

Professor Klaus Schwab

1971

Founder and since then Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum is an independent international organization committed to improving the state of the world by engaging business, political, academic and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

The World Economic Forum today is the foremost global multistakeholder organisation, employing more than 500 people in Geneva, New York, Beijing and Tokyo.

1998

Co-Founder, together with his wife Hilde, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship

The Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship provides unparalleled platforms at the regional and global level to highlight and advance leading models of sustainable social innovation. It identifies a select community of social entrepreneurs and engages it in shaping global, regional and industry agendas that improve the state of the world in close collaboration with the other stakeholders of the World Economic Forum.

2004

Founder, Forum of the Young Global Leaders

The Forum of Young Global Leaders is a multistakeholder community of exceptional young leaders who share a commitment to shaping the global future. Each year, the World Economic Forum identifies 200-300 extraordinary individuals worldwide to join the YGL community for five years. Today, they form a powerful international community of over 1,000 young leaders having a significant impact on our global future.

2011

Founder, Global Shapers Community

The Global Shapers Community is a global network of local communities (“hubs”) of young people who are exceptional in their potential, their achievements and their drive to make a contribution to their communities. Hubs are based in each major city around the world. There are currently over 200 hubs established globally. The community is vitalized by the manifold interactions generated within each hub, between hubs and on a global level.

EDUCATION

- 1957 Graduated from the Humanistisches Gymnasium in Ravensburg, Germany
- 1962 Dipl. Ing., Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, Switzerland
- 1963 Lic.ès.sc.écon. et soc. (summa cum laude) University of Fribourg, Switzerland
- 1966 Doctorate in Engineering (Dr. Sc. Tech.), Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, Switzerland
- 1967 Doctorate in Economics (Dr.rer.pol.), University of Fribourg, Switzerland
- 1967 Master of Public Administration, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, USA

EARLY CAREER

- 1958-1962 Experience on the shop floor of several companies
- 1963-1966 Assistant to the Director-General of the German Machine-building Association (VDMA), Frankfurt
- 1967-1970 Member, Managing Board, Sulzer Escher Wyss AG, Zurich, a manufacturing company with activities in several countries and with 10,000 employees

SELECTED FORMER ACTIVITIES

1972-2003 Professor for Business Policy, University of Geneva, Switzerland

after 2003 Honorary Professor, University of Geneva, Switzerland

1993-1995 Member, United Nations High-Level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development

1996-1998 Vice-Chairman, United Nations Committee for Development Planning

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Honorary Professor, Foreign Affairs University, Beijing, People's Republic of China

Honorary Professor, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

Member, President's Council of the University of Tokyo, Japan

Member of the Royal Academy of Morocco, North Africa

Honorary Director, World Economy Research Center, Nankai University, Tianjin, People's Republic of China

Member of Advisory Board, Guanghua School of Management, Peking University

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Pioneer of breakthrough concepts, including:

- multistakeholder approach
- public private partnerships
- social entrepreneurship
- corporate global citizenship

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

Author of the annual Global Competitiveness Report (since 1979), numerous articles and several books

SELECTED OTHER ACTIVITIES

Trustee, The Peres Center For Peace, Tel Aviv, Israel

Member of the Board, Lucerne Festival, Lucerne, Switzerland

Member, Advisory Board to the UN Secretary-General, Sustainable Energy for All

Member, Strategic Attractiveness Council, French Presidency

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORARY DOCTORATES (DOCTOR HONORIS CAUSA)

1991 Honorary Doctorate of Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Québec

1992 Honorary Doctorate of Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico

1996 Honorary Doctorate of Economic University Bratislava, Slovak Republic

1999 Honorary Doctorate of Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne, Switzerland

1999 Honorary Doctorate of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beersheva, Israel

2002 Honorary Doctorate of London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom

2008 Honorary Doctorate of Humanities Kazan State University, Tatarstan

2009 Honorary Doctorate of the University of Latvia

2009 Honorary Doctorate of the European Business School, Germany

2009 Honorary Doctorate of Nankai University, Tianjin, People's Republic of China

2010 Honorary Doctorate of Economics of the Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City

2011 Honorary Doctorate of Economics of the University of Lausanne, Switzerland

2012 Honorary Doctorate of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

NATIONAL DISTINCTIONS

1988	Cross of the National Order of Merit of Germany
1995	Commander's Cross of the National Order of Merit of Germany
1997	Knight of the Légion d'Honneur of France
1997	Golden Grand Cross of the National Order of Austria
1997	Medal of Freedom of the Republic of Slovenia
2002	National Order of the Republic of Poland, Commander's Cross with Star
2002	Highest-level Order of Friendship of the Republic of Kazakhstan
2003	Order of Stara Planina, First Class, Bulgaria
2005	Decoration of First Degree for Outstanding Giving, Jordan
2006	Knighted by H.M. Queen Elizabeth II: Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George (KCMG)
2007	Honorary Citizen, City of Dalian, People's Republic of China
2008	Award "For merits to the Republic of Latvia", Degree - Commander's Cross
2011	Order of the Polar Star of the Mongolian People's Republic
2012	Grand Cross with Star of the National Order of Germany
2012	Mexican Order del Aguila Azteca
2013	Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun of Japan

AWARDS (SINCE 2000)

2000	Annual Award of the International Institute of Education
2000	Annual Award and Fellow of the Foreign Policy Association, USA
2001	Candlelight Award presented by UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan
2002	Annual Award of the Fondation pour Genève
2002	Guggenheim Humanitarian Award
2002	ICCJ – International Council of Christians and Jews Award
2004	Dan David Prize, Tel Aviv University
2005	Transatlantic Bridge Award
2006	Freedom of the City of London
2006	UCD Ulysses Medal , University College Dublin, Ireland
2007	Nominated one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World by Time Magazine
2007	Admission into the German Business Hall of Fame
2009	Nominated as one of the 100 Most Powerful People in the World by Forbes Magazine
2010	Atlantic Council Global Citizen Award

PERSONAL

Born 30 March 1938 in Ravensburg, Germany

Married with Hilde Schwab since 1971

Two children: Olivier born in 1973 and Nicole born in 1975

Participates yearly at the Engadin Marathon

Climbs each year one mountain of at least 4,000 metres

