



SHORTLISTED 1

DR ÖZLEM TÜRECI

PHYSICIAN, IMMUNOLOGIST, LECTURER AND ENTREPRENEUR

Dr Özlem Türeci co-founded two companies with her husband Uğur Şahin: Ganymed Pharmaceuticals in 2001 and the biotechnology company BioNTech 2008. As Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board, she became the first woman to head a company in this industry back in 2009, and since 2018, she has been BioNTech's Chief Medical Officer. In 2020, under Türeci's leadership, the company responded to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak from day one and switched from developing cancer immunotherapies to developing a vaccine. Her willingness to take on responsibility and risk contributed to the development of a vaccine against COVID-19 in a very short time. Throughout, the focus remained on helping people and contributing to the fight against the pandemic in Europe and around the world. She believes that entrepreneurship is a key to moving innovative research forward faster. As a private lecturer at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, she passes on her knowledge and her experience in the field of cancer immunotherapy to the next generation of doctors and scientists.

HIGHLIGHTS: HEALTH; ENTREPRENEURSHIP; COVID-19 VACCINE

SHORTLISTED 2

ANNE NÈGRE

LAWYER ON BEHALF OF UWE

Anne Nègre has been acting for years on the advancement towards equality in France, contributing to the constitutional amendment on gender parity. She also helped to establish the laws guaranteeing the places of women in the boards of companies both in France and in Europe. On the European level, she was part of the team that achieved the recognition of gender equality as a fundamental value in the Lisbon Treaty, built on the knowledge of the CEDAW Convention in her organisation and elsewhere and participated in shadow reports. In 2015, she was elected as Gender Equality Expert of the Conference of INGOs and then as Vice President in Charge of Gender Equality in 2018. The conference has contributed to the drafting of five texts for the Member States in restricted drafting committees and has organised training for INGOs on equality issues. Among her activities, Nègre organised events at the Council of Europe to promote awareness of the Istanbul Convention and understand the obstacles to its implementation, had a recommendation voted by the Conference of INGOs, highlighted women's movements in various countries, and organised training and information on LGBTI+ rights.

HIGHLIGHTS: WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING; HUMAN RIGHTS; COUNCIL OF EUROPE

SHORTLISTED 3

TIJEN ONARAN

CEO & FOUNDER, GDW GLOBAL DIGITAL WOMEN

Tijen Onaran is an entrepreneur, bestselling author and one of Germany's most influential voices when it comes to diversity, visibility and digitalisation. She is the founder of "Global Digital Women", the leading international diversity consultancy, which supports and advises companies in fields related to diversity, gender equality and inclusion. Onaran is an author, public speaker, columnist, consultant, moderator and podcaster. Onaran has dedicated her life to empowering women all across Europe. Her work has a strong European dimension as Global Digital Women operates all across the continent. Tijen is committed to not only promoting gender equality, but also playing an active role in seeing it come to life. She is known as someone who delivers results and her passion for Europe and gender equality are unmatched.

HIGHLIGHTS: VISIBILITY; EMPOWERING; INCLUSION