

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Kai W. Dierke

Founder . Advisor . Author

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Professional Positions

- 2003 DierkeHouben Leadership Advisors, Founder + CEO, Engelberg/ Switzerland
Lecturer on Leadership at international HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management
- 1999 Winterthur Insurance, Group Executive Board Member, Winterthur/ Switzerland
Credit Suisse E-Business, Executive Board Member, Zurich/ Switzerland
Winterthur Insurance Iberia, Supervisory Board Member, Barcelona/ Spain
- 1995 McKinsey & Company, Senior Manager, Financial Services, Berlin/ Germany

Philanthropic Engagement

Founder DierkeHouben Leadership Academy in Nairobi/ Kenya, partnering with Swiss NPO AIDUCATION

Professional Expertise (select)

M.I.T. Sloan School of Management, Cambridge MA/ USA, The Neuroscience of Leadership
INSEAD, Fontainebleau/ France, Psychodynamic Consultant + Coach for Change/ Clinical Psychology
Harvard University, Cambridge MA/ USA, The Art and Practice of Adaptive Leadership
The CORE Leadership Institute, Harvard/ USA, Leading from Purpose
Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute, San Francisco/ USA, Mindful Leadership
M.I.T., Cambridge MA/ USA, Systemic Foundations of Leadership
Tavistock Institute, London/ UK, Group Dynamics

Kai Dierke is a Leadership Advisor on board level and Author – and he lectures Leadership at the international HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management. He is Co-Founder and Managing Partner of DierkeHouben Leadership Advisors, a Premier Leadership Coaching and Development Boutique for C-suite leaders and top talents stepping up to highest leadership roles. Knowing the board room from within, Kai is a trusted advisor and sparring partner (working in German and English) asked to step in for enhancing top team collaboration and leadership effectiveness, CEO on-boarding, and executive coaching. Anke Houben and Kai are authors of the highly recognized books: “Die 7 Mythen der Führung. Ein Neuanfang” (2021) and “Gemeinsame Spitze. Wie Führung im Top-Team gelingt” (2013), Campus. Since 2022, they run their own podcast on leadership with more than 10.000 followers: “Dierke & Houben. Der Führungs-Podcast”. Kai publishes regularly on leadership and holds memberships of international professional networks, such as SOL Society for Organizational Learning, ILA International Leadership Association, ALN Adaptive Leadership Network at Harvard University.

Kai is a “panoramic” senior professional: In his work he draws from 20+ years of business experience in international top management and strategy consulting as well as from profound professional expertise in systemic coaching, organisational psychodynamics and leadership practices. Business-driven and to the point, he offers thought-provoking perspectives by connecting leadership behaviour, team effectiveness, and his clients’ business performance. His clients in coaching and consultation on leadership, team performance and culture transformation are executives and teams on board level of Euro Stoxx 50/ Dax 40 companies – covering a broad range of sectors like financial services, telecommunications, technology, pharmaceuticals, medical engineering, retail, and consulting.

Prior to his professional career, he earned a PhD and a Masters degree in Social Sciences at Goettingen University/ Germany, focusing on International Relations, Sociology, International Law and Economics. In his PhD, he worked on War and Order in the Middle East. He was Research Assistant to Prof. Dr. Bassam Tibi and Lecturer at the Center for International Relations, Goettingen University, Associate at the Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, and Fellow at the American University in Cairo.