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Klaus F. Zimmermann is Visiting Professor at the Economics Department of Princeton University; Co – Director of the Center for Population, Development and Labour Economics at UNU – MERIT, Maastricht; Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Population Economics; Honorary Professor at the Free University of Berlin, at Maastricht University and at the Renmin University of China, Beijing; Full Professor of Economics at Bonn University (on leave); Member of the Leopoldina, the German National Academy of Sciences, and of the Academia Europaea, the European Academy of Sciences, and Chair of its Section for Economics, Business and Management Sciences; Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research; and Fellow of the European Economic Association.

Among his previous positions have been: Visiting Professor and John F. Kennedy Memorial Policy Fellow at the Center for European Studies, Harvard University; Founding Director of the Institute for the Study of Labor; President of the German Institute for Economic Research; Professorships at University of Pennsylvania, Munich University, Kyoto University and Dartmouth College, among others. He has received the Distinguished John G. Diefenbaker Award 1998 of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Outstanding Contribution Award 2013 of the European Investment Bank.

His research covers applied economics, in particular the areas of labor, migration and development. He has written or edited 55 books, 160 papers in peer reviewed journals and 150 articles in collected volumes. He is committed to the diffusion of research to policy and society and evidence-based policymaking. He writes regularly in leading international media and advises governments and institutions.