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Karen E. Wilson

Senior Fellow, Kauffman Foundation



Karen is a Senior Fellow at the Kauffman Foundation representing them in Europe, where she has been based for the past 12 years. In addition to the Kauffman Foundation, she also works with the Science, Technology and Industry Directorate at the OECD focusing on entrepreneurship policy.

She is the founder of GV Partners, a firm created in 2004 to work with start-ups as well as initiatives to facilitate the development of a broader entrepreneurial ecosystem, including in the areas of finance, policy and entrepreneurship education. Since starting GV Partners, Karen has worked with private sector firms, international organizations, foundations and universities. She has authored many papers on entrepreneurship and is a frequent speaker on the topic.

She currently is a Board Member and Advisor of the European Foundation for Entrepreneurship Research (EFER), a member of the European Advisory Board of Astia and serves on the European Leadership Council for Harvard Business School.

She received, with honors, a Bachelors of Science in Mathematics and Management from Carnegie Mellon University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.