

Our 2017 Laureates

Literary Award

The author Michael Köhlmeier received the Literary Award of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung at a ceremony in Weimar. Our former Chairman, Hans-Gert Pöttering, praised the author as an accomplished narrator of European history and an important emissary of the Western cultural tradition. The laudatory speaker, Professor Aleida Assmann, a cultural scholar at the University of Constance and recipient of the 2018 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade, acknowledged Köhlmeier's creative and visionary narratives in the age of information. The author expressed his thanks with an acceptance speech, in which he referred to his father, also an author, and the power of storytelling.

www.kas.de/literaturpreis

Social Market Economy Prize

The foundation awarded the *Nationaler Normenkontrollrat* (National Regulatory Control Council) with the Social Market Economy Prize in December 2017 at the *Haus der Deutschen Wirtschaft* in Berlin. The council and its members have provided an outstanding service by reducing unnecessary bureaucracy and increasing efficiency, thereby broadening public support for the social market economy. Keynote speaker Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, former Prime Minister of the State of Saarland and current Secretary General of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, and laudatory speaker Eric Schweitzer, President of the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce, both paid tribute to the award winner.

www.kas.de/preis-soziale-marktwirtschaft

German Local Journalism Prize

The winner of the 2016 prize was the *Landeszeitung für die Lüneburger Heide*, which stood out among the 335 candidates with its cross-media project *Aufwachsen als Flüchtlingskind* (Growing up as a Refugee Child). The award ceremony took place in October 2017, as is the tradition, at the editorial office of the winner, this time in the Libeskind Building in Lüneburg. In his ceremonial speech, Jochen Wegner, voted 2016 "Editor-in-Chief of the Year", referred to the newspaper's local journalism as "excellent" and congratulated the winner by saying, "You are where we all want to be". A total of eleven outstanding achievements were honoured, including three voluntary activities.

www.kas.de/lokaljournalistenpreis

DenkT@g

Every two years since 2001, the foundation has held *DenkT@g*, a nationwide Internet competition. It calls upon young people aged 16 to 22 to present texts, research papers, interviews, and other projects that address the topics of the Holocaust and Nazi dictatorship, as well as current issues such as right-wing extremism, xenophobia, and anti-Semitism in our society. These contributions are then creatively prepared and edited to meet the requirements of a website. This 10th edition of the competition, in which over 10,000 young people have participated since 2001, runs until 31 October 2018.

www.denktag.de



Departments of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

European and International Cooperation For Democracy and Human Rights Worldwide

The Department of European and International Cooperation advocates democracy, the rule of law, human rights, and the social market economy worldwide. Particular emphasis in these efforts is given to the promotion of European unity, strengthening democratic parties around the world, and bolstering transatlantic relations, as well as supporting international cooperation in the areas of migration, energy, and development policies. The area of security policy has become increasingly significant, especially with respect to European security strategies, counter-terrorism measures, cybercrime, international organized crime, and nuclear disarmament. In 2017, our work was influenced by such issues as the German federal election, the resolve of the new French president in support of the European Union, China's "New Silk Road" expansion project, the worsening political situation in Venezuela, the violent repression of the opposition in Tanzania, and the conflict in Syria.



Digital Disinformation

The debate concerning the influence of digital communication on political and societal discussion took on added significance in the wake of the American elections and the run-up to the German federal election. The resulting increased demand for regulation, however, has to be evaluated in relation to its impact on freedom of speech and the press. In this context our Washington office together with the Atlantic Council organized the #DisInfoWeek in June 2017. The event focused on the challenges posed by disinformation and featured Madeleine Albright, Francis Fukuyama, and David McAllister. The concern that the new German regulation against hate speech and fake news (*Netzwerkdurchsetzungsgesetz*) will provide more of an incentive to delete suspicious content rather than to defend freedom of speech was a matter discussed by Thomas Jarzombek, a member of the German *Bundestag*, in November at a symposium of the Forum Media and Development. This discussion will be continued in 2018 by the international network of the foundation's offices and our partners.



Academic Promotion and Culture

The Heart of our Breeding Ground for Talent

Our 2017 motto, "With Confidence into the Future", also served as a leitmotif of our Academic Promotion Department. In response to recent populist attacks on democracy, we have initiated numerous seminars on the foundations and future of the free and democratic state governed by the rule of law, as well as offering an appropriate response to populism.

Our programme to promote young journalists reported live from the Global Investigative Journalism Conference in South Africa, the largest international meeting for journalistic research.



The 2017/2018 Winter semester began with the post-graduate research programme entitled "Security and Development in the 21st Century," which was conducted by our Deputy Chairperson, Professor Beate Neuss. The goal of the course is to reconcile security and development policy perspectives, to analyse current global challenges, and to develop approaches towards possible solutions and strategies to overcome complex conflict and crisis situations.

The Culture Department provided artistic highlights with an homage to Ingvild Goetz and the awarding of our literary prize to Michael Köhlmeier. In addition, the EHF 2010 programme, which promotes talented artists, continued its successful work with a solo exhibition by Oskar Schmidt.

Cybersecurity – How Well are We Protected?

The topic of digitalisation has long since found its place in all areas of our seminar programme. In 2017, one of these seminars dealt with the issue of digital security.

"IT security is the seatbelt of the digital economy", said former scholarship holder Barbara Engels of the German Economic Institute (IW) in Cologne. A hacker attack, she added, can often result in major economic consequences, for example, by causing damage to a company's image.

The German government's cybersecurity strategy was explained to our scholarship holders during a visit to the German Ministry of the Interior. Among other things, this strategy includes the mandate of the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) to determine and monitor general regulations on cybersecurity for those operating critical infrastructures.

In describing the responsibilities of his agency, BSI President Arne Schönbohm stated that the BSI had developed a best practice strategy with respect to IT security. Should a company come under attack and then file a report with the BSI, the agency would be able to inform other vulnerable companies.

Katharina Mosene of the association *Deutschland sicher im Netz e. V.* (Germany – Safety Online), explained how private individuals can protect themselves from cyberattacks. She recommends the mnemotechnic verse method to create secure passwords. Take a sentence like "I have 2 cats, Tom and Jerry, who caught 3 mice today!", and use only the first characters: "Ih2c,TaJ,wc3mt!". After all, Internet security can only be achieved by the strict observance of simple rules.



Politics and Consulting General Policy Department and Think Tank

The Department of Politics and Consulting offers analysis and consulting services aimed at a politically interested public as well as political decision-makers. Its staff also functions as contact persons with respect to the various themes examined by the department, both to the colleagues of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and, especially, external parties, keen to take advantage of the foundation's services. In addition to established themes from the spheres of social policy, empirical social research, and party research, as well as education, religion, and economic policy, the department is addressing important new subject



areas. These include, in particular, questions on the consequences of developments in the field of artificial intelligence and of digitalisation. Furthermore, the department has published a number of outstanding studies, including empirical analyses of the 2017 German federal election and four German state elections, as well as the study *Aufstieg heute – mehr als Arbeit und Einkommen* (available only in German) dealing with the self-perception of social mobility.



Digitisation of the Electoral and Polling Archives of the Empirical Social Research Division

Since the 1970s, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has conducted its own surveys and provided election analyses. The necessary documents and records to utilize the surveys (questionnaires, codebooks, documentation, and analyses) are being archived and digitised in a standardized form that will facilitate the permanent use of this material. The same methods are being applied to election reports and surveys compiled by external institutes. The project began its work in November 2015 and should be completed by the end of 2018. An external service provider was contracted to scan the paper documents.

The evaluation and editing of the scanned results (error checks, assessment of the scans) is currently being done by student assistants of the Department of Politics and Consulting.



References and Research Services

Archives of Christian-Democratic Politics

The safeguarding of archival materials and their scientific study are traditional tasks of an archive. In addition to these duties, the Department of References and Research Services also promotes research into the Christian Democratic movement. The department offers publication opportunities and provides stimulation for university research initiatives through an Internet portal operated by its Contemporary History Division that focuses on Konrad Adenauer and the history of the CDU, as well as with its journals *Forschungen und Quellen zur Zeitgeschichte* and *Historisch-Politischen Mitteilungen* (available only in German).

In addition, it provides services to the other departments of the foundation, in particular, through its library, archives, and media analyses. In 2017, the department focused on marking the 50th anniversary of the death of Konrad Adenauer with numerous events, publications, and an exhibition.



Our Archive is Becoming Digital

As part of the "WD/ACDP Digital" project, which has been underway since 2016, previously analogue work processes have been adapted to meet the needs of a digital age. Additionally, scanners for various paper sizes and types of document are currently being purchased for the purpose of retro-digitisation. These scanners will be incorporated into scanning facilities with an integrated workflow. The procurement of an archival system capable of archiving genuine digital documents is now in the implementation stage. Our archives of written documents, media archives, and the library are pressing ahead with the digitisation of documents, images, and library collections that are exclusively in the possession of the foundation.

The project will be completed with a non-site-specific digital reading room and the possibility of a unified search across all of the specialist systems within the References and Research Services/Archives of Christian-Democratic Politics.

The contemporary history Internet portals on Konrad Adenauer, the history of the CDU, and Helmut Kohl have developed into a significant source and repository of materials for scholarly and political educational activities.



Civic Education In the Service of Democracy

Current domestic and foreign policy challenges are increasing both in intensity and dynamism. The Civic Education Department listens to citizens. It provides them with information and offers orientation in order to facilitate their empowerment.

The Civic Education Department has a real impact because it is situated in a strategic position within the overall context of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and it stimulates exchange with the other departments of the foundation. It is open to topical dialogue while always being anchored in the Christian Democratic tradition.

The quality of civic education originates from the formats that meet the needs of topicality and discussion. This ensures authenticity and intensity during the exchange of views at multi-day events. Ongoing digitalisation in Civic Education has provided a clear impulse in 2017, as *Adenauer Campus* and *Politsnack* have demonstrated the success of the digital format.

Civic education strengthens democracy and secures its future.



Digitalisation Can Be Observed at Many Levels

We see a great increase in attempts to evidently steer, launch, and, in particular, to manipulate the direction of political debates by means of digital technology. Through its events, the Civic Education Department aims to raise awareness of these methods and of possible countermeasures. It offers special programmes in media skills to young people, encouraging them to take a careful approach towards the Internet and social networks.

Digitalisation, in the sense of a transformation towards electronically assisted processes through information and communication technology, is a central issue in many policy areas: As such, workplace organisations, educational services, public services, and, not least of all, management and administration structures are being profoundly altered. The Civic Education Department provides information on all these processes and enables citizens to understand these changes and to take advantage of the opportunities they pose.

Online services offer a great opportunity to enhance coverage of the foundation's central issues. In addition, new thematic areas are conceived each year.



Communication

Increasing our Visibility

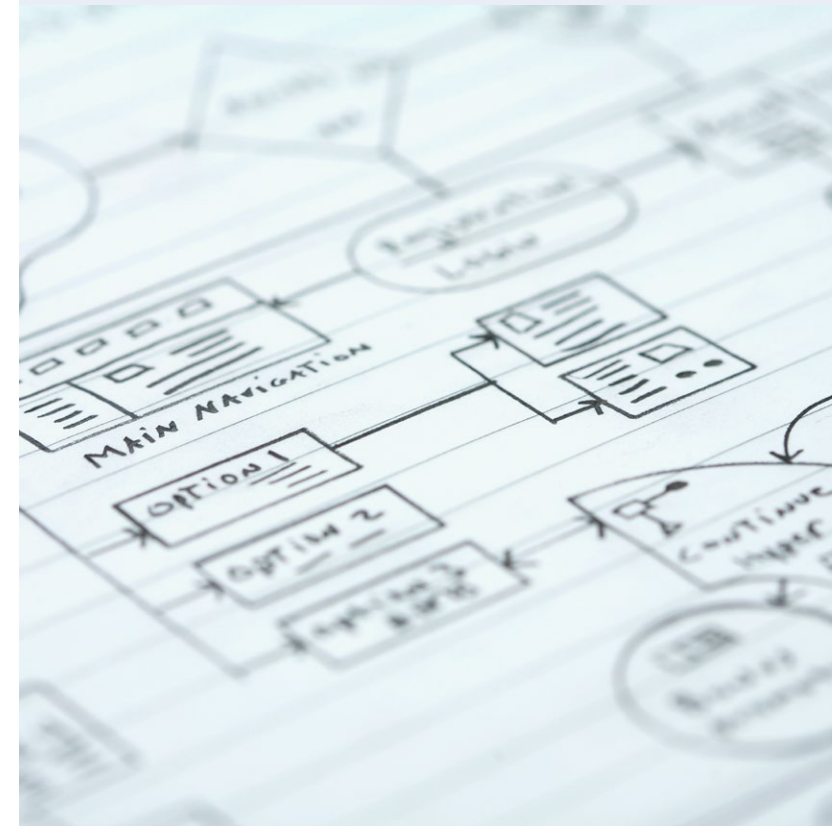
With its management and coordination of events, publications, and the media marketing of various events and services offered by the foundation, the Communication Department, in close cooperation with all of the other departments, makes an essential contribution to the visibility of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung both at home and abroad. At the same time and together with the Academy, it oversees the foundation's forum for dialogue between society, politics, culture, science, and business throughout Germany.

This year's leitmotif "With Confidence into the Future" has been communicated internally and externally through the department's support of numerous individual events and publications. In particular, the journal *Die Politische Meinung* (available only in German) has taken action to encourage the courage and confidence needed to shape the future, especially with its editions *Demokratie – Vertrauen in die Zukunft* (Democracy – Confidence in the Future), *Draußen im Lande – neue Gegensätze zwischen Land und Stadt?* (Out in the Countryside – New Contrasts between Rural and Urban Areas?), and *Neue Technologien – noch menschlich?* (New Technologies – Are they still Human?).



Important Online Communication Channel on a Solid Footing for the Future

Since 2017, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has responded to ongoing digitalisation by modernizing its most important digital communication channel. Its website kas.de has been made fit for the future, given a new optical design, and expanded with numerous functions and improvements. In a number of progressive steps, the web content offered by the foundation will be restructured in the coming years. A first version will be released in the fourth quarter of 2018.



The changes mean many improvements, especially for the users. The new, fresh layout will make our content more attractive, the orientation on the website will be simplified through improved visual elements and, in particular, thanks to a redesigned search function. The complete range of content will also be optimized for mobile use. Starting in autumn 2018, further important upgrades will follow. These include customisation and also an online payment function for events or seminar registration.

