

Born in Kettwig (now: Essen), 6 August 1957. Married, two daughters.

1976–1981: Studying Economics at the University of Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany, and at the London School of Economics and Political Science; Diplom-Volkswirt (corresponding M.A.) in Freiburg

1982–1985: Research for a doctoral dissertation at the universities of Freiburg and Nagoya, Japan on *The structural adjustment of declining industries – Japan’s textile industry on the background of changing competitive advantages* (in German); during that period:

1982–1984: Research and doctoral student of the Graduate School of Economics, Nagoya University; scholarship of the Japanese Ministry of Education (Monbushō)

1985: Dr. rer. pol. (doctoral exam in economics with the grade *summa cum laude*; Freiburg)

1984–1991: Research Associate, from 1986 Senior Fellow (Hochschulassistent, C1) at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Freiburg; during that period:

1986–1987: Visiting Fellow at Nagoya University, Japan, and at the Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore

1991: Habilitation (advanced doctoral degree) in Economics in Freiburg im Breisgau with a study on *Outward-oriented industrialization of East and Southeast Asian economies* (in German)

1992–2020: Full Professor (C4) for East Asian Economic Studies/Japan and Korea at the Gerhard-Mercator-University of Duisburg, now University of Duisburg-Essen

2015–2017: Director, Institute of East Asian Studies (IN-EAST) of the University of Duisburg-Essen

Retirement in September 2020, Emeritus Professor and Associated Member of IN-EAST

Distinction

2021: Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon; Japanese government

Research stays in Japan

Kyōto University (1996, Japan Foundation), Waseda University, Tōkyō (2003, JSPS), Kōbe University (2006, RIEB), Dōshisha University, Kyōto (2011, JSPS)

Research stay in South Korea

Academy of Korean Studies near Seoul (1996), Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (2007), Busan National University (2013)

Research interests

Political economy of institutional change in Japan and Korea, and international economic relations of and with the region

Current honorary activities (selection)

Vice President of the Japanese-German Centre Berlin (JDZB, since 2015)

Chairman of the Board, Foundation for Japanese-German cultural and academic relations (JaDe Stiftung, since 2013)

Honorary President, KOPRA e.V. (non-profit platform for internship and job offers with an East Asian focus)

Honorary Fellow of EastAsiaNet, European Research School Network of Contemporary East Asian Studies (Permanent Member of the Steering Group 2006–2021)

Member of the Editorial Board, *European Journal of East Asian Studies*

Member of the Editorial Board, *Asia Europe Journal*

Co-editor of the book series *Economic Studies on Asia*, Metropolis Publisher, Marburg