



AMERICAN
COUNCIL ON
GERMANY

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



A Message from the President 1

POLICY PROGRAMS

Calendar of Events 2

Policy Conferences 6

Eric M. Warburg Chapters 7

PROGRAMS FOR THE SUCCESSOR GENERATION

American-German Young Leaders Conference 10

Fellowships 13

Leadership Missions 14

MARKING 65 YEARS OF STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE

15

PARTNERS IN PROMOTING TRANSATLANTIC UNDERSTANDING

Corporate and Foundation Support 18

Individual Support 19

Co-Sponsors and Collaborating Organizations 20

WHO WE ARE

Officers, Directors, and Staff 21

Vision

The American Council on Germany (ACG) is the leading U.S.-based forum for strengthening German-American relations. It delivers a deep and nuanced understanding of why Germany matters, because the only way to understand contemporary Europe is to understand Germany's role within Europe and around the world. And, the only way to understand contemporary Germany is to put it in a European context.

About the



AMERICAN COUNCIL ON GERMANY

The American Council on Germany is an independent, nonpartisan nonprofit organization that was founded in 1952 to strengthen German-American relations. Today, the ACG works across generations to provide a deeper, more nuanced understanding about Germany, Europe, and the importance of the transatlantic partnership. Through a range of programs and activities, the ACG addresses the most pressing economic, political, and social challenges of the day to ensure better mutual understanding.

The ACG's programs and activities are aimed at reaching a broad range of individuals to strengthen German-American relations and deepen the U.S.-European partnership. This is achieved through a combination of events and outreach designed to reach different audiences on both sides of the Atlantic to make sure they are better informed about transatlantic issues.

The Council is committed to:

Forging Mutual Understanding of Tomorrow's Challenges

The ACG equips opinion leaders and decision-makers in a variety of fields with ideas and perspectives on important political, economic, and social developments on both sides of the Atlantic and around the world. The Council's policy discussions, conferences, and other programs engage multipliers from nongovernmental organizations, government, business, academia, the military, and media on both sides of the Atlantic. On issues such as environmental sustainability, trade relations, security policy, and urban development, to name just a few, the ACG provides a forum to examine challenges facing our societies and to propose possible strategies and collaborative solutions for the future.

Shaping Tomorrow's Leaders

The ACG invests in the future of the transatlantic relationship by helping the next generation of leaders in Germany and the United States learn about this indispensable partnership, exchange best practices, and build networks across the Atlantic. The American-German Young Leaders Conferences, fellowships, and leadership missions bring together the next generation of German and American academics, journalists, and other professionals from diverse fields to deepen their understanding of transatlantic issues while forging lasting bonds with one another.

Addressing Global Issues Nationwide

The ACG recognizes the importance of presenting global issues not only to policymakers in Washington, DC, and business leaders in New York, but also to decision-makers and practitioners at the local level in communities across the United States. Through its 21 Eric M. Warburg Chapters, the ACG provides its members and the general public with opportunities to engage with their counterparts in Germany to address the most pressing economic, political, and social issues on the transatlantic agenda that are affecting their communities.

Informing Members and the Community at Large

The ACG keeps its members and friends informed through a range of programs, activities, and updates, including its weekly news digest, Hot Topics Calls, and podcasts. In addition, the Council reaches across generations, sectors, and regional boundaries to inform the community at large about important issues influencing the transatlantic partnership.



Dr. Steven E. Sokol
ACG President

“Much as the world was coming to terms with a new world order in the 1950s following the devastation of two world wars, today the United States and a unified Germany face a global environment with a host of domestic and foreign challenges.”

A Message from the President

In the early 1950s, a small group of women and men had the foresight to create an organization dedicated to promoting transatlantic relations and to changing the perception of Germany in the United States after the first half of the 20th century. Although the world has changed considerably since then, the role the American Council on Germany plays today to strengthen ties across the Atlantic is more important than ever.

In January 2017, almost exactly 65 years after its founding, the ACG kicked off the year with a discussion with the German Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Ambassador Harald Braun talked about the volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity of today's world. In many senses, 2017 epitomized the uncertainty of this era. A new U.S. President took office in a divided nation following one of the most divisive election campaigns in modern history. At the same time, many Europeans looked ahead to the year's elections at the state and national level across the continent with trepidation given the rise of populism and the polarization of politics. With the election results in the Netherlands, France, and even Germany, Europe largely dodged a populist bullet. However, the ascendancy of the Alternative for Germany (AfD) to the Bundestag and the political wrangling to form a new government caused additional angst.

It is fair to say that in 2017 both the United States and the European Union, as well as individual member states, were inward-looking. The “America First” rhetoric in the United States and the preoccupation with elections in Europe and coalition-building in Europe were impediments to a vibrant and dynamic transatlantic partnership. Yet, at the end of the year it appeared as though we had come full circle. At an ACG event in December, the new German Permanent Representative to the UN – and former National Security Advisor to the Chancellor – Ambassador Christoph Heusgen, and the President of the Council on Foreign Relations, Richard Haass, discussed the future of multilateralism in light of today's global challenges. Together they contended – as did other speakers over the course of the year – that the transatlantic relationship is indispensable in meeting common challenges in a complex global environment.

In addition to holding almost 50 policy discussions in New York City and Washington, DC, during the year, the Council continued its newer initiatives to respond to current developments, including its Hot Topics conference calls, podcasts, and weekly news digest. Through the ACG's efforts to cultivate future transatlanticists, more than 1,000 rising stars

have participated in the American-German Young Leaders Conference since its inception, including the newly minted German Consul General in New York, David Gill. The ACG has also supported the work of more than 1,100 fellows who have traveled across the Atlantic to exchange best practices, learn, and conduct research.

2017 saw not only the ACG's 65th anniversary but also the 25th anniversary both of our formalized national outreach through a network of 21 Eric M. Warburg Chapters and the John J. McCloy Awards Dinner. The ACG honored Wolfgang Kirsch, the head of DZ BANK, with a McCloy Award for supporting a strong transatlantic alliance, as well as the ACG's work. At the dinner, Mr. Kirsch announced the launch of a new fellowship focused on deepening understanding of the global economy in a transatlantic context. The ACG's outgoing Chairman, Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt, was honored with the 2017 Leadership Award for his steadfast roles as “a dedicated Chairman and a passionate transatlanticist,” as Chancellor Merkel described him in a letter read at the dinner.

In January 2018, after nearly seven years as the ACG's indefatigable Chairman, Ambassador Kimmitt formally passed the baton to Ambassador John B. Emerson, Vice Chairman at Capital Group International. Ambassador Kimmitt had served as U.S. Ambassador to Germany from 1991 to 1993, and his successor as ACG Chairman served in this same role from 2013 to 2017. Ambassador Emerson previously addressed ACG audiences on various occasions and had traveled to Germany in 1988 on an ACG Political Exchange Fellowship. The ACG is extremely grateful to Ambassador Kimmitt for his committed service, and is very pleased to work with Ambassador Emerson in this new capacity.

Much as the world was coming to terms with a new world order in the 1950s following the devastation of two world wars, today the United States and a unified Germany face a global environment with a host of domestic and foreign challenges. In its 65-plus-year history, the ACG has been gratified to invest in the future of the transatlantic relationship by analyzing these challenges, building strong networks, and cultivating new generations of transatlanticists. Together with you, we will keep strengthening one of the most important bilateral relationships in the world today.

March 2018



Ambassador Robert B. Zoellick, former President of the World Bank and a former ACG Board member, keynote speaker at the Annual Meeting of the Members

(All captions are left to right unless indicated otherwise.)

Speakers Christopher M. Schroeder (1991 Young Leader), an internet entrepreneur, investor, and ACG Board member, and Dr. Robin Mishra (2005 YL), Minister-Counselor and Head of the Science and Technology Section at the German Embassy, with moderator Dr. Steven E. Sokol, President of the American Council on Germany

Policy Programs 2017 Calendar of Events

TRANSATLANTIC GLOBAL AGENDA SERIES



The Transatlantic Global Agenda Series, which was launched in 2011, gives ACG members and friends access to policymakers and other thought leaders to delve into global issues that have an impact on the transatlantic partnership. Through 2017, the program was organized by the Council in cooperation with American Friends of Bucerius, and the events were hosted by Alston & Bird LLP.

HOT TOPICS CALLS



Hot Topics Calls connect ACG members and friends on a conference call with experts and officials who share their insights on the latest headlines.

political salon



Launched in 2015, the Political Salon series brings together a diverse group of younger and mid-career professionals for informal, open discussions on a range of current political, economic, and social topics in an increasingly interconnected global environment, with an emphasis on issues of concern for the transatlantic agenda. Speakers share brief remarks and engage in a dynamic discussion with participants. Each salon includes refreshments and networking opportunities. The ACG is grateful for the Heinrich Böll Foundation's support of the Political Salon and other programs.

January 12 – Political Salon with **Simon Book** (2016 Kellen Fellow), journalist at *WirtschaftsWoche*, on “Is TTIP Dead? The Future of Transatlantic Trade,” held in cooperation with Cultural Vistas



January 25 – Discussion and luncheon with **Ambassador Harald Braun**, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, on “Governing in Uncertain Times: New Leadership in the United States and at the United Nations”

January 31 – Breakfast Briefing with **General Michael Hayden**, Principal at the Chertoff Group and former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), on “The Transatlantic Partnership in an Age of Terrorism and Tectonic Shifts” in Washington, DC, hosted by Volkswagen Group of America

February 3 – Hot Topics Call with **Dr. Sergey Lagodinsky**, Head of the EU/North America Department at the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung in Berlin, on rising populism, growing political polarization, and elections in Europe, specifically Germany



February 9 – Discussion and reception with **Dr. Johannes Beermann**, member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank, on “The Euro Area: The Current Economic Situation and the Ongoing Need for Institutional Reforms,” hosted by Dentons US LLP

February 18 – Breakfast Briefing on “Challenges and Choices: Priorities for the Transatlantic Partnership” at the Munich Security Conference featuring **General David Petraeus**, former Director of the CIA, and Bundestag member **Dr. Norbert Röttgen** (CDU), held in cooperation with the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies (AICGS)

February 27 – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers**, former Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia and former German Federal Minister for Education, Science, Research, and Technology, on “Germany in the Super Election Year 2017: Implications for Germany’s Standing in Europe and the Transatlantic Relationship,” hosted by Dentons US LLP

March 14 – Breakfast Briefing with **Ursula Groden-Kranich**, member of the German Bundestag (CDU), on “Efforts at the UN and in Germany to Promote Gender Equity in a Changing Work Environment,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

March 29 – **Annual Meeting of the Members**, featuring a keynote address by **Ambassador Robert B. Zoellick**, former President of the World Bank and a former ACG Board member, on “Five American Foreign Policy Traditions: How Does President Trump’s Approach Stack Up?”

April 7 – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Wade Jacoby**, Professor of Political Science at Brigham Young University, and **Dr. Harold James**, Claude and Lore Kelly Professor in European Studies at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, moderated by **Gideon Rachman**, Chief Foreign Affairs Columnist for the *Financial Times*, held in cooperation with the Transatlantic Academy and hosted by PwC Strategy&

April 10 – Discussion and luncheon with **Alexander Graf Lambsdorff**, Vice President of the European Parliament, on “Europe’s *Superwahljahr*: New Challenges for Europe?” hosted by Alston & Bird LLP

May 4 – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Joachim Würlmeling**, Executive Board member of the Deutsche Bundesbank, on “How Stable Is Europe? A Stock-Taking of the Latest Developments in Politics and Financial Markets,” hosted by Morgan Stanley Foundation & Endowment Services

May 4 – Political Salon with **Matthias Meis**, Head of the Strategic Planning and Management Division of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), on “Taking on Development Policy in Light of Today’s Challenges: Germany, the United Nations, and Multilateral Organizations,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



May 16-17 – **Annual German-American Conference** with Atlantik-Brücke in Berlin on “Finding Common Ground: Confronting Challenges and Setting Priorities for Europe and the United States,” held in cooperation with the Federal Foreign Office

May 17 – Young Leader alumni event in Berlin with **Gordon Repinski**, reporter at *Der Spiegel*; **Atika Shubert**, Senior International Correspondent at CNN; and **Anton Troianovski** (2015 YL), Germany Correspondent at the *Wall Street Journal*, moderated by journalist **Ali Aslan** (2010 YL), on “Democracy Under Threat? Public Discourse and Political Culture in a Changing Media Environment,” held in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke and hosted by Vodafone

May 18 – Discussion and reception in Berlin with **Dr. James Bell**, Vice President of Global Strategy at Pew Research, and **Jan Techau** (Young Leaders Study Group on the Future of Europe), Director of the Richard C. Holbrooke Forum at the American Academy in

Berlin, on “Public Opinion and the Politics of Global Engagement: Transatlantic Attitudes Toward Open Borders and International Cooperation,” hosted by CMS. Tax. Law

May 22 – Discussion and dinner with **Christian Schmidt**, German Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture, held in cooperation with the German Embassy in Washington, DC

May 25 – Discussion and luncheon with **Matthias Machnig**, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, on “Transatlantic Economic Relations: Current Challenges and Perspectives,” hosted by DZ BANK AG

May 26 – Garrick Utley Memorial Lecture on Global Media Issues with **Tom Buhrow**, Director General of Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR), and **Jörg Schöneborn**, Television Director at WDR and Television Film Coordinator at ARD, on “Covering Politics in a ‘Post-Truth’ World: European Elections, Populism, and Fake News”

June 6 – Political Salon with **Thorsten Frei**, member of the Bundestag (CDU/CSU), on “German Approaches to Crisis Prevention and the Marshall Plan for Africa,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



June 8 – Reception for Young Leader alumni in San Francisco with **Dr. Stefan Schlueter**, German Consul General in San Francisco, at his Residence

June 9 – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Max Gruenig**, President of Ecologic Institute US, on “Post-Carbon Cities of Tomorrow: Lessons in Urban Sustainability,” held in cooperation with American Friends of Bucerius and hosted by Alston & Bird LLP



June 14 – Political Salon with **Soud Mekhennet**, *Washington Post* correspondent and author of *I Was Told to Come Alone: My Journey Behind the Lines of Jihad*, on “Understanding the Global World of Jihad,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung



June 22 – 25th Annual John J. McCloy Awards Dinner, honoring **Wolfgang Kirsch**, Chief Executive Officer of DZ BANK AG, with a special award presentation to **Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt** at the conclusion of his ACG Chairmanship

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

McCloy Awards Dinner Honors DZ BANK CEO and ACG Chairman

Three hundred people gathered for the American Council on Germany’s 25th annual McCloy Awards Dinner in New York City on June 22, 2017, to honor **Wolfgang Kirsch**, Chief Executive Officer of DZ BANK AG, and **Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt**, Chairman of the ACG, for their committed work to strengthen transatlantic cooperation. ACG Board member **Tammy S. Murphy** of Murphy Endeavors underlined the importance of the ACG’s work at this critical time for the transatlantic relationship. **Ambassador Philip D. Murphy**, then the Democratic candidate for New Jersey Governor, presented the McCloy Award to Mr. Kirsch and the Leadership Award to Ambassador Kimmitt. **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States, commented on the role of the ACG and the importance of the bilateral relationship and also read a letter from Chancellor Merkel. Economist **David R. Malpass**, then President Trump’s nominee for Undersecretary for International Affairs at the Department of the Treasury, shared a letter from the President. As part of the Council’s 65th-anniversary celebration, ACG President **Dr. Steven E. Sokol** discussed the Council’s work to promote transatlantic ties through the years – and going forward.



ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol; ACG Chairman Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt, recipient of the 2017 Leadership Award; ACG Board member Tammy S. Murphy of Murphy Endeavors; Wolfgang Kirsch, Chief Executive Officer of DZ BANK AG, recipient of the 2017 McCloy Award; and Ambassador Philip D. Murphy, then New Jersey Democratic gubernatorial candidate (Photo by Clark Jones)



Speaker Dr. Joachim Würmeling, Executive Board member of the Deutsche Bundesbank

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

June 21 – Discussion and luncheon with **Bruce Stokes**, Director of Global Economic Attitudes at the Pew Research Center, on “The Favorability Factor: The Global View of the EU, Brexit, and the Waning Popularity of the U.S.,” hosted by Alston & Bird LLP

July 30-August 4 – **American-German Young Leaders Conference** on “Walls or Bridges? The Transatlantic Relationship in Turbulent Times” in Munich and Berlin

September 6 – Goldman Sachs and *Handelsblatt* live talk with **Lloyd Blankfein**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

September 18 – Hot Topics Call with **Christopher Cermak**, Editor at *Handelsblatt Global*, on the upcoming elections in Germany

September 19 – Breakfast Briefing with **David Gill** (1992 Young Leader), Consul General of Germany in New York, on “Germany: Final Countdown to the Elections,” sponsored by DZ BANK AG

September 22 – **Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership (TEP)** meeting with Berlin startups at Berlin Partner

September 23-October 4 – **McCloy Leadership Mission on Urban Affairs and Sustainability** to Berlin, Cologne, Karlsruhe, Leipzig, and Mannheim

September 24 – **Germany Decides: Election Watch Party**, held in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut, the German Consulate General in New York, and the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations



Speaker David Gill (1992 Young Leader), Consul General of Germany in New York, at Germany Decides: Election Watch Party

September 25 – Hot Topics Call with **Rüdiger Lentz**, Executive Director of the Aspen Institute Germany, on the results of the German election



September 25 – Panel discussion with **Dr. Sheri Berman**, Professor of Political Science at Barnard College and Columbia University; **Thomas Jahn**, New York Correspondent at *Handelsblatt*; and **Dr. Christian Martin**, Professor of European and Mediterranean Studies and Max Weber Visiting Chair in German and European Studies at New York University, moderated by **Dr. Steven E. Sokol**, President of the American Council on Germany, on “After the German Federal Election: Analyzing the Results and Looking Ahead,” held in cooperation with Deutsches Haus at NYU, NYU’s Center for European and Mediterranean Studies, the CUNY European Union Studies Center, and the CUNY Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies

October 5 – Discussion and reception with **Nico Lange**, Director of the Washington Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, and **Jeffrey Rathke**, Senior Fellow and Deputy Director of the Europe Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), on “Parsing Germany’s Election Results and Coalition Negotiations,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

October 9-12 – **Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership (TEP) Conference** on “Smart Urban Future: Data and Development,” held in cooperation with Berlin Partner, the German Consulate General in New York, and New York International

October 11 – Breakfast Briefing with **Christian Rickerts**, Berlin State Secretary for Economic Affairs, Energy, and Public Enterprises, on “Lessons Learned from Berlin’s Innovation and Digital Transformation,” hosted by DZ BANK AG

October 13 – Discussion and luncheon with **Ambassador Thomas Matussek**, former senior German diplomat and Senior Advisor at Flint Global in Berlin, on “Three Elections and a Brexit: The Unraveling of Europe?” hosted by PwC Strategy&

October 16 – Hot Topics Call with **Andreas Kluth**, Editor-in-Chief of *Handelsblatt Global*, on the election results in Lower Saxony, as well as German and European politics



October 16 – Discussion and reception with **Dr. Robin Mishra** (2005 Young Leader), Minister-Counselor and Head of the Science and Technology Section at the German Embassy, and ACG Board member **Christopher M. Schroeder** (1991 YL), an internet entrepreneur and investor, on “Digitalization and the Future of Work,” held in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke and hosted by Dentons US LLP



Panelists Thomas Jahn, New York Correspondent at *Handelsblatt*, and Dr. Sheri Berman, Professor of Political Science at Barnard College and Columbia University, together with moderator Dr. Steven E. Sokol, President of the American Council on Germany



Speakers Ambassador Christoph Heusgen, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, and Dr. Richard Haass, President of the Council on Foreign Relations



Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt, Chairman of the American Council on Germany; Captain Joseph Z. Wells (2010 Young Leader), Interagency Fellow in the Office of China & Mongolian Affairs at the U.S. Department of State; Georgiana Cavendish (2015 YL), Special Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of State; Felix K. Chang (2002 YL), Chief Strategy Officer at DecisionQ; Major Jay Alan Zwirblis (2016 YL), Strategist at the U.S. Army; and Jessica Altschul Nigro (2010 YL), Manager of Outreach and Innovation Policy at Daimler North America Corp., at the Residence of German Ambassador to the United States Peter Wittig

October 20 – Discussion and luncheon with **Klaus-Dieter Frankenberger**, Foreign Editor at *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, on “The Merkel Regime – Germany After the Election,” hosted by NORD/LB

October 27 – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Dr. Angela Stent** (1982 Young Leader), Director of the Center for Eurasian, Russian, and East European Studies and Professor of Government and Foreign Service at Georgetown University, on “Russia and the West: What’s Next?” held in cooperation with American Friends of Bucerius and hosted by Alston & Bird LLP



October 30 – Reception for the ACG Board of Directors, Young Leader alumni, and corporate members with **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States, at his Residence in Washington, DC

November 2 – Political Salon with **Christopher Cermak**, Editor at *Handelsblatt Global*, on “Polarization, Populism, and Politics in Germany and the United States: A Comparative Analysis,” held in cooperation with Deutsches Haus at NYU



November 10 – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Guido Steinberg**, Senior Associate for the Middle East and Africa at Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, SWP), on “The Evolution of International Terrorism and Its Domestic Impact,” held in cooperation with the Global Center on Cooperative Security

November 11-22 – **McCloy Leadership Mission on Agriculture, Food Security, and Resource Scarcity** to Alabama and Georgia, Illinois and Indiana, and Washington, DC, and Virginia

November 16 – Discussion and luncheon with **Jürgen Hardt**, member of the German Bundestag (CDU), Foreign Policy Spokesman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group, and Coordinator of Transatlantic Cooperation at the Federal Foreign Office, on “‘We Have to Keep Talking!’ Transatlantic Relations in an Age of Disruption,” sponsored by DZ BANK AG

November 17 – Discussion and luncheon with **Tim Wenniges** (2014 Young Leader), Head of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Office in Shanghai, on “China’s Role in the World After the 19th Party Congress,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

November 22 – Hot Topics Call with **Dr. Christoph von Marschall** (1999 Kellen Fellow), Chief Diplomatic Correspondent for *Der Tagesspiegel* and Helmut Schmidt Fellow of the ZEIT Foundation and the German Marshall Fund of the United States, on what went wrong in the coalition talks and what this means for Angela Merkel and Germany



November 27 – Discussion and reception with **Dr. Andreas Nick**, member of the German Bundestag (CDU/CSU), on “New Priorities? Germany’s UN Policy After the Elections,” held in cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

November 30 – Panel discussion with **Dr. Sheri Berman**, Professor of Political Science at Barnard College and Columbia University; **Thomas Jahn**, New York Correspondent at *Handelsblatt*; and **Dr. Christian Martin**, Professor of European and Mediterranean Studies and Max Weber Visiting Chair in German and European Studies at New York University, moderated by **Dr. Steven E. Sokol**, President of the American Council on Germany, on “The End of Jamaica, the End of Merkel? Analyzing What Happened and Predicting What Lies Ahead,” held in cooperation with Deutsches Haus at NYU and NYU’s Center for European and Mediterranean Studies

December 14 – Hot Topics Call with **Jacob Poushter**, Senior Researcher at the Pew Research Center, on American and German views of the bilateral relationship



December 18 – Discussion and reception with **Ambassador Christoph Heusgen**, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, and **Dr. Richard Haass**, President of the Council on Foreign Relations, moderated by **Friedrich Merz**, Chairman of Atlantik-Brücke and Senior Counsel at Mayer Brown LLP, on “The End of Multilateralism? Reflecting on 2017 and Looking Ahead to 2018,” held in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke and the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

December 21 – Hot Topics Call with **Dr. Constanze Stelzenmüller**, Robert Bosch Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution’s Center for the United States and Europe, on what the new National Security Strategy means for the transatlantic relationship



Policy Conferences

German-American Conference: “Finding Common Ground: Confronting Challenges and Setting Priorities for Europe and the United States”

May 16-17, 2017 • Berlin

The American Council on Germany and Atlantik-Brücke hosted the fifth annual German-American Conference in Berlin, “Finding Common Ground: Confronting Challenges and Setting Priorities for Europe and the United States,” on May 16 and 17 at the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin. More than 400 people attended the conference, which covered topics ranging from foreign policy to trade agreements, and from national security to the rise of populism.

Highlights from the conference included a keynote address by German Federal Foreign Minister **Sigmar Gabriel** on the enduring importance of the Marshall Plan and the future of transatlantic relations, and an address by Director of National Intelligence **Senator Dan Coats**, former U.S. Ambassador to Germany, who spoke about the Trump administration’s policies on national security. Also, at a small dinner, **Donna Brazile**, former Chair of the Democratic National Committee, discussed the successes and failures of the Democratic Party during the 2016 election and the party’s prospects in the midterm elections in 2018.

Other prominent speakers included Bundestag members **Marieluise Beck** and **Omid Nouripour** (both Alliance 90/The Greens) and **Dr. Norbert Röttgen** (CDU/CSU); **John Gilbert**, member of the Board of Management of Deutsche Post DHL Group; **Susan Glasser**, Chief



Keynote speaker Sigmar Gabriel, German Federal Foreign Minister (Photo by Jan Zappner/Raum 11)

International Affairs Columnist at *Politico*; **Ambassador Douglas Lute**, Senior Fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University and former U.S. Ambassador to NATO; **Georg Mascolo**, Director of the Joint Investigative Research Group of the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, NDR, and WDR German TV and Radio; **Ambassador Janusz Reiter**, Chairman of the Board of the Centre for International Relations in Warsaw and former Polish Ambassador to Germany; **Alison Smale**, Berlin Bureau Chief of the *New York Times*; **Jens Spahn** (CDU/CSU), Parliamentary State Secretary at the Finance Ministry; and **Ambassador Kurt Volker**, Executive Director of the McCain Institute and former U.S. Ambassador to NATO.

Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership Conference: “Smart Urban Future: Data and Development”

October 9-11, 2017 • New York City

Working with Berlin Partner, the German Consulate General in New York, and New York International, the American Council on Germany held the seventh annual Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership (TEP) Conference in New York City from October 9 to 11. TEP brings together German and American entrepreneurs and angel investors for meetings and site visits to discuss technology, innovation, entrepreneurship, and transatlantic expansion for startups.



Panelists Brian Langel, Co-Founder of Dash Labs Inc.; Rachel Haot, Board member of Tech:NYC; Janne Corneil, Principal with Corneil Collaborative; and Greg Lindsay, Senior Fellow at the New Cities Foundation

In keeping with the conference theme of “Smart Urban Future: Data and Development,” the ACG organized a series of panel discussions on October 10 focusing on smart-city technology and policy. The panels covered the challenges and opportunities that cities face within digitalization, the use of data, and mobility for social good, among other topics. Panelists included ACG Program Director and Digital Strategist **Robin Cammarota**; **Craig Campbell**, Special Advisor in New York City’s Mayor’s Office of Data Analytics; **Janne Corneil**, Principal with Corneil Collaborative; **Nicole DuPuis**, Principal Associate for Urban Innovation for City Solutions at the National League of Cities; **Rachel Haot**, Board member of Tech:NYC; **Ole Jani**, Partner at CMS. Tax. Law in Berlin; **Dr. Steven E. Koonin**, Director of NYU’s Center of Urban Science and Progress; **Brian Langel**, Co-Founder of Dash Labs Inc.; **Greg Lindsay**, Senior Fellow at the New Cities Foundation; **Christian Rickerts**, Berlin State Secretary for Economic Affairs, Energy, and Public Enterprises; **Jason Whittet**, who is responsible for Smart Cities Business Development at AT&T; and **Jessica Wurwarg** (2016 McCloy Fellow), Director of Energy Management and Sustainability at New York City’s Department of Transportation. In the evening, ACG President **Dr. Steven E. Sokol** moderated a panel discussion on urban mobility with **Stefan Knupfer**, Senior Partner at McKinsey & Company, and **Dr. Daniel Ramot**, CEO and Co-Founder of Via.

The startups that participated in the conference also had the opportunity to engage in dialogue on the most recent developments in technology, meet with venture capitalists and angel-fund investors, and network with people from both sides of the Atlantic.



NUMBER OF EVENTS IN 2017



Launched in 1992, the network of Eric M. Warburg Chapters now extends to 21 cities. Together the Chapters held nearly 150 events in 2017.

Eric M. Warburg Chapters

In 2017, the American Council on Germany marked the 25th anniversary of the launch of its national outreach. The Eric M. Warburg Chapters engage local communities across the United States in discussions about transatlantic issues. Now in 21 cities, the Chapters promote a deeper understanding of German and European affairs beyond the business community in New York City and the policy community in Washington, DC. Through a variety of events and activities, the Chapters each provide a forum for the discussion of the most pressing issues on the transatlantic agenda. The ACG coordinates visits by government officials, journalists, policy analysts, academics, and substantive experts to deepen mutual understanding of common challenges and to strengthen transatlantic ties. This national outreach effort is named after ACG founder and longtime Treasurer Eric M. Warburg, a distinguished banker and transatlanticist who was ahead of his time.

In 2017, the Chapters covered topics including the elections across Europe, particularly in Germany; trade; immigration; volatility in global affairs; the future of the European Union; energy; and much more.

The centerpiece of Warburg Chapter programming in 2017 was the ACG's speaker series Restoring Trust by Engaging in Dialogue: German Perspectives on the Future of the Transatlantic Partnership, which

features experts from the successor generation. Eighteen speakers shared their insights with various Chapters throughout the year through this program. The series is funded through the generous support of the ERP Program for Transatlantic Encounters through the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

Other featured speakers included **Daniel Andrich**, President and CEO of the Representative of German Industry and Trade (RGIT); Bundestag members **Peter Beyer** (CDU) and **Metin Hakverdi** (SPD); **Klaus-Dieter Frankenberger**, Foreign Editor at *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*; **Ambassador Thomas Matussek**, former German Ambassador to the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and India; journalist **Souad Mekhennet**, author of *I Was Told to Come Alone: My Journey Behind the Lines of Jihad*; **Bodo Ramelow**, Minister-President of Thuringia; and **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States. Other highlights included "Arizona's Energy Resilience Summit: Local to Global Perspectives" at the Phoenix Warburg Chapter.

While each Chapter is unique, they all have tremendous convening power in the communities they serve. As the ACG's outreach program has grown over the past 25 years, the Chapters have brought transatlantic perspectives to thousands of Americans across the country.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Then & Now



In 1992, the ACG launched its first Warburg Chapters to bring policy discussions on transatlantic relations to cities across the United States. Lionel Pincus made a five-year grant in honor of his business partner, Eric M. Warburg, to the Council to finance the establishment of Eric M. Warburg Chapters in select U.S. cities. Beginning with Richmond and Dallas, this outreach initiative was later expanded across the country. Chapter events have brought thousands of Americans into the bilateral discourse who otherwise would not have had the opportunity. Today, the ACG has 21 Chapters, in 18 states.



Dr. Martin Ruebelt of Monsanto; Daniel Henke-Cilenti of Nestle; Ulrike K. Schlafly, St. Louis Warburg Chapter Director and a former ACG Board member; speaker Ambassador Peter Wittig, German Ambassador to the United States; Tom Schlafly of Schlafly Beer; and Dr. Joyce Mushaben of the University of Missouri – St. Louis, author of *Becoming Madam Chancellor: Angela Merkel and the Berlin Republic*

Speaker Ambassador Thomas Matussek, former German Ambassador to the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and India; Honorary Consul of Germany Klaus E. Becker; and Charlotte Warburg Chapter Director Albert E. Guarnieri, Partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Highlights from the Speaker Series on Restoring Trust by Engaging in Dialogue: German Perspectives on the Future of the Transatlantic Partnership

February

Speaker: Jan F. Kallmorgen, CEO of Berlin Global Advisors

Topic: The Euro-Atlantic alliance

Chapters visited: Atlanta, Boca Raton, and Dallas

Speaker: Dr. Cornelia Schu, Managing Director of the Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration (SVR) and Director of the Expert Council's Research Unit

Topic: Immigration in Germany

Chapters visited: Atlanta, Indianapolis, San Francisco, and Seattle

March

Speaker: Benjamin Rohé (2011 Young Leader and 2014 ACG Entrepreneur Fellow), Co-Founder of GERMANTECH DIGITAL and Founding Managing Director of the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center (GTEC)

Topic: "Data – The No. 1 Natural Resource of the 21st Century"

Chapters visited: Charlotte, Phoenix, San Francisco, and Seattle

April

Speaker: Max Gruenig, President of Ecologic Institute US

Topic: Urban sustainability in Germany

Chapters visited: Denver, Los Angeles, Nashville, and San Francisco

May

Speaker: Anja Wehler-Schoeck, Resident Director, Jordan and Iraq, at the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) in Amman, Jordan

Topic: Preserving stability in Jordan

Chapters visited: Boston, Cleveland, Denver, and Seattle

Speaker: Cornelius Adebahr, Nonresident Fellow at Carnegie Europe

Topic: Iran's relationship with Europe and the United States

Chapters visited: Boca Raton, Boston, Charlotte, and Chicago

Speaker: Dr. Eckart Woertz, Senior Research Fellow at the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) and Scientific Advisor to the Kuwait Chair at Sciences Po in Paris

Topic: European energy security and the U.S. shale boom

Chapters visited: Atlanta, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Seattle

June

Speaker: Dr. Angela Stanzel, Policy Fellow in the Asia and China Program of the European Council on Foreign Relations

Topic: Global trade and German perspectives on global free trade

Chapters visited: Dallas, Nashville, Phoenix, and Pittsburgh

September

Speaker: Christine Benz, D.B.A., Training Manager at TRUMPF, Inc.

Topic: Workforce development

Chapters visited: Charlotte, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Nashville, Philadelphia, and Greater Washington

October

Speaker: Dr. Patrick Keller, Coordinator for Foreign and Security Policy at the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung in Berlin

Topic: Germany's new administration

Chapters visited: Denver, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Greater Washington

Speaker: Dr. Jan Philipp Burgard, correspondent and Deputy Bureau Chief of the German TV network ARD in Washington, DC

Topic: The changing dynamic of German-U.S. relations

Chapters visited: Charlotte, Minneapolis/St. Paul, San Francisco, and Seattle

Restoring Trust by Engaging in Dialogue: German Perspectives on the Future of the Transatlantic Partnership

– the ACG's speaker series that features experts from the successor generation – is funded through the generous support of the German government's ERP Program for Transatlantic Encounters through the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.



Speaker: Professor Birgit Glorius, Associate Professor at the Technical University in Chemnitz

Topic: The role of central Europe in the European integration process

Chapters visited: Charlotte, Minneapolis/St. Paul, and Philadelphia

November

Speaker: Dr. Jana Puglierin, Head of the Alfred von Oppenheim Center for European Policy Studies at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

Topic: The future of the EU

Chapters visited: Boca Raton, Boston, Denver, and San Francisco

Speaker: Eckart von Unger, Senior Manager at the Federation of German Industries (BDI)

Topic: U.S.-EU trade relations

Chapters visited: Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas, and Madison

Speaker: Dr. Sebastian Voigt, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute for Contemporary History Munich – Berlin

Topic: Right-wing populism in Germany and the rise of the Alternative for Germany (AfD)

Chapters visited: Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle

Speaker: Torsten Schimanski, Director of Open Enrollment Training for the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP)

Topic: Apprenticeship programs

Chapters visited: Cleveland, Madison, Nashville, and Pittsburgh

December

Speaker: Juliane Schäuble, Head of the Political Section at *Der Tagesspiegel*

Topic: The outcome of the German elections and the potential change in Germany's foreign policy, especially toward Russia and the United States

Chapters visited: Atlanta, Nashville, Pittsburgh, and San Francisco

Speaker: Dr. Alexander Görlach, Affiliate Professor at Harvard University

Topic: Islam in Europe

Chapters visited: Atlanta, Boston, and Seattle



San Francisco Warburg Chapter Director Johannes M. Biermann; speaker Benjamin Rohé (2011 Young Leader and 2014 ACG Entrepreneur Fellow), Co-Founder of GERMANTECH DIGITAL and Founding Managing Director of the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center (GTEC); Dr. Tim Bussiek, Co-Chair of the Software Industry Group of the German American Business Association of California (GABA); and Yvonne Dietrich, Event Director at GABA

Warburg Chapter Leadership

The ACG expresses its thanks to the Warburg Chapter Directors for volunteering their time and energy to bring quality programming to audiences across the country:

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Martina Stellmaszek

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

Aimee Kanner Arias

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Marc Redlich

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Albert E. Guarnieri

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

John D. Gatto

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Martin C. Schulz

DALLAS, TEXAS

Hansjörg Heppe
(2006 Young Leader)

DENVER, COLORADO

William M. Bass
Bernhard Juergen Bleise

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Sven Schumacher

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

John (Jack) Holcomb, Jr.
Johannes Masserer

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Elizabeth E. Covington

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Christa Tiefenbacher-Hudson

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Douglas Berry
(1992 YL)

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Harry Carl Schaub

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Bernard Otremba-Blanc

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Bill Adams
(2014 YL)
Rachel Mauer
(Young Leaders Study Group on the Future of Europe)

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Ulrike K. Schlafly
(Former ACG Board member)

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Eberhard H. Röhm
Jessica D. Röhm

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Johannes M. Biermann

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Petra Heussner-Walker

GREATER WASHINGTON, DC

Dale Medearis
(1995 McCloy Fellow in Environmental Policy)



To see a full list of Warburg Chapter events, please visit the ACG's website at www.acgusa.org.



The 2017 American-German Young Leaders atop the Reichstag



2017 Young Leaders Miguel Estaban Solis, President of the Latino Center for Leadership Development; Benjamin Wess, Purchaser at KiK Textilien & Non-Food GmbH; Konrad von Hoff, Policy Officer on the Coordination Staff for Refugee Policy at the Federal Chancellery; and David Mansouri, President of the State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE)

Programs for the Successor Generation

XXXIX American-German Young Leaders Conference

The American Council on Germany's American-German Young Leaders Conference brings together up to 50 rising stars from a cross-section of fields for a week of intensive dialogue about domestic, bilateral, and global issues affecting both countries. The conference enhances participants' understanding of the current international agenda, deepens mutual understanding, and builds lasting connections among the next generation of thought leaders and decision-makers from the United States and Germany.

With the theme of "Walls or Bridges? The Transatlantic Relationship in Turbulent Times," the XXXIX American-German Young Leaders Conference took place the first week of August in Berlin. The 2017 Young Leaders represented the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, media, the military, and government, including the German Chancellery, the Ministry of Defense, the Foreign Office, and a state Senate. The group exchanged ideas and perspectives in plenary sessions and working groups, met with officials and analysts to hear their behind-the-scenes insights, set an agenda for top priorities on the transatlantic agenda, brainstormed policy solutions, and, importantly, forged bonds with one another.

The Young Leaders met privately with speakers including **Dr. Joachim Bertele**, Deputy National Security Advisor at the Federal Chancellery; **Dr. Emily Haber**, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of the Interior; **Dr. Volker Helmert** of the Coordination Staff for Refugee Policy at the Federal Chancellery; **Steffen Kampeter**, Director General and member of the Presidential Board of the Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA); **Martin Kelleners**, Deputy Director General of the Directorate-General of the Federal Budget; **Kent Logsdon**, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin; **Vice Admiral Joachim Rühle**, Deputy Chief of Defense at the Federal Ministry

of Defense; **Dr. Georg Schütte**, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Education and Research; **Philipp Steinberg**, Director-General for Economic Policy at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy; **Johannes Vogel**, General Secretary of the FDP-North Rhine-Westphalia; **Dirk Wiese**, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy; and journalists **Ali Aslan** (2010 Young Leader), **Matthias Deiss** (2008 YL), and **Anton Troianovski** (2015 YL).

The group toured the Reichstag and the Chancellery, and also visited Q205 "MINDSPACE" to discuss the evolution of startups and innovation in Berlin and beyond with **Benjamin Rohé** (2011 YL and 2014 ACG Entrepreneur Fellow), Managing Director of the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center (GTEC); **Ludwig Preller** (2014 YL), CEO and Co-Founder of GERMANTECH DIGITAL; and **Dennis Wetzig** (2016 YL), CEO of PIXRAY GmbH.

In crafting a list of top political, economic, and security priorities for the transatlantic relationship, the Young Leaders cited issues such as the economy, jobs, regulations, and international trade; relations with North Korea and Russia; cybersecurity and data privacy; security and military cooperation; education; climate change; and refugees. They analyzed the meaning of nationality, the changing faces of society, and the spread of populism. They role-played U.S. and German positions on Brexit, climate change following the U.S. exit from the Paris accord, the future of NATO, and the Syrian conflict. And they got a primer on the then-upcoming German elections, as well as possible constellations of coalition partners. The Young Leaders considered what common values, principles, and/or interests characterize the transatlantic relationship – and whether current disagreements could jeopardize future relations. And last but not least, they laid the groundwork for enduring friendships.



2017 American Young Leaders

Laura M. Coates

Business Head, Traction
and Series Drives
Siemens Industry, Inc.

Alison Corwin

Program Officer
Surdna Foundation

Devin P. Dwyer

Coordinating Producer and
Contributing Correspondent
ABC News

Affie Ellis

Senator, Wyoming State Senate –
8th District
Member, Navajo Nation

Bishop Garrison

Senior Consultant and Director
of Strategic Initiatives
Sentinel Strategy and Policy
Consulting

Kim Geiger

State Government Reporter
Chicago Tribune

Julie Greenberg

Senior Manager, Strategy
& Operations
Symantec

Daniel Lippman

Coauthor, *Politico* Playbook
Reporter, *Politico*

Justine Madonna

Manager of Supply Chain,
Coatings N.A.
BASF Corporation

David Mansouri

President
State Collaborative on Reforming
Education (SCORE)

Elyse Dalton Ping Medvigy

Captain
U.S. Army

Fei Meng

Director of Strategy and Business
Development
LexisNexis Risk Solutions

Seng H. Peng

Senior Development Specialist
Public Finance Management
Cardno Emerging Markets USA, Ltd.

Kedenard Raymond

Foreign Service Officer
U.S. Department of State

Susie Saavedra

Senior Director for Policy
and Legislative Affairs
National Urban League,
Washington Bureau

JP Schnapper-Casteras

Special Counsel for Appellate
and Supreme Court Advocacy
NAACP Legal Defense and
Educational Fund

Miguel Estaban Solis

President
Latino Center for Leadership
Development

Craig D. Sondag

Government Relations Manager
Allianz Life Insurance Company

Rasheq Zarif

Head of Business Innovation
Mercedes-Benz Research &
Development North America, Inc.



2017 German Young Leaders

Philipp Appenzeller

Senior Manager, Business
Analytics
PricewaterhouseCoopers AG

Johannes Behrends

Head of Specialty, Cyber
Aon Risk Solutions

Martin Greive

Senior Correspondent
Handelsblatt

Johannes Hermanns

Director, Corporate Finance,
M&A Germany
Deutsche Bank AG

Kai Hoberg

Senior Desk Officer for Arms
Control Policy for Weapons
of Mass Destruction and
Cyberspace
Federal Ministry of Defense

Konrad von Hoff

Policy Officer
Coordination Staff for Refugee
Policy
Federal Chancellery

Beate Hoppe

Policy Officer on Security Policy
Department of Foreign and
Security Policy
Federal Chancellery

Eva Hradetzky

Scientific Advisor
Pfizer Deutschland GmbH

Christian Jarzyna

Refugee Aid Coordinator
Federal Ministry of Defense

Stefanie Jentsch

Senior Official
Cabinet and Parliament Division
Federal Chancellery

Markus Jorra

Senior Economist
Deutsche Bundesbank

Regina J. Langer

Manager, Global Network and
Community External Affairs
Department
Daimler AG

Marc Lendermann

Desk Officer, Better
Regulation Unit
Federal Chancellery

Sabine H. Muhl

Executive Officer,
Human Resources Department
Federal Ministry of Finance

Tobias Plate

Spokesperson
Federal Ministry of the Interior

Elke Rehbock

Partner
Dentons US LLP

Stefan Sambol

Partner and Managing Director
Ommax – Digital Solutions

Charlotte Sickermann

Senior Policy Officer
European Securities and Markets
Authority (ESMA)

Ramesh de Silva

Desk Officer, Israel
Federal Foreign Office

Frank Stöckel

Market Access Strategy Manager –
Corporate Affairs
Lilly Deutschland GmbH

Laura Wagner

Chief of Staff/Press Officer
City of Frankfurt

Gero Wallenberger

Project Manager
Schustermann &
Borenstein GmbH

Benjamin Wess

Purchaser
KiK Textilien & Non-Food GmbH

“It was a highlight of my career and my life... I have gained such an appreciation for our transatlantic partnership, I have built such great relationships on both sides, and I learned so much about government, culture, and the fact that we do have the power to make change. We are in turbulent times both in the U.S. as well as in Germany. Yet what I gained out of the week is a sense of optimism that we shall overcome.”

– RASHEQ ZARIF

Head of Business Innovation
Mercedes-Benz Research & Development North America, Inc.

In Gratitude

SPONSORS

The ACG would like to extend great thanks to the following sponsors for their generous support of the XXXIX American-German Young Leaders Conference:

Anna-Maria and Stephen M. Kellen Foundation
AT&T
Daimler AG
Deutsche Bank AG
Hering Schuppener Consulting
Noerr LLP
Pfizer Deutschland
Steelhead Partners, LLC

Thanks also go to **Michael Dzeba** (2015 Young Leader), **Ludwig Preller** (2014 YL) of GERMANTECH DIGITAL, and **Dominik Stühler** (2012 YL) of DLA Piper for their support of the Munich program

With gratitude also to Conference Rapporteur
Daniel Lippman (2017 YL).

STEERING COMMITTEE

In addition, the ACG is deeply grateful for the time and effort the members of the Steering Committee devote to the conference:

Edward S. McFadden (Committee Chairman)
(2002 Young Leader and ACG Board member)
Secretary of Communications
Archdiocese of Washington

Antonin Finkelburg
(2008 YL)
Head of Public Policy
Arbeitgeberverband Gesamtmetall

Karen Furey
Executive Vice President
American Council on Germany

Dr. Ronald J. Granieri
(2002 YL)
Senior Fellow and Executive Director, Center
for the Study of America and the West,
Foreign Policy Research Institute

Sarmad Hussain
(2005 YL)
Senior Expert in Public Affairs
Deekeling Arndt Advisors in Communications GmbH



(In foreground) Affie Ellis (2017 Young Leader), Senator in the Wyoming State Senate – 8th District and member of the Navajo Nation; Dr. Alexander Ritvay, Global Co-Head – Corporate at Noerr LLP; and David Gill (1992 YL), Consul General of Germany in New York

Young Leader Alumni Meet and Reconnect

While each American-German Young Leaders Conference lasts for only one week, the bonds formed among the Young Leaders are enduring. In 2017, alumni from more than 40 years of the program met at various events to reconnect with one another and meet new faces from other years of the conference.

On May 17, the ACG held a Young Leader alumni event in Berlin with **Gordon Repinski**, a reporter at *Der Spiegel*; **Atika Shubert**, Senior International Correspondent at CNN; and **Anton Troianovski** (2015 Young Leader), Germany Correspondent at the *Wall Street Journal*, moderated by journalist **Ali Aslan** (2010 YL). At a time when “fake news” blurs the lines between fact and fiction, this group of prestigious journalists tackled the topic “Democracy Under Threat? Public Discourse and Political Culture in a Changing Media Environment.” The event was held in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke and hosted by Vodafone. On June 8, Young Leader alumni met for a reception in San Francisco with **Dr. Stefan Schlueter**, German Consul General in San Francisco, at his Residence. On October 16, the ACG honed in on “Digitalization and the Future of Work” at a discussion and reception for alumni with **Dr. Robin Mishra** (2005 YL), Minister-Counselor and Head of the Science and Technology Section at the German Embassy, and ACG Board member **Christopher M. Schroeder** (1991 YL), an internet entrepreneur and investor. That event was held in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke and hosted by Dentons US LLP. And on October 30, Young Leader alumni were treated to a reception with **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States, at his Residence in Washington, DC.

Alumni also met informally around the United States and Europe throughout the year to continue the transatlantic dialogue that began at the Young Leaders Conference.

Then & Now



The American-German Young Leaders Conference was launched in 1973, after ACG Vice Chairman John Diebold conceptualized the idea of a Young Leaders Conference to identify the future government, business, military, and media leaders in Germany and the U.S., bring them together for a week of discussions and networking, and send them home with a lifelong commitment to the relationship and a continuing involvement in transatlantic affairs. Many of the 1,000-plus alumni have gone on to serve as leaders in governments and at multinational corporations, banks, the press, and more.



Fellowships

For more than 40 years, the American Council on Germany's fellowship programs have given young professionals the opportunity to conduct research on timely topics that have an impact on transatlantic relations and exchange best practices. Each year, the ACG awards fellowships to up-and-coming journalists, scholars, and policymakers on both sides of the Atlantic. In 2017, the ACG awarded 11 fellowships.

MCCLOY FELLOWSHIPS ON GLOBAL TRENDS

With the goal of tackling tomorrow's challenges today, the McCloy Fellowships on Global Trends are awarded to mid-career professionals to address overarching issues that affect communities around the world – but especially in Germany and the United States – in the areas of urbanization, climate change and sustainability, technological breakthroughs, and demographics and social change. Fellows conduct research on their chosen subject while building connections with their transatlantic counterparts.

In 2017, the ACG named six McCloy Fellows: **Amanda Acheson**, Sustainable Building Program Manager for Coconino County in Arizona, who is conducting research on creating sustainable communities through local leadership; **Jamie Bemis**, Account Manager for Bright Power, who is exploring innovative responses to climate change; **Jeffrey Kruth**, Senior Urban Designer at the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, who is investigating postindustrial futures in Germany; **Lauren McCloy**, Legislative Director at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, who is researching consumer protection in the digital economy; **Bettina Oberhauser**, Editor at Hessischer Rundfunk, who is exploring new forms of urban mobility; and freelance journalist **Kerstin Ruskowski**, who is examining new ideas for attaining a more-sustainable lifestyle.

HUNT FELLOWSHIPS

The Dr. Richard M. Hunt Fellowships for German Politics, Society, and Culture are awarded to promising young American academics whose

work explores key themes within contemporary German society and the political, cultural, and social history of Germany. The fellowships were established in 2003 in honor of ACG Vice Chairman **Dr. Richard M. Hunt**, a Harvard University historian who has been devoted to mentoring younger scholars and who served as ACG President for 15 years.

In 2017, Hunt Fellowships were awarded to two individuals. **Thomas Meaney**, a journalist who is finishing his Ph.D. in International and Global History at Columbia University, is researching the refugee crisis that began in Germany in 2015, including its origins and implications. **Alexandria Ruble**, Visiting Lecturer of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, is examining family law and gender equity in East and West Germany between 1945 and 1976.

KELLEN FELLOWSHIPS

The Anna-Maria and Stephen M. Kellen Fellowships are awarded to Berlin-based journalists to conduct research on key issues within German-American relations. The fellowships are in honor of Anna-Maria and Stephen M. Kellen, a Berlin native who was an ACG Board member and Co-Chairman of the New York investment firm Arnhold and S. Bleichroeder Holdings. The Kellen Fellowships began in 1997 thanks to the generous support of the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation.

In 2017, Kellen Fellowships were awarded to three individuals, all of whose projects focus on the interplay of media and politics: **Oliver Bilger**, a journalist at *Der Tagesspiegel*, is exploring how media can protect against fake news and misinformation; **Florian Sturm**, Editor at Editos Editorial Services and a freelance journalist, is examining whether the internet is loosening society's grip on the truth; and **Peter Weissenburger**, Editor at *Die Tageszeitung*, is investigating how media are contributing to a polarized environment in politics.

“My McCloy Fellowship offered me something many journalists can only dream of having in their lifetime – a chance to step out of the newsroom and away from deadlines, and do the most essential part of our work: exploring, digging, and, most importantly, listening. The fellowship let me do this work in a way that was respectful, patient, and profoundly educational, both as a reporter and a human being. I met people in my time in Berlin who I am committed to staying in touch with, and whose stories I am honored to be able to share. I will cherish my time in Berlin for the rest of my life.”

– NATASHA HAVERTY
(2016 McCloy Fellow on Global Trends)



Agriculture leadership mission participants Gerolf Bücheler, Head of the Division for Environmental Policy and Sustainability at the Deutscher Bauernverband; Ida Hartmann, Head of Public Relations at the Landesbauernverband in Baden-Württemberg; and Hilmer Garbade, President of the Bremischer Landwirtschaftsverband; Mel Hollingsworth (1984 McCloy Fellow in Agriculture) of the Indiana Farm Bureau; and leadership mission participants Björn Schöbel, Secretary General of the Hessischer Bauernverband; Tilo Radloff, a farmer and Chairman of the Kreisbauernverband in Altentreptow; and Jörn Ehlers, Vice President of the Landvolk Niedersachsen Landesbauernverband

Leadership Missions

Building on its decades-long track record of international exchanges, the American Council on Germany launched leadership missions in 2016 to offer more practitioners in agriculture and urban affairs the opportunity to travel overseas as a group and meet with their transatlantic counterparts to discuss current challenges – and policy solutions – in their fields. In 2017, the ACG offered a leadership mission in each of the two fields, with six participants in each.

MCCLOY LEADERSHIP MISSION ON AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY, AND RESOURCE SCARCITY

In November, the American Council on Germany hosted six German agricultural experts under the auspices of the McCloy Leadership Mission on Agriculture, Food Security, and Resource Scarcity. The program gives practitioners and policymakers the opportunity to study agricultural policy, farming, and food-supply conditions on the other side of the Atlantic. During the 12-day program, the participants exchanged best practices with their American counterparts.

During the site visits and meetings, the group had the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the inner workings of the American

agricultural industry while building lasting bonds. The group was hosted by ACG alumni and local Farm Bureau members in Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, and the Greater Washington, DC, area.

The participants were **Gerolf Bücheler**, Head of the Division for Environmental Policy and Sustainability at the Deutscher Bauernverband; **Jörn Ehlers**, Vice President of the Landvolk Niedersachsen Landesbauernverband; **Hilmer Garbade**, President of the Bremischer Landwirtschaftsverband; **Ida Hartmann**, Head of Public Relations at the Landesbauernverband in Baden-Württemberg; **Tilo Radloff**, a farmer and Chairman of the Kreisbauernverband in Altentreptow; and **Björn Schöbel**, Secretary General of the Hessischer Bauernverband.

The ACG extends its thanks to the American Farm Bureau Federation and the Deutscher Bauernverband (German Farmers' Association) for their cooperation on this leadership mission.

MCCLOY LEADERSHIP MISSION ON URBAN AFFAIRS AND SUSTAINABILITY

In late September, six American policymakers and experts on urban affairs took part in the McCloy Leadership Mission on Urban Affairs and Sustainability. During the 12-day program, the group met with government officials, think tanks, and nongovernmental organizations in five German cities. The participants were given an in-depth look at how German cities are addressing today's challenges. Traveling to Berlin, Cologne, Karlsruhe, Leipzig, and Mannheim, the group was hosted by ACG alumni and local government officials.

The participants were **Luke Feeney**, Mayor of the City of Chillicothe, Ohio; **Ryan Henderson**, Assistant to the City Manager in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; **Emma Lieberth**, Manager of State League Services and Strategic Partnerships at the National League of Cities; **Deborah Morris**, Executive Director of Resiliency Planning, Policy, and Acquisitions at the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development; **Susana O'Daniel**, Director of Public Affairs for the Arkansas Education Association; and **Catherine Rollins**, Deputy Chief of Staff and Director of Policy in the City of Everett, Massachusetts.

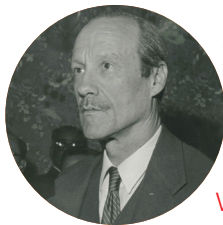
Special thanks go to the Deutscher Städtetag (Association of German Cities) and the National League of Cities for assisting with this program.

Then & Now



In 1976, the McCloy Fellowships were established, allowing young professionals in the fields of art, journalism, labor unions, law, and state and local government, and later agriculture and environmental policy, to travel between Germany and the United States to gain a better understanding of how issues are approached on the other side of the Atlantic and to forge lasting connections with their transatlantic counterparts. The fellowships have evolved over time to address the pressing issues of the day, and leadership missions were launched to engage more practitioners in agriculture and urban affairs in intensive study tours. Alumni of the fellowships and leadership missions – now numbering more than 1,100 – are committed to applying lessons learned and continuing their collaboration with new contacts after they return from overseas.

Marking 65 Years of Strengthening Transatlantic Dialogue



The American Council on Germany is founded to promote transatlantic understanding after World War II.

The ACG was organized by **Christopher Emmet**, an activist at institutions involved in world affairs, with the mission of “dissemination of information on America to the people of Germany, the dissemination of information on Germany to the people of the U.S., sponsorship of visits of prominent Germans to the U.S., and circulation of articles by members of the Council itself.”

1952



Chancellor Adenauer addresses the ACG.

In his speech before the ACG, **Chancellor Konrad Adenauer** said that “Only rarely in history have a victorious people extended a helping hand to the vanquished in the way that the American people have done. This generous spirit has been manifested in every conceivable way: person to person, organization to organization, in acts of Congress, and in governmental measures.”

The ACG disseminates insights.

The ACG’s initial efforts focused on publications, correspondence, and radio addresses. In a weekly radio program, founder **Christopher Emmet** interviewed leading personalities on current international issues.

1953

The first German-American Biennial Conference looks at East-West tensions.

The first German-American Biennial Conference brought together key American and German government officials, military officers, business executives, academics, and journalists in Bad Godesberg, Germany, to discuss tensions between the East and West. The conference was held together with Atlantik-Brücke.

1959

The ACG launches an annual ‘Day of German Unity’ commemoration.

The ACG’s observance of “The Day of German Unity” commemorated the uprising against the communist regime in East Berlin on June 17, 1953. This series of large luncheons and receptions with distinguished speakers continued for two decades, with guests of honor over the years including German politician **Franz Josef Strauss**; Senators **Jacob Javits**, **Thomas Dodd**, and **John Tower**; Ambassador **George McGhee**; Mayor **John Lindsay**; and **Karl Schiller**, German Federal Economics Minister.

1960

The American-German Young Leaders Conference is launched.

ACG Vice Chairman **John Diebold** conceptualized the idea of an American-German Young Leaders Conference to identify the future government, business, military, and media leaders of Germany and the U.S., bring them together for a week of discussions and networking, and send them home with a lifelong commitment to the relationship and a continuing involvement in transatlantic affairs. The conferences were originally held biennially in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke and alternated between the United States and Germany.

1973



The John J. McCloy Fund for American-German Exchanges is created.

In recognition of founding ACG Chairman **John J. McCloy’s** contributions to German-American relations, the West German government presented a \$1 million grant to the ACG in order to “bring together young people of the two countries.” In connection with U.S. Bicentennial celebrations, Bonn also wanted to provide for a longer-term series of cooperative ventures involving the countries.

1975



Chancellor Kohl addresses the ACG.

Helmut Kohl addressed the ACG during his first visit to the United States after being elected Chancellor of Germany. He highlighted the importance of the German-American relationship while also commenting on the prospect of a summit meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Yuri Andropov of the Soviet Union.

Core groups address tensions.

The ACG and Atlantik-Brücke convened small core groups of respected analysts, policymakers, and business leaders from Germany and the United States in Washington, DC, to exchange ideas, helping to ease anxieties and restore a positive tone to the bilateral discourse.

The ACG establishes Congressional Fellowships.

The Congressional Fellowships were designed to expose young Germans to the U.S. legislative process.

V-E Day is remembered at Hyde Park.

A program marking the 40th anniversary of V-E Day took place at the Roosevelt estate in Hyde Park, where **Ambassador Günther van Well**, German Ambassador to the United States, laid a wreath at FDR’s grave. The remarks of **Karl Carstens**, former German President, and historian **Gordon Craig** underscored the positive change in German-American relations since 1945 and helped alleviate tensions of the day.

1985

The ACG establishes the McCloy Fellowship program.

The McCloy Fellowships were created for promising professionals in the fields of art, journalism, labor unions, law, state and local governments, and later agriculture and environmental affairs. In addition, the ACG established legislative staff internships and election exchanges and organized special seminars and conferences dealing with topics such as health care, nuclear energy, and Cold War issues.

1976

1982

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Marking 65 Years of Strengthening Transatlantic Dialogue

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15



The Arthur F. Burns Lecture Series is created.

The ACG announced a lecture series in honor of the late U.S. Ambassador to Germany and former Federal Reserve Chairman **Arthur F. Burns**, who had passed away in June of that year. Speakers through the years have included **Alan Greenspan**, also former Federal Reserve Chairman; Deutsche Bundesbank Presidents **Karl Otto Pöhl**, **Axel Weber**, and **Ernst Welteke**; and **Rolf-E. Breuer**, Spokesperson of the Board of Managing Directors at Deutsche Bank AG.

1987

The ACG inaugurates the corporate membership program and Business Advisory Committee.

The corporate membership program was initiated to provide business leaders in the German-American community with access to top economic decision-makers and other business leaders from both countries; invitations to discussions and conferences on current transatlantic issues; and participation in a forum where American and German business leaders can network and discuss issues of mutual concern.

1988



The ACG launches the John J. McCloy Public Event Series and analyzes unification in its programming.

The ACG established the John J. McCloy Public Event Series as a tribute to its longtime Chairman who passed away the year before. The series began with a luncheon address by **Helmut Schaefer**, German Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The ACG also held a number of discussions on unification, including an address by **Chancellor Helmut Kohl** on "A United Germany in a United Europe." In addition, the American-German Young Leaders included East Germans, and together the delegates visited East Germany.

1990



The ACG sends a study group to Berlin.

A delegation of 40 people, including members and friends of the ACG, traveled to Berlin to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, attending an event featuring former **President George H.W. Bush**, former **President Mikhail Gorbachev**, and former **Chancellor Helmut Kohl**.

1999



The ACG holds a discussion with President Rau and addresses 9/11.

President Johannes Rau honored those killed in the terrorist attacks on September 11. The ACG also held other programming analyzing the attacks, including an event with the Council on Foreign Relations featuring **Wolfgang Ischinger** (1978 Young Leader), German Ambassador to the United States; **Ron Asmus**, Senior Fellow for Europe Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations; and **Martin Walker**, Chief International Correspondent at United Press International, with **Michael Elliot**, Editor at Large at *Time* magazine, presiding.

2001

The ACG celebrates its 50th anniversary by publishing its history and launching the McCloy Lecture Series.

The ACG released *A Proud Past and a Bright Future: The First 50 Years of the American Council on Germany*, chronicling its first five decades of work to promote transatlantic dialogue. The ACG also launched the McCloy Lecture Series, featuring high-level speakers including **Dr. Klaus Kleinfeld**, President and CEO of Alcoa Inc.; **Roland Koch**, Minister-President of Hesse; **Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble**, member of the Bundestag and Deputy Chair of the CDU/CSU Bundestag Group; **Otto Schily**, German Minister of the Interior (SPD); and **Ernst Welteke**, Governor of the Deutsche Bundesbank.

2002



The ACG helps launch the annual Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership Conference.

The Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership Conference (TEP) was designed to bring together entrepreneurs and innovators from both sides of the Atlantic. This series built on a 2011 Digital Media Conference held in cooperation with Atlantik-Brücke.

The annual German-American Conference is established.

The conferences, held in partnership with Atlantik-Brücke, convene American and German opinion leaders and decision-makers from government, business, media, and academia for lively discussions concerning the most pressing issues on the transatlantic agenda. The location alternates between Berlin and Washington, DC.

2013



The ACG inaugurates the Political Salon.

The Political Salon was designed to bring together a diverse group of younger and mid-career professionals for informal, open discussions on a range of current political, economic, and social topics in an increasingly interconnected global environment – with an emphasis on issues of concern for the transatlantic agenda. Speakers share brief remarks and engage in a dynamic discussion with participants.

The ACG launches its weekly news digest.

The weekly news digest was designed to provide a compilation of timely analysis and opinion pieces on transatlantic issues.

2015



The ACG establishes the first Warburg Chapters across the United States.

Lionel Pincus made a five-year grant in honor of his business partner, ACG founder **Eric M. Warburg**, to the Council to finance the establishment of Eric M. Warburg Chapters in select U.S. cities. These Chapters have continued to flourish, and the ACG now has 21 Chapters across the country.

The ACG celebrates its 40th anniversary.

The celebrations included a reception and dinner with **Helmut Schmidt**, former Chancellor of Germany, with **Senator J. William Fulbright** presiding; a reception and New York Philharmonic concert with Conductor **Kurt Masur**; and a reception and luncheon with **Dick Cheney**, then U.S. Secretary of Defense.



The ACG holds its first John J. McCloy Awards Dinner and expands its membership and activities.

The ACG's McCloy Awards honor exemplary leaders of German and American companies for their important roles in fostering transatlantic cooperation. Honorees have included the leaders of BASF, Bayer, Blackstone, BMW, Citi, Coca-Cola, Commerzbank, Daimler, Deutsche Bank, Deutsche Post DHL, The Dow Chemical Company, DZ BANK, Exxon, General Electric, Honeywell, JPMorgan Chase, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Pfizer, Siemens, and ThyssenKrupp. The ACG also enlarged its membership and coordinated more regional and multilateral activities.



The ACG establishes the Kellen Fellowships.

The Kellen Fellowships for Berlin-based journalists pay tribute to **Anna-Maria** and **Stephen M. Kellen**, a Berlin native who was an ACG Board member and Co-Chairman of the New York investment firm Arnhold and S. Bleichroeder Holdings.

The ACG convenes working groups.

A series of working groups made up of 10 to 15 German and American policymakers, academics, journalists, military officers, and analysts came together to discuss issues on which Americans and Germans might take the lead in setting a Western agenda for joint action, including the future of NATO, the Middle East, China, and Russia.

1992



The ACG establishes the Hunt and Goldman Fellowships.

The Hunt and Goldman Fellowships were established to allow American scholars to study German and European economic and historical issues. The fellowships pay tribute to ACG Vice Chairman **Dr. Richard M. Hunt**, who devoted much of his career as a Harvard University historian to mentoring younger scholars and who served as President of the ACG for 15 years, and also political scientist and former ACG Board member **Dr. Guido Goldman**, Director of German Studies at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University and former Co-Chairman of the Board of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

1993



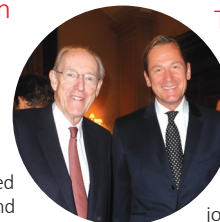
The ACG holds a discussion with newly elected Chancellor Merkel.

Chancellor Angela Merkel discussed "Challenges to the Transatlantic European Partnership," focusing on the need for free trade and open markets and stressing that the U.S. and Germany should work together to promote both.

The ACG launches a series of study tours.

The study tours allow American professionals to gain a firsthand look at German and wider European political, economic, and social issues by meeting with key officials and analysts on the ground. Later study tours focused on climate and energy policy as well as immigration and migration policy.

1996



The ACG establishes the Garrick Utley Lecture Series on Global Media Issues.

The lecture series was established in honor of ACG Chairman **Garrick Utley**, an award-winning journalist, in order to bring a distinguished journalist to speak before the ACG each year. The first Garrick Utley Lecturer was **Dr. Mathias Döpfner**, Chairman and CEO of Axel Springer AG. Other speakers have included **Dr. Josef Joffe**, Editor of *DIE ZEIT*; **Claus Kleber**, Lead Anchor of "heute journal" on ZDF German Television; and **Michael Naumann**, former German Federal Minister of Culture and Media. The program was made possible through the generous support of ACG Vice Chairman and former ACG President **Dr. Richard M. Hunt**.

2003



The ACG inaugurates leadership missions on agriculture and urban affairs.

On the 40th anniversary of the ACG's fellowship programs, the McCloy Fellowships in Agriculture and Urban Affairs were re-envisioned as leadership missions to engage more practitioners. These study tours focus on urban affairs and sustainability as well as climate and energy policy.

The ACG launches podcasts and Hot Topics Calls.

The ACG's digital outreach expanded to include podcasts and Hot Topics Calls analyzing a variety of timely topics.

2016

2006



At its 25th annual McCloy Awards Dinner, the ACG celebrates its 65th anniversary and the DZ BANK Fellowships are announced.

ACG President **Dr. Steven E. Sokol** chronicled the Council's work to promote transatlantic dialogue since its founding in 1952 and gave a preview of what is yet to come. **Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt** received the 2017 Leadership Award for his dedication as ACG Chairman for seven years. McCloy Award honoree **Wolfgang Kirsch**, Chief Executive Officer of DZ BANK AG, announced the future launch of the DZ BANK Fellowships on Transatlantic Business and Finance to give finance professionals, journalists, academics, and experts the opportunity to travel overseas to conduct research on key issues in the transatlantic economy. (Photo by Clark Jones)

2017

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Carl Amendola, General Manager of DZ BANK AG's New York Office; speaker Matthias Machnig, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy; and ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol

Corporate Membership Program

The American Council on Germany is committed to working closely with American and German business leaders and respective corporate communities to advance the understanding of key economic and political issues on the transatlantic agenda. Corporate membership is designed to meet the needs of business executives as well as companies with multiple representatives who would like access to ACG activities and resources.

The corporate membership program provides business leaders with opportunities to network with other professionals and to speak with German and other European officials to gain a more thorough understanding of the nuances of current events. Corporate members receive invitations to Council events and Hot Topics conference calls with experts, ACG publications, informational offerings such as the weekly news digest, and more. Top corporate members also receive executive summaries of discussions in New York City, along with special updates from the ACG President.

In 2017, the ACG offered corporate members a Breakfast Briefing with **General Michael Hayden**, Principal at the Chertoff Group and former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and a Goldman Sachs and *Handelsblatt* live talk with **Lloyd Blankfein**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Corporate members were also invited to the annual German-American Conference with Atlantik-Brücke in Berlin and a special reception with **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States, at his Residence in Washington, DC.

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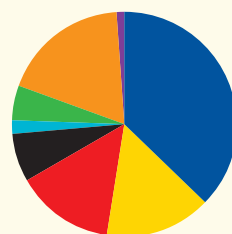
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| Northeast | 37% |
| Mid-Atlantic | 15% |
| South | 14% |
| Midwest | 7% |
| Southwest | 2% |
| West Coast | 5% |
| Europe | 18% |
| Elsewhere | <1% |



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The American Council on Germany's **weekly news digest** brings members and friends a compilation of timely analysis and opinion pieces on transatlantic issues. The ACG's **monthly newsletter** also keeps members informed about upcoming events and others going-on at the Council. To view these and other selected ACG publications, please see the ACG's website at www.acgusa.org.

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