For 2017, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has set itself the objective of strengthening confidence in democracy and in our nation’s capabilities with its motto “With confidence into the future”. It aims to make young people especially aware of their possibilities of making a difference and to encourage them to make use of these opportunities. The future is not up to fate; there is a mission to shape it.

Voter Bribery in Kenya: Stopping the Sale of Democratic Control

The KAS office in Kenya presented a study on the widespread practice of buying votes on 24 February. All important TV stations and newspapers reported on the event; some TV stations even reported live, including the Kenyan news channel KTV.

The study was conducted in ten Kenyan counties in 2016 in collaboration with local partners. Members of youth organisations of political parties, active politicians and representatives of civil society participated in the study. Some 56 per cent of the 514 individuals surveyed said that they had accepted money from a candidate for a political office. Some 24 per cent admitted to actively buying votes.

Voter bribery was widely discussed in Kenya in the days following the event. An easy-to-read Swahili version of the study and targeted use of social media helped to stimulate the debate. The KAS office in Kenya will keep the issue of voter bribery alive in the public consciousness until the elections in August through targeted posts on social media and hopes to thereby contribute to fair and peaceful elections.

Wavinya Ndeti, Vice Chairperson of the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD), Dr Jan Cernicky (KAS office in Kenya) and Honourable Omingo Magara, Chairperson of the CMD, examined the study “Voter Bribery as an Election Malpractice in Kenya”.

Focus:

DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW UNDER PRESSURE
DEAR READERS,

This year we are commemorating the 50th anniversary of Konrad Adenauer’s death, a man who made an exceptional contribution to ensuring that Germany became a stable, liberal democracy. One of his greatest achievements is making the democratic rule of law one of the pillars of our nation and the essential prerequisite for the unique success story of the Federal Republic. And yet today, 50 years after the death of the first chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, democracy as a form of government seems to be in a greater danger than ever before and with it the values of the liberal world. With this issue, we as the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung want to commemorate not only the man from whom we take our name but also democracy’s many successes worldwide.

The concept of liberal democracy and the Western values of freedom are currently threatened on many sides. Populists of very different shades are spreading doubt about the achievements of the European Union and Western civilisation. Attempts by authoritarian regimes to undermine democratic societies have also increased significantly. The intense debate about the possible influence of fake news and Russian hacking attacks on the U.S. elections is just one of many examples. Islamist terrorism represents another threat and has now become a bloody reality in Europe, too. Jihadists from Germany and abroad perpetrate attacks with the aim of destabilising and dividing liberal and open societies in the West. The attack on Breitscheidplatz in Berlin made painfully clear that the dangers of terrorism have now reached Germany as well.

Politicians and civil society must rise to this challenge. “Democracy must be experienced” was one of Konrad Adenauer’s core messages. For a democracy to function, it needs people who contribute, engage and take responsibility – especially in difficult times. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has promoted and supported people like this who are committed to democracy since its beginnings. We have achieved many successes in recent decades, from Eastern Europe, Spain, and Portugal to Latin America and Asia. But we will not be able to rest on our laurels because international cooperation is more important than ever before, especially in times of Brexit, economic and political protectionism and increasing state instability in many regions of the world. Together with our partners, we will therefore continue to make a resolute contribution to defending and promoting the liberal democratic order.

I trust this issue will make for an inspiring read.

Dr Gerhard Wahlers
Deputy Secretary General
Head of the Department of European and International Cooperation
2ND WORKSHOP OF THE RESEARCH GROUP "CONSTITUTIONALISM IN ASIA"

THE PRACTICE OF CONSTITUTIONALISM IN ASIA

What challenges do political developments in Asia and worldwide, in particular growing populism, bring with them for constitutional practice? What roles do the different authorities of the state and in particular the judiciary play in this context? How can citizens be appropriately involved in the construction of constitutional reality, especially given the great social, cultural and ethnic diversity in the region? Twelve experts in jurisprudence and practice from Asia, Australia and Europe discussed these kinds of questions at the intersection of law and politics in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on 26 and 27 February 2017 at the second meeting of the Asian Research Group on constitutional law, founded in 2016. As in the previous year, the president of the Federal Fiscal Court (BFH) and former Federal Constitutional Court judge Prof Dr h.c. Rudolf Mellinghoff took part in the workshop. The outcome of the workshop: There are no easy answers, as international politics today also shows. An ongoing dialogue on this issue is all the more essential.

President Raúl Castro has announced that he will step down in 2018 and hold elections. Scepticism is great given the absence of discernible willingness on the part of Castro’s dictatorship to give political opponents space; however, many groups and individuals want to use the announcement to start a debate on free and secret elections and to set out their own practical proposals on drafting an election law.

To this end, a delegation of representatives from Cuban civil society and the Cuban opposition had the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the principles of the political system in the Federal Republic of Germany at a Deutschlandseminar (Germany seminar) from 20 to 26 November 2016. The participants exchanged views with high-ranking representatives from the CDU party headquarters and the Foreign Office as well as members of the German Bundestag. Two Cuban participants gave a moving report on their personal experiences of the regime and the situation in Cuba at a "Berlingeflüster" event.
POlitical Dialogue

Sustainable and Long-term Solutions to the Refugee Issue

The "VI International Forum on Migration and Peace" took place in Rome on 21 and 22 February. The event was organised on the topic of "Integration and Development: from Reaction to Action" by the Scalabrini International Migration Network, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Dicastery of the Holy See for Promoting Integral Human Development. The event opened with an audience with Pope Francis, who underlined the fact that many of the migration flows seen today are the result of forced migration. The former president of the European Parliament and chairman of the KAS, Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, called upon the protection of each individual's human dignity to be focused on when dealing with refugees.

The event focused on the question of how to manage integration in the countries of destination and how migration could contribute to an increase in positive effects in the countries of origin. The forum provided a platform for a dialogue between decision-makers from politics, civil society and the Catholic Church.

The Federal Government was represented by the State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Hans-Georg Engelke, and the State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, MP Thomas Silberhorn.

25 Years of the German-Hungarian Treaty of Friendship

To mark the 25th anniversary of the German-Hungarian Treaty of Friendship, the KAS office in Hungary organised a symposium with more than 140 participants in cooperation with the Antal József Knowledge Centre (AJTK) and the Foundation for a Civic Hungary on 6 February. Ádám Kégler, Deputy Director of the AJTK, and Frank Spengler, Head of the KAS office in Hungary, spoke of the long tradition of relations between the two countries in their welcome address. Zoltán Balog, Minister of Human Capacities, emphasised the importance of maintaining the thriving relations between the two nations in his opening speech. The deputy head of mission at the German Embassy to Hungary, Dr Manfred Emmes, stated in his greeting that building a shared Europe had been the focus of political action 25 years ago. Dr Péter Gyökös, Hungarian Ambassador to Germany, said that there had been a strong social consensus in Hungary in favour of German reunification a quarter of a century ago. The members of the following panel discussion agreed that the German-Hungarian Treaty of Friendship was a milestone in the history of both nations.
The continued deepening of German-Israeli relations was the focus of a visit to Israel by CDU Secretary General Peter Tauber and a group of members of the German Bundestag and Landtage from 21 to 23 February. The participants exchanged views on the current challenges facing both countries with Yuli-Yoel Edelstein, the speaker of the Knesset, and Nachman Shai, the chair of the German-Israeli parliamentary group. It became clear that Angela Merkel had an immense impact with her speech in the Knesset in 2008 in which she defined Israel’s right to exist as part of the German national interest.

The conversations with Ambassador Dr Clemens von Goetze and the head of the German Representative Office to the Palestinian Territories, Peter Beerwerth, focused on the future of the two-state solution and Germany’s role in this process, amongst other issues. The emotional highlights of the trip were the visit to the Holocaust memorial Yad Vashem and a meeting with pupils from Sha’ar HaNegev High School in the Gaza Strip border area. Many of the children have been traumatised by rocket fire. These encounters showed clearly that simplifications and superficiality are the greatest obstacles to peace.
Not only does the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia play an important role in balancing international relations but it also remains a central driving force for regional developments. At the same time, the country is confronted by internal challenges, such as the fall in oil prices and high youth unemployment. Against this background, Dr Gerhard Wahlers, KAS Deputy Secretary General, visited the kingdom and met representatives from the government, Shura Council, business and civil society. The visit was organised by the KAS Regional Programme Gulf States.

It became clear during the discussions that, alongside diverse challenges, there are first approaches to constructive initiatives by Saudi politicians and society that could contribute to further economic and social development. Thus, greater economic responsibility will be expected from citizens under the economic programme “Vision 2030”, for instance. This transformation also calls into question the social contract of the country and is leading to a cautious opening, including growing participation for women.

To mark the 100-year anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, the KAS office in Israel organised a conference in cooperation with the Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs on 28 February, in which many international experts participated. Dr Michael Borchard, Head of the KAS office in Israel, made clear in his introduction that the declaration had a direct relationship to Israel’s right to exist, but it had always called for a fair settlement with the Palestinians. Prof Julius H. Schoeps, Director of the Moses Mendelssohn Centre in Potsdam, remarked in his speech that some of the current developments had nothing in common with the original idea of the Zionist movement. Prof Ruth Lapidoth, remarked in his speech that some of the current developments had nothing in common with the original idea of the Zionist movement. Prof Julius H. 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POLITICAL DIALOGUE

1ST "ASIA-EUROPE COUNTER-TERRORISM DIALOGUE" IN SINGAPORE

The Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) organised the first joint "Asia-Europe Counter-Terrorism Dialogue" in Singapore on 31 October and 1 November 2016.

Special highlights were the speeches by German MP Dr Günter Krings, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of the Interior, and YAB Dato’ Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs of Malaysia, during the keynote session "New Threat Landscape in Asia and Europe".

The new initiative by the KAS and the ICPVTR will take place annually, alternating between Asia and Europe. The conference offers political decision-makers, representatives from ministries and the operational level of counterterrorism, as well as experts from academia a platform for dialogue and exchange on current developments in extremism/terrorism and joint activities.

PAN PRESIDENT ANAYA MEETS FEDERAL CHANCELLOR MERKEL

A high-ranking delegation from the Mexican partner party PAN (Partido Acción Nacional) led by the party’s president, Ricardo Anaya, visited Berlin from 12 to 17 February 2017. The group discussed issues such as elections and modern party organisation as well as migration and the outlook for German-Latin American relations with the CDU chairwoman, Federal Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel, and other high-ranking decision-makers against the backdrop of the election of Donald Trump as U.S. President.

PAN has been the largest opposition party since the last presidential elections in 2012 and governs a good third of the Mexican federal states. The party also succeeded in considerably expanding its position at the municipal level in 2016.
POLITICAL DIALOGUE

MARITIME COOPERATION

CURTAIN UP ON GERMANY-MYANMAR SECURITY TALKS

In cooperation with the Myanmar Institute for Strategic and International Studies (MISIS), an international conference on the subject of "Myanmar, the Maritime Domain and Maritime Cooperation in Asia" was held in Rangoon on 6 December 2016. The conference was attended by high-ranking active and former military chief commanders, political advisers and scientists from Germany, Malaysia, Singapore and South Korea. The event marked the start of what will from now on be an annual occasion, similar to the existing security talks held by the KAS in East and South East Asia. The inclusion of Myanmar in discussions on important regional and international security policy is intended to support the country’s current transition towards democracy. The conference was followed by a discussion between experts on the subject of "Maritime Cooperation Perspectives for Myanmar".

POTENTIALS FOR COOPERATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung held an international conference in the Philippines titled "Maritime Challenges in the Asia Pacific: Moving towards Political, Environmental, and Functional Cooperation" on 18 November 2016. The event, organised in collaboration with the Policy Centre at the Asian Institute of Management, the Foreign Service Institute of the Philippines and the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, welcomed experts from China, Malaysia, Vietnam and Germany. High-ranking guests from business and media, representatives of government, parliamentarians and numerous ambassadors were involved in the rounds of talks.

Following the decision by the International Court of Arbitration in The Hague on 12 July 2016 which revoked China’s historical claims to territory in the South China Sea, the conference focused on future courses of action. Ecological and economic impacts were also discussed, as well as the achievement of specific progress through collaboration. The conference was the second in a series that will explore the situation in the Philippines in the context of potential conflict and cooperation in the region.

NEW KAS REGIONAL PROGRAMME AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC LAUNCHED

The new Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific, based in Canberra, started its work on 27 February 2017. It will focus on parliamentary and political party dialogue, foreign and security policy, economic and social policy, energy and climate policy, as well as development policy issues in the Pacific region.

NEW KAS REGIONAL PROGRAMME AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC LAUNCHED

The former inspector of the German Navy, Vice Admiral (ret.) Lutz Feldt, represented Germany at the conference and contributed his European experience on the subject of maritime cooperation.

The organisers and panel members of the KAS conference “Maritime Challenges in the Asia Pacific”
From 2 to 4 March, the KAS office Syria/Iraq hosted German MP Roderich Kiesewetter (CDU) in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI). Marked by the advanced offensive on Mosul, the visit focused in particular on future security policy as well as the economic and humanitarian challenges facing the KRI and Iraq. The programme included talks with Karim Sinjari, the Kurdish minister of the interior and acting minister for Peshmerga, members of the Kurdish regional parliament, and representatives of ethnic religious minorities and civil society. Furthermore, Mr Kiesewetter learned about the humanitarian situation in the KRI during his visit to the refugee camps Sharia and Dormiz in the province of Dohuk, in which Yezidish IDPs and refugees from Syria are living. The future of material and training support from Germany for the KRI also played an important role in the delegation’s visit. Kiesewetter visited the German army’s training mission in Erbil and inspected Peshmerga positions northeast of Mosul.

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CDU PARLIAMENTARIAN RODERICH KIESEWETTER VISITS THE KURDISTAN REGION OF IRAQ

IRAQI DELEGATION FROM BAGHDAD ON A VISIT TO HAMBURG AND BERLIN

With military support for a direct conflict party since 2014, German-Iraqi relations have entered a new phase. Germany is one of the largest international donors in Iraq and is militarily involved in the fight against the so-called Islamic State. To strengthen these relations further, the KAS office Syria/Iraq and the KAS team Domestic Programmes welcomed an Iraqi delegation from Baghdad to Germany for the first time in January 2017. The delegation consisted of Iraqi government officials, parliamentarians and representatives of civil society. During the visit, opportunities were discussed for German-Iraqi collaborations in the fight against the causes of migration as well as the reintegration of refugees. The Iraqi representatives were also given an overview of the political system in the Federal Republic of Germany and the guidelines for Germany´s policy on Iraq. The agenda included talks at the Federal Chancellery, the Foreign Office, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the German Bundestag.

The final event in the KAS-EU project "Towards a Multi-Party Democracy: Strengthening the Role of Political Parties in Jordan’s Democratic Reform Process" took place in Jordan under the patronage of the Jordanian prime minister Dr Hani Al-Mulki on 7 March. The project was set up in the wake of the reform process, which started in 2011, by the Jordanian royalty to gradually transform the political system in Jordan into a multiparty democracy with the parliamentary formation of a government. Having been in existence for more than four years, the project has achieved some notable successes. With just under 100 events, including numerous initiatives and activities, it offered Jordan the first cross-party platform and was thus able to exert a positive influence on the democratisation process. Over 1,000 representatives of political parties, political activists and representatives of civil society have received further training. The role of women and the involvement of young people in political parties were stepped up significantly, the law on political parties was revised and a first regional network was established with parties in Tunisia, Morocco and Turkey.
Together with the Leo Africa Institute, the KAS office in Uganda has launched the “Young and Emerging Leaders Project”. Its aim is to encourage leadership qualities among talented young people in the region. It targets a mixed group of people, comprising young entrepreneurs, artists, media makers, activists from civil society and employees of state organisations, who only rarely come together in this constellation. Following an introductory forum in November 2016, the first subsequent training course was held over several days in February for the participants of the first group. They emerged as winners in a competitive selection process. The project aims to provide a series of seminars every year, offering a group of around 20 young leaders the chance to engage in dialogue on the values of an open and democratic society.

NEW PLATFORM FOR YOUNG AND EMERGING LEADERS IN UGANDA

BRAZIL: XIII FORTE DE COPACABANA INTERNATIONAL SECURITY CONFERENCE

Rio de Janeiro hosted the XIII “Forte de Copacabana” International Security Conference on 13 and 14 October 2016. Ambassadors, military experts and politicians, including the Brazilian defence minister Raul Jungmann and the EU Special Envoy for the Peace Process in Colombia, Eamon Gilmore, discussed a range of regional perspectives on the topic of “Might and Right in World Politics”. Topics such as the new international political order and the role of Europe and Brazil in this were talked about in detail. Internationally, the conference is regarded as one of the most important discussion forums on Latin American security policy. Global events of recent months have reinforced the need for dialogue between Latin America and Europe on these issues even more.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONGRESS - REVIEWING THE DECENTRALISATION OF MONGolia

Since 1990, Mongolia has been taking steps towards democracy and a market economy. This was also associated with a commitment to decentralise the state structure. As concluded by the participants of the local government congress on 6 December 2016, even though a lot has been achieved since then, there still is plenty to do. The conference, which was organised in cooperation with the Mongolian Cabinet Office and the Association for Local Self-Government MALA, focused on the opportunities that decentralisation offers for the development of rural areas. In addition to the governors of the provinces, the chairpersons of the local parliaments, MPs, government representatives and scientists, the conference also welcomed Professor Paul Witt, the Vice Chancellor of the School of Public Administration in Kehl, Germany. He pointed out that Germany’s economic success has been in part made possible through the decentralised structure of the state and the subsidiarity principle.

SPORT PROMOTES TOLERANCE

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT OF UGANDA’S TALENTED YOUNG PARTY STAFF

Offering a somewhat unusual sight for a KAS event, the youth wings of Uganda’s major political parties came together in Kampala on 22 October 2016 to lock horns in a football tournament. The aim of the tournament was to send a signal of peace and tolerance in times of political polarisation. It was the first time that the youth groups had met at such an event outside party lines, and it allowed them to demonstrate their commitment to fair play in sport and youth involvement in politics. The cooperation partner for the event was the "Interparty Youth Platform" (IYOP), initiated by the KAS, which is a forum for cross-party dialogue between young politicians.
**CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FROM MIGRATION IN MYANMAR**

"Future Directions of Myanmar Migration: Challenges and Opportunities for Development" was the title of a workshop organised by the KAS in Myanmar’s capital Naypyidaw, together with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the Myanmar Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population on 27 February. The workshop provided an important opportunity for representatives of the government and civil society to exchange views on the recent developments in migration in Myanmar and the region of South East Asia and to analyse their implications for the country’s development. It also investigated how to better recognise, respectively minimise, the opportunities and risks that come with migration.

**VIETNAM: E-GOVERNANCE AS THE PRECURSOR TO GOOD GOVERNANCE?**

The use of information technology in state administration is one of the priorities of the Vietnamese government. Although Vietnam has made significant improvements in terms of e-governance in recent years, the number of electronic applications actually in use lags behind expectations. Therefore, in cooperation with the Centre for International Studies (SCIS), the KAS invited officials and people in leadership from the 12th district of Ho Chi Minh City to attend a workshop in January 2017. Following a presentation on the framework conditions for successful electronic administration by Professor Vo Tri Hao from the School of Business in Ho Chi Minh City, the representatives of the 12th district and the attending experts discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and drew up models for the future that mirror reality. Key topics included the legal principles of e-governance, transparency, involvement of the population and the protection of privacy.

**MEMORIAL DAYS - REMEMBRANCE AS A MISSION**

The KAS office in Albania and the Institute for Democracy, Media and Culture organised "Memorial days" on the topic of "Remembrance as a Mission" in Tirana from 24 to 28 October 2016. National and international institutions involved with remembrance work showcased their projects at the event. The remembrance week focused on the following key areas: establishment of a common agenda for the various organisations involved with remembrance studies, the revision of educational curricula with a look at the time of dictatorship, using creative projects and viewing files to increase young people's awareness of the past. The guest speaker was Deputy Chairperson of the KAS and former representative of the Free State of Thuringia for the documents of the Ministry for State Security in former East Germany, Hildigund Neubert.

**ALBANIA: POLITICS AND BARGAINING**

The strengthening of pluralism and participation plays an important role in the context of social transformation processes. Against this backdrop, the KAS office in Albania, together with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, organised a training session for young stakeholders in local politics in Korçë and Shkodër. The event was designed to raise young people’s awareness of how interests are actively represented at the local level. The training session was carried out in collaboration with CIVIC GmbH from Germany in the form of a role play. Using this type of training format, the tasks and challenges of local policy were communicated effectively and potential courses of action were drawn up.
WULFF AND PÖTTERING IN BRUSSELS

"THE FUTURE OF EUROPE WILL BE DECIDED IN EUROPE"

At the New Year Reception inspired by the motto "With Confidence into the Future" organised by the KAS office in Brussels on 9 February, German President (ret.) Christian Wulff spoke on the subject of "Opinions on Europe in 2017". Given the political challenges Europe is currently facing, Wulff reminded the audience that young Europeans in particular were unwilling to return to nationalism and protectionism. He therefore recommended counting on the younger generation to reinvigorate the idea of Europe and "to take the European path with passion and resolution". Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, the former president of the European Parliament and chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, made an encouraging appeal to the approximately 400 guests present.

In his speech, he called for resolute commitment to the continuation of the European Union. Dr Pöttering declared his conviction that "as Europeans, and also as Germans, we know what the EU represents." The hallmarks of Europe were its values: democracy, freedom, the rule of law and human dignity, he explained.

SECOND ZAGREB SECURITY CONFERENCE

On 22 November 2016, the KAS office in Croatia held a conference together with the HDZ Foundation (ZHDZ) on the security policy challenges facing Croatia, which was attended by A. Plenković, Prime Minister of Croatia, Defence Minister D. Krstičević, Interior Minister V. Orepić, T. Medved, Secretary of Veteran Affairs, and other high-ranking politicians, military figures and diplomats. At two podium debates, the panellists discussed the situation of security policy in Europe and Croatia.

THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE CRISIS IN VENEZUELA

On 19 November 2016, the KAS organised a dinner debate in Brussels on the subject of "The Political and Humanitarian Crisis in Venezuela" which was attended by high-ranking representatives of European institutions. After the event had been opened by the European Parliament’s chairman of the Delegation for relations with the Countries of the Andean Community, MEP Luis De Grandes Pascual, the two Venezuelan congressmen Ángel Alvarado and José Guerra explained the oppressive humanitarian crisis caused by corruption and an economy of scarcity. Even basic supplies of food and medicines were no longer guaranteed for large parts of the population, they reported. This is aggravated by a political crisis that makes itself felt in particular through a systematic hold-up of parliament and the widespread repression of opposition politicians and criticism of the government in the media and civil society. The two Venezuelan representatives asked the delegates for solidarity and support from the EU.

PÖTTERING IN POLAND FOR POLITICAL TALKS

The chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, met the former president of Poland and Nobel Peace Prize winner Lech Wałęsa in Gdansk on 17 January to talk about the current political situation in Poland, Germany and Europe. Dr Pöttering acknowledged the achievements of the former leader of the Solidarność union in bringing about democratic change in Poland during the 1980s and the major contribution that Mr Wałęsa, together with Pope John Paul II, made with his commitment to democracy and freedom in Poland. That same evening, Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering, who is also the recipient of the German-Polish Friendship Prize, unveiled the Polish translation of his autobiography entitled "United for the Better: My European Way" at the Solidarność Centre in Gdansk and the following day at the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn.
FROM WAR TO RECONCILIATION
INTERFAITH DIALOGUE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

At the invitation of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Faculty of Catholic Theology in Sarajevo, the spiritual leaders of the four largest religious communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina met to take part in a podium debate. The meeting was the first of its kind in 20 years and attracted plenty of media attention.

At the event, the four high-ranking representatives of the Muslim community, the Serbian Orthodox Church, the Roman Catholic Church and the Jewish community sent out a message of peace: they emphasised that every religion must respect the fact that the dignity of the individual, whatever religion they follow, must be ensured and protected. The event was also an opportunity for the high-ranking dignitaries to meet and talk about how they can contribute to preserving the peace that is still fragile in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE BETWEEN PARTIES
HIGH-RANKING LATIN AMERICAN PARTY REPRESENTATIVES AT THE CDU PARTY CONVENTION IN ESSEN

In light of the political changes taking place in Latin America, which are gradually ousting left-wing populist governments, distinguished party representatives from various Latin American countries met in Berlin and Essen from 30 November to 7 December 2016 at the invitation of the KAS. In addition to talks with senior representatives of the CDU party headquarters and the German Bundestag, the participants also took part in a workshop to analyse current political developments in Latin America and identify common political standpoints. The focus was on the analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the parties themselves, the role of party-affiliated educational institutions and international party cooperation.

The subsequent attendance at the CDU’s party convention in Essen gave the participants an insight into internal party democracy and the current challenges facing the CDU people’s party in the 2017 election year. Around the convention activities, the participants had the opportunity to talk to delegates and functionaries of the CDU and to other invited international party representatives.
SENEGAL’S PRIME MINISTER PRAISES THE COMMITMENT OF THE KAS TO ECONOMIC POLICY

In the context of this year’s economic forum of Senegal’s largest federation of employers, the CNP (Conseil National du Patronat), Thomas Volk, the head of the KAS office in Senegal, met the Senegalese prime minister Mohamed Dionne in Dakar on 21 and 22 February. Alongside a general introduction to the work of the KAS in Senegal, the discussion focused primarily on questions relating to the social market economy. Dionne praised the work of the KAS and highlighted in his speech to over 1,000 representatives from business and politics the importance of the partnership between the KAS and the CNP, which has now been in place for more than 25 years, for the development of the Senegalese economy. In the course of its two-day annual general meeting, the CNP, together with the KAS, organised a podium debate on the subject of public-private partnership and set up a discussion group on the economic policy potential of the oil and gas discoveries off the coast of Senegal. In 2016, Senegal’s economy grew by almost seven per cent, representing the highest growth rate for the last twelve years.

NETWORK FOR EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION FOUNDED

The economic and geopolitical aspects of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) were top of the agenda at a seminar attended by high-ranking experts from Kazakhstan, Belarus and Germany. It was organised for the first time by the KAS office in Kazakhstan in collaboration with the KAS office Belarus in October 2016. The representatives of Germany were Parliamentary Secretary MP Manfred Grund (CDU/CSU) and Thomas Köhler, Head of the Federal Finance Ministry’s Strategy and Planning Department. From Kazakhstan and Belarus, there were representatives from politics, think tanks and government agencies. The discussions centred around the economic impacts of the EAEU on member states. The participants agreed that Russia derived the greatest benefit from the common market and that it dominated the economic union. They also concluded that Russia was strengthening its influence on member states through the EAEU in geopolitical terms. Moreover, it was determined that the countries making up the union had very different expectations towards the union. The network of experts will continue its work in Minsk in 2017.
HIGH-RANKING ARGENTINIAN SOCIAL POLICY EXPERTS VISIT GERMANY

As part of a study and dialogue programme, high-ranking politicians from Argentina met with German social experts in Cologne, Bonn and Berlin between 21 and 25 November 2016. The meeting was attended by representatives of the employees’ group of the CDU/CSU faction in the German Bundestag, the managing director of the Cologne Institute for Economic Research and representatives of German trade unions. During their stay, the social policy experts from Argentina also visited the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training in Bonn and a youth employment agency in Berlin. The key topics in the discussions were the creation of incentives for more employment, the introduction of minimum wages and the current debate over pensions in Germany.

The labour market and social policy are amongst the key future issues facing Argentina, where far-reaching economic reforms have been ushered in under its new President, Mauricio Macri. The delegation included politicians from the PRO governing party and the major opposition parties FPV and FR. The delegation was accompanied by Olaf Jacob, Head of the KAS office in Argentina.

INTERNATIONAL HACKATHON IN THE GAZA STRIP

On 1 December 2016, the local start-up sponsor Gaza Sky Geeks joined forces with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung to stage a three-day hackathon in the Gaza Strip. At these meetings, designers, coders and young entrepreneurs develop and test IT solutions and talk about their work. Under the somewhat provocative title “Lady Problems”, young entrepreneurs came together to specifically promote their participation in economic life. While the average percentage of females at hackathons is around 20 per cent, the event organised by the KAS and Gaza Sky Geeks was attended almost exclusively by women.

The tech start-up scene in Gaza has now also aroused interest in Silicon Valley. Tech gurus from Google, SoundCloud, Microsoft and other industry giants have travelled to the Gaza Strip to form their own opinion of the start-up scene there. The hackathon therefore met with an overall tremendous response in the Gaza Strip, the Arab world, and also in the international tech industry.
At the start of 2017, women’s rights activists from South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi gathered at a workshop organised by the KAS Rule of Law Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa in Windhoek, Namibia. The topics of the workshop were the persisting difficulties women in many African countries are still facing in gaining access to justice. The discussions focused on labour and migration, land and property ownership, economic activity, conflict resolution, family, health, climate and the environment. The participants of the workshop ultimately agreed that the protection of women’s rights required a higher profile in the public awareness, which could be achieved through the use of social media, and the establishment of strong networks and coalitions. They stated that it was necessary to compile and compare examples of best practice from various states in order to tackle specific projects and to draw up recommendations for action. They agreed that, as women were frequently not treated fairly even before the courts, minimum standards also needed to be ultimately defined for fair and equitable legal procedures. Building on the results of the workshop, a conference to substantiate selected topics is to be held next year.

In memory of the parliamentary address delivered by FW de Klerk on 2 February 1990, heralding the end of the apartheid regime and the start of the democratic transition, the KAS office in South Africa and the FW de Klerk Foundation organised an annual conference in February 2017. The series of conferences is focusing on current constitutional law issues that are of significance for the advancement and sustainability of democracy in South Africa. In his address, FW de Klerk voiced his concern about the way in which the government led by the ANC is attempting to overcome the ever-present social inequality between races. Particularly the race-related quota system was a problem, he said, since it neglected the reality reflected in society. He was supported in this point by Moeletsi Mbeki, the brother of the former president Thabo Mbeki, who sees the current policy of the government as a tremendous blow to black entrepreneurship, since it creates a small group of unproductive, but very rich “buddy capitalists” made up almost entirely of ANC politicians. De Klerk and Mbeki called on the government to support blacks through better education and business start-up loans, instead of implementing ever stricter race quotas that have held South Africa’s economy in tight shackles for years.

Against the background of the enduring Constitutional Court crisis in Poland, the KAS office in Warsaw supported an international conference with the title “The Constitutional Tribunal as the Guardian of Constitutional Values”, held in Gdansk on 17 October 2016. The conference was organised by the mayor of Gdansk, Pawel Adamowicz, and was attended by senior international figures, including the president of the Polish Constitutional Court, Professor Andrzej Rzepliński, the president of the Venice Commission, Dr Gianni Buquicchio, and other presidents of European constitutional courts. Given the currently ongoing rule of law procedure by the EU Commission towards Poland, this event was able to make a significant contribution to the public debate on the rule of law and the division of powers in Poland.
WHAT CAN BE DONE AGAINST CORRUPTION IN PERU?

Given the long-standing culture of corruption in Latin America, of which more details are now coming to light in the wake of the Odebrecht scandal, the KAS Rule of Law Programme for Latin America is keen to encourage debate on structural and regional measures that need to be addressed in the fight against corruption. To this end, a “Café y Debate” event, a discussion format of the Rule of Law Programme, was held in collaboration with the Pontífica Universidad Católica del Perú on 28 February. Following keynote speeches from the Peruvian justice minister, Dr Marisol Pérez Tello, who has put anti-corruption measures at the very top of Peru’s legal political agenda, and the former chief public prosecutor Dr Yván Montoya, around 30 invited experts from academic circles, politics and civil society engaged in a private debate.

The participants agreed that only cultural change associated with far-reaching changes to the political system and the judiciary would bring about long-term improvements. Given the media presence of the subject across the whole continent and the political pressure being exerted by civil society, this is a historic opportunity to break the vicious circle of corruption.

BOOK LAUNCH AND PRESENTATION “CAMBODIAN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW”

In December 2016, the KAS office in Cambodia invited more than 140 politicians, academics and legal practitioners to officially launch the compendium “Cambodian Constitutional Law” in Phnom Penh. The book was compiled by 27 Cambodian and international legal experts and covers all aspects of the Cambodian constitution. The guests at the presentation included His Excellency Dr Hang Chhon Naron, Minister for Education, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sirivudh and George Edgar, the EU ambassador to Cambodia.

The public launch was followed by a number of events at which more than 1,000 books were distributed to institutions, legal scholars and legal practitioners over the course of three days. The publication is primarily intended to serve as a manual for students and professors to improve the quality of teaching and academic research. Being the first of its kind, it also provides a source of information for legal experts and legal practitioners both in Cambodia and abroad.

INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS A PRIZE TO RULE OF LAW PROGRAMME FOR LATIN AMERICA

During the presentation of the award in Costa Rica in November 2016 to the former head of the Rule of Law Programme for Latin America (until June 2016), Dr Christian Steiner, the president of the Inter-American Court, Brazilian-born Roberto Caldas, highlighted the importance of the collaboration between the programme and the court, as well as the programme’s efforts to stimulate dialogue between the courts in the region. Caldas described how useful the support and critical as well as constructive partnership of the programme had been in the many activities that had taken place over recent years. The main focus was on the meeting organised by the programme every year between Latin American constitutional courts and on the publishing of the legal commentary on the American Convention on Human Rights. In his thank-you speech, Steiner pointed out that the award would serve as motivation to continue the work that had been accomplished together so far. Dr Marie-Christine Fuchs, Steiner’s successor, declared that she would be wholeheartedly dedicated to continuing and expanding the work of the programme.
The participants travelled to areas that are rarely visited by journalists. The result is a cross-section of a fascinating and multi-faceted country in nine chapters. The reports can be viewed by clicking on http://projekte.jonamag.de/colombia/de/

Journalists have to cope with crises - those of a political nature and those of their own industry. Quality journalism during times of crisis was a key topic at the tenth "South East Europe Media Forum" (SEEMF) held in Belgrade on 21 and 22 November 2016, organised by the KAS Media Programme South East Europe. At the largest media conference in the Balkans, 440 experts debated how media handled refugees, report on crises, and the training of young journalists.

Serbia’s Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić spoke at the opening of the forum. He addressed activities of his own government such as freedom of information legislation and the privatisation of media and answered questions from international media. Two KAS publications containing recommendations for crisis reporters and improved training in journalism were also presented during the conference. Investigative reporters from Albania and Belarus were also honoured with an award. The event was co-organised by the South East European Media Organisation (SEEMO) and the Central European Initiative (CEI).

The major daily newspapers are printing numerous articles and analyses on the topics of armed conflict, peace negotiations and peace agreements. What these pieces often lack, however, are the voices of the people from the conflict zones themselves. In order to give Colombians in such regions a voice and face, the KAS office in Colombia joined forces with the CdR editorial council and the KAS journalists’ academy (JONA) to organise a multimedia seminar titled “Colombia on the Road to Peace”. Nine teams, each comprising one German and one Colombian journalist, took part in a workshop to learn how multimedia reports are produced. They had the opportunity to listen to reports and stories of people in various parts of the country and portray the current situation in Colombian regions.

Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić (3rd from left) with Oliver Vujović (SEEMO), Christian Spahr (KAS Media Programme South East Europe) and Norbert Beckmann-Dierkes (KAS office in Serbia)

Peace treaty demonstration in Bogotá

COLOMBIA AFTER THE PEACE TREATY

VOICES OF CONTEMPORARY WITNESSES FROM THE CONFLICT ZONES
In collaboration with the Turkish Journalists’ Association (TGC), the KAS office in Turkey held the German-Turkish Media Seminar for the 30th time in succession from 26 to 29 October 2016 in Antalya. Media representatives from both countries took part, along with academics from highly respected Turkish universities. The participants discussed the media in Germany and Turkey, drawing comparisons and highlighting differences in the course of the two-day event.

In four sessions, current issues were addressed and discussed, such as the elections in the USA, discrimination and hate speech in the media, the freedom of the press and media transparency comparisons between Turkey and Germany, along with the refugee agreement and its impacts on the relationship between the EU and Turkey. As well as providing a forum for a content-related exchange, the seminar also represented an opportunity to establish mutual understanding and to maintain contacts and acquire new ones, especially in light of the heightened tensions between Germany and Turkey.

UGANDA:

STRONG WOMEN IN THE MEDIA

The KAS has been supporting the development of independent and professional media in Uganda for many years. In this context, the representation of women in the Ugandan media remains, however, a challenge. Reporting reproduces stubborn stereotypes and often ignores female perspectives. Men usually dominate the most important positions in the media companies. At the same time, however, there is a whole generation of young and ambitious women who are gaining more influence as media makers. This is where the Network for Women in the Media comes in, set up by the KAS as part of a round-table discussion in November 2016. The network brings together the key female players of the Ugandan media landscape in order to exert a targeted influence and to raise awareness of a more balanced reporting. Particular attention is to be paid to social media, which contain many instances of violations of the dignity and rights of women.
THE ROLE OF USA AND CHINA IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

"Whatever happens, the green energy revolution cannot be stopped". These were the words of Isaac Valero Ladrón following Donald Trump's election during a debate on the future direction of climate policy in the USA and China, organised by the KAS Multinational Development Policy Dialogue in Brussels on 6 December 2016. Ladrón, the European Commission's expert on international climate negotiations from the cabinet of Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete, discussed with international experts the implementation of the Paris climate agreement. He pointed out that the EU would be pushing even harder for a leading role in the implementation of the agreement. Xumin Zhang, the representative of the Chinese embassy and former head of the environmental authority at the Foreign Office in Beijing, highlighted China's desire to support Europe in this quest. Nicolas Loris, US expert on environment and climate change from the Heritage Foundation in Washington, stressed Donald Trump's unpredictability in terms of future climate policy. He explained that the USA, in defiance of international efforts, was not keen on stopping subsidies for fossil fuels.

GERMAN-LATIN AMERICAN DIALOGUE ON ENERGY TRANSITION

The Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Latin America held its German-Latin American dialogue on energy transition for the third time. Over 30 energy experts from more than eight different Latin American countries, including representatives of the Latin American Energy Organisation (OLADE) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), met German colleagues from the Reiner Lemoine Institute (RLI), the Economic Council to the CDU and the Technische Universität Berlin in October 2016 in Maldonado, Uruguay. The meeting, held at the South American Institute for Resilience and Sustainability Studies (SARAS), the local partner institute, focused on issues such as "Transitions in Energy Policy following the Paris Climate Agreement", "Efficient Energy Regulation Policies" and "Innovation in the Renewable Energies Sector". Afterwards there was a public debate organised in collaboration with the Costa Rican Latin-Clima network on the role of private business in the regional creation of a sustainable policy on energy transition.

UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE IN MOROCCO (COP22)
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA

At the invitation of the KAS office in South Africa, representatives from the South African Environment Ministry and the Moroccan Embassy, along with other national and international participants, discussed the results of the latest UN climate change conference in Johannesburg in December 2016. Particular attention was paid to the legal impacts on southern Africa and the role of the media in the implementation of the agreement. The purpose of the expert debate was to promote interdisciplinary collaboration and to identify the challenges and opportunities for southern Africa arising from the Paris and Marrakesh Agreements. The participants called for closer partnership between the various players. They agreed that media and civil society had the important task of calling governments to account to make sure they also keep their promises on climate protection.

The participants also included the head of the climate department at the South African Ministry of Environmental Affairs, as well as the head of mission from the Moroccan Embassy.
**Names and Faces**

**Michaela Braun**
- Will be working as a trainee at the KAS office in South Africa from October on
- Previously supported the KAS Programmes in the office in Kenya
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**Peter Koch**
- Will be working as a trainee at the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue West Africa from October on
- Previously studied international business studies, geography and economics in Fulda, Giessen, and Paris
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**Daniela Diegelmann**
- Will take over as head of the KAS Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in the Middle East in July
- Antecedently was country expert in the team Africa and Middle East
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**Dr Anja Schoeller-Schletter**
- Has been in charge of the KAS Rule of Law Programme Middle East / North Africa since April
- Formerly worked for an international lawyer’s office in Cairo
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**Christian Echle**
- Will be in charge of the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia/Singapore from June on
- Has been head of the KAS Media Programme Sub-Saharan Africa up to now
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**Henning Suhr**
- Has been in charge of the KAS office in South Africa since April
- Was previously head of the KAS office in Venezuela
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**Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy**
- Has been in charge of the Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific since March
- Heretofore worked as head of the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia/Singapore
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**Thomas Tödtling**
- Will be in charge of the EU Programme on Devolution in Kenya from June on
- Previously worked as senior consultant in the domain of public affairs and strategic communication
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SELECTED NEW PUBLICATIONS
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

PANORAMA INSIGHTS INTO ASIAN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS: COUNTERING DAESH EXTREMISM – EUROPEAN AND ASIAN RESPONSES
This publication analyses the most recent developments in Daesh extremism and their impact on society in Asia and Europe. The chapters discuss current and future threats, identify the target groups that are susceptible to extreme militant ideology, and investigate the various recruitment programmes. The measures adopted by various governments to fight, de-radicalise and rehabilitate Daesh supporters are also highlighted. Particular attention is paid to the Daesh activities in the respective countries, responses from local Muslim communities and future developments.

MIGRANTS FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA IN MOROCCO
This book is the first in a two-volume, quantitative, empirical investigation of the current situation facing migrants from Sub-Saharan Africa in Morocco. The work is based on 1,400 detailed interviews with migrants, including those with current permits to stay and work, and others. This is the most comprehensive survey of this kind in Morocco to date. It reflects not only the real social, economic and political conditions, but also personal perceptions and ensuing changes in mindsets and attitudes. As a consequence, this book provides a comprehensive picture of the current situation.

INTEGRATION OF RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC MINORITIES IN EASTERN EUROPE
The conference transcript from the two KAS offices in Ukraine and Hungary, titled "The Integration of Religious and Ethnic Minorities in Eastern Europe", has recently been published. The international symposium of the same name, which was held in Uzhhorod /Ungvár on 13 September 2016, focused on the future and organisation of minorities in the Carpathian region. The publication can be obtained free of charge from the KAS office in Hungary (ISBN: 978-615-80349-7-5).

INTEGRATION AND ELECTRICAL SECURITY IN LATIN AMERICA
The boost of the integration of renewable energies into the Latin American energy sector is part of a strategy designed to largely safeguard the change towards a lower-carbon energy mix and to combine the efforts to fight climate change with measures to promote sustainable economic and social development. The aim of this publication is to offer the authorities and members of parliaments responsible for the energy policy in Latin America support and proposals that will help them to formulate and implement political measures to integrate and safeguard energy supplies across the whole region.

THE DEMOCRACY WORKBOOK – A RESOURCE FOR CIVIC EDUCATION IN UGANDA
Together with the civil society network GAIN-Uganda, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has put together extensive materials on political education at the local level. At the heart of the materials is a workbook that uses appealing images and brief background information to explain the key principles of democracy and the rule of law in an easy-to-understand way. Through a partnership with the Ugandan Ministry of Information, the book is prospectively to be used nationwide in state-funded political education.

THE AGE OF CONNECTIVITY — ASEM AND BEYOND
The study analyses the future role of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) in terms of connectivity between Europe and Asia. Particular attention is paid to enhancing the cooperation in the non-traditional security and economic spheres and facilitating the connectivity of ideas. The potential influence of the ASEM on global governance is also discussed.

All publications can be downloaded from: www.kas.de/publikationen