





About us

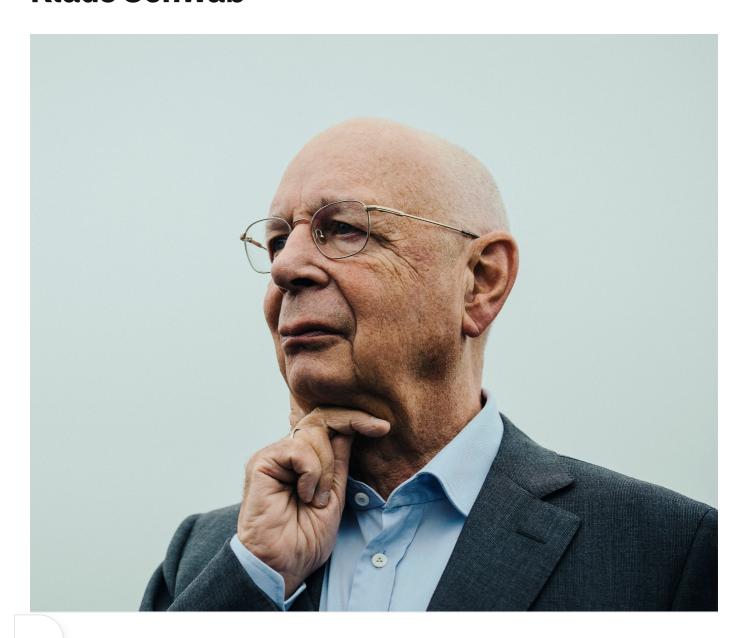
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Leadership and Governance

Klaus Schwab

Børge Brende

Klaus Schwab



Forum's mission and values, and oversee its work in promoting true global citizenship.

Life and Milestones

1971 Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation. The Forum engages the foremost political, business 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 800 people in Geneva, New York, Beijing and Tokyo.

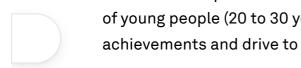
1998 Co-Founder, together with his wife Hilde, Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship

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

With a donation of \$1 Mio. which he received from the Dan David Prize, the Forum of Young Global Leaders (YGL) was created as a multistakeholder community (30 to 40 years old) of exceptional young leaders who share a commitment to shaping the global future. Each year, the World Economic Forum identifies 100 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 (20 to 30 years old) who are exceptional in their potential, achievements and drive to make a contribution to their communities. Hubs are

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 over 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 norary Professor, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

- Creation of the Klaus Schwad Professorship for Global Medicine, National University of Singapore
- Honorary Professor, Peking University, Beijing, People's Republic of China

Thought leadership

Pioneer of breakthrough concepts, including:

- multistakeholder approach
- public private partnerships
- social entrepreneurship
- corporate global citizenship
- fourth industrial revolution

Editorial activities

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

His latest books are The Fourth Industrial Revolution (2016), a worldwide bestseller translated into 30 languages, Shaping the Fourth Industrial Revolution (2018), co-authored with Nicholas Davis, COVID-19: The Great Reset (2020), co-authored with Thierry Malleret, and Stakeholder Capitalism (2021), co-authored with Peter Vanham

Selected other activities

Member of the Board, Lucerne Festival, Lucerne, Switzerland

Academic awards and honorary doctorates (Doctor Honoris Causa)

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

Honorary Doctorate of Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico

January Doctorate of Economic University Bratislava, Slovak Republic

Israel

- 2002 Honorary Doctorate of Science 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 Business Administration of Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- 2015 Honorary Doctorate of Science of KAIST, Daejeon, Republic of Korea
- 2017 Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy of Haifa University, Israel
- 2017 Honorary Doctorate of Letters of the National University of Singapore
- 2017 Honorary Doctorate of Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
- 2022 Honorary Doctorate of The University of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

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)
- Award "For merits to the Republic of Lithuania", Degree Commander's Cross

 2013 Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun of Japan 2014 Colombian Order of San Carlos 2018 Friendship Medal for outstanding contribution to 40 years of China's reform and opening policies 	2012	Mexican Order del Aguila Azteca
2018 Friendship Medal for outstanding contribution to 40 years of China's reform and	2013	Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun of Japan
·	2014	Colombian Order of San Carlos
	2018	

Selected 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	Admission into the German Business Hall of Fame
2010	Atlantic Council Global Citizen Award
2016	Reinhard Mohn Price for Responsible Entrepreneurship
2016	Progress Medal, Society for Progress, INSEAD
2018	Global Economy Price, Kiel Institute for the World Economy
2023	Economy Price, Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services
2024	Award For Lifetime Achievement, The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)

Personal

Born 30 March 1938 in Ravensburg, Germany

Married with Hilde Schwab since 1971

children: Olivier born in 1973 and Nicole born in 1975

Professor Klaus Schwab

Curriculum Vitae

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VIDEOS

Prof. Klaus Schwab - Reflections From The Founder



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