

## Sultan Zakir

Senior Solution Architect – Banking & Regulierte IT

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I am an experienced IT professional with a comprehensive career in software development and IT architecture. I worked for UniCredit (HVB, Bank Austria, UniCredit Italy) for 24 years, successfully fulfilling various roles such as Java Software Developer, Software Designer, Application Expert, and then Solution Architect. With a deep understanding of banking software architecture and development, as well as proven expertise in implementing DevOps practices and agile project management methodologies, I ensure projects are delivered on time and within budget.

Throughout my professional journey, I have:

- **Banking Expertise:** Comprehensive knowledge of core processes and products in various banking sectors, including commercial banking, investment banking, and risk management.
- **Customer relationship experience:** For almost all the years that I have worked for Unicredit, I have been and remain for our customers (banks) one of the first points of contact when it comes to technical solutions.
- **IT Proficiency:** Extensive experience in software development, software design, and IT architecture with a focus on banking technologies.
- **Project and Application Lifecycle:** Profound understanding of all phases of the project and application lifecycles, ensuring effective project management and execution.
- **Analytical Skills:** Strong analytical skills enabling rapid onboarding and development in new IT landscapes.
- **Agile Project Management:** Proficiency in agile project management methodologies such as SCRUM to ensure efficient project execution.
- Strong focus on **target architectures, legacy modernisation, system integration**, and architecture **decision-making** in highly regulated environments.
- Consistent consideration of **project, migration**, and **operational costs** as an integral part of architecture decisions in banking environments.
- **Process design** between bank and external platforms. Integration of External Investment Platforms (BlackRock, Amundi, FactSet, WM..).
- Architectural support for a **DevOps integration** project with a focus on integrating existing banking applications, systems and CI/CD processes (GitHub, Jenkins).
- **Modernization** of existing banking IT landscapes.
- Regulatory, audit & governance requirements
- Hands-on experience with **Google Cloud Platform** , **Microsoft Azure**.
- Experience designing scalable AI/LLM architectures, including Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) and AI agent frameworks.

I am committed to continuous learning and personal development to stay up-to-date with industry trends and technologies. My goal is to deliver innovative solutions that meet the demands and expectations of my clients.

**Professional experience :**

01.11. 2001- 31.12.2025	UniCredit in various roles as Java Software Developer, Software Designer, Application Expert, and Project Manager, etc.
1996 - 1997	Representative for the relations between Kazakhstan and the USA at Georgetown University, Washington D.C.
1995 - 1996	Managing director in joint venture in China, Urumqi
1989 - 1995	Managing director, own company in Kazakhstan

**Language skills:**

German	fluent in speaking and writing
English	very good in speaking and writing
Russian	fluent in speaking and writing
Kazakh	fluent in speaking and writing (native language)
Turkish	good in speaking
Uyghur	good in speaking