

SERES Silvija
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PROFILE Successful developer of international technology companies, with focus on technology strategy and commercialization. Investor and board member, working with majors and startups in IT, finance, media and energy. Founder of distributed organizations in consulting, marketing and services. MSC Computer Science (Oslo), MBA (INSEAD), PhD Mathematical Sciences (Oxford University). International profile, with five languages and extensive living and working experience worldwide.

CURRENT INTERESTS I am keen to work as a non-exec director with large international companies that are actively pursuing AI-repositioning. From 15+ years of board-work with 50+ major companies across the Nordic region, I have a rich base of good experiences of what works and how to make changes stick. My primary role on the board is as a constructive technological strategist and development champion while supporting the other control-focused roles and current business models. I enjoy helping the leadership set the stage for effective non-incremental change and build a culture of resilience and learning. Good transformational experiences travel well across industries. "Speed is no replacement for direction."

BOARD EXPERIENCE

Current companies: Board member **Trescal** (2023-present)
Board member **Det Norske Veritas** and **DNV AS** (2017-present) (compensation committee)
Board member **Academedia AB** (2015-present) (quality committee)
Board member **Ruter AS** (2018-present)
Board member **Pexip ASA** (2023-present)
Board member **Defendable AS** (2021-present)

Past companies: Board member **P27 Nordic Payments Group** (2020-2023), Board chairman **Norsk Rikstoto** (2019-2023), Board member **Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation AS (NRK)** (2016-2020), Board member **Oslo Stock Exchange ASA** (2017-2019), Board member, audit committee member, risk committee member **Nordea Bank AB** (2015-2019), Vice chairman and audit committee member **Norsk Tipping AS** (2007-2015), Board member and compensation committee member **Statkraft** (2010-2014). Member of board nomination committee and corporate assembly **Telenor ASA** (2011-2017). Board member in all of following: **Aschehoug** (2008-2014), **Opera Software** (2007-2009), **ProfDoc** (2007-2008), **Data Respons** (2010-2011), **Dagbladet Medialab** (2010-2012), **Integrasco** (2009-2011), **GeoKnowledge** (2008-2012), **Sonitor** (2011-2013), **FasterImaging** (2004-2013), **The Performance Group** (2011-2013), **MakingWaves** (2012-2014), **Norman ASA** (2010-2014), **Camo** (2010-2015), **Kezzler** (2011-2015), **Eidsiva Vekst** (2013-2015), **Buypass** (2013-2015), **ECC** (2010-2015), **The North Alliance** (2013-2015), **Enoro Holding AS** (2010-2017), **Eidsiva Energi AS** (2016-2017), **Syncron Int' AB** (2008-2018), **Biblioteksentralen** (2021-2023).

Scientific boards: President **Norwegian Polytechnic Society**. Past: Expert evaluator for Energy and IT research projects at the **Norwegian Research Council**. Member of advisory council at **Sintef IKT**, board member at **Simula Research Laboratory AS** (2015-2019). Board member **Kavli Trust** (2016-2019) and **Digital Life Norway** (2015-2018). Board member Norwegian Research Council's Major Programs Verdikt and Høykom. Council member **The Norwegian Board of Technology** (2007-2016), advising the Norwegian Parliament and Government on the digital transformation of law enforcement, education and health services. Council member **Digital Norway**. Committee member on several major conferences.

Other/government: **Member of NATO's high-level advisory board on innovation and disruptive technologies.** Member of Norwegian Government's committees: **National Defense Committee** (long-term strategy for Norwegian Defense), **Norge mot 2025** (fiscal and legal national strategy), **Digital21** (national digital strategy), **Transport21** (national transportation strategy) **Fiskerikontroll** (national marine strategy) and **Mobilitetsutvalget** (Norway's strategy for mobility). Board member **Transparency International**, Oslo Business Region and Seema. Industrial advisor for private equity and venture capital on digital technology and energy areas (**FSN Capital**, **Herkules Capital**, **CapMan**, **EQT**, **Clickstream Ventures**, **StartupLab**). Executive investor at **Alliance Venture Spring Fund** and **Founders Fund**, and investment committee at NoA. Mentor at StartupLab and other incubators, board member at StartupWeekend Norway. President Insead Alumni Norway. Advisory council member Alarga. Advisory board member of the Talent Immigration group by Abelia and Oslo Chamber of Commerce. Advisor to the Serbian Government on gender equality at work. Advisor to the Norwegian Ministry of Culture focusing on new gaming opportunities in digital media (Hamar Utvalget). Member of committee for diversity in research (KIF Utvalget) at the Norwegian Ministry of Education. Selection committee member at **Bloomberg Mayors Challenge**, Oslo Innovation Prize and others.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2011 – present **Independent Investor, Founder and Board Member, 50 companies** **Oslo, Norway**
Several finance, tech, media and energy companies (see technorocks.com and board work next page)

Active Investor through TechnoRocks AS

- Hands-on focus: Digital strategy, data-driven growth and SaaS ARR. 30+ investments.

2018 – 2023	LØRN (Corporate lifelong learning, with focus on technology, lorn.tech) Founder, CEO, later Chief Editor (since Dec'22)	Oslo, Norway
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Founder and CEO for the first 4 years, with production, sales, marketing, product and organization• Data platform and ERP: Supported build of new ERP and LMS platforms for corporate education	
2008 – 2011 4 years	Microsoft (IT software, services, and solutions) Director, Business Management (joined through Microsoft's acquisition of Fast)	Oslo, Norway
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operations: Managed integration, business operations and strategy for Fast services team.• Management: Supervised introduction of all new Microsoft processes and systems for a global Fast team of 350 people. Planned Fast services co-delivery with the worldwide Microsoft subsidiaries.	
2004 – 2008 4 years	Fast Search & Transfer (International enterprise software) Vice President, Strategic Development (started as Director, then Senior Director)	Boston, US and Oslo, Norway
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Management: Built the strategic consulting team, delivered over 100 projects for Fortune 1000 worldwide. Sales: Supported sales with strategic proposals at an average sales license of USD350K. Vice President, Product Marketing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PR and Marketing: Developed and executed product strategy and messaging for Fast, during a period of aggressive market growth. Co-managed Fast global conferences with 1000+ attendees. Vice President, Services Strategic Development <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Services: Managed operations on a team with 300 members. Ran new services. Managed IP at Fast	
1997 - 2003 6 years	Oxford University (Faculty of Mathematical Sciences and Magdalen College) Prize Fellow, Tutor and Lecturer	Oxford, UK
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research: Wrote a PhD on Algorithm Optimization with 3 Turing Prize winners as mentors.• Teaching: Taught at undergraduate and graduate level, supervised master and PhD students.	
2002 3 months	Chinese Academy of Sciences (Leading research institution in China) Visiting Researcher: Set up an educational project with Oxford, supervised PhD students.	Beijing, China
2002 5 months	Dar Al Hekma University (First private university for women in SA) Assistant Professor and Programme Manager: New department (Business Information Systems).	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
1999 3 months	DEC Systems Research Centre (DEC SRC) (DEC's research laboratory) Visiting Researcher: Worked with teams behind AltaVista and internet security.	Palo Alto, USA
1996 - 1997 1 year	Norwegian Computing Centre (Norwegian industrial research laboratory) Scientific Researcher: Developed software solutions for distributed systems and mobile agents.	Oslo, Norway
1994 – 1996 3 years	Skrivervik Data (Scandinavian IT consortium, large operating systems and UNIX) IT Consultant: Taught corporate students programming, built IT solutions in networks and security.	Oslo, Norway

EDUCATION

2015	FHS, Sjefskurs (Top Leadership Course at The Norwegian Defense College)	Oslo, Norway
2003	INSEAD, MBA Program	France and Singapore
1997 – 2001	Oxford University, PhD and MA in Mathematical Sciences (Prize Fellow) PhD thesis topic: Algebra of logic programming; supervisors Sir Tony Hoare and Prof Edsger Dijkstra	Oxford, UK
1989 – 1996	University of Oslo, MSc and BSc in Computer Science MSc thesis topic: Verification techniques for large software systems; supervisor Ole Johan Dahl.	Oslo, Norway
1977 – 1988	Primary school and secondary school in Yugoslavia	Novi Sad, Serbia

LANGUAGES

Fluent Hungarian, English, Norwegian, Serbian. Functional French. 30+ programming languages.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Presented at more than 1000 conferences and seminars on strategy, innovation and technology.
Wrote the books **Digital Dugnad** and **Staten og Dataen** (Frekk Forlag 2021).
Conceptualized and delivered strategy podcast "**De som bygger det nye Norge**" (105 ep, 2017-2018).
Conceptualized and delivered lifelong learning podcast "**LØRN.TECH**" (1500 ep, 2018-2023).
Voted Norway's most influential IT woman (ODA prisen, 2017), top 10 cool female leaders in Norway (Minerva, 2017), 100 most inspiring international women in Norway (Utrop, 2013), top ten most influential women in technology in Norway (100-year Anniversary, 2013), top ten leadership talents in Norway (newspaper e24 2009), 25 most promising young leaders (Økonomisk Rapport 2006). Awarded Annual Innovation Prize by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU, 2006), eight most influential international women in Norway (Top 10 2004).
Won a Prize Fellowship at Magdalen College in competition with 50 PhDs from all fields (2001)

OTHER INTERESTS

Family: Married, with four children (aged 10, 13, 14, 16), oldest son a European champ in swimming.
Sports and hobbies: Scuba diving (PADI DiveMaster), rowing (Oxford blades, first place in Boston Marathon, coach), swimming (international level), film and photography, gardening.
Web: Professional **silvijaseres.com**, private **silvija.net**. Also **technorocks.com** and **lorn.tech**.