

THE DEPARTMENTS OF KAS
REFERENCE AND RESEARCH SERVICES/ARCHIVES
OF CHRISTIAN-DEMOCRATIC POLITICS

THE ARCHIVE ON THE INTERNET

HISTORICAL ARCHIVE

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS, LECTURES

CONTEMPORARY HISTORY ONLINE

PRESS DOCUMENTATION

MEDIA DOCUMENTATION

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

LIBRARY

The links in this PDF will take you to further and primarily German-language information from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

THE ARCHIVE ON THE INTERNET

The traditional responsibilities of the Reference and Research Services/Archives of Christian-Democratic Policy (WD/ACDP) include researching and securing archive material. In recent years, these responsibilities have expanded to include the need to provide essential information on the archives on the web or to make the archive itself available via the internet to people around the world. The ACDP has recently focused on these tasks, and makes material available from each of its divisions, in particular letters and documents, archived posters and its own publications.

The department also promotes research on Christian democracy. It secures essential source material, provides room for debate with websites on historic issues and its publications *Forschungen und Quellen zur Zeitgeschichte* (Research and Sources on Contemporary History) and the *Historisch-Politische Mitteilungen* (Historical-Political Information), and encourages research at the university level. The Reference and Research Services (WD) also include a library, and also provide press and media documentation services for the foundation's other departments as well as for outside users.

HISTORICAL ARCHIVE

The archive acquired a total of 300 linear metres of written material from the federal party, the CSU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag and from legislators and government officials. In 2011, the archive notably acquired the personal correspondence and files of former state premiers Roland Koch, Stefan Mappus and Christian Wulff. The personal papers of former German minister Christian Schwarz-Schilling add up to 43 linear metres. They include for example letters, notes and speeches which provide insight into his work as a state parliamentarian in Hesse and as postal services and telecommunications minister during the Kohl era. The papers are currently being evaluated as part of a study for the University of Giessen on the history of the dual broadcasting system.

Also in 2011, the archive secured the personal papers of long-time German Bundestag MP and chairman of its Sports Committee, Ferdinand Tillmann, as well as those of former justice minister of Schleswig-Holstein Karl Eduard Clausen and the former president of Lower Saxony's state parliament, Heinz Müller. From the eastern states of Germany, the files of the CDU in Brandenburg were added.

The WD is also continuing to collect the files of the federal party, the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the Bundestag, and documents belonging to them at the state and European levels. Among the 36 sets of new archival materials are the personal papers of former premier of the state of Baden-Württemberg, Hans Filbinger and the long-time head of the CDU in Lower Saxony, Wilfried Hasselmann. In 2011, users showed a particular interest in a biography of Hans Filbinger, documents about the Helmut Kohl era, especially those covering women's and family policy. Attention was also paid to research about Germany's domestic policies at the time of Adenauer and the history of state organisations of the CDU and state parliamentary groups in Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia.

In 2011, all in all, users accessed more than 3,400 items in the archive's reading room. The digital archive is also quickly taking shape with more than 3,400 items scanned and made available digitally.



The archive provided the public with an opportunity to look at some of its collections at the Day of the KAS in September 2011 in Berlin, when it put on an exhibit on Konrad Adenauer's 1954 trip to Greece and Turkey. Letters, travelogues and previously unknown photographs were on display.

The archive paid tribute to Gerhard Stoltenberg on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of his death with an extensive exhibit in the archive's reading room. Medals, photos, posters, personal notes and letters painted a comprehensive picture of his time as a state legislator and premier of Schleswig-Holstein, as finance and defence minister under Helmut Kohl, and as deputy chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

Secondary school and university students as well as contemporary history buffs were able to find out about the archive's work on-site. Guided tours of the repositories, the poster and picture archive, the press and media documentation office and the library completed the picture of how a modern public service organisation works.

CONFERENCES, EXHIBITS, LECTURES

WD organised a number of academic conferences. At the annual meeting of the Krone-Ellwanger-Kreis, Heiner Geissler spoke about the opportunities and risks of civic engagement in large-scale projects – following his experience as mediator in the "Stuttgart 21" railway station project. The media reported extensively on a symposium at the Petersberg outside Bonn on occasion of the 20th anniversary of the decision to move the German capital from Bonn to Berlin. The series "Conversations about the Kohl Era" held an [event in the former plenary building of the Bundesrat on the change in government in 1982/83](#). With these events, the KAS took the first step towards making documents available to the public on the sixteen years in office by the chancellor responsible for German reunification. A conference in Berlin in October laid the ground for an upcoming anthology *Deutsche Europapolitik Christlicher Demokraten 1945–2009* (European Policy of German Christian Democrats 1945–2009).

The travelling exhibit *Konrad Adenauer und die Europäische Integration* (Konrad Adenauer and European Integration) remains popular. It was shown in some eighty towns and cities around Germany in 2011. A further travelling exhibit, *Christlich-Soziale im DGB*, about the place for Christian social values in the German confederation of trade unions, was also well attended.

Employees of WD attended several national and international conferences in 2011, where they gave a number of presentations. They included the Archive Conference in Bremen, the annual conference of the *Fachgruppe 6* of the Association of German Archivists, the CDU's internet advisory group, and at a number of events held by the Civic Education and the European and International Cooperation departments of the KAS in Vienna and Rome.

CONTEMPORARY HISTORY ONLINE

The internet has turned into an essential tool for contemporary historical research. The KAS promotes making information available and sharing knowledge online. [On anniversaries of the birth or death of Christian democratic politicians](#), the archive paid tribute to the efforts of Helga Wex, Eugen Gerstenmaier, Alfred Müller-Armack, Elisabeth Schwarzhaupt, Eberhard Diepgen and Walter Hallstein. On the occasion of historic anniversaries, it recalled the founding of the European Coal and Steel Community, the nomination of Walter Wallmann as West Germany's first federal environment minister, the founding of the European People's Party and the building of the Berlin wall.



Key participants in the 1991 decision to move the capital from Bonn to Berlin: Wolfgang Clement, former premier of North-Rhine Westphalia, Hans Daniels, former mayor of Bonn and Eberhard Diepgen, long-time governing mayor of Berlin. The moderator of the event was Rolf Clement, editor-in-chief of German national radio Deutschlandfunk (from left to right).

The internet portals "Konrad Adenauer", "Helmut Kohl" and *Geschichte der CDU* (History of the CDU) are a treasure trove for researchers and for learning about efforts at civic education. Information is added regularly and the portals are updated on an ongoing basis. The user-friendly design appeals to a broad group of people, from new insights for the interested layperson and background texts for secondary and university students to documents for academic researchers. The documentation platforms are of particular interest to experts in the fields of history and political science who are carrying out digital research. The Adenauer portal alone provides some 770 documents, which range from articles and interviews to letters, lectures and speeches on national holidays. Since 2011, users can execute full text searches of the minutes of the *CDU's Executive Board* (1950-1973), published as volumes in the series *Forschungen und Quellen zur Zeitgeschichte* (Research and Sources of Contemporary History) and the *memoirs of Konrad Adenauer* (1945-1963). A further publication includes a *study on the membership and social structure of the CDU*, which – based on material from the KAS archives – was drawn up by the non-profit commission for the history of parliamentarism and political parties (*Kommission für Geschichte des Parlamentarismus und der politischen Parteien e.V.*). It is now available online for the first time.

PRESS DOCUMENTATION

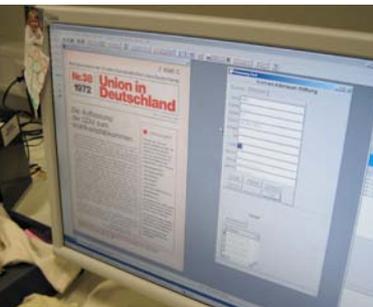


The *press documentation* office is a unique information centre with a wide range of sources. Every day, it provides services for politicians, educators and researchers to further historical and political understanding and promote people's identification with democracy. The documents also complement the library's repositories and the information contained in the historical archive and media archives on the history of Christian democracy in Germany and Europe. The collection focuses on political parties and intellectual life in Germany but it also provides information on all policy fields and an overview of events abroad. The specific makeup of the collection is what makes it unique. Every year the press documentation office obtains 100,000 new documents and provides about the same number of documents to researchers – which proves how up to date its work is.

The documentation services help all kinds of political analyses. The full collection of digitised documents dating back to 1944 is available either on demand or by request to all employees of the KAS. Students, along with academic researchers, also use the press and media documentation offices extensively for their work on contemporary history, thanks in part to its extensive collection. In 2011, a number of German professors along with researchers from Great Britain, Russia and the United States were all guests of the press documentation office. The documentation's KASNet (the foundation's intranet) service alerts all staff members to important publications. The press documentation office received more than 3,000 inquiries in 2011 alone, responding to questions, providing information dossiers and analogue and digital copies.

The press documentation office faced a particular challenge in its work on the activities by the foundation-wide working groups on the future of the people's parties, *Heimat* (homeland) and especially integration and social cohesion.

MEDIA DOCUMENTATION



The *media documentation* office includes the archive's entire range of audiovisual material – meaning video and audio archives, poster and picture archives and the TV documentation unit. This unit is responsible for recording and documenting selected opinions and analysis broadcast on radio, TV and increasingly carried by new media, and to make it all available to researchers. In 2011, these repositories added some 1,500 videocassettes and DVDs.

The **photo archive** includes a historically valuable collection of more than 200,000 photographs, of which more than 80,000 have already been digitised. The FAUST database includes a number of action pictures. The repositories of Konrad Adenauer and Ludwig Erhard are worth pointing out. The **poster archive** includes some 22,000 prints and slides which largely focus on the German party landscape after World War II. About two-thirds of these documents come directly from the CDU and its organisations. These posters are gradually being digitised – some 3,000 of them were scanned in 2011. The posters are a particularly valuable source of contemporary history which offers a variety of uses in research and academia. The goal remains to make all CDU posters available to the public via the internet.

The **video and audio archive** collects and documents recordings of CDU events and meetings of party committees, and also acts as an audio-visual repository for productions throughout the foundation. In 2011, the KAS began to archive all videos that have been uploaded to the KAS canal on YouTube.

The media documentation centre aims to make its collection available to as many users as possible, as long as it is legally and technically feasible. In August, for instance, the KAS carried out a pilot project, providing nearly 120 posters and pictures via Wikimedia Germany and the internet.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

In its 18th year of publication, the *Historisch-Politische Mitteilungen* (Historical-Political Information), the ACDP's magazine on academic research, addressed a number of issues concerning contemporary history. These included talks given on the occasion of Gerhard Schröder's 100th birthday in 2010, reports on the CDU's first national party congress in Goslar, the policies of the CDU in the state of Saxony on German expelled persons and merging the CDU parties in east and west Germany in 1990. Biographical essays on Josef Rommerskirchen, the chairman of the German Catholic Youth League, and CDU politician Helga Wex completed this edition. The magazine's layout has been redone and it is now published in hardcover. To help make the magazine more accessible to everyone, the WD department in 2011 published all seventeen previous volumes on the internet, and everything is available for free download.

The series *Forschungen und Quellen zur Zeitgeschichte* published a study by **Ingrid Jander on the persecution of the CDU and churches in the state of Brandenburg**, and issued a compendium of a conference on the 60th anniversary of the Charter of German Expellees, with the title *Zeichen der Menschlichkeit und des Willens zur Versöhnung* (Signs of Humanity and the Will toward Reconciliation). WD also presented a study on the history of the CDU's environmental policy, and presented it at a KAS alumni conference in Seoul.

LIBRARY

The **library** provides a wide range of sources, documentations, video and audio depictions and analyses to help with academic research and civic education efforts. The more than 180,000 items are available via the **online catalogue (OPAC)**, which includes a growing number of digital publications.

As part of its special projects in 2011, the library catalogued a number of the foundation's early social science studies from the 1960s and 1970s, and prepared the launch of the **Union press services (Union-Pressedienst, UiD)** online. With the digitisation of the years 1949-2006, more than 66,000 pages are now researchable online via the CDU portal. They include reports on political activities at the federal and state levels, along with information on guiding principles, campaign platforms and coalition agreements. The UiD also provides information on campaign advertising and events as well as election results, to help to comprehensively analyse electoral campaigns.



In order to improve access to information about the CDU/CSU, the library has also registered several of their press services and magazines of some party associations with Germany's magazine database (*Zeitschriftendatenbank, ZDB*). Occasionally rare and unique items in the German library system have now become part of a nationwide catalogue.

Library research focused on religious issues, climate change, integration issues and the future of the mass parties – giving it a supporting role in the foundation's activities and the books and publications issued by the KAS. The library also received a total of 23,000 requests to check out books from every area of the foundation.

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