

# **On the 3rd of July 2019, Turkish born Professor Erol Gelenbe was conferred the honour of Commander of Merit of the Republic of France**

Submitted by: Aladino's Restaurant

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On the 3rd of July 2019, Turkish born Imperial College Professor Erol Gelenbe, an expert on Internet Performance, Sustainability and Cybersecurity, was conferred the honour of Commander of Merit of the Republic of France by Madame Frederique VIDAL, Minister of Higher Education and Research, at the Boncourt Palace, seat of the historical Ecole Polytechnique in the Latin Quarter of Paris. He is one of only two academics thus honoured by France this year. In her speech Madame Vidal stated that:

"Your work on the modeling and evaluation of performance of computer systems have imposed you as a leading researcher and your work has earned you numerous scientific awards as well as several doctorates "honoris causa ". Your technological contributions are, too, remarkable and you have worked with some of the top industrial innovators of the last decades, including Airbus, Atos, Thales or IBM to name a few. The applications of your work are very numerous: in bioinformatics, for the study of neural systems or for the development of sensor networks. More recently, your research proposals for the program Horizon 2020 also resulted in a large number of projects funded by the European Commission in the areas of communication networks for the Internet, home automation objects or for the reliability of the computer servers and you participate in cybersecurity consulting missions for the European Commission."

<http://annales.org/archives/x/MmeVidal-DiscoursGelenbe.pdf>

Some of Erol Gelenbe's talks can be found at <http://serious-science.org> He is a frequent keynote speaker at international conferences, and he gave the opening keynote on Cybersecurity <https://www.acm.org/articles/people-of-acm/2018/erol-gelenbe> at the EuroCase2017 Conference of European Engineering Academies.

Previously in 2014, the then French Minister of Research Madame FIORASO conferred him the honour of Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, stating: "I place the transfer of research to industry at the core of the missions of public research. You assumed this mission by designing modelling software packages for industry, and developing prototypes for the telecommunication industry such as the SYCOMORE (Thales) telephone switch and the XANTHOS optical fibre network."

<http://www.annales.org/archives/x/gelenbe/gelenbe.html>

In America, ACM's 2008 SIGMETRICS Life-Time Achievement Award characterized him as "the single individual who, over a span of 30 years, has made the greatest overall contribution to the field of Computer System and Network Performance Evaluation through original research, mentoring and doctoral training, creation and direction of world class research groups, wide ranging international collaboration, and professional service."

<https://www.sigmetrics.org/achievementaward-2008.shtml>characterized

In the UK, Erol Gelenbe received IET's 2010 Oliver Lodge Achievement Medal [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erol\\_Gelenbe#Fellowships](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erol_Gelenbe#Fellowships) . Working with BT, BAE Systems, General Dynamics UK Ltd, and QinetiQ in the UK, he has served as Technical Lead (2003-2009) of the Minister of Defence Centre for Data and Information Fusion. He has also graduated 86 PhDs, including 25 at Imperial.

Erol Gelenbe's other international awards include the Grand Prix France Telecom (1996) of the French Academy of Sciences, and "Honoris-Causa" Doctorates from the Universities of Liege (Belgium), Rome (Italy) and Bogazici (Turkey). He was awarded also Commander of Merit (2005) and Grand Officer of the Order of the Star (2007) by Italy.

In 2008 Erol was among 11 Fellows elected to the France's Engineering Academy. He was elected to the Engineering Section of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (2010), the Science Academy of Turkey (2012), and the Polish Academy of Science (2013).

He was elected Foreign Fellow of the Royal Academy of Belgium (2015) with the citation: "Pioneer of the modelling of computer systems, having inspired several industrial prototypes, E. GELENBE is a Fellow of ACM and IEEE, winner of scientific prizes in France, the USA and the UK. He is a Member of the Science Academies of Hungary, Poland, Turkey and of the Academy of Technologies of France."

<http://www.academieroyale.be/fr/l-academie-royale-classes-classe-technologie-societe-membres-detail/relation/erol-gelenbe>

That year the Belgian Academy elected 10 Belgians and 9 foreigners, including a Nobel laureate (2014, Economics) and a Fields Medalist, with 9 in Science and Engineering.

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