

Michael Fembek joins the Board of the Essl Foundation and receives Honorary Professor Title by the President of Austria.

Vienna, June 22, 2022 – The Essl Foundation today announced that Michael Fembek, Director of the Zero Project, will join the Board of the Foundation, effective as of July 1, 2022. The Board of the Essl Foundation will then consist of six instead of five members.

Michael Fembek will also become CEO of the Zero Project to focus on strategy, communications, and international partnerships. Robin Tim Weis and Anna Königseder will take over the operational lead of the Zero Project.

“Michael Fembek has been at the cradle of the Zero Project since day one. Its development and success in the past 10 years are very much based on his leadership. In his new position on the Board of the Essl Foundation, his mission is to permanently establish the Zero Project as the global hub and ecosystem for innovative solutions supporting persons with disabilities” states Martin Essl, Founder and Chairman of the Essl Foundation Board.

In recognition of his contributions and expertise, Michael Fembek was also awarded an Honorary Professor title by the President of Austria. Harald Mahrer, President of the Austrian Chamber of Commerce, officially presented the honors yesterday, during a festive ceremony. In their laudatory speeches, Martin Essl, Katharina Turnauer, and Samira Rauter praised Michael Fembek’s role in building the philanthropic community in Austria, for instance as a founding member of the “Sinnstifter” Association, the “Verband für gemeinnütziges Stiften”, the “Sinnbildungsstiftung”, and the “House of Philanthropy” in Vienna.

About the Essl Foundation

The Essl Foundation MGE gemeinnützige Privatstiftung is an Austrian Foundation established in 2007 by Martin and Gerda Essl, and their children, for social purposes and scientific research. Its mission is to support social innovation, social entrepreneurship and persons with disabilities.

About the Zero Project

The Zero Project's mission is working for a world with zero barriers. Worldwide, the Zero Project finds and shares solutions that improve the daily lives and legal rights of all persons with disabilities.

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