



Assylbek Kozhakhmetov

Dr. Assylbek Kozhakhmetov is the founder of the first privately owned business university in Kazakhstan - AlmaU (previously known as International Business Academy, est. 1988).

Dr. Kozhakhmetov built his professional achievements in civic engagement and higher education in alignment with the UN initiatives, such as the SDGs, PRME and Academic Impact. He promotes an open dialogue between interested parties and partners related to the challenges of social responsibility, sustainability and impact on the society.

A graduate of the S. Kirov Kazakh State University, Faculty of mechanics and applied mathematics (1990) and Kazakh Humanitarian Law University, Faculty of Jurisprudence (2010), Dr. Kozhakhmetov dedicated himself to the development of business and entrepreneurial education in Kazakhstan. That was considered as of a high risk and lack of understanding for the post-soviet society in the 1990s. Following the concept of the life-long learning Dr. Kozhakhmetov has graduated the Higher School of Economics with Doctor of Business Administration degree (2011) and has passed the international research internship under the "Bolashak" Presidential scholarship programme at Haas School of Business at Berkeley University (2013).

Assylbek Kozhakhmetov is currently 1) the Vice President for Central Asia of the Central and East European Management Development Association (Slovenia); 2) Board member of The Principles for Responsible Management Education (New York); 3) Academic Fellow of the International Council of Management Consulting Institutes (Nijkerk); 4) a member of the National Council of Public Trust under the President of Republic of Kazakhstan; 5) Research advisor, Project "University Management - 2020", initiated by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan; 6) Member of the Kazakhstani Association of small and medium business «EL TIREGI» Association of Legal Entities; 7) Member of the Council of "Civil Alliance of Kazakhstan" Association of Legal Entities.

Over the past two years Dr. Kozhakhmetov has made over 20 public presentations, 10 publications in mass media and journals, with the purpose of promoting his ideas and initiatives. For continuous commitment to serving the society and academia, Dr. Kozhakhmetov has been recognized with multiple awards locally and internationally:

- "Torch of Birmingham" Award by the international organization "People to People International" (1997, USA)
- "Excellence in Education" Award by Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (1998)
- "Independence of Kazakhstan" 20th Anniversary Medal by the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan (2011)
- State Order "Kurmet" (in Kazakh: Honor) (2013, Kazakhstan)

- The I-degree and II-degree Orders «For Commitment» by the National Chamber of
- Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Atameken" (2013, 2014)
- CEEMAN Champions Award in "Institutional Management" (2014, Slovenia)
- Y. Altynsarin Medal by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan (2018)
- "Altyn Zhurek" National Public Award by the Public Charity fund "Baurzhan" (in Kazakh:
- Golden Heart) for the support of education (2018, Kazakhstan)
- "Zhomart Zhurek" Award by the Ministry of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan (in Kazakh: Generous Heart) (2019)