



We would be happy to get to know something about your academic career and it would be nice if you could describe your academical work in a few words.

Born in 1942 in Verviers (Belgium), I obtained the diploma in mathematics (1964) and PhD in Science (1969) at the Université de Liège. Appointed associate professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain in 1970, I spent my academic life in this institution (professor in 1974, full professor in 1977,emeritus in 2008), teaching there mathematical analysis and differential equations.

I have been visiting professor in more than twenty universities in Europe, America, Asia and Australia. I authored or co-authored about 400 publications in analysis, nonlinear differential equations and functional analysis, history of mathematics, including some ten books. I was elected Fellow of several Academies, including the Académie Royale de Belgique (1986, president in 2002), the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences (1997) and the Accademia Toscana "La Colombaria" (2004).

I was made Doctor honoris causa of the University of Bucarest(2002), the Polytechnic University of Bucarest(2006) and the University of Granada (2008).

Among other awards, I have received the Humboldt Prize (1989), Bolzano Medal of Czech Academy (2002) and Schauder Medal of the Schauder Center in Poland (2013).

How do you see yourself in your role as a citizen of the EU?

During numerous travels and stays in almost all European countries, including at the time of the iron curtain, I always strongly felt, within local disparities and despite different languages, a great unity in culture, values and way of thinking. So I am very happy that all those countries are now part of the EU.

What is your personal opinion regarding the most important challenges and reasons regarding a participation in the European Union as a nation?

EU has been constructed mostly on industrial and economical bases. There remains much to do with respect to political, social and educational questions. In most decisions, economy is preferred to other aspects, and I strongly regret it.

What do you think about the importance of Alumni in terms of the cultural, academic and economical exchange?

Alumni connects people coming from many countries, with their resemblances and their differences, who have shared similar experiences. Comparing their reactions and their ideas is a great richness.