

## OGUZ BABUROGLU, ILKER TOPCU, OZAY OZAYDIN

*Sabancı University; Istanbul Technical University; Dogus University*

### Title

AHP in Practice to promote Collective Decision Making

### Biography



Oğuz N. Babüroğlu

Oğuz N. Babüroğlu holds the ARAMA Chair of Action Research at Sabancı University, İstanbul, Turkey, and is the Founding Manager of ARAMA Participatory Management Consulting since 1995. He received his PhD in 1987 at the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in Social Systems Sciences.

As a lecturer, he served in seven different universities and research institutes in different countries of the world. He specializes in transforming large-scale systems toward new generation models within the action research perspective and has published in the leading journals within this line of inquiry. His publications have appeared in journals such as *Journal of Action Research*, *Human Relations*, *Systems Practice and Action Research*, and *Organization Studies*, largely on topics within the Emery–Trist perspective.

Since the 1980s, he has conducted many participatory methodologies in national and international level. He has worked with organizations over 1,200 action research projects ranging from large corporations to civil society institutions, government agencies, and municipalities; has helped design three universities from ground up; and has set up about 15 corporate academies in Turkey as well as in Europe, United States, Russia, and the Middle East.



Ilker Topcu

Ilker Topcu is a Professor of Decision Sciences at the Industrial Engineering Department of Istanbul Technical University (ITU), Turkey. He visited Leeds University Business School, UK, from 1998 through 1999 as a visiting researcher and received his PhD degree in Engineering Management from ITU in 2000. He held a visiting professor position at the Katz Business School, University of Pittsburgh, USA, from 2018 through 2019.

Dr. Topcu has been ranked in the list of the World's Most Influential Scientists "career-long impact", created by researchers from Stanford University, recently published by Elsevier. His research interests include multiple criteria decision making, decision analysis, and operations research/management science. He has published several journal papers, book chapters, and conference proceedings. He edited three books for Springer entitled "OR Applications in Health Care Management" in 2018, "Multiple Criteria Decision Making – Beyond the Information Age" in 2021, and "New Perspectives in Operations Research and Management Science" in 2022.

Dr. Topcu was an executive committee member of the International Society of Multiple Criteria Decision Making from

2015 through 2022. He was the general chair of the 25th International Conference on Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM 2019), which took place in İstanbul, Turkey, from June 16 to June 21, 2019.



Ozay Ozaydin

Ozay Ozaydin is professor of industrial engineering teaching Decision Making, Entrepreneurship & Innovation, and Product & Process Development courses in the Department of Industrial Engineering at Dogus University. He is also the head of the Incubation Center at the same university.

Dr. Ozaydin received his PhD in Industrial Engineering from Istanbul Technical University in 2012. His research areas include Transportation and Logistics, Smart Cities, Multi Criteria Decision Making. He has published journal articles in Interfaces, Transport Policy, European Journal of Operational Research, Knowledge-Based Systems, International Journal of Fuzzy Systems, and Research in Transportation Economics.

Dr. Ozaydin is the co-chair of SIG E1 – Transport System Analysis and Economic Evaluation at the World Conference on Transport Research Society. He is also a member of MCDM Society and co-chaired the 25th International Conference on MCDM.

## Abstract

Our main purpose is to expand the body of knowledge and practice in collaborative decision making to position AHP in this ecosystem and to demonstrate the use of AHP in a participatory methodology in a somewhat unique organization.

There are a fair number of participatory methodologies that are used in a variety of decision making situations in Turkey ranging from Search Conferences to Commitment Conferences. The introduction of AHP in what we have started to call Decision Conferences was a good opportunity to bundle different participatory methodologies together to support a transformation process for different types of institutions and organizations.

The first application of AHP in Turkey was on nationwide industrial strategy formation where we had the pleasure of hosting the son of Tom SAATY. Followed by a long term collaboration with Prof. Ilker TOPCU and subsequently with Ozay OZAYDIN.

We have to date well over 100 decision conferences applied to different social systems. For instance, we aimed to create a road map for Galatasaray as a soccer club to reach a state of continuity with success at the European level, to understand the root causes why Istanbul could not produce sufficient number of organ transplantation donors and to redesign the incentives and processes to overcome the shortcomings, to explore unique cases like Topkapi Palace - the Ottoman Empire's major palace.

In this plenary, we are going to present the Topkapi Palace engagement in more detail. The project started when we were called by the Topkapi Palace Museum Administration to support the transformation of the museum to one of the prime destinations to be visited and enjoyed in the global arena. The result pointed to maintenance and preservation as a top criterion that was prioritized by 40 stakeholders, because to date there was no system of time slot reservation in use at the museum. Our plenary will showcase how the decision conference of the application and the technique was implemented.