

Dr. Nina Smidt

Managing Director / Board Spokesperson



“I believe the only way we are going to solve the big problems of the future is to work together with civic, economic, and policy partners on solutions and think outside the established norms.”

Dr. Nina Smidt has served as Managing Director and Board Spokesperson at Siemens Stiftung since 1 April 2020. Together with her board colleagues, Rolf Huber and Klaus Grünfelder, she is responsible for the implementation of the foundation's goals.

Siemens Stiftung operates in the areas of Development Cooperation, Education, and Culture. As a hands-on foundation, Siemens Stiftung develops its own projects and implements them for the long term. In collaboration with its partners, the foundation's goal is to help people improve their living conditions. In her role as a member of the board, Nina Smidt is responsible for matters related to the Education and Culture working areas.

Prior to her role as Managing Director at Siemens Stiftung, Nina Smidt was Director of International Planning and Development at ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius from 2011 to 2020. From 2006 to 2011, she was CEO of Bucerius Education at Bucerius Law School in Hamburg. She was also President of American Friends of Bucerius in New York from 2010 to 2020.

Previously, Nina Smidt was Vice Director of the International Center for Graduate Studies at Universität Hamburg and Communications Program Manager at Jacobs University in Bremen.

Nina Smidt studied German studies and English studies at Universität Hamburg, cultural sciences at the University of Technology in Sydney, and economic sciences at the European School of Management and Technology in Berlin. She completed organizational leadership programs at Harvard Business School in Boston and at Columbia Business School in New York.

Her PhD in literary and cultural theory at Universität Hamburg was followed by postdoctoral fellowships at Cornell University in Ithaca and Haifa University in Haifa, Israel.

Nina Smidt also sits on the boards or advisory councils of the following organizations: American Council on Germany, New York City; 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.

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