



23. Mr. TANRIKULU Bahri

- Current Position: MNA President
- Date of Birth: March 16, 1980
- Language: Turkish, English
- Gender: Male
- Nationality: Türkiye

A. Qualification & Experience in Taekwondo

Bahri TANRIKULU holds a distinguished place in the history of world taekwondo not only through his medal count, but also through the spirit and leadership he has demonstrated. His silver medal win in the final match of the 2004 Athens Olympics—despite competing with a broken arm—stands as a symbol of his determination and the very essence of taekwondo. With three World Championship titles earned in 2001, 2007, and 2009, he entered the Guinness World Records as the male athlete with the most world titles in the middleweight. Recognized as one of the most successful taekwondo athletes of all time, he has also achieved numerous accolades in European Championships and countless international tournaments. Today, TANRIKULU serves as a global source of inspiration not only for his past achievements but also for his leadership that shapes the future of the sport. His journey from elite athlete to executive demonstrates that he is a holistic sportsman with a comprehensive mastery of every facet of the discipline.

B. Experience in Other Areas (Other Sports, Business or Professional)

Bahri TANRIKULU is a multifaceted leader who has successfully translated his experience in sports into contributions to public policy and social development. As a Sports Consultant at the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Türkiye, he plays an active role in shaping youth policies, talent identification programs, and international sports diplomacy efforts. Through the Bahri TANRIKULU Sports Club, which he founded, he has reached hundreds of young athletes across Türkiye, spearheading the expansion of taekwondo schools and the establishment of sustainable athlete development systems. While fostering equal opportunities at the local level, TANRIKULU has broadened Türkiye’s taekwondo vision through national and international networks. By combining hands-on experience with strategic governance, he has proven himself not only as a champion in the sporting world but also as a visionary leader.

C. Education

Bahri TANRIKULU is a seasoned professional who has deepened his sports education from both academic and practical perspectives. A graduate of Akdeniz University’s Department of Physical Education and Sports Teaching, he completed his master’s degree in Coaching Education at Selçuk University. By combining his academic background with extensive experience as an elite athlete and coach, he has developed comprehensive, field-specific expertise. Continuously updating himself through national and international training programs, TANRIKULU closely follows contemporary approaches in athlete development, training sciences, and leadership. By integrating his education

with practical application, he exemplifies the effective transformation of knowledge into action. His holistic approach aligns directly with the strategic objectives of World Taekwondo.

D. Vision for WT in next 4-years

Bahri TANRIKULU's vision for World Taekwondo (WT) is built on the pillars of strong institutional frameworks, human-centered values, and digital transformation. His strategic goals for the next four years are as follows:

- **Athlete-Centered Approach:** Structures that prioritize athletes will be developed through psychological safety, ethical education, and comprehensive support systems.
- **Youth and Education:** School-based programs, digital learning platforms, and accessible projects will be implemented to reach younger generations.
- **Empowerment of Women:** Female leadership will be promoted, with inclusivity in governance adopted as a core principle.
- **Digitalization and Technology:** Innovative solutions will be introduced through AI-supported analytics, digital refereeing systems, and transparent data management.
- **Institutional Strengthening:** WT's capacity will be enhanced through inter-federation cooperation, sustainable financing, and ethical governance.

TANRIKULU's vision aspires to build a future for world taekwondo that is grounded in the universal values of sport, embraces ethical principles and technology, and places the athlete at its core. With his exceptional achievements as an athlete, active role in public service, strong commitment to education, and institutional foresight, TANRIKULU possesses the qualifications to make a meaningful impact on the WT Council. With his involvement, WT will remain faithful to its traditions while evolving in alignment with the demands of the modern era.

Bahri TANRIKULU's candidacy is not merely an individual application—it is a powerful commitment to advancing taekwondo toward a more inclusive, fair, and innovative future.