

Curriculum Vitae Prof. Hannah M. Lessing

Contact: h.lessing@nationalfonds.org

Born on 26 April 1963 in Vienna

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Since January 2024	Managing Director of the National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism and the Fund for the Restoration of the Jewish Cemeteries in Austria
September 1995 - January 2024	Secretary General of the National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism
December 2010 - January 2024	Secretary General of the Fund for the Restoration of Jewish Cemeteries in Austria
May 2001 - April 2022	Secretary General of the General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism

ACADEMIC CAREER

Postgraduate

November 2001 - May 2002	Federal Academy of Administration Graduation with honours
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Tertiary education

1981 - 1988	Vienna University of Economics and Business Degree: Magistra rer. soc. oec.
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School education

1968 - 1981	Lycée Français de Vienne Graduation: Baccalauréat
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ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS

Since July 2022	Member of the International Auschwitz Council
Since June 2022	Member of the macrosocial platform “ National Forum against Anti-Semitism ”

Since 2022	Vice-President of the International Auschwitz Committee and member of the International Auschwitz Council
Since September 2017	Member of the Presidium of the International Auschwitz Committee
Since January 2017	Representative of the National Fund on the Mauthausen International Advisory Board
Since October 2016	Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board of the Kunsthalle Wien GmbH
2016 - 2018	Member of the Advisory Board for the Year of Remembrance 2018
Since June 2016	Deputy Chairwoman of the Public Forum of the House of Austrian History
Since March 2011	Austrian representative on the International Committee of the Auschwitz Foundation and Board Member of the Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance
Since 2010	Deputy Chairwoman of the Auschwitz Camp Community
Since 2009	Co-Head of Delegation for the Austrian delegation at the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)
July 2000 - January 2001	Member of the Austrian team under Ambassador Sucharipa for negotiations on compensation issues under the leadership of Under Secretary of State Stuart Eizenstat , conclusion of negotiations: Washington Agreement January 2001

AWARDS AND HONOURS

March 2025	“Knight of the Legion of Honour” (“Chevalier de la Légion d’honneur”)
July 2022	Award of the professional title “Professor”
June 2022	Cavalier’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland
June 2021	Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany
October 2017	Golden Decoration of Honour for Services to the Province of Vienna
December 2016	Trude and Max Berger Prize for outstanding accomplishments in service of the Jewish Museum Vienna
November 2015	Rosa Jochmann plaque
May 2013	Cross of Honour for Science and Art of the Republic of Austria
June 2012	Grand Decoration of Honour in Gold of the Federal Association of Jewish Communities in Austria

April 2009	Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Mérite
September 2007	Shofar of Freedom Award of the synagogue "Temple Israel" in Albany, New York
June 2001	Silver Decoration of Honour for Services to the Republic of Austria

LANGUAGES

German	Mother tongue
French	Bilingual
English	Fluent in written and spoken language
Italian	Fluent, good written skills
Hebrew	Fluent, basic written knowledge
Spanish	Conversational
Russian	Basic knowledge