, both in Romania and internationally, Magda moved into consultancy, supporting companies to innovate organically through the creativity and

involvement of their own employees. Her clients range throughout Europe for whom she facilitates innovation projects, training, coaching and consultancy for their innovation strategy. She is also teaching innovation classes within several entrepreneurship education programs in Romania. Magda holds a degree in Robotics Engineering and studied about innovation, foresight, design thinking and trends in Silicon Valley, Denmark and Netherlands.

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**Steve Stott** is an experienced offline and online multi-channel retailer with a passion for helping people succeed with over 20 years multi-level retail experience providing support, training and motivation to start-ups and growth companies. Having set up and ran a successful online business he understands the unpredictable world of running your own business. Steve is currently offering business consultation in collaboration with DEW (Developing Entrepreneurial Winners).

**Svetlana Lomeva** was appointed Director of the Sofia Development Association by the Sofia Municipal Council. She holds an MA degree in Political Science from Sofia University. She has been Deputy Minister of Education, Youth, and Science (2009 – 2010). Mrs. Lomeva is one of the founders and Director of the Bulgarian School of Politics (2001 – 2009) and the Political Academy for Central and Southeastern Europe. Svetlana has had several specialisations at Robert Schumann Institute, Budapest; the American University in Bulgaria; the Council of Europe.

**Ruslan Papazyan** is the Regional Managing Director of Trelleborg Sealing Solutions responsible for Bulgaria, Romania, Greece, Serbia, Belarus, Ukraine and is also Head of Trelleborg's Export Markets in South-East Europe, Middle East and Africa. Before joining Trelleborg he held various positions in ABB Sweden such as manager business development, group manager R&D and R&D project manager. He graduated the Electrical Engineering Department of the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden as a Doctor of Science. Ruslan also won a prize for best R&D in the field of maintenance techniques for the electric power industry from the Swedish Electrical Utilities' R&D Company - ELFORSK. He holds an MBA from the University of Sheffield and had been rewarded "Next Generation Manager" amongst 54 Bulgarian managers.