

Conference:

## **Global Causes and Consequences of Medicine Shortages**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 16:00 h**

**Academy of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Tiergartenstr. 35, 10785 Berlin**

### **Background:**

Despite national, European and global efforts to ensure adequate and timely access to medicines, shortages of medicines are a widespread phenomenon around the world and have serious consequences for patients and healthcare systems. As early as 2016, the WHO formulated recommendations to combat such bottlenecks. A pharmaceutical strategy was adopted at the European level in 2020 and most recently at the level of the German government in December 2023.

We want to dedicate ourselves to the topic with a specialist conference and discuss global causes and solutions with representatives from science, politics and industry. It builds on the findings of a DFG-funded research project that deals with the causes and consequences of drug shortages. The project, initiated in 2020, is a cooperation between the Hertie School Berlin and the University of Duisburg-Essen. The most important results of the research project will be presented at the conference.

The conference is organized by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the Hertie School in cooperation with the University of Duisburg-Essen and the Federation of German Industries (BDI).

Conference languages are English and German. Simultaneous translation will be provided.

### **Key questions:**

- What findings of the research project does the current reform of EU pharmaceutical law address? Will blind spots remain?
- What international strategies are needed to achieve safety and equity in the supply of medicines?
- What is a good balance between local/regional production and the use of global supply chain benefits? What strategies do LMICs pursue?
- Drug supply as a security issue: What is it worth to us?
- How do global market dynamics intersect with policies influencing drug shortages?
- How do regulatory frameworks in different countries affect the availability and distribution of medicines?
- How can collaboration between stakeholders, including governments, pharmaceutical companies and healthcare providers, be streamlined in terms of interventions and addressing bottlenecks?

## Programme

- 16:00 h**      **Opening remarks**  
**Hermann Gröhe, MP**  
Deputy Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation  
Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the Bundestag
- 16:15 h**      **Project Insights and Study Results**  
**Prof. Dr. Mujaheed Shaikh**  
Professor of Health Governance, Hertie School
- 16:35 h**      **Panel Discussion: European Strategies for Greater Resilience in the Supply of Medicines**  
**Dr. Georg Kippels, MP**  
Member of the Health Committee  
**Prof. Dr. Karl Broich**  
President of the Federal Institute for Drugs and Medical Devices  
**Iris Plöger**  
Member of the BDI Executive Board  
**Moderation:**  
**Prof. Dr. Katharina Blankart**  
University of Duisburg-Essen and Bern University of Applied Sciences
- 17:20 h**      **Panel Discussion: International Perspectives on Security of Medicine Supplies**  
**Vanessa Peberdy**  
Deputy Director, IFPMA  
**Kathy Hauschild**  
Advisor Pharmacy and Innovation, action medeor  
**Eleni Katsis**  
Direct Relief  
**Kirti Narsai**  
Principal Researcher, University of Cape Town  
**Moderation:**  
**Lukas Lingenthal**  
Konrad Adenauer Foundation
- 18:05 h**      **Concluding remarks**  
**Prof. Dr. Mujaheed Shaikh**  
Professor of Health Governance, Hertie School
- 18:10 h**      **Reception**
- 20:00 h**      **End of the event**