



Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Christoph M. Schmidt

Born 1962 | President of the Leibniz Association (since July 2026)

Education

1981–1987	Study of Economics, University of Mannheim
1991	Doctorate (Ph.D. in Economics), Princeton University
1995	Habilitation (Dr. rer. pol. habil), University of Munich

Professional Career

1995–2002	Chair of Econometrics, University of Heidelberg
since 2002	Chair of Economic Policy and Applied Econometrics, Faculty of Management and Economics, Ruhr-Universität Bochum
2002–2026	President of RWI – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research, Essen
since 2026	President of the Leibniz Association

National and International Committees

2009–2020	German Council of Economic Experts <i>2013–2020: Chairman</i>
2011–2013	Enquete Commission "Growth, Prosperity, Quality of Life" of the German Bundestag
2019–2022	Franco-German Council of Economic Experts <i>2020–2022: Co-Chairman</i>
2020–2021	Corona Council of Experts of the Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia

2024–2026	Member of the Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation (EFI)
since 2025	Enquete Commission Kommission "Analysing the Covid-19 Pandemic and Lessons for Future Pandemic Events" of the German Bundestag

Academic Memberships

since 2011	acatech – Deutsche Akademie der Technikwissenschaften <i>2012–2026: Spokesperson of the Working Group Economics and Innovation Research</i> <i>2014–2026: Member of the Executive Board</i> <i>2020–2026: Vice President</i> <i>since 2026: Innovation Platform Bavaria</i>
since 2015	Mainz Academy of Sciences and Literature
since 2018	North Rhine-Westphalian Academy of Sciences and Arts
since 2020	National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

Foundations and Board of Trustees Positions

since 2011	Board of Trustees of the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, Munich <i>2013–2023: Chairman</i> <i>since 2023: Deputy Chairman</i>
seit 2014	Kuratorium der Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung <i>Seit 2020: Stellvertretender Vorsitzender</i>
2016–2024, 2026	Scientific Advisory Board of the Fritz Thyssen Foundation
2020–2023	Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Energy Economics Institute at the University of Cologne (EWI)
2020–2026	Expert panel of the programme for the promotion of top-level research at universities ("Excellence Strategy") of the Joint Science Conference (GWK)
seit 2021	Supervisory Board of BMW AG
seit 2026	Board of Trustees of the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft Board of Trustees of the Werner-von-Siemens-Ring Jury of the Archimedes Science Award
2025	Fellow of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

Editorial Activities

1996–2002	Editor of the Journal of Population Economics
2009–2013	Editor of the German Economic Review
2023–2024	Editor of Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik

Auszeichnungen und Ehrungen

1990–1991	Alfred P. Sloan Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship
2016	Gustav Stolper Award of the Verein für Socialpolitik
2019	Honorary Doctorate from the Faculty of Economics at Leibniz Universität Hannover Award as "Citizen of the Ruhr Area" by the association pro Ruhrgebiet

2022	Innovation Prize of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, "Honorary Award" category
2024	Social Market Economy Award of the WPCD (Wirtschaftspolitischer Club Deutschland e.V.)
2025	Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, First Class

Areas of Focus

Research fields: Applied Econometrics, Energy Economics, Innovation Economics, Health Economics, Labor Economics

Special focus: Interconnection between research and science-based policy advice