

## **Zeynep Urkun – Bio for QUAAS 2025**

Zeynep Urkun has been actively engaged in assessment and evaluation since 1991. She served as a Trustee on the IATEFL Executive Committee for six years and spent a decade as the Event Coordinator for the IATEFL Testing, Evaluation, and Assessment SIG. In this role, she organized 11 global conferences aimed at enhancing assessment literacy.

Her career in language testing started at Bilkent University where she was part of the core testing team that developed the COPE Proficiency Exam (Certificate of Proficiency in English), while at Boğaziçi University, she contributed to the revision of the BUEPT (Boğaziçi University English Proficiency Test). She later spent 15 years as the Assessment Coordinator at Sabancı University, leading the development of the ELAE (English Language Assessment Exam) and overseeing its revision in collaboration with Prof. Cyril Weir.

Beyond academia, she served as the CEO of Make-A-Wish Turkey for three years, fulfilling the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. She then returned to higher education as the Assistant Director of the School of Foreign Languages at Kadir Has University, a role she held for four years.

Currently, Zeynep Urkun works as a freelance consultant and trainer on language assessment projects and serves as a supervisor for the development of a high-stakes national four-skills exam. She remains an active contributor to the field, presenting at conferences and leading training sessions at educational institutions from K-12 to tertiary level, both nationally and internationally, to promote assessment literacy in ELT.