

JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



HAPPY NEW YEAR

We are excited to be back in 2026, with 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.



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New Events and Conference Attendance



Dear Friends of KAS Canada,

I hope you all had a pleasant break over holidays. Our foundation is ready to engage in new activities in 2026, with democracy being the focus.

We had a tumultuous and fast beginning to 2026, with multiple foreign policy issues taking headlines in newspapers.

In January, we have so far seen the United States' intervention to Venezuela, protests in Iran, MERCOSUR deal with EU, the talks around CUSMA renewal and further domestic talks.

The CUSMA is up for review this year, to decide whether it will be left to expire or another deal will be worked out. Canada on the other hand, announced that it would like to double its non-US exports in a decade and turn its focus to Europe and Asia.

Our foundation's focus this year will be standing up for democracy- standing together for freedom. Peace starts with us, and nothing is for granted. We will celebrate 150th birthday year of Konrad Adenauer, his legacy and also, the 75 years of German-Canadian diplomatic relations.

The year 2026 is significant for us, since both Canada and Germany celebrate their 75th year diplomatic ties, but facing global challenges.

The brutal war in Ukraine is going on, unfortunately today, the rules-based order is threatened by Russia, in the Indo Pacific region by China against Taiwan in near Southeast, and by Iran. In North Atlantic, the crisis to be averted for Greenland, because the European, NATO Allies are standing strong together. Moreover, the security related, the recently released US National Security Strategy focuses on mainly the US itself.

Furthermore, in a world where multilateralism is questioned, our foundation underlines the importance of partnership, responsibility, collaboration and diplomacy. Respect to International Law, to the UN charter, and the sovereignty of other countries is fundamental.

On January 27, we had an event focusing on Ukraine with Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

On February 10, we will also organize a New year reception with University of Ottawa, and Konrad Adenauer Research Chair on the challenges for the future in uncertain times and democracies on defence.

We are motivated than ever and looking forward to welcome you in our events in coming weeks and months.

Wishing you a happy 2026,

Yours,
Bernd Althusmann

Celebrating 150th Birthday of Konrad Adenauer

Our office will celebrate his 150th birthday with a motto of: standing up for democracy- standing together for freedom. Peace starts with us, and nothing is for granted.

Corresponding to his legacy and work, this year we will dedicate our collaborations on democracy and resilience in 2026.

We invite everyone to be informed about our founding father's legacy and read the video book about him via this link in [here](#) and to be informed more about his life through [here](#).



Projects and Events

- On first week of January our office was happy to be invited to working luncheon at the Ambassador's Residence, at the request of Embassy of Germany to Canada.
- The luncheon hosted Mr. Metin Hakverdi, Coordinator of Transatlantic Cooperation in the Federal Foreign Office.
- During the invitation, guests coming from all academia, media, culture, business and political sphere background, talked on shaping the German Canadian partnership.



Projects and Events

- On January 27, we have partnered with Canadian Global Affairs Institute and organized a workshop called “The West’s Zeitenwende: What support for Ukraine in 2026?”. We talked about Canadian and European Foreign Policy on Ukraine, procurement, security chains and assistance and focused on increasing the security and offer a comparative foreign policy outlook from Canadian and European perspectives.
- Two fire-side chats provided a venue for key representatives from government, industry, embassies and academia to provide feedback on #KASSecurity research about the role of Canadian and European perspective for bolstering help in Ukraine and foreign assistance.
- The workshop included panellists such as H.E. Tjorven Bellman, Ambassador of Germany to Canada, H.E. Witold Dzielski, Ambassador of Poland to Canada, Mikael Antell, Deputy Director General for Political Affairs, Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Maksym Mantiuk, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Ukraine to Canada, as well as a keynote from Senator Andrew Cardozo.



Projects and Events

On the occasion of the 150th birthday of Konrad Adenauer, the first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, we warmly invite you to join us in celebrating his enduring legacy in Canada-Germany transatlantic relations.

At a time marked by uncertainty and geopolitical change and challenges, Konrad Adenauer's legacy is more relevant than ever.

It reminds us why like-minded democracies must stand together—committed to dialogue, cooperation, and the defense of democratic values!

-  Tuesday, February 10, 2026
-  5:00–6:30 PM (Doors open at 4:30 PM)
-  Room 4007, FSS Building, University of Ottawa, 120 University Private, Ottawa, ON

 Please RSVP via the link here: [On February 20, join us at University of Ottawa,](#)



KAS Canada Unfiltered

We have 2 new episodes of KAS Canada Unfiltered that are highly relevant, as we have a fast paced entry to 2026:

- On episode 7, we welcomed Jonathan Berkshire Miller and talked on Japan, China and further challenges in the Indo-pacific region. Our director and Jonathan are discussing Canada's economic investments in the region, political pressures and the tensions around the Taiwan Strait.
- On episode 8, we welcomed Kyle Matthews and Jonathan Berkshire Miller again, talking on USA's recently released national strategy and its future impact on Canada and Germany. The document is overarching through emerging disruptive technologies, immigration, law enforcement, defining allies and further security strategies impacting North America and Europe.

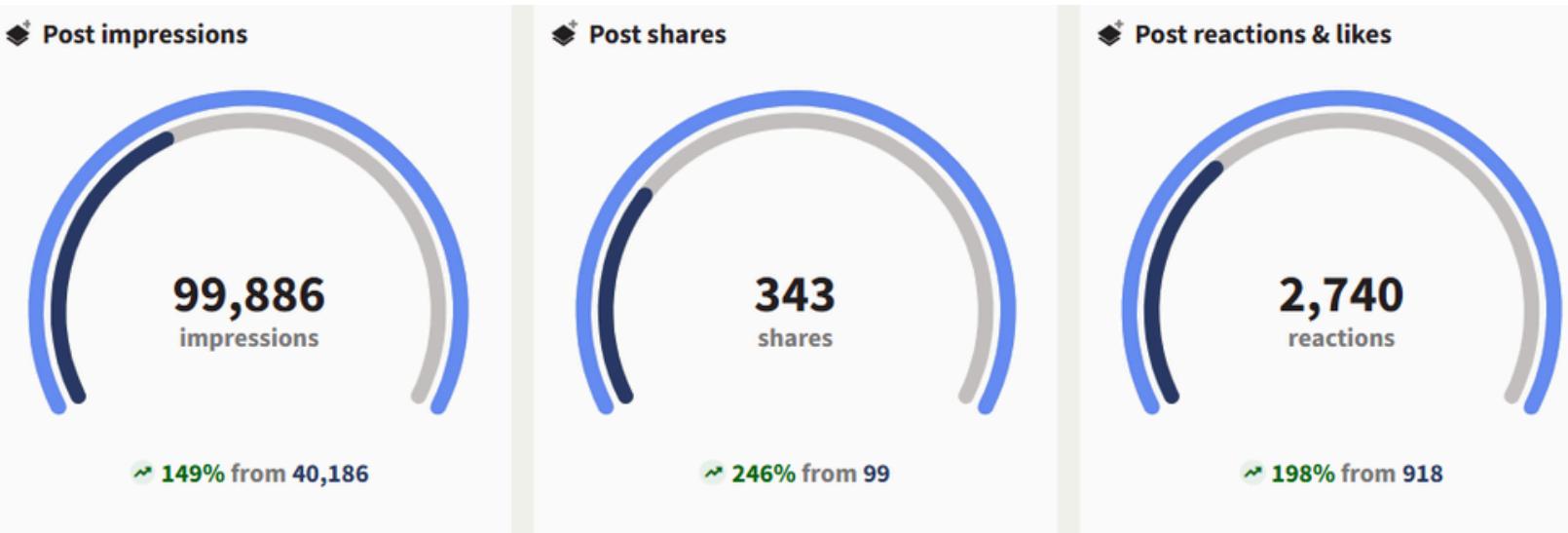
We invite you all to go to Spotify and listen the two new episodes though [here](#).



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.



A BIG
THANK YOU



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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