

## MIT Industrial Liaison Program Faculty Knowledgebase Report

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Panel on Innovation, Productivity, and Competitiveness

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September 5, 2017 5:00 pm - 7:00  
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## Panel on Innovation, Productivity, and Competitiveness

Christoph Leitl

President, [Austrian Federal Economic Chamber](#)

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President

[Austrian Federal Economic Chamber](#)

## Personal Details

Born 29 March 1949 in Linz, Austria

Married, two children, two grandchildren

## Education

1967 Matura, High School, Linz Fadingerstrasse

1971 Degree in Economics, Johannes Kepler University Linz

1973 PhD, Economic and Social Sciences, Johannes Kepler University Linz

1974 Hernstein Management Academy

1975 Internships at Zürcher Ziegeleien and Wienerberger Baustoffindustrie (brickworks)

## Professional Background

1977 - 1990 Managing Director, family company Bauhütte Leitl-Werke (brickworks)

Vice President, Austrian Association of Brick Manufacturers

1986 Established Baustoff Interhandel GmbH

Supervisory Board Member, Oberbank AG, Isoroc Holding AG,

MTB Beteiligungen AG, Bauhütte Leitl-Werke

## Political Career

1966 Founding Chairman, European Youth (Europajugend), Linz

1976 Chairman, European Federal Movement, Upper Austrian Region

Vice Chairman, European Federal Movement of Austria

1982 - 1990 Chairman, 'Young Industry Austria'

1985 - 1990 Elected Representative, Upper Austrian Regional Parliament

1990 - 2000 Member of the Government of the Federal State of Upper Austria with portfolio for economy, tourism, technology, energy, vocational training, regional planning and Europe.

1995 - 2000 Deputy Governor and Treasurer of the Federal State of Upper Austria

1995 - 2000 Member, Committee of the Regions (CoR), SME Division

2000 - Member, Executive Committee, Austrian People's Party (ÖVP)

## Austrian SME Union (ÖVP Wirtschaftsbund)

1999 - Chairman, Wirtschaftsbund — Upper Austrian Branch

1999 - President, Wirtschaftsbund — Central Office

2005 - 2009 President of the European SME Union

Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

1980 - 1990 Member, Executive Committee, Austrian Association for Building Materials and the Ceramics Industry

2000 - President, Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

2004 - Chairman, Social Insurance Institution for Trade & Industry

2001 - 2005 President, Eurochambres (Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry)

2006 - Honorary President of Eurochambres

2006 - Honorary President, Global Chamber Platform

## Honorary Posts

- President, Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO)

- President, OIER (Organisation for International Economic Relations) with consultative status with the UN Economic & Social Council and the Council of Europe

- President, Raiffeisen Economic Forum, Upper Austria

- Member of the Foundation Board, Julius Raab Foundation

- Member, National Olympic Committee

- Vice President, Austrian Sports Aid Foundation (Österreichische Sporthilfe)

- Member of the Board, Austrian Academy of Sciences

- Co-President, AlpEuregio.BusinessClub

- Member of the Honorary Board, Energy Globe Foundation

- Member of the Foundation Committee, Foundation PRO ORIENTE

- President, International Forum for Culture and Economy, Linz (IKW)

## Academic Posts

- Visiting Professor at the Vienna University of Economics & Business Administration (International Trade Department)

- Princeton University

- Fudan University, Shanghai

- University of Cape Town

- T.C. Istanbul Commerce University and Marmara University

- MIT, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

- Harvard University

- University of Lagos

- Stanford University

## Awards

- Honorary Senator, Johannes Kepler University, Linz

- Honorary Senator, Vienna University of Economics & Business Administration

- Declaration of Honour of the City of New York

- Upper Austrian Grand Decoration of Honour in Gold

- Recipient of the Honorary Ring of the provincial capital of Linz

- Gold Medal of European Merit

