

Jakob von Uexkull

CURRICULUM VITAE

CAREER

Jakob von Uexkull has been a journalist, writer, lecturer, professional philatelist and Member of the European Parliament (1987–89) where he served on the Political Affairs Committee and the Science and Technology Committee. He was also a member of the Delegation for Relations with the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Baltic

Intergroup. Jakob von Uexkull is a co-founder (1984) of The Other Economic Summit (TOES) and founder of The Estonian Renaissance Award (1993). He is a patron of Friends of the Earth International, member of the Council of Governance of Transparency International, and of the Global Commission to Fund the United Nations. He served on the Board of Greenpeace, Germany, and the New Economics Foundation (London). He was also a member of the UNESCO Commission on Human Duties and Responsibilities.

Jakob von Uexkull holds German and Swedish nationality and lives in London. He has three children.



HONOURS AND PRIZES

- Bios Prize, St. Petersburg (1998)
- Future Research Prize, Salzburg (1999)
- Mariana Order, Estonia (2000)
- Time Magazine European Heroes Award (2005)
- Great Binding Prize for Environmental Protection, Liechtenstein (2006)
- Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (2009)

THE RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARD

In 1980, Jakob von Uexkull felt that the Nobel Prize categories, established in 1901, were too narrow in scope and too concentrated on the interests of the industrialised countries to be an adequate answer to the challenges now facing humanity. Thus, he approached the Nobel Foundation with the suggestion that it establishes two new awards, one for ecology and one relevant to the lives of the poor. He offered to contribute financially but his proposal was turned down. He then decided to set up the Right Livelihood Awards, and provided the initial funding of about US\$ 1 million. Since 1980 137 people and organisations from more than 50 countries have been awarded the Right Livelihood Award, often referred to as the Alternative Nobel Prize. Jakob von Uexkull chairs the Board of Directors of the Right Livelihood Award.

THE WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL

Since the year 2000 Jakob von Uexkull has concentrated on building the World Future Council which was officially founded in May 2007. It consists of up to 50 respected personalities from all five continents. Together they form a voice for the rights of future generations. The World Future Council's Future Policy Award was first presented in October 2009 to celebrate visionary policies for food security. Jakob von Uexkull chairs the Management Board of the World Future Council Foundation.