Friederike zu Sayn-Wittgenstein is a public health scientist and midwife. She obtained a dual Master of Science degree in Maternal and Child Health from the Harvard School of Public Health and in Primary Care Nursing from Simmons College. She holds a Master's degree in Public Health and a doctoral degree from the Harvard School of Public Health. She has the Chair in Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück, Germany, since 2000. For many years she has practiced as a midwife in various settings and as a public health consultant and midwife in development collaboration (Brazil, South-East Asia) as well as in the Safe Motherhood Programme of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva. Sayn-Wittgenstein leads a research programme on midwifery care concepts (e.g. midwifeled care) and their impact on women's and their young families' health. She pursues two areas of work: one, to build up research structures and programmes on research in midwifery); second, to establish midwifery education at the university level in Germany (www.familiengesundheitimlebnsverlauf.de). In 2008 she initiated Germany's first Bachelor of Science Programme in Midwifery, in Osnabrueck, and, respectively, the very first Chair in Midwifery Science in 2009. Since 2012 Sayn-Wittgenstein is a visting professor at the University Witten/ Herdecke and since 2014 at the University of Applied Sciences Bern, Switzerland. Since February 2015, Sayn-Wittgenstein is a member of the German National Science Council.