

Güler Sabancı

Founding Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sabancı University

Güler Sabancı is Chairman and Managing Director of Sabancı Holding, the parent company of the Sabancı Group, Turkey's leading industrial and financial conglomerate.

A graduate of Boğaziçi University, Faculty of Business Administration, Güler Sabancı started her career at LASSA, Sabancı Group's tire production company, in 1978. In 1985, she was appointed General Manager of KORDSA, the Group's tire cord production company. In 1997, she assumed the office of President of Sabancı Holding's Tire and Tire Reinforcement Materials Group. Güler Sabancı was elected to her current post in May 2004. Güler Sabancı holds many offices. She was the Founding President of Sabancı University and has been presiding over the Board of Trustees since its establishment in 1996.

She also acts as Chairman of the Sakıp Sabancı Museum. She is the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Sabancı Foundation, which supports the social development of Turkey through various programs since it was founded in 1974. Güler Sabancı is the first female member of TUSIAD, Turkish Industrialists' and Businessmen's Association, as well as the first and only female member of European Round Table of Industrialists (ERT). Güler Sabancı also sits on the United Nations Global Compact Board, International Business Council of WEF and the External Advisory Board of MIT Energy Initiative. Güler Sabancı is also the recipient of numerous awards, including, among others, Belgian Commander's Cross of the Order of Leopold II, the Spanish Encomienda De Numero, France's Legion d'Honneur, Austria's Silbernes Ehrenkreuz der Republik Österreich, Raymond Georis Prize for Innovative Philanthropy, the Austrian Schumpeter Prize and the European School of Management and Technology's Responsible Leadership Award. In 2011, she was named 2nd on the Financial Times' list of the Top 50 Women in World Business and received the "Clinton Global Citizen Award" by the Clinton Global Initiative founded by former US President Bill Clinton, in recognition of her contribution to women and girls' human rights and to the social, cultural and economic development of Turkey.