

KAS INTERNATIONAL

INFORMATION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DEPARTMENT



DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT:

Dr. Franz Schoser, treasurer of the KAS, presents the Konrad Adenauer Medal to Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan of the United Arab Emirates.



HUMAN RIGHTS:

On 13 February 2009, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung officially opened its office in Rome with a symposium on human rights and human dignity in the context of globalisation.



MEDIA:

The long-time director of the Media Programme in Asia, Werner vom Busch, retires. In KAS International he says farewell in an interview.



POLITICAL DIALOGUE:

Colombian president
Alvaro Uribe met
representatives of the
KAS as part of his
state visit to Germany
to exchange political
views.

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New Publications

THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS - RESPONSES FROM THE EU AND CHINA

The Shanghai office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung held the 8th annual international WTO Forum in China's economic capital.

China has increasingly taken centre stage since the 2007 real estate crisis in the US ballooned into an international financial and economic crisis. While some experts assume that China can introduce decisive measures that will help re-establish a global economic equilibrium, others fear for the country's domestic political stability. The Chinese communist party is concerned first and foremost about the sinking demand abroad for Chinese products - which has hit the export-oriented and labour-intensive industries such as textiles and toys particularly hard. Even though goods produced in China only make up a scant five percent of the country's GDP, this negative growth brings an enormous danger of unrest with it. More and more people are finding themselves standing in front of locked factory gates in the country's economic centres. The number of unemployed migrant



For the 8th time the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung invited national and international experts to the annual KAS-SIFT WTO Forum in Shanghai.

workers has risen to an estimated 40 million, while the number of jobless urban workers is likely substantially higher than the official figure of eight million.

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DEAR READERS,



The worldwide crisis in the financial markets and the evident failure of cross-border regulatory mechanisms have once again raised the issue of global governance. The crisis hit a nerve centre of our globally integrated system, and the worldwide consequences clearly show that only a global approach to policy that comprehensively integrates regional solutions can effectively battle crises.

But the call for increased and coordinated international cooperation goes beyond the financial markets. The question of global governance takes

the basic nature of existing international structures and approaches to regulatory mechanisms into account. On a national level, governance is based upon closely integrating political, economic and social systems. Policies that respect this approach provide a sustainable and stable framework within which each actor plays their role.

National governance systems have changed in the era of globalisation. In part they appear to be substantially weakened; the state's capability to assert itself is reduced. The world is shrinking – politics, economies and societies are moving closer together. These facts require an international governance system. This call is closely linked to the concept of social market economy, encompassing a free market with a strong regulatory framework at its core. Likewise at the global level, solidarity and freedom must be combined in such a way that takes the common good into account.

There is more to the issue of global governance than political and economic structures. A necessary question is which fundamental values form the basis for countries to cooperate and engage internationally. Which guiding principles should apply to the economy and the financial world in the future? Which values should shape the world that we want to live in? What concepts should guide international cooperation? The social market economy is more than an economic model: it provides the very foundation of our social system. The human being stands at its centre – this basic tenet is where politics, the economy and society must jointly begin their efforts.

International allies are needed if our social system – which is based upon a successful social market economy – is to be maintained over the long term. A national economy in the traditional sense no longer exists. The financial crisis has made this more than clear. In a globalising world it becomes more important that other countries support the pivotal notions of global governance and the values behind them. Only if such partners can be found will it be possible to secure prosperity and economic well-being and political stability. That is why the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung engages on a worldwide level in further developing global governance in dialogue with emerging and developing nations. Global dialogue and cooperation based on trust are needed more than ever. That means we must make our own contribution to this process.

Berlin, March 2009



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Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

Dr. Gerhard Wahlers | Deputy Secretary-General of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



Wu Jianmin, member of the 10th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and ambassador of China to France (retired) during his lecture "China in the process of Integration into the Global Economy"

FOCUS

THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS RESPONSES FROM THE EU AND CHINA

Continued from Page 1 ▶

According to experts, only eight percent of economic growth a year can support the rapid expansion of the worker pool - which includes 15 million university graduates every year. The possibility that those affected by the economic slowdown will form a strategic alliance - and that unrest will break out - is becoming more realistic in the current circumstances. The €465 billion stimulus package the Chinese government has announced is supposed to balance out the drop in demand for exports and strengthen economic activity at home. It also foresees investments in road, rail and airport construction along with boosting the health and education systems. The Chinese Central Bank also repeatedly lowered interest rates to prevent a further fall in the formerly dynamic economy, and it loosened restrictions on capital reserves for small- and mediumsized financial institutions. The international community thinks that China is obligated to take on additional responsibility on a global level.

In view of current events, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Shanghai Institute of Foreign Trade held the 8th WTO Forum in November 2008. The forum addressed reactions from the EU and China to global turmoil in the financial markets and expectations in Asia's rising economic power. With more than 700 participants, the conference probably was the largest event by a non-governmental organisation in Shanghai last year. Chinese experts in particular warned of the communist party's reduced ability to act - which in turn could cause social flashpoints. In principle, all presenters welcomed the rescue package proposed by the Chinese government last year, but predicted very different scenarios for the future and offered different solutions. They agreed that the only way to address concerns over global stagnation and recession was through jointly developed concrete measures. But they said the West should abandon its mounting expectations that China could - and want to free the international community from the troubles of the financial crisis. The positive feedback from participants and the reaction from the media confirmed the success. of the event and underscored the established role the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung plays in holding international events in China.



The president of the Central African Republic, Paul Apevon; the coordinator of the recently established UPADD West Africa, Athanase Boudo; the director of the KAS Regional Program in West Africa, David Robert; the vice president of the CAR, Ouro-Bossi Tchacondoh (from left).

THE EFFECTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CRISIS ON WEST AFRICA

Young party members discuss opportunities and challenges of the social market economy

At the end of 2008, young party activists from UPADD, an alliance of democratically oriented centre parties in Sub-Saharan Africa, met in Lomé on invitation of the KAS. Their goal was to discuss the repercussions of the international financial crisis for the West African currency union. Both experts and participants agreed that the current crisis provided an opportunity to apply the basic tenets of the social market economy in West African countries. Economic issues rarely enter into

political discussions in West Africa. But politicians should have sufficient economic skills, given the region's difficult economic situation to begin with. The effects of the financial crisis will likely be limited because West Africa is only weakly connected to the global financial system. However many countries are dependent on the export of commodities, and a drop in their prices on the world market could lead to lower economic growth. One can also expect a fall in the flow of capital and development aid from the industrialised countries to West Africa.

The international financial crisis has now also hit emerging nations frontally and calls for a new approach of global governance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ORDER



GROWTH AND RESPONSIBILITY

THE POSITIONING OF EMERGING COUNTRIES IN THE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

For some time, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's international cooperation efforts have taken up the integration of large emerging countries within a system of global governance. In mid-February 2009, an international conference took place in Berlin that addressed the role the large emerging nations Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa, known as the G5 countries, play within the structures of global governance.

Bernd Pfaffenbach, State Secretary in the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology and a G8 sherpa, opened the conference. He highlighted the Heiligendamm Process of dialogue between G8 and G5 nations that Chancellor Angela Merkel initiated in 2007, and how important it was to coordinate policy

on a global level. The international financial crisis and the global recession have underscored the importance of such increased cooperation. Scholars and political representatives from G5 countries - among them the member of the Indian parliament, Sachin Pilot, the Indian ambassador to Germany, Meera Shankar and Brazil's former ambassador to the US, Germany and China, Roberto Abdenur - held intense discussions on the role G5 states play in international organisations and informal bodies. They stressed the need for integration between and cooperation among industrialised and emerging countries. Participants said such a discussion would have been far more controversial if it had taken place just a few years ago, which underscores the change in attitude towards the role of these important countries.



GROWTH AND RESPONSIBILITY

A Adenauer Stoffung

The publication "Growth and Responsibility - The Positioning of Emerging Powers in the Global Governance System" includes reports and analysis from the G5 countries Brazil. China, India, Mexico and South Africa on how emerging countries are positioning themselves in the structures of alobal governance. To obtain a copy, e-mail publikationen@ kas.de.

INDIAN PERSPECTIVES ON THE FINANCIAL CRISIS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ANALYSES POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

Indians have high expectations for the G20 global economic summit in London in April 2009. Indian economists hope the summit will send clear signals. Among the items on their wish list is regulation of the international financial markets, along with structural changes to how the world economy is governed in general. This is their approach to solving the crisis, which by now has hit India in full force.

Experts from India, Germany and Japan gathered in February 2009 at an international conference in New Delhi that the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organised along with the Indian economic think tank ICRIER. Their objective was to discuss possible lessons and ways out from the current financial and economic crisis. India's financial sector is only partially privatised. Banks there are not as caught up in speculative deals as they

are in other parts of the world. But its service sector – which was partly responsible for India's economic growth – is



severely hurting because of the falling demand from Europe and the US. There was a general agreement that any solution to the crisis required a globally effective concept that ensured individual countries enough leeway to implement their own solutions. Liberal economic markets need to be defended, but some of those areas at the epicentre of the crisis also need stricter regulation and oversight. Among those are the banking sector, the insurance industry and the ratings agencies.

The way out of the financial crisis is through stronger regulation of the banking sector a view shared by (from left) Rajiv Kumar of the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Bernd Mützelburg, Germany's ambassador to India and Ashok Chawla of the Indian Ministry of Finance.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ORDER

COURSE ON A SOCIAL AND

Personal responsibility, solidarity and subsidiarity - 25 participants from 12 Latin American countries discussed those three fundamental principles during a diplomados titled "Social and Environmental Market Economy." The course, which took place in January 2009, was organised by the KAS Chile office in cooperation with the Universidad Miguel de Cervantes in

Santiago de Chile. High-profile business and political experts from Chile took part in the sessions, among them Economics Minister Hugo Lavados Montes, Finance Minister Andrés Velasco Brañes, Mauricio Jelvez Maturana, the State Secretary in the Labour and Social Affairs Ministry and the former president of the Chilean Central Bank, Roberto Zahler. Beyond learning about the theories of the social market economy, participants also had a chance to hear about their practical application and bring themselves up to date on the current challenges of the international financial crisis. The high point of the course was a meeting with the former



Winfried Jung (right), the KAS representative to Chile, presents a participant with his diploma.

president, Don Patricio Aylwin Azocar, who described Chile's difficult transition to democracy at the end of the 1980s, highlighting the contributions Chilean Christian Democrats made to the process of political consolidation.

"TOURS" THE ARAB WORLD

SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY

The concept of social market economy is becoming increasingly popular in the Arab world. When the new translation into Arabic of the dictionary of the social market economy was introduced in Cairo and Ramallah, some 200 attendees from politics, business and the media showed a keen interest in the model, in view of the current financial crisis. When the book was presented in Cairo, the co-author of the dictionary, Professor Nils Goldschmidt described the social market economy as a "free-wheeling game with clear-cut rules," in an allusion to Ludwig Erhard. In Ramallah, Professor Marcus Marktanner from the American University in Beirut referred



From left: Dr. Andreas Jacobs, representative of the KAS to Egypt; Professor Nils Goldschmidt, Universität der Bundeswehr Munich and Walter Eucken Institut Freiburg; Professor Ismail Osman, vice president of the Osman Group, Cairo; Ibrahim Fawzy, former minister of industry; and Michael Däumer, representative of the KAS to Jordan.

to the global financial crisis by saying that one of the reasons for the problems was that many countries had not developed the regulatory framework necessary to support the rise of competition, as required by the principles of a social market economy. Expensive bailouts of banks and corporations could be prevented in the future with a return to the governance principles of a social market economy. The KAS office in Amman has made the topic of social market economy the dominant topic of its development work in 2009. The KAS is promoting the concept of prosperity for everyone with several events in Lebanon and Jordan, along with a forum to support the development of new competition laws for Jordan.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE GULF REGION

Left: Mohamed Rashed Al Hameli. director general of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry and member of the board of the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung will expand its activities in the Gulf region when it opens a new office in Abu Dhabi in June 2009. Ahead of the opening, the KAS conducted a conference on corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the United Arab Emirates. Conference partners were the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development and





In the face of rising investments and the need for a sustainable structure of development, the Gulf region needs to urgently tackle the question of social

the German Foreign

Trade Office in Dubai.

responsibility. The first signs of the concept of CSR are now identifiable in the region. Questions about CSR and possibilities for concrete action were identified and debated at the Abu Dhabi conference.



Development, gave the introductory talk at the conference. Centre and right: The German ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Klaus-Peter Brandes, and Peter Göpfrich, director of the German Foreign Trade Office in Dubai stressed the aood timina of the conference in their addresses.

Promoting democracy and the rule of law are among the most important goals of the foundation's international work.

RULE OF LAW



SIXTH KAS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL LAW

The KAS devoted its 6th International Law Conference to two of the most important goals of bilateral and multilateral development cooperation, namely democracy and the rule of law. The conference took place on 19 and 20 November 2008 on the Petersberg near Bonn.

The general framework for development has changed substantially in recent years, now that the euphoria about democracy has disappeared in many countries. In some areas such as China, most North African countries and in the Near and Middle East, democratic reform has gotten underway in only a limited fashion – or reforms have not occurred at all. In Central Asia as well as in some Latin American countries the realisation of democratic and political rights is beset by obvious setbacks.

Against this backdrop, a discussion has begun anew on the need to balance support for democracy with support for the rule of law. The question that is especially being raised is whether the introduction of or support for the rule of law in developing countries

should occur before democratisation – meaning that the rule of law is an essential precondition for democracy but that democracy is not a precondition for the rule of law. Or is there some compelling links between the rule of law and democracy that make them interdependent of each other - meaning that neither of these ideals is achievable on its own?

On the basis of a comprehensive survey commissioned by the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law in Heidelberg, nine experts from the KAS rule-of-law programmes worldwide drew up well-researched country reports from Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe on the questions posed above. These reports were then introduced and discussed at the conference. They are available (in German) at http://www.kas.de/wf/de/33.15679.

The conference opened with a greeting by the Deputy Secretary-General of the KAS, Dr. Gerhard Wahlers, as well as a lecture by the foreign policy spokesman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, Eckart von Klaeden MP.

from left: Associate Professor Rainer Grote, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelbera: Prof. Andres Bautista, Dean, Institute of Law, Far Eastern University, Manila; Prof. Jesús Casal, Dean of the School of Law, Andrés Bello Catholic University, Caracas, Dr. Jan Woischnik, coordinator of the ruleof-law programme, KAS; Prof. Abdul-Monem Al-Mashat. Cairo University.

ASIAN CONSTITUTIONAL COURT JUDGE ASSOCIATION TO BE FOUNDED SOON

The rule-of-law programme of the KAS in Asia holds a conference every year to which it invites constitutional court judges from across the region. The president of the European Conference of Constitutional Courts, Egidijus Küris who is also president of the Lithuanian Constitutional Court, has attended the gathering several times.

The judges agreed to found an association of Asian constitutional courts. At their latest meeting in Seoul they underscored this intention by drawing up a memorandum signed by four courts and forming a preparatory committee, which will draft the statutes for the future organisation as well as recruit other courts to join the association in the future. The South Korean

Supreme Court judge Dong-Heub Lee was elected unanimously to lead this working group. After thorough preparations and extraordinary dedication by the Korean court and Judge Lee himself, the committee had unanimously drafted the statutes - with just

a few aspects still left to be worked out. The remaining issues - a per-

manent secretariat and funding the association - are to be decided at a committee meeting mid-May. The association of Asian constitutional courts will officially be founded at the next KAS conference of constitutional court judges in Ulan Bator in September 2009.



Members of the preparatory committee at the South Korean Supreme Court.



RULE OF LAW

Vilma Cecilia Morales Montalbán, president of the Supreme Court of Justice of Honduras, gives a speech. Sitting (from left): Rudolf Huber, director of the rule-of-law programme in Latin America; Sandra Cueva de Hernández, governor of the department of Cortés (San Pedro Sula); Carlos Alberto Gómez Moreno, chairman of the constitutional branch of the Supreme Court of Justice of Honduras.

CONSTITUTIONAL JURISDICTION CAUGHT BETWEEN LAW AND POLITICS

In October 2008, the rule-of-law programme in Latin America invited representatives of Latin American constitutional courts to a conference of experts. The gathering in the Honduran city of San Pedro Sula marked the 15th meeting of constitutional judges and scholars in constitutional law, representing 15 countries.

The motto of the conference was "political challenges for constitutional jurisdiction", where experts debated various aspects on the tension between constitutional jurisdiction and politics. Constitutional courts enjoy a prominent position as the court of last resort on constitutional issues; their decisions are binding for the executive and legislative branches. But as a result, political forces are constantly trying to influence the constitutional courts and their decisions. Constitutional judges however also wield great political influence since they can overturn legislation and executive decisions. In these cases they are often called upon to decide how extensively they can intervene in the discretionary area of responsibility of legislative or executive powers.

The national political and constitutional reforms, which in recent years have led to a complete reorgan-

isation of the state apparatus in some South American countries, are seen as the biggest political challenge for constitutional jurisdiction. This trend has frequently cost the constitutional courts some of their independence, as José Antonio Rivera Santivañez, a former Bolivian constitutional judge, explained. He used the example of recent developments in Bolivia that have led to a de facto dissolution of the Constitutional Court. Under extreme pressure from the government, he himself had to resign. Among other issues, Santivañez had been rapporteur in a case against a civil servant who was convicted for actions the government later deemed punishable, in violation of the principle of non-retroactivity. Since the Bolivian Constitutional Court had proclaimed the law on which the case was based unconstitutional, prosecutors went after the constitutional judges themselves. To this day, charges on perversion of the law are still pending against the former judges.

A constitution acquires strength through consistency, the Berlin professor of constitutional law and former minister Rupert Scholz pointed out. Instrumentalising the constitution for short-term political goals would doubtless result in political instability, with all the consequences of a legal vacuum. This is particularly the case in Latin American countries that regularly give themselves new constitutions. Thus the most important goal of the rule of law program is to help establish a culture that values constitutional law, for which independent constitutional jurisdiction is essential. The 16th Latin American meeting of constitutional judges will take place in 2009 in the Colombian city of Cartagena de Indias.

More information is available at:

http://www.kas.de/proj/home/events/14/4/year-2008/month-10/veranstaltung_id-31237/index.html

+ + + IN BRIEF + + +

Honouring Colombo Campbell

Professor Rupert Scholz, in his function as KAS trustee, honoured the president of the Supreme Court of Chile, Juan Colombo Campbell with the Konrad-Adenauer Medal, thanking him for his many years of



cooperation with the rule-of-law programme of the KAS in Latin America. Campbell has performed a great service as a unifying force and valuable partner during 15 conferences of constitutional court judges so far, not least when he played host to the 10th such meeting of judges in Chile in 2003.

MEDIA





Left: Vom Busch speaks with members of the ANN board and the managing director of dpa. Michael Segbers.

Right: Werner vom Busch taking part in a workshop for journalists.

"A FUNCTIONING DEMOCRACY REQUIRES FREE AND INDEPENDENT MEDIA."

Werner vom Busch, director of the KAS Media Programme in Asia, retired on 1 April 2009. Already three decades ago he began promoting media issues for the KAS. Vom Busch was on assignment in Papua New-Guinea and Fiji beginning in 1980. After returning to Germany, he worked as section editor and editor-in-chief of several newspapers, among them Die Welt. Since 2003 he has headed the Media Programme Asia, headquartered in Singapore.

How did the KAS go about promoting the media some 30 years ago?

Media promotion was not a systematic affair at the outset of the 1980s as it is today. A local publisher wanted to put out a newspaper in English in Papua New-Guinea. With the assistance of the KAS, the Times of Papua-New Guinea became the country's first weekly newspaper that was not foreign-owned. I was also mostly involved in the training and continuing education of young colleagues. In Fiji I worked as a lecturer for the association of journalists and for the University of the South Pacific in Suva.

Do you know what became of those projects?

The Times of Papua-New Guinea became a daily newspaper after a few years; in 1989, it was recognised as the "Best Newspaper in the South Pacific." Today it is published under a different name. When the KAS closed its office in Fiji in 1995, local instructors took over the journalism-training programme.

What difference is there between the programmes then and now? What hasn't changed?

The big difference lies in the systematic approach. Today the KAS runs media programmes in Southeast Europe, Asia, Latin America and in Sub-Saharan Africa - back there only a few scattered media projects existed. While we ran the *Times of Papua-New* Guinea as part of a partnership, the KAS currently has drawn up its own measures. That increases the profile of the KAS. Our goal has continuously remained the same: then as now, we have always been convinced that a functioning democracy requires a free and independent media.

What is the focus of the Media Programme Asia today?

I'll mention only three of them: firstly, the Asian News Network (ANN). This is a news pool, which 20 newspapers from across Asia belong to. They exchange up to 100 reports with each other a day. I'm involved as an advisor to the board. The ANN board appointed me a lifelong advisory in 2008, a great honour that makes me very happy. Secondly there is the Konrad Adenauer Asian Centre for Journalism in Manila, a partner project that works on training journalists in the region. The MA programme in journalism is groundbreaking: this is an online academic programme in which working journalists can acquire a Masters degree within two years. Third is the Asian European Editors Forum, where leading Asian and European journalists meet to exchange views on current political questions concerning both continents.

Which of your projects makes you feel particularly proud?

I am really proud of ANN and the evolution it has undergone in the last five years. In 2003 it had 12 members; today there are 20. We publish a weekly magazine and cooperate with the dpa news agency. I am also quite proud of the clients of the Konrad Adenauer Asian Centre for Journalism, who by now come from across Asia, and the good contacts that I've maintained with former participants.

What is the future for media freedom and freedom of expression in Asia?

Stopping media freedom and freedom of opinion in the Internet age is impossible. But the quality of the media is very much dependent on economic constraints. Such limits could mean that serious topics and issues could be watered down merely to the level of infotainment.

MEDIA

GERMAN-ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN JOURNALISM ACADEMY

Right: 15 young journalists from Germany, Israel and the Palestinian Territories developed a cross-border magazine

In November 2008, the KAS offices in Jerusalem and Ramallah jointly organized a German-Israeli-Palestinian journalist academy with the help of the KAS journalism training program and the German Development Service. Fifteen young journalists from all three nations were selected for the ambitious project on promoting dialogue in the Middle East.

Under the leadership of KAS lecturer Jochen Markett and Jan Kuhlmann, an editor at the Rheinischer Merkur newspaper in Germany, participants worked together on publishing a magazine on the subject "Bridging Historical Narratives -Building A Joint Future." The young journalists working in bi-national groups jointly developed a broad range of subjects, from art installations along the barrier Israel has constructed in the Palestinian territories to Germans in the Holy Land to the importance of hummus in Middle Eastern societies. Selected articles were translated into German





and then published in a special supplement of the Rheinischer Merkur shortly before Christmas. The magazine was published at the end of February 2009.

Because of the positive energy within the group, participants were able to grapple with their own biographies and the role they personally played in the Middle East conflict. Such reflections allowed them to gain a different view of the complex realities and better understand the different aspects of the conflict. The nine-day academy especially offered Israeli and Palestinian participants a rare opportunity to get to know young colleagues, to exchange views and expand their respective knowledge about the life of the "other".

SPECIAL AWARD FOR THE MEDIA PROGRAMME SOUTHEAST EUROPE



Zlatarsky; Sneshinka Blagoeva; Christiana Christova (KAS (host of the award ceremony); Dirk Förger (head of the KAS Media programme)

On the occasion of the 74th anniversary of the founding of Bulgarian National Radio, the KAS Media Programme for South East Europe was honoured with a special award at a solemn ceremony on 26 January 2009. The ceremony was broadcast live on both national radio channels and six regional frequencies. With the award, the radio network

recognised the program's commitment to improving journalists' qualifications along with developing radio Media Programme); further within Bulgaria. The media programme had supported the broadcaster when it modernised its training and qualification programme for journalists.

KOSOVO AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

To spur a public debate on the situation of the media in Kosovo, the KAS Media Programme for South East Europe invited journalists and media experts as well as representatives from the EU and the OSCE on 15 December 2008 to Pristina to



a conference it jointly organised with the South East European Network for Professionalisation of the Media and the Kosovo Media Institute. The response was heartening: On the one hand because of the number of participants and on the other hand because of the nature of the reports in the media. One particularly well-received book, which was developed during a previous joint meeting in Skopje, examined how other countries in the region reported on Kosovo. Further topics included the state of media regulation in Kosovo, foreign investment in the media and how experiences from neighbouring countries can be applied in Kosovo.

KAS-PANORAMA



Rome 21 Estonia, Tallinn 22 Latvia, Riga 23 Lithuania, Vilnius (office and liaison office for Belarus) 24 Poland, Warsaw 25 Czech Republic, Prague 26 Slo

regional rule-of-law programme Southeast Europe) 32 Bulgaria, Sofia (office and regional media programme) 33 Croatia, Zagreb 34 Bosnia and Herzegovina (office and regional programme political education West Africa) 40 Nigeria, Abuja 41 D.R. Congo, Kinshasa 42 Sudan, Yei 43 Uganda, Kampala 44 Tanzan.
49 Republic of South Africa, Johannesburg (office and regional media programme) 50 Namibia, Windhoek | NORTH AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST 51 Morod

56 Jordan, Amman 57 Turkey, Ankara | ASIA 58 Georgia, Tbilisi (office and regional programme Southern Caucasus) 59 Kazakhstan, Astana 50 Uzbekista. Shanghai 66 Mongolia, Ulan Bator 67 Republic of Korea, Seoul 68 Philippines, Manila 69 Vietnam, Hanoi 70 Thailand, Bangkok 71 Cambodia, Phnom Penh



72 Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur 73 Singapore, Singapore (3 regional programmes: politics, media, and rule of law) 74 Indonesia/East Timor, Jakarta

Globalisation challenges our fundamental values. Its dynamic needs an ethical frame of reference. The concepts of human dignity and human rights can be markers on this path (KAS position paper, Rome, 13 February 2009).

HUMAN RIGHTS



GLOBALISATION WITH A HUMANE FACE

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung officially opened its office in Rome on 13 February 2009 with a symposium on the subject of "Human Rights and Human Dignity in the Age of Globalisation."

Experts from Germany and Italy took part in the event, which was co-organised with the Catholic community of Sant'Egidio, among them the chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and former prime minister, Professor Bernhard Vogel, the founder of Sant'Egidio, Andrea Riccardi, the secretary of the Pontifical Council for Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant Peoples, Agostino Marchetto along with the vice president of the Italian lower house of parliament, Rocco Butiglione.

In the afternoon, participants took up the very basic human right, freedom of religion. Frank Spengler, the deputy director of the International Cooperation Department of the KAS, led the discussion. Taking part in the roundtable were Maria Rita Saulle, a judge at the Italian Constitutional Court, Father Felix Körner, a professor at the Pontifical Gregorian University, the philosopher Sebastiano Maffettone and Bishop Martin Schindehütte, the foreign policy representative for the Lutheran Church of Germany. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung agreed on a position paper at the conclusion of the conference.

Right: Prof. Bernhard Vogel in conversation with Cardinal Tarciso Bertone, Vatican Secretary of State, and the German ambassador to the Holy See, Hans-Henning Horstmann

Left: Prof. Vogel, Wilhelm Staudacher, Prof. Andrea Riccardi



If globalisation is left unchecked, it could become a matter of war and peace, warned Wilhelm Staudacher, director of the Rome KAS office and former secretary general. Creating a new global set of rules is a crucial challenge for the

future, he said. Bernhard Vogel encouraged European states to act as lead by example by supporting a more humane type of globalisation. The defence of human rights often yields to the self-interest of states, lamented this year's Charlemagne laureate and founder of Sant'Egidio, Andrea Riccardi; values are being shaken up.

Michael Borchard, head of the KAS Politics and Consulting department in Berlin, moderated a discussion whose topic "The human being at the centre" was the pivotal tenet of the conference. Joining him on the panel were social ethicist Martin Honekker, economist Josef Radermacher, Michael Gahler, member of European Parliament, and the former president of the Austrian parliament, Andreas Khol.

60 YEARS SINCE THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights celebrated its 60th anniversary

on 10 December 2008. On this occasion, the KAS invited human rights experts to Berlin on 2 December for a podium discussion on the universality of human rights since this issue is raised again and again as the number of political actors on the world stage rises. In his opening speech the



Deputy Secretary-General of the foundation, Dr. Gerhard Wahlers, emphasized the fundamental importance of universality in upholding human rights. The German Government Commissioner for Human Rights Policy and Humanitarian Aid, Günter Nooke, also underscored the universality of human rights as a pivotal issue. But he also warned that these rights might just become empty phrases if their scope was expanded too broadly. Dieter Grimm, a professor for public law and former German constitutional court judge, and Ludger Kühnhardt, the director of the Centre for European Integration Studies at the University of Bonn, agreed. Cultural exceptions should be allowed to weaken the universal claim to human rights. Jochen Motte, a member of the board of the United Lutheran Mission, contributed practical examples, as did NGO representatives and the moderator of the event, the general secretary of the German chapter of Amnesty International, Barbara Lochbihler. A question and answer session rounded out the evening debate.

DIALOGUE ON VALUES AND RELIGION

OPPORTUNITIES AND LIMITS: THE SOCIAL TEACHINGS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCHES

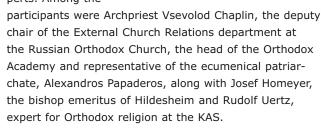
DISCUSSION AMONG EXPERTS AT THE KAS BERLIN

Representatives of the Greek Orthodox Church in conversation: professors Stylianos Tsompanidis, Athanasios Vletsis and Alexandros Papaderos (from left) The concept of a social ethic does not traditionally exist within the Orthodox Churches like it does with social teaching within the Catholic Church or with the Protestant Church's concept of a social ethic. But there is growing recognition of the concept among Orthodox institutions, along with an openmindedness and willingness to reflect on one's own relationship to both state and society and to take a position on important questions of the day.

The Russian Orthodox Church took a stand on the issue of social ethics for the first time in August 2000 when it put its thoughts down on paper. The Values and Religion department is pursuing this issue, encouraging all Orthodox churches to make such a move. A newly founded discussion group aims to begin a dialogue among the churches to explore the opportunities of and limits to such joint approaches.

On 20 November 2008, high-ranking religious officials and theologians from Orthodox churches across Eastern and South Eastern Europe – from Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Russia and Byelorussia, along

with Greece and Germany – travelled to Berlin to discuss the concept at a gathering of experts. Among the



The gathering began auspiciously- The idea of the conference was well received and participants showed great commitment. Participants covered a wide range of issues in a constructive and results-oriented manner as they developed the agenda. The Church remains an important anchor within Orthodox countries. A jointly developed approach to Orthodox social teaching would be of great importance and would reverberate throughout society.

+ + + IN BRIEF + + +

Archbishop Ludwig Schick and Bishop Martin Schindehütte in dialogue

What values are relevant and binding for development policy in the years to come? And what consequences

does it have for development cooperation? On 16 January 2009, politicians, scholars and leading members of the clergy met at the KAS Academy to discuss these questions. + + + IN BRIEF + + +

"Georgian paths to a culture of peace"

The Caucasus is a region of simmering conflicts. Peace-building measures are more important than ever after the violent escalation there last summer. In a workshop called "Georgian paths to a culture of peace" that took place on 4 December 2008, the KAS regional programme on political dialogue in the southern Caucasus drew up a new approach towards crisis prevention and conflict resolution. Peace-supporting behaviour, patterns of thought and values should be explored and harnessed to support future programs. Aside from church representatives and religious communities, among them the Georgian Orthodox patriarchy, the Armenian and Evangelical Lutheran church and the apostolic nunciature, participants included representatives of Georgian NGOs and the National Tolerance and Civic Integration in Georgia Program.

"Partnership and cooperation among nations is not a choice; it is the ... the only way, to ... advance our common humanity." (Barack Obama in his speech at Berlin's Victory Column, 24 July 2008)

DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

PROMOTING PARTNERSHIPS -**EXPANDING FUTURE COOPERATION**

After the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung announced in November 2008 that it would open an office in Abu Dhabi, the Crown Prince of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, held informal discussions with representatives from the foundation on the occasion of his visit to Germany.

In a meeting with politicians and business representatives, the crown prince stressed the importance of Germany to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The sheikh then addressed economic and political matters such as the global financial crisis as well as security issues - from international terrorism to Iran's nuclear program. He also underscored the significance of education, saying more transparency was needed in the field. Eckart von Klaeden MP, foreign policy spokesman for the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, expressed his gratitude for the UAE's resoluteness and partnership. Its position made clear that the fight against terrorism



Dr. Franz Schoser, treasurer of the KAS, awards the Konrad-Adenauer Medal to Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

was not a question of confrontation between Muslims and the West but rather a joint task. At the conclusion Franz Schoser, the treasurer and board member of the foundation, awarded the sheikh the Konrad-Adenauer Medal.

JERUSALEM BOOK CLUB AWARDED SPECIAL PRIZE OF THE GERMAN CHAMBERS OF INDUSTRY

AND COMMERCE

The Jerusalem Book Club, a group supported by the Schmidt School of East Jerusalem and the Jerusalem Academy for Music and Dance in West Jerusalem and funded by the KAS in Ramallah - was awarded the special prize "Students Building Bridges Worldwide" of the German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK). Although both the Israeli and Palestinian children who attend the school live around Jerusalem there is less and less contact between both sides because of the decades of conflict. The Jerusalem Book Club has developed a kind of dialogue that is far removed from the pressures of the political day to day. Since 2006, Palestinian and Israeli students have met regularly to discuss books under the motto "reading



Award ceremony at the Schmidt School in East Jerusalem.

is understanding." This helps them develop mutual respect and tolerance, even of troublesome opinions - thus establishing a basis for peace and democracy.



HIGH LEVEL VISIT TO ABUJA

German president Horst Köhler held the Africa Forum in the Nigerian capital Abuja in November 2008. The president invited the chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Professor Bernhard Vogel, to the talks with heads of state and government. The topic of the discussions was "obstacles on the way towards partnership, and how to overcome them". The talks were kept strictly confidential so as to enable a free exchange of views, even on sensitive issues. In the KAS office, Professor Vogel conversed with people who had travelled to Abuja from around the country. The KAS country representative to Nigeria, Dr. Klaus Pähler, the director of the GTZ and a representative from the charity Misereor then brought the president, along with Mr. Vogel and several parliamentarians, state secretaries and diplomats up to date on the political and economic situation in Nigeria – as a way to prepare everyone for the state visit that immediately followed.

ECKART VON KLAEDEN MP VISITS ISRAEL

To inform himself about the escalating situation in the Middle East, Eckart von Klaeden, the foreign policy spokesman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, travelled to Israel in January 2009. On the agenda organised by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung were meetings with top officials and in-depth discussions – among them with Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni. Mr von Klaeden



Tzipi Livni explains Israel's position. the Hamas movement from rearming.

Mr von Klaeden also

Beer Sheva, hit recently by a Kassam

caught up on the hu-

manitarian situation in the Gaza Strip. It

became clear in con-

versations that condi-

tions for a sustained

ceasefire included

stopping weapons

smuggling across the

Egyptian border with Gaza, and keeping

visited the Israeli city of Beer Sheva, hit recently by a Kassam rocket, and spoke with the city's mayor.

DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

EURO-MEDITERREAN PARTNERSHIP

COLLOQUIUM IN RABAT

In December 2008, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung hosted the 7th International Morocco-EU Colloquium in Rabat on perspectives for a new Euro-Mediterranean cooperation. Honorary guest this year was Ruprecht Polenz MP, the chairman of the German parliament's foreign policy committee. Among the core issues participants discussed were the ambivalent results of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership and the new potential offered by the Union of the Mediterranean. Two requirements that would allow for a renewal of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership were particularly highlighted: Firstly, the Union of the Mediterranean should be equipped with structural projects in the field of agriculture, and towards the development of a knowledge society and the fight against climate change. And secondly, only a more integrated Maghreb can grow into a regional actor within the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE -

TRAINING WITH MOZAMBIQUE'S YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The older generation is traditionally treated with respect in Mozambique - age means authority, and that applies to politics, too. But young adults, who make up the majority of the population, increasingly want to see their interests taken into account. That wish led to the founding of a "youth parliament," a non-partisan independent youth organisation - something that is far from self-evident in the former oneparty state. Working groups meet to discuss issues of good governance, the economy and health care. At the beginning of 2009, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung kicked off an advanced training series with the youth parliament, which brought together parliament representatives as well as young leaders from other civil society organisations. In the trainings, young people learned how to effectively stand up for their interests, taking part in the political process and reviewed the responsibilities of Mozambique's national parliament. Six events took place in the country from north to south, each with about 70 young participants.

Political dialogue supports the exchange of opinions, helps secure peace and creates conditions for cooperation based upon trust.

POLITICAL DIALOGUE



Participants in the Beijing political dialogue.

CHINA, GERMANY AND EUROPE - ASSESSING THE OUTLOOK FOR COOPERATION

Every year, the CDU and the Communist Party of China hold a dialogue, which takes place in the Beijing office of the KAS in cooperation with the international department of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee. In recent years, this forum has established regular exchanges among top representatives from both parties, which allows controversial issues to be openly discussed in a cooperative manner.

The sixth round of this inter-party dialogue served to take stock of Sino-German relations. The gathering also looked into the potential of working together in the current economic and financial crisis. Eckart von

Klaeden MP headed up the German delegation of CDU and CSU legislators. Not only did the Chinese send high-ranking representatives from the party and the government to the meeting, but also nearly anyone of note among China's scholars specialised in Germany took part. The German ambassador to China, Michael Schaefer, opened the event with a greeting.

The inter-party dialogue has once again proven itself as an important forum to help develop Sino-German relations. The conference addressed controversial subjects in a frank manner, among them the question of Tibet as well as a strategy paper of the CDU and CSU parliamentary group titled "Asia: a strategic challenge for Germany and Europe."

A CONVERSATION WITH THE COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT ALVARO URIBE

On January 31, the Colombian embassy invited KAS representatives to a conversation with President Alvaro Uribe during his state visit to Germany.

The deputy chairman of the KAS and former minister of state, Anton Pfeifer, represented the foundation at the meeting, along with the head of the Latin America division, Hans Blomeier as well as the officer responsible for the Andes countries, Olaf Jacob. Victoriana Mejía Marulanda, Colombia's ambassador to Germany, was one of the participants on the Colombian side. The deputy chairman underlined the close bonds between the KAS and Latin America, and especially between the foundation and Colombia. The KAS has had a presence in the country for more than 40 years - one reason why it strongly backed Chancellor Angela Merkel's visit to Colombia during her trip to Latin America in May of 2008. Mr Pfeifer, whom the president invited to Colombia for a visit, assured President Uribe

that the KAS strongly supported the Colombian government's security policy. He also stressed that Colombia had to focus on addressing social challenges in order to secure democracy in the country.

President Uribe expressed his gratitude for the work of the KAS, and for the encouragement it gave the chancellor to travel to Colom-



Colombian President Alvaro Uribe.

bia. He said his government was concentrating on issues of domestic security, socially responsible investing and social policies focussing on education. Colombia was the antithesis in Latin America to such populist countries such as Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua or Venezuela. It was therefore still essential to establish the Colombian model, with its ideas and concepts, as a viable model for a Latin American society.

DIALOGUE BETWEEN POLITICAL PARTIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY

Political parties are not very deeply rooted in civil societies in Mercosur countries. For this reason, the conference centre of the KAS in Rio de Janeiro carried out a two-year project in cooperation with the United Nations Democracy Fund. The goal was to promote dialogue and exchange between political parties

and civil society in the five Mercosur countries.

Participants took part in numerous courses on project development, and each participant was individually supervised.



At least one representative from civil society and one from the world of politics took part in each course. The final event was from 5 to 6 December 2008 in Montevideo. Attendees spoke of their experiences and took up the issue of improving the relationship between political parties and civil society. They agreed that a fully established party system was the best condition for democracy – a goal that still needs work to be achieved.

+ + + IN BRIEF + + +

Parliamentary Cooperation in Malaysia

The Deputy Secretary-General of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Dr. Gerhard Wahlers, met with the president of the Malaysian parliament, Tan Sri Pandikar Amin Mulia, during a conference of experts to discuss the foundation's work on party cooperation. Mr Wahlers stressed that cooperation between parliaments and lawmakers was one of the main focuses in KAS international work. The parliament president welcomed an offer to expand cooperation with the Malaysian parliament.



POLITICAL DIALOGUE

PREPARING FOR ELECTIONS IN IVORY COAST

KAS SUPPORTS DEMOCRATIC VOTE

The KAS and its partner, the Centre Afrique Obota, set two goals for a seminar they held on preparing for elections in Ivory Coast: increasing transparency in the preparatory process and improving people's understanding of electoral laws. Journalists and NGO representatives jointly discussed the challenges to a fair and democratic election in Ivory Coast. The seminar reviewed current electoral laws, the code of conduct for political parties and the role of the media during the electoral process. Participants at the December discussion compared elections in different African countries. The regional program provides detailed information on election preparations underway in Ivory Coast at www.kas.de/cotedivoire2009.

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SECURITY CONFERENCE IN RIO

At the end of November 2008, the Fifth International Security Conference, the "Forte de Copacabana," was held in Rio de Janeiro. Politicians and security experts from North and South America as well as Europe – among them the foreign policy spokesman for the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, Eckart von Klaeden MP (picture) – debated current security policy issues. The goal of the annual conference is to increase mutual understanding of selected



security policy issues, to exchange views and experiences, and to encourage cooperation between South America and Europe. The conference has by now established itself as an important forum on security issues in the region. In November 2009, the KAS in Brazil will again host a security conference, along with its partners, the Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais, the Centro de Estudos das Américas at the University Cândido Mendes and the Chaire Mercosur of Sciences Po University in Paris, to improve transatlantic cooperation on security.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

THE SEARCH FOR A REASONABLE ENERGY MIX IN MEXICO

Renewable energy was on the agenda at a conference that the KAS jointly organised with its partner, the Fundacion Rafael Preciado Hernandez (FRPH) in January 2009. At the end of 2008, the parliament approved a controversial energy reform package. Now all eyes are on alternative energy sources for Mexico once its oil reserves run out.

Mexico shows a lot of promise in the fields of hydro and wind power as well as bio energy. The president of the Mexican association for wind energy, Eduardo Zenteno García-Galindo, said that excellent results could be guaranteed in the south of the country and in the state of Oaxaca - where the country narrows between the Pacific and the Caribbean – as thermic conditions are particularly favourable there. Large-scale wind farms have already gone online. But Mexico is also unwilling to give up on nuclear energy since the Laguna Verde atomic power plant contributes sub-

stantially to the country's energy security. Mexico also wants to continue using its own uranium deposits to generate energy.

But fossil fuels will continue to play a role, according to Guillermo Domínguez Vargas of the ministry of energy. He said the energy reform mostly benefits the state-run oil company PEMEX. Gerardo Aranda Orozco, director of the FRPH, said PEMEX should consider involving the private sector more strongly in the development of new oil fields.

The forum, well attended by politicians, researchers and company representatives (some of them from Germany), showed that only a sensible mix of energy sources - one that does not exclude viable alternative energies - would be able to meet the growing energy needs, especially in an emerging country such as Mexico.

Guillermo Dominguez Vargas of the Mexican Ministry of Energy explains how the country relies on renewable energy as much as it does on nuclear power.

"FORUM SUSTAINABLE AMAZON" IN MANAUS



The second forum on a sustainable Amazon (Fórum Amazônia Sustentável) was held in November 2008 in Manaus, the capital of the Brazilian state of Amazon. More than 60 organisations belong to the forum, a grouping that campaigns for the maintenance and sustainable development of the Amazon region and its tropical rainforests.

Participating organisations attending agreed on a joint action plan during the forum.

The plan aims to sensitise the general public as well as political actors on the subject, and to draw up a platform for discussion with all participants. Longtime KAS partner Saude a Alegria has substantially promoted the forum's efforts, with the foundation's help.

EUROPEAN ENERGY SECURITY

German and Turkish experts discussed the growing importance of the Black Sea region in international politics as well as Turkey's future role. The gathering took place on the invitation of the KAS and the Centre for Eurasian Strategic Studies in Ankara.

To reduce European dependency on Russian energy, the EU is searching for new energy suppliers, with a particular focus on the states on the Black and Caspian Seas. By developing a close relationship with these countries, the EU could secure the bloc's energy supply - which is why energy issues have become a part of EU foreign policy. But that is not all. The extensive potential for conflict in the region means that energy policy is increasingly seen as a security issue. Turkey's role as an important transit country cannot be underestimated in this case.



Heiko Schuss of the University of Erlangen-Nuremburg explained the importance of the Black Sea region to energy policy.

By conducting projects in more than 100 countries, the KAS actively promotes peace, freedom, and justice worldwide.

NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DEPARTMENT

NAMES AND FACES:



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CHRISTIAN DEPPE

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Our fellows from North Korea

Since 2008, the KAS has supported two law students for the first time. Both fellows are from the capital Pyongyang, where they teach at the Kim Il Sung University. While in Germany, they will improve their knowledge of the rule of law and of international economic law. Our picture shows the two fellows, Ro Kum Chol and Kim Un Nam, standing in front of a portrait of Konrad Adenauer.

Christian Ruck MP visits China

"We must design the international governance system of the financial markets anew so that we can prevent such dangerous developments in our markets in the future," said Dr. Christian Ruck MP, chairman of the



Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group. He was speaking at a KAS event with leading foreign affairs experts in Santiago de Chile, where he laid out the measures that the

German government and the EU agreed on to combat the financial crisis. During his visit to Chile, Mr. Ruck also caught up on the results of local elections in Chile, and met with former KAS fellows.





SELECTED NEW PUBLICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



THE COMMON GOOD IN A GLOBALISED WORLD

Documentation of the international symposium of the same name with contributions by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the President of the European Parliament, Prof. Hans-Gert Pöttering, the Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin and Peter Sutherland, the former director general of the WTO.

■ Available (in German): http://www.kas.de/wf/de/33.15801/



SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Assessments from recipient countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and South East Europe Nine experts of the rule of law drew up comprehensive country reports based upon a questionnaire

commissioned by the KAS, and put their conclusions up for discussion at the 6th International Law conference in November 2008 at the Petersberg outside Bonn. All reports, along with a comparative analysis are available in this publication.

■ Available (in German): http://www.kas.de/wf/de/33.15679/



THE GAZA CONFLICT

Analysis and background reports on the current situation in the Middle East

This Middle East reader provides a selection of topical reports and analyses from our offices in the Middle East and North Africa. The current reason is the conflict in the Gaza Strip, which escalated into a conflict on 27 December 2008. But the conflict seems to be smouldering on, despite a cease-fire declared after three weeks.

• Available (in German): http://www.kas.de/wf/de/33.15752/



EL PODER LEGISLATIVO ARGENTINO – APORTES PARA EL CONOCIMIENTO DEL CONGRESO DE LA NACIÓN ARGENTINA

The more than 1000-page volume describes the development and responsibilities of the Argentine parliament, as well as how it works. It also details the role of the members of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies who make up the dual-chamber body. The book was written on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the construction of the Parliament. The Rule of Law Latin America program in

Montevideo published it along with the Association of Argentine Constitutional Law Experts.

■ Available (in Spanish): http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/13/4/year-2008/dokument_id-15284/index.html



COMENTÁRIO À CARTA DAS NACÕES UNIDAS

No other international treaty addresses international relations as comprehensively as the United Nations Charter, and no other commits the international community to generally agreed-upon principles and goals. This commentary on the UN Charter, published in Portuguese by the Rule of Law Latin America program and regional office in Montevideo, in cooperation with the Centro de Direito Internacional, aims to further the understanding and application of the charter in Brazil, South America's largest country.

■ Available (in Portuguese): http://www.kas.de/proj/home/pub/13/4/year-2008/dokument_id-15318/index.html



"RELIGIONS AND RELIGIOUS REFORM. RELIGIOUS REFORM AS A UNIVERSAL CHANGE IN PARADIGMS," TUNIS 2008, FORUM DES OPINIONS 3

The volume published by the regional program for the Middle East and the Mediterranean presents the results of the conference of the same name, which was put on by the foundation and the Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies in Amman, Jordan. Its aim is to point out historical and current reform movements, especially within monotheistic faiths. It also aims to analyse how social, economic

and political circumstances shape reforms within Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

■ Available (in French): info@kas.com.tn