



# ANNUAL REPORT

Strengthening Transatlantic Dialogue

2015



AMERICAN  
COUNCIL ON  
GERMANY

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## Vision

The American Council on Germany 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. We also believe that the only way to understand contemporary Germany is to put it in a European context.



The Brandenburg Gate, symbol of German unification



Delegates to the 2015 American-German Young Leaders Conference

## About the American Council on Germany The Council and Its Mission

The American Council on Germany (ACG) 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 was incorporated in 1952 in New York to encourage reconciliation and understanding following the two disastrous wars in the first half of the 20th century. Among its early leaders were John J. and Ellen McCloy, General Lucius D. Clay, Christopher Emmet, Joseph Kaskell, George N. Shuster, and Eric M. Warburg. Because of their vision of transatlantic cooperation, the Council has served as a key bridge between Germany and the United States for more than 60 years. In the 21st century, transatlantic cooperation on a range of global issues is more important than ever. As the European Union continues to evolve, the ACG provides Americans with a better understanding of Europe as a whole.

Through its programs and outreach activities, the American Council on Germany anticipates emerging challenges for the transatlantic relationship and encourages innovative approaches to problem solving. The ACG supports the open exchange of views and builds personal networks among leaders on both sides of the Atlantic by:

- Convening regular policy discussions in New York City, Washington, D.C., and at its 20 Eric M. Warburg Chapters throughout the United States to inform individuals about German and European affairs as well as global challenges that Europe and the United States are facing;
- Identifying leaders from the successor generation on both sides of the Atlantic to engage in American-German Young Leaders Conferences;
- Organizing high-level policy conferences and study tours in Europe and the United States on important political and economic issues;

- Awarding fellowships to American and German mid-career professionals from various fields, including academia, agriculture, entrepreneurship, environmental policy, journalism, and urban affairs, to enable them to conduct research and collaborate with their professional counterparts; and
- Distributing Occasional Papers on a range of issues affecting the transatlantic relationship to more than 1,000 individuals and other timely news content to members.



Ambassador Peter Wittig, German Ambassador to the United States, meeting with ACG members



**Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt**  
ACG Chairman

**Dr. Steven E. Sokol**  
ACG President



**THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON GERMANY CONTINUES TO PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE IN STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC TIES AND IN HELPING AMERICANS DEVELOP A DEEPER, MORE NUANCED UNDERSTANDING ABOUT GERMANY.**



## A Message from the Chairman and the President

As we have moved further into the 21st century, it has not become any easier to address the complex challenges facing the international community. Indeed, many of the issues on today's global agenda were not on the radar as recently as two years ago. Russia's incursion into Ukraine, the rise of ISIS, and Europe's migrant crisis are new developments that threaten stability within Europe and in regions around the world. A strong transatlantic partnership is necessary to tackle these emerging challenges and to guarantee peace and stability.

The American Council on Germany continues to play a critical role in strengthening transatlantic ties and in helping Americans develop a deeper, more nuanced understanding about Germany. In order to understand contemporary Germany, one must view it in a European context. In order to understand contemporary Europe, one must understand Germany's role in Europe. This was particularly true in 2015.

It is safe to say that 2015 was a turbulent year for Europe – and Germany often found itself in the eye of the storm.

The year began with an almost exclusive focus on European monetary and fiscal policy and Greece's potential withdrawal from the eurozone. By the end of the summer, the Greek government accepted some conditions and made some reforms, but some analysts believe that a Greek exit – or "Grexit" – from the eurozone may only have been postponed, not prevented.

As the debate over Greece was unfolding, it was becoming clear that Europe was facing a migrant crisis of unprecedented proportions. In a speech before the ACG in New York in April, Michael Roth, State Secretary in the German Foreign Office and a 2004 Young Leader, said Germany was expecting to take in a record number of refugees and asylum seekers. He said the number was staggering – but few could have anticipated the 1.1 million migrants who would arrive in Germany by the end of the year.

The "European project" – which has been the guarantor of peace and stability in Europe since the founding of the European Coal and Steel Community more than 60 years ago – is facing its gravest challenge ever. The flow of migrants and refugees from across Northern Africa and the Middle East has challenged European policymakers and overwhelmed the ability of state and local authorities to take care of them. This is a critical time for Europe. It is one that truly tests the union of member states that make up the EU.

While 2015 was a year of turbulence for Europe, it was a year of new beginnings for the American Council on Germany. With a new

President in place, the ACG has strived to balance continuity and change, remaining true to the vision of its founders in 1952 while offering a range of programs and activities tailored to provide a thorough understanding about contemporary Germany at this critical time.

In 2015, the ACG held more than 40 events in New York and Washington, D.C., and more than 130 events at its 20 Eric M. Warburg Chapters across the country. We continued to invest in the next generation of transatlanticists through our prestigious American-German Young Leaders Conference, which brought together some 50 participants; our fellowships, which were awarded to 23 rising stars in academia, agriculture, environmental policy, journalism, and urban affairs; and our new Political Salon series. Our Study Tour on Immigration – the final in a five-year series – brought 16 American experts to Berlin for five days of intensive meetings with policymakers and thought leaders on a subject that was growing more urgent by the day. Our third annual German-American Conference with the Atlantik-Brücke looked at "Security and Prosperity in a New Era of the Transatlantic Relationship" while marking the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Two-Plus-Four Treaty, which created a unified Germany. Soon after, we marked the 25th anniversary of German unification at our McCloy Awards Dinner, where we honored Dr. Mathias Döpfner, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Axel Springer SE, and ACG Board member General Brent Scowcroft, former U.S. National Security Advisor. We also introduced new ways to keep our members informed about key developments on the transatlantic agenda, including our weekly news digest and regular conference calls and podcasts with experts and officials.

How the future will unfold globally and in Germany and the United States will continue to depend in large part on the strength of our two countries' ties. We at the ACG are dedicated to doing our part to make German-American relations even closer and mutually beneficial. With your active involvement, we will seize opportunities to buttress the German-American partnership and address the challenges of today and tomorrow.



ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol; speaker Dr. Ulrike Guérot, Founder and Director of the European Democracy Lab at the European School of Governance in Berlin; and Juliane Camfield, Director of Deutsches Haus at NYU (Copyright John Harris) (All photo captions are left to right unless otherwise indicated.)



ACG Board member and Treasurer William R. Harman, then Interim President of the ACG; speaker Professor Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers, former Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia and former German Federal Minister of Education, Science, Research, and Technology; Ralf Weingartner, General Manager of DZ BANK AG New York Branch; and Dr. Lars Haensel, Director of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

## Policy Programs 2015 Calendar of Events

### TRANSATLANTIC GLOBAL AGENDA SERIES



The Transatlantic Global Agenda (TGA) Series gives members access to policymakers and other thought leaders to delve into global issues that have an impact on the transatlantic partnership. 2015 marked the fifth year of the series, which is organized by the American Council on Germany and American Friends of Bucerius and hosted by Alston & Bird LLP. In 2015, seven events were held on topics such as German-Russian relations, the fight against ISIS, and the conflict in Ukraine.

**January 22** – Discussion and breakfast with **Roger Cohen**, *New York Times* Op-Ed Columnist and Author of *The Girl from Human Street*, on “Anti-Semitism in Europe and the Middle East,” hosted by Alston & Bird LLP

**March 5** – Discussion and breakfast with **Professor Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers**, former Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia and former German Federal Minister of Education, Science, Research, and Technology, on “Falling Apart? How to Get the Euro, Europe, and the Transatlantic Alliance Right,” hosted by DZ BANK AG

**March 10** – Discussion and luncheon with **Peter Rondorf**, Minister and Head of the Economic Department at the German Embassy, on “The Economic Agenda on the Other Side of the Atlantic,” hosted by Pryor Cashman LLP

**March 12** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **David L. Phillips**, Director of the Program on Peace-Building and Rights at Columbia University’s Institute for the Study of Human Rights, on “Shifting Alliances: The ISIS Crisis and U.S.-Kurdish Cooperation”



**March 25** – **Annual Meeting of the Members**, featuring a discussion and reception with incoming ACG President **Dr. Steven E. Sokol**

**March 31** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Dr. Rajan Menon**, Anne and Bernard Spitzer Chair in Political Science at the Powell School of City College



### political salon



In July, the American Council on Germany launched a new speaker series 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. The Political Salons brought together some 200 individuals at six events covering a range of topics, from the *Energiewende* to technology to immigration policy. The Political Salons were made possible by the generous funding of the Heinrich Böll Foundation.

of New York/City University of New York and Senior Research Scholar at the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University, on his new book, *Conflicts in Ukraine – The Unwinding of the Post-Cold War Order*

**April 14** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Dr. Stephen F. Szabo**, Executive Director of the Transatlantic Academy, on his book *Germany, Russia, and the Rise of Geo-Economics*



**April 15** – A conversation with **Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble**, German Federal Finance Minister, with **Tom Keene**, Editor-at-Large for Bloomberg News, presiding, held in cooperation with the Council on Foreign Relations

**April 22** – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Andreas Dombret**, member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank, on “The Euro Area: Where Do We Stand?” held in cooperation with the Council on Foreign Relations’ Maurice R. Greenberg Center for Geoeconomic Studies as part of the CGS Roundtable Series in International Finance

**April 28** – Discussion and breakfast with **Michael Roth** (2004 Young Leader), Minister of State at the Federal Foreign Office and member of the German Bundestag, on “Challenges, Interests, Values: Germany in a Changing Europe,” held in cooperation with the German Consulate General in New York



ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol; speaker Johannes Gernert (2014 Kellen Fellow), Editor at *Die Tageszeitung*; and Robert L. Fenstermacher, Jr., President and CEO of Cultural Vistas

**April 28** – Evening discussion on “Günter Grass: A Retrospective,” featuring **Dr. Breon Mitchell**, Grass Translator and Professor Emeritus of Comparative Literature and Germanic Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington; **Dr. Friedrich Ulfers**, Professor of German at NYU; and **Dr. Krishna Winston**, Grass Translator and Marcus L. Taft Professor of German at Wesleyan University, held in cooperation with the CUNY Graduate Center

**April 29** – Discussion and breakfast with **Ali Aslan** (2010 Young Leader), Journalist and Television Host, on “The Reluctant Leader? Germany’s New Role in the World,” held in cooperation with Deutsches Haus at NYU

**May 3-7** – **Study Tour on Immigration** in Berlin

**May 5** – Discussion and luncheon with **Peter Limbourg**, CEO and Director General of Deutsche Welle, on “Breaking News: Global Challenges and Opportunities for Today’s Media,” with an introduction by ACG Board member **Lee Cullum**, Journalist and Host of “CEO,” held in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

**May 5** – A discussion on “Victory in Europe: The 70th Anniversary of the Defeat of European Fascism” as part of the Otto and Fran Walter Memorial Lecture, featuring **Dr. Ira Katznelson**, Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia University and President of the Social Science Research Council; **Professor Stephen Kotkin**, John P. Birkelund ’52 Professor of History and International Affairs and Acting Director of the Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies at Princeton University; and **Dr. Charles S. Maier**, Leverett Saltonstall Professor of History and former Director of the Center for European Studies at Harvard University, with an introduction by **Frank G. Helman**, President of the Otto and Fran Walter Foundation, moderated by **Dr. John Torpey**, Professor of Sociology and History and Director of the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies at the Graduate Center at CUNY, held in cooperation with the European Union Studies Center, Leon Levy Center for Biography, and Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, all at the CUNY Graduate Center

**May 7** – American-German Young Leader alumni event with **Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg** (2003 Young Leader), Chairman of Spitzberg Partners LLC and former German Minister of Defense and Minister of Economics and Technology, on “Digital Transformation of Business and Society,” held in cooperation with the Atlantik-Brücke and sponsored by PwC Strategy&

**May 12** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Bruce Stokes**, Director of Global Economic Attitudes at the Pew Research Center, on “Germany and the United States: Reliable Allies Who Disagree”



**May 14** – Discussion and breakfast with **Christian Schmidt**, German Minister of Food and Agriculture, on “Food Security and Peace,” hosted by PwC Strategy&

**June 3** – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Johannes Beermann**, member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank, on “The Euro Area – Challenges for the Monetary Union,” hosted by AllianceBernstein L.P.

**June 10** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Ambassador Dr. Martin Ney** (1991 Young Leader), Legal Advisor for the German Federal Foreign Office, on “Nuremberg Principles and Modern International Law”



**June 24** – Evening discussion and reception with **Jürgen Trittin**, Bundestag member (Alliance 90/The Greens) and former Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety, on “New Security Challenges, New Answers, No NATO Nostalgia,” held in cooperation with Deutsches Haus at NYU

**July 8** – Political Salon with **R. Andreas Kraemer**, Founder and Director Emeritus of Ecologic Institute, on “Are We All Going to Die? The Foreign and Security Policy Implications of Energy and Climate Change,” hosted by Idealist.org and with support from Cultural Vistas and the World Policy Institute



**July 10-17** – **XXXVII American-German Young Leaders Conference** on “Between Order and Chaos: Setting a Transatlantic Agenda in an Era of Disruption” in Berlin

**July 14** – Discussion and breakfast with **Dr. Werner Schnappauf**, Senior Advisor at Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Chair of the Initiative on Energy Law and Policy at Bucerius Law School, on “Breaking News from Germany: The Status of the German Energy Transition,” held in cooperation with American Friends of Bucerius and hosted by the German Consulate General in New York

**July 29** – Political Salon with **Johannes Gernert** (2014 Kellen Fellow), Editor at *Die Tageszeitung*, on “Google vs. Europe: What Happens When U.S. Internet Companies Clash with European Laws?” held in cooperation with Cultural Vistas and co-sponsored by the Robert Bosch Foundation Alumni Association



**August 25** – Evening discussion and reception with **Dr. Ulrike Guérot**, Founder and Director of the European Democracy Lab at the European School of Governance in Berlin, on “Brexit, Grexit, and the Rest: Europe in Dissolution or Toward Post-Crisis Unity?” held in cooperation with Deutsches Haus at NYU

**September 1** – Political Salon with **Joshua Cohen**, Entrepreneur, Start-Up Advisor, and Innovation Consultant, on “Germany and the United States: Seeding Innovation on Both Sides of the Atlantic,” held in cooperation with Cultural Vistas



**September 10-11** – ACG and Atlantik-Brücke joint annual **German-American Conference** on “Security and Prosperity in a New Era of the Transatlantic Relationship” in Berlin

**September 12** – ACG and Atlantik-Brücke **Young Leader Alumni Conference** on “Entrepreneurship & Innovation” in Berlin

**September 14-17** – **Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership Conference**, held in cooperation with New York International, Berlin

Partners, and the German American Chambers of Commerce, with support from the German Consulate General in New York and others

**September 17** – Discussion and reception with **Professor Mary Elise Sarotte**, Dean's Professor of History at the University of Southern California and Research Associate at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University, on "The Accidental Opening of the Berlin Wall," held in cooperation with the German Consulate General in New York and the Goethe-Institut

**September 17** – Panel discussion on "A Transatlantic Dialogue on Migration: Can Current Policy Meet 2015 Realities?" in Washington, D.C., held in cooperation with the Robert Bosch Foundation Alumni Association and hosted by Cultural Vistas

**September 28** – Discussion and luncheon with **Matthias Platzeck**, former Minister-President of Brandenburg and former Chairman of the German Social Democratic Party (SPD), on "25 Years of German Unity: What Role Does Germany Play in Europe?" held in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation

**September 28** – Afternoon discussion with **Matthias Platzeck** on "25 Years of German Unity: What Role Does Germany Play in Europe?" held in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and hosted by the German Department of CUNY Hunter College

**October 5** – Political Salon with **Jagoda Marinić**, Founding Director of the Intercultural Center in Heidelberg, on "The American Dream – A Dream Turned German: Refugees, Migration, Integration, Citizenship," held in cooperation with the Heidelberg University Association

**October 6** – Breakfast briefing for Young Leader alumni with **Ambassador John B. Emerson**, U.S. Ambassador to Germany, on "Defining the New Transatlantic Agenda in Times of Uncertainty" in Washington, D.C., hosted by Mayer Brown LLP

**October 13** – Twenty-Third Annual John J. McCloy Awards Dinner on the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of German Unification, honoring **Dr. Mathias Döpfner**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Axel Springer SE, and **General Brent Scowcroft**, former U.S. National Security Advisor and an ACG Board member

**October 14** – Breakfast briefing with **Ambassador Frank Elbe**, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's Chief of Staff from 1987 to 1992, on "The Legacy of 1990: The Path to German Unity," hosted by AllianceBernstein L.P.

**October 20** – Discussion and luncheon with **Karl-Ludwig Kley**, Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, on "Curiosity, Innovation, and Technology in the 21st Century"

**October 23** – Discussion and luncheon with **Dr. Berend Diekmann**, Head of Division for External Policy – USA, Canada, and Mexico at the

Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, on "TTIP: Jumping the Hurdles," sponsored by DZ BANK AG

**October 26** – Discussion and luncheon with **Ralf Fuecks**, President of the Heinrich Böll Foundation and author of *Green Growth, Smart Growth*, on "Smart Growth and the Nexus of Economics, Innovation, and the Environment," hosted by Alston & Bird LLP

**November 2** – Discussion and luncheon with **Christian Boellhoff**, Chief Executive Officer and member of the Board of Directors of Prognos AG, on "Economy 2040: A Comprehensive View into the Global Future," sponsored by vbw – The Bavarian Industry Association and bayme vbm – The Bavarian Employers' Associations for the Metalworking and Electrical Industries

**November 3** – Political Salon with **Eric Jarosinski** (2003 Hunt Fellow), author of *Nein. A Manifesto* and Founding Editor of *Nein. Quarterly*, on "Nein. Quarterly: Disrupting the Assumptions of German Language and Humor," held in cooperation with the German Consulate General in New York

**November 23** – Hot Topic Call with **Professor Dr. Eberhard Sandschneider**, Otto Wolff Director of the Research Institute and Head of the China/Asia-Pacific Program of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), on the European refugee crisis in the wake of the terrorist attack in Paris

**November 23** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Professor Dr. Eberhard Sandschneider** on "China's Global Strategy"

**December 4** – Breakfast briefing with **Dr. Andreas Dombret**, member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank, on "The Euro Area – Where Do We Stand?"

**December 9** – Discussion and luncheon as part of the Transatlantic Global Agenda Series with **Dr. Kemal Kirişci**, TÜSIAD Senior Fellow and Director of the Center on the United States and Europe's Turkey Project at the Brookings Institution, on "Syrian Refugees, Turkey, and the EU"

**December 9** – Political Salon with **Kavitha Rajagopalan** (2004 McCloy Fellow in Journalism), Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs and at the World Policy Institute and Author of *Muslims of Metropolis*, on "Refugees, Islamophobia, and the Fallacies of Addressing Terror Threats Through Immigration Policy," held in cooperation with Cultural Vistas

**December 10** – Discussion and luncheon with **Alexander Radwan**, Bundestag member in the State of Bavaria, hosted by the German Consulate General in New York

**December 15** – Breakfast briefing with **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States, on "Current Challenges Facing the Transatlantic Partnership," hosted by PwC Strategy&

1 Juergen R. Ostertag, Partner at Pryor Cashman LLP; speaker Peter Rondorf, Minister and Head of the Economic Department at the German Embassy; and ACG Board member Joseph McLaughlin, Senior Counsel at Sidley Austin LLP

2 ACG Vice Chairman Dr. Richard M. Hunt, University Marshal a.D. of Harvard University; speaker ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol; and Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt, ACG Chairman and Senior International Counsel at WilmerHale LLP



## Policy Conferences

### “Security and Prosperity in a New Era of the Transatlantic Relationship”

September 10-11, 2015

Berlin

The American Council on Germany and the Atlantik-Brücke hosted the third annual German-American Conference to look at “Security and Prosperity in a New Era of the Transatlantic Relationship” in Berlin on September 10 and 11, 2015. The conference focused on current and past challenges in the transatlantic community, in particular the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and ongoing tensions with Russia. The meeting was timed to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Two-Plus-Four Treaty, which created a unified Germany, and provided an opportunity for those gathered to reflect on history, consider the present, and look to the future.

Among the highlights were keynote speeches by German Federal Finance Minister **Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble** on the importance of strong economic markets and collaboration, and by Foreign Minister **Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier** on the importance of the Two-Plus-Four Treaty. Other prominent speakers included U.S. Ambassador to Germany **John B. Emerson**; U.S. Ambassador to the European Union **Anthony Gardner**; State Secretary **Matthias Machnig** of the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy; **Ambassador Michael Punke**, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative and Permanent Representative to the WTO; and **Dr. Gregory F. Treverton**, Chairman of the National Intelligence Council.

The conference concluded on a high note with a panel of guests of honor who discussed the Two-Plus-Four Treaty as a milestone event for Germany and the world: **Anatoly Adamishin**, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union from 1986 to 1990; **Roland Dumas**, former Foreign Minister of France; **Dr. h.c. Hans-Dietrich Genscher**, former Foreign Minister and former Vice Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany; **Markus Meckel**, former Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic; **Lord William Waldegrave**, former Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom; and former ACG Board member **Ambassador Robert B. Zoellick**, who previously served as U.S. Under Secretary of State and President of the World Bank.

The event reached more than 500 decision-makers and opinion leaders and was covered in the U.S. and German media.

The ACG would like to extend its special thanks to conference hosts Deutsche Bank AG, DZ BANK AG, and the Federal Foreign Office.

## 25 Jahre Zwei-plus-Vier-Vertrag



Thomas Roth, Anchorman of “Tagesthemen” at ARD German Television; Ambassador Robert B. Zoellick, former U.S. Under Secretary of State and President of the World Bank; Lord William Waldegrave, former Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom; Anatoly Adamishin, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union from 1986 to 1990; Roland Dumas, former Foreign Minister of France; Markus Meckel, former Foreign Minister of the German Democratic Republic; and Dr. h.c. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, former Foreign Minister and former Vice Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, at the German-American Conference (Photo by Thomas Imo)

## Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership Conference

September 14-17, 2015

New York City

The fifth annual Transatlantic Entrepreneur Partnership (TEP) Conference, co-sponsored by the American Council on Germany, was a hotbed of activity and innovation – and particularly networking and exchanging ideas – for 200 start-up entrepreneurs, digital-media experts, and investors from the United States, Germany, and farther afield. The event took place in New York City from September 14 to 17, 2015.

The TEP provides a platform where entrepreneurs from both sides of the Atlantic can engage in dialogue about the most recent developments in the digital world and display their innovations to each other, as well as to angel investors.

The ACG has been a sponsor of the conference since its inception in 2011. The 2015 TEP was organized in cooperation with New York International and Berlin Partners, with support from the German Consulate General in New York, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the German American Chambers of Commerce, Global Industry Challenge (W2NYC), CMS, Deutsche Bank, KPMG, and the Partnership for New York City, along with many others.

The 2015 TEP Conference included a Start-Up Welcome on the evening of September 14; a main conference held at Work Better on Park Avenue South, followed by a reception co-hosted by the ACG and the German Consulate General in New York at the German House, on September 15; site visits in Manhattan and Brooklyn on September 16; and meetings hosted by Brooklyn Borough President **Eric Adams** at Brooklyn’s Borough Hall on September 17. In 2015, for the first time, the TEP included collaboration with 12 global tech hubs. One trade commissioner called the TEP “the UN of entrepreneurship in Brooklyn.”



**FOREIGN MINISTER DR. FRANK-WALTER STEINMEIER AT THE THIRD ANNUAL GERMAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

**THE GIFT OF GERMAN REUNIFICATION IS ONE WHICH TODAY STILL FILLS US [GERMANS] WITH DEEP GRATITUDE.**



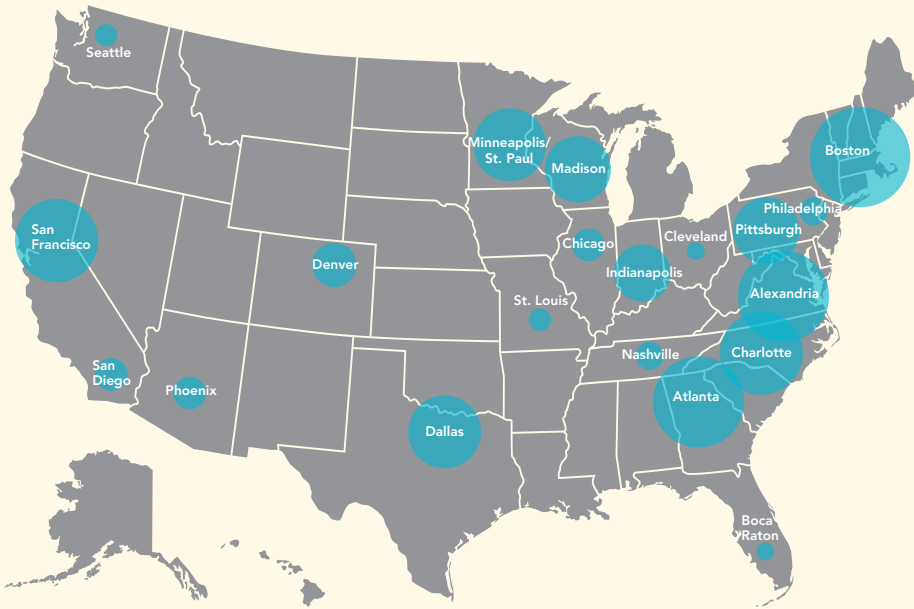
Pictured with ACG Chairman Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt

(Photo by Thomas Imo)

# WARBURG CHAPTERS:

20 CITIES  
MORE THAN 130 EVENTS

LAUNCHED IN 1992



LOCATION OF  
WARBURG CHAPTERS

## CITIES WITH MOST EVENTS

<b>BOSTON</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>ALEXANDRIA</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>ATLANTA</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>CHARLOTTE</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>DALLAS</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL</b>	<b>10</b>

## Eric M. Warburg Chapters

The American Council on Germany's unique network of 20 Eric M. Warburg Chapters provides ACG members and local audiences with a dynamic forum to discuss economic, political, and social issues that are important to German-American relations. The Chapters were created in 1992 to promote transatlantic dialogue across the United States as a tribute to ACG founder and longtime Treasurer Eric M. Warburg. The Warburg Chapters held more than 130 events nationwide in 2015 – the largest number yet. These events focused on topics such as tensions in Ukraine, the refugee crisis, German-Russian relations, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), ISIS, German energy policy, German unification, and other important transatlantic issues.

In 2015, nearly 20 highly regarded policy experts visited multiple Eric M. Warburg Chapters. The topics they addressed covered a wide breadth of historical and currently relevant themes as they fanned out across the country to engage the American public in lively discussions about important issues on the transatlantic agenda.

How to cope with Russia was a topic of discussion throughout the year. In January, **Dr. Joseph Varuolo**, former Chief of the Office of Defense Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, spoke in Atlanta, Dallas, Denver, Minneapolis/St. Paul, and Nashville. Later in the year, **Dr. Peter Schmidt**, Honorary Professor at Mannheim University and Associate Lecturer at the University of Munich, offered insights on the crisis in Ukraine to audiences in San Diego and San Francisco. Then, in November, **Dr. Stephen Szabo**, Executive Director of the Transatlantic Academy, discussed Germany, Russia, and the role of geoeconomics in Chicago, Madison, and Pittsburgh. He was also the inaugural speaker at the launch of the Chapter in Cleveland.

With Europe's refugee crisis dominating the headlines, the ACG secured speakers to visit the United States to discuss Germany's

response. In late September and early October, **Bruce Leimsidor**, Professor at Ca'Foscari University, visited Atlanta, Boston, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Nashville, Phoenix, and San Francisco. In early November, the Coordinator for Islam and Religious Dialogue at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, **Thomas Volk**, addressed audiences in Boston, Charlotte, Indianapolis, and Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Energy and the environment were also dominant themes in 2015. **Ralf Fuecks**, President of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, spoke about the nexus of economics, innovation, and the environment with audiences in Alexandria, Chicago, and Pittsburgh. Later in the year, **Wolfgang Niedermark**, former Vice President and Head of the Berlin Office of BASF and incoming Chairman and CEO of German Industry and Commerce Ltd. in Hong Kong, offered an industry perspective at events in Atlanta, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Pittsburgh, and San Francisco. In December, **Carel Carlowitz Mohn**, Director of Media Programs at Clean Energy Wire (CLEW), talked about Germany's *Energiewende* in Alexandria, Charlotte, Madison, and Nashville.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



In the fall of 2015, the ACG kicked off a new speaker series featuring experts from the successor generation. The series – titled Restoring Trust by Engaging in Dialogue: German Perspectives on the Future of the Transatlantic Partnership – 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. **Speakers in blue were part of this speaker series.**



Ann-Cathrin Howard, a graduate student at the University of San Diego; speaker Kamran Safarian, Author and Journalist with ZDF German Television; and Eberhard H. Röhm, San Diego Warburg Chapter Director and Partner at Duane Morris LLP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

In the fall, two speakers took a special look at Germany's role on the world stage. **Hans Kundnani**, Senior Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, spoke about German power and the future of the transatlantic relationship in Boston, St. Louis, and San Francisco. In December, Television Host **Ali Aslan** (2010 Young Leader) addressed audiences in Denver, Phoenix, San Francisco, and Seattle about German leadership in Europe and globally.

Other speakers took on topics related to the global economy. **Dr. Sascha Münnich**, John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University, spoke about global financial markets in Boston, Madison, and San Francisco. In October, **Dr. Stormy-Annika Mildner**, Head of the Department for External Economic Policy at the Federation of German Industries (BDI), discussed TTIP in Atlanta, Indianapolis, and Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Taking more of a historical perspective, **Volker Bausch**, Director of the Point Alpha Foundation, addressed the legacy of the end of the Cold War at events in Alexandria, Atlanta, Charlotte, and Chicago. **Hannes Adomeit**, former Professor of Russian and European Studies at the Warsaw campus of the College of Europe, reflected on Germany's unification process at an event in Atlanta. He also met with audiences in Boston, Chicago, Dallas, and Philadelphia to discuss German-Russian relations 25 years after unification. **Howard Wolf**, Senior Fellow at the University of Buffalo, spoke about the responsibilities of writers in the postwar period in Alexandria, Atlanta, Boca Raton, Boston, Charlotte, Madison, and Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Other individual speakers addressed additional critical issues. **Dr. Anna Holzscheiter**, John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow at the Center for European Studies at Harvard University, spoke about global public health in Alexandria and Pittsburgh. **Philipp Krüger**, Founder and CEO of Scripp Inc. and Director of the Digital Economy Project at Stiftung

Neue Verantwortung, discussed privacy and data protection in the digital age in Alexandria, Denver, San Diego, and San Francisco. Author and Television Journalist **Kamran Safarian** offered his perspectives on Iran in Alexandria, Dallas, Phoenix, and San Diego.

Other engaging speakers at the Chapters included **Philipp Ackermann**, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission at the German Embassy in Washington, D.C.; **Kerstin Celina**, member of the Bavarian State Parliament (Green Party); **Ekin Deligöz**, member of the German Bundestag (Green Party); **Dr. Bernd Fischer**, Consul General of Germany in Los Angeles; **Jürgen Hardt**, member of the German Bundestag (CDU) and Coordinator of Transatlantic Cooperation; **Ambassador Christopher Hill**, Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver; **Jagoda Marinić**, Founding Director of the Intercultural Center in Heidelberg; **Benjamin Rohé** (2011 Young Leader and 2014 Entrepreneur Fellow), Managing Director of the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center; **Professor Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers**, former Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia; **Dr. Constanze Stelzenmüller**, Robert Bosch Senior Fellow at the Center on the United States and Europe at the Brookings Institution; **Jürgen Trittin**, Bundestag member (Alliance 90/The Greens) and former German Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety; and **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, Ambassador of Germany to the United States.

The Warburg Chapters commemorated the 25th anniversary of the unification of Germany across the United States, with 10 Chapters hosting at least one event and several hosting multiple events. Speakers included **Ambassador Frank Elbe**, Chief of Staff to Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher from 1987 to 1992, and **Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg** (2003 Young Leader), Chairman of Spitzberg Partners LLC and former German Minister of Defense and Minister of Economics and Technology.

Through its programming at the network of Eric M. Warburg Chapters, the ACG tailors events, speakers, and topics to the concerns and interests of members and friends in communities across the country. These events often underscore the importance of the German-American partnership. The Council remains committed to working across generations to promote a vibrant dialogue about global issues facing the transatlantic community in its Chapter cities.



Philadelphia Warburg Chapter Director Harry Carl Schaub, Of Counsel at Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads LLP; speaker Hannes Adomeit, former Professor of Russian and European Studies at the Warsaw campus of the College of Europe; and Lydia M. Sarson, Executive Director of the German American Chamber of Commerce, Philadelphia

## Warburg Chapter Leadership

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

### ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

Dale Medearis (1995 McCloy Fellow in Environmental Policy)

### ATLANTA, GEORGIA

Martina Stellmaszek

### BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

Catherine S. Meschievitz

### 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)  
Nicola Bremer

### DENVER, COLORADO

William M. Bass  
Bernhard Juergen Bleise

### INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Sven Schumacher

### MADISON, WISCONSIN

Elizabeth E. Covington

### MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

R. Donald Keysser  
Christa Tiefenbacher-Hudson

### NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

Douglas Berry (1992 Young Leader)

### PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Harry Carl Schaub

### PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Dr. Bernard Otremba-Blanc

### PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

David A. Murdoch

### ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Ulrike K. Schlafly (ACG Board member)

### SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Eberhard H. Röhm

### SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Johannes M. Biermann  
Bettina Warburg-Johnson

### SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Petra Heussner-Walker



To see a full list of Warburg Chapter events, please visit the ACG's website at [www.acgusa.org](http://www.acgusa.org).



**ALI ASLAN**  
(2010 YOUNG LEADER)  
TELEVISION HOST AND JOURNALIST

[My speaking] tour came right after *TIME Magazine* named Chancellor Merkel Person of the Year, and the interest in Germany's more assertive role in Europe and the world was apparent throughout my stops in Seattle, San Francisco, Denver, and Phoenix. Without exception, the lectures were always followed by very lively and intense Q&A sessions, with particular interest devoted to Germany's handling of the current refugee crisis. Other thought-provoking questions raised by the audiences included the euro crisis and the state of the European Union, the future of transatlantic relations, EU-Russia relations, Germany's stance on climate change, Chancellor Merkel's political future, and Europe's view on the U.S. Presidential candidates. ... The tour was a wonderful opportunity to engage with select U.S. audiences on German foreign and economic policy issues, and I commend the ACG for its tireless efforts in enhancing mutual understanding between the two countries.



## Selected Warburg Chapter Events in 2015

**February 25** – Charlotte Warburg Chapter event as part of the Kissinger Speaker Series with **Dr. Josef Joffe**, Editor of *DIE ZEIT*, on “Obama and Merkel: Last Man (and Woman) Standing in the West”

**March 2** – Alexandria Warburg Chapter event with **Professor Dr. Jürgen Rüttgers**, former Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia, on “Current Transatlantic Relations: Challenges and Opportunities”

**March 19** – San Francisco Warburg Chapter event with **Benjamin Rohé** (2011 Young Leader and 2014 Entrepreneur Fellow), Managing Director of the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center, on “Entrepreneurship 3.0 – The Third Wave of the Industrial Revolution”

**April 1** – San Francisco Warburg Chapter event with **Dr. Constanze Stelzenmüller**, Robert Bosch Senior Fellow at the Center on the United States and Europe at the Brookings Institution, on “The Crisis in Ukraine: What It Means for Europe and the Transatlantic Relationship”

**April 14** – St. Louis Warburg Chapter event with **Jürgen Hardt**, member of the German Bundestag (CDU) and Coordinator of Transatlantic Cooperation, on “Germany’s History and Its Repercussions for Transatlantic Relations”

**April 22** – San Francisco Warburg Chapter event with **Ambassador Peter Wittig**, Ambassador of Germany to the United States

**April 24** – Seattle Warburg Chapter event in Portland with European Water Policy Expert **Tobias Schaefer** (2014 McCloy Fellow in Environmental Policy) on “Water Quality and Salmon in the Rhine and Elbe Rivers in Germany and River Basin Management in the European Union”

**May 7** – Denver Warburg Chapter event with **Ambassador Christopher Hill**, Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver, on “My Life in Diplomacy”

**September 21** – Boston Warburg Chapter event with **Thomas Geisel**, Mayor of Düsseldorf, on “The Future of Our Cities: Migration, Refugees, and Other Challenges”

**October 22** – Charlotte Warburg Chapter event with **Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg** (2003 Young Leader), Chairman of Spitzberg Partners LLC and former German Federal Minister of Defense and Minister of Economics and Technology, on “25 Years After Germany’s Reunification – Should We Expect a German Europe?”

- 1 U.S. Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-Texas) addressed those gathered at an event in Dallas celebrating the anniversary of German unification, flanked by Dallas Warburg Chapter Director Dr. Hansjörg Hepp (2006 Young Leader), Honorary Consul of Germany in Dallas. The Dallas Warburg Chapter was one of numerous partners at the “25 Years of German Unity” event, which was held in cooperation with the Texas German Day Council and Dallas Goethe Center.
- 2 David Murdoch, pictured here at a Pittsburgh Warburg Chapter event, served as the Director of the Chapter for decades, from its founding almost up until his death, on November 24, 2015. In his role as German Honorary Consul, as a past Board member of the ACG, and as a very active member of the Pittsburgh community, David Murdoch touched the lives of many – and welcomed many into the world of international relations. He will be missed by the ACG, the wider transatlantic community, and far beyond. (Photo courtesy of Roy Engelbrecht, Photographer)



Albert E. Guarnieri, Charlotte Warburg Chapter Director and Partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP; speaker Jagoda Marinić, Founding Director of the Intercultural Center in Heidelberg; and Dr. Scott Denham (1995 Young Leader), German Studies Department Chair at Davidson College

**October 22** – Pittsburgh Warburg Chapter event with **Dr. Philipp Ackermann**, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission at the German Embassy, on “The Next Chapter in Germany’s *Energiewende*: Innovation in Technology and Job Creation”

**October 23** – Atlanta Warburg Chapter event with **Minister Helga Barth**, Head of the Political Department at the German Embassy in Washington, D.C., and **Detlev Ruenger**, Consul General of Germany in Atlanta, on “Challenges Facing Europe: A German Perspective,” moderated by ACG President **Dr. Steven E. Sokol**, held in cooperation with the World Affairs Council of Atlanta

**October 29** – 2015 Transatlantic Lecture, hosted by the Dallas Warburg Chapter in cooperation with American Friends of Bucerius, with an opening speech by **Ambassador Thomas Pickering**, Vice Chairman of Hills & Company; a welcome by **Ricarda Redeker**, Consul General of Germany in Houston; and a discussion with **Dr. Todd Sandler**, Vibhooti Shuklar Professor of Economics and Political Economy at the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, moderated by ACG Board member **Lee Cullum**, Journalist and Host of “CEO”





Delegates to the 2015 Study Tour on Immigration with ACG Vice President and Director of Programs Dr. Helena Kane Finn

## Study Tour on Immigration

German officials had already begun to feel the strain of the increased flow of refugees landing on European shores during the ACG's 2015 Study Tour on Immigration from May 3 to 7. The Study Tour on Immigration brought a delegation of 16 immigration specialists from across the United States to Berlin for five days of intensive meetings with policymakers and experts.

The final Study Tour on Immigration in a five-year series brought together experts on immigration to create a transatlantic narrative on immigration policy, refugee and asylum policy, and Germany's new identity as a welcoming country in search of skilled labor to compensate for the demographic deficit. The integration of long-established immigrant communities into German society and the effort to prevent young people of immigrant backgrounds from traveling to Syria to join ISIS were also discussed at length.

The delegation received briefings from senior government officials, prominent politicians, think-tank analysts, diplomats, and journalists. Dinner discussions were conducted with a view toward providing the delegation – some of whom had never before visited Germany – with a broader perspective on the history and culture of the country. **Ali Aslan** (2010 Young Leader), a prominent Television Host; **Jürgen Hardt**, Bundestag member (CDU) and Coordinator for Transatlantic Cooperation; **Dr. Almut Möller** of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP); **Karsten Voigt**, a former Bundestag member (SPD); and **Ambassador Dr. Hans-Georg Wieck**, former German Ambassador to Iran, the USSR, and India, provided the delegation with their insights not only on immigration issues but also on

German-Russian relations, the future of the European Union, and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). Bundestag members **Özcan Mutlu** and **Omid Nouripour**, both members of the Green Party who have immigrant backgrounds, spoke about the challenges facing German society in terms of security and education for immigrant youth. In addition, delegates met with senior officials from the Chancellery, the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, and the Kreuzberg police for briefings on German immigration and labor policy.

Study tours were designed as a veritable two-way street. The German officials and experts who briefed participants also learned from them about developments in the United States.

This project was made possible by a generous ERP grant through the German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.



To view a list of delegates to the Study Tour on Immigration, please visit our website at [www.acgusa.org](http://www.acgusa.org).



**CAROL ENGBRETSON BYRNE**  
PRESIDENT  
GLOBAL MINNESOTA

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in the American Council on Germany's Study Tour on Immigration in Berlin in May 2015. This trip happened at a particularly relevant time, as Global Minnesota (formerly Minnesota International Center) had selected Germany as our 2015 focus country. ... With

the world experiencing the greatest mobility of people in human history, the tour offered the perfect opportunity to examine immigration's global impact and learn from key subject experts in the Bundestag, think tanks, nonprofits, foundations, human rights organizations, and law enforcement.



# Programs for the Successor Generation

## XXXVII American-German Young Leaders Conference

Almost 50 rising stars from Germany and the United States convened from July 10 to 17, 2015, to tackle the formidable topic of “Between Order and Chaos: Setting a Transatlantic Agenda in an Era of Disruption.” The stage had been set for the XXXVII American-German Young Leaders Conference, and it would be one rife with healthy debate, a barrage of ideas, and friendships that would be honed during an intense but spirited week together in Berlin.

Each year the American-German Young Leaders Conference brings together promising Americans and Germans from the ages of 28 to 38 for substantive discussions on key topics in transatlantic relations, both in working groups and in meetings with policymakers and experts. The delegates hail from a wide cross-section of fields, including economics, entrepreneurship, finance, government, law, media, and the military. More than 900 delegates have participated in the ACG’s American-German Young Leaders Conference since its founding in 1973.

The topics at the 2015 conference included:

- “The United States and Germany: Defining the Relationship”;
- “Dealing with Dysfunction and Disorder: Transatlantic Foreign Policy Options”;
- “Who Is In? Who Is Out? Civil Society in a World of Demographic Change”;
- “Net Gain/Net Losses: Can Government and Innovation Coexist Peaceably?”; and
- “Transatlantic 2020: Setting a New Agenda for the Alliance.”

Young Leaders got a front-row seat as the crisis in Greece came to a head and as the flow of refugees into Germany began to mushroom. The delegates’ meeting partners included **Jörg Asmussen**, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs; **Hella Dunger-Löper**, State Secretary and Representative of Berlin to the Federal Government; **Ambassador John B. Emerson**, U.S.



Delegates to the 2015 American-German Young Leaders Conference at the German Federal Chancellery

Ambassador to Germany; **Joschka Fischer**, former German Federal Foreign Minister; **Dr. Christoph Heusgen**, National Security Advisor to Chancellor Merkel; **Dr. Stefan Mair**, member of the Executive Board of the Federation of German Industries (BDI); **Thomas de Maizière** (1989 Young Leader), German Minister of the Interior; **Günther Oettinger**, European Union Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society; **Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble**, German Minister of Finance; **Lt. General Peter Schelzig**, Deputy Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; **Dr. Georg Schütte**, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Education and Research; and **Dr. Helen Winter**, Deputy Director General for National and International Economic Policy. Among other site visits, delegates paid a visit to the German Tech Entrepreneurship Center to discuss entrepreneurship in a global economy with Managing Director **Benjamin Rohé** (2011 Young Leader and 2014 Entrepreneur Fellow).

Adding a new twist for 2015, delegates engaged in two debates, looking at U.S. influence around the world and also at the balance between national security and civil liberties. In addition, they participated in a role-playing crisis simulation looking at managing international conflict.

The ACG is grateful to 2015 Young Leader **Patrick Cooper** for serving as the conference rapporteur and 2015 Young Leader **David Quinalty** for his photography talents.



**JENNIFER D. GLADDEN (2015 YOUNG LEADER)**  
**ACADEMIC DEAN**  
**THE SCHOOL FOR ETHICS AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP**

I was astounded by the unfettered quality of the guest speakers, the abounding commitment and fascinating experiences of the program alumni we met along the way, and the high level of intellectual discourse maintained throughout such an ambitious schedule. ... My experiences at the conference have convinced me of the

tremendous importance the American-German relationship holds, the need to maintain and develop our multilateral approach, and the urgency of reframing our global image as we collectively address emergent challenges.





## 2015 American Delegation

### David Andrew

Founder and President  
Autumn Lane Advisors  
Houston, Texas

### Mary C. Aufdemberg

Director, Product Marketing  
Freightliner Trucks  
Daimler Trucks North America  
Fort Mill, South Carolina

### David A. Blank

Product Marketing Specialist  
Wind Power Service  
Siemens Energy, Inc.  
Oviedo, Florida

### Ben Casnocha

Partner  
Allied Talent  
San Francisco, California

### Georgiana Cavendish

Desk Officer  
U.S. State Department  
Washington, D.C.

### Patrick Cooper

Director of Web and Engagement  
NPR  
Washington, D.C.

### Dirk Elmendorf

CEO  
Trucking Office  
San Antonio, Texas

### Anitere Flores

State Senator  
Florida State Senate  
Miami, Florida

### Jennifer D. Gladden

Academic Dean  
The School for Ethics  
and Global Leadership  
Washington, D.C.

### Laura Jackson

Privacy Officer  
Lockheed Martin  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

### Peter L. Kim

Mayor of La Palma  
La Palma, California

### Heather Long

Markets and Investing Editor  
CNN Money  
New York, New York

### Lucas R. Moskowitz

Counsel  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Financial  
Services  
Alexandria, Virginia

### Steven John Pearson

CEO  
Friendemic  
Salt Lake City, Utah

### David Quinalty

Policy Director for  
Communications  
and Technology  
Commerce, Science,  
& Transportation  
Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C.

### Spencer Garrett Rhodes

Alternative Investments Global  
Business Manager  
Allianz Global Investors  
London, England

### Christopher Y. Russell

Senior Policy Advisor  
Liberty Mutual Insurance  
Alexandria, Virginia

### Major Andrew Scott

Chief of Criminal Law, 10th  
Mountain Division, Fort Drum,  
New York  
United States Army  
Watertown, New York

### Kenneth Townsend

Special Assistant to the President  
and Assistant Professor  
of Political Science  
Millsaps College  
Jackson, Mississippi

### Anton Troianovski

Germany Correspondent  
*The Wall Street Journal*  
Berlin, Germany

### Stephanie L. Walker

Manager, International  
Public Affairs  
AT&T  
Washington, D.C.

### Ali Weinberg

Digital Journalist  
ABC News  
Washington, D.C.



## 2015 German Delegation

### Sonja Bohnet

Desk Officer, Division for USA  
and Canada  
German Federal Foreign Office  
Berlin, Germany

### Bastian Brinkmann

Senior Online Editor  
*Süddeutsche Zeitung*  
Munich, Germany

### Michael Dzeba

Munich, Germany

### Constanze Egger

Councilor/Advisor  
Federal Office of Bundeswehr  
Personnel Management  
St. Augustin, Germany

### Yasmin Mei-Yee Fargel

Professor  
Technische Hochschule Nürnberg  
Nuremberg, Germany

### Alma Franke

Lawyer  
GSK Stockmann + Kollegen  
Munich, Germany

### Eva-Kristina Hange

Private Secretary to  
Parliamentary State Secretary  
Steffen Kampeter  
Federal Ministry of Finance  
Berlin, Germany

### Andreas Jungherr

Research Fellow  
Chair for Political Psychology  
University of Mannheim  
Heidelberg, Germany

### Hendrik Kaelble

Senior Expert  
Federal Chancellery – European  
Policy Department, EU  
Economic and Financial  
Policy Unit  
Berlin, Germany

### Matthis Kaiser

Director  
Hering Schuppener Consulting  
Berlin, Germany

### Major Peter Kaminski

Public Affairs Staff Officer  
NATO Civil-Military Cooperation  
Center of Excellence  
The Hague, The Netherlands

### Rebecca Klett

Executive Assistant to the Head  
of External Affairs  
Daimler AG  
Stuttgart, Germany

### Stephan Kuhlenkoetter

Brand Manager  
Lilly Deutschland GmbH  
Frankfurt, Germany

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



1 Alexander Fugger (2011 Young Leader) giving delegates a tour of the Fuggerei, his family civic housing estate in Augsburg

2 Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, German Minister of Finance, and 2015 Young Leader David A. Blank, Product Marketing Specialist in Wind Power Service at Siemens Energy, Inc.



Joschka Fischer, former German Foreign Minister, and 2015 Young Leader Pia Philippa Seyfried, Head of the FDP Europe Liaison Office at the German Bundestag

## YOUNG LEADER ALUMNI REUNITE EARLY AND OFTEN

Alumni of the American-German Young Leaders Conference from 2015, 1973, and all years in between convene for discussions and other meetings on a regular basis in venues from New York to Berlin and beyond. While each American-German Young Leaders Conference lasts for only one week, the bonds formed during the conference are enduring.

In 2015, the ACG organized a Young Leader alumni event with **Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg** (2003 Young Leader), Chairman of Spitzberg Partners LLC and former German Federal Minister of Defense and Minister of Economics and Technology, on “Digital Transformation of Business and Society.” The event took place on May 7 and was held in cooperation with the Atlantik-Brücke and sponsored by PwC Strategy&. On October 6, Young Leader alumni came together for a breakfast briefing with **Ambassador John B. Emerson**, U.S. Ambassador to Germany, on “Defining the New Transatlantic Agenda in Times of Uncertainty” in Washington, D.C. Ambassador Emerson, who has also met with delegates in Berlin, gave a frank overview of the state of transatlantic relations and also current global challenges. The event was hosted by Mayer Brown LLP. In addition, on September 12, the ACG and the Atlantik-Brücke brought Young Leader alumni together for a conference on “Entrepreneurship & Innovation” in Berlin. The conference included panel discussions on digitalization and venture capital, as well as breakout sessions on start-ups.

Young Leader alumni also met numerous times in less-formal settings in Munich, California, and other locations around the world to continue the dialogue.

## 2015 German Delegation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

**Bettina Lutz**  
Sales Director – Oncology  
Pfizer Pharma GmbH  
Berlin, Germany

**Julian Marwitz**  
CEO  
Arineos  
Freiburg, Germany

**Philipp Medrow**  
Director  
PricewaterhouseCoopers AG  
Berlin, Germany

**Major Hans Georg Palm**  
Resident – Department of Orthopedics  
and Trauma Surgery  
German Armed Forces  
Hospital of Ulm  
Ulm, Germany

**Lutz Reimers**  
Senior Economist  
Federal Chancellery  
Berlin, Germany

**Frieder Schoenthal**  
Director – Regional Management  
COO Germany Organization  
Deutsche Bank AG  
Frankfurt, Germany

**Pia Philippa Seyfried**  
Head of the FDP Europe Liaison Office  
German Bundestag  
Berlin, Germany

**Miriam Sinn**  
Senior Expert – Payment Division  
Deutsche Bundesbank  
Sulzbach, Germany

**Thomas Speckmann**  
Head of Division – Speeches  
and Publications  
Federal Ministry of Finance  
Berlin, Germany

**Thomas Thalhofer**  
Partner  
Noerr LLP  
Munich, Germany

**Clemens Wrzodek**  
Senior Scientist, Software Engineer,  
and Project Manager  
Roche Innovation Center  
Penzberg, Germany

Lt. General Peter Schelzig, Deputy Chairman of Germany’s Joint Chiefs of Staff, wishing a happy birthday to U.S. Army Major Andrew Scott, a 2015 Young Leader

## In Gratitude

### SPONSORS

The ACG would like to extend its great thanks to the sponsors who made the XXXVII American-German Young Leaders Conference possible:

Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen  
Foundation

AT&T

CLEVIS Group

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Fürst Fugger Zentralverwaltung

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Noerr LLP

Pfizer Deutschland

Steelhead Partners, LLC

### STEERING COMMITTEE

The ACG is also very grateful for the time and efforts of the Steering Committee:

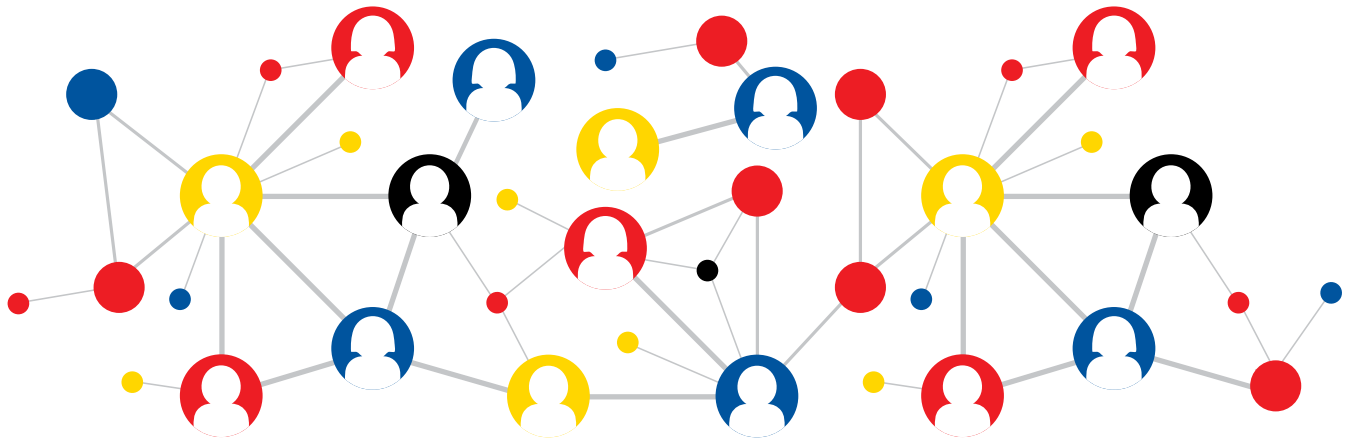
**Edward S. McFadden** (Chairman)  
Vice President, External Communications  
Verizon

**Tony Finkelnburg**  
Head of Public Policy/Campaigning  
Arbeitgeberverband Gesamtmetall

**Ronald J. Granieri**  
Senior Fellow and Executive Director  
Center for the Study of America  
and the West  
Foreign Policy Research Institute

**Sarmad Hussain**  
Deekeling Arndt Advisors in  
Communications GmbH





## Fellowships

Since 1976, the American Council on Germany has offered fellowships to allow talented young professionals from the United States and Germany to travel across the Atlantic to conduct research and engage in dialogue with their counterparts. Since the creation of the program, more than 1,000 fellows have traveled abroad. In 2015, 23 individuals were awarded one of the ACG's seven fellowships.

### MCCLOY FELLOWSHIPS

The longest-running fellowships of the ACG, the McCloy Fellowships were named after John J. McCloy, founding Chairman of the ACG, who believed that younger Americans and Germans benefit greatly from meeting their peers. McCloy Fellows are selected from various sectors and locations throughout Germany and the United States in the fields of agriculture, environmental policy, journalism, and urban planning. Mr. McCloy's commitment to promoting transatlantic understanding lives on in the McCloy Fellows and the extensive network of alumni.

#### Agriculture

During the early fall of 2015, four German McCloy Fellows in Agriculture traveled across the Atlantic for a three-week study of various facets of agriculture, including policymaking and farming. The fellows were hosted by fellowship alumni and members of the American Farm Bureau Federation. The 2015 McCloy Fellows in Agriculture were **Matthias Daun**, Board member of Kreisbauernverband Stendal e.V. and a farmer in Hörscheid; **Thomas Forstreuter**, Head of the Division for Dairy Farming and Renewable Energies at the Westfälisch-Lippischer Landwirtschaftsverband in Münster; **Christian Gaebel**, Consultant for Agricultural and Funding Policy for the Deutscher Bauernverband in Berlin; and **André Stallbaum**, Co-Owner of Stallbaum GbR in Stendal.

The ACG extends its thanks to the American Farm Bureau Federation and the Deutscher Bauernverband for their assistance in identifying qualified candidates for the agriculture fellowships and for ensuring the agriculture fellows' itineraries are tailored to their professional interests.

#### Environmental Policy

The ACG awarded McCloy Fellowships in Environmental Policy in 2015 to two Americans and two Germans to travel abroad for three weeks to conduct research on timely topics. **Lindsay Baxter**, Program Manager of Energy and Climate at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council in Pittsburgh, researched distributed energy markets.

**Alexandra Büttgen**, Project Coordinator at the Wuppertal Institute, is reviewing the share economy in major cities. **Alan Cohn**, Climate Program Director at the New York City Department of Environmental

Protection, is looking at urban water management. **Frank Osterhage**, Senior Researcher and Deputy Head of the Research Group on "Development of City Regions" for ILS – Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development GmbH in Dortmund, is examining the use of smart-growth technology to build new urban neighborhoods.

#### Journalism

In 2015, two Americans and two Germans were awarded McCloy Fellowships in Journalism to travel across the Atlantic and research transatlantic issues. **Maximilian Holscher**, Political Reporter for *Hessische/Niedersächsische Allgemeine* in Kassel, is looking at the U.S. Presidential election. **Jacob Kushner**, a Freelance Journalist from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is researching nationalism in Germany. **Melissa Long**, Anchor/Reporter for NBC Atlanta, is examining the evolving business partnerships between Germany and Georgia. **Sonia Narang**, Multimedia Journalist for Public Radio International's "The World" in Sierra Madre, California, is looking at the changing demographics of Germany.

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While in New York City, the 2015 German McCloy Fellows in Agriculture had the opportunity to tour Riverpark Farm, a rooftop farm that provides produce to numerous restaurants in the city. Here, Victoria Segal, Farm Coordinator, shows around McCloy Fellows Christian Gaebel, Matthias Daun, Thomas Forstreuter, and André Stallbaum.

### Urban Affairs

In the fall of 2015, four American McCloy Fellows in Urban Affairs traveled to Germany for three weeks of meetings with city officials and policymakers. During the course of their time abroad, fellows have the opportunity to exchange best practices with their German counterparts and discuss the challenges that cities face today. The 2015 fellows were **Lydia Glaize**, City Councilwoman for the City of Fairburn, Georgia; **Nathan Hamilton**, Communications Director for the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas; **Derrick Headd**, Fiscal Analyst for the Detroit City Council Legislative Policy Division; and **Leora Jontef**, Assistant Commissioner for New York City Housing Preservation and Development.

The ACG would also like to thank the National League of Cities and the Deutscher Städtetag for their assistance in selecting candidates and for helping with the coordination of the urban affairs fellows' itineraries.

### HUNT FELLOWSHIPS

The Dr. Richard M. Hunt Fellowships for the Study of German Politics, Culture, and Society are awarded to promising young American academics whose work explores key themes of contemporary German society or the political, cultural, and social history of Germany. The fellowships are named in honor of former ACG President and current Vice Chairman **Dr. Richard M. Hunt** and were launched in 2003.

Two Hunt Fellowships were awarded in 2015. **Joanna Curtis**, a Ph.D. candidate and MacCracken Fellow at New York University, is traveling to Germany to research musical education and cultural politics in post-World War II Germany. **Tiffany Florvil**, Assistant Professor of History at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, is completing research on the history of Afro-Germans.

### GOLDMAN FELLOWSHIP

The Dr. Guido Goldman Fellowship for the Study of German and European Economic and International Affairs is awarded each year to an American scholar whose research concentrates on German economic and international policy within a wider European context. The fellowship was established in 2003 to honor political scientist and then-ACG Board member **Dr. Guido Goldman**, Director of German Studies at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University.

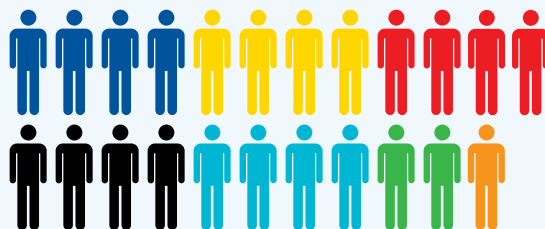
In 2015, the Goldman Fellowship was awarded to **Scott Krause**, Dissertation Completion Fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, who is examining the postwar German-American campaign to bring democracy to Berlin.

### KELLEN FELLOWSHIPS

Each year the Anna-Maria and Stephen M. Kellen Fellowships are awarded to promising young Berlin-based journalists to conduct interviews and complete research on current trends in transatlantic relations. The fellowship is named for **Anna-Maria Kellen** and the late 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, and is funded by the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation.

In 2015, four journalists were awarded Kellen Fellowships. **Ingo Arzt**, a Freelance Journalist, is examining how financial market regulations could prevent the next financial crisis. **Eva Raisig**, also a Freelance Journalist, is looking at the role of prejudices in the United States and the Black Lives Matter movement. **Jörg Ratzsch**, Editor and Reporter for Deutsche Presse-Agentur, is exploring campaigning in the United States leading up to the Presidential election. **Christian Schwägerl**, also a Freelance Journalist, is examining changing demographics in the United States.

## FELLOWSHIPS IN 2015



- McCloy Fellowships in Agriculture
- McCloy Fellowships in Environmental Policy
- McCloy Fellowships in Journalism
- McCloy Fellowships in Urban Affairs
- Kellen Fellowships
- Hunt Fellowships
- Goldman Fellowship

## FELLOW STUDIES *ENERGIEWENDE* TO INFORM WORK IN PENNSYLVANIA

In the fall of 2015, McCloy Fellow **Lindsay Baxter**, Program Manager of Energy and Climate at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council in Pittsburgh, traveled to Germany to explore energy production.

Here she shares some impressions gained during her fellowship.

Germany's *Energiewende*, or energy transition, sets forth multiple ambitious goals related to energy and climate change, including targets to source 80 percent of energy from renewable sources, reduce

greenhouse-gas emissions by 80 to 95 percent below 1990 levels, and reduce energy consumption 50 percent below 2008 levels, all by 2050.

To gauge a variety of perspectives on growing distributed renewable energy, I met with experts and officials in several cities across multiple regions of the country, including Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden, Munich, Cologne, Düsseldorf, and Essen. My work focused not only on identifying challenges encountered in Germany but also on designing programs in Pennsylvania to overcome these obstacles. The fellowship helped me recognize that any large-scale transition takes time and encounters unexpected challenges. The hurdles encountered by Germany to date should not be taken as indicators that the *Energiewende* will not be successful, but rather as bumps in the road on a very long journey.

In addition to gaining insights into energy policy, I was able to network with new transatlantic peers during the fellowship. Since my return, I have enjoyed exchanging e-mails with some of my new German colleagues, and I anticipate that a number of us will stay in touch and continue to exchange information as our careers progress.



McCloy Fellow Lindsay Baxter, Program Manager of Energy and Climate at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, meeting with Martin Dulig, Minister of State for the Saxon State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Labor, and Transport

# Partners in Promoting Transatlantic Cooperation

## 2015 John J. McCloy Awards Dinner

As the world marked the 25th anniversary of German unification in 2015, the American Council on Germany honored two leaders for their or their company's important roles in history and also in the betterment of transatlantic relations: **Dr. Mathias Döpfner**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Axel Springer SE, and ACG Board member **General Brent Scowcroft**, former U.S. National Security Advisor. The 23rd annual McCloy Awards Dinner took place on October 13 in New York City, with **Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt**, ACG Chairman and Senior International Counsel at WilmerHale LLP, presiding.

Dr. Döpfner received the McCloy Award for his work to promote transatlantic relations and also for the work of Axel Springer to bring the Germans together at a time when the notion was against prevailing opinion. In one of many gestures designed to fight for unification, Mr. Springer erected a giant electronic news ticker on the company's building in West Berlin so that the Berlin Wall could not deny East Berliners access to news from the Free World. As Dr.

Döpfner put it at the dinner, "He was a true visionary; he always believed in having a peaceful reunification that represents freedom and democracy."

McCloy Award recipient Dr. Mathias Döpfner, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Axel Springer SE, and Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt, ACG Chairman and Senior International Counsel at WilmerHale LLP



Lifetime Achievement Award recipient General Brent Scowcroft, former U.S. National Security Advisor and an ACG Board member; McCloy Award recipient Dr. Mathias Döpfner, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Axel Springer SE; and ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol in a discussion at the McCloy Awards Dinner

General Scowcroft received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his key role on President George H.W. Bush's foreign policy team, particularly in the context of unification. General Scowcroft helped the President craft his groundbreaking speech in Mainz in May of 1989 calling for Germany and the United States to join as partners in leadership, and he helped shape President Bush's public comments three weeks before the Berlin Wall fell, underlining U.S. confidence in Germany and strong support of German unification within NATO.

The honorees engaged in a substantive discussion with ACG President **Dr. Steven E. Sokol** to look at Germany's past and present, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), trade-offs between privacy and security in a digital age, and more. Hundreds of business leaders, dignitaries, and other stakeholders in the German-American relationship were in attendance to mark the anniversary and pay tribute to the honorees.

## Dinner Supporters

The ACG gratefully thanks the many companies and individuals who helped make the dinner a success:

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On June 11, 2015, ACG President Dr. Steven E. Sokol was joined by Board Members, Young Leader alumni, staff, and other friends of the ACG at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), where he rang the Closing Bell to demonstrate the Council's commitment to strengthening transatlantic ties across generations. (Photo on the right) Dr. Sokol is flanked by Thomas M. George (2004 Young Leader), Senior Technology Leader at Cisco; ACG Board member Arthur Yorke Allen of Douglas Winthrop Advisors LLC; and Erica E. Sulkowski-Bens (2006 Young Leader), Vice President and Senior Counsel at Brown Brothers Harriman

## Corporate Membership Program

In today's globalized world, economic and financial issues are just as important as foreign and security matters in the transatlantic relationship. Thus the German-American business community plays a crucial role. Building connections among the business community spanning the Atlantic is a key goal of the American Council on Germany. After all, roughly 600,000 Americans work in the United States for companies headquartered in Germany and more than 600,000 Germans work in Germany for companies headquartered in the United States.

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 – from negotiations on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) to economic outlooks to developments in the eurozone. Corporate members receive invitations to Council events and conference calls with speakers, ACG publications, and other news tailored to their interests.

Corporate members who contribute \$5,000 or more annually are also automatically members of the ACG's Business Advisory Committee (BAC). Members of the BAC receive executive summaries of many events and special updates from the ACG President, and are given the opportunity to nominate candidates for the prestigious American-German Young Leaders Conference.

In 2015, the ACG held special events for corporate members with **Dr. Andreas Dombret**, member of the Executive Board of the Deutsche Bundesbank; **Alexander Radwan**, Bundestag member in the State of Bavaria; and **Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble**, German Federal Finance Minister. Corporate members also were invited to the German-American Conference on "Security and Prosperity in a New Era of the Transatlantic Relationship" in Berlin.

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In 2015, the American Council on Germany launched a **weekly news digest** to bring 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](http://www.acgusa.org).

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