

Annual Report



Insights into 2020

OS

OS

**The Konrad-
Adenauer-
Stiftung**

*in the
Face of the
Corona
Pandemic*

Contents

Editorial

4

1

KAS Fellowship 2020/21

6

KAS Fellowship 2020/21 – An Interview with Professor Armin Nassehi 8



2

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung 10

About Us	12
Digitalisation at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung	14
The Foundation's New Digital Formats	16
Covid-19 and the Impact on the Foundation's Work: An Interview with Rolf Halfmann	18
The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Figures	20
Our Award Winners in 2020	24



3

Our Focus Topics

26

Our Focus Topics

Innovation

Urban Development in the 21st Century: Smart & Strong Cities	30
"The Winner Takes It All" – Platform Regulation and the 2020 European Data Summit	32
AI Made in China and Now What? A Presentation by the Asia-European Consortium on AI Research (AECAIR)	34

Security

Foreign and Security Policy During the German EU Council Presidency	36
The Indo-Pacific at a Glance: A Virtual Series of Talks Between the Defence Minister and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung	38
About Fake News and Deepfakes: Resilience and Security in the Face of Disinformation	40

Presentation and Participation

The Women's College: "Zukunftsfrauen" (Women of the Future) and the Mentoring Programme for Female Mayors	42
Recognising and Questioning Conspiracy Theories	44
Ten Years since the Arab Spring – Prospects for Democracy and Development in the Middle East and North Africa	46





4

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in the Face of the Corona Pandemic

48

Department of References and Research Services/ Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy

Interview with Archive Staff	50
What Can We Learn from History That Can Help Us with the Coronavirus Crisis?	52

Analysis and Consulting

The Coronavirus Pandemic and Beyond – Events and Publications in 2020	54
---	----

Civic Education

#KASKonkret. A New Digital Format in the Face of the Pandemic.	
An Interview with Ulrike Hospes	58
“Shaping. Democracy. Together” in Challenging Times	60

European and International Cooperation

Challenges and Opportunities – Our International Work in the Face of the Pandemic.	
An Interview with Frank Priess	62
Defying the Virus	64

Academic Promotion and Culture

The Difficult Path to University. An Interview with Lena Großmann about Challenges for “Senkrechtstarter” (High Flyers)	66
Emotions Despite Being Online – Nervousness during Interviews and Heated Debates Online	68



5

Special Anniversaries

70

The 75th Anniversary of the CDU: Events Held to Mark the Party’s Anniversary	72
30 Years of German Unification in Peace and Freedom	74



6

Names, Facts, Balances

76

Balances	78
Joint Declaration on the State Funding of Political Foundations	81
Board, Members and Trustees	82
Academic Promotion Committees	88
The Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung – From Continuity to Digital Awakening	89
Villa La Collina in Cadenabbia – A Conference and Holiday Location with a History	90

Dear readers,

The coronavirus pandemic has turned life upside down in Germany, as it has throughout the world. Our society has been in a state of emergency since spring 2020: nurseries and schools, theatres, cinemas and restaurants have remained closed for weeks, and many businesses have had to slow down the rate of their work or even shut altogether. But although the pandemic has certainly left its mark on politics, it has not led to existential threats to democracy. There might still be a lot to improve in Germany, but we can and must trust in the stability of our political system.

On the international level, the pandemic has once again demonstrated the crisis within multilateralism. This is certainly nothing new, but it is worrying to see that even a virus spreading rapidly across the globe has not been enough to bring the world together and promote cross-border cooperation.

In 2020, the presidential election campaign in the United States and developments in Asia and Africa were decisive topics in international politics. Germany also took over the presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2020. At a foundation event in May 2020, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung hosted Chancellor Angela Merkel, who used the occasion to set out her plans for the council presidency.

The past year has also been shaped by a number of important anniversaries for Germany and Christian democracy ranging from the 30th anniversary of the first free elections in the former German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II to the 30th anniversary of German reunification and the 75th anniversary of the founding of the CDU.

Many of our plans for a “normal” 2020 had to be adapted. In order to help limit the spread of the Covid-19 virus, we switched to working from home as early as mid-March 2020. During 2020, it was either impossible to hold major events or they had to be postponed or replaced with alternative formats. As a foundation, we had to adapt our usual ways of working within a very short space of time and it is remarkable how successful these changes have been. We gained a lot of experience and learned that online events can often go further than the face-to-face formats familiar to our traditional audience and reach new target groups. And we are very happy that the pandemic never really had a serious impact on the foundation’s core functions.

Our key topics have provided our work with the necessary direction during these troubled times. In the face of the pandemic, the core themes of security, innovation, and representation and participation have proved themselves to be highly relevant.

- › To mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the CDU, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung published the anthology *Christliche Demokratische Union. Beiträge und Positionen zur Geschichte der CDU* (Christian Democratic Union. Contributions and positions on the history of the CDU) and received a lot of media attention.
- › The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Day in September 2020 focused on 30 years of German unification and the 90th birthday of Helmut Kohl. The highlight was a conversation between the Chancellor and Donald Tusk, the new chair of the European People's Party (EPP).
- › In October 2020, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung welcomed Professor Armin Nassehi, our first KAS fellow, who is to accompany the work of the foundation for a year.

This annual report provides an overview of these and other diverse activities undertaken by the foundation.

During 2020, we also implemented a number of administrative changes. With a view to linking our national and international work more efficiently and effectively, the analysis units of the European and International Cooperation as well as the Policy and Consulting departments were merged into the new Analysis and Consulting department. Marketing and Publications were integrated into the existing Strategy and Planning department. Together with the Media Centre (press office and online communication) and the executive office, they now form the management team. Last but not least, we have massively upgraded our digital infrastructure in view of the changes made to our working practices, and this will certainly be useful for our work in the next few years.

In closing, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our staff for their commitment during this difficult year, the members of our committees for their constructive cooperation, and the Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, our donors and sponsors and our partners for their support. We will continue to do everything in our power to live up to the trust that they place in us.

Berlin/Sankt Augustin,
March 2021



Professor Norbert Lammert



Michael Thielen

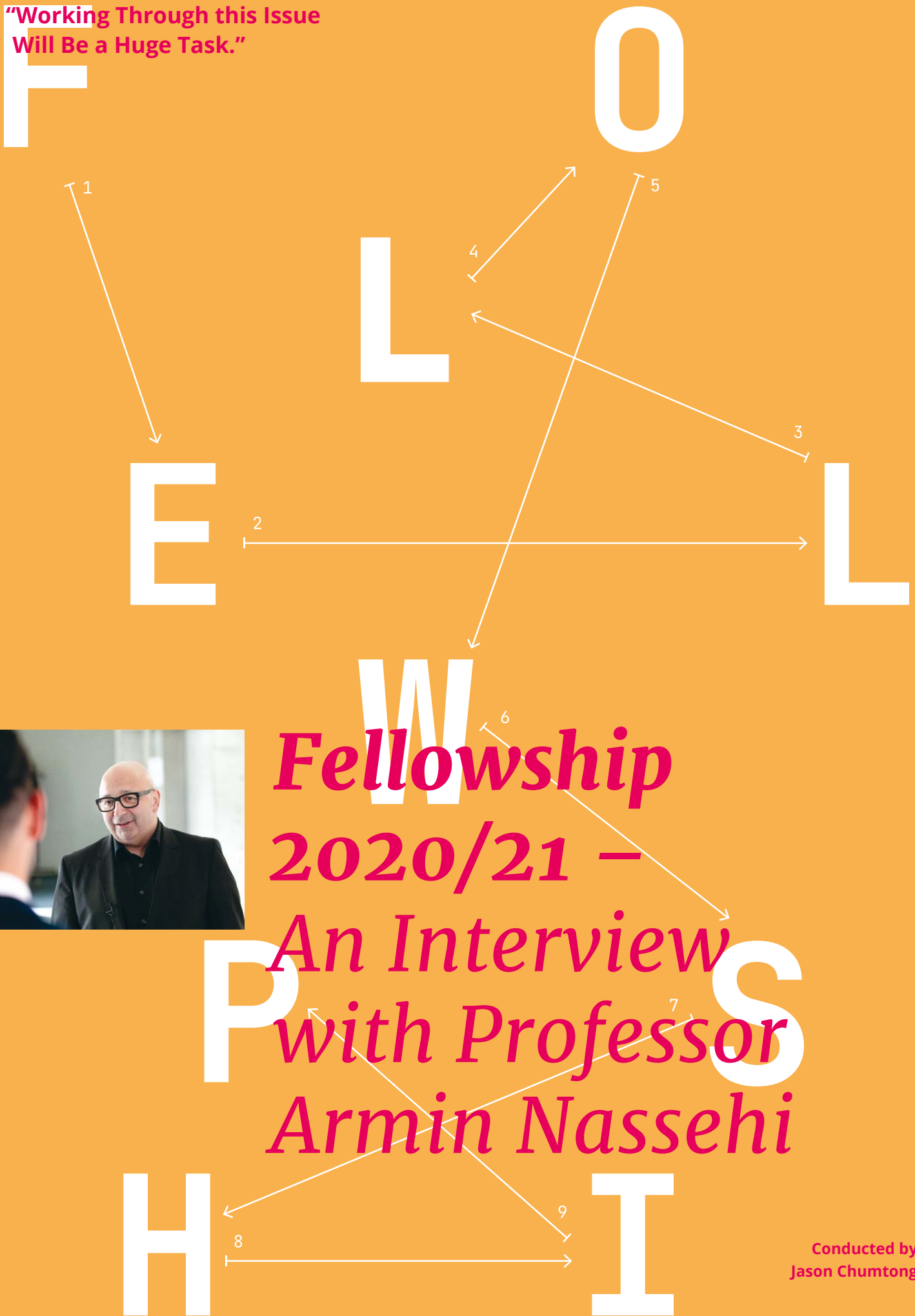
KAS

Fellow- ship

2020/21

An Interview with Professor Armin Nassehi

**“Working Through this Issue
Will Be a Huge Task.”**



***Fellowship
2020/21 –
An Interview
with Professor
Armin Nassehi***

**Conducted by
Jason Chumtong**

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's fellowship integrates a person from outside of the foundation into our work. The first fellow is the Munich sociologist Professor Armin Nassehi. We spoke to him about his role as the first KAS-fellow and the impact of the pandemic on politics and society.

Professor Nassehi, you have been providing your expertise to the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung since October 2020. Professor Norbert Lammert described your fellowship as a “virtual position for the productive questioning of the foundation's work”. What are your interim findings as a KAS fellow?

The pandemic has prevented me from meeting people face-to-face as much as I would have liked. This probably reinforces my view as an outsider. Of course, I am an outsider, but in the end, it depends on the issue. Productive questioning does not mean questioning absolutely everything that the foundation does; it means asking questions. And this aspect has been really interesting. The foundation is an institution that identifies future social issues and looks for answers in all directions – and it does so more than politics is able to. The police would say that the foundation “follows all available leads”. Ultimately, this means that many questions and answers from the past have to be realigned. But this is exactly what is happening.

Many people are frustrated about the speed with which the lockdown rules are being eased. Despite the fact that people initially praised the government's response, surveys are finding increasing levels of doubt about its current management of the crisis. Are other countries doing better than Germany?

The frustration is mainly caused by incoherence and inconsistency. In the beginning, the management of the crisis was excellent – but it was easier to order the implementation of drastic measures during the first lockdown in 2020 than in the period that followed. The biggest mistake was that in summer 2020 the majority of those in charge treated the pandemic as if it were already under control. In doing so, they went against the advice of most experts. Everyone then appeared to be surprised about the consequences. But the same thing happened in many other countries. Since autumn 2020, Germany could be accused of dragging out drastic, yet ultimately inconsistent, measures. Perhaps it is time that we admitted that we have no guarantee of being the best or the first. Working through this issue will be a huge task.

You once said that the virus has not only infected people but also society. The fact that some societies are more susceptible than others could be related to different political systems. Is the difference between societies enough to explain differences in vulnerability, or is resilience rooted more deeply in societies than in political systems?

There is a lot of admiration for China's handling of the crisis. I don't share this admiration. Liberal democracies don't have the same hard forms of governance or control over what can be published; this, of course, is a good thing. However, Taiwan, South Korea and Israel all demonstrate that there is definitely room for improvement when it comes to the digitalisation of solutions, compliance by the population and the formulation of consistent policies and packages. I sometimes have the feeling that Germans experience crises as particularly humiliating because we are less used to them than some of our European neighbours, particularly considering the problems that some of them have faced recently. It is important to remember that strong inequalities exist in terms of the impact of the pandemic and the measures that have been put in place. Some population groups are significantly more affected than others, and there are clear correlations with income, education, precarious living conditions and migration background.

The foundation intends to discuss with you the future of its work and the challenges associated with civic education at three large workshops that are planned for 2021. Can you provide us with a few details?

Yes, the events that have been planned so far deal with artificial intelligence and digitalisation as well as their impact on public communications, employment, and the limits of the limits of the law. Finally, another, if not central, issue that will be covered is the challenges posed to democracy, in other words, questions of representation, participation and protest, and, ultimately, civic education, which is one of the pillars of the foundation's work.

More on the subject:
www.kas.de/nassehi-interview

The Konrad- Adenauer- Stiftung

About Us

Digitalisation at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

**The Foundation's New
Digital Formats**

**Covid-19 and the Impact on the
Foundation's Work: An Interview
with Rolf Halfmann**

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Figures

Our Award Winners in 2020



About Us

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is a political foundation that is active throughout Germany via its 18 civic education forums and regional offices. Some 100 international offices manage projects in more than 120 countries.



Konrad Adenauer's life and the principles he personified provide us with our guidelines and define our duty and mission. The foundation was named after Konrad Adenauer, the German Federal Republic's first chancellor, in 1964, but grew out of the Society for Christian-Democratic Civic Education, which was founded in 1955.

We use civic education to promote freedom, peace and justice at home and abroad. Our most important goals are strengthening democracy, furthering European integration, improving transatlantic relations and expanding development cooperation. We conduct current and well-researched analyses that provide the basis for political action. The Academy in Berlin acts as our forum for dialogue on issues that shape the future – from politics and the economy to religion, society and science.

We bring people together who have “something to say”, at conferences and congresses. In Germany alone, around 145,000 people attend the approximately 2,500 events that we hold annually. In 2020, the coronavirus pandemic led us to strongly expand our digital and hybrid events. We provide material and academic support to gifted young people from Germany, as well as from Central and Eastern Europe and other parts of the world. We also keep in touch with our alumni, whose number has risen to more than 16,000 since 1965.

Our programme also includes exhibits, literature readings and awards. We support young artists and honour authors with our prestigious Literary Award every year. We have awarded a prize for local journalism since 1980 and have a dedicated programme to promote young journalists. Since 2002, our Social Market Economy Prize has recognised distinguished individuals who support and encourage the development of the Social Market Economy. And our *denkt@g* competition celebrates websites by young people that broach issues linked to the Holocaust and Nazi dictatorship, right-wing extremism, xenophobia, intolerance and violence since 2001.

The Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy promote and conduct research and exploration of the history of Christian democracy in Germany and Europe. Users can access a large body of materials currently amounting to more than 18 linear kilometres of documents and publications, in addition to state-of-the-art media and a specialised library with some 200,000 titles focused on history and politics.

“Then we’ll just go online.”



This statement sounded almost defiant when the foundation was first confronted with the pandemic in March 2020. But we looked to the future and chose a path that provided solutions to more than just the situation caused by Covid-19. In many ways, 2020 provided a boost to digitalisation, and this applies to the focus of our work as much as to our administration.

Authors

**André Drewelowsky
and Susanne Kophal**

The coronavirus crisis forced us to digitalise analogue formats and processes almost overnight. This was due to the need to clearly focus on dealing with the situation caused by the pandemic. In the beginning, it was challenging to view the newly-required working practices as opportunities. However, this process began by ensuring that the around 1,500 members of staff at 120 locations around the world were still able to continue their work, and to do so quickly. The next

step involved ensuring that the foundation could develop dynamically in line with the opportunities provided by digitalisation.

In the years leading up to the pandemic, the foundation had begun numerous projects aimed at establishing infrastructure for digital processes. This meant that we were able to build on these experiences and, for example, quickly provide our staff access to the foundation’s internal systems from home

We had to clearly focus on dealing with the situation caused by the pandemic.

(with up to 700 people accessing the system at the same time). In order to do so, an existing Citrix terminal server farm was massively expanded. Many of the approximately 8,000 events that the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organises annually throughout the world, most of which for 2020 relied on physical attendance, required a range of creative approaches to switch them to digital formats. This also included the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Day, which took place on 10 September 2020, and was held for the first time as a live stream on our website (www.kas.de), Facebook and YouTube. Chancellor Angela Merkel and the chair of the European People's Party, Donald Tusk, discussed 30 years of German unification. In the run up to the debate, the foundation presented its work online and answered questions from the online audience in the virtual "KAS studio on German unification".

In order to rise to the challenges posed by digitalisation, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung completely restructured the Digitalisation and ICT department in its service centre: new positions were created in technology and the tasks of the existing IT department were distributed among three new departments: ICT Operation, ICT service and ICT security. At the same time, the departments were provided with more clearly defined responsibilities, and the remits for organisation/process management, digitalisation/training and target group management were also taken over by the new department.

At the same time, the foundation began developing a digital strategy to formulate visions for transforming and sustainably strengthening our work over the coming years. The process, which is still ongoing, defines goals, specific projects and implementation strategies in four subject areas.

As a forerunner and part of this digital strategy, a project group was set up in August 2020 to develop step-by-step, cross-departmental solutions for the provision of coherent digital technology at events. A central sub-project was the digitalisation of the Academy of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the main location for events in Berlin, which, until now, has mainly been used for analogue events. In the future, it will be possible to hold hybrid and fully online events at the Academy. Projects that have already been

implemented or are in the process of being completed include the establishment of a multimedia studio for professional video and audio production and a hub to link up participants during online events. At the same time, the "technical basics" were also tackled, including upgrading the existing infrastructure at our main locations in Berlin and Sankt Augustin (such as the gradual establishment of gigabit-capable networks).

Online tools for internal and external networking and external presentations were introduced throughout the foundation. This provided us with access to new target groups, and enabled us to expand the scope of our work while adding new, innovative formats to our "product range". For example, gamification elements were used during live streams on Twitch and the use of social media channels was expanded. Previously, administrative tasks were paper-based, but they have now been converted to digital processes. The foundation-wide introduction of the document-based processing and management system "fav2" has been useful in this regard. It had been used since 2010 for project accounting and control in our international offices and for the management of scholarships to gifted students since 2015.

The coronavirus pandemic has greatly affected the lives and working practices of people around the world, and this includes the staff at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. In many ways, 2020 boosted digitalisation – and this applies as much to our focus topics as to our administration. The advantages of home working increasingly came to the fore and had a largely positive influence on the further development of our work and corporate culture. Although the pandemic will certainly come to an end, we will continue with the numerous processes of change in the coming years and do so with commitment and dedication.



Chancellor Dr Angela Merkel at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Day

The Foundation's New Digital Formats

Media Centre

Author

Julia Fleiner

Political decision-making and debates are increasingly taking place online. This was particularly the case in 2020, as analogue spaces were largely paralysed, and online events and meetings became far more important. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung recognised the potential of this change and implemented a data-driven approach to digital communications. We focused on target group-oriented campaigns such as digital scholarship applications and campaigns to mark the CDU's anniversary, as well as targeted presentations. In particular, people aged between 16 and 34 were reached, and interaction with this group was strategically expanded. This is also reflected in the new central Twitch channel and the temporary display on Clubhouse. Low-threshold live formats and digital formats that foreground the foundation's technical expertise were also strategically expanded. Digital press conferences, experimental video formats, as well as increased awareness about the foundation and its greater reach, show that politics and political communication also work online.

Department of References and Research Services/Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy

Author

Christiane Stahr

The Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy gained a lot of experience with digitalisation in 2020. The archive increasingly organised and carried out events online, and experimented with new digital approaches to reach and involve target groups. The events organised for the anniversary of the CDU are a good example: online book presentations, podcasts and social media campaigns reached a broad public. In addition to hybrid and digital events, new video formats were also introduced to appropriately commemorate anniversaries such as 30 years of German reunification. We were also able to present new research findings about the Cold War on our new website www.ostpolitik.de.

Civic Education

Author

Sandra Busch-Janser

With a great deal of creativity, the Civic Education department did not only digitalise existing formats, but took the chance for innovation. Virtual tours in cooperation with memorials, interviews and previously recorded film sequences were key elements of the series of events titled "75 Years Since the End of the Second World War". At the Political Youth Day "Stadt, Land, Fluss – LEBE deine Stadt" (City, Country, River – LIVE Your City), participants were able to learn more about local politics with the help of an interactive map, videos, games and quizzes. Conferences such as the Municipal Congress and the International Conference on Political Communication took place using sophisticated studio formats. Channels such as Twitch and Clubhouse offered the opportunity to experiment with new target groups.

Analysis and Consulting

Author

Gerrit Wilcke

In 2020, the Analysis and Consulting department was digitally repositioned. Video interviews with our experts were produced to support studies and publications using multimedia. These videos are hosted in the department's new playlist on the foundation's YouTube channel, and the videos are optimised for search engines and integrated into our website. Our content, therefore, is available online and can be found quickly. Comments from the interviews are published on social media to inform our target groups about publications. The short digital campaigns that were run in this manner attracted additional attention. Our events also focus more on multimedia, many recordings are now permanently available online and video components enrich our reports.



Academic Promotion and Culture

Author

Jasmin Heermann

In 2020, new approaches to multi-day, digital seminars were established by the Scholarships and Culture department, including a seven-day digital foundational seminar with blocks covering various topics for new scholarship holders. New learning methods and units have been developed that rely on strong participation and interaction and at the same time create space for people to share their experiences and discuss initiatives. The new digital seminars include online business and group-based games such as “World Café”, talks with people in breakout rooms who have experienced historical events, as well as meet-ups in the digital café or at joint cooking evenings and prayers. These hybrid formats can also be used, for example, to train young journalists when certain practical aspects of their training sessions cannot be conducted online.

European and International Cooperation

Author

Katja Plate

Under the mottoes “Bits and Ballots: Digital Democracy in the Time of Covid-19” and “Bits and Ballots: Election of CDU’s next chairman under Covid-19 conditions”, in November 2020 the Junge Union’s Deutschlandtag and the CDU’s federal conference in January 2021 provided opportunities to debate internal-party democracy with partner parties from around the world (within the framework available during the Covid-19 pandemic). In the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung’s own studio, selected parts of the live stream from the Junge Union and the CDU were simultaneously interpreted into up to six languages, explained by moderators and commentators, and presented to an international audience. This digital TV format offered far more than conventional live streams. However, it was technically demanding, and required close cooperation between colleagues responsible for content and the technology itself, in addition to an external service provider. The positive feedback speaks in favour of further developing the format even after the restrictions associated with the pandemic have been lifted.

Interview with
Rolf Halfmann



Covid-19 and the Impact on the Foundation's Work

*"Probably nothing has changed as
much as communication."*

Conducted by
Uta Hellweg

The coronavirus pandemic began a year ago.

Do you still recognise the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung?

At first glance, everything seems to be different. The office rooms and corridors, meeting rooms and event halls are all empty. There are no staff or guests at our events. In fact, work in our buildings has come to a halt. Yet, if you look below the surface, the lively activities that the foundation is well-known for continue, albeit in a different manner. The staff are still working, but just not from the office. In most cases, there is no real difference: events are still taking place in rapid succession, just online, and it is remarkable how quickly these changes have been put in place.

What were the first few weeks of lockdown like?

We all faced completely new challenges. We had to protect our staff from infection, and we needed to do our bit to help contain the pandemic. But we also wanted to continue our work. This led us to change our working practices in March 2020 in line with the recommendations made by the Robert Koch Institute and political decisions. Initially, only larger face-to-face events had to be cancelled. But a few days later, events could no longer be held in person, either in Germany or in Cadenabbia (Italy). Luckily, the foundation was well prepared. Face-to-face meetings were replaced by web conferences, and events now take place online. All staff members in Germany and abroad were able to access online conferencing by the beginning of April, and this included a cloud-based network infrastructure. Our hygiene and safety protocols enabled us to respond flexibly and quickly to new measures. Office work continued with a reduced number of staff covering in emergencies. The fact that many things went well – surprisingly well – was not merely due to the new technology, but above all because of the willingness of our staff to make the best of things.

Have internal communication processes in the foundation changed?

Probably nothing has changed as much as communication. The fact that we cannot meet in person poses communicative challenges. People have far fewer opportunities to meet by chance and to chat informally if they can't come into the office. Both types of interaction are important at work as they improve cooperation and often enable people to find answers to the questions that crop up during everyday office life. Web conferencing is no substitute. Unsurprisingly, however, they have become indispensable for maintaining the foundation's core functions at the present time. And online meetings are often more efficient than face-to-face meetings because they can take place quickly and easily.



Since the beginning of the first lockdown, 205 new people have been recruited and 64 people have transferred to new positions within the foundation. What organisational challenges has this involved?

HR never went into lockdown. Job interviews and the onboarding programme had to continue despite the restrictions. It was here that the advantages and disadvantages of online conversations were particularly evident. Finding a suitable date for an online meeting is often easier because there are no commuting times. But it can be more difficult to gain personal impressions about people online. These aspects normally play an important role for both sides, especially in job interviews. However, feedback from new colleagues suggests that everything went as well as it could have done given the circumstances.

What changes did you have to make over the course of the year?

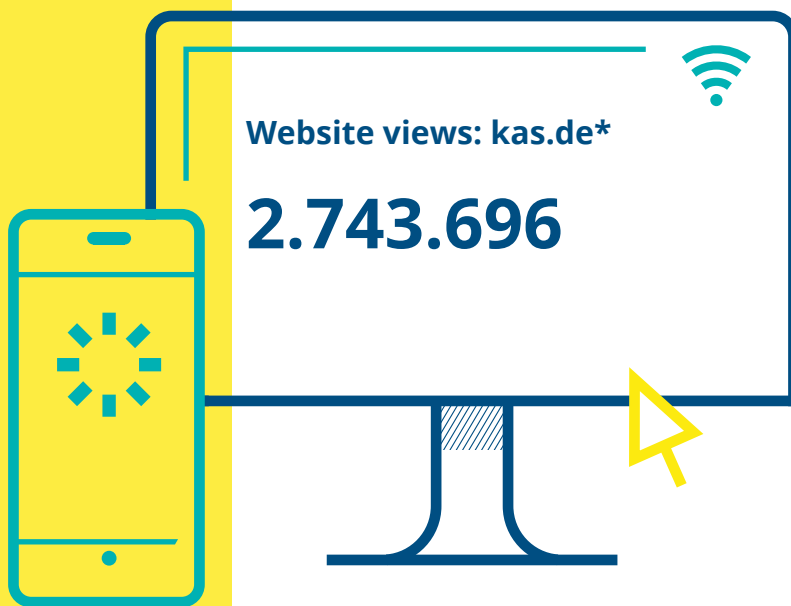
We opted for a flexible model, based around working from home, and we did so right from the start. This model still enables people to come into the office and adhere to lockdown rules. We limited ourselves to providing emergency cover during the lockdown, but when the restrictions are relaxed, around 30 to 50 per cent of staff members can come back into the office, as was the case in summer 2020. In the beginning, staff members were required to wear a normal face mask in halls and corridors, but this was later changed to a medical face mask. In March 2021, we provided everyone with self-tests. We are just as flexible when it comes to events. The events that took place range from purely online events to greatly reduced studio formats and smaller hybrid events. Our staff were really eager for the events to take place. Of course, we were careful, but with a bit of luck we managed to avoid cases of Covid-19 at all of our locations in Germany.

If you look back today, which of these changes will have the most impact on the foundation in the future?

Unsurprisingly, this would be primarily technical and organisational digitalisation. We have developed a digital strategy, and are expanding our hardware and software for home workstations, modernising the technology used at events and adapting structures to meet the new requirements. These changes are permanent. And they reflect both a willingness to experiment and a new appreciation of the traditional: a blend of digital applications and of meeting in person.

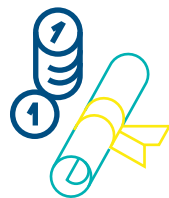
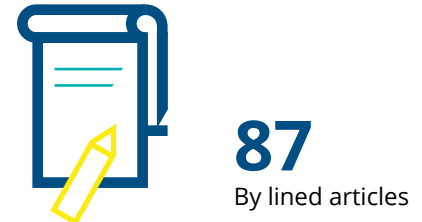
The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Figures

Online Activities and Media Relations



* Since the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation, it has only been possible to track users who provide us permission to do so. The actual number of page views, therefore, should be higher.

Media Relations



Friends of the
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
1.515

Followers on the Main Social Media Channels

Facebook

f 63.539

Twitter

t 21.482

Instagram

i 15.897

Staff in Germany and Abroad



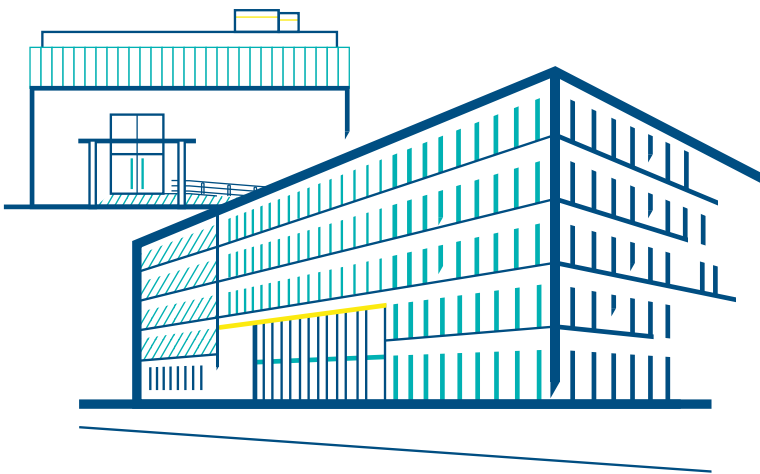
Total number of staff
in Germany number and abroad

1.674



Staff in Germany
not including trainees
and volunteers

659



In Berlin

486

In the civic educa-
tion forums and
regional offices

78



In Sankt Augustin

95



Average length of
employment

9

years

Average age
(in Germany)

44

years

Staff in our
international offices

Staff on postings

106

including

11

trainees



909

local staff



Last amended: 31 December 2020

European and International Cooperation

Offices worldwide

111

Events

(analogue, hybrid, online)

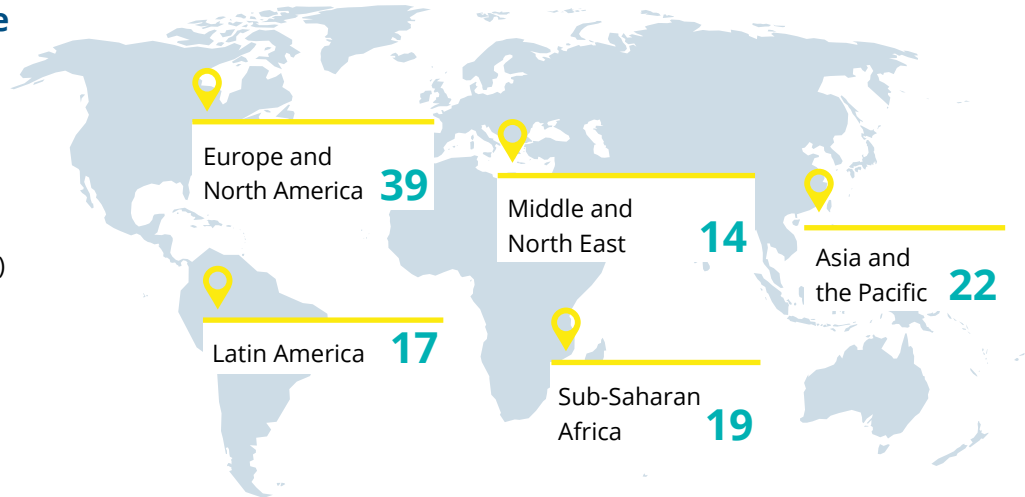
4.220

Participants

788.609

Countries

119



Analysis and Consulting



135 Publications

56 Expert meetings

131 Events
(analogue, hybrid, online)

Civic Education



Events and Participants

(throughout Germany)

Events
(analogue, hybrid, online)

1.494

Locations
in Germany

220

Participants

145.856

Academic Promotion and Culture

Scholarship holders

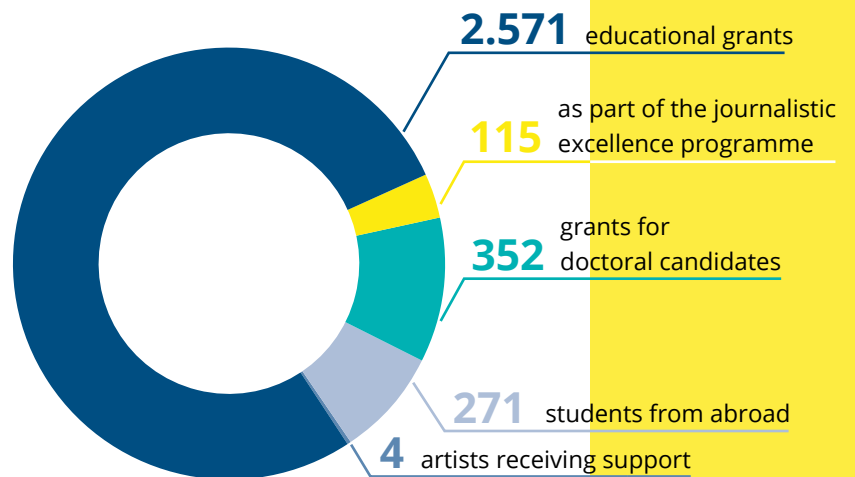


3.313

Alumni (since 1965)



16.110



Corona funds from the EHF-2010 cultural grant programme for artists

25.000 Euro for **28** scholars

Reference and Research Services/Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy

Number of digitised photographs in the photo archive

306.000



Database accesses

129.059



Linear metres of files

18.380

Last amended: 31 December 2020

Our Award Winners in



The KAS Prize for Local Journalism

The KAS Prize for Local Journalism celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2020. An event in Berlin paid tribute to the importance of local journalism and the reputation of the award, which the industry has long viewed as the “Oscar” for this field. At the same time, the event celebrated the winners of 2019: first prize went to the Schleswig-Holstein newspaper publisher *sh:z* for a long-term multimedia project on violence in primary schools. The newspaper publisher Waiblingen was awarded the second prize. *Badische Neueste Nachrichten* received the third prize. The special prize for volunteer projects went to the newspapers *Südwest Presse*, *Märkische Oderzeitung* and *Lausitzer Rundschau* for their joint magazine *Ein Land* to mark the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

www.kas.de/deutscher-lokaljournalistenpreis



The KAS Literary Award

Hans Pleschinski received the 2020 Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Literary Award. The foundation’s chair, Professor Norbert Lammert, praised Pleschinski – a writer, translator and editor – as a “pioneer who had unleashed the positive legacy of German culture and European education in a novel manner”. Pleschinski’s novels, translations of letters and diaries were said to be demonstrative of freedom and ethical responsibility. The award ceremony with the address by Schleswig-Holstein’s education minister, Karien Prien, has been rescheduled for 2021 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

www.kas.de/literaturpreis



Social Market Economy Prize

The Covid-19 pandemic prevented the foundation from awarding the Social Market Economy Prize in 2020. The 2021 Social Market Economy Prize is to be awarded to Axel E Barten, André E Barten and Daniel Wollny from Achenbach Buschhütten. The management and staff of the manufacturer, with its rich tradition, are exemplary of how active social partnership in the digital age can combine innovation, responsibility and sustainability. The award ceremony is to take place in Berlin in autumn 2021.

www.kas.de/preis-soziale-marktwirtschaft



denkt@g Competition

The nationwide youth denkt@g competition began on 27 January 2020. Initially, advertising took place during the coronavirus pandemic and the first lockdown. Schools and other potential candidates had other things in mind than taking part in a competition. Therefore, very few registrations were received before the summer break, and it seemed like the competition would have to be cancelled. A renewed advertising campaign at the end of the summer holidays, especially on social media, and an extension of the deadline into December, however, meant that more groups eventually signed up than in previous years. The jury selected 15 groups, who have been invited to Berlin for the 6 September 2021. We sincerely hope that they will be able to receive their awards in person.

www.kas.de/denktag



***Our Focus
Topics***



Urban Development in the 21st Century:
Smart & Strong Cities

“The winner takes it all” – Platform Regulation
and the 2020 European Data Summit

AI Made in China and Now What?
A Presentation by the Asia-European
Consortium on AI Research (AECAIR)



**Foreign and Security Policy During the
German EU Council Presidency**

The Indo-Pacific at a Glance: A Virtual
Series of Talks Between the Defence Minister
and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

About Fake News and Deepfakes:
Resilience and Security Against Disinformation



The Women’s College: “Zukunftsfrauen” (Women of the
Future) and the Mentoring Programme for Female Mayors

Recognising and Questioning Conspiracy Theories

Ten Years since the Arab Spring – Prospects for
Democracy and Development in the Middle East and
North Africa

Our Focus Topics

Authors

Lukas Lingenthal,
Maria Schmidt and
Kristin Wesemann



...and then continue to
argue in parliament for months?
For a compromise?



YOU DO THAT
FOR US.

YOU ARE FOR US.
WE ARE WITH YOU.



And at the same time having to listen to
right-wing populist slogans in parliament?



Arguing about 5G, alternative
medicine and the end of the world
with anti-vaxx neighbours?



 #KAS4
DEMOCRACY

Let's disKAS.

Innovation, security and representation and participation are the three focus issues that shaped our work in 2020. But what do we mean by these abstract terms?

In 2020, innovation rather unexpectedly became a major issue for the general public. The Coronavirus was an eye opener: the rapid development of vaccines demonstrated how crucial innovation is for humanity. The often-abstract concept suddenly became clear and understandable: a solution had been found to a global problem, probably one of the most challenging problems of our times, which then became a source of hope in the fight against a destructive virus.

The experience gained here can also be applied to other essential issues, from fighting other diseases and epidemics to climate change, hunger and poverty. None of these challenges can be met without innovation. Therefore, we devoted ourselves to understanding the conditions that are needed to encourage innovation and how the Social Market Economy can guarantee such a framework in the future. This included discussions about the use of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence, and the opportunities that they provide and the legal limitations on their use.

When it comes to security, one thing is absolutely clear: we have to stand up for the women and men who put their lives on the line to serve our country, whether they are in the armed forces, the police or other professions. Without them, how can we live safely or freely? And we also need a strong, professional, well-equipped, operational army.

By working better together militarily, Europe can strengthen the NATO. However, this means that Germany will have to assume more responsibility. This, of course, should not be viewed as a burden, but as an essential aspect of smart foreign policy. Smart foreign policy pursues the goal of making the world a better place while also protecting one's own interests. Terrorism, organised crime and right-wing extremism are just some of the threats to our democracy. Many threats today are virtual; they target our data, information systems, and our security, freedom and democracy. In 2020, our work on this priority topic focused on a narrow concept of security. But we included all relevant developments, actors and policy areas in our consideration of security and defence.

We firmly believe that representation and participation are the elementary principles of freedom and democracy. The parliament is at the heart of our democracy. First and foremost, it is democratic parties that enable citizens to participate politically in our country. Our campaign "You are for us. We are with you" underscored this important pillar of democracy in seven video clips. But democratic systems

None of these challenges can be met without innovation."

are coming under increasing pressure, even where they were thought to be almost unshakable. The year 2020 was largely marked by a confrontation with populism and conspiracy theories. Our approach followed two lines: clearly standing up for our representative democracy by highlighting its advantages and the importance of political parties, and holding discussions about new forms of participation that can usefully complement the representative system. Access to information (usually conveyed through a diverse media landscape) is a prerequisite for responsible political participation. In view of the rapid changes occurring in communication and media consumption, we sought to understand who might be able to offer high-quality content and how journalism could be financed in the future. This also involved a focus on changing the culture of language and debate, because we are strongly committed to constructive political discourse.

More on the subject:
KAS#Democracy Campaign

Discussions in Parliament
www.bit.ly/3tUQ5ys

Racism
www.bit.ly/2QzzPVg

Budgetary policy
www.bit.ly/3vkSNO6

Urban Development in the 21st Century: Smart & Strong Cities



What cities and municipalities around the world need to do to remain viable in the future is a much-debated question. This issue was a focus of the work conducted by the Analysis and Consulting and Civic Education departments, and they contributed to the debate with two projects.

Authors
Christoph Jansen and
Anna Luisa Lippold

Globalisation and the Covid-19 pandemic are drivers of “smart” development approaches. Technological innovation, increased efficiency, resource and climate protection and participation are key future issues. Although smart city strategies can be very diverse, the overarching goal is usually the same: to better tackle environmental, economic and social challenges today and in the future. As such, these strategies involve optimising urban development in a sustainable manner, increasing quality of life and becoming or remaining competitive.

The Strong Cities concept has established itself within our work. It began with the United Nations Agenda 2030. The Strong Cities approach primarily takes into account the needs of cities in emerging and developing countries but it goes beyond smart city concepts. The Strong Cities 2030 network was founded as an international network of young urban planning experts and politicians.

The Strong Cities 2030 Conference in Berlin

The third international conference of the Strong Cities 2030 network took place between 9 and 12 November 2020. Due to the pandemic, it was conducted online for the first time. Under the title “Building a New Urban Resilience”, the participants addressed the issues of how different areas of sustainable urban development have changed in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic and which measures can be taken today to make cities around the world more resilient.

In a large number of interactive workshops, the participants discussed the development of a resilient transport system using the example of Tel Aviv, the contribution of urban agriculture with the example of a project from Cape Town, the use of technical tools using experiences from Singapore, and the issue of resilience with urban planning visions from Rangoon (Myanmar) and Douala (Cameroon). The chair of the Konrad-



tal field for the world of tomorrow”, with exciting interviews with people such as the Mayor of Ulm, Gunter Czisch. The “Adenauer Pitch” presented 20 smart city projects from German municipalities, which the congress discussed and evaluated. As part of the daily “Digital Debating” panel, Professor Sebastian Turner, Dr Gerd Landesberg and Thomas Jarzombek, a member of the German Bundestag, addressed socio-political challenges ranging from smart cities and digitalisation to democracy. A business game with ambitious young professionals from 20 countries simulated an international mayoral conference on Agenda 2030.

One of the main findings of the conference was that the smart city concept is about far more than just technological issues. At its core, the designers of smart cities are attempting to answer the question of how people’s needs can be better served in urban and rural areas. The smart city concept is thus a new approach to urban development in which elected representatives, civil society and citizens build the city of the future together, in the sense of the co-creation of public administration.

More on the subject:
Strong Cities 2030
www.kas.de/strong-cities

Digital municipal congress 2020
www.kas.de/kommunalkongress2020

Adenauer-Stiftung, Professor Norbert Lammert, spoke in a panel discussion with Stefan Evers, a member of the Berlin House of Representatives and Secretary General of the CDU Berlin, about what needs to be done in Berlin to keep the city viable in the future. Two members of the network from Melbourne and Singapore were also involved in these discussions.

The 2020 conference brought the Strong Cities 2030 network a step closer to the goals of promoting global exchange, shifting the debate about sustainability and resilience to the global level, and creating a network that promotes cities in global competition.

The Municipal Academy’s Congress

The Municipal Academy’s congress took place between 26 and 30 October 2020. It was conducted for the first time as an online themed week with 20 events, focused on smart cities in Germany. Under the auspices of the Head of the Chancellery, Professor Helge Braun, the entire spectrum of the topic “Smart City Smart Village. Digital Strategies for Urban and Rural Areas” was discussed with local councillors, district administrators, mayors, members of the German Bundestag and representatives of business and research.

The “online on-site” format provided insights into innovative projects such as “Conspiracy House” in Ulm, a self-titled “experimen-

“The winner takes it all” – Platform Regulation and the 2020 European Data Summit

“The winner takes it all” was the motto of the foundation’s third European Data Summit. The summit took place between 30 September and 2 October 2020 in Berlin in a hybrid form. The motto refers to the undisputed market position that the large online platforms continue to enjoy despite the numerous proceedings that have been taken against them in recent years. The 2020 data summit was an official event of the German Presidency of the Council; Commissioner Thierry Breton took part on the event.

Author
Pencho Kuzev

On 19 February 2020, the European Commission published the European Data Strategy, setting out its vision for the European data economy. In line with the priorities drawn up by the German Council Presidency, the 2020 European Data Summit was focused on the legal and political prerequisites of a digital single market. The summit discussed the options for a regulation of the data and the platform economy. In addition to an urgent need for a more efficient and reactive policy when dealing with powerful digital players, the event’s main message was that Europe should increasingly rely on proactive digital policies.

A soft approach to dealing with Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon is no longer appropriate. In 2020, the summit coincided

with the proposals for the Digital Markets Act. The Analysis and Consulting department was able to present two studies that it had commissioned on this issue: Philip Marsden and Rupprecht Podszun dealt with the restoring the balance to digital competition in Europe, and Carolina Dackö presented her preliminary results on levelling the playing field between European companies and state-subsidised or state-run companies from third countries, such as China and the United States. Both studies framed the topics of the summit: From platform regulation to data trust, from data altruism to open data – for three days, “leveling the playing-field” in digital Europe was discussed.

Experts debated the following questions at 24 panel discussions: What can Gaia X





A soft approach to dealing with Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon is no longer appropriate.

not as yet dominated by single companies. Germany and Europe need lively competition, and it is crucial that innovation is not hampered by exclusionary practices.

The collection, consolidation and economic use of customer and user data as well as other data from third parties has become a decisive competitive factor, especially in digital markets. The Facebook case brought by the German Federal Cartel Office has impressively demonstrated this. The past ten years have confirmed a long-standing feeling that traditional companies as well as civil society have become increasingly dependent on large online platforms. The Covid-19 pandemic has strengthened this dependency. Small and medium-sized companies are finding it increasingly difficult to reach their customers without using established platforms. And innovative solutions do not always find their way onto the market because large digital platforms neutralise the competition. In light of this situation, the legal framework clearly needs to be reformed.

More on the subject:
European Data Summit 2020.
www.kas.de/european-data-summit

contribute towards Europe's digital sovereignty? How can a legal framework be established for data trustees? What is meant by data donation? And what can we learn from Findata, the Finnish innovation fund Sitra or the British Open Data Institute? How does the Robert-Koch Institute's data donation app work, and why are data donations so important for research? Is it justifiable for public companies to introduce additional financial and organisational burdens in order to avoid providing certain data sets as high-value data sets? Does the Federal Cartel Office's Facebook case provide guidance for other antitrust authorities in Europe? The German Federal Cartel Office prohibited Facebook from aggregating of user and user data from different sources. The provision on abuse of a dominant market position (abuse of conditions, exploitation abuse, exclusionary conduct) comes into play here in a fundamental way.

The Covid-19 pandemic clearly demonstrates the importance of data in crisis management. Once the crisis is over, Europe needs to become more competitive. This is why the details of the Digital Markets Act are so important. We need more competition, not less. Our handling of data will be instrumental in how Europe recovers economically after the crisis. Future regulation needs to further protect competitive processes, with an eye on markets that are

AI Made in China and Now What? A Presentation by the Asia-European Consortium on AI Research (AECAIR)

China has made considerable progress in the field of artificial intelligence (AI). As a result, it is becoming increasingly important to share experiences with China about design issues in this field. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and various partners from Asia and Germany have established the new AECAIR network to do so.

Authors
Matthias Schäfer and
Sebastian Weise

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a basic technology of the digital age. As such, it is key to economic growth and acts as a guarantor of economic competitiveness. At the same time, the contribution that it can make to solving urgent social problems in fields such as mobility, health, education, energy and public administration makes AI crucial to a better, more resource-efficient world. At the same time, AI also influences the distribution of political power and shapes the international order in the digital age.

With this in mind, it should not be surprising that many countries are striving for leadership in AI innovation, investing heavily, and attempting to set standards in this field. As part of the competition at the global level, Europe's people-centred and often risk-focused approach is increasingly lagging behind. China, on the other hand, has managed to catch up with the United States as the leading AI power. China has

now developed its own digital model of governance (digital authoritarianism) and this is having an impact beyond the country's borders. The rise of China's influence on digital technology is associated with political challenges because digital innovation can promote the rise of autocratic systems and strengthen their stability.

This has led to exhaustive debates about the background and political implications of China's growing digital importance in combination with its political system. However, instead of speaking about China, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung decided to discuss digital design issues with China and launched the Asia-European Consortium on AI Research (AECAIR) to do so. The AECAIR is aimed at establishing a European-Asian network of AI experts and an international platform for debate. Good experiences and common challenges are discussed alongside the latest geo-technological trends.





The rise of China's influence on digital technology is associated with political challenges because digital innovation can promote the rise of autocratic systems and strengthen their stability.

associated with geopolitical conflicts. In the future, it will be important to seek a balance between digital sovereignty, international cooperation and free trade. In light of different political systems, and conflicts, AECAIR has proven itself to be a reliable platform for European-Asian debate about AI.

Following on from the annual conference, in 2021, AECAIR intends to analyse the prospects that various countries have of securing digital sovereignty in relation to the US and China – the leading powers in AI. In addition, the international office in Shanghai is preparing a comprehensive data-driven study on China's AI strategy.

More on the subject:
www.kas.de/ki

Further issues range from cooperation to differences in governance and conflicts. The AECAIR partners are the Intellisia Institute in Guangzhou, the AI and Society Research Institute at City University, Hongkong, the University of Bonn's Centre for Advanced Security, Strategic and Integration Studies (CASSIS) and the Berlin-based think tank Digital Governance Bridgehead Advisors.

In June and July 2020, AECAIR hosted a series of virtual seminars on the role of AI in combating the Covid-19 pandemic. The result was that China is pursuing a comprehensive and strategic approach in this field: China views AI as a game changer that could sustain its political and economic rise. The annual event in Guangzhou in November 2020 was dedicated to the geopolitical dimension of technology competition (new sovereignty policy). However, the fact that AI is a double-edged sword – it comes with opportunities and risks – was also discussed. The debate showed that various models have been developed to deal with AI, which will consequently lead to a fragmentary regulatory landscape and exacerbate existing conflicts. In addition, it is likely that basic digital technologies will become increasingly

Foreign and Security Policy During the German EU Council Presidency

“A strong Europe in the world” was the guiding principle in security and defence during the German EU Council Presidency from 1 July to 31 December 2020. At our digital launch event on 27 May 2020, Dr Angela Merkel held a keynote speech in front of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung on the German EU Council Presidency’s foreign and security policy agenda.

Author
Paruvana Fiona
Ludszuweit

Chancellor Angela Merkel emphasised in her keynote speech that the Covid-19 pandemic would exacerbate many global hotspots and put European foreign and security policy to a test. However, she also pointed out that the EU could act as an anchor of stability, and assume its global responsibility by supporting rule-based, multilateral cooperation: “I see our presidency of the European Council as an opportunity to develop Europe further as a solidarity-driven, capable, creative force that takes over responsibility for peace and security in the world.”

The Chancellor also emphasised that Europe is not neutral: as part of the political West, Europe should do more to protect and preserve its values and interests. The United States, she stressed, is Europe’s most important partner, and transatlantic relations – a strong pillar of European secu-

– which needed to be further strengthened. Furthermore, the Chancellor warned that Russia was trying to undermine Western democracies by using hybrid means. Consequently, during its Council Presidency Germany would be seeking to provide new impetus to EU-Russia relations.

An important focus of the German EU Council Presidency was the relationship between the EU and China. The German Council Presidency Programme called for a united and balanced EU-China policy oriented towards common European interests and values. In addition, the Chancellor also underlined the profound differences, for example, on issues such as the rule of law and human rights. Nevertheless, it was in the EU’s strategic interest to actively shape cooperation with China. The focus should be on joint progress in climate and environmental protection, global health, relations





I see our presidency of the European Council as an opportunity to develop Europe further as a solidarity-driven, capable, creative force that takes over responsibility for peace and security in the world.

with Africa and concluding negotiations on the investment agreement that began in 2013. Although the pandemic prevented the planned EU-China summit from taking place, an agreement in principle was reached in December 2020 on EU-China investment.

Africa was another main focus of the German Council Presidency, and particularly the topics peace, security, migration, economic cooperation for sustainable development and climate. The EU summit with the African Union (AU) which was planned for October 2020 also had to be postponed until 2021. Nevertheless, a small virtual meeting between representatives of the EU and AU took place in December 2020.

The development of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) and cooperation between EU and NATO were further priorities of the German Council Presidency. Important initiatives and some breakthroughs were achieved in these areas. These include the creation of a joint EU threat analysis for the development of the EU key policy document "Strategic Compass". In addition, an agreement was reached on the participation of non-EU member states in Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO). This is an important signal for partner countries, as PESCO is one of the most important EU defence initiatives and is intended to promote coopera-

tion between EU member states through joint projects. During the German Council Presidency progress was also made in the establishment of the European Medical Command (EMC) with the aim of strengthening the EU's ability to respond to crises and future pandemics. This is a PESCO project aimed at improving cooperation on medical services. Finally, a political agreement was reached between member states on the European Peace Facility (EPF). This financial instrument will strengthen and expand Europe's ability to act as part of civil and military crisis management.

The Covid-19 pandemic shifted some priorities of the German EU Council Presidency, however on the initiative of Germany impetus was provided for the future, and important breakthroughs were made in terms of strengthening Europe's ability to act.

The Indo-Pacific at a Glance: A Virtual Series of Talks Between the Defence Minister and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung’s offices in Australia, Japan and Singapore conducted a series of dialogues with the Minister of Defence, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, and her counterparts in these countries to mark the German government’s publication of the *Leitlinien zum Indopazifik* (Guidelines on the Indo-Pacific). The debate focused on the increasing importance of the Indo-Pacific region and the geostrategic opportunities and challenges facing Germany and its partners.

Authors
Peter Hefele and
Barbara Völkl

In recent years, the Indo-Pacific region has increased in importance economically, strategically and politically. The German government’s *Guidelines on the Indo-Pacific*, published in September 2020, was a reaction to this global shift in power. The publication is a strategic paper aimed at shaping developments on the ground not least in response to demands from the region for greater German involvement. Under the heading “*Deutschland – Europa – Asien: Das 21. Jahrhundert gemeinsam gestalten*” (Germany – Europe – Asia: Shaping the 21st Century Together), the focus is on closer cooperation with partners in the region, in particular with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the “like-minded” large democracies in the region, South Korea, Japan, Australia and India. This focus is a

reflection of the growing awareness that increasing rivalry between political systems (especially due to challenges posed by China) means that Germany needs to take on more responsibility through a changing foreign and defence policy. As an export nation, Germany should stand up for the international rule-based order, and doing so requires more intensive security policy engagement in the Indo-Pacific.

The challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic have shown that this can only be achieved by strengthening cooperation between Germany and the countries in the Indo-Pacific region. This led the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung to hold a series of online, public dialogues in 2020 to discuss security and defence with the Minister of Defence,





increasing importance of non-traditional security threats. The rapid pace of technological developments in cyber and information technology meant that conventional ideas about military strategy and tactics would have to be revised. Strengthening cooperation between the armed forces could increase innovation and effectiveness in terms of their capabilities, organisation and long-term strategic planning. Like-minded, democratic states should build a rule-based foundation for the fight against new threats because, as Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer emphasised, this could not be left to the “law of the jungle”.

The guidelines drawn up by the German government signal a clear commitment to actively participate in shaping the rule-based order, the “future of which will be determined in the Indo-Pacific region”, as the defence minister put it. In a highly interconnected world where economic well-being, political stability and security are more closely related than ever, resilience, sustainability and close cooperation are the keys to a stable global order. The dispatch of the German frigate *Bayern* planned for the second half of 2021 and the visit by Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, also planned for 2021, send important signals to partners in the region. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, therefore, will continue to support the Indo-Pacific focus in Berlin, Brussels and the region both online and as part of more traditional events and publications.

As an export nation, Germany should stand up for the international rule-based order, and doing so requires more intensive security policy engagement in the Indo-Pacific.

Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, and her counterparts in Australia, Japan and Singapore. This important debate was successful despite the pandemic – thanks to the support of the international offices and leading think tanks such as the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, Japan’s National Institute for Defence Studies and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore.

Over the course of three online dialogues, the defence ministers emphasised the need for close, value-based cooperation with like-minded states in a rapidly changing strategic environment in the region and worldwide. Economic success and prosperity in Europe as well as in the Indo-Pacific, it was argued, could only be secured through rule-based political order. A multilateral security architecture, therefore, was required to bind states more closely together.

The Minister of Defence reaffirmed Germany’s willingness to expand cooperation “with those who share our values in the region, to strengthen military ties and to promote dialogue on security issues”. She suggested that an important aspect of this could involve expanding the German maritime presence in the Indo-Pacific through joint exercises, training and embedding German officers in marine units or posting liaison officers to multilateral organisations in the region. The defence ministers also highlighted the

About Fake News and Deepfakes: Resilience and Security in the Face of Disinformation

The need for news is particularly great in times of crisis as this is when false reports tend to spread more easily. It is important to know how to recognise and understand the types of disinformation that exist, how disinformation spreads and what can be done about it.

Authors
Nauel Semaan and
Daphne Wolter

Although the threats associated with disinformation also have an impact on public perceptions, the media and many other areas, social media platforms play a crucial role as they have become important news providers. The more that news stories (and this also applies to fake news) are shared and commented on, the higher they move up in the platform's news feeds and thus gain a sense of credibility. In 2020, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung raised awareness about disinformation and analysed the business model of social media companies as part of a social media campaign. Understanding how messaging occurs on these platforms, enables us to recognise disinformation and protect ourselves from it.

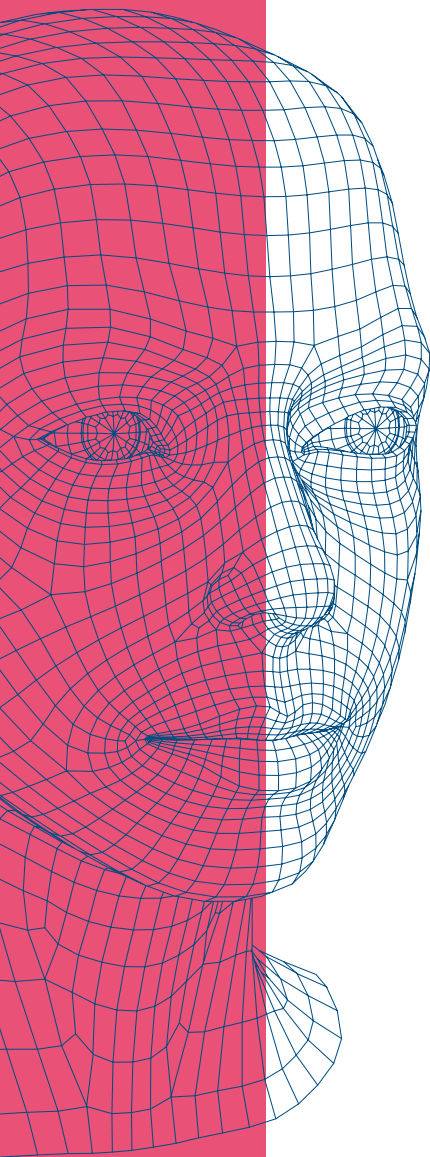
Disinformation refers to the deliberate invention or manipulation and misinterpretation of facts that are then intentionally disseminated through various methods. In everyday life, the term fake news is often

used to refer to anything that seems wrong or dubious. The foundation's digital disinformation fact checker briefly explains the different types of disinformation present on social networks, how it spreads and which tools work against it.

Deepfakes are a sub-category of fake news that use the persuasiveness of (audio) visual media to achieve their manipulative effect. They are electronically-modified moving images or photos that change or simulate people and events. The publication *Deep Fake: Gefahren, Herausforderungen und Lösungswege* (Deepfakes: dangers, challenges and solutions), which was published in February 2020, explains how to identify deepfakes.

In the study by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung *Deepfakes: a Threat to Democracy and Society*, which was also published in 2020, Professor Hany Farid, a leading





Understanding how messaging occurs on these platforms, enables us to recognise disinformation and protect ourselves from it.

expert in digital forensics, describes the different types of deepfakes. Farid details the various technical methods used to create deepfakes and shows how they can be recognised both with the naked eye and with the help of artificial intelligence. Compared with other forms of disinformation, deepfakes pose a particular danger to society, as they seriously distort reality through their visual impact and make it very difficult for people to differentiate between fake and real content. In a technical discussion, Professor Farid spoke to Dr Hans Jakob Schindler, co-author of the study, about legislative and technical measures that could limit and regulate deepfakes.

The aim of disinformation, which often has a political background, is to manipulate debates and/or disparage the reputation of a person or institution. Authoritarian states also seem to benefit from digitalisation, because they can use data from their citizens to control and manipulate them. As a result, the legal canon of human rights, copyrights and data protection that applies in the analogue world is under pressure in the digital realm. With this in mind, the foundation organised a series of online seminars on “Communication, Resilience and Security” in cooperation with the University of the Federal Armed Forces in Munich. The aim of the series was, among other things, to highlight different perspectives on the challenges faced by secure communication and to redefine the concept of security in the context of the communication age. The seminars also discussed the impact of disinformation and how it can be countered.

The threat associated with disinformation is still with us. It will evolve alongside digital developments and is part of a continual race against time to restrict the other side through regulation. In Germany, this has

resulted in the Network Enforcement Act (NetzDG), which obliges platform operators to take responsibility for illegal content and to provide a framework with which hate crime and other (criminal) content that go beyond freedom of expression can be removed. The brief analyse *Das Netzwerkdurchsetzungsgesetz 2020 reloaded – aber auch verbessert?* (The network enforcement act 2020 reloaded, but is it better?) evaluates the proposed reforms. In the near future, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung intends to examine the Digital Services Act. This law is being drawn up at EU level and is aimed at establishing a clear transparency and accountability framework for online platforms.

The Women's College: "Zukunftsfrauen" (Women of the Future) and the Mentoring Programme for Female Mayors

Two new formats have been developed to support, network and encourage women interested in politics: the mentoring programme for women who want to become mayors, and the "Zukunftsfrauen" podcast.

Authors

**Regina Dvořák-Vučetić
and Beate Kaiser**

Baden-Württemberg's Education Forum had initially planned to conduct its mentoring pilot project between April and November 2020. Twelve women considering running for mayor were to be prepared for their potential new role using training seminars and tandem meetings with their mentors – at least that was the plan.

However, the Covid-19 pandemic meant that the entire programme had to be reorganised to meet both the quality criteria drawn up by the German Society for Mentoring (DGM) and official coronavirus regulations. The seminars were offered as face-to-face or online seminars, depending on the location.

A new format entitled "From Practice for Practice" was introduced to build a stable network of mentees and to strengthen contacts between them during the lockdown. Once a month, an existing mayor reported about their work and local issues, and the participants were encouraged to share their ideas.

The project was supported by experienced

representatives of politics, research and practice, who contributed to the professionalisation of the future mayors through discussions at specialist events (including Margret Mergen, Head Mayor of Baden-Baden, Professor em Paul Witt, Rector of the University of Applied Sciences for Administration in Kehl, and Thomas Auerbach, mayor coach).

Regular contact among the mentees themselves and with their mentors guaranteed an analysis of the respective political environment and continuous monitoring of learning progress. The impact of the network by no means ends with the completion of training and awarding of a certificate. Rather, targeted cooperation between the network members demonstrated its success: the contact between mayors and mentees continued and ten of the candidates aim to apply for office in the foreseeable future.

The next mentoring programme for mayors will take place in November 2021. The aim is not only to accompany the women through to candidacy, but also to establish a network



We need the creativity, commitment and determination of women to help shape our society on an equal footing.



Julia van der Linde produces the podcast "Zukunftsfrauen" (Women of the Future).

for all previous mentees in order to offer support throughout and beyond the project. The first applications for 2021 have already been received.

In addition to the mentoring programme, the foundation's Women's College also supports women interested in politics. The range of seminars available includes courses in negotiation, rhetoric and personal branding, but also basic courses in local politics, as well as study trips. The participants tend to describe the events, which involve successful women reporting about their personal experiences, as particularly encouraging and inspiring.

In September 2020, the local elections in North Rhine-Westphalia saw Anna Bölling elected District Administrator for Minden-Lübbecke with an overwhelming majority of 63.7 per cent. As a former Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung scholarship holder and a former participant in the Women's College, we would have liked to invite her to a discussion group. Unfortunately, that was not possible during the pandemic. This led to us to the idea of producing a podcast – a contribution that is both independent of time and place. The podcast makes the successes and sustainability of the nationwide Women's College "audible" and motivates other women to get involved. The first digital epi-

sode of "Zukunftsfrauen" was created for Anna Bölling's inauguration, and, of course, it was completely digital.

Who are the women of the future? They are women who, as former participants, multipliers or speakers, are linked to the foundation's Women's College. They are women who have something to say about their own paths and their involvement in various social and political areas. They provide others with courage and act as role models. Our interview partners speak about their paths, the challenges they faced on the road to political participation, their specific goals and their visions. Their talks are entertaining and they put their arguments forward with confidence. We need the creativity, commitment and determination of women to help shape our society on an equal footing. And we need women in the present who are focused on our future.

More on the subject:
Podcast "Zukunftsfrauen"
www.kas.de/podcast-zukunftsfrauen

Recognising and Questioning Conspiracy Theories

Conspiracy theories have received a lot of attention during the coronavirus crisis. In 2020, two representative surveys by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung examined the population's belief in conspiracy theories before and during the crisis. The foundation also ran a campaign to raise awareness about the issue and organised a discussion event.

Authors

Dana Fennert,
Andreas Jacobs
and Jochen Roose

The measures put in place to contain the Covid-19 pandemic placed a great burden on people and have resulted in drastic changes to people's everyday lives. The questions of the acceptable limits of restricting people's right to leave their home and to meet other people, as well as issues related to vaccination, quickly became the subject of public discussion. Demonstrations occurred in many places and the protestors questioned the danger and even the existence of the virus. The term "Coronaleugner" (Covid deniers) emerged, and conspiracy theories were spread openly including through the media.

Conspiracy theories are characterised by intentionalism and secrecy, as Michael Butter describes in his book *Nichts ist wie es scheint* (Nothing is as it seems). They deny chance or unintended consequences and instead highlight (supposed) advantages as evidence of intent, and actions carried out in secret.

Conspiracy theories undermine trust in institutions and science. Several studies by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung have investigated the nature and spread of conspiracy theories. Even before the pandemic, a representative survey ascertained how widespread belief in conspiracy theories was. The results underscore the importance of the topic: almost a third of the population viewed the statement "There are secret powers that control the world" as definitely or at least probably true. Thus a considerable minority believe that a world conspiracy may exist.

However, a survey by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung during the pandemic (July and August 2020) came to a surprising result: support for conspiracy theories decreased during the pandemic. This goes against what the media coverage of the coronavirus demonstrations might suggest. Both studies received widespread media attention and highlighted the relevance of the issue.





In the challenging situation caused by a global pandemic, the spread of conspiracy theories poses additional problems.

Michael Blume, anti-Semitism commissioner for Baden-Württemberg, analysed the protests for the foundation, and he highlighted the anti-Semitic motives and narratives behind them. Michael Blume also provided suggestions on how to counter the danger posed by conspiracy theories.

Dealing with conspiracy theories was also the focus of a campaign for the project "Shaping. Democracy. Together.". The creative, interactive online formats appealed to a broad, young audience. Pia Lamberty, an expert on research into conspiracy theories, conducted a live discussion with the audience on Instagram. On YouTube, the poetry slammer Nick Pötter raised awareness about the topic and underscored the absurdity of conspiracy theories. Fabian Wichmann from Exit Deutschland, an organisation that supports people who have left the right-wing extremist milieu, used a film to highlight the risks associated with conspiracy theories.

In a prominent discussion, the communications scientist Ulrike Klinger, the Americanist Michael Butter, the social and legal psychologist Roland Imhoff, the digital ambassador Ingrid Brodnig and the head of the Regional Centre for Democratic Culture, Hartmut

Gutsche, discussed the topic from the perspectives of their various disciplines.

At another event, rhetoric expert Oliver Weber explained how to distinguish fake news from factually correct information amid the abundance of information that is available online, how to obtain useful information during a pandemic, and how to avoid conspiracy theories altogether.

Belief in a conspiracy theory that denies the danger of a virus may help some people deal with their fears and the restrictions they face during the pandemic. But it is a dangerous path for people to take, as well as for those around them who then have to deal with the ensuing insecurity and careless behaviour.

In the challenging situation caused by a global pandemic, the spread of conspiracy theories poses additional problems. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung shed light on the phenomenon through studies and events that explained the dangers and highlighted ways of dealing with conspiracy theorists. We need to identify and reject misinformation and conspiracy theories, while ensuring that criticism of all kinds still has a place in society.

More on the subject:
KAS#democracy Kampagne
www.bit.ly/3nxkPUo

Ten Years since the Arab Spring – Prospects for Democracy and Development in the Middle East and North Africa

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung used the opportunity provided by the tenth anniversary of the Arab Spring in 2020/21 to develop a thorough appraisal of the lengthy and complex processes of change that have taken place since then in the Middle East and North Africa, and to provide insights into the future of democracy and development in the region.

Authors

**Canan Atilgan and
Simon Engelkes**

A decade has passed since the protests against poverty, oppression and corruption spread from Tunisia to other countries in the region after the street vendor Mohamed Bouazizi's self-immolation in December 2010. However, the consequences are still tangible in the Arab world today. They range from the difficult democratic transition in Tunisia to the current protest movements in Algeria, Iraq and Lebanon, the return to autocracy in Egypt and the civil wars in Syria and Yemen.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung marked the anniversary of the Arab Spring with an extensive campaign comprising expert conferences and workshops, publications, political education initiatives and multimedia events in Germany and abroad. The aim was to take stock of the regional processes of transformation that have occurred since 2010/11 and to provide insights into trends in development, opportunities, and chal-

lenges for the future while ensuring that voices from the region were taken into account. The events made clear that the demands for political participation and opportunities for socio-economic development are still key issues in the region and that Germany and Europe have an interest in cooperating with actors that stand for good governance, political participation and sustainable economic development.

Hybrid, Online and on Paper: A Multi-Format Approach

The campaign began with an international online symposium that took place on the anniversary of the Tunisian protests. The symposium brought together experts, local civil society activists as well as representatives from academia, the media, and the private sector. The event primarily focused on political perspectives and future economic potential as well as the role of Germany and Europe in supporting democ-





racy and development in the Arab world. In the months that followed, the foundation addressed through numerous events and publications by its headquarters in Berlin as well as its various country offices in the region. In addition, the foundation also produced analysis papers on issues, such as changes to political culture in the region and the role of social media in politics, as well as the protests that have been flaring up once again since 2019. Finally, the measures taken at the local level by the regional offices enabled the views and accounts of representatives from the region and the foundation's partner organisations to be incorporated into the debate in Germany and Europe as a whole.

Civic Education in Digital Spaces

The foundation conducted a series of video interviews with activists, intellectuals and politicians from the Arab world, including the Egyptian writer Alaa al-Aswany,

in addition to experts from Germany. At the same time, the foundation also published multimedia on key historical dates relating to the Arab Spring, particularly on social media. The virtual reality exhibition "Echos from Lebanon" on art, politics and protest in times of crisis provided a special way of accessing the issues and it is to be extended to other countries in the region. Thanks to these innovative formats and digital products such as video diaries and podcasts, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung was also able to familiarise a young audience in Germany with developments in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Arab Spring Ten Years On

Special mention should also be made of national and regional opinion polls carried out by the offices abroad on developments over the last decade, current challenges in politics, the economy and future expectations. The surveys provided valid data for research into a number of issues, were picked up by national and international media, and enable assessments to be made of the current mood in the region.

Arab Spring Theme Page

The events organised by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung for 2021 on the topic of "Ten Years of the Arab Spring" in Germany and the region as well as information about relevant political reports, studies, surveys, articles, interviews, podcasts and videos are brought together and published on a specially designed webpage.

More on the subject:
www.kas.de/arab-spring

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

Department of References and
Research Services/ Archive for
Christian-Democratic Policy

Analysis and Consulting

Civic Education

**European and International
Cooperation**

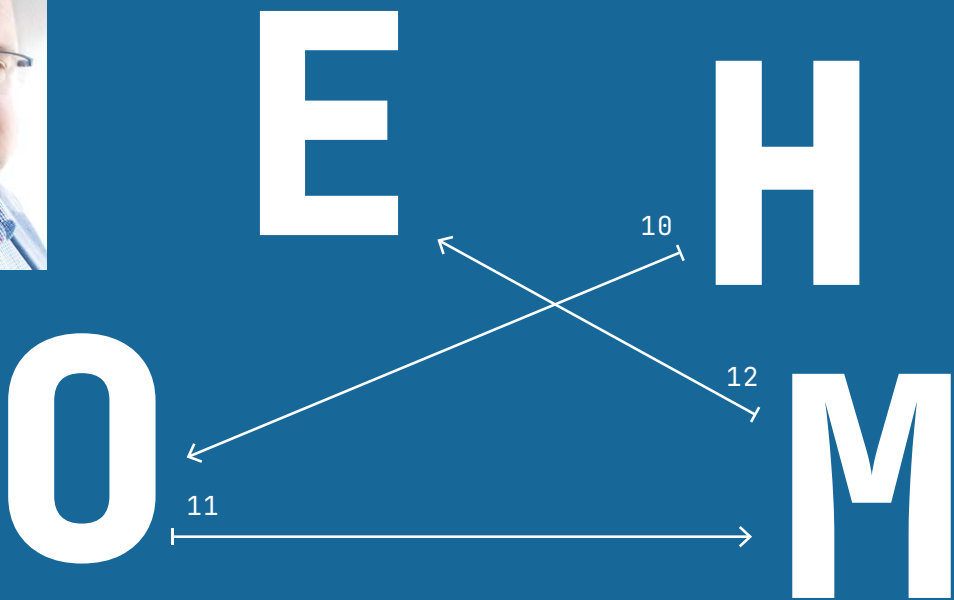
***in the
Face of the
Corona
Pandemic***

Academic Promotion and Culture



"Interest in our archival holdings is unbroken."

Interview with Archive Staff



Conducted by
Christiane Stahr

Interview with Gülay Genc and Oliver Salten from the Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy on the challenges associated with archive work during the pandemic.

Could you introduce yourselves briefly and tell us how long you have been in the records archive and what your work involves?

Genc: I have been working for the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung as a desk officer in the records archive since February 2020. My tasks include digitising archival material as part of the preservation process, as well as post-processing and re-viewing digitised material. I also add information about new materials to our statistics and our in-house database.

Salten: I'm a historian. I've been a desk officer in the Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy since 2014. I'm responsible for the holdings from the state associations from Hessen, Saxony and Thuringia, as well as for the CDU in the GDR and the CDU in exile. This includes the acquisition of documents, their processing and listing as well as writing research articles.

What were you working on when the Covid-19 pandemic hit? And what impact did the need to work from home have on you?

Genc: The Covid-19 pandemic happened while I was still familiarising myself with the archive. New scanners had been delivered and we were planning the scanning line. When I switched to working from home, I taught myself how to use the new scanning software, at least in theory, so that I could prepare for the training that was to take place later.

Salten: I was busy working on inventories, and on a research contribution. I was also supposed to give a lecture about an article at Education Forum Saxony, and was planning acquisitions for 2020. The latter had to be cancelled. I couldn't continue my work with the holdings from home either. I was limited to making corrections to edited stocks. I also had to cancel or postpone planned archive trips and conferences.

Which challenges did you face in your archival work when providing emergency cover and working from home?

Genc: I was scheduled to work from home right from the start. However, this put a lot of pressure on me, because I couldn't do any archiving from home. However, since regulated working practices were established quickly, I was able to apply my knowledge and experience while working from home. The conversations with colleagues gave me a lot of motivation.

Salten: I have been helping provide the emergency cover since the beginning of the pandemic. I try to use my specialist knowledge and commitment to answer various inquiries. The same applies to questions related to research for colleagues who are working from home. Indexing stock remains important, but it is difficult due to the limited service that we can currently offer. The digitalisation of files is currently prioritised so that we can process inquiries more quickly. I really miss meeting other colleagues at work.

How has your archiving work changed during the Covid-19 pandemic?

Genc: You can really see the difference in the archive, whether you are digitising materials for one, two or five days a week. Overall, we've seen a reduction in the number of items being digitised and the inventories. Although we can always process or digitise scanned orders promptly and make them available to archive users. This means we can effectively use the time available during the limited service by focusing on post-processing digitised data when working from home.

Salten: As an archivist, I have to work with our material, and I can't do this from home, despite increased digitalisation. My work has shifted towards preparing research articles and post-processing our holdings. We are not really evaluating or indexing documents at the moment.

Have you noticed any changes during the pandemic in the level of public interest in the archive? How has the closure of the reading rooms affected users?

Genc: Our holdings continue to be in great demand. We are quite sure that researchers would welcome the opening of the archive and would rather see this happen sooner than later.

Salten: I've also noticed that interest in our archive holdings is unbroken. We endeavour to answer the queries that we receive as best we can. And normally we succeed in doing so. But it is really important to open the archive for research as soon as possible, especially because work sometimes has to be submitted within a certain time frame.



What Can We Learn from History That Can Help Us with the Coronavirus Crisis?

With the new format *Die Corona-Krise in historischer Perspektive* (“A Historical Perspective on the Coronavirus Crisis”), the foundation is providing direction using lessons learned from history

Author
Christine Bach

Chancellor Angela Merkel called the coronavirus pandemic “one of the most important events of our century” and during 2020 historians described the crisis as a “historical turning point”. Although the medium and long-term consequences of the coronavirus pandemic are unforeseeable, these arguments suggest that the pandemic should be classed alongside the great crises of the past. The debate currently revolves not only around epidemics and health crises of all kinds, but the political handling of economic, social and cultural aspects of various crisis-related phenomena. As such, the Department of References and Research Services/Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy has begun a new column entitled *Die Corona-Krise in historischer Perspektive* (A historical perspective on the coronavirus crisis).

A contribution to the column by Dr Tobias Kaiser shows that crises such as Spanish flu in 1918/19 and the influenza pandemics in 1957/58 and 1968 to 1970 have left very few traces on our cultural memory – even though these diseases resulted in around 30,000 and 40,000 deaths respectively in Germany alone.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in the Face of the Corona Pandemic

A Historical Perspective on the Coronavirus Crisis makes it very clear that key aspects of the current historical situation are fear and security.

Be this as it may, the situation was different with the immunodeficiency disease HIV-AIDS, which appeared in the 1980s and is triggered by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). In contrast to the flu epidemics of the 20th century, the rise of HIV-AIDS in Germany and throughout the world led to the revision of crisis plans and new laws to protect against infection (such as in Germany in 2001). The outbreak of the HIV-AIDS pandemic was the first time that the Bundestag had dealt extensively with the circumstances and consequences of an illness in the history of the Federal Republic of Germany. One consequence was that the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), a key player in the current coronavirus pandemic, gained increased standing.

In order to answer the question of why some diseases attract more public attention than others, research in medical history has developed the concept of “emotional epidemiology”. In his contribution, medical historian Professor Karl-Heinz Leven explains the concept in the following manner: “The perception of certain infectious diseases is highly emotionalised, and these feelings are played to and reinforced by the media; the description of a threat, therefore, may not always correspond to the actual threat posed by a particular disease.”

Emotional strategies also play an important role in the political control of the pandemic. The historian Professor Birgit Aschmann argues that in the communication of government measures, emotions serve as bridges to motivate citizens to comply with rules and to increase their acceptance.

But emotions can also be used to stir up fear – and this situation can be exploited by extremists from the left and right. Sven Felix Kellerhoff's outline of the history of epidemics demonstrates that rumours and false information (fake news) as well as the search for culprits have always accompanied health crises. This also applies to anti-Semitic stereotypes: in the early modern period, for example, Jews were accused of spreading the plague.

A Historical Perspective on the Coronavirus Crisis makes it very clear that key aspects of the current historical situation are fear and security. The political scientist Professor Manfred G. Schmidt argues that numerous building blocks of the welfare state, which developed in the decades after 1945, were used during 2020 in Germany and at the European level to counter citizen's eroding sense of security. This includes the special regulations on short-time work benefits in Germany; and the 750 Billion Euro Next Generation EU programme, which is aimed at mitigating the direct economic and social damage caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

In terms of the history of epidemics, the mitigation of a pandemic by welfare states in European countries is a new phenomenon. However, it is typical of the crisis policies that have been implemented over the past few decades, such as those put in place to counter the global economic and financial crises in 2008/09. The question of whether these historically unprecedented measures will compensate for the economic and social damage caused by the pandemic can only be answered by future generations of historians.

More on the subject:
www.kas.de/corona-krise-historisch

The Coronavirus Pandemic and Beyond – Events and Publications in 2020

In 2020, the work of the Analysis and Consulting department was also shaped by the coronavirus pandemic. Although events had to be cancelled during the first lockdown, over the course of the spring, digital formats were increasingly developed so that discussions and conferences could be held both online and in hybrid form. Studies and other publications were adapted at short notice to the changed situation and the focus in most areas shifted to dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Authors

Norbert Arnold,
Philipp Dienstbier,
Patricia Ehret,
Sebastian Enskat,
Katja Gelinsky,
Armin Hartlieb,
Christine Henry-Huthmacher,
Anna Luisa Lippold,
Tobias Montag,
Viola Neu and
Tobias Wangermann

The Mood of Society

Shortly after the start of the first lockdown in 2020, eight daily editions of the crisis barometer were undertaken to measure the mood of society. The barometer concluded that the period could be understood as the “hour of the executives”, due to the high level of trust placed in federal and state government. Germans remained optimistic throughout the period. Most recently, 83 per cent still agreed that “I don’t know what the future will bring, but I think everything will work out fine”. Interest in the media changed the most: whereas only three per cent of the population was not following news about the pandemic in March 2020, the proportion of people not following news on this issue had risen to 37 per cent by July. In a special edition, the crisis barometer found that half of the population was concerned that people were behaving inconsiderately. The data used are representative of those entitled to vote.

Federalism Under Pressure

With the publication *Die Mär vom dysfunktionalen Flickenteppich* (The myth of a dysfunctional federation), the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung focused on the criticism of federalism and stressed the responsibility of federal states to protect people’s health. Whereas the debate initially began about the fundamental question of whether central control of the fight against the pandemic made more sense than diverse approaches at the federal-state level, the focus has shifted significantly since then. In the 2021 Bundestag election campaign, the pandemic-related encroachments on fundamental rights were used to demand greater participation by the Bundestag in decision-making. This demand is based on the view that a shift in competence is needed in health policy from the federal-state level to the federal government. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung intends to take up this issue in 2021.



Triage – The Overload of the Health Systems

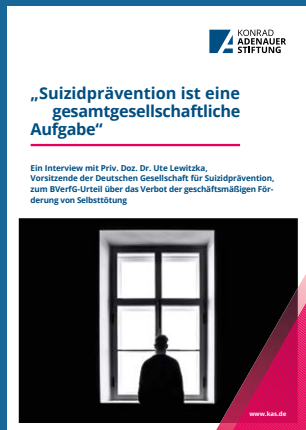
The publications and the specialist online conference on triage meant that the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung was one of the central actors in the debate on the allocation of scarce intensive care resources during the Covid-19 pandemic. The use of different perspectives – legal assessments, federal analyses, a double interview with a German and a French intensive care specialist, and an interdisciplinary conference – enabled the foundation to reach a broad audience comprising legislators, legal professionals, lawyers, ethicists, leading intensive care specialists and groups representing the interests of vulnerable people. And this was reflected in the high media response.



Financial Support – Measures to Counter the Economic Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic hit the German economy hard. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has discussed the various measures put in place at the German and the European level to mitigate the crisis in a large number of publications and events. One example is the issue of the progression proviso: the pandemic-induced economic crisis led millions of employees to be placed on short-time work. Once again, the short-time work allowance has proven its worth, and prevented a sharp increase in unemployment. Short-time work allowances are, in principle, tax-free. However, they are subject to the progression proviso, which leads to an increased tax rate and can even lead to a higher tax burden. Therefore, politicians considered temporarily suspending the proviso in 2020. The arguments for doing so were weighed up by a publication that finally recommended keeping the proviso in place. The aim was to ensure that taxation continued to be based on performance, an important regulatory principle. As such, the progression proviso is justified even during crises.

Families have been affected in various ways by the coronavirus pandemic. The reasons include contact restrictions, working from home, school closures and having to reorganise their daily schedules.



Dying With Dignity: Assisted Suicide – From Protection of Life to Self-Determination

Most people tend to suppress the issues of dying and death. Nevertheless, social debates flare up every now and then about the conditions needed for a dignified death. The most recent debate was initiated by a ruling by the Federal Constitutional Court that overturned the ban on commercial suicide assistance (Section 217 of the Criminal Code). Since then, there has been contentious discussion about assisted suicide, the protection of life and self-determination. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung advocates the protection of life and treating patients with dignity through the provision of palliative care, hospices and suicide prevention measures.

Stress Test for Families

Families have been affected in various ways by the coronavirus pandemic. The reasons include contact restrictions, working from home, school closures and having to reorganise their daily schedules. But the pandemic does not just pose difficulties for family management, it also affects people's way of life, their income and social aspects. Moreover, it has a particularly strong impact on socially disadvantaged groups. This led the foundation to organise a series of studies, lectures and projects in 2020 on worries about being made unemployed, societal decline, gender roles, problems within the family and mental illness. The projects demonstrated that the longer that parents are left without help during the pandemic, the greater their risk of encountering family problems, social hardship and psychological stress.



Democratic Morality

Bishop Dr Franz-Josef Overbeck set out the church's point of view on the pandemic. In an interview, he described the societal and social impact of Covid-19. The relationship between civil society and the state, between economic prosperity and social justice and the questions of intergenerational and educational justice are widely discussed and are also relevant to the church. Bishop Overbeck underscored that trust between citizens and politicians is the cornerstone of a liberal democracy. He called on people to uphold unwritten societal norms along the lines of a "democratic morality".

www.kas.de/overbeck-interview

Working from Home: The Future of Work?

The measures adopted to contain the coronavirus pandemic have led to a widespread, long-lasting shift in working practices towards working from home. The experience that this has provided considerably enlivened existing discussions about the issue. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung took up the debate and conducted video interviews with ten experts from different areas about issues including the impact on the organisation of work and private life, the consequences for family life and society, and the effects on architecture and urban development. All interviews are available on YouTube and a page on our website provides further information about this topic.

www.kas.de/homeoffice

Coronavirus has afforded no respite in security policy.

The Pandemic – A Question of Global Security Architecture

The coronavirus pandemic also posed challenges to the Adenauer Conference 2020 on Germany's role in international security policy. The conference takes place on a fixed date in the annual event calendar and is attended by 150 specially invited guests. This year the participants were only able to follow the discussion between Defence Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer and the chair of the foundation, Professor Norbert Lammert, via live stream. The discussion focused on how the Bundeswehr – despite the spread of Covid-19 – can fulfil its tasks as part of NATO as well as its national and international commitments. The debate also emphasised that the pandemic should not be allowed to distract us from other pressing challenges, because, as the minister stressed, "Coronavirus has afforded no respite in security policy".

Strong Cities 2030

The third international conference of the foundation's Strong Cities 2030 network took place from 9 to 12 November 2020. Under the motto of "Building a New Urban Resilience", the participants addressed the questions of how different areas of sustainable urban development have changed in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic and which measures can be taken today to make cities around the world more resilient. With the 2020 conference, Strong Cities 2030 has come a step closer to the goals of promoting global exchange between experts in urban planning and politicians, globally expanding the discussion on the nexus of sustainability and resilience, and creating a network that promotes cities in global competition. Despite the digital format, the network was successful in all of the time zones represented at the conference (from Vancouver to Melbourne) and beyond.

www.kas.de/strong-cities



New World Order, New Partners?

A Partner Atlas for German Foreign Policy

At a time when multilateral institutions are being called into question, the liberal world order is under pressure internally and externally and many people have already begun talking about a new world order, the partner atlas published in 2020 aims to explore interest-based partnerships that go beyond the EU and NATO. The atlas defines five core interests of German foreign policy: strengthening the value- and rule-based world order, preserving our prosperity through free trade and innovation, ensuring the security and stability of Europe, our neighbouring countries and other world regions, securing resources and protecting the climate, and regulating global migratory flows. The atlas also highlights which partner countries can best realise these interests. To be continued!

www.kas.de/partner-atlas

Civic Education

An Interview with
Ulrike Hospes



***#KASkonkret.
A New Digital
Format in the
Face of the
Pandemic.***

In March 2020, the coronavirus pandemic stripped the office in Bonn of the foundations of its work. Digital solutions were needed that were fast, interesting and to the point.



Why was the new #KASKonkret format established?

In mid-March 2020 it became clear that we would not be able to hold face-to-face events for the time being. So we had to quickly find alternatives in order to do justice to our mission and to advocate our topics. During this time, a lot of false information was being disseminated about Covid-19. We began by focusing on this issue and our team developed a completely new digital format within a few days. There were content-related, media-based, and technical challenges, but two weeks later, #KASKonkret went on air.

What is #KASKonkret?

#KASKonkret started with a live Facebook broadcast every Tuesday at 6 p.m. For half an hour we talked to experts from different fields. Initially, it provided well-founded background information about how the coronavirus was affecting society. Over time, however, we began to discuss completely different topics that are also important for our future.

Can you provide us with a few examples?

First of all, we conducted research into how the coronavirus is being dealt with in other parts of the world, for example in South Africa and Taiwan or in neighbouring European countries. We also looked at challenges in key areas of society: the role of churches, SMEs, overcoming the crisis in the municipalities, and digitalisation in schools. But at this particular time we also wanted to express our views about carnival – a world cultural asset – after all, we are based in Rhineland, carnival country! But of course, the world keeps turning, so we also looked at other challenges and ideas. By Easter 2021, we had covered over 40 topics. We spoke to people from politics, research, journalism and business, and to volunteers and staff from the international offices of our foundation. In this way we were able to provide impetus to debates and important background information to our audience. Lively discussions arose via the chat function, as the audience was able to ask questions.

How is #KASKonkret produced?

When we started on 7 April 2020, we initially worked with on-board resources: Skype or Zoom, and the home computers used by our journalists. But we quickly sought professional help. We wanted better image quality, stable transmissions and more attractively designed “packaging”. And we also wanted super-imposed text, trailers and professional graphics!

How do you promote #KASKonkret?

On the weekend before the show, we publish a trailer on Facebook and Instagram to raise awareness about the next episode. It was broadcast live on Tuesdays for a year, but now we've moved to Wednesdays instead. On Thursday or Friday, we publish a summary, our “Best-of”, with the most important snippets from the people we interviewed. It also includes a voice over from the colleague responsible for the content from the Bonn office. It ends with an event report. We also post messages on other social media and use the more traditional approach of email to contact our target groups.

What's next?

After a year of #KASKonkret, it's time for us to take stock. There's an oversupply of online information – both from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and worldwide. The initial hype about trying out new digital formats is declining. These signs of fatigue are natural. Despite this, our podcast *Erststimme*, demonstrates that individual timing and 24-hour availability can increase your audience. We see our formats as systems that are in motion, and so constant further development is essential. We received feedback that non-Facebook users face hurdles to accessing our content: they need to click away the banners asking them to register, but also the discussions about data protection and the culture of debate on Facebook discourage many people from opening our and the foundation's Facebook page. We've decided to try a different format as of Easter 2021. Starting with the 44th episode of #KASKonkret, we will be broadcasting every two weeks and on YouTube. We have been broadcasting on YouTube for a long time and are now focusing more on doing so. The platform provides fewer technical hurdles for viewers, the presentation is clearer and the videos are available in a playlist. Providing short, focused insights that get to the point for half an hour remains our goal. Our other digital formats are available via Zoom and they enable intensive discussion and encourage people to share their experiences.

More on the subject:

#KASKonkret

www.kas.de/kaskonkret

Erststimme

www.kas.de/erststimme



“Shaping. Democracy. Together.” in Challenging Times

Faced with the restrictions associated with the coronavirus pandemic, the project “Shaping. Democracy. Together.” developed new digital formats and an elaborate hygiene protocol for a bus tour with stops in 43 towns and cities.

Author
Taylan Engin

For some years now, our society has been drifting apart due to identity politics, filter bubbles and growing populism. At the same time, the tone of public debate has become coarser. That is why it is important that we approach people, build bridges, and encourage people to meet one another. In doing so

we need to emphasise what we have in common. The special project “Shaping. Democracy. Together.” was named after the concept behind the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. The project aims to reach people that we would not otherwise be able to reach and to be present in places in which the founda-

The young project team experiments and when things do not go as planned, they learn from these experiences.

tion has yet to establish itself. The project promotes dialogue, participation and social cohesion and aims to strengthen trust in political institutions and politicians.

To achieve this goal, the project works nationwide with analogue and digital formats, on Instagram and Clubhouse, and at marketplaces and street festivals. It reaches people in metropolitan as well as in rural areas. The young project team experiments and when things do not go as planned, they learn from these experiences. They try out new formats, address new target groups and find new cooperation partners on the ground. The experiences gained flow into the long-term work of the Civic Education department. In 2020, 198 events were held and over 30,000 people were reached – most of them knew nothing about the foundation before.

Examples of this work include a series of digital events on anti-Semitism for the supporters of FC Schalke 04, which was organised together with the club, and the “Talent Factory”, which taught young Germans from Russia the basics of civil society engagement. Furthermore, participants from all over Germany took place in an online business game about the coronavirus pandemic and adopted the role of political actors who needed to negotiate compromises. A digital campaign was developed for International Human Rights Day and a live Instagram conversation was held with filmmaker and human rights activist Düzen Tekkal. In cooperation with the YouTuber Marvin Neumann, who reaches a young target group, a video was produced about the connections between politics and sustainability.

But the heart of the “Shaping. Democracy. Together.” project is the “Democracy Bus”. From August to mid-October 2020 the bus drove to 43 cities and completed 62 tour stops nationwide: from Peenemünde in the north to Freiburg in the south, from Trier in the west to Dresden in the east. The focus was on rural areas. The bus team comprised both young and more experienced colleagues who held spontaneous talks with local people. Local and national politicians were also often present. A special hygiene protocol was drawn up for the bus tour due to the coronavirus pandemic.

One highlight took place on the market square in Eisenach. Professor Norbert Lammer, chair of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, and the television presenter Dunja Hayali discussed the question “In which Germany do we want to live?”. Visitors to other stops included Nobel Peace Prize laureate Lech Wałęsa and the president of the Central Committee of German Catholics, Professor Thomas Sternberg. Many stops included creative elements such as poetry slams. Sometimes people were able to talk with representatives of civil society. Because of the strict hygiene protocol in place, details about the bus tour were also available online so that a wider audience could be reached. It was possible to follow the stops of the bus and watch videos about the guests on the project’s website, as well as on Facebook and Instagram.

The coronavirus pandemic completely changed the framework in which the “Shaping. Democracy. Together.” project took place. Lockdowns and quarantines do not really go well with a project that encourages people to meet each other or that promotes togetherness. Many events had to be held online in 2020, and the bus tour was smaller than originally planned. But the importance and the necessity of projects such as this have not diminished, nor has people’s need for information, to share ideas or to speak with one another. As such, if the pandemic allows, the bus tour will take place again in 2021.

More on the subject:

www.gemeinsam-demokratie-gestalten.de



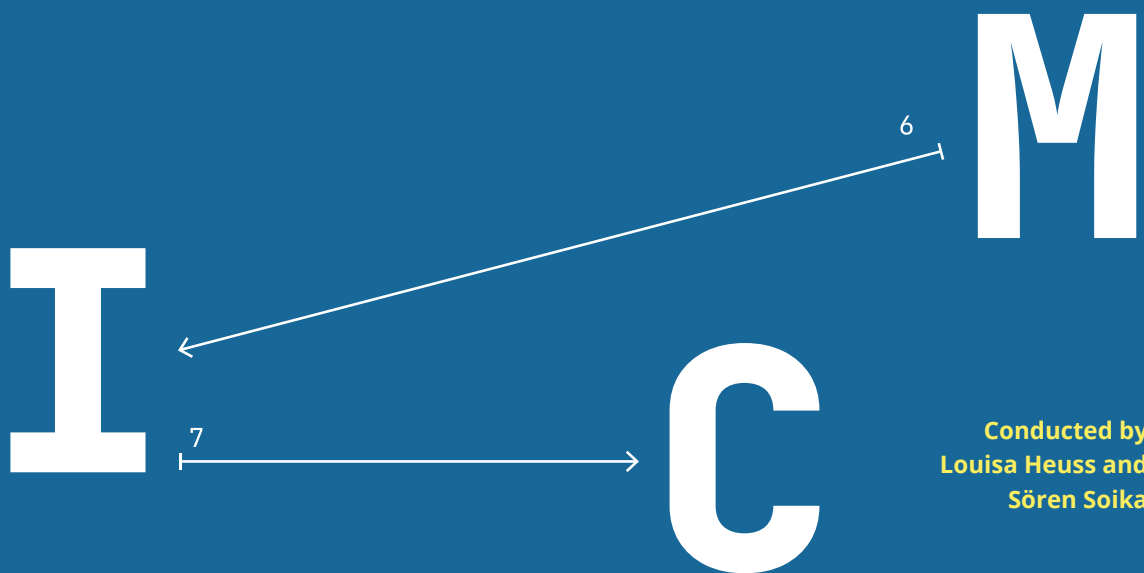
Dunja Hayali discusses the topic of “In which Germany do we want to live?”



Challenges and Opportunities – Our International Work in the Face of the Pandemic.



An Interview with Frank Priess



Conducted by
Louisa Heuss and
Sören Soika

A conversation about the foundation's international work in the face of the coronavirus pandemic

How have governmental decisions influenced the foundation's work?

The pandemic and governments' decisions across the world to mitigate the pandemic have had a direct impact on the international work of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. The switch from face-to-face to online meetings and events took place almost overnight. All of a sudden, personal meet-ups were no longer possible, business trips had to be cancelled, and many offices abroad were concerned about the health of their staff, partners and friends. Planning became difficult, especially since the impact of the pandemic differed greatly from region to region: in some countries everything came to a standstill, in others, work continued more or less unchanged but borders still closed. This situation continues to pose challenges to the international team. The situation in 2020 has really underscored their professionalism and flexibility – and the results are impressive.

In which countries or regions were your colleagues – whether they were Germans on a posting or local staff – faced with particular challenges?

In many countries, the confusing situation, especially at the beginning of the pandemic, and the collapse of local health systems meant that some staff had to be ordered back to Germany. New colleagues could not leave the country as planned and protective measures also had to be put in place for local staff. There are examples from all over the world, but Latin America still seems to be particularly affected. The number of victims there is particularly high, coronavirus cases also increased in areas where the foundation is active, and the ignorance of some governments made this situation even worse. However, there are also positive examples: Uruguay is doing well due to the close links in the country between politics and science. Chile is now exemplary in terms of vaccination speed.

Asia is also noteworthy: the way the region is coping with the crisis and the low number of victims in many countries is reason enough to learn from their successful strategies.

How well did the various offices abroad communicate with one another? Were staff able to learn from each other's experiences of overcoming pandemic-related challenges?

Sharing experiences is essential in a pandemic and it works well. Many online formats have been established at the local and regional level as well as worldwide. The offices abroad share experiences with one another, and with the head office in Berlin. We even began asking ourselves why we had not worked more online in the past. For example, we could have involved staff in the offices abroad more in discussions with regional departments and other internal events. And we could have applied their expertise throughout Germany.

Has the pandemic raised new questions in some countries or regions, or exacerbated existing problems that will also influence our international work in the coming years?

The pandemic has underscored existing problems in many places. These include social inequality, deficits in health and education systems, dysfunctional administrations, and ignorant governments. The resulting unrest in society has the potential to bring about lasting change that will also affect our work. As such, our solutions are in even greater demand. On a negative note, however, authoritarian governments are using the pandemic to attack freedom of expression and to further restrict civil rights and civil society. New criminal offenses are just one of numerous examples of this.

What changes will remain after the pandemic has been dealt with, and will this result in new opportunities for the foundation's work?

The surge that led to greater demand for online events during the pandemic will continue. The popularity of fast formats is likely to increase, the involvement of international experts will become easier, and this will help us reach new target groups that are less likely to attend face-to-face events. However, the foundation's international work is particularly enriched by people's personal experiences, by meeting one another, by understanding different realities, and by building trust; this requires direct dialogue. As such, we hope that more personal contact will be possible again very soon.



Defying the Virus

We worked together to shape democracy world-wide with creativity and commitment during 2020: an overview of our work abroad during the pandemic.

Authors
Louisa Heuss and
Sören Soika

Any organisation that holds events in over one hundred countries deals with a wide range of different circumstances and conditions on a daily basis. But this was particularly true in 2020, as the Covid-19 pandemic posed enormous challenges for our international staff, as well as the many local staff located in cities ranging from Stockholm to Johannesburg and from Washington, DC, to Tokyo.

Under these adverse circumstances, our staff demonstrated flexibility and creativity and quickly switched to online and hybrid events. By the end of 2020, we had reached even more people with our events than in

previous years. Our staff kept track of the global situation while analysing local developments through a variety of publications such as country reports, summaries and studies. At the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, the heads of the international offices provided information about current developments and the impact of the pandemic around the world, for example, through the “Covid-19: Global Perspectives” campaign.

By the end of 2020, we had reached even more people with our events than in previous years.

A Look at Our Work in and about the Various Regions of the World

Asia-Pacific

The pandemic led to the suspension of almost all travel in the Asia-Pacific region. However, online formats meant that it was still possible to hold high-profile events and debates. In cooperation with the Ministry of Defence, the foundation organised a series of online debates with the German defence minister, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, and some of her counterparts in the Indo-Pacific region: Linda Reynolds (Australia), Dr Ng Eng Hen (Singapore) and Nobuo Kishi (Japan).

The Media Programme Asia organised the Mobile Journalism Conference Asia (MOJO) in 2020. Due to the pandemic, the MOJO 2020, as it is known, took place completely online. More than 750 participants from 63 countries took part in the online conferences and seminars.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Despite the pandemic, our colleagues were also able to continue their work on topics that are important in this region, albeit in new forms. The third Kampala Geopolitics Conference, one example, was broadcast online in 2020 as well as on Ugandan television.

The “Mondays for Parliamentarians” series offered an online platform for African and European MPs to share ideas even during the pandemic. One issue was the European Union’s new Africa strategy.

Middle East and North Africa

The Covid-19 pandemic led the offices in this region to restructure more than just their daily work. They also used the opportunity to develop new concepts and tread new (online) paths. Our office in Ankara established the live format “Türkei Heute” (Turkey Today). This is a live talk show on Facebook aimed at providing information about current events and various topics about Turkey.

The end of 2020 marked the tenth anniversary of the beginning of the Arab Spring. The significance of this anniversary and the events that began a decade ago were analysed during a hybrid event entitled “Per-

spectives for Democracy and Development in the Middle East and North Africa”.

Europe and North America

The coronavirus also spread rapidly in Europe and North America and, despite numerous restrictions, infections remained high in a number of countries for a long time. With the publication series *Corona Update USA*, colleagues in our office in Washington, D.C., reacted to the situation and regularly provided updates about discussions by well-known US think tanks.

Online formats made it easier to hold events with high-ranking guests across national borders. The online event “Choice of Fate – The US: The day after tomorrow” published analyses by German MPs and various international staff into topical insights about the situation in Washington, D.C., and the impact of the presidential election on other countries.

Latin America

The coronavirus pandemic arrived in Latin America in mid-March 2020, albeit a few weeks later than in other regions. Our office in Mexico provided weekly insights into local developments through its *Corona Blog Mexico*. In Latin America, the staff defied the circumstances to set up hybrid and online events. The online version of the international security conference 2020 Forte de Copacabana, which is normally held in person in Rio de Janeiro, attracted around 10,000 participants from all over the world.

More on the subject:

Campaign: “Covid-19: Global Perspectives”
www.bit.ly/3sXKjLf

“Türkei Heute”
www.bit.ly/3vjeApt



The Difficult Path to University.

*An Interview with Lena Großmann about
Challenges for "Senkrechtstarter" (High Flyers)*

Conducted by
Alexander Prill

The transition from school to university presents a number of challenges. This is where the “Senkrechtstarter” initiative comes into play. Many of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung’s scholarship holders volunteer as mentors for school leavers. But they currently face even greater challenges as they need to support school leavers who are taking their final exams during the Coronavirus pandemic. We spoke to Lena Großmann, a speaker and coordinator of “Senkrechtstarter”, about such uncertainties and how they can be mastered.

Lena, you are a foundation scholarship holder and a member of the “Senkrechtstarter”. What exactly is the “Senkrechtstarter”?

“Senkrechtstarter” (High Flyers) is exactly what I would have needed: a mentoring program for school leavers with a migrant background or without an academic background. Neither of my parents went to university. That meant I had to answer a number of questions by myself: How do I organise my timetable? Should I go to college or university? And that’s exactly why it would have been really useful for me to have found an initiative like this. It would have helped answer these questions, including questions about student life that you don’t necessarily want to ask your parents or other adults about. That’s why I’m very happy that this organisation exists and that I can share my experiences.

Helping school leavers take the big step to university is certainly an intensive task even without a pandemic. What are the greatest challenges that you currently face due to the coronavirus?

The pandemic makes the path to university even more difficult. Many people suddenly find themselves left alone with the situation. And they usually have to prepare for their final exams by themselves. My sister is in this situation right now.

How well are school leavers coping with this additional mental burden?

Everyone is in a different situation, but it is causing a lot of difficulties for many people. My sister has been learning online now for almost a year. She says she doesn’t feel very well prepared at all. And then there is the uncertainty. Nobody knows exactly how things will go with the exams, let alone with teaching. It’s also almost impossible to see friends. The restrictions place quite a burden on school leavers. We have all experienced this, but it is particularly difficult for people who are at such important points in their lives; school leavers are under unbelievable pressure. I’m just so pleased that the “Senkrechtstarter” initiative is providing support at this time.

How has the practical side of work with the “Senkrechtstarter” changed?

A big issue for us is the loss of face-to-face events at schools and fairs. We found it difficult to compensate for this at first. But I can honestly say that we are very proud of our groups. It was clear to everyone that we had to remain open somehow despite the lockdown. What I’ve seen since then is that

our groups are networking even more closely; they work much more meticulously together now and are planning nationwide. We also work more closely with our partners now, for example with the ArbeiterKind initiative and with Corona School, a platform for school pupils to share experiences online.

This has been made possible primarily by the commitment and dedication of our high-flyers, but also thanks to the help and support provided by the Association of Former Scholarship Holders, the foundation, and current scholarship holders. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved!

Our “Corona tuition” is particularly important to me. Last year one of our groups drew up and tested this approach within a very short space of time. Ultimately, we introduced it throughout the country. The response was so positive that reports were published in local newspapers. Above all, it is important for us to express solidarity; on the one hand with school pupils, but we also want to reduce the burden placed on teachers.

But don’t you all sometimes miss being able to meet up in person?

Of course! Online formats can never replace meeting people in person. If I want to accompany someone on their path to university, then we need to meet up, have a coffee, visit campus, or attend a lecture. We want to provide school leavers with a feel for university and no matter how hard we try, we can’t really do that at the moment.

What do you think we should keep doing after the pandemic?

We are currently preparing various workshops on three subject areas: studying, applications and international/voluntary services. In general, I think we should not only keep this level of online work but also even expand it. Of course, it will be great when we can visit schools and fairs again. We don’t want to replace that entirely. But we can achieve more if we rely on both formats: meeting people in person and online. Because it really reduces the distance between people. It has become a bit more normal to meet people online now, and I see a lot of potential here, especially in rural areas. It also means that we can reach people who we couldn’t in the past. Thank you very much for the interview and good luck for the future!

Thank you very much for the interview and good luck for the future!

More on the subject:
www.senkrechtstarter.org

Emotions Despite Being Online – Nervousness during Interviews and Heated Debates Online

What happens when day-to-day operations are geared towards face-to-face meetings? The Scholarships and Culture department has established new formats for digital education and consulting – the following presents an interim review.

Authors

Stefanie Geiselhardt,
Jasmin Heermann and
Marcus Schoft

Am I looking into the camera? Can they see me? Is the wireless working properly? Despite the fact that the interviews for foundation scholarships in 2020 could not take place in person, the nervousness among applicants was not only visible, it was tangible.

The fact that emotions and feelings can also be conveyed and experienced in video conferences was probably the most important lesson learned in 2020, and posed the greatest challenge to staff in the Scholarships and Culture department. And this is important because many of the pandemic-related changes to the selection process and seminars, as well as at exhibitions and readings organised by the department, will remain in place after the pandemic.

The move to a digital format involved a steep learning curve. For example, adapting the application and selection process to an online format, involved not only completely redesigning processes and procedures, but also training a large number of internal and external staff in online interviewing techniques and video conferencing.

The traditional two-day, face-to-face discussions alongside the written exam, group discussion and a 45-minute interview were replaced by a one-hour, focused video interview with a three-strong selection committee. The discussions were moderated by colleagues from the foundation, and were

supported by two external examiners who, among other things, asked the subject-related questions.

Thanks to the commitment and dedication of the internal and external auditors, over 1,100 online interviews were held between May 2020 and the end of the year. Despite the difficult conditions caused by the coronavirus pandemic, more than 1,600 applications were received, and the admission rate remained the same as the year before.

The development of online seminars, which are an essential aspect of the non-material support provided to scholarship holders, turned out to be just as complex. How is it possible to maintain the concentration and attention of 20 scholarship holders for over a week with input and discussions lasting several hours a day? What can be done to actively involve the participants and create a group rapport?

These and other aspects were incorporated into the conception and testing of new formats and learning methods with the help of an external trainer. All desk officers received several days of training in the targeted use of online seminars.

Whereas traditional seminars had been cancelled during the first few months of the pandemic, online seminars started as early as July 2020. A total of 33 basic seminars with more than 600 scholarship holders



What can be done to actively involve the participants and create a group rapport?

took place in 2020. During the seven-day Zoom events, the newcomers were able to network with one another, and gain the information that they need for a good start to their scholarship.

Colleagues also quickly made use of their newly acquired expertise as part of the advanced, compact and initiative-based seminars. More than 70 online events provided young people with the opportunity to discuss numerous socio-political issues. The polarisation of society was a particularly important topic of conversation.

“Digital debates are anything but less controversial or complex”, explains desk officer Anna Lederer looking back. She refers in particular to the numerous multidimensional channels available during the multi-day online seminars. A broad pool of materials was made available to the participants in advance, which made it easier to get started with a topic.

The various ways of participating, such as using whiteboard and chat tools, surveys or breakout rooms, also led to greater participation and enabled everyone to demonstrate their individual strengths.

“This new form of debate has long formed part of the lives of ‘digital natives’. We have taken an important step here in introducing ourselves to these tools,” explains Anna Lederer. However, the desk officers were also faced with a major change and the new

formats involved extra effort in planning, coordination and facilitation. Moreover, promoting cooperation requires a lot of teaching skills and empathy – and doing so online is particularly challenging.

The pandemic began a year ago, and we are now seeing more confident handling of online (learning) spaces as well as the technical challenges involved. The past year has shown that a lot can be done and experienced online, and that this way of working also offers people new opportunities. Nevertheless, although emotions can certainly be conveyed online, this format cannot replace meeting people in person.

***Special
Anniversaries***

The 75th Anniversary of the CDU:
Events Held to Mark the Party's Anniversary

**30 Years of German Unification
in Peace and Freedom**



THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CDU:

Events Held to Mark the Party's Anniversary

2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the founding of the CDU. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung celebrated this anniversary with various events as well as a number of publications and an exhibition.

Authors

Judith Michel,
Wolfgang Tischner
and Kathrin Zehender

The founding of the CDU after the Second World War was a ground-breaking event: the CDU was the first large political party to integrate all denominations and social classes, and, therefore, represented a completely new chapter in the history of German politics. In 2020, the CDU celebrated its 75th anniversary at the local and regional levels. October 2020 marked the 70th anniversary of the founding of the CDU at the federal level, and the anniversary of the unification congress that took place 30 years ago.

In August 2020, Siedler-Verlag published an almost 800-page anthology of the history of the CDU under the title *Christlich Demokratische Union. Beiträge und Positionen zur Geschichte der CDU* (Christian Democratic Union. Articles and positions on the history of the CDU). The volume is edited by the foundation's chair, Professor Norbert Lammert, and is illustrated with posters from the CDU's election campaigns taken from the holdings of the Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy. The authors of the 26 articles include Andreas Rödder, Mariam Lau and Andreas Wirsching. It was important to consider the entire spectrum of the debate in order to contribute to public discourse

about the role of the party in recent German history in the most diverse manner possible.

The volume was used in a multimedia advertising campaign, which was devised by several of the foundation's departments. The publication was very successful: in addition to numerous positive reviews, including in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, the chair was invited to present the book on ZDF. Three episodes of the *Gedanken Lesen* podcast focused on contributions to the book, and commentary was provided by different guests for each episode. At the foundation's book launch in August 2020, the chair of Bündnis 90/Die Grünen, Annalena Baerbock, presented the volume from both a critical yet supportive view. It will also be published in e-book format.

In addition, the Department of References and Research Services/Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy published *Erinnerungsorte der Christlichen Demokratie in Deutschland* (Places of Remembrance of Christian Democracy in Germany). This is also available online in an extended version. The richly illustrated volume is intended to promote academic reflection, and provide the CDU with historical points of reference. The sites described in the book range from sites that are still remembered, to those that have been forgotten or others that are largely unknown; all represent milestones and turning points in the party's history. The volume describes key historical locations and events related to German Christian democracy and examines their role in the collective memory of the CDU.

The Department of References and Research Services/Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy designed a comprehensive traveling exhibition entitled "Freiheit, Solidarität, Gerechtigkeit – 75 Jahre CDU" (Freedom, Solidarity, Justice – 75 Years of the CDU). The exhibition chronologically traces the development of the CDU from its first regional foundations to the large political party that it is today.

The exhibition discusses political successes and times when major challenges led to reforms. But it also deals with central themes of Christian democracy: reconciliation with European neighbours and Israel, European integration, the transatlantic partnership, policy on the two German states up to unification and the Social Market Economy. The 17 roll-up boards developed for the exhibition are also available as a PDF on the website mentioned below.

Due to the pandemic, numerous events organised by the foundation and the party had to be cancelled. Nevertheless, the department and the foundation's educational forums held over 20 events in person or online. It was also possible to display the exhibition in over 15 locations, such as at the festive events in Berlin and Dresden to mark the 75th anniversary of the CDU, and at the celebration marking the 30th anniversary of the CDU's regional parliamentary group in Magdeburg.

A central event was planned to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the CDU at the federal level, and the first all-German party congress in 1990 in Hamburg. It was to take place on 20 October 2020 in Goslar under the motto "Einigkeit und Recht und Freiheit. Von Goslar bis heute" (Unity and justice and freedom. From Goslar to today). Unfortunately, it had to be postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic.

More on the subject:
www.kas.de/75-jahre-cdu



Book presentation by the chair to mark the CDU's 75th anniversary



30 Years of German Unification in Peace and Freedom

A Focus of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in the Anniversary Year 2020.

Authors
Joachim Klose
and Philip Rosin

It only took eleven months from the fall of the Berlin Wall on 9 November 1989 to the enforcement of the German unification on 3 October 1990. During the 1990s, in addition to practical questions such as how the consequences of the dictatorship of the SED (Sozialistische Einheitspartei Deutschlands or Socialist Union Party Germany) could be overcome through the economic policies associated with *Aufbau Ost* (rebuilding Eastern Germany), the legal and social reappraisal of the injustices committed by the SED were also a focus. However, the perspective shifted after having successfully coped with two floods on the River Oder, a generational change and the election of both a Chancellor and a Federal President who had grown up in East Germany. Now this recent past has become the subject of contemporary history and the culture of remembrance.

The Mood of Society, and the Foundation's Activities

Another change of perspective took place in the middle of the last decade. Whereas on the 25th anniversary of German unity in 2015, politics responded positively to what we have achieved together in the last quarter of a century, in 2020, parts of eastern Germany articulated great dissatisfaction with the state of internal unity and self-perception. More recently, this has been expressed through books such as *Die Übernahme. Wie Ostdeutschland Teil der Bundesrepublik wurde* (The Takeover. How East Germany became part of the Federal Republic) by Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk and *Integriert doch erst mal uns!* (Integrate us first!) by Petra Köpping. A group of individuals born around and after 1990 founded the "3rd Generation East" network. To counter the glorification of the economic situation in the GDR and criticism of the *Treuhand*, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organised the conference "Die Treuhand in der Diskussion – Stand und Perspektiven

In the anniversary year, the foundation was particularly keen to pay tribute to the influential actors involved in German unification.

der Forschung" (The Treuhand in Discussion – Status and Perspectives of Research) together with Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung.

In the anniversary year, the foundation was particularly keen to pay tribute to the influential actors involved in German unification. The celebration at the Frauenkirche in Dresden is an example of this and it took place on 28 January 2020 to mark the 90th birthday of the first Minister President of the Free State of Saxony, Professor Kurt Biedenkopf. The event, with a speech by Chancellor Angela Merkel, paid tribute to the democratic new beginning that took place in 1990.

On 10 September 2020, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Day took place online – for the first time ever – due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Chancellor Angela Merkel and the President of the European People's Party, Donald Tusk, discussed "30 years of German unity: Germany in Europe and the world". A social media campaign was run on the day, and what would have been Helmut Kohl's 90th birthday, to highlight the role he played in unification. We are also currently preparing to relaunch our Helmut Kohl website.

On 1 October, an anniversary event entitled "Meine Einheit, deine Einheit! Junge Sächsinnen und Sachsen blicken auf 30 Jahre Wiedervereinigung" (My unification, your unification! Young people from Saxony look back on 30 years of reunification) took place at Augustus Castle in the presence of Saxony's Minister President Michael Kretschmer. To coincide with this, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung published the study *Generation friedliche Revolution – Jugend 2020* (Generation Peaceful Revolution – Youth 2020), which focuses on the views of young people. The younger generation who will complete the project of unification has the strongest opinions, and is the most value-conscious and best informed that we have ever seen.

The foundation's Brandenburg Forum on "30 Jahre Deutsche Einheit – Eine Bilanz" (30 Years of German Unity – Taking stock) took place on 14 October in Potsdam; Minister President Lothar de Maizière gave the keynote speech. Hans-Joachim Meyer also praised de Maizière (his former cabinet colleague) as "a father of German unity".

On 3 October 2020, the historian Sir Christopher Clark contextualised the historical changes that have taken place over the last 30 years at the "Bonner Forum zur Einheit, Deutschland und Europa" (Bonn Forum on Unity, Germany and Europe). Professor Norbert Lammert linked the anniversary of unification to the 250th birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven: Beethoven was a republican-minded, European humanist, and his *Ode to Joy* became the European anthem. German unification – one of the most important events of the century – was only able to take place peacefully because European unification had provided a framework in which to do so. On the 2020 German Unity Day and the anniversary of the first all-German federal election (2 December 1990), the Department of References and Research Services/Archive for Christian-Democratic Policy produced a two-part interview with the historian Professor Manfred Görtemaker.

Assessment and Perspectives

Despite the criticism of the implementation and the consequences of the transformation in eastern Germany, the year 1990 and the re-unification of our country in peace and freedom was a stroke of luck in German and European history. On 3 October 1990, German President Richard von Weizsäcker, who would have been 100 years old in 2020, stated "Today, dear compatriots, we are establishing our joint country. How well we succeed in unification from a human point of view will not be decided by any treaty between governments, constitutions or legislative decisions. It will depend on the behaviour of each one of us, on our own openness and consideration of one another." These words remain as true now as they were then.

More on the subject:

www.kas.de/30-jahre-wiedervereinigung



The Bundestag meeting for the first time as a parliament responsible for the whole of Germany

Names

Balances

Joint Declaration
on the State Funding of
Political Foundations

Board, Members and Trustees

Facts

Academic Promotion Committees

**The Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung –
From Continuity to Digital Awakening**

Balances

**Villa La Collina in Cadenabbia –
A Conference and Holiday Location
with a History**

Capital Account

Annual Accounts as of 31 December 2019

Assets	31 December 2019	31 December 2018
	€	Thousand €
A. Fixed assets		
Intangible assets, advance payments made	312.614,00	335
Property, plant and equipment	48.725.841,39	44.699
Financial assets	17.342,08	17
B. Special assets	6.492.817,88	6.504
C. Current assets		
Inventories	43.946,36	18
Receivables and other current assets	4.152.288,33	4.452
Cash on hand, Bundesbank credit balances, bank balances and cheques	27.767.085,05	23.111
D. Prepaid expenses	29.128,37	260
Balance sum	87.541.063,46	79.396

Liabilities	31 December 2019	31 December 2018
	€	Thousand €
A. Own funds	5.335.466,15	5.309
B. Reserves	2.229.148,47	1.555
C. Earmarked funds	1.817.618,76	1.883
D. Subsidies for asset financing	48.831.561,05	44.019
E. Other liabilities	18.950.030,40	21.491
F. Deferred income	10.377.238,63	5.139
Balance sum	87.541.063,46	79.396

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V. publishes its balance sheet, statement of income and expenses, as well as the complete certificate provided by the auditor in both our annual financial statement and in the Federal Gazette, which is available on the Internet (www.ebundesanzeiger.de).

Income Statement/Expenditure Account

Annual Accounts as of 31 December 2019

Grants and subsidies	2019 €	2018 Thousand €
Federal government grants	199.824.934,65	188.130
State and municipal grants	3.215.239,23	3.109
Other grants	6.073.723,97	4.933
	209.113.897,85	196.172
Income from funds	210.746,94	167
Donations	760.652,20	744
Membership fees	1.737.748,73	1.828
Other income	1.245.162,78	1.383
Project expenses		
International cooperation	114.788.201,60	105.809
Domestic projects	36.356.206,94	34.967
	151.144.408,54	140.776
Fund expenses	224.635,76	345
Personnel expenses	39.959.798,37	36.921
Administrative expenses	17.023.000,74	19.778
Expenses for investment and other financing	2.799.208,48	1.786
Grants to other foundations	963.000,00	963
Other expenses	319.097,10	85
Depreciation on property, plant and equipment	8.410,00	12
Expense/revenue surplus	626.649,51	-372
Withdrawals from reserves	533.652,43	932
Allocations to reserves	1.142.715,93	545
Net income	17.586,01	15

On 17 February 1993, the commission of independent experts appointed by the German Federal President published its recommendations. In accordance with the commissions' findings, we hereby publish the following details for the 2019 fiscal year as a supplement to the preceding annual financial statement.

Size of personnel compared to previous year

Status	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
Personnel in Germany	615	573
Personnel abroad	112	109
Total	727	682
Trainees	9	9

The following illustrates the size and nature of the foundation's management, which consists of members of the German Bundestag, state parliaments, as well as federal or state government, party executives at the federal or state level, and the European Parliament.

The Board of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V. with a total of 23 members* (22 members, 1 Honorary Chair):

- 1 Federal Chancellor
- 5 Members of the German Bundestag
- 4 Members of the federal party executive
- 17 without any of the above-mentioned executive functions

* Some members perform more than one executive function.

Overview

Expected Income and Expenses

Income	2021 (target)*	2020 (target)
	Thousand €	Thousand €
Grants and subsidies		
Federal government	215.417	196.443
State governments	3.385	3.119
Other	5.163	5.587
	223.965	205.149
Funds/Donations	415	415
Registration fees	1.513	1.558
Other revenues	841	829
Total income	226.734	207.951
Expenses	2021 (target)*	2020 (target)
	Thousand €	Thousand €
Project expenditures		
Student and graduate scholarships	27.689	27.138
Congresses and seminars	7.701	8.488
International cooperation	116.395	109.225
Research expenses	900	1.299
Support of art and culture	503	471
Other project expenses	4.265	3.744
	157.453	150.365
Personnel expenditures (within Germany)	46.397	42.027
Administrative expenditures		
Business needs	5.135	2.747
Building expenditures	4.934	4.009
Other administrative expenditures	2.840	3.024
	12.909	9.780
Other expenditures	3.836	2.449
Expenditures on investments	6.139	3.330
Total expenses	226.734	207.951

* Budget for 2021. Last amended: 27. November 2020.

Joint Declaration on the State Funding of Political Foundations

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung and the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung are the political foundations associated with the major German parties: the Christian Democratic Union, the Social Democratic Party, the Free Democratic Party, the Christian Social Union in Bavaria and Alliance 90/The Greens, respectively. Their goal, as set out in their statutes, is to contribute to the future of our society.

They work on projects in civic education that are focused on social policy and democracy and providing information and political consulting at home and abroad. These activities are based on the principles of a liberal and democratic society and adhere to the principles of solidarity, subsidiarity and mutual respect. The foundations particularly focus on:

- › inspiring people to get involved in political issues, and using civic education to promote and expand people's interest in participating in society
- › providing guidelines to take action in politics through the promotion of academic and political research and consulting, as well as enriching dialogue and knowledge transfer between academics, politicians, government representatives and business
- › researching the history and evolution of political parties and political and social movements
- › promoting academic training and continuing education for gifted young people through fellowships and extracurricular programmes

- › promoting culture and the arts through events, scholarships and restoring cultural artifacts
- › supporting the goal of European unity and contributing to greater understanding among peoples by providing information and encouraging people from different countries to share their experiences
- › providing development aid through programmes and projects and contributing to the establishment of democratic and free structures that adhere to the rule of law and that respect human and civil rights

The political foundations are determined to use their resources as effectively and transparently as possible. Moreover, they are committed to informing the public about their activities and how they spend their finances, thus strengthening public confidence in their work.

This is also one of the reasons that the political foundations agreed to follow the recommendations drawn up by the commission of independent experts that was appointed by the German Federal President. Moreover, the foundations implement these recommendations even though there is no legislative requirement to do so. This joint declaration lays out their mission in regards to the public financing of their work and their public accountability.

www.kas.de/gemeinsame_erklaerung

Board of Directors of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.



Chair
Professor Dr Norbert Lammert
President of the
German Bundestag (retired)



Secretary General
Michael Thielen



Honorary Chair
Professor Dr Bernhard Vogel
Minister-President (retired)



Treasurer
Dr Christoph Brand
Managing Director of Goldman
Sachs Bank Europe SE



Deputy Chair
Professor Dr Beate Neuss



Deputy Chair
Hildigund Neubert
Secretary of State (retired)



Deputy Chair
Hermann Gröhe MP
Federal Minister (retired),
Deputy Chair of the CDU/CSU
parliamentary group in the
German Bundestag

Dieter Althaus

Minister-President (retired),
Vice-president governmental affairs
MAGNA Europe

Otto Bernhardt

Former Parliamentary State Secretary,
Former chair of Hermann-Ehlers-
Stiftung e. V.

Ralph Brinkhaus MP**(co-opted member)**

Chair of the CDU/CSU parliamentary
group in the German Bundestag

Tanja Gönner

Spokeswoman of the Management
Board of the German Association of
International Cooperation (Deutsche
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusam-
menarbeit, GIZ)

Michael Grosse-Brömer MP**(co-opted member)**

Chief Whip of the CDU/CSU parliamen-
tary group in the German Bundestag

Professor Dr Hans Walter Hütter

President of the Haus der Geschichte
der Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Foundation

Volker Kauder

Member of the German Bundestag,
Former chairman of the CDU/CSU
Parliamentary Group in the German
Bundestag

Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer

Federal Minister of Defence,
Chair of the Christian Democratic
Union of Germany

Dr Angela Merkel MP

Federal Chancellor of the
Federal Republic of Germany

Hildegard Müller

Secretary of State (retired),
President of the German Association
of the Automobile industry (Verband
der Automobilindustrie, VDA)

Professor Dr Andreas Rödder

Holder of the Chair for Modern and
Contemporary History at the Johannes
Gutenberg University Mainz

Professor Jürgen Rüttgers

Minister-President (retired)

Dr Wolfgang Schüssel**(co-opted member)**

Former Federal Chancellor of
the Republic of Austria,
Chair of the Konrad Adenauer
Stiftung's Board of Trustees

Professor Dr Dr Thomas Sternberg

President of the Central Committee
of German Catholics (Zentralkomitee
der deutschen Katholiken, ZdK)

Klaus Welle

Secretary General of the
European Parliament

Professor Birgitta Wolff

President of Goethe University,
Frankfurt am Main

Permanent Guests**Professor Dr Helge Braun MP**

Head of the Federal Chancellery
Federal Minister for Special Tasks

Dr Stefan Hennewig

Federal Managing Director of the CDU

Anton Pfeifer

Secretary of State (retired)

Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering

President of the European Parliament
(retired) Representative for European
Affairs of the Konrad-Adenauer-
Stiftung e. V.

Dr Peter Tauber

Parliamentary state secretary

Dr Dorothee Wilms

Federal Minister (retired)

Dr Bernhard Worms

Secretary of State (retired)
Chairman of the Karl-Arnold-
Stiftung e. V.

Paul Ziemiak MP

Secretary General of the CDU

Members of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Dr Patrick Adenauer

Entrepreneur

Otto Bernhardt

Parliamentary Secretary of State (retired), former Chairman of the Hermann Ehlers Stiftung

Professor Dr Erik Bertram

Head of Design Operations and Services, HANA & Analytics, SAP SE; Professor of Digital Business Management at Fresenius University of Applied Sciences, Heidelberg

Dr Christoph Brand

Treasurer of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Ralph Brinkhaus MP

Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag

Elmar Brok

Former MEP, Vice President of the Centrist Democrat International

Daniel Caspary MEP

Chairman of the CDU/CSU group at the European Parliament

Emine Demirbükten-Wegner

Secretary of State (retired)

Eberhard Diepgen

Former Mayor of Berlin

Karina Dörk

County Commissioner in the district of Uckermark

Michael Gahler MEP

Board member of the CDU/CSU group at the European Parliament

Tanja Gönner

Spokeswoman of the German Association of International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ)

Hermann Gröhe MP

Federal Minister (retired), Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group at the German Bundestag, Deputy Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Professor Stefan W Hell

Director of the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen

Eckart von Klaeden

Secretary of State (retired), Head of the Department for Policy and External Affairs Daimler AG

Freya Klier

writer and film director

Julia Klöckner

Federal Minister for Food and Agriculture

Professor Marianne Kneuer

Professor for Political Science at the University of Hildesheim

Professor Roland Koch

Minister-President (retired)

Brigitta Kögler

Lawyer

Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer

Federal Minister of Defence, Chair of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany

Michael Kretschmer

Minister-President of Saxony

Professor Dr Norbert Lammert

Chairman of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V., President of the German Bundestag (retired)

Dr Werner Langen

former MEP and member of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee of the European Parliament

Armin Laschet

Member of the Landtag of North Rhine-Westphalia, Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia

Christine Lieberknecht

Minister-President (retired)

David James McAllister MEP

Minister-President (retired), Chairman of the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs

Dr Angela Merkel MP

Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

Herta Müller

writer

Hildegard Müller

Secretary of State (retired),
President of the German Association
of the Automotive Industry (Verband
der Automobilindustrie, VDA)

Professor Adolf Muschg

writer

Hildigund Neubert

Secretary of State (retired),
Deputy Chairwoman of the
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Professor Dr Beate Neuss

Deputy chair woman of the
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Professor Dr Angelika Nußberger

Judge on the Constitutional Court
of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
former Deputy Chair of the European
Court of Human Rights

Anton Pfeifer

Former Minister of State

Ronald Pofalla

Federal Minister (retired),
Board member of Deutsche Bahn AG

Ruprecht Polenz

President of the German Association
for East European Studies e. V.

Dr Hans-Gert Pöttering

President of the European Parliament
(retired), Representative for European
Affairs of the Konrad-Adenauer-
Stiftung e. V.

Katherina Reiche

Chair of the Board of Westenergie AG

Herbert Reul

Minister for Internal Affairs of the State
of North Rhine-Westphalia

Dr Norbert Röttgen MP

Federal Minister (retired),
Chairman of the Committee on Foreign
Affairs of the German Bundestag

Karl Schiewerling

Chair of Stiftung Christlich-Soziale
Politik e. V. (CSP)

Nadine Schön MP

Deputy Chairwoman of the CDU/CSU
parliamentary group at the German
Bundestag

Josef Schuster

President of the Central Council
of Jews in Germany (Zentralrat der
Juden in Deutschland, ZdJ)

Jens Spahn MP

Federal Minister of Health

Ashok-Alexander Sridharan

Lawyer and former Mayor of Bonn

Dr Peter Tauber MP

Parliamentary State Secretary

Düzen Tekkal

Journalist and writer

Dr Johannes von Thadden

Member of the Executive Committee
of Airbus DS GmbH

Marlehn Thieme

President of Welthungerhilfe e. V.,
Chairwoman of the ZDF Television
Board

Professor Sebastian Turner

Media entrepreneur

Professor Dr Bernhard Vogel

Minister-President (retired),
Honorary Chairman of the
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

Dr Nathalie von Siemens

Member of the Supervisory Board
of Siemens AG and Siemens Health-
care GmbH

Klaus Welle

Secretary General of the European
Parliament

Eva Welskop-Deffaa

Director of Social Policy and
Professional Policy at the at the at
the German Caritas Association

Paul Ziemiak MP

Secretary General of the CDU

Board of Trustees of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

In 1999, the Board of Directors of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V. established a Board of Trustees. The trustees support and guide the work of the foundation in an advisory role. Somewhat akin to a seismograph, their task is to highlight important trends affecting society as a whole.

At a time of great upheavals, in which we encounter constant change and the ongoing processes associated with globalisation, orientation is more important than ever. The major developments occurring in research, technology, the media, and culture call for a far-sighted, trendsetting, and, above all, timely strategy to deal with the new challenges facing politics to which the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung also intends to respond.

The Board of Trustees is made up of individuals from politics, society, research, and culture. Dr Wolfgang Schüssel is the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

It is of great importance for the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung to ensure that the Board of Trustees comprises representatives of various spheres of society. The aim is to ensure that the impetus and ideas developed by science and society become even more strongly interwoven.



Dr Wolfgang Schüssel

Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.,
Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria (retired)

Professor Monika Grütters MP

Minister of State in the Federal Chancellery and Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media

Professor Dr Michael Baumann

Chairman and Scientific Director of the German Cancer Research Center (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, DKFZ)

Cemile Giousouf

Head of Operative Division at the Federal Agency for Civic Education (Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung, bpb)

Elke Hannack

Deputy President of the German Trade Union Confederation (Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, DGB)

Jean-Claude Juncker

President of the European Commission (retired), Prime Minister of Luxembourg (retired)

Bernhard Kaster

Former Parliamentary Secretary of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag

Professor Dr Paul Kirchhof

Justice of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany (Bundesverfassungsgericht) (retired)

Charlotte Knobloch

President of the Jewish Community of Munich and Upper Bavaria K. d. ö. R.

Professor Roland Koch

Minister-President (retired)

Vincent Kokert

Manager of Neustrelitz Public Utilities, former Chair of CDU Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

Ronan Le Gleut

Member of the French Senat

Dr Gisela Meister-Scheufelen

Secretary of State (retired)

Father Klaus Mertes S. J.

Director of the International Jesuit Kolleg St. Blasien

Professor Dr Ursula Münch

Director of the Academy for Civic Education Tutzing (Akademie für Politische Bildung)

Hartmut Nassauer

Minister (retired)

Professor Dr Sönke Neitzel

Professor at the Chair of War Studies, University of Potsdam

Professor Dr Ursula**Nothelle-Wildfeuer**

Professor of Practical Theology at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Freiburg

Aygül Özkan

Minister (retired), Managing Director of the German Property Federation (Zentraler Immobilien Ausschuss, ZIA)

Dr Stephan Schaede

Director of the Evangelische Akademie Loccum

Stephan Schambach

Entrepreneur

Dr Klaus Schüler

Former Federal Managing Director of the CDU

Dr Steven Sokol

President of the American Council on Germany

Jaromir Sokolowski

Undersecretary of State at the Office of the President of the Republic of Poland (retired)

Armin Staigis

Brigadier-General (retired), former Vice President of the Federal Academy for Security Policy (Bundesakademie für Sicherheitspolitik, BAKS), Chairman of the Circle of Friends of the BAKS e. V.

Dr Erwin Teufel

Minister-President (retired)

Christa Thoben

Minister of State (retired)

Sir Peter James Torry

British Ambassador (retired)

Annette Widmann-Mauz MP

Minister of State and Federal Government Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration, Chairwoman of the Women's Union of the CDU

Christian Wulff

Federal President of the Federal Republic of Germany (retired)

Last amended: 31 December 2020

Academic Promotion Committees

Advisory Council of Liaison Lecturers

Professor Martin Kintzinger
(Chair) WWU Münster

Professor Klemens Störkuhl
Ruhr University, Bochum

Professor Martin Gröger
University of Siegen

Professor Christiane Dümmler
University of Applied Sciences,
Worms

Elected Members of the Board of Alumni of the Konrad-Adenauer- Stiftung e. V. (ASeV)

Matthias Wilkes
(Chair)

Dr Heinrich Schimpf
(Treasurer)

Thies Johannes Albert

Dr Jürgen Bubeck

Dr Frank Deickert

Dr Dietrich Dorn

Dr Wolfgang Frosch

Nora Jakob

Maximilian Martin

Christian Wehrberger

Support and Social funds e. V.

Dr Bernd Langhein
(Chair)

Scholarship Advisory Board

Matthias Böttger

Julian Gerwers

Julia Kanning

Sophie Marxen

Franziska Schade

Christine Vogl

The Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung – From Continuity to Digital Awakening

In 2020, the Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung rose to the challenges associated with finding new ways of reaching sponsors and how to continue offering exclusive events.

The Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung was founded in 1999. It is an association that supports the foundation's work and ensures the high quality of its services in the long term. Moreover, it offers a home to people who support the Christian-democratic values espoused by Konrad Adenauer. The Friends view themselves as ambassadors of these values and apply them when doing their part for the future of society.

The members appreciate the fact that they can meet at exclusive events, exchange ideas, make friends and engage in discussions with high-ranking speakers. In order to make this possible at the regional level, the new format "Friends meets Politics" was launched on 25 September 2020. The Friends met with the mayor and city treasurer Uwe Becker in Frankfurt's Römer district and this series will be continued in other cities.

Of the round tables, seminars, excursions and trips that were planned for 2020, only the "Bavaria in Europe" seminar in Banz Monastery and the excursions to Eisenach, Erfurt and Weimar could take place. This led the Friends to break new ground to reach out to its sponsors. In October, the "Virtual Political Regulars' Table" started, which takes place on the first Thursday of the month and is attended by a member of staff from an international office. In 2020, Paul Linnarz (DC), Dr Nino Galetti (Rome) and Caroline Kanter (Paris) were all invited to speak. A second digital format entitled "Einblicke – Informationen aus der Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung" (Insights – Information from the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung) premiered on 24 November 2020. It involves members of staff from the foundation reporting about their work and current projects. The first guest was

Dr Melanie Piepenschneider, Head of the Civic Education department, who spoke about "Civic Education – The Balancing Act between Zeitgeist and Impact".

The increasing number of participants shows that online events are also gaining in acceptance among silver surfers and are seen as an opportunity to participate regardless of where they live or how mobile they are – and perhaps to meet up with friends!

The Friends of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V.

*T +49 30 / 26 996-3256
christine.wagner@kas.de*

*www.kas.de/freundeskreis
www.facebook.com/kas.freundeskreis*



A striking setting for seminars held by the Friends: the baroque Banz Monastery

Villa La Collina in Cadenabbia – A Conference and Holiday Location with a History

In 1977, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung acquired Konrad Adenauer's former holiday home at beautiful Lake Como – since then, in addition to its preservation, the villa has also combined the opportunity to continue working in Konrad Adenauer's spirit in a place that – like no other – provides opportunities for contemplation and intense conversations. As a European meeting place, international conference centre for world-class experts and a creative workspace for writers and artists, Villa La Collina has long formed an indispensable part of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. Numerous seminars on civic education are offered here, and clubs, associations and commercial enterprises can now book the spacious facility as an event location for their own exclusive meetings, conferences or the like.

Discover the advantages of hosting your own event at this exceptionally beautiful location, which Konrad Adenauer chose in the 1960s as a long-term holiday home and substitute chancellery. 34 guest rooms in two buildings, conference rooms, a restaurant, bocce courts, a swimming pool and 27,000 square metres of wonderfully kept grounds await you.

The pandemic-related break was used to redesign the entire facility in accordance with the currently applicable coronavirus guidelines and to equip the Academia with new furniture and air conditioning. The latest generation of air purification devices will provide additional safety in shared spaces with the start of the 2021 season.

The ambience is unique, the possibilities for excursions are varied and the bocce courts on the grounds enable you to discover Konrad Adenauer's favourite sport. The swimming pool in the garden offers an opportunity to cool off, and the delicious Italian cuisine ensures physical and mental well-being.



You can find a lot more information in German, English and Italian on our website www.villalacollina.com

Your contacts at Villa La Collina are:

Secretariat
*Martina Süßmann,
Marinella Galli,
Nicoletta Canzani,
Elena Ferroni*

Managing Director
Heiner Enterich
cadenabbia@villalacollina.it
T +39 034 444 111

Imprint

Published by:

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V. 2021, Berlin

Klingelhöferstr. 23

10785 Berlin

T +49 30 269 96-0

zentrale@kas.de

Editing: Nora Kalweit, Jochen Blind (V. i. S. d. P.)

Proofreading: Nora Kalweit, Fabian Olbrich

Translation: Simon Phillips

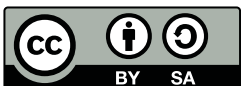
Photo credits:

S. 2 © Nataliya Vaitkevich/Pexels; S. 2, S. 8 © KAS/Gerrit Wilcke; S. 12 © KAS/Juliane Liebers; S. 2, S. 14–15 © KAS/Juliane Liebers; S. 17 © KAS; S. 18 © KAS/Juliane Liebers; S. 19 © KAS/Marie-Lisa Noltenius; S. 24 © KAS, Heike Huslage-Koch, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons, S. 25 © Achenbach Buschhütten, KAS; S. 28 © KAS; S. 2, S. 30–31 © CHUNYIP WONG/istockphoto.com; S. 32–33 © KAS/Juliane Liebers; S. 34–35 © wonry/istockphoto.com; S. 36–37 © Tobias Koch; S. 38–39 © Rohan Thompson, Pew Pew Studio, Australia (Source: KAS Australia and the Pacific); S. 40–41 © a-r-t-i-s-t/istockphoto.com; S. 42–43 © 2 x KAS/Frauenkolleg; S. 44–45 © Patrick Daxenbichler/istockphoto.com; S. 46–47 © picture alliance/abaca/Images de Tunisie; S. 50 © 2 x privat; S. 52 © picture alliance/akg-images; S. 55 © KAS; S. 56–57 © KAS; S. 59 © privat; S. 60 © Valerie Misz; S. 61 © Andrea Ludwig Design; S. 62 © KAS; S. 2, S. 64 © dem10/istockphoto.com; S. 66 © Lena Großmann; S. 69 © KAS/Marcus Schoft; S. 72 © KAS/Rainer Unkel; S. 73 © KAS/Wadim Lisovenko; S. 3, S. 2, S. 74–75 © KAS/Inge Kundel-Saro; S. 82 © KAS; S. 86 © KAS; S. 89 © AIDAsign/Shutterstock; S. 90 © KAS/Harald Odehnal.

Design and typesetting: yellow too Pasiak Horntrich GbR

Produced with the financial support of the Federal Republic of Germany.

This publication by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e. V. is for information only. It may not be used by political parties or by campaigners or volunteers for the purpose of campaigning. This applies to federal, state and local elections as well as to elections to the European Parliament.



The text of this publication is published under a Creative Commons license: "Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 international" (CC BY-SA 4.0), <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/legalcode>.

ISBN 978-3-95721-971-8

