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2021
Issue

NEWSLETTER

Foreword | DBA News | New Members | Events Overview | Economic Update | HR Update | Legal Update | Cultural Update

FOREWORD

Dear DBA Members,

The year 2021 is going to be one remarkable year with a lot of situations that are new for all of us. We know that changes are sometimes difficult to cope with, but we need to go on and make the best of the situation in front of us. COVID is one of these situations it's still bothering daily life and might become just part of our life like malaria. Maybe a yearly vaccination will be the solution to keep us going.



The board faced some changes due to appointments abroad or finalised agreements, Eran Gorgen from Signify has been replaced by **Saner Kirik** and Caspar van Haaften from Eureka Sigorta is replaced by **Damla Hendriks** we thank the board members who left us for their energy and support and we welcome our new board members.

For the DBA Board the year 2021 will be a memory that nobody will forget. We were witness of the tragic health developments of Caspar van Haaften our former Chairman who passed away in August after a stroke. Veronique lost her soulmate, personally I lost a friend, DBA we lost their founder and the world lost a great human being. Rest in peace Caspar

As DBA organisation we are making progress with the execution of the business plan. The business plan is the foundation and the start of the official registration of DBA as a Turkish organisation. Departments are shaped and getting in place, people appointed as responsible officers. One of the departments we are proud of is the diversity department in good hands with **Mehtap Akkaya**. Department Leisure (former NVI) is in hands of **Eppo Woortman**

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We started with the investigation for a cooperation with other Dutch organisations like De Nederlandse School Istanbul, a Dutch school in Istanbul where children are receiving Dutch language and culture lessons. For the near future this part will support with new courses for culture and integration for Turkish people who plan to live in Netherlands. This department will be the DBA Academy and responsible for all education and training activities. (“Inburgering” for the Netherlands will be mandatory for Turkish people when the law changes in 2022).

Another cooperation is the integration of the database of people registered within the NVI (Nederlandse Vereniging Istanbul) many Dutch people are living in Turkey are registered with NVI. The Dutch community has their own activities like Sinterklaas, Nieuwjaarsduik. These events are typical Dutch (Turkish people can always join) But NVI members can also join other association activities. The third organisation that we are talking with to integrate into the DBA is the Dutch Student Community. When all integrations are realised the DBA is a giant organisation with departments for everyone Dutch/Turkish business, student, kids and ready to contribute to the main purpose of the organisation. The main purpose of the organisation is still to make bridges between Turkey and the Netherlands, with our new shaped organisation we do this to the maximum of our abilities.



Dutch
Student Community
Turkey



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DBA NEWS

DBA signed an agreement with the Dutch embassy and consulate represented by Arjen Uijterlinde (Consul General) to confirm the cooperation with the Dutch government for DBA's activities as Business hub for NLinBusiness.

The cooperation with NLinBusiness is ongoing and getting shape. DBA as business hub will support Dutch companies that want to start in Turkey. The support contains activities like matchmaking with companies that are registered with DBA or do have the DBA approved certificate.

Also translation activities and joined visits are part of the services DBA is developing.



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DBA NEWS

Today 27 September 2021 the Turkish Education Foundation (TEV) represented by Atakan Yurdakul received out of the hands of DBA board member Bettine Rube a donation of € 1.000 from the Dutch Business Association. DBA makes this donation because the entire board acknowledges that like the founders 54 years ago, we as DBA are in the opinion that growth of a country and people comes thru education. Therefor we donated this money to contribute for the future of the leaders of tomorrow.

[#youth](#) [#business](#) [#entrepreneurship](#) [#education](#) [#growth](#) [#people](#) [#future](#) [#leaders](#)



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DBA NEWS

Welcome and Farewell



17 August we had the honour to have the introduction of the new Consul General, Arjen Uijterlinde (who we introduce in this news letter) and the farewell of Bart van Bolhuis (who wrote a farewell note for this news letter). The Ambassador Marjanne de Kwaasteniet was the first to welcome Arjen and thank Bart for his work in Turkey. Both gentlemen enjoyed the welcome and farewell with speeches and photos. Bart will continue his work for the Dutch government in the USA and Arjen who has a huge track record will be leading the team in Istanbul. We wish them both all the best and hope they will enjoy their new position in good health and happiness.

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DBA NEWS

Welcome Arjen Uijterlinde



Please welcome our new Consul General in Istanbul, Arjen Uijterlinde. With more than 34 years of international experience in politics, economy, trade and cultural cooperation, Arjen is an excellent representative of the Dutch government. During his career he has worked in several positions, both in The Hague and at missions abroad. Among others, he served as Ambassador in Baku, Consul-General in Rio de Janeiro and more recently as Ambassador for International Cultural Cooperation within the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Just like his predecessors, Arjen attaches great value to strengthen the good relations with the city of Istanbul and other provinces in the Consulate's jurisdiction. This means working together with various stakeholders, to foster partnerships, facilitating business, promoting economic cooperation as well providing consular services and investing in cultural cooperation. Given the challenges posed by climate change, also in Turkey, there will be a focus on issues such as sustainability, circular economy, innovation, working on solutions for global and urban problems.

Twitter [@arjenuijterlind](#)

Linkedin [Arjen Uijterlinde](#)

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DBA NEWS

Farewell Bart van Bolhuis

Just arrived in Washington DC. For the next four years I will be involved in US-Dutch economic relations. It will be a challenge with topics like restoring transatlantic relations after four devastating years, making miles in our common fight against the climate change, economic security, big tech and so on.



But for the moment trying to distance a bit from Istanbul and it's beautiful people, like you, seems to be my main challenge. It is not an easy one.

It was great to see some of you during the handover moment on August 17th. I was so happy to witness the signing by Gregor and Arjen, the new Consul General, of the cooperation agreement between CG and DBA/NLinBusinessHub. Ready for B2B support when NL investments also from SME's will pick up. It might be still a year of two away, after elections, but I am confident that it will happen. There is only one logical way forward and that's the one of Turkey being part of the European Economic structure. We will slowly pick up Customs Union renewal. DBA together with the other EU bilateral 'chambers' can and will have to play an important role in paving the way.

During the event on August 17th we were hopeful that Caspar van Haaften, your great former President, found his way to recovery after a terrible stroke. I'd did not happen. So some of us had an unexpected, unwanted and very sad fast reunion in Haaksbergen at Caspar's funeral. It was heartwarming for Veronique and family that such a big Istanbul delegation paying tribute to him. Wonderful. Caspar did deserve that obviously. Together with Veronique he played such an important role in bringing DBA to the next level. It was an honour for me to work with him and to become friends. We will all miss him dearly.

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DBA NEWS

In Memoriam Caspar van Haaften



1966 - 2021

Caspar van Haaften



Dutch
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
Turkey

There are memories that shape us, molding us into what we've become.

A mosaic of images and feelings that offers some truth about how we got here, even if details have blurred with time.

You will be part of our memories Caspar, Rest In Peace dear friend

#inspiration #love #motivation

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NEW MEMBERS

Essiz Metal

Essiz Metal was established in 2008 and has reached its current position in the light of the demands of its customers and technological developments.

The main activity of our company is sheet metal cutting and bending. We have 6000 mm long 20 mm capacity bending machine, 12000 x 3000 mm CNC Plasma and Oxygen cutting machine up to 50 mm, 2000 x 6000 laser cutting machine up to 25 mm, Pipe Dovetail cutting and guillotine cutting machine in our machine park.

Our company, which currently provides all kinds of sheet metal cutting and bending services from 0.50 mm to 20 mm with its more than 20 experienced personnel on a 1750 m2 closed area, has succeeded in fulfilling the requirements of today's technology with it's customer satisfaction policy from the past.

Our company's continuity and current position; owes its trust to the principle of fast service and customer satisfaction. With this understanding, we hope to go further together with you, our valued customers.



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ECONOMIC UPDATE

Uncertainty around monetary policy and, hence, broader economic outlook have increased once again, following the replacement of the Central Bank of Turkey (CBT) governor in March. Restoring credibility, bringing inflation towards target, and rebuilding reserves all remain crucial but challenging. While we see some positive developments lately, inflation and monetary policy uncertainty remain as main risk factors:



- o We see improvement in capital account with gradual portfolio flows, higher corporate rollovers & Treasury issuances. However, external financing will remain a challenge given fragile non-resident confidence and vulnerability to shifts in global risk appetite.
- o We have seen a gradual reserve build-up in recent months. However, net reserves (excl. CBT's FX liabilities & large swap book) are deeply negative and the improvement is still limited. This signals that return to positive level will take at least few more years.
- o Annual loan growth has decelerated so far, dropping to single digits. But, the data show acceleration with the reopening, which is more evident on retail side.

- o The rapid improvement in the 12M rolling budget deficit in the first half of the year is now reversed due to base effects caused by tax deferrals during pandemic and increase in interest payments, though the budget deficit will likely remain on target.

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ECONOMIC UPDATE

Annual inflation exceeded the policy rate, though the CBT made an early move putting forward its inflation assessment and credit developments as the factors requiring a revision in the monetary policy stance and leading to a reduction in the policy rate. With the new focus on a relatively benign core inflation in comparison to the headline, the CBT's revised approach should be a signal that it is ready to cut further and seize the opportunity as long as financial stability objective allows, however fragile capital flows, higher risk premium and level of dollarisation will remain limiting factors for the bank.

· Medium Term Plan envisions a stronger growth performance, but looks for a less ambitious disinflation path without any reference to the target and an external adjustment trajectory. The CBT's less restrictive policy stance will likely weigh on exchange rate outlook, and further deteriorate expectations adding already high inflationary pressures.

Muhammet Mercan
ING Turkey, Chief Economist

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HR U P D A T E S

According to the World Economic Forum, automation will **displace 85 million jobs** in the next five years, but will also **open up 97 million new roles** to people who have the right skills and characteristics to fill them.

With the transformation in business life, and the trigger of covid pandemic, re-skilling has become one of the important concepts to adapt to the future of work. It is **crucial** to prepare not only ourselves, but also our organizations and people as well.

Analytical thinking, creativity and flexibility will be among the most in-demand skills by 2025, and artificial intelligence, content creation and cloud computing will be the top emerging professions.

In order to adapt this reality to their lives, all organizations and professionals should have a roadmap. In this short article, we would like to introduce 7 practical steps to reskilling to you:

- 1. Don't delay:** It's vital, therefore, to make it a priority for your organization right now, rather than viewing it as a 'nice to have' or an objective to achieve at some point in the future.
- 2. Analyze your current skills:** This is an important process to go through if you're looking to improve your understanding of where you're currently well-resourced, and where you have skills shortages that could prove problematic in the future.



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HR UPDATE

3. Know your goals: It's important to have clear and tangible outcomes that you want to gain from this endeavor. This will provide a valuable structure for your reskilling efforts and help you gauge results as the project progresses. Just a reminder; be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound) while setting your goals.

4. Look for resources: There are many provisions that can boost your efforts to enrich competencies in your workforce, even if you have diverse and geographically distributed teams of remote workers. These range from free resources like massive open online courses and publicly available videos on relevant subjects, to more specialist services like industry certifications and training programs endorsed by professional associations.

5. Design tailored and relevant reskilling journeys: Engage with your staff to find out what they're keen to learn about and how they see their career progressing with you. This could also be an ideal opportunity to talk about people's preferred approaches to learning and what platforms, methods and environment they would feel most comfortable with.

6. Test and iterate: You can evaluate how your programs are functioning by collecting feedback from participants and inviting suggestions about what improvements could be made in the future.



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HR UPDATE

7. Protect your budget for the future: Reskilling shouldn't be viewed simply as a 'one off' or as a short-term response to a unique challenge like the COVID-19 pandemic, but as an ongoing process that is part of the ethos and culture of your company.

It's important, therefore, to make sure the budget you dedicate to this process is protected for the long term. This might require you to put forward a strong business case for the ongoing value of reskilling, which is why it's so crucial to constantly collect data and analyze the impact of your work in this area, as noted in the previous step.

Please contact us to discuss more how we can support your HR and recruitment needs.

ufuk.gedikli@randstad.com.tr



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LEGAL UPDATE

Brief summary of important legal developments under Turkish law in the third quarter of 2021 is as follow:

For more information, please directly contact Selim Dünder, LL.M., attorney-at-law, via e-mail sdunder@dundarsir.com or (+90) 5337650866.

I. Tax Law:

- The deadline for application of the Tax Amnesty is extended until September 30, 2021. The law enables restructuring of Income, Corporate, Customs, Real Estate and Sanitation, Motor Vehicles and Special Consumption Taxes, VAT, all administrative fines, and Treasury receivables which were accrued before April 30, 2021.
- Tax Amnesty also provides that the payment date of first installment of such taxes, fines, and Treasury receivables needs to be made until October 30, 2021.
- Social security premiums, on the other hand, should be paid until November 30, 2021.
- Also, an important deadline, September 30 2021, is approaching for the application of: (i) decreased VAT rates: for workplace rentals (8% originally 18%), and accommodation and food & beverage services (1% originally 8%) and (ii) withholding on rental income (10% originally 20%). Such decreased rates are in place in order to tackle the negative financial effects of Covid-19. We are closely monitoring if there is a new extension.

II. Tourism Law:

- Significant changes are made in the “Law for The Encouragement of Tourism”:
- The authority of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism (“Ministry”) is redefined and extended for efficient inspections of tourism sector.
- Accommodation facilities and beach establishments cannot be operated without a tourism establishment certificate. Otherwise, their operating licenses shall be cancelled.
- Agreements related to areas allocated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to enterprises in the past is transferred to the Ministry.
- Ministry is authorized to allocate public immovables to investors for tourism purposes.

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LEGAL UPDATE

III. Competition Law:

- The Settlement Regulation is entered into force on July 15, 2021. The settlement concept which is in practice in the EU for years, is adapted by Turkey.
- The Regulation provides the opportunity to reduce administrative fines, save time and resources spent during investigation processes.
- As per the Regulation, the Turkish Competition Authority (“**Authority**”) might initiate the settlement procedure upon the request of the investigated parties or ex officio.
- The Authority announced its first settlement decision on August 9, 2021, and concluded the investigation initiated against Philips/Turkey with a settlement.
- It is envisaged that the Authority may often use the settlement procedure in the future.

IV. Personal Data Protection Law:

- Last January, the Turkish Personal Data Protection Board launched an ex officio investigation after WhatsApp updated its terms of service and privacy policy to include express consent for processing of personal data and transfer to third parties abroad and announced that users who do not give explicit consent cannot use the application and their accounts will be deleted. The Board has imposed an administrative fine on WhatsApp in the amount of TRY 1.950.000 which is the highest fine given by the Board so far on the grounds that WhatsApp undermined “free will” element of explicit consent.

V. Labour Law

- Pursuant to the announcement of Ministry of Labour and Social Security, employers may request a mandatory PCR test from the unvaccinated employees once a week as from September 6, 2021.

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PAST EVENTS

3 July 2021

Today DBA was present at the “Sustainable Development Goals Bike Tour” coordinated by the Dutch and Danish Consulates Generals.



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PAST EVENTS

08 Juli 2021 -

"International Travel Regulations & On-site Covid-19 Testing Services"

There are many regulations when traveling thru the world nowadays. Eurocross monitors all the regulations and brings a solution for 24 hours PCR testing. For more information please visit the [website of Eurocross](#)



 Eurocross
TÜRKİYE
Turkey

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turkey

International Travel Regulations and On-site Covid-19 Testing Services

WEBINAR, Thursday, July 8th
16:00 – 17:00 (GMT+3, Turkey)



Mehtap Akkaya
CEO
Eurocross Turkey



Doruk Baglan
Sales and Marketing Manager
Eurocross Turkey

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PAST EVENTS

05 September 2021

Today DBA organised a introduction breakfast for Arjen (new Consul General) and the Dutch community in Istanbul. This is one of the cooperations with NVI of which we will see more in the future. Perfect place “Le Cuistot Bistro by Chef Carlos”



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PAST EVENTS

21 September 2021

“There's something in the air” On the 21st of September we had our "There is something in the air" seminar. Sponsored by DEISKO. Eppo Woortman was able to explain to people in short and clear statement that we all are responsible for the changes that take place in our atmosphere. It is not only Corona that is part of our problems it is bigger. For more questions please consult our sponsor

#people #sustainability #corona #climatechange #climate #environment
#sustainable #globalwarming

Why chilling (too much)?

When there is prove that clean air is of greater importance.

Postharvest Biology and Technology

Reduction of energy usage during storage and transport of bananas by management of exogenous ethylene levels

Nature

Sending a smoke signal from the wildfires?

People may be triggering the stress hormone of the plant kingdom

Article history:
Received 5 August 2013
Accepted 8 November 2013

energy costs (E-source, 2013). Given the large volume of fresh horticultural produce traded and sold around the world, there would seem to be scope and incentive for considerable reductions in energy usage.

Reduction in energy consumption in postharvest handling can be achieved if produce are stored and transported at higher temperatures than the optimal low temperature currently mandated by the respective commodity sectors. This will require the use of some other intervention that can inhibit ripening and senescence. An obvious technology is to control the concentration or activity of ethylene in the atmosphere around produce or receptivity of produce to ethylene action. The active threshold level of ethylene for physiological action was often cited to be 0.1 µL/L (Burg and Burg, 1962) but studies on a range of produce have found a more realistic threshold level to be <0.005 µL/L (Knee et al., 1985; Willis et al., 1996a, 2001; Prananjith et al., 2012). In practical terms this means that any reduction in the ethylene concentration in the atmosphere around produce will be beneficial in extending postharvest life. It is immaterial whether the source of ethylene in the atmosphere is from the produce itself or from exogenous sources.



Should we be heeding the alarm call of trees?

Dr. Jeon Yun, a physician, 2018 The Mercury News Paper

Ethylene

 Questioned

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PAST EVENTS

27 September 2021

Today DBA organised a motivational speech and network drinks at the consulate. The guest speaker was Giovanni Guidetti who is famous for his international coaching career in Volleyball. The event was sponsored by RANDSTAD SPORT and PERNOD RICARD



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PAST EVENTS

28 September 2021

Today DBA organised the chairman chat. This event is to come as close as we can to our members and to understand what drives them to be a member and what their wishes are. Chairman Gregor van der Mark was leading the discussion and made clear that DBA is an organisation where everyone is welcome and diversity and sustainability are key. Thanks to all participants for their positive energy. We will organize new chairman chats soon



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