



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

**International Advisory Council for Social Innovation  
under the direction of Zarah Bruhn  
Commissioner for Social Innovation  
at Federal Ministry for Education and Research**



© BMBF/Rickel



---

**Niklas Adalberth**

*„The world's great challenges are global, not local, so we need to work together to solve them. Entrepreneurs building scalable solutions play a key role in this. If I can contribute my learnings as to why Sweden has 34 times as many impact startups as the world average, it'll be a win for all of us.“*

---

**Co-Founder Klarna  
Founder Norrsken Foundation  
Sweden**



---

**Filipe Almeida**

*“It is my belief that social innovation can only be transformative if it involves and also influences the evolution of public policies through cross-sector partnerships. As I've been leading for the past seven years the Portuguese national public policy for social innovation, it became clear that Governments can play a critical role in stimulating and developing the emerging social innovation ecosystems. Therefore I expect the Advisory Council for Social Innovation in the Federal Ministry of Education and Research to be a unique opportunity to share experiences and visions that can help entrepreneurs and investors to follow their impact goals inside and across borders, hopefully driving systemic positive changes in society.”*

---

**Director  
Portugal Inovacao Social**



---

**Jeroo Billimoria**

*I am a strong believer in the power of the social innovation ecosystem, and it is through the collaboration of our individual strengths and values that we are able to not only reach the most vulnerable populations around the world, but inspire the next generation of changemakers to take ownership of their future.*

---

**Founder One family Foundation, Amsterdam  
Co-Founder Catalyst 2030, India**



---

**Dr. Sir Ronald Cohen**

---

*"I'm happy to join the Council and to contribute to Europe's policies. In particular, policies that advance impact accounting transparency and impact economies, where business and investment decisions are made on the basis of risk-return-impact. Only in this way can we meet the great climate and social challenges we face."*

---

**President of GSG  
Co-Founder Chair of The Portland Trust and IFVI  
Co-Founder Director of Social Finance UK, USA and Israel  
United Kingdom**



---

**Sidonie Fernau**

---

*"I am striving for closer cooperation between private welfare, social entrepreneurs, business, business angels, administration, politics and science. It is also important to me that we create better access for people with experience of discrimination so that we include as many perspectives as possible when creating and implementing social innovations."*

---

**Director  
Paritätisches Kompetenzzentrum Nord GmbH**



---

**Nicolas Hazard**

---

*„Developing social innovation in Germany is key in order to raise awareness about this topic in Europe. It's really important for Germany to be one of the leading examples in terms of social policies if we want to make the EU more inclusive and sustainable.“*

---

**Founder and CEO INCO  
Special adviser for social and solidarity economy at the European Commission  
France**



**Lubomila Jordanova**

---

*„I'm honoured to join the Council to champion the power of education and research in driving social innovation. My aim is to catalyze creative solutions, foster inclusive access to knowledge, and inspire the collaborative spirit that is vital to ensure that innovation becomes the cornerstone of a more sustainable and equitable future.“*

---

**Founder and CEO  
PlanA Earth GmbH  
Founder Green Tech Alliance**



**Prof. Gorgi Krlev**

---

*„Social innovations have gone without adequate support for far too long. The National Strategy is an important milestone. I am glad to join the Council of Advisors because I believe in the power of research-practice transfer. I aim to contribute based on my cross-national comparative research on social innovations, the role of civil society and the social economy therein, and my wider research on sustainability and impact measurement.“*

---

**Professor  
ESCP Business School Paris**

© Sebastian Weindel



**Christian Kroll**

---

*„Often, social enterprises can solve important problems better than government actors. I am happy to help ensure that the framework conditions are right for this.“*

---

**Founder and CEO  
Ecosia GmbH**



**Dr. Anja Langenbucher**

---

*“Progress on the ambitious global health, climate adaptation and development challenges we have set ourselves will be driven by scientific and technological breakthroughs. Today, many of the most promising advances and innovative solutions are coming from entrepreneurs and companies – including in Germany and Europe. If we are to continue to succeed in improving the lives of people in poor countries, including in Africa, we have to harness the talent and ingenuity found in the private sector through partnership.”*

---

**Director Europe  
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**



**Prof. Johanna Mair**

---

*“I am delighted to be a part of the council, where we have a rare chance to ensure that the new social innovation strategy doesn't just stay on paper, but is put into action. The most challenging aspect of strategy work is executing and constantly refining it.”*

---

**Professor at Hertie School  
Member of the Board at Schwab Foundation  
Co-director of the Global Innovation for Impact  
Lab at Stanford PACS  
Academic editor of Stanford Social Innovation  
Review**



**Victor Meseguer Sánchez**

---

*“We urgently need to fight inequalities and to provide innovative solutions to societal challenges as access to housing, a fair green transition, or the inclusion of all in our society and labour markets. To do so we urgently need more social innovation and social economy. Because it is always about we, not I. It is always about cooperating to build a better present and future.”*

---

**Special Commissioner for Social Economy  
Ministerio de Trabajo y Economía Social**

**Spain**



---

**Felix Oldenburg**

---

*„I look forward to working with such a diverse and great group to take Germany to a new level as a growth environment for a new way of doing business.“*

---

**Co-Founder, Project because  
Executive Board, gut.org**



---

**Prof. Helmut Schönenberger**

---

*“We will only solve the challenges of our time with innovations. To do this, we need to expand technological boundaries and train personalities who make a difference.“*

---

**Founder and Director  
UnternehmerTUM GmbH**



---

**Fabian Strüngmann**

---

*“We need to transform our differences into opportunities and collaboratively address societal challenges with a positive mindset in Germany. I believe that we need to rethink the economy and society from the ground up. Social innovation through diverse stakeholder collaboration is key to achieving this, and I look forward to being part of this journey.“*

---

**Director  
Salta Investments GmbH  
Investor**



---

**Antje von Dewitz**

*"I am looking forward to working on the Advisory Board because I am convinced that the Economy for the Common Good (ECG) will broaden the entrepreneurial field of vision to include the social and ecological impact of entrepreneurial activity. We need more incentives for companies to operate sustainably. In a globally networked system, business has a great responsibility to help ensure that our children can still live in a world that is a place worth living in."*

---

**CEO  
Vaude Sport GmbH & Co. KG**



---

**Eva Maria Welskop-Deffaa**

*"The diversity of our facilities and services has always made charities - networked, confident and responsive - laboratories for custom-fit practices and innovative concepts. As a social fire department, we are committed to fighting social trouble spots - with state-of-the-art extinguishing technology and highly motivated teams. To ensure that we can continue to be engines for social innovation in the future, framework conditions must be created that provide financial and legal freedom AND security."*

---

**President  
Deutscher Caritasverband e.V.**



---

**Prof. Muhammad Yunus**

*"Engaging in social business is beneficial to a company because it leverages on business competencies to address social issues, involves one-time investment with sustainable results, and produces other positive effects such as employee motivation and improved organizational culture."*

---

**Nobel Peace Prize winner  
Founder Grameen Bank  
Co-Founder and Chairman Yunus Social  
Business  
Bangladesh**