

HELGA NOWOTNY

Panel 1: The Complexity of Intangible Heritage Appreciation

Professor, Chair, ERA Council Forum Austria, Former President European Research Council



Helga Nowotny is Professor emerita at ETH Zurich in Science and Technology Studies and a founding member of the European Research Council. In 2007 she was elected ERC Vice President and from 2010 – 2013 President of the ERC. Currently she is Chair of the ERA Council Forum Austria and member of the Austrian Council for Research and Technology advising the Austrian government. She is Vice President of the Lindau Nobel Laureates Meetings; member of the Steering Board of Falling Walls, Berlin and Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the newly founded Complexity Sciences Hub Vienna as well as engaged in other international academic governing and advisory committees.

She holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from Columbia University, NY. and a doctorate in jurisprudence from the University of Vienna. Her distinguished teaching and research career took her from the University of Vienna to Bielefeld, Cambridge, Berlin, Paris, Budapest and Zurich. Helga Nowotny is a Foreign Member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and of seven other European Academies. She is Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and received the John Desmond Bernal Prize for life time achievements in Science and Technology Studies. She is doctor honoris causa of universities in the UK, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Norway and of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

Helga Nowotny has published widely in science and technology studies and on social time. Her most recent book is “The Cunning of Uncertainty” published by Polity in October 2015 and included by the Financial Times in the list of best books 2015. Previous books are “Naked Genes, Reinventing the human in the molecular age”, (with Giuseppe Testa), MIT Press, 2011, “Insatiable Curiosity, Innovation in a Fragile Future”, MIT Press, 2008, and “Cultures of Technology and the Quest for Innovation (ed.)”, New York and London, 2006.