

PROF. DR PETER KARL-FRIEDRICH HOSS
(25.04.1937 – 21.12.2018)
IN MEMORIAM

Professor Dr Peter Karl-Friedrich Hoss was born in Berlin-Wilmersdorf in Germany on 25.04.1937. He graduated from high school in 1955. Peter Hoss served in the army from 1955 to April 1957. From May 1957 until August 1958 he worked as a credit specialist in the German Farmer's Bank (Gadebusch branch office).

From September 1958 until December 1962, Peter Hoss studied finance in the Berlin School of Economics and graduated with the diploma of a financier. Then, from January 1963 until August 1985, Peter Hoss worked at the Berlin Institute of Economics as a researcher and head of a department. His research work was directed to accounting analysis and development and auditing and valuation of enterprises.

From May 1965 until June 1967 he was a post-graduate student of the Berlin School of Economics and defended his thesis successfully on the subject "Technical and Economic Experience in the Measurement of Quality and Valuation of Products". Peter Hoss worked on his Doctoral thesis during his post-graduate studies at the Berlin Humboldt University (July 1979 – July 1981). He defended his Doctoral thesis (habilitation) successfully on the subject "Valuation of Enterprises".

From September 1985 until May 1987 he was a professor of the Berlin School of Economics and Head of the Chair of Corporate Financing. Then, from June 1987 to May 1990, he was a professor and Head of the Chair of Finance of the Potsdam School of Law and Administration. From May 1990 until October 1990 he was employed by the Ministry of Economic Cooperation in Berlin, being the Head of the Department of Sectoral Development Policy and Multilateral Cooperation.

From October 1990 until April 1991, Professor Dr Peter Hoss was the Head of the German Development Cooperation Agency in Berlin. After that (in April 1991) he went to Frankfurt (Main) where he was employed as a Head of the Group of the International Migration and Development Centre (CIM) (until September 2001). His activities were directed to the development and implementation of programmes intended for the integration of specialists from Central and Eastern Europe. In October 2001, Professor Dr Peter Hoss retired due to his age.

The undersigned, working at the Estonian Planning Institute as the Head of the Laboratory of Enhancement of the Economic Mechanism, had the honour and pleasure to meet Professor Hoss and have job-related communication with him in Tallinn in 1982–1984 (Peter was repeatedly a member of official German delegations visiting Estonia) and in East Berlin at that time (when our delegation visited the former German Democratic Republic, discussing economic and other issues with Germans). During that period, Peter lived in his apartment in Berlin with his wife Renate. Although also Peter and his colleagues lived in East Berlin to some extent "behind the iron curtain", relations with them and the information received were still as a good breath of fresh air for us. The undersigned had also an excellent opportunity to practice speaking German (although

Germans had always a Russian interpreter with them as we did not have enough German speakers) as we did not have many such opportunities at that time.

Professor Peter Hoss had excellent and efficient job-related contacts also with the former Director of the Estonian Planning Institute, Docent, Candidate of Economics Johannes Kütts and the later Director and Professor of the Faculty of Economics of the University of Tartu, Dr. Heiki Müür, also the Deputy Director, Docent, Candidate of Economics Raimond Kala and earlier also with the Director of the Estonian Information Institute and Docent of the Faculty of Economics of the Tallinn Polytechnical Institute, Candidate of Economics Juhani Väljataga. They all remembered meeting Peter afterwards with good words and positively. Unfortunately, all these good colleagues have left this world many years ago.

In addition to the above-mentioned mutual relations (German-Estonian), a scientific and practical conference of planning institutes of Socialist countries was held in Alma-Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan in spring-summer 1983, it lasted about one week and was organised according to good standards, and it was pleasant to meet members of the delegations of Germany and other countries again there. An analogous conference (although with a somewhat lower number of participants) was organised later (probably in 1985) also in Tallinn. Professor Peter Hoss was always definitely present among Germans at these conferences.

Cordial relations and meetings continued also later: in Germany, in Berlin, in Frankfurt (Main), on Taunus, and in Prieros, a small town near Berlin among beautiful nature and lakes where Peter and Renate Hoss had their home, a villa after Peter's retirement (for instance, a meeting at the end of October 2010, during the few days that the undersigned stayed when travelling through Berlin, before the fellowship period at the Greifswald University). But also in Tallinn, Estonia. Our last direct contact was during Peter's cruise on the Baltic Sea (with the cruise ship AIDAblu) with his wife Renate and sister Susanne and they visited Tallinn for one day for a tour and briefly also the home of the undersigned at Piritä-Kose (on 22 July 2012). It was a cosy meeting at home with also the mother and father of the undersigned present.

The undersigned is grateful for the cooperation and meetings we had with Peter in the course of about 40 years. Peter also helped us a lot with the peer review of theses and research papers. This meant that Peter Hoss was a professor, doctor of Economics with a high qualification and great practical experience! Professor Peter Hoss was a qualified peer reviewer for many times for the papers published in our journal, particularly on the subject of local government. He was a very competent peer reviewer and did the reviewing with great responsibility and very thoroughly. Many thanks to him for that, also from the authors of the papers!

The undersigned knew Peter Hoss as an extremely friendly, responsible and helpful person. It was pure pleasure to communicate, arrange matters and have discussions with him. We had very interesting conversations, trips and walks with him when we met (for instance, in Frankfurt am Main and the Taunus nearby, in the villa where he lived with Renate in Prieros and at other places, also in Estonia)! Unfortunately, we could not finish

many interesting discussions we had with Peter (for instance, about Nord Stream, etc. ...!?). We exchanged also greetings on Christmas and the New Year!

When Peter and Renate Hoss became older, they decided to sell their home in Prieros (where Peter had an excellent workroom in the cellar, supplied with many good tools, for the necessary works for the household, and he had a motorboat in the canal behind the building to take trips to local lakes, rivers and canals in the spare time – to fish and to enjoy nature) and lived again in Berlin from September 2018, this time in Biesdorf in the Eastern part of Berlin (Marzahn-Hellersdorf District of the city), not far from the Berlin Tierpark (not to be confused with the Berlin Zoo) and Baggersee Lake.

Professor Dr Peter Karl-Friedrich Hoss died after a brief severe illness in Berlin on 21.12.2018 and his funeral service for urn burial took place on 05.02.2019 in Berlin at the Biesdorf Cemetery of the city¹. His closest people who remained to mourn him were his wife Renate, sister Susanne, son Alexander and daughter Gerlinde.

Rest in peace, dear friend Peter!

In January–February, 2019
At Pirita-Kose in Tallinn, Estonia

With the best memories,
Long-term colleague and friend of Peter Hoss
Matti Raudjärv

¹ The undersigned unfortunately could not go to the funeral of Professor Dr. Peter Hoss as when the sad message was received, father Arved was in hospital in Tallinn in a severe condition where he died on 26.01.2019. The funeral of Arved Raudjärv took place in Ambla Church on 02.02.2019 and he was buried in the Ambla Cemetery. His 92-year-old wife Salme, son Matti and daughter Maarika, granddaughter Mari-Liis with her son and grandson Jarno and granddaughter Girli with their children remained to mourn him.