

"Together to create new growth"

"Social entrepreneurship & social economy: Developing a European ecosystem to unlock social innovation, growth and jobs"
Conference on 18 November 2011 - Brussels

Speaker: Felix OLDENBURG



CURRICULUM VITAE

Felix Oldenburg serves as **Europe Leader and Director Germany for Ashoka**, the world's first and foremost association of leading social entrepreneurs, with 3,000 Ashoka Fellows in 70 countries. Ashoka systematically selects social innovators with potential for large scale social impact, and supports them financially and with a network of business entrepreneurs. An entrepreneur himself at the interfaces of the social, business and political sectors, Felix has launched a number of national and international programs at Ashoka that accelerate the **spread and impact of social innovations**, establishing the organization as a Europe-wide community of social innovators and business leaders.

Before joining Ashoka, Felix started an online business and worked for management consulting firm McKinsey&Company in London. As director at a political consultancy, he pioneered citizen consultations for governments and foundations, including the European Citizens' Consultations in 27 countries. He speaks and publishes on **social entrepreneurship, citizen engagement, and corporate social responsibility**. He studied Philosophy at the universities of Bonn, Tübingen and Oxford and Policy Management in Washington DC (Georgetown).

ACCELERATING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS AND A COMPETITIVE SECTOR

Felix Oldenburg sees social entrepreneurship in a transition from a niche community in Europe to an inclusive yet competitive movement of citizen innovators - embedded in an ecosystem that helps the most powerful social solutions grow to their full impact potential, and that empowers everyone to be a changemaker. Recognizing that social sectors all too often end at national borders, he co-creates programs that connect the 300 leading European social entrepreneurs to new sources of support, builds bridges to business entrepreneurs, and advocates for policy and legal frameworks that enable societies to generate social solutions faster than new problems.

In addition, Felix publishes and speaks about key issues for the social entrepreneurship sector, most recently about the promise and risks of impact investing, the role of constructive journalism, and the globalization of the citizen sector. He has advised governments and other key stakeholders across Europe on social innovation strategies.