NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

INTERVIEWS WITH EXPERTS:

ASSESSMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO PARIS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE COP21

What are the international views on COP21?

Experts from nine KAS offices provided their assessments.

The COP21 in Paris at the end of 2015 turned out to be more successful than many had expected. The reasons for the remarkable consensus are many and varied, including not least the fact that the negotiating states arrived at the event absolutely determined to come to an agreement – unlike at the Copenhagen COP in 2009.

The interviews with experts from the KAS offices indicated that the goals agreed on in Paris are viewed differently in the individual countries, and that interests vary greatly. As far as the USA and Russia are concerned, it became clear that the cost-effectiveness of climate protection strategies had been crucial to the consensus. In Latin America, the focus was on the adaptation to climate change. From an Asian perspective, it was of central importance to give equal weight to efforts of climate change prevention and adaptation. The key concern for the EU, on the other hand, was to ensure that a solid consensus would be reached at all, and that the EU would play the role of "deal maker".

The audio interviews with the experts from the KAS country offices can be accessed via the following link:

www.adenauercampus.de/web/guest/klimakonferenz
The thirst for energy is still on the rise. Developing and newly industrialised countries are pursuing economic growth, ultimately aspiring to reach a level of wealth that we in Germany and Europe have come to take for granted. However, many countries are still far away from this goal. Over a billion people still have no access to electricity. Prices for fossil fuels have fallen drastically in recent times. This means that oil, coal and gas remain attractive to many people for covering their increasing energy demand. A turning point in the development of global greenhouse gas emissions is therefore not yet in sight.

Thus, it seems all the more remarkable that the 196 contracting parties attending the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris (COP21) at the end of last year agreed on the goal of reaching the turning point in global greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible, and on the goal of balancing man-made emissions and their absorption in the second half of the century. It is important to note that it is no longer merely the industrialised countries that consider themselves responsible for reducing their emissions, but that it is now basically all countries. For many states, COP21 provided the incentive to begin to investigate climate protection goals of their own and to develop strategies for an adaptation to the impact of climate change. The declared common goal is now to limit global warming to significantly less than 2°C, if possible 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels – an enormous challenge, particularly as the commitments made by individual countries so far would produce a scenario of 2.7°C.

The question is now how we can develop globally sustainable ways of living and economic activities for the long term, while taking into account more immediate key issues, such as poverty reduction and the development of prosperity. How can efforts to increase prosperity around the world be effectively decoupled from CO2 emissions and resource consumption?

With reference to the Paris climate change agreement, we as the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung are intent on using our worldwide activities within our international networks to discuss political solutions and exchange experiences. It is important to us, in this context, to link the issues relating to climate and energy policy with other strategic aspects, particularly with those of international security, economic and trade policy, as well as development policy, and thus to promote joined-up action. On the following pages, we are giving you an insight into our current work in this area, which includes dialogue and information programmes, workshops, conferences and publications.

I trust it will make for an inspiring read.

Dr Gerhard Wahlers
Deputy Secretary-General
Head of the Department of European and International Cooperation
PATHS TOWARDS A LOW-CARBON ECONOMY IN UKRAINE

In parallel with the climate change conference in Paris, participants in the KAS climate change workshop on 11 December 2015 discussed the financial and economic aspects of climate policy for Ukraine. Presentations on various climate protection instruments, such as emissions trade and environmental standards for businesses, were followed by an intensive discussion, which included an exchange of critical views on issues such as “greenwashing” and the costs involved in renewable energies.

In addition, Ukraine’s first Centre for Environmental Economics was opened at the Kyiv Vadym Hetman National Economic University in order to enhance study and research facilities; the centre was set up with support from the KAS and its partner NGO “Energie Libre”.

LATIN AMERICAN EXPERTS IN GERMANY AND AT THE COP21

At the invitation of the KAS, climate experts from six Latin American countries took part in a dialogue programme in Germany and France at the end of 2015. While the discussions with members of the Bundestag and with scientists in Berlin focused on the implementation of the energy transition, the talks in Paris concentrated on the COP21 taking place at the same time. The agenda in Paris included an official side event on the topic of climate regulation in Latin America, as well as a technical discussion on the role of France as host of the COP21.

BRAZILIAN CITIES AND COP21

In collaboration with the city of Curitiba, the KAS Brazil office organised a meeting of the National Forum of the Heads of the Departments for Environmental Affairs of the capitals of the Brazilian federal states (CB27). The participants discussed the role of subnational actors in climate policy negotiations and decision-making, as the decisions made at a national and international level have a direct impact on cities. The secretaries of the environment attending the meeting signed a declaration of intent stressing the need to create a regulatory framework on emissions reduction for the capitals of the federal states, and to specify the financial and technical means required to limit global warming. The participants also agreed that a delegation of the CB27 would be sent to attend the COP21 in Paris.

HONGKONG: COP21 SIMULATION GAME

In autumn 2015, some students and young professionals who are the future decision-makers in politics and business learnt about the challenges of global climate policy during a COP21 simulation game lasting several days, which the KAS Regional Project Energy Security and Climate Change Asia-Pacific (RECAP) had organised. The negotiation simulation involved the national contributions to emissions reduction and the adaptation to climate change. The joint outcome document contained concrete goals and coordinated measures that came very close to the actual results of the Paris negotiations in December. Many of the students intend to use the specialist knowledge and negotiating skills they acquired for their future work.
The question of how to deal with refugees in Europe was at the centre of political talks during a three-day visit to Paris by the chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, and the foundation’s deputy secretary general, Dr Gerhard Wahlers. During meetings with the French President’s chief of staff, Harlem Désir, and the secretary of state for European affairs, Dr Gerhard Wahlers. During meetings with the French President’s chief of staff, Jean-Pierre Jouyet, and the secretary of state for European affairs, Harlem Désir, Dr Pöttering explained the German stance towards the refugee issue and called for the necessary solidarity within the European Union. He was joined in his demands for a system of European border control and a joint European asylum policy by opposition representatives from the centre-right party “Les Républicains”, who also attended the talks. In view of the current situation, the leaders of “Les Républicains” in the French National Assembly, Christian Jacob, and in the Senate, Bruno Retailleau, warned particularly about the boost the situation was giving to populist and extremist parties and reported about the experiences France had made in the area of migration and integration.
KONRAD-ADENAUER-STREET IN BUDAPEST

There has been a street bearing Konrad Adenauer’s name at the heart of the Hungarian capital since October 2015. On 4 November, Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, former President of the European Parliament, joined Hungarian Minister Antal Rogán in a ceremony to unveil the road sign for the Konrad-Adenauer-Street and a bust of Adenauer. Prof Mária Schmidt, Director General of the "House of Terror" memorial and museum, honoured Konrad Adenauer’s lifelong work for the freedom and integration of Europe in some introductory remarks.

In his speech in front of guests from politics, business, academia and civil society, Dr Pöttering stressed that European unity had only become feasible when the citizens in the Central and Eastern European countries took to the streets in their quest for freedom in 1989, and when Hungary “knocked the first brick out of the wall” (Helmut Kohl) with the Pan-European Picnic and its decision to open the border. He further stressed that the European Union was a community based on the rule of law. "Authoritarian regimes cannot and must never be a model because they disregard the law."

ADENAUER-FORUM
"EUROPE IN THE 21ST CENTURY"

During the traditional Adenauer Forum conducted by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Prague in November 2015, Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, KAS Chairman, and Helena Langšídllová, Deputy Chair of the Committee for EU Matters in the Czech Parliament, discussed the topic of "Europe in the 21st Century." Dr Pöttering called for the values of freedom and democracy as well as for dignity of the individual to be upheld in the democratic countries of Europe. He also called for European solidarity, stating that a problem significantly affecting one European country also always represented a problem for the EU as a whole. While he understood Czech Republic’s reticence in relation to the refugee issue due to historical experiences, he condemned the demonisation of refugees. He roundly rejected the restoration of internal borders because “building physical borders also creates borders in people’s heads.”

NEW SECURITY RISKS FOR EUROPE

RACVIAC (Centre for Security Cooperation) and the KAS Croatia office organised the Third Regional Security Conference on the RACVIAC premises from 17 to 19 November 2015 to discuss the impact of the current refugee crisis on the security and stability of the region’s countries. In the presence of the deputy chairman of the CDU/CSU group in the German Bundestag, former Federal Minister Dr Hans-Peter Friedrich, experts from south-eastern Europe discussed the situation of migrants in the region and the impact on the security situation.

EUROPEAN ROUND TABLE AT WILTON PARK

During the annual "European Round Table" at Wilton Park, politicians and academics from Germany, the UK, Ireland, Greece and Hungary analysed current political challenges in the EU. Discussions focused on the impending UK EU membership referendum, with the analysis concentrating on the campaigns recently started by the proponents and opponents of retaining EU membership. There was also a lively debate about the value the involvement of other European countries could add. The Round Table further discussed the strengthening of populist parties in Europe and the loss of trust in the traditional parties. Another point of discussion was Russia’s current foreign policy and Russian interventions in Ukraine and Syria. Besides an assessment of the current situation in Greece, the participants analysed the correlations between structural reforms and the migration crisis. In conclusion, the talks concentrated on current developments in the area of asylum and migration.
25 YEARS OF GERMAN-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of German reunification, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, in collaboration with the Antall József Knowledge Centre and Andrásy University Budapest, organised a conference about German-Hungarian relations to take place on 29 and 30 September 2015. Besides Hungary’s Minister for Human Resources Zoltán Balog, Minister of National Economy Mihály Varga and the German ambassador to Hungary, Dr Heinz-Peter Behr, the event was attended by high-ranking German and Hungarian representatives from business, politics and culture. The purpose of the exchange of ideas was to analyse important facets of German-Hungarian relations and to take stock. Despite occasional irritations, many of those speaking at the conference declared themselves very pleased with the development of relations between the two countries. The conference was rounded off by a reception at the German embassy in Budapest. It was complemented by an exhibition about Helmut Kohl and his political achievements, which had been organised with support from the Institute for the 20th Century.

FIFTH NATO-ASIA/PACIFIC DIALOGUE

This year, the Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and the Pacific in Singapore organised its annual NATO-Asia event in Brussels from 15 to 17 September 2015, at which NATO representatives were able to converse with government representatives from Afghanistan, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia and Pakistan, as well as with well respected experts from Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Korea and Vietnam.

The event began with consultations and discussion at the NATO Headquarters in Brussels. On the second day, the delegation visited the European Defence Summit of the Munich Security Conference. The event concluded with a conference on NATO’s future engagement with Asian partners. Topics of particular interest included hybrid warfare, cyber security, maritime security, the Ukraine crisis with its implications for Asia, crisis prevention and management, and interoperability. The conference members agreed that robust partnerships, political dialogue and trust-building measures were required to master the upcoming security challenges. In view of global conflicts, top priority should be given to setting up a transparent security architecture in Europe and Asia.
In mid-September, Japan’s upper house in Tokyo adopted new security policy provisions following numerous demonstrations and against tenacious resistance from the opposition parties. These provisions greatly expand the range of potential foreign deployments of Japan’s self-defence forces, for instance as part of international peace-keeping missions or to support allied armed forces. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe defended the new provisions as a necessary prerequisite for making a "proactive contribution to peace."

Critics accuse the Japanese government of "turning its back on pacifism." In view of this situation, the "German-Japanese Security Policy Forum", which the KAS Japan office organised in Tokyo in collaboration with the Japanese-German Centre Berlin (JDZB) at the end of September, traced the changes in the deployment profile of the Bundeswehr from their inception over two decades ago. In front of an audience of over 100 people, renowned experts from Germany and Japan discussed not only the military prerequisites and legal provisions for operations abroad but also the social challenges of the expanded deployment profile.


discussion indicated that poverty and poor education or a deficient education system were among the key factors. These cannot be overcome by military means alone; instead, there is a need for concepts of effective and sustainable development to reduce and eliminate the causes of terrorism and violence.

On 5 and 6 October 2015, high-ranking German and Malaysian security experts discussed current security policy challenges in the global and regional context at a meeting in Kuala Lumpur. Key topics were the development of ASEAN, migrants, refugees and human trafficking, terrorism, US-China relations as well as European security policy.

JAPAN: CONFERENCE ABOUT FOREIGN OPERATIONS

In mid-September, Japan’s upper house in Tokyo adopted new security policy provisions following numerous demonstrations and against tenacious resistance from the opposition parties. These provisions greatly expand the range of potential foreign deployments of Japan’s self-defence forces, for instance as part of international peace-keeping missions or to support allied armed forces. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe defended the new provisions as a necessary prerequisite for making a "proactive contribution to peace."

FOURTH GERMANY-MALAYSIA SECURITY DIALOGUE

On 5 and 6 October 2015, high-ranking German and Malaysian security experts discussed current security policy challenges in the global and regional context at a meeting in Kuala Lumpur. Key topics were the development of ASEAN, migrants, refugees and human trafficking, terrorism, US-China relations as well as European security policy.

EXPERTS DISCUSS THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

At the end of the year, KAS and the Mouvement Citoyen association organised a seminar on the fight against terrorism. Minister Prof Penda Mbow examined the historical factors, Alioune Tine from Amnesty International spoke about the role of civil society, and General Pereira described governmental and private instruments of prevention. The discussion attracted a large audience from all sections of politics, business and culture.

While it became clear that the causes of terrorism are numerous and complex, the discussion indicated that poverty and poor education or a deficient education system were among the key factors. These cannot be overcome by military means alone; instead, there is a need for concepts of effective and sustainable development to reduce and eliminate the causes of terrorism and violence.

While it became clear that the causes of terrorism are numerous and complex, the discussion indicated that poverty and poor education or a deficient education system were among the key factors. These cannot be overcome by military means alone; instead, there is a need for concepts of effective and sustainable development to reduce and eliminate the causes of terrorism and violence.

EXPERTS DISCUSS THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

At the end of the year, KAS and the Mouvement Citoyen association organised a seminar on the fight against terrorism. Minister Prof Penda Mbow examined the historical factors, Alioune Tine from Amnesty International spoke about the role of civil society, and General Pereira described governmental and private instruments of prevention. The discussion attracted a large audience from all sections of politics, business and culture.

While it became clear that the causes of terrorism are numerous and complex, the discussion indicated that poverty and poor education or a deficient education system were among the key factors. These cannot be overcome by military means alone; instead, there is a need for concepts of effective and sustainable development to reduce and eliminate the causes of terrorism and violence.

EXPERTS DISCUSS THE FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM

At the end of the year, KAS and the Mouvement Citoyen association organised a seminar on the fight against terrorism. Minister Prof Penda Mbow examined the historical factors, Alioune Tine from Amnesty International spoke about the role of civil society, and General Pereira described governmental and private instruments of prevention. The discussion attracted a large audience from all sections of politics, business and culture.

While it became clear that the causes of terrorism are numerous and complex, the discussion indicated that poverty and poor education or a deficient education system were among the key factors. These cannot be overcome by military means alone; instead, there is a need for concepts of effective and sustainable development to reduce and eliminate the causes of terrorism and violence.
POLITICAL DIALOGUE

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ZHDZ-KAS ALUMNI

The Croatian Statehood Foundation (ZHSDZ) and the KAS organised the first reunion of alumni of the "Political Academy" of the ZHDZ to take place in Tučeljske Toplice from 27 to 29 November. The participants were joined by former MEP Doris Pack, President of EPP Women. During three podium discussions with Croatian politicians and experts, representatives of all eight generations of the "Political Academy" covered topics such as "Young People and Political Engagement", "Challenges of the Younger Generation", as well as approaches to improving cooperation between the worlds of academia and business.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT VISITTING COSTA RICA AND PANAMA

In October 2015, Georg Nüßlein (CSU), Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, and Dr Joachim Pfeiffer, the CDU spokesman on economic and energy policy, travelled to Panama and Costa Rica. In Panama City, the MPs met with the Panamanian government minister, Milton Henríquez, and further representatives from the Christian-Democratic party "Partido Popular". The topics discussed during these meetings covered approaches to a solution of the economic and energy challenges Panama is facing. In Costa Rica at the Universidad Latina, the MPs gave talks on the subject of migration and refugees in Germany and Europe. To conclude their trip, Dr Nüßlein and Dr Pfeiffer met with Rafael Ortiz, President of the National Assembly, to talk about Costa Rica’s opportunities and challenges. The politician from the Partido Unidad Social Cristiana stressed the importance of collaborations such as that with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung for advancing the development of the Central American country.

CONFERENCE ON REGIONAL SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN MANILA

On 20 November 2015, the office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in the Philippines conducted an international conference titled "Maritime and Regional Security in the Asia-Pacific: Challenges and Prospects for Cooperation." Besides Filipino experts, guests from Germany and a number of Southeast-Asian countries participated in order to discuss the current challenges of regional economic integration against the backdrop of the persistent territorial disputes in the South China Sea. The experts also had the opportunity to exchange their thoughts on this topic with former President Fidel Ramos. The event, which had been organised in collaboration with the Policy Center of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), attracted some 130 participants from business and the media, government representatives, parliamentarians, as well as representatives from numerous embassies. The conference was the first of what is due to become an annual event for examining the situation in the Philippines in the context of regional conflict and cooperation potentials.
SECURITY POLICY DIALOGUE IN GEORGIA

Thomas Kossendey, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Matters of "Innere Führung" (Leadership and Civic Education) and former Secretary of State at the Federal Ministry of Defence, visited the Republic of Georgia in the Southern Caucasus from 26 to 27 November 2015 at the invitation of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. Topical discussions with high-ranking representatives from the Georgian Ministry of Defence and from the general staff of the Georgian Armed Forces focused on civilian components and control mechanisms of the armed forces, as well as on current military policy challenges posed by structural change both in Germany and Georgia. A lecture on "The Guiding Principle of the 'Citizen in Uniform'" in front of officer cadets studying at the National Defence Academy provided the basis for an intensive exchange of ideas on the concept of "Leadership Development and Civic Education." Another topic of discussion involved Georgia's prospects of joining NATO. Georgia had received promises regarding a NATO membership at the 2008 NATO summit in Bucharest. In return for the rapprochement with the North Atlantic Alliance, Georgia is taking part in international operations. Georgian soldiers are, for instance, helping to guard the Bundeswehr Camp Marmal in Afghanistan as part of the mission "Resolution Support".

GOVERNMENTS OF NATIONAL UNITY
SOLUTION TO NATIONAL CONFLICTS

Around the world, increasing efforts are being made to resolve civil wars by forming "Governments of National Unity." Be it in Iraq or in Afghanistan – the Government of National Unity is seen as a panacea for ethnic and religious conflicts. Whether it can genuinely help to bring about the reconciliation of split societies was under discussion by international experts meeting in Berlin on 19 November 2015. Years of experience gained with Governments of National Unity, such as those in South Africa and Lebanon, were compared with lessons learned from more recent examples. The exchange between the international experts illustrated that this form of government can provide a means of finding a way out of a violent conflict situation. However, it also became clear that this type of government bears the long-term risk of freezing the conflicts rather than overcoming them. Finding an answer to this dilemma remains the task ahead and the key challenge in the search for effective conflict resolution strategies.

17TH ASIA-EUROPE THINK TANK DIALOGUE

The 17th Asia-Europe Think Tank Dialogue of the Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and the Pacific in Singapore took place in cooperation with the Clingendael Institute in The Hague, the Netherlands on 10 and 11 September. Under the headline "Rethinking International Institutions, Diplomacy and Impact on Emerging World Order," discussions focused in particular on the rise of new powers and institutions in the economic and security spheres. One question debated was whether these powers indeed challenge the current system, or whether they maybe complement it instead. Might old institutions need to be reformed or even be abolished? Another topic under discussion was the impact of digitisation on diplomacy. According to the participants, the extent to which digitisation can facilitate or jeopardise diplomatic reforms remains to be seen.
ENERGY, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: SUSTAINABLE BIOENERGY & BIOFUELS

Energy dependence plays an evermore important role in connection with political issues such as peace, security and stability around the world – and attention is increasingly turning to Africa, the continent with the largest areas of unutilised arable land in the world. The obvious question is whether the use of biofuels could potentially provide a way forward. This is the question that was examined in an experts’ workshop initiated by the "Development and Rule of Law Programme" (DROP) and the "Biofuels Research Chair" of Stellenbosch University in collaboration with the KAS. The discussions involving experts from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Brazil focused on the legal, economic and ecological aspects of the use of bioenergy. The outcome of the critical appraisal of the advantages and disadvantages of bioenergy and biofuels were to be documented in a future publication.

LATIN AMERICA: ENERGY TRANSITION POLICY BETWEEN SUCCESS AND CHALLENGE

Where is energy transition policy heading in Latin America and what role can the German "Energiewende" play to assist? Questions such as these were discussed at a two-day event in Lima, Peru, organised by the Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Latin America (EKLA-KAS) in collaboration with the Universidad del Pacifico en Lima (UP). The event was attended by high-ranking experts and politicians from over nine Latin-American countries, as well as by scientists from leading German think tanks. The discussions focused above all on the political and regulatory framework required to encourage the expansion of renewable energies.

JORDAN, ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES: WATER & ENERGY NETWORK

The KAS office in the Palestinian Territories and the KAS Multinational Development Policy Dialogue organised a panel discussion on the topic "A regional energy-water nexus as a roadmap to sustainable cooperation in the Middle East" to be held at the European Parliament in November, hosted by Dr Christian Dan Preda, MEP (EPP). The occasion was used to present a trilateral project under the aegis of the KAS Ramallah office and the regional NGO EcoPeace Middle East. The partners are pursuing the vision of a regional water and energy network, in which desalinated water from the Israeli and Palestinian coastlines is supplied to Jordan in the east in exchange for solar energy, as well as to the West Bank. The vision is to foster cooperation in the Middle East via the policy areas of energy and climate, emulating the achievements of the European Coal and Steel Community.
**MONGOLIA: WATER MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE**

Due to its very low population density, Mongolia only contributes to climate change in a minor way; but it is hit hard by its negative impact. Over the last 15 years, the Mongolian climate has already warmed by three degrees. This has caused considerable water shortages, resulting in desertification in approximately 70 per cent of the country. Water pollution is also a problem. This is above all due to the impact of mining, and in the capital Ulaanbaatar due to the fact that over half of all households are not connected to the central sewer systems. Consequently, effluents contaminate the groundwater and the rivers. Sufficient reason to prompt the KAS Mongolia office to organise a conference on “Water Management and Climate Change” in collaboration with the Mongolian Ministry of Environment. Together with the Environment Minister, numerous parliamentarians, public officials and civil society representatives, we discussed problems and potential solutions at a conference held on 3 December 2015, which was already the second event of its type. What needs to happen now is for the experts’ awareness of the problem to be introduced into the social and political debate, so that sustainable solutions can be devised.

**HUNGARY: URBAN DEVELOPMENT OF THE FUTURE**

In October 2015, the second “Sustainable Development Conference” (SUSCO) of the Antall József Knowledge Centre was held in Budapest. This year’s motto was “Climate-Resistant Urban Development”. In four panel discussions, the topics of cities worth living in, sustainable transport, ecological construction and sustainable urban planning were debated. The discussions strengthened the awareness that the challenge of successful and sustainable development can only be met if politics, society and business work together. This conference, which was organised with support from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, was once again sponsored by János Áder, President of Hungary, and István Tarlós, Mayor of Budapest. The conference was opened by the head of the local KAS office, Frank Spengler.

**SOUTHERN CAUCASUS AND THE EUROPEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY**

From 13 to 15 September 2015, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung held the fourth South Caucasus Energy Forum at a venue at Lake Como. This year, the forum focused on the opportunities for cooperation between the three South Caucasian countries of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and the European Energy Community. Dr Dirk Buschle, Deputy Director of the Secretariat of the European Energy Community, stressed in particular the goal to establish integrated energy markets between the EU and its Eastern partner countries. There was a lively debate about the harmonisation of national legislation with the European energy acquis, as well as on the role of the South Caucasus for the EU’s energy supply security.
Selected Events
(The numbers in a square mean an event in Germany)

KAS PANORAMA

LATIN AMERICA

16 Sixth Meeting of Young Entrepreneurs Workshop
Mendoza, 17 – 21 March 2016
7 Adaptation to Climate Change: Political Strategies in the Agricultural Sector Congress
Lima, 31 March – 1 April 2016
9 China and Latin America: Trade, Direct Investment and Economic Cooperation Congress
Medellín, 7 April 2016
9 Regional Forum: Migration, Security and Human Development
Santiago de Chile, 24 – 27 May 2016
1 22nd Conference of Constitutional Court Judges in Latin America Congress
Mexico City, 16 – 18 June 2016
7 Oil Price Risks and Climate Security: Challenges for Latin America’s Energy
Congress
Berlin, 29 June 2016

EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA

39 Third Greek-Turkish Workshop on Refugees and Migration Thessaloniki, 15 March 2016
40 Easter Seminar of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) and Gemeinschaft Junger Ungardeutscher (GJU)
Fünfkirchen/Pécs, 18 – 25 March 2016
29 One World Romania International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival Bucharest, 21 – 27 March 2016
22 Women in Politics Donja Stubica, 15 – 17 April 2016
18 Fifth Georgian-German Strategic Forum Berlin, 26 – 27 April 2016
14 KAS-WMCES European Workshop and Debate: Brexit or Bremain? The Future of the UK and the EU London, 23 May 2016
22 Baden-Baden Dialogue Conference with judges from the highest German and Russian Courts Cadenabbia, 8 – 11 June 2016
YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS DEMAND ECONOMIC REFORMS IN TUNISIA

With its annual congress Tunis in December 2015, the Tunisian association for young entrepreneurs (CJD) rounded off a successful year. The KAS helped the association to establish nine new regional branches throughout the country, to set up a training scheme for young entrepreneurs and executives, and to introduce concrete suggestions for reforming the customs tariff and taxation system into the political debate. The three ministers responsible for finance, employment and investment were present and joined the discussion about ways to overcome the current economic crisis. CJD President Zribi called upon the country’s political decision-makers to demonstrate “greater courage to implement reforms,” making reference to the German model of the Social Market Economy, amongst other things.

WHAT CHANGES ARE REQUIRED TO GENERATE JOBS AND PROSPERITY?

Against the backdrop of strikes in South Africa that are increasingly threatening to boil over into violence, the KAS and its partner, the Mail & Guardian weekly newspaper, organised a podium discussion in December 2015 about jobs and prosperity. In a country that has the highest number of strike days in the world, collective bargaining within a functioning framework of industrial relations is of prime importance. At this event, the KAS succeeded in getting all relevant parties to sit down together with a professional moderator directing the proceedings. Employers, employees and government representatives accepted collective bargaining as a central element of the market economy and discussed the practical implementation of this model. Subsequently, Dr Dix, Head of the KAS South Africa office, pointed out that Germany has made good experiences with abandoning turf battles and with working together to the good of the country. This could also be a promising path for South Africa to follow.

Morocco’s New Employment Strategy

High unemployment is one of Morocco’s greatest challenges. Over 300 people attended a conference on Morocco’s new employment strategy, which the KAS organised in collaboration with the Moroccan association of trainers and personnel managers AGEF. Employment Minister Seddiki presented the new strategy, and Anass Doukkali, Director General of the Moroccan employment agency ANAPEC, explained the difficulties and benefits involved. During this event, children made a statement against child labour around the world with pictures they had drawn themselves.
For several years now, the Saudi Royal Family has been forging ahead with reforms to diversify the country’s economic structures and to better integrate the younger Saudi generation into the labour market. Against this background, the KAS Regional Office Gulf States joined forces with the German Embassy in Riyadh and the Consulate General in Jeddah in organising two podium discussions in the kingdom in October 2015 under the title “Promoting Career Opportunities for Young Professionals in Europe and the Gulf.” The intention was to encourage the dialogue on economic policy between young professionals from the two regions, and to further expand cooperation between Germany and Saudi Arabia in this area. The esteemed guests from politics and business included the Saudi deputy employment minister, Dr Ahmed Kattan.

**German-British Financial Experts’ Workshop**

In September 2015, financial experts from Germany and the UK met against the backdrop of the refugee crisis, which had a bearing on all the discussions. The key topics covered in the workshop included the danger of European disintegration, the tensions between countries within and outside the eurozone, as well as potential repercussions of a “Brexit”. In addition, trade agreements were discussed as a key aspect of furthering EU competitiveness.

**Foreign Direct Investment and Sustainable Development**

The impact of foreign direct investments on sustainable development in the South African Development Community was the topic of an event held in November 2015 in Johannesburg. The South African Institute for International Relations, one of the partners of the KAS, presented some research results for discussion, focusing on four case studies. One of the aspects covered was the role of foreign investors as drivers of economic integration and in connection with major infrastructure projects.

**BRICS: Political Ambitions and Genuine Opportunities**

With Russia having taken over the BRICS presidency, the KAS Moscow office organised an international conference on the current development of the BRICS. Experts from all the BRICS countries as well as Germany discussed the ambitions to develop this political and economic project further with common structures and goals.

**SIGHTS SET ON LIBERALISATION**

With her visit to Tunis in October 2015, EU Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström opened the negotiations for an enhanced and comprehensive free trade agreement between the EU and Tunisia. The KAS and the Tunisian Institute for Strategic Studies (ITES) complemented the start of negotiations by organising a conference where political decision-makers could meet with actors from business and civil society for an exchange of views. Making reference to Tunisia’s new self-image as a democracy, ITES Director Dr Hatem Ben Salem stressed that an agreement as important as this had to be negotiated in a transparent manner, involving dialogue with the public. In a lively podium discussion, Commissioner Malmström advocated a deepening of economic relations, while showing sympathy with concerns about stronger competitive pressures on Tunisia’s currently fragile economy.

**OFFERING A FUTURE TO THE YOUNG**

For several years now, the Saudi Royal Family has been forging ahead with reforms to diversify the country’s economic structures and to better integrate the younger Saudi generation into the labour market. Against this background, the KAS Regional Office Gulf States joined forces with the German Embassy in Riyadh and the Consulate General in Jeddah in organising two podium discussions in the kingdom in October 2015 under the title “Promoting Career Opportunities for Young Professionals in Europe and the Gulf.” The intention was to encourage the dialogue on economic policy between young professionals from the two regions, and to further expand cooperation between Germany and Saudi Arabia in this area. The esteemed guests from politics and business included the Saudi deputy employment minister, Dr Ahmed Kattan.

**INFRASTRUCTURE: KEY TO GREATER COMPETITIVENESS**

The future development of Latin American trade policy was at the centre of a major event attracting more than 100 participants, which the KAS regional SOPLA project had organised in collaboration with the “Fundación Chilena del Pacífico” in December 2015. Key requirements for enhancing the competitiveness of Latin American countries include improvements to the maritime infrastructure and the establishment of secure trading routes that can be utilised sustainably. David Gregosz, head of the regional project, stressed: “To ensure that Latin America keeps pace with global economic development, the continent must [...] offer reliable conditions for private investment and use tax funds to invest in infrastructure projects.”
The motivation comes from the disappointing results of existing approaches, which have furthered the development of dangerous organised crime structures, particularly in the traditional drug production countries, without achieving a significant reduction in production, trade or consumption.

What alternatives are there for dealing with drug consumption and the associated crime? In the search for answers, the members of the Study Group for International Criminal Law met with experts from relevant disciplines at three regional forums organised by the KAS Rule of Law Programme in Mexico City (28-29 September), Bogotá (5-6 October) and Montevideo (23-24 November). In internal working sessions and public forum events, the participants took stock of the drug policies pursued over the past decades from the perspective of the countries on the production and consumption side. There have been tentative attempts made on both sides to explore new avenues aimed at liberalising or regulating consumption as well as the production and sale of certain drugs. This has taken place within the restrictive framework of international law, partly through the courts, less so by legislation.

The Rule of Law Programme invited former Asian recipients of the KAS scholarship programmes in the field of law to take part in the traditional annual workshop in Hong Kong from 23 to 26 November 2015. The 17 participants from China, Korea, Cambodia and Vietnam work in various areas of the law, as lawyers and notaries, university academics and in their countries’ public administration. Shortly before the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, legal issues relating to food and water security were examined from national, regional and international perspectives. The alumni’s contributions on the situation in their home countries covered changes in national environmental criminal law, the effectiveness of existing regulation on food safety, increasing consumer awareness about food quality, the significance of water management for sustainable development, as well as the environmental impacts of major infrastructure projects. In collaboration with KAS Regional Project Energy Security and Climate Change Asia-Pacific (RECAP), the legal considerations were also placed in the wider context of "Energy and Resource Security."

REORGANISATION OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR DEALING WITH DRUGS?

RESEARCH WORK BY THE KAS STUDY GROUP FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW

In Columbia, experts are in intensive discussion with the Deputy Prosecutor General Jorge Perdomo. In the middle, the group’s academic coordinator Professor Kai Ambos (Göttingen University).
LESSONS FOR AFRICA

ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN POLITICAL PROCESSES – FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

The 2015 Jurists Conference of the “International Commission of Jurists”, Kenyan Section, was co-organised by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and Kenya’s National Gender and Equality Commission. The conference theme was chosen at the initiative of the KAS Rule of Law Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa. The event was intended to make a contribution to gender equality in political processes by participants exploring the different practical steps that any member of society can take to further women’s participation in political processes. The conference brought together government and non-government decision-makers, parliamentarians, judges, lawyers, academics and civil society representatives.

The discussions covered many aspects, including the theoretical and historical perspectives of gender representation in Africa; election systems and processes as mechanisms to further gender equality; the emerging trends and opportunities for representative democracy in Africa; the situation of gender equality and the experiences made with its implementation; the required legislative, institutional and administrative framework as well as the role of crucial institutions (including the justice system, the electoral commission, political parties, etc.) in furthering democracy and gender equality in political representation. The personal experiences of a number of present and former female members of parliament and one former Kenyan presidential candidate represented the conference highlight.

STUDY ABOUT THE SOCIAL SITUATION OF WOMEN IN PRISON IN COSTA RICA

With support from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Fundación Arias para la Paz, founded by Nobel Peace Laureate and former President Oscar Arias, conducted a study on the situation of women imprisoned for drug-related offences. The results of the study were presented in San José on 9 December. The study was based on qualitative interviews conducted in a women’s prison in San José.

The interviews indicate how the repressive measures of the country’s drug prevention policy impact on marginal social groups, particularly women and the people around them. Costa Rica’s anti-drug policy focuses too little on prevention and resocialisation. Many of the incarcerated women, who had been sentenced to lengthy prison sentences for minor drugs offences, are single mothers. The study discussed alternative drugs policy measures, drawing on legislation from Spain, Scotland and Germany, for instance, where greater emphasis is placed on prevention.

Lina Barrantes, head of the Fundación Arias and Stefan Burgdörfer, head of the KAS office in San José, presented the study in December.
At the end of the 2015 school year, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, in collaboration with Deutsche Internationale Schule Johannesburg (DSJ), invited 70 pupils from Years 10 and 11 to a discussion event on the development of values in South Africa. This event launched a wider collaboration between the KAS and Deutsche Internationale Schule Johannesburg. Based on the latest data from the World Value Survey from 2013, drastic and disturbing changes in the South African value system and in the general development of democracy in South Africa were revealed. Characteristic aspects illustrating this trend are increasing dissatisfaction with democracy and a loss of trust in government institutions. Due to the sensitive nature of the presented figures, the presentation was followed by a lively and critical discussion among the participating pupils.

**CHALLENGES IN DEALING WITH THE REFUGEE CRISIS IN ITALY**

The role played by the Catholic Church in dealing with the refugee crisis in Europe was at the centre of meetings conducted by the Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and former president of the European Parliament, Dr Hans-Gert-Pöttering, in Rome from 31 October to 1 November 2015. Besides Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin, he met with the secretary for relations with states, Paul Richard Gallagher (Foreign Minister). At a meeting with Sant’Egidio, he further sought information about the numerous aid projects run by volunteers which make an important contribution to the care of refugees upon their arrival. A meeting with Italy’s President Sergio Mattarella was the agenda highlight.

**COLLOQUIUM ON YOUTH AND RELIGION: MAKING THE CASE FOR INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE**

A colloquium, which was organised by the KAS, the Israeli embassy in Dakar, ASECOD and Dakar University, brought together young Christians, Jews, Muslims and followers of traditional African religions. Topics of discussion included the current situation of young adults in society, education and the social integration of young people, the influence of the media on young people’s patterns of behaviour, and the role of social media in the rise of extremism and violence. The recommendations stressed the importance of family and society in conveying values and standards, the need for knowledge about one’s own as well as other religions, the role of the state as a regulator and that of religious leaders in upholding peace and dialogue.
DIALOGUE ON VALUES AND RELIGION

CHRISTIAN VALUES IN A UNITED EUROPE

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KAS OFFICE IN BUDAPEST

On 16 December, 25 years since the opening of the KAS office in Budapest, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organised a symposium titled “Christian Values in a United Europe.” The event, which was attended by over 120 guests, focused on the political challenges and stressed the importance of Christian values for a politics of cooperation in Europe. The event incorporated a ceremony during which Judit Bertalan Czunyíné, Secretary of State for Public Education at the Ministry of Human Resources, and Dr Gerhard Wahlers, Deputy Secretary-General of the KAS, presented the five scholarship recipients from Andrássy University Budapest, Kristóf Antal, Enikő Györkös, Lilla Mergl, Edina Osztrovszky and Tünde Endrei with their scholarship certificates. To coincide with the symposium, an exhibition on the work done by the KAS office was held on the university premises.

COMING TO TERMS WITH THE PAST:
25 YEARS OF GERMAN UNITY

In collaboration with the Catholic University of Croatia, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organised a lecture with a subsequent podium discussion on the topic of “Coming to Terms with the Past and 25 Years of German Unity” in Zagreb on 26 October 2015. Former GDR civil rights activist Wolfgang Templin spoke about his experiences with and in the GDR, subsequently discussing the various approaches to coming to terms with the past in Germany and Croatia with the representative of the KAS in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dr Karsten Dümmel, and Professors Črpić and Cipek.

HUMAN DIGNITY AS THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE

ANNEGRET KRAMP-KARRENBAUER IN TUNIS

Besides numerous political discussions with the president of the republic, Béji Caïd Essebsi, the head of government, Habib Essid, the minister of foreign affairs, Taieb Baccouche, Finance Minister Slim Chaker as well as Health Minister Said Aïdi, the visit by Saarland Prime Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer to Tunisia (19 to 21 October 2015) included most importantly her attendance of the “Employment and Education” conference held by the Tunisian young entrepreneurs’ association CJD, where she gave the keynote address, calling for measures to promote vocational education. She further had a meeting with Wided Bouchamaoui, President of the employers’ association and KAS partner UTICA, which was recently awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. In conjunction with her visit to Tunisia, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Forum de l’Académie Politique (FOAP) arranged a gala on the topic of “Talk about your country – 25 years of reunification.” In her speech, the prime minister drew parallels between the events that had resulted in German Reunification and those that had led to the revolution in Tunisia. Human dignity had been a key element and a driver of what happened in both cases. She advocated that this should also be the guiding principle for any policy for managing present-day crises.
Managing the rising numbers of migrants and the increasingly complex flows of refugees, particularly in the Middle East, is one of the greatest humanitarian challenges of our time. Although the refugee issue was perceived as an exclusively regional problem for a long time, the crisis has not stopped at national borders for some time now and consequently requires a new, supra-regional approach. Against this backdrop, the KAS Jordan office and the Regional Office Gulf States organised a supra-regional conference on the international migration and refugee crisis, held at a venue by the Dead Sea from 29 November to 1 December 2015. After the opening comments by Armin Laschet, Deputy CDU Chairman, 50 decision-makers, political analysts and representatives from humanitarian organisations from Europe, the Gulf and the Levant discussed the causes of the refugee crisis. The participants agreed on the fact that the problems could not be tackled at governmental level alone, but that efforts had to involve the business community and civil society.

At the end of October, the KAS Athens office collaborated with the Greek foreign affairs think tank ELIAMEP and the EU Institute for Security Studies in organising a scenario workshop on "The Eastern Mediterranean in 2020." The purpose of the specialist workshop was to bring together experts from around Europe and the Middle East to examine the security challenges in the Eastern Mediterranean and discuss various regional development scenarios. The main topics included the war in Syria, the situation in Iraq and the Kurdish issue, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Jihadist and IS terrorism, as well as migration and refugee movements resulting from the region’s increasing destabilisation. The different scenarios for the region that were devised in the course of the workshop are due to be documented in a publication.

The Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and the Pacific in Singapore conducted a podium discussion on "Refugees and Migration in Europe and Asia" in Singapore on 2 December 2015. After the opening comments by Armin Laschet, Deputy CDU Chairman, 50 decision-makers, political analysts and representatives from humanitarian organisations from Europe, the Gulf and the Levant discussed the causes of the refugee crisis. The participants agreed on the fact that the problems could not be tackled at governmental level alone, but that efforts had to involve the business community and civil society.

The ambassadors of Germany, the EU and Sweden, and the Director of the EU Centre in Singapore (from the right) discussed the situation of refugees in Europe.

The Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and the Pacific in Singapore conducted a podium discussion on "Refugees and Migration in Europe and Asia" in Singapore on 2 December 2015. After the opening comments by Armin Laschet, Deputy CDU Chairman, 50 decision-makers, political analysts and representatives from humanitarian organisations from Europe, the Gulf and the Levant discussed the causes of the refugee crisis. The participants agreed on the fact that the problems could not be tackled at governmental level alone, but that efforts had to involve the business community and civil society.

The Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and the Pacific in Singapore conducted a podium discussion on "Refugees and Migration in Europe and Asia" in Singapore on 2 December 2015. After the opening comments by Armin Laschet, Deputy CDU Chairman, 50 decision-makers, political analysts and representatives from humanitarian organisations from Europe, the Gulf and the Levant discussed the causes of the refugee crisis. The participants agreed on the fact that the problems could not be tackled at governmental level alone, but that efforts had to involve the business community and civil society.
In 2016, the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) will take place in Germany for the first time in its history. With a holding of 4.3 per cent, Germany is the largest European shareholder in the ADB. On behalf of the German government, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has invited the ADB to hold its annual meeting in Frankfurt from 2 to 5 May 2016. The parliamentary state secretary at the BMZ, Hans-Joachim Fuchtel MP, who plays a significant role in the preparations for the annual meeting in Frankfurt as Chairman of the Board of Governors and Governor for Germany at the ADB, took a trip to Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore from 5 to 12 December 2015 to discuss current burning issues and challenges relating to development policy with local partners and experts on the ground and to obtain information about the key topics of the 2016 ADB annual meeting. Against this background, the KAS Malaysia office joined with the Institute of Strategic and International Studies in organising a panel discussion titled “Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Development in South-East Asia” in Kuala Lumpur on 10 December 2015. State Secretary Fuchtel called for as many Malaysian actors from the business and finance sector to attend as possible.

Asian Development Bank and Development in South-East Asia

In May 2015, the KAS collaborated with the Moroccan Observatoire National des Droits de l’Electeur (ONDE) in organising a national conference on “Independent Monitoring of Local Elections: Between Legal Guarantees and Challenges of Operationalisation.” The event was followed up by a two-day training event on the same subject in June for 30 participants, who subsequently attended an advanced training course at the Conseil National des Droits de l’Homme, which entitled them to become accredited as observers of the elections scheduled for 4 September. The results from this monitoring activity were subsequently presented at a press conference on 28 September.

FirstPress Conference: Objective Election Monitoring

The KAS collaborated with the HDZ Foundation in organising a conference on the current refugee crisis in the light of demographic development in Croatia to take place in Zagreb in November 2015. During two panel discussions, Croatian experts and politicians discussed the perceived risks involved in Croatia’s demographic development and the great challenges facing Croatia and the entire region in view of the current flows of migrants in Europe.

Democracy and Development

In collaboration with the Maison de l’Elu (MdE) and Engagement Global (Bonn), the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung conducted two training events on combating corruption at the local level in Morocco from 30 November to 3 December. With the assistance of Arwa Hassan, Regional Outreach Manager for the MENA region at Transparency International, participants discussed the causes of corruption as well as its economic and political repercussions. Reiner Hadamitzky, Corruption Prevention Officer of the City of Braunschweig, acted as moderator and helped the working group members to come up with their own ideas and identify new approaches to fighting corruption.

Demography & Migration in Croatia

From the left: Hamid Sour, Secretary General of ONDE, Aziz El Aidi, Project Coordinator at KAS Morocco, Khalid Trabelsi, President of ONDE, Hassan Abyaba, member of the executive committee of the Union Constitutionnelle (UC) party

Panel discussion, from the left: Prof Vice John Batarelo (NGO Vigilare), Prof Tihomir Cipek (Zagreb University), Dr Caroline Hornstein-Tomić (“Wissen am Werk” Foundation, “Ivo Pilar” Institute), Prof Dr Ivo Rogić (“Ivo Pilar” Institute), Prof Dr Stjepan Šterc (Zagreb University) and moderator Prof Dr Nino Raspudić (Zagreb University)
BASICS OF CONFLICT-SENSITIVE REPORTING

In conflicted societies characterised by violence and insecurity, independent reporting plays a crucial role. As non-partisan actors, the media can cover civilian topics such as human rights with credibility and thereby make effective contributions to de-escalation and sustainable peace.

On the basis of the results of the 2014 KAS workshop on the media landscape during Yemen’s transition, the Regional Office Gulf States collaborated with the Yemen Polling Centre in Amman in organising a three-day workshop for young Yemeni journalists on the role of conflict-sensitive reporting from 7 to 9 September 2015. The participants expanded their knowledge about ways in which the media can have an escalating or calming effect on conflicts. In interactive exercises, they gained the know-how enabling them to make a direct constructive contribution to de-escalating the spiral of conflict in their home country through their work.

#AFRICABLOGGING GOES ONLINE

By the end of a three-day workshop in Johannesburg, it was a done deal: 18 talented bloggers from seven African countries (see photograph) will in future publish their texts jointly on a shared internet platform. With support from the KAS Media Programme Sub-Sahara Africa, the website will bundle critical voices from the region and make them accessible to a wider public.

Compared to the situation in Europe, reporting in the African media is not sufficiently diverse. Furthermore, media companies are under state influence in many cases. With critical blog posts from the different countries, #AfricaBlogging will make a contribution to strengthening freedom of information as well as diversity of opinion in Africa, raising new topics and encouraging debate. www.africablogging.org went online on 9 December 2015 with a concerted “firework” in the social media. The unflagging efforts of the bloggers and various supporters from the internet and political scenes paid immediate dividends: on Twitter alone, close to a million users were reached, and the site had over 2,000 hits just on the first day.

DIALOGGERS: FIFTH GREEK-GERMAN JOURNALISTS’ WORKSHOP

In September 2015, the Greek-German journalists’ workshop "dialoggers" took place for the fifth time, bringing together twelve young journalists from the two countries in Athens to engage in some joint research. In bi-national teams, current issues from politics, society, business and culture were examined. The results were documented on the www.dialoggers.eu blog site. The close cooperation and cultural exchange between Greeks and Germans in particular greatly enriched and impressed the participants, helping to engender understanding for other perspectives and to overcome stereotypes that had characterised the Greek-German relationship over the last few years.

Debate of Media Managers: How is Quality Possible in the Crisis?

Freedom of the press, ethical standards and media trends depend strongly on the prevailing economic conditions. How it is possible to engage in good journalism in a difficult market was the question debated at the South East Europe Media Forum (SEEMF) in Bucharest on 5 and 6 November 2015. The largest sector conference of the region had attracted 250 experts from 24 countries – from Albania to the USA. The KAS Media Program South East Europe organised the event in collaboration with the South East Europe Media Organisation (SEEMO) and the Central European Initiative (CEI).
NAMEs AND FACES

Dr Canan Atilgan
- Took over as Director of Regional Programme Political Dialogue Southern Mediterranean in Tunisia in January
- Previously Director of Regional Programme Political Dialogue South Caucasus
- Contact: canan.atilgan@kas.de

David Brähler
- Begun a traineeship in Uruguay in February
- Previously worked as HR officer among other things
- Contact: david.braehler@kas.de

Benjamin Fricke
- Due to join the KAS office in Georgia as a trainee in July
- Has gained a Masters from the Institute of World Politics in Washington, DC
- Contact: benjamin.fricke@kas.de

Dr Marie-Christine Fuchs
- Due to take over as head of the KAS office in Columbia in June
- Currently working as a lawyer at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP, Berlin
- Contact: marie-christine.fuchs@kas.de

Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy
- Managing Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and Pacific/Singapore since December 2015
- Prior to that head of the KAS Asia and Pacific Team
- Contact: beatrice.gorawantschy@kas.de

Rene Gradwohl
- Presiding over the KAS office in Phnom Penh since February
- Before that held various posts abroad working on behalf of German international development cooperation implementing organisations as well as the BMZ in Bonn
- Contact: rene.gradwohl@kas.de

Burkhardt Hellemann
- Heading the KAS office in Ghana since February
- Previously worked as coordinator of the AGEH “Civil Peace Service” programme in Cameroon
- Contact: burkhardt.hellemann@kas.de

Dr Thomas Schrapel
- Leading the KAS office in Germany since March
- Previously managed the office of the Senate for Justice and Consumer Protection since 2011
- Contact: thomas.schrapel@kas.de

Jan Senkyr
- Took over as head of the KAS office in Indonesia in April
- Until recently head of the KAS office in Malaysia
- Contact: jan.senkyr@kas.de

Alexandra Steinmeyer
- Working as a trainee in the KAS office in Brazil since February
- Previously completed her Masters in Political Sciences, specialising in Latin American politics
- Contact: alexandra.steinmeyer@kas.de

Christina Wagner
- Head of the KAS office in Mali since January
- Before that worked as a human rights expert at the EU Mission EUCAP in Niger
- Contact: christina.wagner@kas.de

Tinko Weibezahl
- Head of KAS Security Policy Programme in Sub-Saharan Africa in Ivory Coast since December 2015
- Antecedently desk officer for KAS projects in Central and Eastern Europe
- Contact: tinko.weibezahl@kas.de

Dr Stefan Samse
- Leading the KAS office in Korea since March
- Previously managed the office of the Senator for Justice and Consumer Protection since 2011
- Contact: stefan.samse@kas.de

Dr Bernadette Kalz
- Assumed position as head of the KAS office in Peru in April
- Prior to that worked as scientific assistant for the Working Group and Committee for Economic Cooperation and Development
- Contact: bernadette.kalz@kas.de

Dr Kristin Wesemann
- Head of regional programme “Parteienförderung und Demokratie in Lateinamerika” and head of Country Programme Uruguay
- Formerly head of the KAS office in Argentina
- Contact: kristin.wesemann@kas.de
MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICY: IS LATIN AMERICA READY FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC CRISES?
The study examines the macroeconomic situation of the countries in Latin America. Fiscal discipline and a consistent monetary policy are key elements of positive economic development and essential prerequisites for warding off external crises. Has this insight been implemented politically? This is the question a dozen well-respected authors have pursued in the 2015 annual SOPLA publication, each focusing on a specific country.

THE NEW ARAB CONSTITUTIONS: TUNISIA, MOROCCO, EGYPT
In the course of the upheavals in the Arab world since 2011, several countries have adopted a new constitution. To what extent did these bring about progress in the areas of democracy and the rule of law – both in word and in practice? In collaboration with the KAS Tunisia office, the KAS Rule of Law Programme Middle East / North Africa organised an international conference on this topic, the contributions to which have now been published as a book.

SPORT AND SUSTAINABILITY
Taking the right measures to achieve sustainable development has been one of the most important challenges of our time from well before the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. The book “Sport and Sustainability” describes successful concepts and strategies for a sustainable future of sport, homing in on 16 Olympic disciplines as examples. This book, published by the Hungarian Olympic Sports Federation with support from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, is available in the Hungarian language free of charge (ISBN: 978-963-12-2804-5).

DUAL EDUCATION IN GERMANY
Germany’s low unemployment rate is renowned throughout the world. Germany outdoes most countries when it comes to integrating school-leavers and graduates into the labour market. One key element to this success is the dual education system. Interest in the cornerstones of dual education is on the increase; this SOPLA brochure provides information on the subject in Spanish.

FLIGHT AND MIGRATION AS CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE
This brochure provides an evaluation of the way the refugee crisis has developed to date. Besides descriptions of the latest developments in European politics, the brochure includes pieces from the perspectives of many other policy areas linked to the underlying trends of the refugee crisis and migration. The work the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung itself does is illustrated by a number of practical examples. All this combines to provide a picture of the current crisis from multiple perspectives. This brochure is a product of the work of the Europe Working Group and the Refugee Task Force.

SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY AND DEMOCRACY WORLDWIDE
In this brochure, an insight is provided into the progress made in the project of the same name, and the results of four themed workshops that were held over the course of 2015 in several continents are herein documented. Each workshop focused on one concrete area of the Social Market Economy, which then formed the topic of discussion between experts from Germany and partners from all predominantly Muslim areas of the world – from Asia to the Middle East, North Africa and Southeastern Europe to Sub-Saharan Africa: competition regulation, social security, education and training, and Islamic banking. The key conclusion was this: interest in the German success model of the "Social Market Economy" has never been greater.

All publications can be downloaded/obtained via the internet: www.kas.de/publikationen