

## Lessons learned from German History –An evening with Konrad Adenauer’s grandson

KAS, Nairobi held a discussion forum on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2019, with young Kenyan Politicians to discuss the post-war German political developments, and the lessons Kenya can draw from the same. The event was graced by Dr. Stephan Werhahn, a grandson to Konrad Adenauer and Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU) Board Member for International Relations.

From the discussion, it was noted that Germany had gone through a difficult political and economic watershed, especially during the Nazi-dictatorship (1933-1945). Some of the major gains that Germany realized were during the tenure of Konrad Adenauer as Chancellor (1949-1963) with Ludwig Erhard acting as his Economic Minister, and later as Chancellor (1963-1969). The two exhibited great political differences, but still were able to work together to achieve a great socio-economic development in Germany. Konrad Adenauer’s other major achievements was on the insistence to propagate and strengthen his political party ideals, as a vehicle towards economic and social transformation. This was presented in strong policies, which are still vibrant even now.

In conclusion, it was observed from the meeting that politicians can have their political differences, but still work together harmoniously, for the socio-economic gain of the people. The value of propagating and respecting party ideals that are useful in political democracies was highlighted. This can lead to better economic growth and political maturity of the country with properly planned political structures.



Photos of some of the participants of the event with Dr. Jan Cernicky (KAS, Nairobi) and Stephan Werhahn (BKU Board Member for International Relations).