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

- Creation of the Klaus Schwab 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
- 1992 Honorary Doctorate of Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, Mexico
- 1993 Honorary 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)
- 2008** Award "For merits to the Republic of Lithuania", Degree - Commander's Cross

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- 2012** Mexican Order del Aguila Azteca
 - 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

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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