



H I G H L I G H T S

IN 2008, SEVERAL OUTSTANDING ACTIVITIES, EVENTS AND PROJECTS AGAIN TOOK PLACE – FAR TOO MANY TO DETAIL IN THESE PAGES. A SELECTION OF THE WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS THAT WERE COVERED IS PRESENTED HERE.



German Chancellor Angela Merkel and the chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Professor Bernhard Vogel, in conversation with the Belarusian opposition politician and leader of the For Freedom movement Alexander Milinkevich.

SECOND ANNUAL KAS SUMMER OPEN HOUSE

PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS WORLDWIDE!

That was the motto of the second annual Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Open House in Berlin on 17 September 2008. More than 2,000 visitors learned more about the foundation's multifaceted projects, and were encouraged to reflect on and discuss the challenges of securing human rights worldwide.

Already on 15 September, more than 100 young people gathered for a daylong student symposium and a creative discussion on the topic of human rights. In workshops, they produced short films, a photo-reportage and play, and developed an advertising campaign. For the first time, a training workshop for teachers took place. The night before the open house, a rapt audience watched the prize-winning documentary "The Last Just Man," the story of Canadian General Romeo Dallaire's experience during the Rwandan genocide. Dallaire, the commander of UN peacekeepers in Rwanda in 1994, pleaded vehemently but ultimately in vain for additional troops to protect the civilian population. Over a period of 100 days, he was unable to stop the brutal massacre of more than 800,000 people, most of them from the Tutsi minority. In the discussion that followed, Esther Mujawayo-Keiner – who lost her husband and several family members in the massacre – and others discussed the causes, history and consequences of the genocide, and the failure of the international community to intervene.

On 17 September the open house began with a discussion among renowned human rights advocates and representatives of international human rights organizations. Travelling to Berlin were the president of the Inter-American Court for Human Rights, jurist Cecilia Medina Quiroga; Josep Casadevall, a judge at the European Court of Human Rights; the president of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, Sanji Mmasenono Monageng; and Andi Matallata,

Indonesia's justice and human rights minister. These four guests also took part in a podium discussion, moderated by Günter Nooke, the German government's commissioner for human rights. A further guest was the Belarusian opposition politician Alexander Milinkevich, the director of the rights group "For Freedom" and winner of the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought. In his speech, Milinkevich clearly spoke in favour of European values and for the defence of human rights. "The concept of human rights will be the guiding light for societies in the process of change," he told the audience.

High point of the day was a speech by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, in which she addressed aspects of a value-driven foreign policy in a globalised world. In his introduction, KAS Chairman Professor Bernhard Vogel pointed out the discrepancy between the widespread recognition of the UN Declaration on Human Rights and serious deficits in the protection of human rights in many countries around the world. "Public support for human rights at the international level is one thing, but implementing them at home is another," he said in reference to the situation in Darfur, Iran, Myanmar and Belarus.

"An interest-driven foreign policy must also be a value-driven foreign policy," said the chancellor. She underscored the universal nature of human rights that all nations had to respect. The most important tool for spreading and ensuring human rights was dialogue, which had to be based upon solid values and a willingness to disagree.

Throughout the day, the principal departments of the foundation presented important aspects of their work to the public in the Academy and at the Café Konrad, placing a particular focus on the field of human rights.

The day ended with a garden party, at which more than 1,500 guests had an enjoyable evening thanks to the support from many sponsors.

Helmut Kohl,
Professor Bernhard Vogel
and Professor
Hans-Gert Pöttering.



VALUES MUST GUIDE OUR ACTIONS

THE COMMON GOOD IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

We all live in one world – a world that is changing, becoming ever more interconnected and growing closer together. How can the common good, the *bonum commune* of a society, be realised in this changing global environment so that everyone benefits equally? That question stood at the centre of an international symposium the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung held in Berlin on 15 February 2008 on the occasion of the 75th birthday of its chairman, Professor Bernhard Vogel.

Former chancellor Helmut Kohl opened the symposium and thanked chairman Vogel, whom he referred to as a “stroke of luck for politics,” for the long path they had jointly covered. Kohl said Vogel was a “passionate democrat, a German patriot and a European” who had worked hard for Franco-German reconciliation.

The President of the European Parliament Professor Hans-Gert Pöttering, the Archbishop of Dublin Diarmuid Martin and the former director general of the World Trade Organisation Peter Sutherland, stressed that political, church and business leaders believe realising the common good is especially relevant in an age of ever increasing globalisation. Government-backed social welfare systems are being weakened, while long established political, legal and religious values of the West face competing governance models. Where do globalisation and the common good intersect? Wolfgang Schürer, a professor at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland, posed this question at the outset of a panel called “Getting International Recognition for the Common Good.” The four speakers, political science professor Peter Molt, law professor Stefan Oeter, public policy professor Inge Moll and Member of Parliament Christian Ruck all addressed the importance of the common good in development cooperation, international law and in providing public goods for the world. The panellists agreed on one issue – globalisa-

tion could only succeed if a common societal goal is established and valued. Sufficiently powerful institutions are seen as essential to fulfil the promise of such a worldwide common good.

In her closing speech, Chancellor Angela Merkel said a value-led foreign policy must form the basis of global participation in politics. Democracy and the protection of human rights stand at the core of a value-centred global governance system. At the level of the nation state, the basic parameters of Germany’s governance framework are part of a successful societal model. We should therefore back this approach worldwide with an appropriate sense of self-confidence, the chancellor said. One challenge is that cooperation requires working with others than the Western partners. Instead, there is a need to adjust to different governance models and political approaches as countries that are not shaped by Western values, but have increasing economical and political clout and are gaining ground. We have to cooperate and form partnerships with states that have a different cultural history and that operate within other networks and under other regulatory mechanisms, she said. Developing a framework for global governance is an ambitious challenge that is difficult to execute. “If we take on these challenges then our lives and our politics will change,” said Merkel. “But this change cannot happen at the expense of our values. They will remain valid, but must be adapted to a different playing field.” If this were to succeed, then the huge opportunity that globalisation represents would be realised.

Following the international symposium, Professor Norbert Lammert, President of the German Bundestag, opened a festive reception for the chairman’s 75th birthday.



PASSIONATELY AUTHENTIC

Hanna Renate Laurien, the former education minister of Rhineland-Palatinate, education senator in Berlin and president of the Berlin parliament, decisively shaped four decades of German politics. She always let her Christian beliefs guide her actions. On the occasion of her 80th birthday the foundation held a symposium in April called "Christian understanding of values and political action." Federal Research Minister Annette Schavan, the president of the Central Committee of German Catholics (ZdK), Professor Hans Joachim Meyer, political science professor Heinrich Oberreuter and Georg Hefty of the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* newspaper participated in the discussion of value-based political activities at the KAS Academy. "Passionately authentic" was how ZDF Director Professor Markus Schächter described Laurien in his speech.



HISTORY AND MEMORY AFTER THE HOLOCAUST

"Memory is a living process." That idea shaped discussions at an international conference in November called "History and Memory after the Holocaust. 1938-1948-2008." It brought together researchers and artists at the Academy ahead of the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht. Lectures and performances addressed the varied issues surrounding the politics and aesthetics of memory. In his opening speech entitled "From the Ashes," former Israeli ambassador to Germany Avi Primor recalled the political processes connected to both 1938 and 1948. A group of young actors – accompanied by Veronica Jochum von Moltke at the piano – impressively staged the premiere of the play "Ark of Innocence" by Karin von Trotha. The piece addressed various dialectical aspects of history and memory.



LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

What challenges does Europe face in the 21st century? Some 250 former fellows of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung addressed this core issue at a one-day symposium during their annual conference from 22 to 25 May 2008 in Königswinter. Prominent officials took part in podium discussions about energy security, innovation, Europe's opportunities in the global competitive race and Islam – with interested alumni participating in lively discussions. Those attending elected Markus Zeitzen to be the alumni's new spokesman, while Michael Wolf was re-elected as the group's treasurer. A festive ball at Germany's federal guest house on the Petersberg in Königswinter near Bonn – as well as two concerts by the KAS Scholars' chamber orchestra – were among the high points of the successful alumni meeting.



POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN GEORGIA

Just weeks before the outbreak of war in the Caucasus, on 24 June, Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili was a guest of the Academy of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Berlin. In his lecture "Between Sovereignty and Integration – the Transformation and Development of Georgia since 1991," the president laid out a vision for the future of relations between Georgia and the European Union. The country had changed a great deal since the Rose Revolution of 2003 and was now built on democratic principles. "The radical reforms we implemented did not just change the economy or the structure of government but they transformed the entire political culture," Saakashvili said. Even if Georgia had no current plans to become a member of the EU, it did want to reach the stage that would be sufficient for it to become a candidate country.

Avi Primor, former Israeli ambassador to Germany, in the KAS Academy in Berlin on 22 April 2008



60 YEARS OF ISRAEL

A LONG-STANDING FRIENDSHIP

Israel celebrated the 60th anniversary of its founding in 2008, and the KAS joined in the festivities. The foundation presented a wide range of its German-Israeli activities on 8 May at the “market of possibilities” during the Israel Fest on Berlin’s Gendarmenmarkt. Employees from various departments of the foundation informed some 2,000 visitors by handing out information and talking with them.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung commemorated the founding of the state of Israel at the Academy on 22 April. Prominent speakers, such as the Israel’s former ambassador to Berlin, Avi Primor, the former state minister in the German Federal Chancellery, Hildegard Müller, and other German and Israeli guests discussed the past, present and future of the Jewish state under the motto “Shalom – 60 Years of Israel.” The event was jointly organised by the Central Committee of German Jews and the KAS. On the same day, a youth forum with more than 300 Berlin school pupils took place, during which the young people discussed German-Israeli relations and the Middle East conflict with experts from the German-Israeli Society, the American Jewish Committee, the coordination centre of German-Israeli youth exchange ConAct and the Israeli embassy.

In an exhibit held in Hamburg and Berlin developed to coincide the anniversary of Israel’s founding, the KAS presented the work it carried out in Israel as well as the many national and international projects it organised in collaboration with the Jewish community. A studio exhibition the Chancellor Adenauer House in Rhöndorf jointly developed with the foundation presented documents and pictures showing the difficult beginning of German-Israeli relations, as well as Adenauer’s personal contacts with Israel – especially with Israel’s first Prime Minister David Ben Gurion.

During the annual Jewish Cultural Days the professor of history Michael Wolffsohn and the former publisher of the Jerusalem Post, Ari Rath, discussed the important role the yekkes (a Yiddish term for Jews originating from Germany) played in the development of the state of Israel.

The KAS civic education offices held a speakers’ tour through 20 German cities. The event, featuring eight Israeli participants, helped students and others gain first-hand knowledge on politics, the economy and society in Israel, as well as the situation in the Middle East in general. A cultural highlight of the anniversary was the “Literature and Responsibility” event, held in the former plenary hall of the German Bundestag in Bonn, which the foundation organised with the Rheinischer Merkur newspaper. Former German federal minister Dorothee Wilms recalled the meeting between Adenauer and Ben Gurion at the beginning of the 1960’s, which provided the basis for Germany’s reconciliation with Israel, and for a dialogue between both nations. Robert Menasse read from his novel “Expulsion from Hell,” which covers the history of European Jewry in the 17th and the 20th centuries.

Israel’s Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni was a guest speaker at the anniversary celebration at the KAS Jerusalem office, held by the foundation and the Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs. Livni described the dual challenge facing her country today: ensuring the physical existence of Israel on the one hand, but also defending the values that Israel as a democracy stands for.

US-WAHLEN 2008

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE US PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN FOR EUROPE

The longest and most expensive presidential campaign in history was a popular subject for political experts. Even if not everything is transferable to Germany, the latest developments in the United States warrant a closer look. In May, the KAS invited 10 American campaign experts to the 6th International Conference for Political Communication to report on their insights from the primaries. The speakers presented the latest trends in microtargeting, online fundraising and negative campaigning, and, using Hillary Clinton as an example analysed the gender issue.

Towards the end of the campaign, the foundation organised a trip to Washington, D.C. and Ohio to observe the get-out-the-vote effort. At the centre of the Washington event stood Barack Obama's successful strategy to mobilise young and first-time voters with a combination of new technology and classic campaign methods.

Obama's election inspires hope that a revitalised trans-Atlantic partnership can address the many urgent international challenges. The list is long: the uncertain situation in Afghanistan, global climate change, the scarcity of strategically-important resources and Iran's push to acquire nuclear weapons and the relationship with China and Russia. Which is why the KAS invited a number of experts to a panel discussion in December 2008 to give their views on paths to an efficient multi-lateralism. Elmar Brok MEP, Patrick Child, head of cabinet of the EU commissioner for external relations, Slovakian Ambassador Ivan Korcok, Eckart von Klaeden MP and Jamie Fly of the US National Security Council discussed the matter with politicians, the business and scientific community, and the media. In the end stood the realisation that none of the global problems can be solved if the trans-Atlantic axis is broken. Increased European commitment and a more cooperative US government make one hope that the future can be shaped according to Western interests and values.



EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA: FILLING A PARTNERSHIP WITH LIFE

At a joint conference of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the CDU/CSU parliamentary group and the German Chambers of Industry and Commerce on 8 May 2008, Chancellor Angela Merkel called for filling the strategic partnership between Europe and Latin America with life. If cooperation was to succeed, Latin American countries had to combine their strengths and interests. The variety of political directions was so far hampering this ambition. With Asian countries increasingly interested in Latin America, Merkel underscored that "as long-time partners, we Europeans must work hard to remain important partners" for the continent.

The chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, Volker Kauder, called for Europeans to again invest more in the region. Given the opportunities a Social Market Economy provided especially to the poor, the chances of a positive development were good.

Anton Pfeifer, deputy chairman of the KAS, recalled the foundation's major contributions towards overcoming military dictatorships in Latin America. But it could not rest on its laurels. "Every generation has to be won over again for democracy."

Eckart von Klaeden, foreign policy spokesman of the CDU/CSU's parliamentary group, presented the group's Latin America strategy. "Because of demographic developments, the future will be shaped less by the Euro-Atlantic relationship," he said. "Which is why we need reliable partners so that our interests are taken into account – and we find these partners especially in Latin America." But Europe's influence there was potentially under threat, given that economically powerful partners such as China showed increasing interest in the continent. It behoved Germany to step up its presence in Latin America, whether in regards to foreign policy, economic and development policy, or cultural areas.

Soledad Alvear, Chilean senator and president of the Christian Democrat party (PDC), Germán Martínez, president of Mexico's National Action Party (PAN), and Benita Ferrero-Waldner, EU external affairs commissioner and European neighbourhood policy took part with inspiring talks (see picture above).