

MIT Industrial Liaison Program Faculty Knowledgebase Report

Panel on Innovation, Productivity, and Competitiveness

September 5, 2017 5:00 pm - 7:00
pm

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

