



ESKO AHO

Born 1954

Former Prime Minister of Finland

Master of Social Sciences

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Mr. Aho enjoyed a distinguished career in Finnish politics, including the post of Prime Minister from 1991 to 1995. Under his leadership, Finland joined the European Union. He was a Member of the Finnish Parliament for 20 years, from 1983 to 2003. He chaired the Centre Party from 1990 to 2002.

After his political career he served as President of the Finnish Innovation Fund SITRA from 2004 - 2008. From 2008 - 2012 he served as Executive Vice President for Corporate Relations and Responsibility at Nokia Corporation and was a member of its Executive Board. Furthermore, he served as elected member of the Executive Board at the International Chamber of Commerce 2013 - 2019. He acted as Chairman of the Board at ICC Executive Board Policy and Commissions Committee for four years. Furthermore he served as a Chairman of the Board of Cinia Oy from 2017 - 2023.

Currently Esko Aho is Chairman of the Board of China Office of Finnish Industries Oy. In February 2019 he was appointed to the JP Morgan Advisory Council for Europe, Middle East and Africa. Esko Aho is Strategic Advisor for European Forest Institute (EFI). In addition, he also is an advisor to several international and domestic companies and communities. Esko Aho's domestic and international activities are coordinated through his private consulting company Verbatum Oy.

Mr. Aho is an invited member of Club de Madrid, an independent organization of former heads of state and government dedicated to strengthening democracy.

Throughout his career, Mr. Aho has been active in the world of academia. In 2000 - 2001, Mr. Aho spent one year as a Fellow and adjunct lecturer at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and again from 2012 to 2014 Mr. Aho served as a senior fellow at Harvard University. In 2015 - 2022 Esko Aho served as an Executive in Residence at Aalto University, where he worked at the Department of Management Studies at the School of Business. Additionally, He is a member of the International Advisory Board, NTU Institute of Science and Technology for Humanity, Nanyang Technologia University, Singapore. Esko Aho holds honorary doctorate degrees from the University of Vaasa, Finland, and the University of Alberta, Canada.

In addition to business life, academia and politics Mr. Aho is a publisher and a writer. He has published more than a dozen books under Verbatum's label and written five books. His latest book "Finland's choices in the year 1992 - background and consequences" was published in the autumn 2022. Mr. Aho was awarded the Grand Cross of the White Rose of Finland in 1992 and the Grand Cross of the Order of the Cross of Liberty in 2003.

Esko Aho is married to Kirsti Aho and they have four children and nine grandchildren.