FEBRUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

Top News

Celebrating Konrad Adenauer's 150th Birthday

Attendance to Stephen J Harper's 20th Anniversary of Governance

#Kas4Security Grants launches its publications

Attendance to Embassy of Japan's Reception

WINTER SEASON

With a fast beginning in 2026, we have different projects and events coming up in coming weeks.

This year we are celebrating 150th year of Konrad Adenauer's birthday and our motto for this year is standing up for democracy- standing together for freedom. Peace starts with us, and nothing is for granted.

New Events and Conference Attendance

Dear Friends of KAS Canada,

We are very excited to plan and share the first half of 2026 with you, as our team moves forward with interesting events and ambitious projects in coming weeks and months.

Past month, we have seen closer relations between Germany and Canada. We have been happy to observe Joint Declaration of Intent on Artificial Intelligence on the margins of the Munich Security Conference, signed between two countries. Building on the Canada–Germany Digital Alliance announced in December 2025, the declaration of intent creates a practical framework to expand bilateral cooperation in artificial intelligence (AI). It reflects both countries' shared commitment to advancing secure, resilient and sovereign AI capabilities in a rapidly evolving global landscape.

Our office also organized a reception in honour of Konrad Adenauer's 150th birthday, with KAS Research Chair at University of Ottawa.

During the event, while we commemorated and shared Konrad Adenauer's life, we were able to interact with diplomatic corps, researchers and esteemed guests. We were also able to listen KAS Research Chair in Empirical Democracy Studies, Prof. Stockemer with his presentation on democratic backsliding in 21st century, and how countries have tendencies to become authoritarian, while youth population is often not included in politics.

In the event, we have emphasized more than ever, we need a strong, united Europe, ready for war even in an emergency, which would be able to defend itself against attacks of any kind, including against new forms of hybrid warfare, cyber, or drone defence.

More than ever, we need higher and faster investments than before for our security in view of Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine, in view of the threats to Taiwan from China, or the activities of North Korea or Iran even after the pre-emptive strike by the USA, or the activities of Russia and China in the Arctic. The Arctic, is the potential new field of conflict between the great powers.

Now, we need friends and partners like Canada. And Canada probably needs these friends and allies too. Reliable friends in a world of uncertainty.

On past month, we were also able to participate to the event for 20th Anniversary of Stephen J. Harper's government and Embassy of Japan's National Foundation Day.

In coming weeks and months, we have multiple events including launch of our 2 different grants, 2 day workshop with KAS Research Chair on Konrad Adenauer and undemocratic attitudes, and FIMI event with EU delegation in May.

Wishing you a wonderful time during winter season,

Dr. Bernd Althusmann

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

Celebrating 150th Birthday of Konrad Adenauer

Our office have celebrated our founding father's 150th birthday with a motto of: standing up for democracy- standing together for freedom. Peace starts with us, and nothing is for granted.

We were happy to see so many guests including diplomatic staff, researchers and experts in the room to celebrate Konrad Adenauer.

During the celebration, we were able to commemorate our founding father, by remembering his values, standing for freedom, and unity in tough times. By celebrating his enduring legacy in Canada-Germany transatlantic relations, we underlined why fighting for democracy is important.

It was highlighted that the transatlantic partnership is changing, with a new world order, as we need a wake-up call, but also requiring active reasonable and brave action. Just like Adenauer's wake-up call to a 'Europe standing on its own two feet' is still audible and echoing 76 years later, it seems as if this momentum has come more or less inevitably.

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Projects and Events

- On first week of February, our office was happy to attend to the event for 20th Anniversary of Stephen J. Harper's government.

- During his speech, Stephen Harper said Canada must adapt to new geopolitical realities, arguing that many of the country's difficulties can't be blamed on others.

- He underlined that while the Trump administration poses a serious challenge, ahead of the review of the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement, Canada has to defend both its industrial capacity and its potential to sell critical resources to world markets. Guests at the gala event included Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre, former foreign affairs minister John Baird, Former Minister of Democratic Institutions of Canada Steven Fletcher, and Peter MacKay, co-founder of the modern Conservative Party of Canada.

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Projects and Events

- On second week of February, our office have attended to Japan's National Foundation Day at Chateau Laurier.

- Ambassador of Japan H.E. Yamanouchi, began to his speech by commemorating the attack on Tumbler Ridge, offering his deep condolences and observed a period of silence for the victims. He later underlined that Canadian-Japanese relations are very important and he welcomed new initiatives made by the Canadian government in the Asia-Pacific region, such as imports on car materials.

- Among the guests, we were able to interact with Ambassador of Japan H.E. Yamanouchi, Ambassador of Turkey, H.E. Can Dizdar, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Mona Fortier, Bloc Quebecois leader Hon. Yves Francois Blanchet and colleagues from Pendulum Geopolitical Advisory, Mr. Balkan Devlen and Mr. Jonathan Berkshire Miller.

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Future Events

- On **18 March**, we will celebrate our first #KAS4Security grant, titled " "Information Security in the Transatlantic Arctic: Integrating Indigenous and Northern Knowledge and Capabilities". We are doing a news conference about this report at Press Gallery and will release you details in which you can watch via CPAC in email and through our social media accounts.

- On **30 March**, we will celebrate our second #KAS4Security grant, titled "Securing Trade: Integrating Economic Security into Canada-EU Economic Agreements in an Era of Geoeconomic Tension". There will be an event organized in Ottawa, Alt Hotel for this occasion, and we will soon communicate details of the day with you via email and through social media.

- On **23 April,** KAS Research Chair and our foundation is organizing a big 2 day workshop in honour of Konrad Adenauer's 150th Year, titled: **Following Konrad Adenauer's Legacy: democracy and (un)democratic attitudes.** The workshop will welcome chosen papers selected from the call made last November and will span a larger picture on citizens' engagement with democracy by looking at the link between peoples' rejection of democracy and their adherence to populism and conspiracy theories.

- On **May,** we are organizing an event **with the EU Delegation in Canada on Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI)** at Chateau Laurier. More details will be communicated in coming weeks and next month through our social media channels.

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Social media and interaction boost

We would like to thank you for reacting to all of our posts and event announcements.

We have new followers through LinkedIn, and multiplied reactions and comments through Instagram.

Average post engagement rate	Page & profile reach	Post reactions & likes	Post impressions
7.15% engagement rate	**2,905** people	**179** reactions	**5,129** impressions

Views breakdown
Jan 18 – Feb 18

Total
546 ↑ 101.5%

From organic
546 ↑ 101.5%

From ads
0 0%

Viewers
133 ↑ 137.5%

A BIG

THANK YOU

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Our Canada Office, based in Ottawa, was established in 2019, promotes multilateral cooperation as well as exchange between Canada, Germany and Europe on the most important global challenges of our time, especially in the areas of security, technology, climate change and migration.

As the first Chancellor of the newly-formed Federal Republic of Germany from 1949-63, Konrad Adenauer changed the face of post-war German and European history more than any other individual. Adenauer's experiences during the Second World War made him a political realist and he focused his attention on promoting the idea of pan-European cooperation. Our foundation is based on his values.

"When the world seems large and complex,
we need to remember that great world ideals all begin
in some home neighbourhood."

Konrad Adenauer

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