

Dr. Nina Smidt

Managing Director / Board Spokesperson



"I believe the only way we are going to solve the major challenges of the future is to work together with civic, economic, and policy partners and implement new ways of cooperation."

Dr. Nina Smidt has served as Managing Director and Spokesperson of the Board of Directors at Siemens Stiftung since April 1, 2020. As of October 1, 2021 the Board of Trustees conferred upon her full operative management duties at the foundation with responsibility for the three working areas Development, Education, and Culture as well as the Communication department. Together with Klaus Grünfelder she is responsible for managing the foundation's activities and the operative implementation of the foundation's goals.

Siemens Stiftung operates in the areas of Development Cooperation, Education, and Culture. The foundation develops its own national and international projects and implements them for the long term. In collaboration with its partners, the foundation's goal is to support people in need to improve their living conditions.

Prior to her role as Managing Director at Siemens Stiftung, Nina Smidt led the American Friends of Bucerius Inc. from 2010 to 2020, an independent foundation representing the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius in New York City. From 2011 to 2020, she served as well as Director of International Planning and Development at ZEIT-Stiftung in Hamburg. As CEO of Bucerius Education GmbH at Bucerius Law School in Hamburg from 2006 to 2011, Nina Smidt was in charge of professional development, conference management, and consulting services. Previously, Nina Smidt was Vice Director of the International Center for Graduate Studies at Hamburg University.

Nina Smidt studied German and English studies, and education at Hamburg University in addition to political and cultural sciences at the University of Technology in Sydney. She completed an Executive Master of Business Administration program in economic sciences at the European School of Management and Technology in Berlin and participated in organizational leadership programs at Harvard Business School in Boston and at Columbia Business School in New York City. Nina Smidt received her PhD in literary and cultural theory at Hamburg University, which was followed by postdoctoral fellowships at Cornell University's School of Criticism and Theory in the United States and Haifa University in Israel.

Dr. Nina Smidt is a Board Member in the following organizations: American Friends of Atlantik Brücke, New York City; Arthur F. Burns Fellowship Program, Washington D.C.; German-American Partnership Program, Washington D.C., Tamer Center for Social Innovation at Columbia Business School, New York City; Do School, Berlin. She represents the Siemens Stiftung at the Forum Bildung Digitalisierung, Berlin.