



Franz Schausberger (born 5 February 1950 in Steyr) is an Austrian politician (ÖVP) and historian. From April 24th 1996 to April 28th 2004 he was Landeshauptmann (state governor) of Salzburg.

Early life, education, and start in politics

Schausberger was born in Steyr, Upper Austria. He attended the *Gymnasium*, where he took his *Matura* exams in 1968 with distinction. He went on to study at the University of Salzburg, receiving a Doctorate in Philosophy in 1973.

During studies he was chairman of the Students Council at the University of Salzburg.

Political life

From 1971 to 1979 Schausberger was Parliamentary Party Secretary of ÖVP in the Landtag (regional parliament) of Salzburg. From 1976 to 1980 Schausberger was president of the youth organisation of ÖVP Salzburg and was member of the Landtag of Salzburg from 1979 to 1996. From 1979 to 1989 he was General Secretary of ÖVP Salzburg. Between 1989 and 1996 he was chairman of the parliamentary group of ÖVP in the Landtag of Salzburg.

During the years as Landeshauptmann of Salzburg, from 1996 to 2004, he initiated the construction of the football stadium Salzburg-Kleßheim, the construction of the Museum of Modern Arts on the Mönchsberg, the reconstruction of the Kleines Festspielhaus (*House for Mozart*) and the construction of the Museum Carolino Augusteum at the Mozartplatz. In negotiations between 1997 and 2001 Schausberger was able to reach the financial confirmation of the responsible ministries for the modification of the Mozarteum University of Salzburg as well as for the construction of the university campus *Unipark Nonntal*. During his ministry Salzburg got a new constitution with the change from proportional system to majority system.

Since 1996 he is the representative of Land Salzburg to the Committee of the Regions (CoR) of the European Union. From 2004 to 2006 he was chairman of the CoR's Commission for Constitutional Affairs and European Governance, since January 2006 he is Vice-president of the European People's Party (EPP) in the CoR.

Academic life

In 1992 Schausberger founded the research institute for political-historical studies *Dr.-Wilfried-Haslauer-Bibliothek* in Salzburg and since then holds its presidency.

In 1996 he habilitated at the University of Salzburg with a habilitation treatise about the agitation of the nazis in Austrian Landtage.

Schausberger, who holds lectures at the University of Salzburg and several other European universities, hitherto published numerous books and more than 150 publications on Austrian history and politics and the European Union.

On July 1st 2008 he was awarded the title "university professor" by the Western Hungarian University in Sopron.

In 2004 Schausberger founded the Institute of the Regions of Europe (IRE) in Salzburg and since then holds the chair of the board.

After his resignation from Salzburg's politics he went into business and founded the company European Project Analysis & Conception GmbH (EPAC).