

Prof. Luzius Wildhaber was born on 18 October 1937 in magnificent Switzerland, Basel. Already in his early youth his all round scientific talent started coming to light. The professor was pursuing scientific goals at universities of Basel, Paris, Heidelberg, London, Yalle. Professor has always been bound to these temples of science by continuous bounds. In 1961 he received the title of Doctor of Laws at the University of Basel, later on he passed Bar Examination. In 1965 at Yale Law school he become Master of Laws, in 1968 – *Juris Scientiate Doctor*.

The life, scientific and pedagogical activities of prof. Luzius Wildhaber is connected to a great many of universities. Probably I will not be wrong to tell that it was Basel, where his talent blossomed. In 1989 –1990 he was Dean at the Faculty of law at University of Basel, which is one of the most prominent cultural and scientific centers of Europe, in 1990 – 1992 he was Rector designatus, 1992 – 1994 he rector and vice rector of university of Basel.

Administrative activities is only a segment amongst the abundance of other activities. Basically he has always been concentrated on scientific pedagogical field. In 1997 – 1998 he was professor of public international, Constitutional, comparative and administrative law at Basel University. Many of his students are, whom he has delivered lectures, are now outstanding lawyers in Switzerland, active participants of Legal and Political processes in Europe. Under his supervision a number of LLM and LLD works have been prepared and defended. One of preconditions of successful activities is the fact that the professor has mastered English, French, Italian as well as Latin and ancient Greek languages.

The volume of scientific works of professor reflects in the number of his works and research objects. He has published 9 books, 165 articles, was compiler and editor in chief of 8 other books. The range of topics is extremely wide. In the beginning of his activities he published a research on topic of State Power and Constitutional Issues from the point of view of international and comparative law. He also took part in preparation of Commentary of the federal Constitution of the Swiss Confederation, international Commentary on the European Convention of Human Rights, inquired into the issues of relation customary international law and municipal law in West Europe, issues of Election law, prepared and announced the final expert commission report on constitutional reform of Swiss federation.

Professor's public activities are also all round. It would be difficult to enumerate all basic sphere of his activities, therefore we will concentrate on the basic ones only.

He was and still is a member not only of Swiss institutions, but also a member of international organizations and public institutions active in foreign countries. In the beginning of his activities in 1973 – 1979 he was President of the board of Editors of the Swiss Yearbook of International Law, in 1979 – 1990 President of the Swiss Society of International Law, Co - editor of Austrian Journal of Public Law and Public and International Law, Member of the governing Board of Swiss Law Society. From 1991 professor is Associate of the Institute of international Law, Member of the Curatorium and the Scientific council of the institute Max – Planck for foreign Public law and international law.

Broad interests of the professor manifest themselves in other sphere of public activities. He still is Member of the Academia Europae, Member of the board of directors of the international institute of Comparative Linguistics in Monreal, Member of the board of Directors of the International Institute of Comparative Linguistic Law in Monreal, Member of the Governing Board of the Swiss Academy of Social sciences.

Having overviewed scientific and public activities of the professor we easily notice that he's always been close to protection of Human Rights and freedoms, consolidation of general humanistic and democratic values in politics and legal systems. During different periods he has expert of the Swiss government on European Convention human rights and fundamental freedoms, duchy of Lichtenstein and Swiss Parliament. From 1987 he is a member of

Austrian Institute of Human Rights. In 1992 – 1993 the professor worked in the group of legal experts on monitoring respect for human rights in non – member states of the Council of Europe. In 1991 – 1996 he was involved in various missions analysing how human rights are abided by in Bulgaria, Russia, the Ukraine, Belarus. In 1979 – 1987 he represented the Government of Switzerland in the European Court and Commission of Human Rights. The professor worked as a Canadian Federal Government expert on the question of the legality of unilateral secession of Quebec before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Scientific experience of the professor was employed in legal, practical activities. In 1975 –1988 he worked as a Judge at the Supreme Court of the principality of Liechtenstein, in 1989 – 1994 Judge at the Administrative tribunal of the Inter American Development Bank. From 1991 until 1998 the professor was elected Judge at The European Court of Human Rights. After reform of the commission Luzius Wildhaber was elected President of the European Court of Human Rights. From that moment onwards activities of the professor have always been linked to this Court, organization of its activities and improvement of its efficiency.

For his scientific and public activities in the sphere of Human rights professor gained international recognition – he holds Honorary doctorates of the Universities of Bratislava, Moldova, Bucarest and the Russian Academy of Sciences – institute of state law. In 1999 he received Marcel Benoist Prize of Switzerland.

To round off it can be once again confirmed that prof Luzius Wildhaber is an outstanding figure in the panorama of Modern legal science and democratic of Europe. Ideas of Humanistic ethics, which are spreading all over European countries, in Central and East Europe too, is that material and philosophical basis which enhances the belief, that political and legal culture of Europe will be based on anticipation and ideals of people.

The Law University of Lithuania, conferring the title *Docorem Honoris Causa* to prof Luzius Wildhaber, wants to wish the best of luck in working on enhancement of legality justice in Europe, spreading respect for human rights and freedoms, which can be described in one single concept - dignity of man.