

AmCham Talents 2020 Speakers' Biographies

Speakers are listed in alphabetical order



Jurgen de Ruijter
Member of the Board
Erste Card Club

Jurgen de Ruijter has been a banker ever since he graduated in Management & Organization from the University of Groningen, the Netherlands.

During these twenty years he worked in all areas of banking, ranging from finance, mergers & acquisitions, wholesale banking, retail banking, corporate lending, to restructuring, collection and workout. After starting to work in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, at the head office of ABN AMRO Bank, he has worked in several countries and geographical areas. He joined Erste Bank in 2009 and has worked in Romania, Hungary and recently in Croatia in senior, board and supervisory board positions ever since. Given the severity of issues the local Erste bank entities faced during the crisis period following 2008, he further developed his change management skill set and abilities to cope with distressed situations (major insolvencies, restructuring cases, fraud etc)

Currently he's working on a digital transformation of the Erste credit card company in Croatia, while boosting its commercial activities and streamlining its operations and geographical footprint (Slovenia, Bosnia and Macedonia). Besides working on these challenging activities, he enjoys living in Zagreb with his family with three young children.



Igor Grdić
Country Manager Central Southern Europe/Member of the Board
Vertiv Croatia

Igor Grdić is experienced executive with almost two decades of experience in IT & Telco business. Igor holds master's degree in electrical engineering and has previously worked in Siemens and Nokia.

As Country Manager at Vertiv he is responsible for Direct and Indirect Sales in 20 countries across Central Southern Europe region.

With high Know-How about IT & Telco market together with regional sales team he ensures on daily base that Vertiv is customer-oriented organization providing strong focus on helping customers to meet their long-term

needs and wants.



Jean-Pierre Kallanian
Human Systems Facilitator, Executive Coach,
Speaker and Teen Parenting Author
EPIConsulting

Jean-Pierre has worked with at-risk, disadvantaged, and court-involved youth for two decades. In 2013, he quit his job, sold his home, and left his country with no house and no job. In 2014, he published a self-help/parenting book, *What You Can Learn from Your Teenager: Lessons in Parenting and Personal Growth*. Jean-Pierre specializes in the integration and retention of young talented workers and also coaches young people seeking vocational support.

Guided by his youth-inspired EPIC growth model and equipped with complimentary degrees in International Business and Counseling Psychology, Jean-Pierre accompanies individuals and teams desiring more collaborative and open human processes. Adept at group dynamics and optimizing interdependence, Jean-Pierre co-creates work cultures that ensure corporate edge and vitality.

Jean-Pierre is a husband, father of two sons, and an avid barefoot runner. He enjoys blogging about leadership, organizational development, human development, young people, philosophy, psychology, and digitalization. Visit [web page](#) to learn more.



Mario Aunedi Medek
Managing Director and Partner
Alpheus

For almost 17 years Mario Aunedi Medek has been a partner and managing director of the agency Media Val and from 2010 he also manages Alpheus Public Affairs, specialized PA consultancy.

He began his career in 2001 at McCann-Erickson Croatia after graduating at the Faculty of Economics in Zagreb. In 2011 he acquired MCIPR title of UK's Chartered Institute of Public Relations.

Mario is experienced in working with both private and public sector, in 2013 he extended his work to politics as well (election campaigns, policies). For over 15 years Media Val has been a communication consultancy to major private companies, public institutions, and NGO initiatives in Croatia.

He is a lecturer at Edward Bernays University College (Public Relations Management Graduate Programme) and apart AmCham member of numerous professional and business associations such as the Croatian Association for Public Relations, Croatian Society of Lobbyists, Croatian Employers' Association, the French Business Club, the Academy for Political Development...



Viktor Pavlinić
CEO
Tele2 Croatia

Viktor Pavlinić has gained more than 20 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, ranging from various positions in the finance, sales and logistics departments. He started his career at HT d.d. in 1997 in the logistics division. In 2002 he joined the finance team of HT's mobile unit, first in the accounting department and later on in controlling at T-Mobile. Viktor joined Tele2 In 2008 as Head of Controlling and was appointed CFO and Management Board Member in 2011. Viktor has been CEO Tele2 Croatia since 2016.

Viktor holds a degree in economics from the University of Zagreb. In July 2018, he participated in the INSEAD

Advanced Management Programme, a comprehensive general management programme aimed at helping C-Suite leaders build exceptional levels of strategic, high-performance and self-aware leadership skills.



Miroslav Šaban
Government and Public Affairs Leader, Philips
Central and Eastern Europe
Country Representative Philips d.o.o. Croatia

Miroslav Šaban started his career at Philips in 1997. In his current role of Government and Public Affairs Team Leader in Philips Central and Eastern Europe he is responsible for assessing the value of new developments in 19 countries of CEE and identifying new opportunities for Philips. In addition, he oversees the global developments in his domain that are relevant for the business, and builds a CEE external network. He is consulted as a senior specialist in case of new businesses, applications concepts and models. Miroslav

develops and maintains effective relationships with regional, federal and government institutions in countries of CEE.

Miroslav has in-depth knowledge of sales and marketing and very good understanding of business models in healthcare in Central and Eastern Europe.

Diversity of political and economic environments in countries of Central and Eastern Europe and same time cross-cultural variety broaden his experience and knowledge in conducting healthcare business and developing new business opportunities.

Miroslav obtained a Master of Science degree in EE at postgraduate study at University in Zagreb with a specialization in applied biomedical technology.

He is married, with two children and lives in Samobor.



Viktorija Zadro Huml
Country Head for Croatia, Slovenia Bosnia and Herzegovina
Takeda

Viktorija has nearly 20 years of experience in pharmaceutical industry spanning geographies and roles. She is a graduate of University of Toronto and continued to develop her business skills at London School of Business and Finance. Viktorija started her career in clinical research in Canada. For the past 14 years she has grown her experience in sales, marketing, business development and general management.

Viktorija has a proven track record in leading and motivating cross functional teams in times of high organizational change. She is curious by nature, willing to learn and actively seeks new and different experiences to makes things happen.



Aleksandar Zemunić
Managing Partner
SELECTIO

Aleksandar has nearly 20 years of experience in human resources industry; for the past 10 years he has been managing the leading human resource consulting company in Croatia – SELECTIO Ltd. Holds a Master’s Degree in Human Resources Management from Cardiff University where he graduated with a distinction for masters’ thesis ‘High Performance Work Practices in financial services sector’. He was a recipient of Chevening scholarship, ‘UK government’s flagship scholarship scheme’ funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Currently responsible for managing the company, including development of HR services, managing key projects and advising clients on different matters in the field of Human Resources Management. His fields of expertise encompass organizational and personnel analysis, assessment of organization’s key potentials, Human Resources Management strategies, competencies system, managing work performance, motivation and rewards, recruitment and employee selection, etc. Lectures various HR topics, is a licensed advisor of Belbin Team Roles methodology and auditor of excellence in Human Resources Management through Certificate Employer Partner and Excellence in Challenges.