**Edpreneur, Founder, Writer  
Zeynep Dereli**

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**Zeynep Dereli**is an education leader and entrepreneur.

She founded Tink, Technology and Humanity Colleges as well as Dijital Kurs, an online tutoring platform in Turkey and Pakistan.

Zeynep and her team are convinced that the future belongs to those institutions that are nimble enough to stay in front of the wave of change and, more importantly, help define what will be next in education.

That feeling led to the creation of Tink. This moment is ripe for change in education. Scores of technology entrepreneurs, foundations, and policymakers are already trying to shape what the future looks like for both learners and institutions.

Tink has redefined the fundamental approach to educational delivery with four key actions: eliminate artificial barriers between business and pre-college schooling, invent flexible educational pathways and credentials that recognize continual learning, reinvent the physical presence of a high school for a worldwide population of learners, and provide networks of advisors and mentors that serve the lifetime needs of Tink students and staff.

Innovation is required for each of these steps to be successful.

An integral part of delivering on the promise of the Tink Commitment is a set of initiatives that are aimed at closing knowledge gaps, prototyping new products and services, and building technological infrastructure that enables this broad expansion of Tink’s mission.

Tink, Technology and Humanity Colleges, is the first and leading applied technology mid to high schools in Turkey. Based on its uniquely designed curriculum and e-learning platform Tink has converted 21st century skills training to students’ academic curricula.

Together with her team she has developed an educational ecosystem that embeds e-learning with the classroom allowing for entrepreneurial minded teaching and peer learning. Partnerships with the largest corporations in Turkey add another layer to this ecosystem proving much needed real life experience to Tink teachers and students. Tink students are made future ready with a special focus on digital competencies and personal skills.

Tink has become a thought leader in Turkey and is now managed by a professional team.

At the beginning of her career Zeynep worked in finance and then moved to Shell Shipping and Trading Company in London. After returning to Turkey, she worked as a financial analyst and procurement analyst in Shell Turkey.

In the second part of her career, she continued her duties in various institutions the Atlantic Council, a world renowned think tank and APCO Worldwide, a global communications firm with headquarters in Washington DC, USA. Zeynep established both of these institutions’ Turkish offices and then moved onto more global roles within the organizations. In her free time she also prepared and presented a weekly talk show called "Leaders and Decisions" on SKY Turk and CNBC-e channels. She travelled the world and interviewed leaders such as NATO Secretary General Rasmussen, President of Azerbaijan and Turkish Minister of Justice.

She holds a master's degree in Development Economics from SOAS University in London and a BA in Economics from Princeton University, NJ.

Zeynep is an active public speaker and author of Digital Natives. She serves on the advisory board of Women in Tech and Istanbul Technical University’s Women’s Entrepreneurship Association. She is also one of the founding members of Endeavor Turkey. Zeynep is also the recipient of the Female Entrepreneur of the Year Award from the Ekonomist Magazine.