



Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung

**SPEECHES FROM THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG'S
PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PHILIPPINES**

February 20, 2014
Sofitel Philippine Plaza, Manila

CONTENTS

5 KAS: 50 Years of Service and Political Journey in the Philippines

Lito Monico Lorenzana

8 Centrist Democracy: Shaping the Future of the Philippines

Rufus Rodriguez

12 Europe and Asia: Partners in a Changing World

Hans-Gert Pöttering MEP

20 Closing Remarks

Peter Köppinger

STATEMENT

KAS: 50 Years of Service and Political Journey in the Philippines

Lito Monico Lorenzana
President, Centrist Democracy Political Institute



Thank you, Mr. Aaron de Leon, Dr. Pöttering, Former Speaker of the House Jose de Venecia, President of the Centrist Democratic Party, Congressman Rufus Rodriguez, KAS Deputy Executive Director Gerhard Wahlers, your excellences, ladies and gentlemen.

Before I go to my assigned topic, I have a small confession to make. My prepared speech outlining the 50 years of KAS in the Philippines could only be delivered over the time allotted to me. Dr. Peter Köppinger warned me to be brief, concise, and direct to the point. To my mind, this advice is appropriate, as in my long association with my German colleagues; speeches in conferences like this are simply tolerated – only if they don’t interfere with food and serious drinking.

Also, I was advised to delete anecdotes and jokes as perhaps Germans, particularly my KAS friends, are humourless. This was the general impression until I witnessed at first hand the excellent performance of Dr. Pöttering in his investiture yesterday at the Ateneo de Manila. The good Doctor exhibited a side I seldom see from the Germans – an excellent sense of humour. Germans after all know how to make people laugh – even in solemn occasions.

So like Dr. Pöttering, I will depart slightly from a prepared speech but unlike him, I will stick to the time Peter allotted me – 10 minutes.

You all have been given a printed program entitled “Partnership with the Philippines.” KAS Philippines, under the very able country representative Dr. Peter Köppinger and his equally proficient staff, prepared this document painstakingly and lovingly as a souvenir for this 50 years anniversary. I hope you will take this home with you and read through it in your free time, as it encapsulates the

50-year journey of KAS and its partnerships during the tumultuous period in our history – the good times and the difficult ones. But overarching these 50 years has been the relentless efforts towards the establishment of Christian/ Centrist Democracy and the taking up roots of its attendant socio-economic-political structures that acclaims human dignity as the core value. Today’s celebration too is an acknowledgement of these efforts and the Filipino’s gratitude to the German people, but particularly the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation.

We often boast of the Philippines’ pre-eminence as the number 2 economic power in the region and the oldest and freest democracy in the continent. That was 50 years ago when KAS set forth on its mission in the Philippines.

Nonetheless, its political structures have not attained a type of maturity that was congruent with these assertions. A glaring deficiency was the absence of an ideologically-driven political party system that could overcome the exclusiveness of democratic mechanisms, which were dominated by big families and the oligarchy through patronage systems.

Christian Democratic orientation and political solutions include the balanced promotion of freedom and responsibility, private initiative and solidarity, equal opportunities, and social justice in a state structure based on subsidiarity.

This body of beliefs, if transformed into political apparatus and embedded in the body politic, would have propelled the Philippines from its position as the oldest democracy and second economic power in Asia in the 1960s to a leading player in Asia today. Sadly, this did not happen.

Instead, we have unemployment, underemployment, widespread hardening poverty, and miserable living conditions for nearly half of our population. High levels of violence, human rights abuses, impunity, and bad governance are our daily reality. The Filipino people are paying a high price for the absence of this political orientation in the development of the country.

We looked towards Europe and sought out KAS, linked to the German Christian Democratic Union (CDU) that helped propel Germany after the total devastation of the world war, into one of the world’s leading economies and a proud member of the community of nations.

It was around this time too that the young leader of the CDU in one of the Federal States of Germany, Rhineland-Palatinate, visited the Philippines. In a meeting with the architects of the Christian Socialist Movement (CSM), he initiated a fruitful relationship between the Philippine Christian Democrats, the CDU, and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) lasting well to the present time. This young German Christian Democrat was to become the Chancellor of Germany, Helmut Kohl.

At the same time, Senator Raul Manglapus in his capacity as leader of the “Progressive Bloc” in the Philippine Constitutional Convention of 1971 was to establish close contacts with outstanding Muslim delegates like Michael Mastura of Cotabato and Domocao Alonto of Lanao. Mastura and Manglapus, having discovered common ideals in Muslim and Christian thought, decided to write jointly a Muslim-Christian Manifesto. The Manifesto was finalized by mid-September 1972, but before it could be released for publication, Martial Law was declared. Our CSM leadership went into exile, some were imprisoned, others were killed, and some of us in Davao were emasculated.

The Marcos Administration, which at the outset started to break up the traditional power structures of the country, instead substituted its own cabal. The dictatorship ended up in violence, corruption, and moral disaster.

The much-heralded 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution that purported to restore democracy under President Cory Aquino turned out to become a re-establishment of the traditional patronage system. Bold reform moves under the Ramos Administration in the 90s opened up perspectives of modernization and democratization of the country. But nearly everything was lost in the intervening 15 years. This was due in part to the lack of institutionalized, structured democratic political mechanisms buttressed by a hastily configured 1987 Constitution.

In 2010, a new, reform-oriented Administration came into power, under President PNoy, the son of the 2 democracy icons, Ninoy and Corazon Aquino. A wave of hope swept through the country and has lingered until today – in spite

of further hardening poverty and unemployment, ongoing violence, impunity, and growing inequality. The latter is especially deplorable, as it comes at a time when the country boasts of unprecedented high growth rates. Obviously, this windfall has not trickled down to the masses.

It has now began to dawn on civil society and media, the business community, and educated leaders of the poor sectors, that good intentions and an honest leader is no substitute for real and deep political and structural reforms. Under this condition, the KAS Country Program is designed to provide crucial assistance to champions of fundamental reforms. There are two essential objectives connecting all its different projects and partnerships.

The first: the advocacy to promote Human Dignity as the core value for every policy, political intervention, or reform strategy in the country.

And the second: to help establish political structures, where this advocacy does not just float in the clouds but anchored to political realities.

These activities are implemented by KAS partners with special capabilities developed over the years:

- The Local Government Development Foundation, a partner for 25 years, promoting the principle of subsidiarity.
- The AIM Policy Center, a partner for 20 years, working on the improvement of socio-economic governance.
- The Institute for Autonomy and Governance, a partner for 10 years, at the Notre Dame University in Cotabato, the principal seat of Muslim Mindanao; and
- The Centrist Democracy Political Institute with its offices in Davao and Manila, which I head. Formally established only in 2010, it has in fact the longest relation with KAS, going back to the time of Senator Raul Manglapus in the late 60s.

In addition to the institutional partnership mentioned above, are two European Union (EU)-co-funded projects:

- The IPDEV project, assisting in the mainstreaming of the Lumad (Indigenous People) in the ARMM; and
- The Partnerships for Integrity and Job Creation project with the involvement of the EU Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines and the major Local Government Leagues.

All of these partnerships in some ways converge in the establishment of the Centrist Democratic Party of the Philippines in the last 2 years. The advocacy of KAS and its partners can thus be translated into reality.

To conform to Philippine laws, KAS cannot and does not support the development of this party or any political party in the Philippines. However, there are strong synergies between the thematic issues advocated by KAS and its partners. Last, but not least: in spite of its deficiencies with inclusive democracy, the Philippines has been, for many years, the most committed actor for an ASEAN community, which is not only a cooperation of countries for their economic benefit and on security issues, but also a vision of a value-based community of nations.

At this juncture, it is but fitting to mention two individuals whose roles are forever etched in the institutional memories of Christian/Centrist Democratic engagements in the county. These two are no longer with us but I had the privilege of knowing them personally many years ago in my younger days.

Bruno Heck, the first President of KAS and Senator Raul Manglapus. This German and this Filipino exemplify the partnership and the driving force of this cooperation that now exists with Germany and the Philippines – and beyond.

“It has now began to dawn on civil society and media, the business community, and educated leaders of the poor sectors, that good intentions and an honest leader is no substitute for real and deep political and structural reforms. Under this condition, the KAS Country Program is designed to provide crucial assistance to champions of fundamental reforms. There are two essential objectives connecting all its different projects and partnerships.”

SOLIDARITY MESSAGE

Centrist Democracy: Shaping the Future of the Philippines

Rufus Rodriguez

President, Centrist Democratic Party of the Philippines
Congressional Representative, Cagayan De Oro City, Philippines



Dear Dr. Pöttering,
Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour for me to be invited to provide a solidarity message here at the 50th anniversary of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation's partnership with the Philippines. We are well aware that the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) is among the most important and most

effective global actors on democracy promotion and good governance, closely related to the strongest and most successful Centrist Democratic Party (CDP) in the World, the German Christian Democratic Union. We, the Filipinos, owe you a lot for your long and sustainable partnership and friendship – with our country and people as a whole, and namely with centrist democrats of the Philippines.

There is a lot what we have learned and can learn from you, especially when we can work closely together in finding centrist democratic solutions for our problems of ineffective political structures, of poverty and violations of human dignity – as it has been done so fruitfully and successful with the current representative of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, Peter Köppinger. But there are also things you can learn from us and more than that: I believe that you need the partnership with us, with the Centrist Democrats of the Philippines.

When the former Prime Minister of your Federal State Lower Saxonia, Mr. Mac Allister, who is now the top candidate of the Christian-Democratic Union of Germany in the upcoming elections for the European Parliament, visited us about two and a half years ago and met the young members of the Centrist Democratic Movement of the Philippines who were about to establish the Centrist Democratic Party, he claimed: "Mr. Köppinger, how much I envy you for these people. What could we do in Germany,

in our party, if we would have such young people." And I think it is not only the enthusiasm and commitment which we want to share with our friends in the European Centrist Democratic Parties.

The Centrist Democratic Party of the Philippines is a young party, still small and working hard to becoming relevant in the Philippine reality, which is characterized by a weak state, the unhealthy linkage between economic and political powers, the patronage system, and the dominance of political dynasties.

- We had to fight our way through bureaucracy and red tape in order to get registered as a National Political Party – too short before the deadline for the registration of candidates in the 2013 elections.
- We have to overcome the general perception in the educated middle classes in our country that political parties are a dirty thing where value based citizens should not be members.
- We have to overcome the understandable cynic reactions of the broad masses to politics, saying, "Why not vote for the ones who offer us most money as anyway nothing will change - whomever we vote for?".
- In our efforts to finance the ongoing political activities of our party, which is active between the elections everywhere on local level – not like the traditional parties, which just are activated for the campaigning, but are dead between the elections - we have to carefully prevent the mistake to be influenced and corrupted by donors and to fall ourselves into the patronage trap.

So we need your partnership to encourage us, to give us consultancy, to work with us on solutions for our manifold problems.

But let me come back to what I said before: you also need the partnership with us, the Centrist Democrats of the Philippines. I have learned that you are holding here, during these days, your three-year internal conference of all representatives of your foundation in Asia and that the title of this conference is "The Rise of Asia: Challenges

for Germany, for Europe, and for the Work of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in the Region."

I believe that the biggest challenge for you is to find partners here in Asia, who understand you, who have the same value orientation, who are based on the fundamental concept of human dignity as their core value. And among them, you need partners who do not just discuss the concept of human dignity and its implications for politics and development in academic circles, but fight for it in the political arena of their countries. Without such partnerships in Asia, you cannot feel safe with your own European interests in a globalizing world with increased influence of Asia. And you will not have realistic chances to build the future world order in accordance to your values and principles, which have become global values and principles in the United Nations Declarations of Human Rights after World War II, but which are challenged day by day by countries like China and Russia.

In our country, there is no other real and principled political party with a Centrist Democratic orientation and a prospective future beside the CDP, which could offer you such a partnership. And from where else if not from the Philippines with its 100 million inhabitants, its Christian majority, and its value-based, moderate Islam minority can you win such political partners for joint political efforts in Asia and in the world. Therefore, the continuation of our partnership is not only crucial for our Philippine future, where the CDP has to play a key role in overcoming the political and social deadlock of many decades and to develop the country into a modern democracy with jobs and decent lives for everybody. It shall also become a strategic partnership to promote the Centrist Democratic message in ASEAN and all over Asia from inside and to achieve our joint dream of building a humane and peaceful world.

We ask the Representatives of KAS present here to do a Peter Köppinger in your respective areas and promote, develop, and assist in the formation of Centrist Democratic partners in Asia. With our experience, we, in the Philippines, are willing to share such experience in making Asia a Centrist Democratic Region.

Thank you very much.

"I believe that the biggest challenge for you is to find partners here in Asia, who understand you, who have the same value orientation, who are based on the fundamental concept of human dignity as their core value. And among them, you need partners who do not just discuss the concept of human dignity and its implications for politics and development in academic circles, but fight for it in the political arena of their countries."



Former Philippine President Fidel Ramos shakes hands with KAS Chairman and former EU Parliament President, Hans-Gert Pöttering, as Philippine Congressman Rufus Rodriguez and Senator Nancy Binay look on



The crowd of around 150 intently listens to the different speeches



Hans-Gert Pöttering greets guests outside the ballroom



A Philippine rondalla ensemble entertains the guests in between speeches



Guests partake of the dinner buffet and socialize outside the ballroom

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Europe and Asia: Partners in a Changing World

Hans-Gert Pöttering MEP

Chairman, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
Former President, European Parliament



Excellencies, distinguished guests, dear partners and friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation!

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to meet you in this beautiful Southeast Asian country! The reason for me being here are 50 years of project work of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation in the Philippines.

The anniversary that we are celebrating today is an excellent opportunity to reflect upon the relations between our two countries, between Germany and the Philippines and furthermore between Europe and Asia. This is an opportunity to look at the continuation of our cooperation in partnership in a changing world. To this end, I would like to share some of my thoughts with you.

However, first of all, I would like to express my condolences and my deep sympathy to the victims and the survivors of the major natural disaster, which have hit your country in the past few months. The images of devastation caused by typhoon Yolanda with the appalling destruction it brought were a shock for us all.

We are all very impressed by the courage and dignity with which the people here have endured this catastrophe and of how you are going about the reconstruction: full of optimism, despite all the suffering. As you all know, the German government increased its emergency aid to 22.5 million Euros in November. For Germany, it goes without saying that we will support your country with this difficult reconstruction process. We wish you strength and optimism for this!

This aid of the German government in this emergency situation is based on a special common history. There have been diplomatic relations for 60 years between our two countries. It has transpired that – based on the same fundamental values – we cooperate closely and well, when

it comes to keeping peace and securing fair international cooperation. Be it human rights issues, agreements on the protection of our environment, or arbitration mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflicts – the Philippines have always been pioneers for these instruments of international cooperation in Asia.

In Asia, the Philippines, with their common basis of a culture strongly influenced by Christianity and a Christian concept of society are closest to us: according to statistics, more than 80-percent of Filipinos belong to the Roman-Catholic faith. Thus, for decades, joint efforts for development in Southeast Asia based on these values have been the focus of our cooperation with our partners in the Philippines.

Ladies and gentlemen, in Germany and Europe, we follow the developments in Asia with great interest. It was especially the reports on the economic success of the past few years, which attracted a great deal of attention worldwide. It is the Asian countries, which are generating nearly a third of the global added value and the economic development forecasts are promising; this trend is likely to continue. The prognosis for China, India, Indonesia, and Vietnam are growth rates of more than six-percent for this and the next decade.

Asia's political role is growing internationally – be it in the Security Council or in the WTO, via the relationship between the European Union and ASEAN or at G20 level. Asia's importance for stability and security in international relations is already clearly apparent and will become even more visible in the future.

A number of Asian countries have transformed into new powers capable of determining affairs at a global level. They will be among the important players in their respective regions and on the international stage.

While the Asian countries have transformed considerably over the past few years, Europe as an international player has also changed.

Sixty years ago, undoubtedly, nobody would have dared to hope that with the Schuman Plan, the longest period of peace in Europe's history was about to begin. The

Schuman Plan became the basis of a new order of relations between the states and peoples in Europe. The Schuman Declaration was the beginning of a work for peace, which has become self-evident to us in the European Union.

The European founding fathers had personally experienced conflicts concerning borders and border areas between European states. Robert Schuman and Konrad-Adenauer especially, as well as Alcide de Gasperi – all of them Christian Democrats – had been influenced by their lives in European border areas.

Against this backdrop, they drew the right conclusion from the blood-stained history of Europe. They agreed to do everything possible, to ensure that the European borders would lose their divisive character. The Schuman Plan – the European Coal and Steel Community – was the first step in this direction.

The most important aspect of the Schuman Plan was the establishment of an entirely new institutional system: simple cooperation between sovereign states was replaced by a balanced, democratic dialogue between the member states, the General Assembly, the Council of Ministers, the High Authority – the predecessor of today's European Commission – and the Court of Justice. I would like to remind you of the words by Monnet: "Nothing is possible without the people, nothing is possible in the long-term without institutions."

Without a shadow of a doubt, discussions and conflicts arising from diverging opinions and varying interests between the peoples of Europe will continue to exist in the future. What will be decisive is how we deal with these conflicts.

Europe is a legal community where the law is superior to power. The law has the power and not vice-versa and the law protects the weak. In the light of our European history, this is a great achievement, which we cannot value too much and for which we are very grateful.

Since 1st December 2009, the Lisbon Treaty has been in force. It made the European Union more democratic, transparent, and more capable of taking action. With the creation of the office of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the

"In Asia, the Philippines, with their common basis of a culture strongly influenced by Christianity and a Christian concept of society are closest to us: according to statistics, more than 80-percent of Filipinos belong to the Roman-Catholic faith. Thus, for decades, joint efforts for development in Southeast Asia based on these values have been the focus of our cooperation with our partners in the Philippines."

“ASEAN deserves respect for what it has achieved over the past 10 years. For us, on the European side, it is our task to accompany this integration process as partners. However, we must not forget that the EU and its integration process is different from that of ASEAN.”

European External Action Service, the Europeans Union’s foreign profile has become more distinct.

Different aspects of foreign policy – diplomacy and international negotiations, security, trade, development, and humanitarian aid – are now more closely linked. It has been possible to clarify the position of the European Union regarding its relationship with other states and regions in the world.

Despite this institutional consolidation of the EU foreign policy, it remains a challenge to formulate common foreign policy positions and to represent them externally.

The European Union does not always speak with one voice at an international level. We must continue to work on this. In this globalized world, most of the challenges cannot be faced by individual countries and sometimes not even by an entire region on its own. These challenges require global solutions, which can only be developed and implemented by a united effort. For this reason, European relations with Asia are so very important!

The EU-High Representative, Lady Ashton, summarized Asia’s importance for Europe very aptly: “Developing our relations with Asia across the board is a major strategic objective for the European Union. Put simply [...] Europe and Asia need each other.”

Over the past few decades, it has been possible to intensify the relations between our two continents. When talking about the relations between Europe and Asia, the cooperation between the EU and ASEAN plays a very significant role.

The oldest established regional cooperation of the EU is with ASEAN. Together, we can look back on many years of exchange, which has intensified and developed into an important partnership for both parties. In 1978, the first EC-ASEAN ministerial meeting took place in Brussels. With the EC-ASEAN Cooperation Agreement, this cooperation was formalized in 1980.

However, today, both alliances differ greatly from each other. The number of member states alone, 28 in the EU and 10 in ASEAN are evidence of this. The challenges, which the alliances face at the regional and global level, have also developed further.

Economics and trade play an important role in EU-ASEAN relations. The EU is the second largest trade partner for ASEAN, after China. ASEAN ranks five in EU trade

relations. The common goal of an interregional free trade agreement continues to be pursued even though recently, there has been an emphasis on bilateral negotiations.

These relations, however, go beyond economic interests. Both ASEAN and the EU are pursuing the same goals for their respective regions: peace, stability, and prosperity. As a consequence, the EU and ASEAN agreed on a joint declaration on the fight against terrorism in 2003. 2005/2006, the EU and ASEAN cooperated in the Aceh Monitoring Mission in Indonesia.

With 600 million people in the ASEAN region and 500 million inhabitants in the EU, both regional alliances play an important role in Europe, Asia, and worldwide, due solely to the size of their populations.

With the Bandar Seri Begawan Action Plan 2013-2017, next steps for the regional and institutional development of the ASEAN region were defined, as well as an enhanced cooperation in the political field and in security policy. Concrete programmes were initiated, which will promote an exchange at different levels. Since the region intends to create an internal market with a common production basis until 2015, economic cooperation plays a key role in this context.

ASEAN deserves respect for what it has achieved over the past 10 years. For us, on the European side, it is our task to accompany this integration process as partners. However, we must not forget that the EU and its integration process is different from that of ASEAN.

Nevertheless, the experiences we have had in Europe might be of interest to our Asian friends, as Europe’s heterogeneity and different levels of economic strength in the member states constitute a great challenge. ASEAN as a regional community of states, would appear to be a “natural partner.”

Apart from the extensive and formalized cooperation between the EU and ASEAN, cooperation within other international forums has been intensified over the past few years. Part of this is inter alia the Asia-Europe-Meeting (ASEM), which simultaneously provides an informal dialogue forum at the political level and facilitates the cooperation framework for the technical levels (ASEM Initiatives/ASEM Infoboard) for Europe and Asia. ASEM was initiated by Singapore and France in 1996. It offers a frame for political, economic, and cultural Asian-European cooperation. Global questions such as those related to environment, climate change, and energy security are part of the topics discussed, as well as migration, human rights,

counter terrorism measures, work and employment, as well as economic and financial cooperation.

Part of the “Dialogue of Cultures and Civilizations” is the “Interreligious Dialogue” taking place at regular intervals, which is attended by representatives from religious communities and civil society from the ASEM countries. The cooperation with our bilateral strategic partners in Asia will be further intensified in the future:

- Last year we started negotiations with Japan concerning a Free Trade Agreement.
- During our summit in November 2013, we approved the China-EU 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation with the new Chinese government. It aims at promoting an exchange between the citizens on peace and security, prosperity, and sustainable development (people-to-people exchanges) and also promoting progress in the strategic partnership.
- By establishing annual summits since the year 2000, we have been consolidating our relations with India, which also – on the basis of the so-called “Joint Action Plans” – resulted in a strategic partnership.
- Furthermore, the EU has closed Partnership and Cooperation Agreements with some of the member states of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, which promote sustainable development of the partner countries and contribute to regional cooperation.
- We will also continue to observe the developments in Afghanistan very closely. We will continue to support the processes of state building and capacity building, based on the Ten-Year Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Afghanistan.
- The USA have announced that they will put a stronger strategic emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region. We welcome this consistent commitment on behalf of the USA, as well as of the majority of the Asian and Pacific states. For the latter, the commitment of the USA is, in the first instance, a guarantee for security.
- The developments in Myanmar are of particular interest to the entire international community and not only for us Europeans. We support the political and economic transformation process and consequently decided in April 2013 to lift the sanctions against this Southeast Asian country. The elections next year will constitute an important milestone on the way to

democracy. The EU has increased its commitment in Myanmar and in November 2013 has pledged further support within the framework of a task force. I was a guest in Myanmar for the first time a few days ago. We, the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, have opened an office in Yangon. We would like to set an example and make our contribution towards deepening the relations between our two countries.

These statements show that we are in the great position of being able to look back on many years of cooperation. This applies to economic cooperation in particular.

The Asia-Pacific region plays a fundamental role for worldwide prosperity. This region belongs to the fastest growing export markets and economies.

The financial and economic crisis hit us Europeans particularly hard. However, it also has an impact on the relations between Europe and Asia. I am fully aware that Asia is closely observing the developments in Europe and the approach to dealing with crisis. Quite rightly so! For the EU, it is one of the greatest challenges in its history.

At the same time, it shows that we Europeans are able to get through tough times together. Our solidarity – especially from the German side – with those EU Member States, which need special help and assistance, is still required.

All EU Member States will consolidate their budgets. Furthermore, it is of the essence that – and this applies to partners in Europe, America and Asia – the causes for the crisis be combated and for us to join forces in order to lead the world economy towards sustainable development. To this end, clear rules and regulations must apply for the global economic and financial markets.

In Germany, we have trusted in the Social Market Economy model for more than 60 years. The reconstruction of our country, which led to growth and prosperity after World War II is closely linked to the Social Market Economy.

It would be presumptuous to say that the Social Market Economy is the only appropriate model, which can lead us out of the crisis. However, please allow me to make

reference to some concrete experiences: the Social Market Economy can be a model for overcoming this crisis because it originates from a series of other crises. It is to this model that we owe our widespread prosperity, social equilibrium, a fair labour market, and fair competition among the companies.

We trust in the market – however, it is not an end in itself, it has a social responsibility. The market needs structure, it needs rules. After more than 40 years, the Social Market Economy was enshrined in the Lisbon Treaty in the EU. Now we want to impart this principle beyond the borders of Europe.

Despite the crisis, Europe remains politically and economically strong. The figures speak for themselves. Even if the European economy has only grown slowly in 2012 and 2013, it continues to be the largest economy in the world with an average per capita GDP of EUR 25,000 for its 500 million citizens.

At the end of May of this year, these citizens in the European Member-States are called upon to elect a new Parliament. This is the first election after the Lisbon Treaty entering into force. For the first time, the different parliamentary groups represented in the European Parliament are nominating their own leading candidates who are running for the office of the President of the European Commission. These and other measures for development are reforming and strengthening the European Union and its institutions.

The EU has a strong interest in Asia, which goes far beyond the economic and commercial interests – over time they have developed into new forms of political and strategic partnership in numerous fields of cooperation. Security issues and human rights are fields in which a close alignment and cooperation can be of advantage to both sides.

Strategically and in terms of security policy, Asia is essential for Europe. We pursue sustainable solutions in order to face global problems and challenges. Today we are confronted with developments which would have been unimaginable 20 or 30 years ago. This list is long, the principle ones being: climate change, energy security, international terrorism, maritime security, the increasing

importance of cyber security, environmental protection, economic imbalances, poverty, as well as demography and migration.

The European integration became a guarantor for peace and stability in Europe. The EU explicitly supports the creation of a security architecture in Asia, in order to face diverse challenges relating to security policy. By contributing with its expertise and cooperating with important allies within and outside the region, the EU is striving to become a respected political and security policy partner. This increased interest in exchange and cooperation was also reflected by Lady Ashton's participation in the Asia Security Summit – the Shangri-la Dialogue – in Singapore in June last year.

The EU primarily wants to contribute towards facing the challenges of security policy in the region. In this context, the EU relies on an approach, which goes beyond the “three Ds” – Defense, Diplomacy, and Development.

Besides diplomatic instruments, it also includes economic and humanitarian ones. Challenges concerning security policy must be combated from the start, attacking the root problem and must then be confronted with a strategic approach. For this reason, the EU supports the establishment of a regional security architecture in the ASEAN area by technical support. In this context, the regional and strategic security in Asia is in our very own interest.

We therefore closely observe the territorial conflicts on the South China Sea with great concern. Nearly 50% of world shipping by tonnage goes through the South China Sea. An escalation would not only have economic and political consequences for the region, but also for the international community.

Today, there are new opportunities for the promotion of the cooperation between Asia and Europe. Our new government, headed by Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel, is closely observing the developments in Asia. The relations with Asia and strategic partnerships between Germany and the EU with Asia must be intensified on the basis of universal values. Asia is and continues to be a focal point in our foreign policy activities.

If we want to work successfully with our Asian friends, we, as Europeans especially, should not forget Asia's diversity. The history, the culture and the religion, the economic development and the political system vary from country to country. In its relations with Asia, the EU should therefore look back on its own experiences, which can be described by its creed “Unity in Diversity.”

In the light of this fruitful past of the relations between Asia and Europe and between ASEAN and the EU, we attach great importance to continuing, further developing and intensifying our relations in the future. We, as Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, we will make our own special contribution. I believe that the Philippines, in particular, can and must be a forerunner in ASEAN with their value-based culture and their concrete experience with Christian-Muslim cooperation.

Besides Australia, the USA, and Japan, Germany is today among the four most important partners of the Philippines. Our economic relations have also grown strongly over the past few years. Last year, the trade volume between our countries reached EUR 10 billion for the first time.

This close cooperation is important. We can and want to make our contribution, to ensure that both sides have the opportunity of developing along their competitive advantages and in accordance with their mutual interests. However, in our globalized world, close and aligned cooperation will be just as important: a cooperation which leads to the development and implementation of world standards and norms, which are determined by universal values – a cooperation, which will ensure peace and foster development to overcome poverty.

Together with Asia, we want to face our future. We would like to make use of the dynamics coming from Asia, to the benefit of both sides. Germany's economic strength and the European foundation of values our strong commitment in development cooperation as well as our model of sustainable social market economy form the basis for an even closer cooperation with the people in Asia.

Thank you for your attention!



(Top): The crowd settles in before the start of the event

(Middle): Hans-Gert Pöttering, KAS Chairman and former EU Parliament President and Peter Köppinger, Representative of KAS in the Philippines, welcome Nancy Binay, Philippine Senator

(Bottom): The guests take in the different messages of the speakers



Guests rise for the invocation of the Christian and Muslim faiths



Former Philippine President Fidel Ramos; Hans-Gert Pöttering; and former Speaker of the Philippine House of Representatives, Jose de Venecia, give a thumbs up to the camera



CLOSING REMARKS

Peter Köppinger

Representative, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in the Philippines



Excellencies,
Dr. Pöttering, dear friends
of Konrad-Adenauer-
Stiftung, dear colleagues,

We have heard from Lito
Lorenzana the long story
of partnership, of efforts
and failures in our
cooperation with
Philippine partners to
improve democracy and
governance in the
Philippines. Congressman
Rufus Rodriguez, President
of the Centrist Democratic

Party of the Philippines, has presented to us the rationale of
cooperation between European Centrist Democrats and the
Centrist Democratic Party of the Philippines. Dr. Pöttering,
Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and former
President of the European Parliament, has put our attention
on the increasing importance of close relations and
cooperation between Europe and Asia, Europe and the ASEAN
community, and Germany and the Philippines. Allow me on
this background, some personal remarks.

Many groups of value-oriented people, seriously analyzing
the developments during the last decades, have understood
the strong impact of globalization on all human beings. And
therefore, they have established organizations like “Doctors
without Borders,” “Lawyers without Borders,” or “Journalists
without Borders” and they are visible, with meaningful,
admirable activities.

Did you realize that already, 50 years ago, the “Centrist Dem-
ocrats without Borders” started to be organized by
Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation?

When we tried again, after the failed attempts before and
after the Marcos dictatorship, on initiative of Rey Teves and
Lito Lorenzana to organize seriously Centrist Democracy as
a political power in order to address the huge problems in
the Philippines 4 years ago, I have met General Joe Almonte,
the great spy of the Philippines in the Vietnamese war, the

co-organizer with Fidel Ramos of the military involvement in
the EDSA revolution, and the Centrist Democratic Strategist
during the Presidency of Fidel Ramos in the 90s. He told me:
“You must be crazy, do you know what you are up against?”
But when I asked him: “And what are the other options?”
What do you suggest?” He was quiet for two minutes. Finally
he answered: “You are right, we tried everything else, it did
not work. You have to try it, even if it seems to be impossi-
ble, because the only other option is blood.”

What does it mean for us, to be present here in the
Philippines as “Centrist Democrats without Borders” –
Centrist democrats who build their political concepts,
programs, and actions on the core value of human dignity?

This is not just an empty phrase or a theoretical concept.
It means:

Me, being the representative of the Konrad-Adenauer Foun-
dation in this country, I am one of you, I suffer like you
and I become very angry when I see:

- the thousands of dirty, sick children laying on the streets;
- the incredible number of victims from land grabbing,
intimidation, violence, and murder of relatives, who cannot find
justice even after waiting for many years at the courts; and
- the hundred thousands of young mothers working as
prostitutes in the bars and videoke places to earn money for
the survival of their children, after their husbands or
boyfriends ran away and there is no State to force them to
take over responsibility for the costs of raising their children.

I suffer when I see:

- the millions of poor farmers not knowing how to earn
the money to pay doctors and medicine when they
become sick;
- the indigenous people who lose their land and with it,
their identity and ability to live decent lives to greedy
local officials, members of political dynasties, and mining
companies;

- the nearly 10 million oversee workers, who cannot find
jobs and income in their home country and have to
migrate all over the world, leaving back, in many cases,
broken families; and
- I become angry when I see most of your leading
politicians who do not want to understand – because
they come from the powerful big families - that the
solution for all these problems is not just to have an
honest person on top of the country, but to initiate
fundamental structural changes in your constitution and
the set-up of your democracy.

Let me conclude here: Yes, I am incredibly sad and angry,
but I am also very optimistic. I see many friends here who
are now part of the struggle to conclude, to finalize, the
unfinished revolution – as Joe Almonte is calling it in his
latest interview in the Esquire. But I see also many others
who understand very well, but are still only well-wishers,
bystanders, when it comes to build up real political parties
as instruments to change the political landscape.

Allow me to throw on you a word of Konrad Adenauer, the
name-giver of our foundation, one of the 3 main fathers
of the European Union, the first Chancellor, and first
Chairman of the Christian Democratic Union in Germany
after our total moral and political disaster with the Hitler
regime and the Second World War. I quote: “By not acting
you can become as guilty as by doing evil things.”

Join us in our struggle to finish the unfinished liberation of
the Filipino people from the dynasties and patronage
system, which has been started by José Rizal, your national
hero, by Bonifacio, Aguinaldo, and their co-revolutionaries
in the 1890s but has never been concluded, even not after
the 1986 EDSA Revolution. And let me quote once more
Konrad Adenauer: “There are political necessities, which
are so absolutely unavoidable that they will happen one
day.” And a last quote from him: “When something seems
to be impossible you have to try to make it possible.”

Join us, the Centrist Democrats, because the only other
solution for your country would be very bloody.

Thank you very much.

“Join us in our struggle to finish
the unfinished liberation of the
Filipino people from the dynasties
and patronage system, which has
been started by José Rizal,
your national hero, by Bonifacio,
Aguinaldo, and their
co-revolutionaries in the 1890s
but has never been concluded,
even not after the 1986 EDSA
Revolution. And let me quote
once more Konrad Adenauer:
“There are political necessities,
which are so absolutely
unavoidable that they will happen
one day.” And a last quote from
him: “When something seems to
be impossible you have to try to
make it possible.”



(Top): A quick photo opportunity for the VIP table

(Middle): Former Philippine President Fidel Ramos shares a lighthearted moment with KAS Chairman and former EU Parliament President Hans-Gert Pöttering

(Bottom): The ballroom was packed with different KAS partners, academe, non-governmental organizations, the media, etc.



(Top): The crowd, enjoying the live traditional music of the Philippine rondalla ensemble

(Middle): Peter Köppinger, Representative of KAS in the Philippines and Hans-Gert Pöttering

(Bottom): The guests pay close attention to the speakers, as the event comes to a close

