

KAS INTERNATIONAL

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Democracy needs DEMOCRATS

The KAS coined the slogan "Show Your True Colours: Democracy Needs Democrats" in 2015. All reports in this issue on events on these topics are highlighted with the above logo.



POLITICAL DIALOGUE
State parliamentarian Serap Güler spoke at an event in Ankara in December 2014 about the future of German-Turkish relations.



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICY
Students from Hong Kong Baptist University expressed a great deal of interest in Europe as a role model for sustainable urban development.



DIALOGUE ON VALUES AND RELIGION
During his state visit to Tanzania, German President Joachim Gauck met with representatives of religious groups on Zanzibar.

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Newly Published

EXTREMISTS ARE PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE

The government of Malaysia is viewing the rise of ethnic and religious extremism as a significant danger for the harmonious development of society.

Joseph Kurup, minister in the prime minister's office and in charge of national unity, gave the keynote address at the Malaysia Strategic Outlook Conference on 27 January 2015 in Kuala Lumpur. He said the government will not tolerate any extremist ideas and activities in the country, and called extremists public enemy number one. He said the government promotes moderation and the harmonious co-existence of ethnicities and creeds, and would use all means at its disposal to defend these values. He took the opportunity to warn of potential terrorist activities by supporters of the Islamic State in Malaysia.



The Malaysia Strategic Outlook Conference is organized annually by the renowned think tank, the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute. In 2015, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung took part in the event for the first time as a partner. The goal is to discuss and analyze the most important political, economic and socio-political trends and challenges of the year ahead in Malaysia,

Joseph Kurup (left), minister in the prime minister's office and in charge of national unity, speaking at the Malaysia Strategic Outlook Conference on moderation and the dangers of extremism

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■ EDITORIAL

DEAR READER,



It was a short holiday from history. When contemporary historians look back at the 1990s today, they often pass this rather bitter judgement. What they are referring to is a time of hope and renewal, when the bloc confrontation of the Cold War had been overcome and, to quote US President George H.W. Bush, a "new world order" of international cooperation appeared within reach. We now know that the collapse of the Soviet Union did not herald an end to national and international violence. The collapse of Soviet communism also did not mean the end of ideological confrontations – as Francis Fukuyama posited. A liberal democracy

founded upon the principles of a market economy had notched up a victory over communism, but other ideas and models of state and society remained in place.

The terrorist group Al-Qaeda demonstrated this in dramatic fashion to the entire world with the devastating attacks of 11 September 2001. Since then religious extremism and political violence – as well as the fight against their excesses – have continued unabated. Violence-prone Islamism is an important component of political and religious extremism. Islamist groups twist religious principles and misuse them to achieve political goals. But the paths and concrete approaches of those various groups are actually different. The spectrum of Islamist-fundamentalist movements ranges from intimidation against liberal societies using terrorist attacks and radicalized home-grown terrorists – like most recently in Paris – via the destabilization of fragile states by ideological terrorist groups such as Boko Haram in Nigeria operating under the guise of religion, all the way to military campaigns that involve conquering territory and establishing statehood the way the Islamic State has in Syria and Iraq.

Each of these manifestations of Islamist violence and their local strategies must be defeated in a made-to-measure and unique fashion, and requires carefully considered measures mixing law enforcement, intelligence gathering and military approaches as well as development and political tools. The West cannot remain on the sidelines when tackling these issues. Because even if the threat does not at first glance seem as existential as the geographic proximity of Soviet communism did during the Cold War, Islamism seriously threatens our model of international governance, and tangibly endangers security in Germany and Europe.

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung has taken a clear stance on these issues: We are on the side of freedom, law, and militant democracy – all of this based upon the Christian conception of humanity and the European tradition of enlightenment. That is what we aspire to in our work abroad. In the following pages, we would like to show you what this aspiration concretely means for our projects by highlighting a selection of our work.

I hope reading on inspires you!
Berlin, April 2015

Dr. Gerhard Wahlers | Deputy Secretary-General of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



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From right:
Mohamed Azmin Ali,
prime minister of Selan-
gor, and Dr. Jeffrey
Cheah, chair of ASLI

FOCUS ■

EXTREMISTS ARE PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER 1

(Continued
from page 1) ►

as a way to provide decision-makers with proposals and potential solutions with which they can take action well in advance. In addition to the minister, speakers included high-level political party officials from the governing coalition, Barisan Nasional and the opposition alliance, Pakatan Rakyat, as well as leading figures from the corporate world and civil society. One of the keynote speakers was Mohamed Azmin Ali, the premier of Selangor state, who gave details on his government's plans for the year ahead. Selangor is the most populous Malaysian state and the country's economic powerhouse. Pakatan Rakyat has governed the state since 2008.



Participants in the Malaysian Strategic Outlook Conference 2015

CAUGHT BETWEEN HOPE FOR PROGRESS AND WORRY OVER SETBACKS

A CHANGING ARAB WORLD

Political instability, repression and unemployment: Four years after the turmoil of 2011 the Arab world continues to face massive challenges, which provide fertile ground for extremist ideas.

Decision-makers, experts and civil society representatives from Germany and 13 Arab countries convened at the Dead Sea from 30 November to 2 December 2014 for the 2nd interregional KAS conference, where they discussed the future outlook for a tumultuous Arab world. In addition to finding ways for increased political participation and the development of pluralistic societies, the discussions focussed on the threat of jihadist terrorism. The event, organized by the foundation's Domestic Policy Team in collaboration with the Regional Programme for the Gulf-States and the KAS office in Jordan, aimed to provide leading officials from Germany, North Africa, the Middle East and the Gulf states with a platform that creates synergies and promotes dialogue within the Arab world. The conference also gave German



Panelists and participants of the 2nd interregional conference at the Dead Sea

participants the opportunity for face-to-face discussions with Arab opinion leaders, thereby fostering first-hand knowledge of the multi-faceted situation in the region, and offering opportunities for further development and cooperation. One thing is clear: It is only through cooperation and mutual understanding that the region's social and economic problems can be solved.

■ POLITICAL DIALOGUE



THE HOLY LAND AND THE GERMANS

The KAS offices in Israel and the Palestinian Territories carried out a poll in the Holy Land in order to mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Germany and Israel.

The results are remarkable: nearly 70 percent of Israelis have a positive opinion of Germany. In addition, Israelis said they hoped for Germany to take a more active role in international politics, also in connection with the conflict in the Middle East. Palestinians also see Germany as one of their most

important European partners, and explicitly requested that Berlin get more involved on the international stage. The chair of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and former president of the European Parliament, Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering, expressed his delight over the poll. "These results make me feel optimistic. As Germans, we can speak candidly and act as an honest broker in the Middle East conflict because we're not just a friend of the Israeli people but are evidently also friends of the Palestinians."

Press conference in Berlin on the occasion of the release of the study (from left to right): Matthias Barner, KAS spokesman; Dr. Michael Borchard, head of the KAS office in Israel; Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering, KAS chairman; Mitchell Barack, KEEVOON Strategies; Prof. Khalil Shikaki, PSR; Dr. Hans Heyn, KAS office in the Palestinian Territories



Dr. Patrick Keller, KAS foreign and security policy coordinator, and Dr. Lisa Aronsson, RUSI project manager

BRITISH-GERMAN SECURITY DIALOGUE

A British-German security dialogue, organized by the KAS and the Royal United Services Institute, has been held since 2012, and alternates between London and Berlin. The goal of this initiative is to promote the discussion of contemporary security policy issues, to spur understanding for different views and approaches in Britain and Germany, and to identify common ground. The main topics covered at the 16 January gathering were Russia and European security policy, transatlantic perspectives of the conflicts in Syria and Iraq and the role played by US security policy in Europe. The event targeted experts from Germany and Great Britain, the majority of whom were from think tanks, defence ministries and NATO headquarters in Brussels.

CDU GENERAL MANAGER KLAUS SCHÜLER VISITS TUNISIA

Now that Tunisia has formally wrapped up its process of political transition with the holding of parliamentary and presidential elections at the end of 2014, this young democracy moves on to its consolidation phase. Dr. Klaus Schüler, the general manager of the CDU federal party, paid a visit to the country from 13 to 15 January 2015, in order to provide further support to Tunisia's growing party landscape. Among the high points of the dialogue that the KAS office in Tunisia organized was Schüler's participation in celebrations marking the 4th anniversary of the popular revolution, and the inauguration of newly elected president Béji Caïd Essebsi. The president also welcomed Schüler for one-on-one talks.

Sustainable cooperation for a successful transition (from the right): President Béji Caïd Essebsi; CDU General Manager Dr. Klaus Schüler and the head of the KAS office in Tunis, Dr. Hardy Ostry, exchanging views on the political and socio-economic challenges facing Tunisia



GERMANS IN TURKEY, TURKS IN GERMANY

On 12 December 2014 a public discussion took place in Ankara on the future of German-Turkish relations. Serap Güler, a member of state parliament and of the CDU Federal Board, gave the keynote speech in which she provided examples of Turks who had integrated in German society especially successfully in a number of areas. Mehmet Samsar from the Turkish Foreign Ministry hailed the close web of relations that is mostly based upon some three million Turks living in Germany and about 100,000 Germans in Turkey.



REGIONAL FORUMS FOR A NEW POLITICAL AGENDA

2015 is a year with major elections in Mexico. The entire Congress of the Union or parliament will be newly elected, as will the governors of nine federal states. In addition several states are holding local and state elections. The Christian democratic partner party of the KAS, Partido Acción Nacional, has drawn up a national campaign platform, which candidates at the local and state level will use in their bids for public office. The KAS office in Mexico organized regional consultative forums with the goal of supporting party members, representatives from civil society, and civic organizations in developing the actual content of the electoral platform. About 1,000 Mexicans participated altogether. Six basic topics now make up the party's electoral platform, including fighting corruption, strengthening institutions, promoting sustainable development and strengthening the rule of law.

Democracy
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POLITICAL DIALOGUE

TRAINING: LIMBERING UP FOR THE CAMPAIGN

The KAS office in Morocco and the Maison de l'Elu in Marrakesh collaborated on two successive training workshops from 19 to 22 January 2015 to prepare first-time candidates from a number of parties in the run-up to the first free elections at the local, provincial and regional levels. Participants had the chance during each of the two-day workshops to grapple with the challenges of an election campaign, with issues ranging from drafting a programme and a political message to a fair campaign and taking part in a properly executed and transparent election.



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On the left: Dr. Andreas Marchetti, political scientist and senior fellow at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) at Bonn University, and a participant in the training from the Marrakesh-Tensift-Al Haouz region

ONE YEAR OF JUAN HERNÁNDEZ GOVERNMENT IN HONDURAS

Jorge Hernández Alcerro, the Honduran minister for coordination, attended a public forum of the Fundación Juan Manuel Gálvez and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung where he presented the main points of the government's first 12 months in office. The achievements include fulfilling the quota of 200 school days, creating many jobs and supporting small businesses.



Commentator José Cepeda, political scientist at Universidad Javeriana in Colombia and correspondent of IDD-Lat and Diálogo Político, being interviewed

The government has also successfully tackled corruption and organized crime, he said – the number of murders annually per 100,000 residents has fallen from 86 to 66. Honduras still faces numerous challenges, including further improvements to the economy and social welfare; security also remains a priority for the government.

■ POLITICAL DIALOGUE

25 YEARS SINCE THE END OF APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA



From left: Kgalema Molanthe, former president of South Africa; Prof. Beate Neuss and Frederik Willem de Klerk

Twenty-five years ago then South African President Frederik Willem de Klerk went before parliament to announce the end of apartheid. For the anniversary of this occasion the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the FW de Klerk Foundation held a conference in Cape Town. More than 200 participants and many members of the media were in attendance to hear the deputy chairwoman of the KAS, Prof. Beate Neuss, underscore the

historical significance of the year 1990 for Germany as well. Nobel Peace laureate de Klerk pointed out several achievements that South Africa could look back on since the end of apartheid. This included that South Africa was now a recognized member of the international community with a functioning democracy and an economy that had grown threefold since then. A variety of major problems remained to be solved, among them a broken education system, corruption, extremely high unemployment especially among young people and issues with health and health care in South Africa.

AWARD FOR A CIVIC HUNGARY 2014



On 16 December 2014 the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung received this award from the Foundation for a Civic Hungary (PMA). The foundation's Advisory Board has handed out this prize every year since 2005 to honour people or communities who "have created lasting spiritual and human values in public life." In his speech, the president of

the Hungarian National Assembly and member of the Advisory Board of the PMA, Dr. László Kövér (3rd from the left in photo above), paid tribute to the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, hailing its contributions in support of civic society in Hungary as well as the foundation's worldwide efforts to promote democracy and freedom "in keeping with the spiritual legacy of Konrad Adenauer."

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ELECTIONS IN 2016 IN THE DR CONGO DO OPPOSITION PARTIES STAND A CHANCE?

The presidential elections scheduled for 27 November 2016 are already casting a shadow over the current political situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Questions about the formalities of the election, who will succeed President Joseph Kabila, and potential changes in the balance of power are the subject of lively discussions. But what has fallen by the wayside is a strategic and programmatic dialogue between the party



Question time following the panel discussion

leadership and its base in preparation for the election campaign. To address this gap, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo held a series of discussions on the 5th and 6th December 2014 in the opposition stronghold of Matadi in cooperation with the KAS partner, the Convention des Démocrates Chrétiens (CDC). The event, attended by members of many parties, aimed to promote peaceful dialogue within parties. In his keynote speech, the president of the CDC, Gilbert Kiakwama, highlighted the significance of peaceful political dialogue between the parties in a fair election campaign. The panel discussions that followed focused on the democratic structure of a party, the importance of party platforms and strategies to mobilize members. The event also drew up several recommendations for party representatives and the government.



German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble with top party officials from the BJP

FINANCE MINISTER SCHÄUBLE MEETS BJP PARTY LEADERS

Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, the Finance Minister of Germany, met officials of the governing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of India at a Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung roundtable discussion on 20 January 2015 in New Delhi. Participants discussed relations between India and Germany as well as Europe, along with global strategies to fight terrorism, economic relations and collaborative projects in the fields of education and vocational training. Schäuble said he valued the good relations between India and Germany and stressed the significance of international cooperation between both governing parties.



DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT ■

Anti-corruption experts discussed the corruption scandal in Brazil in the public and private sector.

KAS BRAZIL KICKS OFF PARTNERSHIP WITH TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's Brazil office and Transparency International brought together high-profile civil society actors, among them journalists and teachers, along with Brazilian Justice Ministry officials and members of the private sector on 12 December 2014 for a seminar to mark the International Anti-Corruption Day. Participants discussed whether corruption can be seen as an endemic disease, what strategic methods and challenges are needed to fight graft, and looked at the integrity of the private sector and its responsibility to fight cor-

ruption within companies. Experts said that they believe a crackdown on corruption and support for full transparency are fundamental to a country's development.

Brazil is currently being shaken by one of the biggest corruption scandals in the private and the public sector in its history – so the issue is both extremely up-to-date and charged. This event is the first chapter in a long-term strategic partnership between KAS Brazil and Transparency International.

COSTA RICA: SHARING VIEWS ON MIGRATION



On 11 February 2015, the KAS held a meeting of German and Costa Rican legislators to mark the visit of the CDU members of the German Bundestag, Georg Kippels and Johannes Selle, to Costa Rica. The focus of the debate lay primarily on migration and integration, an issue that affects both countries in equal manner.

*Johannes Selle
MP*

The German legislators Selle and Kippels, along with Costa Rica's Rafael Ortíz (PUSC) and Mario Redondo (ADC), each used their speeches to provide an overview of the history and development of migration respectively in Germany and Costa Rica. While immigrants have made important contributions to society in the past, high unemployment rates and xenophobia show growing problems with integration. The discussion provided an opportunity to intensify the exchange between politicians and civil society, to speak about experiences at the international level, and to compare notes.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN MOROCCO

On the occasion of a visit Peter Stein MP paid to Morocco, the KAS Morocco office and the Conseil Régional of the Marrakesh-Tensift-Al Haouz region (the equivalent of a state parliament) co-organized a forum on urban development issues. In his speech, Stein outlined global developments in modern urban planning and design. He especially stressed the importance of international cooperation in development policy and Germany's interest to strengthen this area of development cooperation. The participating officeholders and delegates focused in particular on the promotion of economic growth, social exclusion and social inclusion, the unregulated takeover of housing, and fighting crime.

■ DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT



Participants and organizers of the KAS conference *Decentralization in a Changing Environment* with Philippine Vice-President Jejomar Binay (3rd from the right) and Bernhard Kaster MP (right)

TIME TO RECONFIGURE

KAS PHILIPPINES OFFICE DEBATES THE FUTURE OF DECENTRALIZATION

Members of the Philippine executive and legislative branches, academic experts and governors joined Bernhard Kaster, a member of the German Bundestag and whip of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, to discuss the future of decentralization and local politics in the Philippines. Time to Reconfigure: Decentralization in a Changing Environment, was organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's office in the Philippines and the Local Government Development Foundation, attracted about 100 attendees from around the country on 11 and 12 February to Manila. The significance

of regional self-determination – and the corresponding challenges – were a major issue in the discussions in view of the peace process in Muslim Mindanao and the planned establishment of the autonomous region of Bangsamoro.

In addition to Kaster, the vice president of the Philippines, Jejomar Binay, undersecretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government Austere Panadero, and Senator Antonio "Sonny" Trillanes IV rounded out the list of speakers at the conference.



Training young political leaders in Mali

WANTED! YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS IN MALI

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Mali had a dearth of young political leaders and activists before the crisis in 2012, and the problem persists to this day. As a result, the KAS has since 2014 been training the youth wings of a number of political parties. Shortly before Christmas of last year, 25 young politicians – whose parties are already well represented in parliament – absolved a training seminar in Sibi near the Guinean-Senegalese border. The participants drew up a number of proposals on how the parties could better promote young political leaders within their ranks.

DEMOCRACY IN NAMIBIA 25 YEARS AFTER

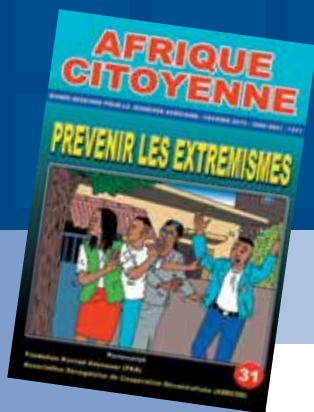
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The gap between aspirations and the reality of Namibia's democratic constitution after a quarter century of independence was the main topic at a KAS event in Windhoek on 10 February 2015. The experts in attendance



From left to right: Dr. Bernd Althusmann, head of the KAS office in Namibia and Angola; Prof. Nico Horn, UNAM; Phil Ya Nangoloh, NamRights

included Prof. Nico Horn of the University of Namibia (UNAM) and Phil Ya Nangoloh, a human rights activist and head of the NGO Nam-Rights. Experts and guests focused mostly on the contentious debate of whether Namibia had made progress towards democracy in the last 25 years. The constitution guarantees fundamental rights on the basis of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But on closer examination, the first democratic constitution of Namibia (ratified by the parliament in 1990) in reality has always been a constitution of compromise. Experts pointed out that the ruling SWAPO party continues to hold an overwhelming two-thirds majority in parliament, and that government and party interests have overlapped for years – which is increasingly undermining the process of democratization. The constitution has been changed three times so far with the help of the two-thirds majority, and the impression one gets is that most of these changes to the constitution were also about preserving power, so the experts. Most citizens today place their trust into the new Namibian government to continue and strengthen democracy in the country.



A COMIC BOOK OPPOSING EXTREMISM

The new issue of the comic book Afrique Citoyenne (African Citizen) series is titled Preventing Extremism – an issue that attracts a great deal of interest in Senegal as well. Even if the country is known for the peaceful coexistence of religious and ethnic groups, there has been an increase in extremist groups and opinions. Afrique Citoyenne is being distributed in schools and youth organizations since people must learn at a young age about tolerance, open-mindedness and the capacity for dialogue if such lessons are to succeed.

DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT ■

DEMOCRACY IS THE WAY FORWARD!

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IDD-LAT 2014 PRESENTED IN MEXICO AND GUATEMALA

At the end of 2014 the KAS regional Latin America programme and the Argentinian consulting agency Polilat published the 13th Latin America Democracy Index (IDD-Lat). The KAS Mexico office used this opportunity to organize presentations of the index in Monterrey in the state of Nuevo León and in Mexico City. While the results are disappointing for Mexico – it achieved its second-worst result since 2002 – the index is supposed to help motivate politicians and civil society to overcome democratic deficits. The chair of the Board of the PAN state party was among those attending the event in Nuevo León. He used the results of the index to call on his party to do a lot more to improve Mexican democracy.



Prof. Stefan Jost and Jorge Arias

The president of Polilat, Jorge Arias, did not have an easy task in presenting the IDD-Lat index in Guatemala – since the country ended up dead last. The report shows that Guatemala has considerable weaknesses in the areas of economic and social development. The party system is fragmented and volatile – both factors contributed to the country's poor performance. The conclusion made by IDD-Lat 2014 – "Democracy is the way forward!" – can be seen as an additional appeal for more democratic development.

A WAY TOWARDS A DEMOCRATIC CUBA

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Prof. Stefan Jost, the head of the KAS office in Mexico, with a group of Cuban Christian democrats

That was the slogan of the Cuba conference organized by the KAS Mexico office in December 2014. The conference was first-of-its-kind since it saw the participation of the four Christian democratic parties that belong to the ODCA as well as 17 parties and civil society organizations working mostly in Cuba with remits extending beyond the Christian democratic spectrum.

The focus of the two-day gathering, which also included experts from Germany, Argentina and the US, was an analysis of current developments in Cuba and the kind of opportunities available to political and civil society organizations in the Caribbean island nation. The participants themselves instigated drawing up a joint declaration – a novel approach among opposition groups – that clearly advocated a peaceful transition in Cuba. One

highlight was that the KAS and ODCA had assembled a pluralistic spectrum of Cuban opposition groups and provided them with an important forum for discussion – which can help prevent their political fragmentation. The four Christian democratic parties belonging to the ODCA also participated in the conference, and agreed on a joint declaration on how they would proceed in the future.

■ EUROPEAN POLICY

THE EUROPEAN PEACE ORDER BETWEEN TREATIES AND CONFLICTS

"Peace and peaceful developments need time," said Prof. Norbert Lammert in a public lecture in the Georgian capital. At the invitation of the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue South Caucasus, the President of the Bundestag spoke in Tbilisi on 13 February before government officials, parliamentarians, students and representatives of civil society about the European peace order, which has been undermined by the events in Crimea and eastern Ukraine. Georgia follows the developments in Ukraine with great concern due to her own painful

history and so the audience was very keen on hearing what the high-ranking German guest had to say.

After an introduction by his Georgian counterpart, the Chairman of the Parliament David Usupashvili, Lammert not only provided an outline of the unprecedented European unification and reconciliation process, but also developed a vision of a historically conscious and principled Europe that resolves conflicts peacefully. In the lively discussion that followed, participants explored Georgia's European perspectives.

From left to right: Prof. Norbert Lammert, President of the German Bundestag; Dr. Canan Atilgan, the head of the KAS Regional Programme Political Dialogue South Caucasus, and the Chairman of the Georgian Parliament David Usupashvili



+ + + IN BRIEF + + +

THE EU AND MIGRATION POLICY

During an evening debate on 9 December 2014, Stephan Mayer, the domestic policy spokesman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group and chair of the German-British parliamentary group of the German Bundestag joined Conservative party legislators and British think tank experts to look at current issues on the immigration debate in both Britain and Germany.

GREECE AFTER THE ELECTIONS: WHAT NEXT?

In an event that attracted a lot of interest, the KAS office in Athens and the Institute for International Relations at Panteion University organized a roundtable discussion on perspectives for Greece after the elections. It was notably all one of the first public events in Athens on the issue right after the early parliamentary elections, which took place at the end of January 2015. Political scientists, members of the international media, and risk analysts took a close look at the way ahead for Greek and European domestic policy under the new government.

ARE THE EU AND CHINA HEADING TO A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP?

On 10 December 2014, the EU-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership conference, part of the series of dialogues on EU-China relations, took place in Hong Kong at the invitation of the KAS Beijing office. Sino-European cooperation has been expanded a great deal in recent years but substantial differences remain. One reason could be differing cultural values.

The main issues on the agenda included effects and legitimacy of sanctions policy, China's new type of great power relations and Beijing's new foreign policy strategies. China says it intends for other countries to share in its ascent so that everyone can profit from the new situation – that is the official point of view. But to this day the EU and China still show no sign of cooperating on foreign and security policy issues. Specific interests are still addressed via bilateral cooperation between China and individual EU member states.



From left to right: Dr. Stefan Auer, The University of Hong Kong; Prof. Ting Wai, Hong Kong Baptist University, and Prof. Jean-Pierre Cabestan, Hong Kong Baptist University

BATTLING HIGH YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE EU

European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Marianne Thyssen attended a Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung event on 26 January 2015 in Berlin, where she spoke in favour of continuing and expanding the EU's strategy on tackling high youth unemployment. "We, the European Commission, support all member states in implementing the Youth Guarantee," Thyssen said.

The Youth Guarantee is supposed to ensure that all young people under the age of 25 get a job offer within four months of completing their education or becoming unemployed. "We cannot accept that every fifth young person cannot find a job in the European labour market," criticized Thyssen, who aside from speaking about the Youth Guarantee also introduced planned reforms of the European labour market.

"Our mission is now to return the economy to a path of growth and to decent employment," she said. The European Single Market needed strengthening while also "respecting the subsidiarity of member states". The European Commission's labour market and social agenda includes job creation, a fair approach to labour market mobility, and strengthening a social Europe.



European Commissioner Marianne Thyssen

EUROPEAN POLICY ■

REFORMS AND PROSPECTS FOR GREEK ECONOMY

As a politically and economically eventful year drew to a close, the KAS office in Greece, the Athens-based economic research institute IOBE and the Canadian Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) held a discussion at the beginning of December 2014 with many international participants on Greek public debt, the importance of structural reforms for the country and perspectives for Greek exports. Professor Ansgar Belke of University Duisburg-Essen joined the director general of IOBE, Professor Nikos Vettas, former deputy director of the IMF, Susan Schadler, and the Greek economist Miranda Xafa for a discussion moderated by Kathimerini journalist Athanasios Ellis. The podium discussion was followed by an extensive Q&A session with the attendees, who included legislators, former ministers, think tank officials, top officials with Greek ministries, and academic experts.



From left: Nikos Vettas, Director General of IOBE; Susanna Vogt, head of the KAS office in Greece; Susan Schadler, CIGI; Athanasios Ellis, Kathimerini newspaper; Ansgar Belke, University Duisburg-Essen; Miranda Xafa, CIGI

SOLIDARITY PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR INTEGRATION

Continuing the process of integration in the EU will be nearly impossible if member states do not express solidarity towards each other – according to German legislator Peter Weiss. On 15 January 2015, the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organized a book presentation in Rome in cooperation with the Pontifical University Gregoriana on the topic of democracy and solidarity. There Weiss said the terrorist attacks in France had shown that Europe was capable of solidarity. Europe, he said, also needed to quickly draw up a joint agreement on refugees. Joining Weiss at the discussion with participants of Cenacolo Sinderesi, a group of young people addressing social and ethical issues, were former Italian prime minister Enrico Letta, and the chair of the National Office for Social Problems and Labour of the Italian Bishops' Conference (CEI), Fabiano Longoni.

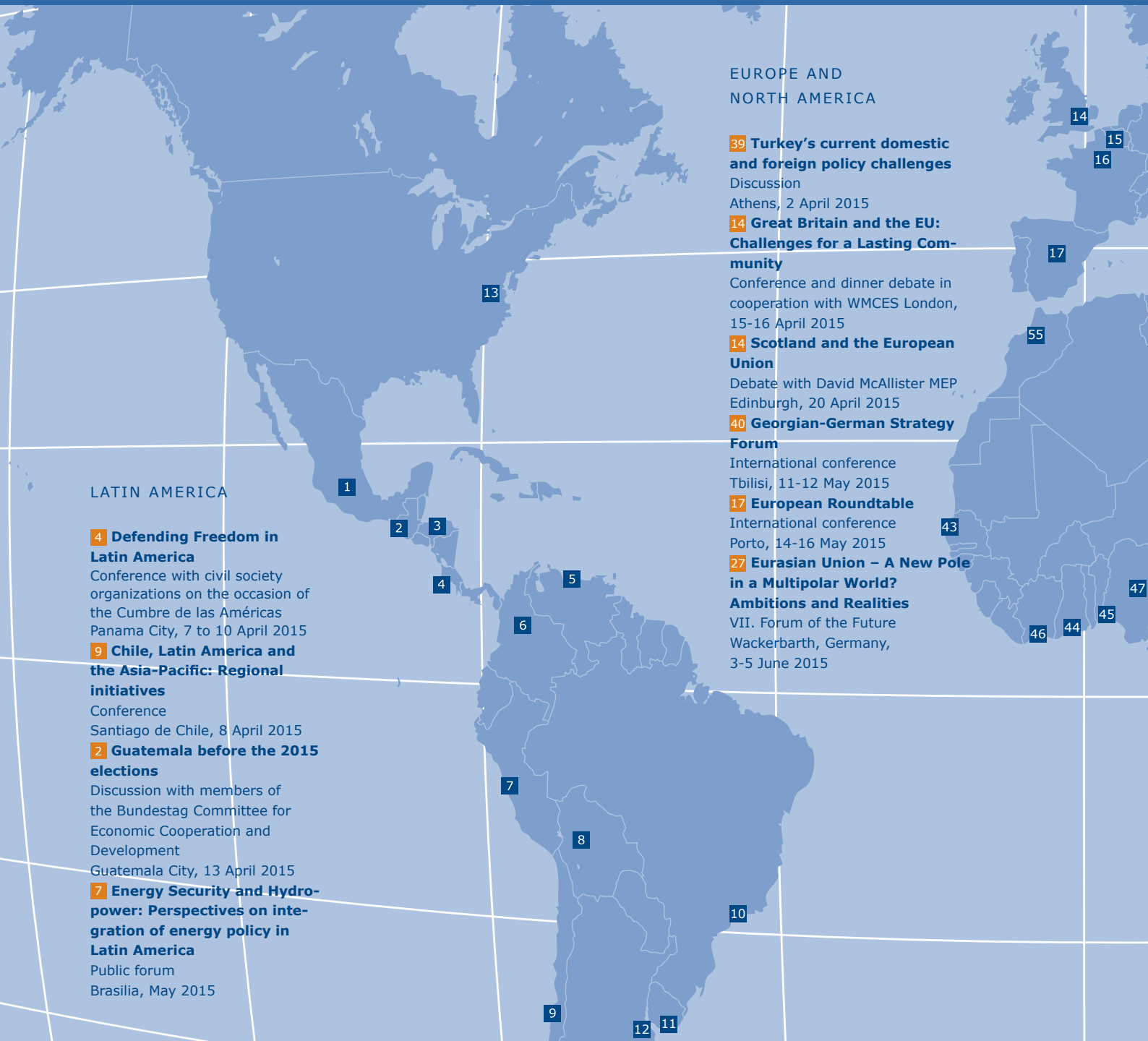


Enrico Letta and Peter Weiss MP (right)

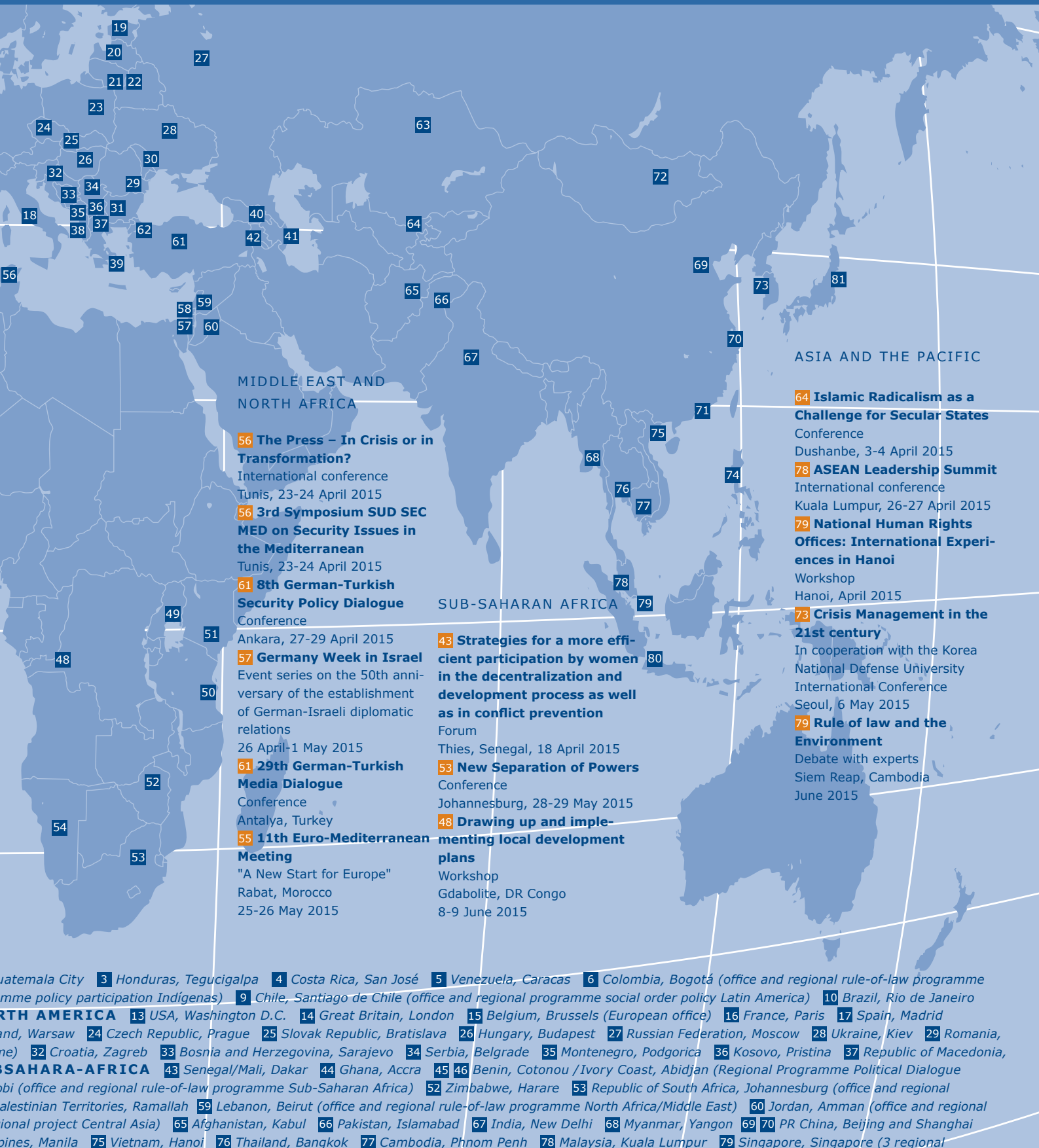
Selected Events

(The numbers in a square  denote the office abroad organizing the event,  means an event in Germany)

KAS PANORAMA



FIELD AND LIAISON OFFICES OF THE KONRAD-ADENAUER-STIFTUNG | **LATIN AMERICA** **1** Mexico, Mexico City **2** Guatemala, Guatemala City **3** Costa Rica, San José **4** Panama City **5** Colombia, Bogotá **6** Venezuela, Caracas **7** Peru, Lima (office and regional programme energy safety and climate change, Latin America) **8** Bolivia, La Paz (office and regional programme energy safety and climate change, Latin America) **9** Chile, Santiago **10** Brazil, Brasília **11** Uruguay, Montevideo (office and regional programme political parties and democracy in Latin America) **12** Argentina, Buenos Aires **13** United States, Washington D.C. **14** Great Britain, London **15** Ireland, Dublin **16** Spain, Madrid **17** Portugal, Porto **18** Italy, Rome **19** Estonia, Tallinn (office and regional programme EU-Russia dialogue) **20** Latvia, Riga **21** Lithuania, Vilnius **22** Belarus, office: Vilnius **23** Poland, Warsaw **24** Romania, Bucharest (office and regional rule-of-law programme Southeast Europe) **25** Bulgaria, Sofia (office and regional media programme Southeast Europe) **26** Serbia, Belgrade **27** Eurasian Union – A New Pole in a Multipolar World? Ambitions and Realities **28** Kazakhstan, Astana **29** Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek **30** Moldova Republic, Chişinău **31** Bulgaria, Sofia (office and regional media programme Southeast Europe) **32** Albania, Tirana **33** Greece, Athens **34** Georgia, Tbilisi (regional programme Southern Caucasus) **35** Azerbaijan, Baku **36** Armenia, Yerevan **37** Armenia, Yerevan **38** Armenia, Yerevan **39** Greece, Athens **40** Georgia, Tbilisi (regional programme Southern Caucasus) **41** Azerbaijan, Baku **42** Armenia, Yerevan **43** Armenia, Yerevan **44** Armenia, Yerevan **45** Armenia, Yerevan **46** Armenia, Yerevan **47** Nigeria, Abuja **48** D.R. Congo, Kinshasa **49** Uganda, Kampala **50** Tanzania, Dar Es Salaam **51** Kenya, Nairobi **52** Kenya, Nairobi **53** Kenya, Nairobi **54** Namibia/Angola, Windhoek **55** Morocco, Rabat **56** Tunisia, Tunis **57** Israel, Jerusalem **58** Palestine, Ramallah **59** Turkey, Ankara and Istanbul **60** Turkey, Ankara and Istanbul **61** Turkey, Ankara and Istanbul **62** Turkey, Ankara and Istanbul **63** Kazakhstan, Astana **64** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **65** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **66** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **67** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **68** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **69** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **70** Uzbekistan, Tashkent (office and regional programme Central Asia) **71** Hong Kong (Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change Asia and the Pacific) **72** Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar **73** Republic of Korea, Seoul **74** Philippines, Manila **75** Philippines, Manila **76** Philippines, Manila **77** Philippines, Manila **78** Philippines, Manila **79** Philippines, Manila **80** Indonesia/East Timor, Jakarta **81** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **82** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **83** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **84** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **85** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **86** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **87** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **88** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **89** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **90** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **91** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **92** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **93** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **94** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **95** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **96** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **97** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **98** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **99** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia) **100** Japan, Tokyo (office and social and economic governance programme Asia)



■ ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GOVERNANCE



From left:
Christina Baade,
KAS; Patrick
Arness; Allison
Busbee; Thomas
Bareiss MP, Tom
Hassenboehler;
Patrick Currier;
Jean Roehrenbeck;
and Jeanene Lairro,
KAS

TTIP: A PLATFORM FOR A TRANS-ATLANTIC DIALOGUE ON ENERGY

A dialogue on energy issues plays a central role in the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's trans-Atlantic projects. In December 2014, the KAS organized a trip for staffers of the House Energy and Commerce Committee in the United States to Brussels and Berlin.

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) was central to the talks on energy and climate policy. Many delegates said they believed TTIP could be used as the basis for a strategic partnership on energy issues. Thomas Bareiss, a member of the German Bundestag, also underscored that TTIP could

serve as a framework for underscoring our joint values and supporting common policies on both sides of the Atlantic.

But notwithstanding the common ground, it became clear that differences remain. Europe, for instance, is pushing for an energy chapter in the TTIP treaty so that it can have more access to US energy sources. The U.S., however, is not yet prepared to export large amounts of crude oil. Observers expect that a free trade agreement will nevertheless help increase the delivery of energy resources from the United States.



Seminar room of the KAS Moscow: Seated at the head of the table are the seminar leader Prof. Michael Eilfort and the head of the KAS office in Moscow, Claudia Crawford.

FREE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AMID TRANSFORMATION

On 11 December 2014, trade union representatives joined members of the business and academic community in Moscow to discuss collective bargaining. Prof. Michael Eilfort, a member of the management board of the Market Economy Foundation (Stiftung Marktwirtschaft), spoke in his contribution about changes to the German labour market and how they have affected the negotiation process between the collective bargaining partners. The situation is starkly different in Russia. There unions lack power while employers show little interest in employee co-determination. Real collective bargaining remains a distant goal.



From left:
Edward Bowles,
TTIP consulting
group of the Euro-
pean Commission,
Standard Chartered
Bank; John Healey
MP, chair of the
non-partisan parlia-
mentary group on
TTIP; Jennifer Hill-
man, Senior Trans-
atlantic Fellow,
GMF; and Peter
Chase, US-Chamber
of Commerce,
vice-president for
Europe

TTIP CONFERENCE IN LONDON

The transatlantic free trade agreement has run into strong public opposition, especially in Germany but also in Great Britain and other EU countries. Opponents have heavily exaggerated the potential dangers of the deal while failing to communicate the treaty's positive effects. The current state of affairs spurred the KAS to collaborate with the German Marshall Fund and the European Council on Foreign Relations on a workshop in London on this issue. Experts from the US and the EU gave a variety of views, discussed missed opportunities in communicating about the free trade agreement, and provided a look at the potential geopolitical effects TTIP could have on for example the British debate over the UK remaining in the EU.

New seminar series: Social market economy – linking the economy and society

The KAS Greece office will kick off a new series of seminars in 2015 on the social market economy – a concept that remains largely unknown in Greece. Economics students will be able to take seminars and attend additional events to learn about the theoretical background and practical relevance of this economic and social model, and discuss its implications.

Spirit of entrepreneurship in Greece

The KAS Greece office along with the two major Athens business universities is organizing a new discussion series with entrepreneurs and experienced businesspeople from Greece and other European partners. The topics include opportunities for start-ups as well as the fundamental significance of entrepreneurship for society, business and politics. The series, which will focus on economic sectors relevant to Greece, began with a look at the health and pharmaceutical sector in early February.

Economic outlook in Jordan

On January 28, the KAS office in Amman and its partner ISNAAD Consulting held a workshop where they presented their new report, *Jordan's Economic Outlook 2015 – Determinants of Economic Reform*. Top economic experts then debated the report.



This publication is the first in a series on economic topics that the KAS and ISNAAD will be issuing in 2015.

Opening event for the programme "The company that trains" with which the KAS and its partners want to facilitate access by young Tunisians to the job market

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GOVERNANCE

DUAL EDUCATION IN TUNISIA

Interest in dual education in Tunisia is increasing. More than 80 percent of Tunisian companies would like to hire people who have completed an apprenticeship. But they have frequently been dissatisfied with their qualifications or they fail to find someone with the desired profile. That is one of the main results of a study the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Centre des Jeunes Dirigeants, and the German-Tunisian Chamber of Industry and Commerce commissioned on the current situation and potential of vocational training in Tunisia. When the results were presented on 23 January 2015 during a conference in Tunis it became clear that the dual education system in particular can be an important tool to fight stubbornly high youth unemployment. But practical application of the programme has been problematic so far, for example in the process of cooperation between companies and training and education centres.



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE YOUNGER GENERATION

The financial and banking crisis in the US, the European debt crisis and slower Asian economic growth will impact labour markets worldwide for many years to come. In many countries, the younger generation knows it will likely still take several years before they get a secure job with a decent salary. In addition to a good education, people entering the job market must have



a great deal of mobility and flexibility – which in turn affects people's life plans. At the beginning of December, the regional KAS programme Social and Economic Governance in Asia and the Japan Foundation cooperated on an international conference that addressed the challenges resulting from this situation. The event in Tokyo focused on the structural requirements for achieving a better balance between work and family.

YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS AND YOUNG POLITICIANS

TWO WORLDS MEET

The KAS Greece office supported a conference of the Youth of the European People's Party (YEPP) and its Greek member organization ONNED, which took place in Athens in December 2014 and assembled 120 young politicians and entrepreneurs from 40 countries. The goal of the gathering was to share insights and increase cooperation between young politicians and entrepreneurs; to further the goal of the meeting the KAS invited a delegation of the CDU's Young Economic Council to Athens. After the conference, the delegation had the chance to meet with experts in politics and economics from around Greece.

YEPP President Konstantinos Kyranakis kicked off the conference on young entrepreneurs and politics for young people in Athens.



■ RULE OF LAW



The attentive faces show that climate change is an issue that concerns us all.



Dr Josué Baquios, the president of the Supreme Court, gave the closing remarks.

QUALIFIED COURT INTERPRETERS...

...improve indigenous peoples' access to the justice system

On 13 February, about 80 Guatemalan court interpreters working in various Mayan languages received their degree after completing a course specializing in legal terminology and translation for indigenous people. Because of diverging concepts between indigenous and positive law and the lack of translation of many terms from the official legal language into Mayan languages, translators – themselves often lawyers with an indigenous background – play a very important role. Their work is essential in securing better access to justice for indigenous people. In his keynote speech, the president of the Supreme Court, Dr. Josué Baquios, stressed the importance of the course born out of cooperation between the Department for Indigenous Affairs at the Supreme Court, the San Carlos University, the Academy for Maya Languages and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and thanked the graduates for their commitment.

RULE OF LAW PROGRAMME AWARDED JUSTITIA

In recognition of its cooperation with the Judicial Superior Council of Lebanon, the Rule of Law Programme Middle East and North Africa and its head Peter Rimmele have been honoured with the new Lebanese award called Justitia.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN EAST AFRICA

How does climate change impact East Africa? What challenges does it create for politics and the legislative process? And which opportunities emerge from climate change? Those topics were on the agenda of a conference the Rule of Law programme Sub-Saharan Africa organized in cooperation with the Development and Rule of Law Programme of the Stellenbosch University in Nairobi. The participants included lawyers, university professors, students and politicians from Ethiopia, Djibouti, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Somaliland and Kenya.

The gathering established the close linkage between climate change and human rights when habitats are for example threatened, leading to refugee movements because of changes in the climate.

JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE PHILIPPINES

Corruption, which is still a widespread issue in the region, does not stop at the doors of the judiciary. This is particularly problematic since judges need to be role models and have utmost importance in implementing independent oversight of state activities. During a conference focused on the prevention of judicial corruption and organized in cooperation with the CenterLaw Philippines, judges, lawyers and journalists debated institution-specific approaches. The main speakers included Judge Michael Kirby from Australia, former UN representative for the independence of the judiciary and public prosecutors, Dato Param Cumaraswamy from Malaysia, and the former justice minister of Sri Lanka, Dr. Nihal Jayawickrama. All three are members of the Judicial Integrity Group of the United Nations and co-authors of the Bangalore Principles on the proper conduct of judges. The discussion included examples of and challenges to the independence, integrity and efficiency of the judiciary in Asia as well as possible paths towards reforms.



From left: Dato Param Cumaraswamy, Dr. Nihal Jayawickrama and Judge Roki Panjaitan from Indonesia

**Democracy
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Participants gathering at a bookstand during the Beirut conference at the end of 2014

RULE OF LAW ■

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CONSTITUTIONAL OVERSIGHT AND THE RULE OF LAW IN ARAB COUNTRIES

The role of constitutional oversight in the democratic process of Arab countries, as well as the difficulties these countries face in terms of separation of state and religion have substantial potential for conflict.

In this context, the Rule of Law programme for the Middle East and North Africa cooperated with the Lebanese Constitutional Council to organize an international conference in Beirut titled "Constitutional Oversight and the Rule of Law in Arab Countries." Participants included the presidents and represen-

tatives of constitutional courts and councils from 13 Middle Eastern and North African countries. The attendees demonstrated a particular interest in the notion of constitutional complaints as a way to secure the basic rights of individual citizens, as elaborated by guest speaker Dr. Jörg Menzel, constitutional expert at the University of Bonn. Further conferences in cooperation with the Lebanese constitutional council are planned in 2015, with a particular focus on strengthening the network between the many constitutional courts and councils.

VICIOUS CIRCLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES AND IMPUNITY

MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA SEARCHING FOR HOW TO EXPLAIN THE UNEXPLAINABLE

In global comparisons, Latin America – in particular Mexico and Central America – has the highest crime rates. In Mexico horrifying crimes and the notorious undermining of public institutions by organized crime continue to repeatedly make international headlines. Public officials are seemingly unable to gain an upper hand over these excesses. In the current spiral of violence, one can no longer deny the fact that public institutions are either tolerating or actively participating in severe human rights abuses. With support from the KAS Rule of Law programme, an alliance of

NGOs held a seminar on impunity in cases of human rights abuses, where representatives of public institutions and civil society along with international experts debated possible root causes and solution-based approaches. In their search for the right strategy, participants had the opportunity to contrast the situation in Mexico with relevant experiences in Chile, Argentina and Colombia on how to heal the fragile social fabric of the country and re-establish trust in the state.

The latest cases of disappearances and illegal killings have again highlighted the seriousness of the situation. In this context extraordinary efforts are required at all levels. The most difficult aspect for society and politics is the need for self-diagnosis. Decades of one-party rule have slowed the emergence of a structured civil society. The political system displays certain autistic features. The event however also proved the absolute will of some stakeholders to no longer make do with the status quo.

Francisco Soberón explaining his experiences in fighting the Sendero Luminoso in Peru and human rights abuses under the government of Alberto Fujimori



■ ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICY



From left to right: Nigel Topping (CDP); Alberto Martín Barandiarán Gómez, adviser to the deputy Peruvian environment minister; Juliana Lopez, CDP; Felix Dane, head of the KAS office Brazil; Karina Marzano, KAS; Rodolfo Sirol, CPFL; Andreia Bahne, CDP; Christian Hübner, head of the regional KAS programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Latin America; David King, British envoy to the climate talks, and Pedro Sirgado, EDP Energy Brasil

COP20

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE TALKS IN LIMA

SYMPOSIUM: In conjunction with international climate talks in Lima (COP20), the KAS office in Peru, its project partner, the Instituto de Investigación y Capacitación Municipal (INICAM), and the regional KAS programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Latin America organized a symposium in December 2014 with officials from Pacific Island countries. The goal was to promote the sharing of experiences among politicians in dealing with the consequences of climate change. Participants attended from Peru, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico. After the symposium ended, organizers announced the establishment of a network of local stakeholders in the Pacific Alliance and presented a joint final declaration at the international Voices for the Climate gathering, which took place in connection with COP20.

DISCUSSION: The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) held a side event during the UN climate talks in Lima. Andreia Bahne, Account Manager CDP Cities Latin America, presented a KAS-funded study to international participants which addresses opportunities for cooperation between cities and companies for a more sustainable economic system. The panel discussion that followed featured Latin American politicians and representatives from the business world, including David King, British envoy to the climate talks, and Alberto Martín Barandiarán Gómez, the adviser to the Peruvian deputy environment minister. Dr Christian Hübner, head of the regional KAS programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Latin America concluded the panel by pointing out how important local politicians are for a bottom-up approach on climate change.

ROUND-TABLE 1: On 11 December 2014, the KAS Peru office and its partner, the Instituto de Estudios Sociales Cristianos (IESC), held a forum on the chances for an international climate treaty and Germany's role during the COP20 negotiations in Lima. Two CDU members of the German Bundestag, Matern von Marschall and Thomas Gebhart, explained the German government's climate policy, and also spoke with Peruvian experts from the Christian-democratic spectrum. One of the participants in the round-table was former Peruvian prime minister Luis Solari.

ROUND-TABLE 2: On the occasion of the international climate talks in Lima, the KAS Peru office, in collaboration with the Peruvian Environment Ministry, invited Christian Noll, managing director of the German business initiative on energy efficiency (DENEFF), to take part in a round-table on energy efficiency during the international Voices for the Climate gathering in Lima on 7 December 2014.

From right: Christian Noll, co-managing director of DENEFF; Reynaldo Llosa, managing director infrastructure compa-



nies, Graña Montero; Iris Cárdenas of the directorate-general for energy efficiency at the Ministry for the Environment; Julia Justo Soto, executive director of the National Environmental Fund, and Lorenz Palazetti, REPSOL energy company

■ NEW LEADERSHIP AND NEW LOCATION

At the beginning of the year, Dr Christian Hübner took over as head of the regional programme Energy Security and Climate Change Latin America. The seat of the programme has also moved from Rio de Janeiro to Lima. Hübner follows in the footsteps of Felix Dane, the head of the KAS office in Brazil, who had been the acting head of the programme.

New programme address:

Calle Cantuarias 160, Oficina 202 Miraflores, Lima 18, Perú
Tel. +51 1 447 4378
www.kas.de/energie-klima-lateinamerika/

In his remarks, Noll said that not only was increasing energy efficiency the least expensive method in the battle against climate change, it also was a significant benefit in terms of competitiveness.

POSSIBILITIES OF SOUTH AFRICAN SUNSHINE

*From left:
Holger Dix, the
head of the KAS
office in South
Africa, solar energy
expert Anton
Swart and deputy
KAS chairwoman
Prof. Beate Neuss*



The KAS South Africa office is the first of the foundation's offices abroad to use solar energy generated from its own roof. Deputy KAS Chairwoman Prof. Beate Neuss travelled to the opening ceremony in Johannesburg as part of her South Africa trip, calling the project "extraordinary... because it is the first office with solar panels on the roof, both at home and abroad. But it fits well with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung since we support the principle of sustainability."

South Africa, and especially Johannesburg, has a great deal of sunlight – and so it has a lot of potential for solar energy. Holger Dix, the head of the KAS office in South

Africa, says that is just one reason to rely on solar energy. "There are several good reasons for our solar power system – and I'll give an extremely pragmatic reason first: we need the electricity! South Africa will remain in an energy crisis for the foreseeable future since the state energy company ESKOM is unable to supply the necessary energy without interruption. That means regular power cuts. The 9.75 kilowatts of solar power and batteries that have been installed provide us with the reliable supply we need to keep the office running. Secondly: Electricity prices are increasing rapidly in South Africa. The investment in the solar power system will pay off soon. And finally: energy supply and climate protection are central to our work in South Africa. For us, the use of renewable energy in the KAS office was not just a pragmatic and financially sensible decision but also a political signal. 'Walk the talk', as they say here."

URBAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS

GRONINGEN – OLDENBURG – HONG KONG

*Photo on the right:
Students from the
renowned Hong
Kong Baptist Uni-
versity showed a
great deal of inter-
est in Europe's
exemplary role in
the field of urban
sustainable devel-
opment.*

On 29 January 2015 the event series called "Groningen-Oldenburg: Urban Innovation Partnership in the EU" kicked off. It is connected to the Urban Innovations series initiated by the European Union Academic Programme Hong Kong Urban at Hong Kong Baptist University.

The scarcity of natural resources and climate change are extremely urgent issues that need addressing if 80 percent of the world's population is to live in cities. Urbanization has become a key issue in China in recent years. Europe has already made progress in solving the problem. Gerd Schwandner, who was the mayor of Oldenburg until November 2014, presented a variety of urban development concepts from the city in Lower Saxony and the Dutch city of Groningen. Schwandner said that in addition to the fact that both cities are relatively close to each other,



they are also innovative, pro-business and welcoming to researchers. Both cities could provide ideas and inspiration to China despite their relatively small size: thanks to their autonomous administrative structure, they react flexibly to challenges and trends and draw up innovative concepts for development.

■ DIALOGUE ON VALUES AND RELIGION



German President Joachim Gauck with religious officials and representatives of the Zanzibar Interfaith Centre and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Tanzania. Standing next to Gauck are the Mufti of Zanzibar, Sheikh Saleh Omar Kabi, and the Bishop of the Catholic Church of Zanzibar, Augustine Shao.

A VISIT BY JOACHIM GAUCK TO TANZANIA

During his state visit to Tanzania, German President Joachim Gauck met for talks with high-level religious officials in Zanzibar on 4 February 2015. The German Embassy, the Zanzibar Interfaith Centre (ZIC), and the KAS office in Tanzania set up the discussions, which were part of an effort at interreligious dialogue. The KAS and ZIC have worked for years with a variety of religious groups in Zanzibar and on the Tanzanian mainland to strengthen interreligious dialogue. Accompanying Gauck were Minister of State Maria Böhmer, who used to hold the integration portfolio at the German Foreign Office; Günther Nooke, the German chancellor's Africa envoy; Prof. Ulrike Freitag, the head of the Zentrum Modern Orient (Centre for the Modern Orient, ZMO); and the prelates of the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches of Germany, Dr. Karl Jüsten and Dr. Martin Dutzmann.

Religious officials from a variety of faiths in Zanzibar also took part, including Sheikh Saleh Omar Kabi, the mufti of Zanzibar, Augustine Shao, the bishop of the Roman Catholic church of Zanzibar, and Sheikh Fadhil Suleiman Soraga, secretary-general in the mufti's office.



THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OSWALDO PAYÁ

HOW EFFECTIVE IS CHRISTIAN-HUMANISTIC PHILOSOPHY?

From 9 to 10 January 2015, the KAS Chile office held the 3rd international Oswaldo Payá conference in the former Chilean Congress. The event is named after the Cuban human rights activist and founder of the Christian Liberation Movement MCL, Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas (1952 – 2012), who led Cuba's movement for democracy and freedom, and who died in a traffic accident in 2012 under disputed circumstances.

This year's conference covered the topic "Reflections on the Effectiveness of Christian-Humanistic Philosophy." More than 700 people were in attendance for a debate between the president of the Chilean lower house of parliament, Aldo Cornejo, former Mexican president Felipe Calderón, and the Spanish information expert Antonio Ortúzar, on the need to adapt the Christian-humanistic philosophy to the challeng-



es of our globalized present and to still actively make it a part of our lives.

The second day of the conference was dedicated to Eduardo Frei Montalva. Numerous experts on a variety of panels reflected on the political and ideological legacy of the former Chilean president.

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From left to right: Holger Haibach, head of the KAS office in Chile; Felipe Calderón, former Mexican president; Kathrin Schneider, research assistant with the KAS in Chile; Jorge Dell'Oro, president of OCPLA Argentina; Manfred Steffen, research assistant with the regional KAS programme on party support and democracy in Latin America.

Muslims, Christians, Jews, and representatives of traditional religions during an ecumenical prayer



DIALOGUE ON VALUES AND RELIGION ■

WOMEN, RELIGION AND SOCIETY

A PLEA FOR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

More than 200 representatives of Muslim, Christian, Jewish and traditional African faiths met for two days in Dakar at the invitation of the KAS, the Israeli embassy, the University of Dakar and ASECOD to discuss interreligious dialogue – which is actively practiced in Senegal and serves as a role model for many countries. According to a study by female theologians, discrimination against women is not based upon religious scripture but rather on the interpretation of the texts by a patriarchal society. In African religions, female priests are frequently the link between human beings and God, which gives them a central role in society. This kind of knowledge can facilitate a more contemporary interpretation of religious texts. The second panel analyzed the problems in contemporary Senegal, where modern, Islamic and traditional family law exist alongside each other. The gathering also honoured women's constructive efforts towards peace and dialogue.

RELIGION AND DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE AND THE ARAB WORLD



Lecture by Dr. Stefan Friedrich (2nd on the right), head of the Political Dialogue and Analysis team at the KAS, on value-oriented politics

At the end of November 2014, the Adyan Foundation along with the KAS and the Lebanese-American University in Beirut organized a conference titled "Religion and Democracy in Europe and the Arab World." The gathering in Beirut

and Byblos brought together 30 researchers, religious authorities and the faithful from 16 countries. The goal was to offer different social and cultural groups a forum for interreligious dialogue. It also aimed to facilitate direct dialogue between secular and religious scholars – most of whom were either Christian or Muslim – and to give them a chance to discuss controversial subjects as well. The outcome was an extremely interesting, insightful and at times moving discussion on the question of how religion and political values interact with each other, and how they stabilize or further destabilize the situation in the region.

Democracy
needs
DEMOCRATS

PESANTREN FOR PEACE

NEW EU PROJECT IN INDONESIA

Many Indonesians are educated at Koranic schools known as pesantren. The institutions teach both non-religious subjects and Islamic scriptures – thus playing a central role in conveying both religious and general values in the biggest Muslim country in the world. From 12 to 16 January, an inception workshop inaugurated the new KAS project Pesantren for Peace, which is co-financed by the European Union. It is the continuation of a long-term and successful collaboration with the Center for the Study of Religion and Culture (CSRC) at the State Islamic University (UIN), which aims to increase the public profile and networking of moderate pesantren. Over the course of two and a half years the project will include studies and workshops, as well discussions and exchange programmes organized by the Koranic schools themselves.



Irfan Abubakar, the director general of the CSRC, is a member of the new project's steering committee.

+ + + IN BRIEF + + +

INTERNATIONALIZING AN ONLINE COURSE ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL TEACHING

The Pontifical University Javeriana in Bogotá plans to offer an online course in 2015 on Christian social teaching with support from the regional SOPLA project – after it was successfully implemented at the Catholic University Santiago de Chile. The syllabus of the digital course – which takes place during the semester – has been taken from the publication "Guía para la Enseñanza de la Doctrina Social de la Iglesia en la Universidad," and has been adapted both technically and didactically. The goal of the online course is to sensitize students to the challenges Latin America faces, to help them reach an understanding based on Christian values, and to teach the basic principles of an *ordo socialis*.

Participants in the Balkan Multimedia 2014 project hailed from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, France, and Germany.



■ MEDIA

MEXICO VOTES! POLITICAL COMMUNICATION AS A KEY TO ELECTORAL SUCCESS

The year 2015 is a super election year in Mexico. People will be casting their ballots at the federal, state and local levels to decide their country's political future. An election campaign with a good concept and communication strategy can be the key to electoral success for political parties. In addition to classic channels of communication, Web 2.0 is playing an increasingly important role. How to use the internet as an integral component of successful political communication and modern-day election campaigns was the topic of a weekend workshop for young political leaders. The KAS Mexico office organized the event along with the youth

Young PAN party leaders developing digital campaign strategies for the candidates from their regions.



organization of the Christian democratic PAN party, Acción Juvenil, from 6 to 8 February in Cuernavaca in the state of Morelos. The workshop trained some 50 young PAN election campaign officers in professional internet campaigning and digital political communication.

13 JOURNALISTS, ONE MISSION: MEDIA FREEDOM IN THE BALKANS

Where are the outspoken voices in favour of media freedom in the Balkans? The participants in the Balkan multimedia project 2014 tackled this issue at an event at the end of 2014 which the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organized jointly with the Franco-German Youth Office and the electronic media school Potsdam-Babelsberg. Thirteen young journalists from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, France and Germany took part in the four-week workshop in Berlin and Potsdam at the end of 2014, where they first received multimedia training. They also attended intercultural training events, visited the German Federal Press Conference, and met with politicians and journalists. At the beginning of December, they travelled to the Balkans for a reporting assignment, where they met critical journalists and profiled the Center for Investigative Journalism in Belgrade.

Together the young journalists developed both the concept and the name of their multimedia internet project called Voice of the Balkans. The results of their research and work can be read, seen and heard online at www.voiceofthebalkans.com.

MEDIA DURING WAR TIME – DOES THE TRUTH STAND A CHANCE?

"Truth dies first – journalists in conflict zones" was the topic of a conference organized by the KAS Media Program South East Europe on 13 February in Sofia. War correspondents and media experts from Germany, Austria and South East Europe gathered to discuss new trends in conflict reporting. Speakers at the conference were among others Jörg Armbruster, former correspondent of the German public broadcaster ARD for the Middle East and North Africa, and Christian Mihr, Executive Director of the German section of Reporters Without Borders. They explained what it means to be well prepared for crisis assignments and what kind of support journalists need.

Austrian journalist Gregor Mayer and Bulgarian war correspondent Elena Yontcheva tackled the issue how jour-

nalists can cover stories in an authentic manner despite a lack of information sources.

Yevgen Fedchenko, Ukrainian media expert and co-founder of the investigative website stopfake.org on Russian state propaganda, described aspects of the current information war between the two countries. KAS Media Coordinator Martina Kaiser moderated a workshop session with experts and participants from eleven countries. Several recommendations for war correspondents were formulated during the workshop and will be published soon.



Christian Spahr, head of KAS Media Program South East Europe, ethics expert Aidan White and KAS Media Coordinator Martina Kaiser discuss recommendations for war reporters.

THE LATEST NEWS ■

NAMES AND FACES

**Elisabeth Bauer**

- Has been on staff with the KAS office in Latvia and Lithuania since March
- Most recently headed the Civic Education Forum in Dortmund
- elisabeth.bauer@kas.de

**Dr. Peter Hefe**

- Took over the regional project on Energy Security and Climate Change Asia and the Pacific in Hong Kong
- Previously headed the KAS office in Shanghai
- peter.hefe@kas.de

**Mathias Kamp**

- Took over as head of the KAS office in Kampala in March
- Previously headed the liaison office of the Catholic aid agency MISEREOR in Abuja
- mathias.kamp@kas.de

**Valentin Katzer**

- Will assist the regional programme Political Dialogue West Africa, which has moved to Abidjan, beginning in July
- Studied francophone West Africa extensively as a fellow with the KAS graduate student promotion programme
- valentin.katzer@kas.de

**Andreas Parisek**

- Is based in Colombia beginning in April, from where he will assist KAS staff across Latin America on IT matters
- Previously worked in the IT department for the city of Wetzlar, Germany
- andreas.parisek@kas.de

**Johannes D. Rey**

- Has headed up the KAS office in Macedonia since March
- Has already held several positions as a member of the KAS staff abroad, most recently in Mongolia
- johannes.rey@kas.de

KAS IS A PIONEER IN E-GOVERNMENT

The German government and parliament have recognized the need for and advantages of IT-based administrative systems and are working to push the development of these areas to benefit public administration. The e-government law came



into force on 1 August 2013. It compels the entire federal administration to introduce electronic files by the year 2020. The KAS has been an electronic file pioneer for years in its international projects. The Department of European and International Cooperation (EIC) has been using electronic files in its offices abroad since 2010, using the EMC-Documentum content management system in conjunction with an enterprise resource planning system (ERP). Some 600 users worldwide are currently using the so-called project administration, accounting and control system called PASTIS.

This digital method of operation in project administration – which offers significant process optimization and increased transparency – requires ongoing employee qualification measures. In this context, the EIC department held a course from 2 to 6 February 2015 on electronic files and administration for local administrative staff who work in KAS offices abroad. The finance and project administration department in Berlin organized the seminar, which served as an initial qualification measure for new project administration employees.

WESTERN EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

The political situation could hardly have been more exciting. At the same time as the EU Council of Ministers met for a summit in mid-February in Brussels, the KAS staff in western European and US offices came together to discuss the EU



and its internal and external challenges. The result was an agreement to more closely coordinate activities of KAS offices abroad and KAS headquarters on topics such as migration, integration, foreign and security policy and the future of Western democracies. The conference took place in Rome, where talks were held with the new German ambassador to the Vatican, Annette Schavan (in the centre of the picture) and the deputy president of the European Parliament, Antonio Tajani MEP.



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF **EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION****POLITICAL COMMUNICATION IN THE ARAB WORLD AND AFRICA**

Political communication plays a key role in transformation processes. The publication, based on conference contributions and published by the KAS Tunisia office in cooperation with the Institute of Press and Information Sciences (IPSI) at the university of La Manouba, deepens the understanding of this fact through several comparative case studies. Aside from a focus on the 2011 Tunisia elections, the publication analyzes the use of social media such as Twitter and Facebook and highlights the communication strategies of political parties.

**GLOBAL CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGIES**

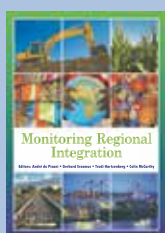
In the context of a study-dialogue programme, a group of 21 students from an excellence initiative of the University of Rabat came to Berlin for a week in September 2014. They specialized on the issues of climate change and renewable energies, taking part in related seminars, roundtable discussions, sightseeing tours and visits to companies. This publication compiles the reflections, results of discussions and impressions that resulted from this study tour.

**"AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS EVERYTHING"**

With the kind permission of the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy this short film on the social market economy was translated into Spanish by the regional SOPLA project. The film helps in the transfer of knowledge about creating and developing the German economic model in Latin America. The film can be viewed at <http://www.kas.de/wf/de/71.4963/>

**ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF EXPANDED COOPERATION BETWEEN PACIFIC NEIGHBOURS**

After a decade of stable development and solid macroeconomic policies, Chile, Colombia, Peru and Mexico decided in 2012 to strengthen their cooperation by establishing the Pacific Alliance. Costa Rica joined the alliance in 2013. The study that has now been published assesses the potential of those cooperation efforts: how significant is the economic impact of the Pacific Alliance? The results show that Colombia, Costa Rica and Peru are expected to especially benefit from the cooperation with respect to economic growth and income development. The study will soon be translated into German and Spanish.

**MONITORING REGIONAL INTEGRATION**

A stronger and successful political integration and cooperation between the states of southern Africa will be an important challenge in the years to come. The new issue of Monitoring Regional Integration focuses on what that means in southern Africa. The future of SADC-SACU member states strongly depends on the regional hegemon South Africa. What can southern Africa learn from European integration? And which mistakes in implementation can it avoid? Those questions among others are discussed in the new publication by the KAS Namibia-Angola office.