

GERMAN CONFERENCE AT HARVARD

February 18-19, 2011
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

Radcliffe Gymnasium
10 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138
USA

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE BOOKLET
for speakers, sponsors and partners.
01/28/2011

www.germanconference.org

Please notice the letter format of this booklet when printing on A4 paper.

THE MISSION

Our world is changing. Climate change, financial crisis, a growing global population, violent conflicts and global injustice between the rich and the poor are just some examples of challenges we are facing.

In February 2011, the German community at Harvard is hosting the next German Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It is not going to be a conference about Germany but a conference about global issues, to which we aim to bring German perspectives. All events are in English. We expect around 400 guests, mostly students, researchers, and faculty from across Harvard and other universities in North America, as well as the interested public.

By bringing together people from both sides of the Atlantic, we are looking forward to interesting discussions. We are also looking forward to welcoming you and we encourage you to share your thoughts and experiences with us.

THE CONFERENCE

On February 18th and 19th 2011, the fourth German Conference at Harvard will take place on the campus of Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Under the honorary chairmanship of Dr. Klaus Scharioth, the German Ambassador to the United States, the two-day conference will bring together leaders from the worlds of politics, business, academia, science and society with students from across the globe to discuss the most salient issues facing Germany and the world.

Over the past few years we have been privileged to welcome a number of high-profile speakers to the German Conference at Harvard, including the former German foreign Minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, the CEO of the Boston Consulting Group, Hans-Paul Bürkner, the Governor of North-Rhein Westfalia, Jürgen Rüttgers, the CEO of the Franz Haniel GmbH, Jürgen Kluge, as well as the former Ambassador of the United States to Germany and current Chairman of Lazard & Co., John C. Kornblum.

The audience of the German Conference at Harvard consists mainly of students and professors from across all Harvard faculties: from Harvard Business School and Harvard Law School to the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Harvard Medical School and Harvard College. Additionally, the German Conference at Harvard aspires to unite the circle from across the North American continent who harbors an interest in the German perspective on the global challenges of our time.

The audience counts a couple of hundred and is equally international as the array of guest speakers. The conference language is English.

CONFERENCE AGENDA: Friday, February 18, 2011

12:30 - 1:15

Registration

1:15 - 1:30

Welcome by Ambassador Klaus Scharioth

1:30 - 2:30

***Keynote I by Matthias Machnig:
The Future of the European Left***

2:30 - 3:00

Coffee Break

3:00 - 4:30

***Panel I:
Changing Identities in Times of Crisis***

4:30 - 5:00

Coffee Break

5:00 - 6:00

***Keynote II by Peter Bofinger:
The Economy after the Crisis***

8:00 - 11:00

Dinner & Drinks

Dinner Speech by Ambassador Klaus Scharioth

Location: Sheraton Commander Hotel, 16 Garden Street

CONFERENCE AGENDA: Saturday, February 19, 2011

10:00 - 11:30

Panel II:

U.S. and German Labour Markets in the Crisis

11:30 - 12:00

Coffee Break

12:00 - 1:30

Panel III:

Western Security Policy in Times of Deficit and Debt

1:30 - 3:00

Lunch

3:00 - 4:00

***Keynote III by Jürgen Trittin:
topic tba***

4:00 - 4:30

Coffee Break

4:30 - 6:00

Panel IV:

Financing Innovations in the Health Care Sector

6:00 –

Closing and Get-together

PANEL 1

Changing identities in times of crisis:

What unites us as a country, what unites us as citizens of the world?

Amidst an international economic crisis, the fear of terror and the perceived uncertainty about the future, liberal western societies seem to be facing an identity crisis. How will they react to this blurring of values and ideals that this entails? Is ethnocentric nationalism once again going to offer the security of giving a well-defined identity, or do the citizens reach out to seek for new and variable kinds of identity?

Warren Getler (Moderator)

Director of the Trans-Atlantic Relations Project
at the Bertelsmann Foundation Washington, DC

Mathias Risse

Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy
at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy (Harvard Kennedy School)

Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl

Member of the European Parliament and the European People's Party

Jutta Ditzfurth

German social scientist and publicist

Bilal Kaleem

Executive Director of the Muslim American Society of Boston, *tbc*

Keli Carender

political blogger and Tea Party protest activist, *tbc*

PANEL 2

U.S. and German Labor Markets in the Crisis: Challenging the Conventional Wisdom?

Both the United States and German economies are hit badly by the economic crisis of 2008 and 2009 - but while unemployment soars in the U.S., the German labor market proves robust even in the midst of the downturn. As global demand recovers in 2010, staggering long-term unemployment in the United States persists while the German economy is quickly revitalized. Much to the surprise of many observers: Wouldn't conventional economic wisdom about U.S. flexibility and German labor market rigidity have suggested otherwise? Drawing on the U.S. and German experiences of 2008 to 2010, we shall evaluate labor market performance and the various stabilization policies employed in the two countries and ask about the fundamental lessons to be learned for policy-makers and academic economists.

Pia Bungarten (Moderator)

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Representative to the U.S. and Canada

Peter Bofinger

Professor of Economics at Würzburg University
Member of the German Council of Economic Experts

Richard B. Freeman

Herbert S. Ascherman Professor of Economics
(Harvard Economics Department)

Matthias Machnig

Minister of Labor, Economics and Technology in the state of Thuringia

PANEL 3

Western security policy in times of deficit and debt: Coherent strategies in a changing world or simply executing budget cuts?

The global economic crisis was not only self-contained, but has also had a deep impact on security issues. What are the consequences of the economic changes on Western security and defense policy and on the global security architecture? Will it lead to a widening of the transatlantic defense gap, is it an engine for enhanced cooperation, or is there no strategy but merely book-keeping bureaucracy taking over? What security architecture does the world need to tackle new economic shifts peacefully?

Klaus Linsenmeier (Moderator)

Executive Director Heinrich Böll Foundation North America

Jürgen Trittin

Chairman of the Parliamentary Group of Alliance '90/The Greens
in the German Bundestag

Rolf Mützenich

Spokesperson on Foreign Policy of the SPD Parliamentary Group
in the German Bundestag

Annette Heuser

Executive Director Bertelsmann Foundation, Washington, DC

Henning Riecke

Program Director USA / Transatlantic Relations
at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

Steve Clemons

Director of the American Strategy Program
at the New America Foundation, *tbc*

PANEL 4

Financing Innovations in the Health Care Sector

Creating and financing innovations in the health care sector are key challenges to ensure future health care provision. Germany and the United States adopted different methods: Financiers of health care innovations extensively use alternative forms of investments such as venture capital and private equity vehicles in the United States whereas in Germany such vehicles are less common. This panel discusses how this development affects innovations for health care providers and medical supply companies.

Sascha Spoun (Moderator)

President of Leuphana Universität Lüneburg

Jens Eckstein

Healthcare VC Investor in Boston

DIRECTIONS

Panels and keynotes:

Radcliffe Gym
Radcliffe Institute
10 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dinner:

Sheraton Commander Hotel
16 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

THANK YOU.



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Bertelsmann Foundation



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German-Austrian-Swiss Caucus
at Harvard Kennedy School