Prof. Dr. Josef Hochgerner

Zentrum für Soziale Innovation (Centre for Social Innovation), ZSI. http://www.zsi.at; e-mail: hochgerner@zsi.at Founder (1990) and scientific director of the Centre for Social Innovation, professor (sociology). ZSI is an independent, private nonprofit institute, financed by revenues from projects providing research, education and training, advisory services for public bodies, and network co-ordination. A multi-disciplinary staff of about 60 works towards generation, dissemination and implementation of knowledge in three areas of topical relevance pertaining to the development of society under conditions of globalisation: Work & Equal Opportunities, Research Policies & Development, Technology & Knowledge.

Education: Vocational training in aeronautical engineering (1965-68), studies in social sciences and economics in Vienna and Freiburg/D (1969-74); M.A. 1974, PhD 1978, habilitation 1986.

Professional experience in research institutions, social partners' organisations, national and European agencies and advisory boards concerning funding of RTD and innovation, teaching in adult education and at various universities in Austria and abroad. 1995-1998 professor (technology assessment, sociology of technology) at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU, Vienna). 1998-2003 Secretary General of the International Forum on Work, Information Society and Employment, 2001-2005 President of the Austrian Sociological Association, 2007 professor (U. of Vienna), 2012 President of the European School of Social Innovation; 2013 launch of the course of study M.A. in Social innovation (Danube Univ. Krems, Austria).

Main topics in research, teaching and practice include innovations concerning work, learning, and living in the global information society, social use of knowledge and technology, technology and risk assessment, the particularities of social innovations and major trends of societal development. In-depth knowledge of national and European policies on innovation, promotion of science, research and technology development are core competencies acquired in the course of some 30 years of professional experience in private research institutes, social partners' organisations, universities, international and trans-disciplinary consortia. Visiting professorships, lecturing, and co-operation in many European projects led to the establishment of a wide and effective professional network to facilitate scientific collaboration across Europe and beyond.

Relevant participation in EU-funded projects include (among many more): MUNICIPIA (Multilingual Urban Network for the Integration of City Planners and Involved local Actors; 1995-1997); DIPLOMAT (The European Charter for Telework; Co-ordinator; 1996-1998); VIP (Voluntary Industrial Code of Practice for global eWork; 2001-2002); RECORD (Recognizing Central and Eastern European Centres of RTD; 2002-04); ProAct (Practical Regional Research and Innovation Policy in Action; 2005-2007); eGovernment in the Russian Federation (2006-2007); European Citizen's Consultations addressing the economic and social future of Europe (2007, 2009). Many studies and advisory services for national and international public bodies are concerned with EU enlargement, the integration of Europe, the development of South-East Europe (Western Balkan Countries), and EU neighbourhood policies.

Selection of some recent book publications:

Social Innovation. The Novel Creation, Variation or New Combination of Social Practices. In: Carayannis, E. G. (ed.), Encyclopedia of Creativity, Invention, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship. New York: Springer, 2013. pp. 1678-1686.

Social innovation and the advancement of the general concept of innovation. In: C. Viñals/C. Parra Rodriguez (eds.), Social Innovation: New Forms of Organization in Knowledge-Based Societies. Oxford: Routledge. 2013. pp. 12-28.

The Society of Knowledge: Trends and Perspectives. In: Suprun, V. (ed.), Innovations as Drivers of Socio-Cultural Changes. Novosibirsk: Trend, 2013. pp. 173-193. [in Russian]

New Combinations of Social Practices in the Knowledge Society. In: H.-W. Franz, J. Hochgerner, J. Howaldt (eds.): Challenge Social Innovation. Potentials for Business, Social Entrepreneurship, Welfare and Civil Society. Berlin-Heidelberg: Springer, 2012. pp. 87-104.

Preparing for the Big Shift. The Capacity of Social Innovations in 21st Century's World Society. In: J. Loudín/J. Hochgerner (eds.), Social and Cultural Dimensions of Innovation in Knowledge Societies. Prague: Filosofia. 2011. pp. 19-41.

The Analysis of Social Innovations and Social Practice. In: bridges. The OST'S (Office of Science and Technology) Publication on Science & Technology. Washington, D.C.: www.ostina.org/content/view/5708/1505/, July 2011 Innovation Processes in the Dynamics of Social Change. In: J. Loudin/K. Schuch (eds.), Innovation Cultures – Challenge and Learning Strategy; Prague: Filosofia, 2009. pp. 17-45.

The Culture of Crossing Borders. In: J. Hochgerner/I. Cornejova (eds.), Communication in International R&D Projects. A Perspective from the Social Sciences. Brno: Barrister & Principal, 2008. pp. 11-21.