

Wolfgang Schäuble on what we can learn from the crisis



Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble
Experiences on the Edge
[Grenzerfahrungen]
How a crisis can make us stronger

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Wolfgang Schäuble, born in 1942, is one of the most important German politicians of the past forty years. He has been a member of the German Bundestag since 1972, and leader of the CDU as well as the Christian Democrat faction in the Bundestag, and has spent three decades holding some of the most important offices of state, including head of the Federal Chancellery, Interior Minister and Finance Minister. In 2017 he became president of the German Bundestag.

The COVID crisis has questioned many things we take for granted. How important is it to protect lives, when it means infringing on our basic human rights? What does solidarity really mean, when the old are given special protection, while the young have to sacrifice their future? Whether it's the fight against climate change, the exploitation of scarce resources or the excesses of globalisation – many certainties are being called into question.

In this book, Wolfgang Schäuble explores the way the current crisis has thrown the limits of freedom into stark relief, and the challenges that we will have to face in crucial areas – from politics and economics, to identity and the European Union. He discusses what we can learn from the crisis with key figures including Rutger Bregman, Ralf Fücks, Ivan Krastev, Maja Göpel, Armin Nassehi, Sylvie Goulard and Diana Kinnert, and explains why this time of upheaval represents an opportunity for us to rethink some of what has been lost.