

Dr. Monika Hauser, founder of medica mondiale



Curriculum Vitae

Monika Hauser was born and brought up in Switzerland. Being of South Tyrolean descent, she is an Italian citizen. After receiving her Swiss graduation diploma, she studied medicine in Innsbruck, where she completed her doctorate in medicine in 1984. After obtaining a degree from the University of Bologna and acquiring her German medical license in 1988, she worked as an assistant doctor at the gynaecological clinic in Essen. In 1989 she completed her specialisation in gynaecology and then worked in private practice for a number of years, in Cologne as well as other locations.

From 1992 to 1994, Monika Hauser planned, set up and later served as head of Medica Zenica, a women's therapy centre, together with Bosnian women experts. In connection with these activities, medica mondiale gradually evolved.

For the next six years, Monika Hauser continued to further the development of medica mondiale in her capacity as a board member. At the same time, she returned to Zenica for several extended stays. In 1999, she initiated the project medica mondiale Kosova, involving numerous project visits to Albania and Kosova.

In 2000, Monika Hauser assumed the professional and political management of medica mondiale. In addition to founding medica mondiale as a professional and human rights organisation, Monika Hauser's most

important task is public relations and awareness raising. She regularly lectures at national and international congresses, presenting the work of medica mondiale to the general public and to professional panels.

She has been in charge of developing a model of vocational training leading to certification as a "Psychosocial Counsellor for Women" in Kosovo. Also, since 2002, Monika Hauser has been active as a trainer for the medica mondiale Qualification Programme for Afghan women doctors, nurses and midwives in Kabul.

Monika Hauser has received numerous esteemed awards for her work such as the Gustav-Heinemann Award, the Annette Barthelt Award and the Peter Beier Award of the German Lutheran Church, as well as the Rotary Award of Trentino, South Tyrol.

In 1993, she was named "Woman of the Year" by ARD Tagesthemen, an important German news broadcast. She turned down the German Federal Cross of Merit in protest against the Minister of the Interior's Resolution on the Repatriation of Bosnian Refugees in 1996. In 2008 she was awarded the Alternative Nobel Prize.

Monika Hauser is among the 1000 women selected as a member of the "1000 Women for Peace" initiative, which was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.