

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME	Dr. LEITNER, Kerstin
NATIONALITY	German
EDUCATION	
1970	M.A. – History and Political Science Ph. D. – Political Science, History and Sociology
1975	Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
EXPERIENCE	
Since Sept. 2005	Retired from UN service, lecturer at Freie Universität, Berlin and Uni Potsdam (discontinued in 2021) member of Transparency International and various other NGOs
July 2003- Aug 2005	Assistant Director-General, WHO, Geneva, in charge of Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments
March 1998 - July 2003	UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, China
1975 - March 1998	Various postings with UNDP in Benin 1975-79, Malawi 1987- 1990, China 1980-83 and at headquarters in New York (oversight of programmes in Arab countries 1983-87 and Director Administration (1991 – 1998)
1973-75	Teaching/Research Assistant, Freie Universität Berlin
1971-73	Research Associate, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Ms. Leitner has worked for 30 years for the UN system. Her career with the UN has taken her to four regions (Africa, Asia, Arab States and Europe) in positions with increasing responsibility. During 28 years with UNDP, she spent 17 years in country offices and 11 at headquarters, 21 years in programme management and 7 in internal management. Two years with WHO rounded out her professional experience as a civil servant of a global public sector organization dealing with issues which transcend the responsibility of national governments and require well coordinated international cooperation (e.g. SARS, the management of chemicals such as POPs, AIDS).

She now lives in Berlin/Germany and taught for a number of years at her alma mater and at the Universität Potsdam about international public policies. She is a member of several German NGOs, Transparency International and the German Association for the UN (DGVN) as well as of Diplomats without Borders.

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