



CITY OF HEIDELBERG

MAYOR PROF. DR. ECKART WÜRZNER

ABOUT

Born on 10 October 1961,
in Goslar

Married, four children,
seven grandchildren

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Globally recognized municipal leader and urban ambassador with over 25 years of executive experience in strategic urban governance, sustainable transformation and multilateral city engagement. As Mayor of Heidelberg since 2006, widely acknowledged for shaping evidence-based city strategies and advancing resilient, equitable urban development. Provides leadership in the Forum of Mayors at the United Nations and the Global Parliament of Mayors and plays a central role in major international city networks including UCLG and the Global Covenant of Mayors. Represents German cities with distinction in national and international forums, driving impactful partnerships, systemic local transformation and the strengthened global role of cities in tackling shared challenges.

CONTACT

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Prof. Dr. Eckart Würzner 

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CORE COMPETENCIES

Global Climate Governance · City Diplomacy · Sustainable Urban Development · Municipal Leadership · Energy Transition · International Negotiation · Innovation & Technology · Governance & Public Infrastructure · Stakeholder Engagement · Climate Policy & Adaptation



PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Since 2006 (Re-elected 2014 and 2022)	Mayor City of Heidelberg
2001–2006	Deputy Mayor for Environment and Energy City of Heidelberg
1997–2006	Managing Director Regional Climate and Energy Agency Heidelberg–Rhine-Neckar (KLiBA gGmbH)

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Since 2016	Honorary Professor, SRH University Heidelberg
Since 2013	Visiting Professor, Institute for Energy and Sustainable Development, De Montfort University Leicester, United Kingdom
1998–2013	Lecturer, Heidelberg University and SRH University Heidelberg
1993	Doctorate (Dr. rer. nat., summa cum laude), Heidelberg University

INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP & GLOBAL ROLES

Since 2025	Chair, Forum of Mayors at the United Nations
Since 2025	Vice Chair, Global Parliament of Mayors
Since 2025	Chair of the Board, U7
Since 2024	Regional Ambassador for Europe, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
Since 2023	Representative of German Cities, Executive Bureau, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
2019–2024	Global Board Member, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
2006–2024	President Energie Cities, EU



NATIONAL & MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP

Since 2025	Board of the LBBW and Chair of “Sparkassenverband BW”
Since 2022	Member, Executive Board, Federal Association of Local Authority Peak Organisations
Since 2021	First Deputy President, German Association of Cities
Since 2015	Member, Executive Board, Federal Association of Local Authority Peak Organisations)
Since 2015	Member, Main Committee, Council of European Municipalities and Regions

SELECTED HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

2024	Award of the Heidelberg Fire Service for special commitment
2019	Environmental Award “Goldener Baum”, Foundation for Ecology and Democracy
2018	Foreign Minister’s Commendation, Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs
2015	Green City Award, Global Forum on Human Settlements in cooperation with UN Environment Programme