

Profile

Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. Hans Zehetmair

Former Bavarian Minister of State, Hon. Senator



Hans Zehetmair was born in 1936 in Langengeisling near Erding, Bavaria, Germany. He is Catholic, married, with three children.

After studying Classical Philology, German Language and Literature, History and Social Studies at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, he taught at the Dom Gymnasium secondary school in Freising from 1964 to 1974.

Hans Zehetmair was Member of the Bavarian State Parliament from 1974 to 1978 and from 1990 to 2003. From 1978 to 1986 he was District Administrator in Erding.

In 1986 Hans Zehetmair became Bavarian Minister of State for Education and Cultural Affairs, and in 1989 also Bavarian Minister of State for Science and the Arts. From 1990 to 1998 he was Bavarian Minister of State for Education, Cultural Affairs, Science and the Arts. In addition, from 1993 to 1998 he held the office of Deputy Minister President of Bavaria. From 1998 to 2003 he was Bavarian Minister of State for Science, Research and the Arts.

From 1993 and until he left the Cabinet, Hans Zehetmair represented the states of the German Federal Republic as Member of the EU Council of Ministers for Culture. From 2003 to 2007 he served as official expert on the committee of enquiry "Culture in Germany" of the German Federal Parliament. Since 2004 he is Chairman of the Council for German Orthography and since 2011 Chairman of the Programme Committee of ARTE G.E.I.E.

Hans Zehetmair has held an honorary doctorate from the Ukrainian Free University, Munich since 1992 and from the University of Munich since 2003. In 2004 he became honorary senator of the Academy of Fine Arts, Munich and in 2005 honorary senator of the Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg and honorary doctor of Augsburg University. In 2007 he was awarded an honorary professorship of Moscow State Technical University MIREA, in 2008 an honorary doctorate of Woosuk University, South Korea, and in 2011 an honorary professorship of Moscow State University.

On 1 March 2004 Hans Zehetmair was elected Chairman of the Hanns Seidel Foundation and was confirmed for a further term in this office on 19 April 2010.