



Beyond Boundaries: Nurturing Psychological Safety for Tech Excellence

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Hilton Hotel Kozyatağı, İstanbul

**Tech Leaders
Summit**

About Me

Bariş BAL

- Agility Consultant, Managing Partner @ ACM Agile
- Computer Engineer / Electronics & Communication Engineer
- More than 20+ years professional experience



Agile Türkiye

Agile Türkiye was established in 2008 as a non-profit organization with the vision of becoming a global community that fosters Agile culture, develops new practices, and increases awareness by keeping a pulse on the ecosystem.

Our goal is to:

- Spread the Agile culture and raise awareness
- Develop new practices and inspire others
- Help individuals adopt Agile methods
- Create a community of Agile practitioners in Turkey



Scan the QR Code
for further info

Agile Türkiye Summit 2024 the biggest organization in the region is on 24.10.2024

Join us to come together with the thought leaders and examples from all around the world for experience sharing in a friendly environment.

Quick Pulse Check

- When did you hear Psychological Safety?
First time, Around 1 year, 1+ years?
- I am working in a Psychologically Safe team/company/environment
- To me, the term Psychological Safety is...



“No woman
comes up with a
good idea when
being chased by a
tiger”

Anonymous board member of Tesla to Elon Musk
as quoted by Wired in DR. ELON & MR. MUSK



A black and white photograph of a man standing and speaking to a group of people seated in a room. The man is in the foreground, slightly to the right, looking towards the camera. The audience is seated in rows, mostly out of focus. The room has large windows in the background and modern lighting.

**Successful
failure is an art!**

Introduction

What is tech excellence?

“

Technical Excellence is the ability to foresee and eliminate an issue before it has the potential to jeopardize safety, schedule, budget, quality, and most importantly, client satisfaction.

”

Excellence NOT EQUAL to Perfection

Introduction

What is a high-performance team?



Similar skillset

working towards
common purpose

coach gets out of
the way after prep

high level of trust

everyone watched
out for each other

high performing
relationship

self directed

empathy/supportive

Introduction

What is Psychological Safety



Amy Edmondson

“

Team psychological safety is a shared belief held by members of a team that it's OK to take risks, to express their ideas and concerns, to speak up with questions, and to admit mistakes — all without fear of negative consequences

”



The Need for Psychological Safety in Tech Teams

- Innovation
- Problem Solving
- Agility
- Employee Well-being

Creating a Culture of Psychological Safety

- Lead by Example (Vulnerability)
- Foster Open Communication
- Frame Mistakes as Learning Opportunities
- Build Trust
- Emphasize Collaboration Over Competition



Building Trust and Respect

- The foundation
- Vulnerability
- Innovation
- Conflict Resolution

Overcoming Challenges and Resistance

- **Challenge 1:**
Fear of Vulnerability
- **Challenge 2:**
Legacy of Blame Culture
- **Challenge 3:**
Lack of Clarity
- **Challenge 4:**
Time Investment
- **Challenge 5:**
Difficulty Measuring Success



Case Studies and Success Stories

Google



buffer

Etsy

PIXAR

Practical Tips and Takeaways

- Start small, Start Now
- Champion Growth Goals
- Celebrate Risk-Taking
- Hold Blameless Retrospectives
- Solicit Feedback Regularly



Conclusion

- Fuels innovation
- Enhances Problem-Solving and Agility
- Boosts Employee Well-being and Retention

What action will YOU take to foster psychological safety starting today?



Q & A

- Contact me via baris.bal@acmagile.com
- To more info on Psychological Safety and assess your team's/company's level, visit:
<https://www.acmagile.com/fearless-organizations>



The background of the slide features a blue-tinted image of four people in a meeting, overlaid with a complex network of white lines and dots, suggesting a digital or technological theme.

THANK YOU

