



## ***Bruno Kaufmann***

**Contact:** [kaufmann@iri-europe.org](mailto:kaufmann@iri-europe.org)

**Education:** Kaufmann is a trained political scientist, conflict researcher and journalist. He has a Masters degree in Social Sciences from the University of Gothenburg.

**Current and Previous Positions:** A Swiss and Swedish citizen born in the northern part of Switzerland, Bruno Kaufmann has worked with democracy, conflict and development issues since the mid-1980s. After a term with the Swiss Development NGO "Berne Declaration" he became the coordinator of a European citizens' network preparing a "transnational constitution with direct-democratic rights". Ten years later Kaufmann became the first director of the Initiative & Referendum Institute Europe, a non-partisan research and educational institute with headquarters at Marburg University (Germany).

Kaufmann has served as an expert for numerous national governments and international organizations including the European Union, the German Parliament, the Council of Europe and International IDEA, where he joined the expert team on "global direct democracy assessment" in 2004.

As a journalist Kaufmann worked at the Swiss Broadcasting Company, the daily "Tagesanzeiger" newspaper and the weekly "Die Weltwoche" before joining the special editorial team for international reform issues at "Die Zeit" in Hamburg in 1998. Since 2001 he has covered European and international affairs for the Swiss Broadcasting Company and has been a columnist on publications such as "Nordis", "OpenDemocracy", "Gazette" and "European Voice".

## **2. Curriculum Vitae**

### **Personal Details:**

Date and Place of Birth: 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1965, Aarau, Switzerland  
Marital Status: Married (Elisabeth Erlandsson Kaufmann, two daughters (born 1996 and 1998))  
Citizenships: Swiss and Swedish  
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### **Higher Education:**

- Matura (high school leaving exam), Type D (cantonal secondary school Zofingen/AG, Switzerland), 1986
- Studies in Political Science, Eastern European History and Nordic Languages at Zürich University, BA (1986-90)
- Studies in Conflict and Development Research and Political Science at Gothenburg University, MA (1991-1994)
- Postgraduate studies in transnational and global democracy issues at Cambridge and Hawaii Universities, PhD Cand. (1996-98)

### **Language skills:**

German, French, Italian, English, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish (Spanish).

### **Professional Experience:**

Assistant at the development NGO "Berne Declaration" in Zürich (1988-1990)  
Coordinator for the transnational citizens' network "For a European constitution with direct-democratic rights" (1991-2000)  
Executive Director at the Initiative & Referendum Institute Europe in Marburg (since 2001)

Journalist (trainee) at the regional daily newspaper "Der Landbote" in Wintherthur (1987)

Journalist at the magazine "Peace & Development" in Stockholm (1987-88)

Journalist (trainee) at Swiss National Radio, "Echo der Zeit" in Berne (1989)

Correspondent for Northern Europe at Swiss National Radio (1990-94), the daily "Tagesanzeiger" in Zürich (1994-1998) and the weekly "Die Weltwoche" in Zürich (2000-2003).

Member of the editorial team for international reform issues at the weekly "DIE ZEIT" in Hamburg (1998-2000).

### **Selected Expert Assignments:**

Invited expert to the German Constitutional Committee for the issue of participative democracy (1992/1993)

Co-founder and member of the permanent study group on the European constitution-making process (since 1995)

Invited expert and adviser to constitutional review processes in the state of California, the Cook Islands, Somaliland and Taiwan (since 1998).

External expert and adviser to the working group on "participative democracy" with the Convention on the Future of Europe in Brussels (2003/04).

Expert member in the working group on "direct democracy" within International IDEA in Stockholm (since 2004).

Invited expert and adviser to the Council of Europe working group on the "Future of Europe" (since 2004).

Ongoing assignments as International Expert Adviser to the ASEA, the Korea Democracy Foundation, the Green European Foundation, the European Commission and the Swedish Government on issues related to participative and direct democracy.

### **Selected publications (books only):**

- "Frieden mit Europa" (Peace with Europe), Realotopia (1990)
- "Transnationale Demokratie – Anstöße zu einem europäischen Verfassungsprozess", Realotopia (1995).
- "The Rostock Process. 1991-2004: On the Way to More Direct Democracy in Europe". Geschichtswerkstatt Rostock (2001).
- "The European Referendum Challenge. IRI Report on the growing importance of the initiative and referendum process in the European integration process". Amsterdam (2002).
- "Transnational Democracy in the Making. IRI Europe Handbook 2004". Amsterdam (2003)

- Direct Democracy in Europe: A Comprehensive Reference Guide to the Initiative and Referendum Process in Europe. Carolina Academic Press (2004). Durham.
- The European Constitution – Bringing in the People. European Parliament, Brussels (2004).
- Guidebook to Direct Democracy – in Switzerland and beyond, 2009 Edition. IRI Europe, Brussels (2007).
- Initiative for Europe – your guide towards transnational democracy. Handbook 2008. Brussels (2007).