

Enno Schmidt



Enno Schmidt was born in Osnabrück, West Germany, in 1958.

He studied art (painting) at the Academy of fine Arts in Frankfurt/M, Germany, exhibited at home and abroad, winner of Frankfurt Art Award 1994.

Schmidt founded the „Enterprise Economy and Art – Expanded, Ltd.“ in 1990 together with other artists and entrepreneurs. He was management director of this company.

Subsequently, he carried out “Company Perceptions”, enterprises and institutes regarded with the contemplative perception like as a work of art, and exhibited his results in the art context.

As a Visiting Research Fellow at the Oxford Brookes University he contributed to establish the new study course „Social Sculpture“.

Under the roof of the trust company of the GLS Bank in Germany he was involved in the construction of the „Future Foundation Social Life“, which gave grants and scholarships to individual people without strings attached.

As a lecturer at the Institute for Entrepreneurship at the University of Karlsruhe he executed his own tutorial program „Concept Formation“ for the economic students.

In 2006 Enno Schmidt founded the Initiative Basic Income in Switzerland. In 2008 he published his film „Basic Income – a Cultural Impuls“ together with Daniel Häni. This was the first film about basic income. It has had a wide impact in the German speaking world and worldwide, translated in 20 languages, with so far 2 Million viewers.

In 2012 the Initiative Basic Income launched a people initiative for the introduction of an unconditional basic income for everybody in Switzerland. In the fall of 2013 this people initiative was successfully handed in with 126000 signatures in the Federal Chancery in Bern.

In 2016 he published his book „Grundeinkommen von A bis Z“.

In June 2016 the citizens of Switzerland voted about the implementation of an universal basic income by a national referendum. 23 % of the voters, nearly every fourth, voted in favor for

the implementation. With this, the topic is on the table and can lead to a majority at a next referendum. The initiative and campaign in Switzerland attracted a worldwide attention and inspired the debate about this first positive vision of our century in countries around the globe.

In 2017 Enno Schmidt traveled through the USA, China, Taiwan, Japan, the UK, Germany and Austria for public lectures, events and interviews, linked activists and inspired people for the UBI,

Enno Schmidt lives in Basel, Switzerland.

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