



Prof. Dr. Uschi Backes-Gellner

Since 1 May 2011, Prof. Backes-Gellner has been a member of the Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation, appointed by the German Federal Government.

Prof. Backes-Gellner holds the Chair for Business and Personnel Economics at the University of Zurich. Since 2008, she has also been Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Informatics of the University of Zurich. In addition, she is Director of the Swiss Leading House on Economics of Education, Firm Behaviour and Training Policies, a joint research centre of the universities of Bern and Zurich, funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI). Since 2017, Prof. Backes-Gellner has been a member of the Swiss National Research Council.

Prof. Backes-Gellner studied economics at the University of Trier. In 1987, she completed a doctoral degree in business administration. After visiting scholarships at the Northwestern University, Evanston, and the University of California, Berkeley, Prof. Backes-Gellner worked at the Institute for Labour Law and Industrial Relations in the European Community and qualified as a professor at the University of Trier in 1995. From 1995 to 2002, she was a Full Professor at the University of Cologne. From 1998 to 2006, she was - in addition - President of the Institute for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises, Bonn. In 2000, she was a researcher at Cornell University, Ithaca, in 2009 at the University of California, Berkeley, and in 2015 at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, USA for one semester.

Her work focuses on topics in the field of personnel, education and innovation economics. Her research has been published in renowned international journals and books. For ten years, she was a member of the Steering Committee in the legislation process of the new Continuing Training Law of the Swiss Federal Government and is currently a member of the Scientific Boards of the Centre for European Economic Research, ZEW, in Mannheim, the Institute for Employment Research, IAB Nuremberg, and the Handelshochschule Leipzig (HHL).