



**Stefanie Voss**

## **LIVING DIVERSITY: Succeeding Outside Your Comfort Zone**

Global keynote speaker and sailing circumnavigator Stefanie Voss knows from personal experience: With an ambitious voyage ahead, a wise skipper would never form a crew from people of the same background, education, and skill sets. For it is precisely the diversity of talents on board that determines a trip's success or failure.

But in many companies recruiting still follows the rule of "birds of a feather flock together". Indeed, today many companies have Diversity Managers, Diversity Criteria, Diversity Projects, and Diversity Campaigns to counter the status quo, but communication and leadership expert Stefanie Voss knows from experience that the mentality of "we've always done it this way!" cannot be so easily jettisoned.

For gender expert Stefanie Voss, diversity isn't purely a "women's issue", nor merely a short-lived trend soon to pass by. She is convinced that "diversity is first and foremost about breaking boundaries! We need to leave our comfort zones again and again in order to really live diversity. A diverse workforce brings many challenges: different languages, heritage, education, and temperaments, and these must be combined creatively. This requires strength, and the guts to leave the beaten path behind. This applies to any crew, be it in an office or on the high seas."

Business expert Stefanie Voss is convinced that this course will pay off. Flexibility, agility, the capacity to find a variety of answers to manifold questions; these are the offspring of a consistent commitment to diversity. And in turbulent times, these qualities are all the more critical to success.

In an empathic and humorous way, former DAX-company executive Stefanie Voss explains why it is profitable to "do something every day that at first sight seems disconcerting, maybe even really unpleasant." She invites us to experiment with breaking down the boundaries we find around us every day.

### **Contents of the presentation:**

- Scrapping the "We've always done it this way!" method
- Diversity is no magic potion, and we're not Harry Potter
- Pros and cons of a life in the comfort zone
- The future is here: diversity is no longer a trend
- Living in diversity means: "Do one thing every day that scares you"



## Stefanie Voss

Keynote Speaker – Leadership & Team Coach – Circumnavigator – Author

**\*\* business mind meets pirate soul \*\***



### Short Profile:

Stefanie Voss was recently introduced as "Ms. Blackbeard - the business woman with the pirate soul", a nickname that suits her well. She is an open-minded and audacious personality who consistently makes unusual decisions far from "what one should do". She went to the USA as an exchange student at the age of 16, moved to Argentina for her employer when she was 23 and became crew on a sailing yacht at age 25 to circumnavigate the globe. At the age of 31, she became department head in a DAX company with extensive budget and personnel responsibilities. After 15 years in her very successful corporate career, she changed course in 2009 and founded her own company. As a speaker and coach, she covers topics like leadership, VUCA, diversity, pirate strategy and agility. She works internationally for large corporations, SMEs, freelancers, and the social and public sector. This includes companies like Bosch, Fresenius, GEA, Merck, Paypal, Roche, Thyssenkrupp and many others. In 2023, she published her first book "THE PIRATE STRATEGY – Life without ifs and buts" in German at CAMPUS Publishers.

**Website:** [www.stefanie-voss.de](http://www.stefanie-voss.de)

**Book (in German only):** [www.piratenstrategie.de](http://www.piratenstrategie.de)

### Social Media Profiles:

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/stefanievoss>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/StefanieVoss>

### Keynote Languages:

German (mother tongue)

English (fluent without accent)

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