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Daniela Eberhardt  
Anna-Lena Majkovic

# The Future of Leadership - An Explorative Study into Tomorrow's Leadership Challenges



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Epidemiological studies show that the prevalence of mental disorders is extremely high across the globe (World Health Organization, 2011). Moreover, and what is perhaps more concerning is the fact that, despite numerous existing evidence-based treatments for various mental disorders, more than half of those in need of specialized mental health services don't access it and/or do not have access to these treatments (Alonso et al., 2004c; Kohn, Saxena, Levav, & Saraceno, 2004; Wang et al., 2005). Thus, developing and disseminating accessible evidence-based protocols for various clinical conditions are key goals in mental health. This effort would nicely complement the efforts of the American Psychological Association (see Division 12's List of evidence-based treatments), National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (see NICE's Guidelines) and Cochrane Reviews (see Cochrane analyses of various clinical protocols) that identified evidence-based treatments for various clinical conditions, based on rigorous literature analyses. However, once identified, one needs a detailed published clinical protocol to deliver those treatments in research, clinical practice, and/or training (see David & Montgomery, 2011). Please submit your proposal to Series Editor Daniel David: [daniel.david@ubbcluj.ro](mailto:daniel.david@ubbcluj.ro).

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Daniela Eberhardt • Anna-Lena Majkovic

# The Future of Leadership – An Explorative Study into Tomorrow's Leadership Challenges

Daniela Eberhardt  
City of Zürich, Human Resources  
Management  
Zürich, Switzerland

Anna-Lena Majkovic  
ZHAW Zürich University of Applied  
Sciences, IAP Institute of Applied  
Sciences  
Zürich, Switzerland

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*The future of leadership depends on  
connecting people in different ways, in order  
to expand the collective area of thought and  
action.*  
*(Daniela Eberhardt)*



# **My Personal Motivation and Thank You**

To work with people, to lead them and the fortunes of an organization is versatile, enriching and at times demanding. Almost 30 years ago, at the beginning of my professional life, I was given the opportunity to provide in a team with leadership experts leadership trainings. Very soon my own expertise was enhanced by leadership consulting, applied leadership research, the conceptional design and implementation of management systems and processes and the education of students. In all of those years, I was able to experience in various leadership roles the day-to-day business of leadership and how to lead change processes. As is always the way with intensive experience and research: the more thoroughly you consider a topic, the more questions will arise. The realization of “Think Thank: The Future of Leadership” was a matter close to my heart. The exchange with experienced leadership experts from different industries and disciplines gave me the opportunity to reflect on the issue of “The Future of Leadership” and to gather new insights. The collected findings are summarized in a systematic way and made available to readers.

A warm thank you goes to all people who supported me and us in this work on the future of leadership. To be able to take time out from everyday life and to reflect with thought leaders, professionals and experts on the future of leadership is a privilege. This unique chance was given to me during a sabbatical, which I was able to take as the Director of Institute of Applied Sciences at Zürich University of Applied Sciences during the summer of 2013. I would like to thank Christoph Steinebach, the Director of the Department of Applied Psychology, for making this time out and sabbatical stay in San Francisco and surrounding, and consequently this explorative study on the future of leadership possible.

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Ajay Bam

Co-founder and CEO at Produk.me, Lecturer in Entrepreneurship and Innovation,  
Haas School of Business at University of California, Berkeley, Advisor at Padloc  
LLC

Ed Chaffin

President of IMPACT Group, Founder of the Uncommon Leadership Institute

Gioia Deucher

Leader of the new swissnex office, Brazil

Claus D. Eck

Former Deputy Director Institute of Applied Psychology, Zürich

Laura Erickson

Associate Director, Head of Finance and Operations at swissnex San Francisco

Sabine Erlenwein

Director Goethe-Institute, San Francisco

David Eu

President, InPhenix

Dr. Jeannie Kahwajy

CEO, Effective Interactions

Frederic Mauch

Founder, BioApply

Ken Mooyman

President, Hexagon Geosystems NAFTA

Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Pfeffer

Thomas D. Dee II Professor of Organizational Behavior, Graduate School of  
Business, Stanford University

T.M. Ravi

Co-founder, The Hive

Dr. Larry Robertson

Associate Dean, Leavey School of Business, Santa Clara University

Dr. Carole Robin

Director, Arbuckle Leadership Fellows Program, Graduate School of Business,  
Stanford University

Prof. Dr. Chris Sablinski

Associate Professor, Eberhardt School of Business, University of the Pacific

Prof. Dr. Edgar Schein

Society of Sloan Fellows Professor of Management Emeritus