

Media release

St.Gallen, 30 June 2016

Former Federal Councillor Adolf Ogi receives the Erich Walser Generations Prize 2016

The Erich Walser Generations Prize is awarded to individuals who make an exemplary contribution to advancing understanding between the generations. The 2016 prize goes to Adolf Ogi. The Erich Walser Generations Prize is awarded by the WDA Forum (World Demographic & Ageing Forum) jointly with Helvetia Insurance and Prof. Dr. Günter Müller-Stewens from the University of St.Gallen. Former Federal Councillor Dr. h.c. Adolf Ogi will receive the prize in person on 29 August 2016 during the 10th World Demographic & Ageing Forum at the University of St.Gallen. The encomium will be delivered by former Federal Councillor Moritz Leuenberger. The Krönli Kids of Sportclub Brühl will also receive a regional recognition award.

The Erich Walser Generations Prize is awarded to individuals who have made an exemplary and outstanding international contribution to improving or advancing understanding between the generations in an era of demographic ageing. The 2016 prize goes to former Federal Councillor Dr h.c. Adolf Ogi in recognition of his outstanding achievements as a politician, statesman and UN Special Advisor on Sport for Development and Peace. Through his dedication, positive attitude and courageously far-sighted approach to social change, Adolf Ogi demonstrates the importance of intergenerational action and learning in overcoming challenges both present and future.

In memory of Erich Walser

Originally created in 2005 as the Prix des Générations, from this year the prize is being renamed and presented in memory of Erich Walser, a founder member of the World Demographic & Ageing Forum and former Chairman of the Board of Helvetia Holding AG. The prize is worth CHF 20,000. It is endowed by the Helvetia Group and awarded every three years by the WDA Forum in association with the University of St.Gallen. The jury consists of Prof. Dr. Günter Müller-Stewens from the University of St.Gallen, Stefan Loacker, CEO of the Helvetia Group, and delegates of the Board of Directors of WDA Forum AG.

Public presentation ceremony on 29 August 2016 also includes the Krönli Kids academy of SC Brühl

Adolf Ogi will receive the prize in person on 29 August 2016 during the 10th World Demographic & Ageing Forum at the University of St.Gallen. The encomium will be delivered by his colleague, former Federal Councillor Moritz Leuenberger.

The WDA Forum will also be presenting a regional recognition award at the public presentation ceremony. The Krönli Kids children's football academy of the St.Gallen-based Sportclub Brühl will receive an accolade for its successful intergenerational work on integration in sport.

10th WDA Forum “Our Next World”

The 10th WDA Forum takes place from 29 to 31 August 2016 on the topic of “Our Next World”. Based on the WDA’s five areas of action – work life, retirement plans, financial markets, health and competitiveness – leading experts from around the world will discuss the causes and impact of demographic change and attempt to identify solutions. With 40 speakers and more than 400 participants, the WDA Forum brings the worlds of business, politics, academia and society together for dialogue and exchange. Further information: www.nextworld.wdaforum.org

About the WDA Forum

Population trends as well as ageing and generational issues are among the key challenges of the 21st century but also a source of unique opportunities. With a vision of maintaining and enhancing welfare and prosperity in the future, the WDA Forum aims to address and research these demographic issues and their impact on the social, economic and political environment in the international context. To this end, it has defined five areas of action: work life, retirement plans, financial markets, health and competitiveness. As a think tank, the WDA Forum works closely with the Institute of Insurance Economics at the University of St.Gallen as well as other educational and research institutions including the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, Stanford University in California and Fudan University in Shanghai. The WDA Forum was established in 2002 and is based in St.Gallen.

Further information: www.wdaforum.org

About the Helvetia Group

In over 150 years, the Helvetia Group has grown from a number of Swiss and foreign insurance companies into a successful international insurance group. Today, Helvetia has subsidiaries in its home market Switzerland as well as in the countries that make up the Europe market area: Germany, Italy, Austria and Spain. With its Specialty Markets market area, Helvetia is also present in France and in selected regions worldwide. The Group is headquartered in St.Gallen, Switzerland. Helvetia is active in the life and non-life business, and also offers customised specialty lines and reinsurance cover. With some 6,700 employees, the company provides services to more than 4.7 million private and corporate customers. Since life insurance and pension provision are at the heart of its business, Helvetia recognises the importance of promoting understanding and dialogue between and across the generations.

Further information: www.helvetia.com

Contacts for the media

World Demographic & Ageing Forum
Regina Regenass
Managing Director
Kornhausstrasse 18
9001 St.Gallen
Switzerland
Phone: +41 71 222 79 79
rregenass@wdaforum.org
www.wdaforum.org

Helvetia Insurance
Christina Wahlstrand-Hartmann
Head of Media Relations
Dufourstrasse 40
9001 St.Gallen
Switzerland
Phone: +41 58 280 50 33
media.relations@helvetia.ch
www.helvetia.com