

# TRANS-ATLANTIC DIALOGUE

NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON GERMANY • ISSUE 2, 2003

## Young Leaders Confront 'Partnership Amid Tensions'

By Hope M. Harrison (YL 2003)

This year marks the 30th anniversary of cooperation between the American Council on Germany and the Atlantik-Brücke in bringing together American and German Young Leaders. Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, 50 American and German young professionals took part in the XXV American-German Young Leaders Conference on "Assessing the U.S.-German Relationship: A Partnership Amid Tensions." The



Delegates to the 2003 American-German Young Leaders Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona

group had energetic debates about the foreign policy of the Bush Administration, particularly concerning Iraq, the United Nations, and the Kyoto Protocol. Working groups examined

a variety of political, military, economic, social, and environmental issues affecting the U.S. and Germany and transatlantic relations.

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## BMW, NYSE Leaders Honored for Commitment to Transatlantic Ties

The American Council on Germany honored **Helmut Panke**, Chairman of the Board of Management of BMW AG, and **Dick Grasso**, then Chairman and CEO of the New York Stock Exchange, at the 11th annual McCloy Awards Dinner on June 2 at the Grand Hyatt at Grand Central in New York City. Dr. Panke was honored for building on BMW's strong commitment to the U.S. market and making a significant contribution to the economic strength of both countries, and Mr. Grasso received the award for his leadership role in bringing European and especially German firms into the U.S. market, with benefi-

cial ramifications for both economies. More than 600 people were in attendance at the dinner.

Dr. Panke discussed how BMW has embraced a shared transatlantic culture and strived to become a "corporate citizen" that is fully integrated into new markets. Thus as BMW set up a production facility in the United States, in South Carolina, the company grew intimately familiar with the people and

culture of the region, and adapted to become an American as well as a German company.

Mr. Grasso highlighted the great economic strides that have been made possible by German-American cooperation and emphasized that any disagreements over policy should not overshadow the strong bonds that will continue between the two nations.

ACG Chairman **Garrick Utley** served as the Master of Ceremonies, and ACG Director **Kurt F. Viermetz**, Vice Chairman (ret.) of J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. and Deputy Supervisory Board Chairman of HypoVereinsbank, and ACG Diplomatic Advisory Committee member **Ambassador Robert M. Kimmitt**, Executive Vice President for Global and Strategic Policy at AOL Time Warner, presented the awards.



ACG Chairman Garrick Utley, German McCloy Award recipient Helmut Panke, and ACG Director John J. McCloy II



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## Around the ACG

**Kenneth W. Austin** (Young Leader 2000) has been named Chief Executive of the Association of Black Foundation Executives (ABFE) in New York.

**Josh Bolten** (YL 1988) has been named Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

**Reginald Brown** (YL 2002) has begun work as White House counsel.

ACG member **Ambassador Richard W. Fisher**, a Young Leader alumnus (1977) and former ACG Board member, has been named Chairman of the American Assembly. Ambassador Fisher, Managing Partner of Kissinger McLarty Associates in Washington, D.C., who served as Deputy U.S. Trade Representative during the Clinton Administration, takes the helm of



**Richard W. Fisher**  
American Assembly

this affiliate of Columbia University which seeks to advance the national dialogue on important public policy matters. He also has been named a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. On a lighter note, this Renaissance man also makes a cameo appearance in the film "Gods and Generals," alongside **Ted Turner** and **Senator Robert C. Byrd**, as a Confederate officer singing "The Bonnie Blue Flag."

**Jonathan Goldman** (YL 2002) resigned from his job as Managing Director at Bank of America in New York to devote his full attention to his vineyards in California.

**Joshua Gotbaum** (YL 1982) has been appointed by Hawaiian Airlines as Trustee to oversee the company's bankruptcy and successfully return it to its place of stature in Hawaii and the airlines industry.

ACG Chairman **Garrick Utley** has gotten the nod to become President of the Neil D. Levin Graduate Institute of International Relations and Commerce of the State University of New York. The institute is expected to enroll graduate students as early as 2004 in non-degree and certificate programs, with further plans to offer master's degrees and specialized training in foreign language and culture. The institute was established by Gov. George E. Pataki and SUNY in memory of Neil D. Levin, the Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey who was killed in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Mr. Utley will continue to serve as ACG Chairman.

**John Hauge** (YL 1978) has taken time out after 25 years in the world of finance and government service to write a book that captures his passion for opera. He has just published a mystery, *Verdi Overtures*, and is well into work on his second book.

**Bill Hunt**, President and CEO of the Elmhurst Group, has been named Developer of the Year by the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties. The Hunt family has been a strong supporter of the ACG, both individually and through the Roy A. Hunt Foundation, for more than three decades. Mr. Hunt's father, Richard M. Hunt, served as pro bono President of the Council from 1972 to 1988 and continues to serve as Vice Chairman.



**Frank Kelly**  
Deutsche Bank

**Frank Kelly** (YL 1996), an ACG Director who has served for many years on the Steering Committee of the Young Leaders Conferences, has been named Managing Director and Head of Government Affairs for the Americas of Deutsche Bank.

**Steven Lamb** (YL 1993) has been appointed President of Dresser, Inc., a worldwide leader in the design, manufacture, and marketing of highly engineered equipment used in the energy industry.

**Peyton Prospere** (YL 1989) has been appointed by the Governor of Mississippi to serve as state Treasurer.

Bush speechwriter **Matt Rees** (YL 2001) has moved to the Securities and Exchange Commission, where he is serving in the same role for SEC Chairman William Donaldson. Among his colleagues are SEC Commissioner Paul Stewart Atkins (YL 1993).

**Major General Bruce K. Scott** (YL 1985) recently retired from the U.S. Army and was named President of ITT Defense International.

**Dan Senor** (YL 2002), scheduled to take up the position of White House Deputy Press Secretary, was called back to Baghdad as senior adviser to Ambassador Paul Bremer.

**Meg Vaillancourt** (YL 1993) left her job as a journalist with *The Boston Globe* for a dream job as Senior Vice President of Corporate Relations for the Boston Red Sox.

ACG Director and Young Leader alumna (1990) **Catherine Barr Windels** has returned from China with her new baby girl, Mary Catherine (formerly known as Jumping Orchid).

**Christian Wulff** (YL 1992) has been elected Minister-President of Lower Saxony.



ACG Young Leader alumni Senator Chuck Schumer (1975) and German Ambassador to the United States Wolfgang Ischinger (1978 and 1980) and Mrs. Jutta Falke-Ischinger at the German-American Steuben Parade



## Events

At a time of tension in the transatlantic relationship, the American Council on Germany focused its efforts on providing a forum for productive dialogue with German officials across the political spectrum. A common theme emerged in meetings with leaders of the Social Democratic Party, Christian Democratic Union, Free Democratic Party, and Green Party alike: Any differences of opinion on policy toward Iraq do not diminish the importance of German-American ties and the two nations' bond based on democratic principles.



ACG President Hugh G. Hamilton, Jr., and Friedbert Pflüger, Foreign Affairs Spokesman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group, with speaker Angela Merkel, Chairman of the Christian Democratic Union, and ACG Director Kurt Viermetz, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of HypoVereinsbank

In a discussion with about 150 people, German Interior Minister **Otto Schily** of the SPD underlined that despite German opposition to a war in Iraq, Germany continued to play an important role in fighting terrorism around the world in joint initiatives with the United States, and in peacekeeping efforts from Bosnia to Afghanistan. CDU leader **Angela Merkel** addressed a standing-room-only crowd of about 100 people, arguing that German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's stance ruling out German military involvement in Iraq was misguided, wrongly relieving pressure on Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. **Otto Wiesel** of the FDP discussed the challenges and the economic implications of European Union

enlargement. **Ralf Fuecks**, Board member of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, said that transatlantic relations may be undergoing a dramatic shift.

In the meantime, the annual meeting of the members drew 150 people to an important discussion on the United Nations and its role in Iraq. In an extemporaneous speech, ACG Director **Henry A. Kissinger** outlined the key issues at play in the standoff over Iraq. **Ambassador Hanns Schumacher**, then Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations, emphasized Germany's strong antiwar sentiments, arguing that the United States had not proven that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and that the toll of military action on Iraqi civilians would be considerable.

Other highlights included views on the current economic outlook and transatlantic cooperation on the corporate side. In a McCloy Lecture, **Ernst Welteke**, President of the Deutsche Bundesbank, said that, economic uncertainties aside, the German economy remains "highly productive" and "highly competitive," with rising exports and an appreciating euro. Minister-President of Schleswig-Holstein **Heide Simonis** addressed the current state of the transatlantic relationship, along with prospects for greater cooperation throughout the Baltic Sea region. **Eckhard Cordes**, Member of the Board of Management of DaimlerChrysler AG, provided a behind-the-scenes look at how the global automo-



Dr. Eckhard Cordes of DaimlerChrysler (middle) is flanked by ACG President Hugh G. Hamilton, Jr. (left), and ACG Chairman Garrick Utleigh



Bundestag member Wolfgang Schäuble and ACG Director John P. Lipsky, Chief Economist and Global Head of Economic Policy and Research at JPMorgan

bile firm bridges different communication styles, business goals, work ethics, and perspectives in general.

McCloy Lecturer **Wolfgang Schäuble**, a Member of the Bundestag and Deputy Chair of the CDU/CSU Bundestag Group, underlined the ongoing importance of transatlantic cooperation and outlined confidence-building measures that he feels will improve the state of the bilateral relationship in both the short and long term. Senior Bundestag member **Hans-Ulrich Klose** gave a detailed assessment of the political prospects of four regions that are rife with conflict but also ripe with opportunities for transatlantic cooperation: Afghanistan, Iraq, Israel/Palestine, and Iran. Minister-President of Hesse **Roland Koch**, in another McCloy Lecture, urged both Germany and the United States to "start again," maintaining dialogue on "common cooperation and political doctrines for the future in a more calm and realistic way" and focusing on restoring a healthy transatlantic partnership.

Mr. Welteke's and Minister-President Koch's talks were published as Occasional Papers.

## Book Review

Reviewed by Frank Kelly

### *The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945*

By Michael Beschloss  
Simon & Schuster 2002, 377 pp.

Allied forces finish ousting a brutal dictator who has terrorized his people and the surrounding nations for years. The dictator and his regime have committed almost every imaginable crime against humanity, including genocide. Now, the United States finds herself, along with her British ally, struggling for the best approach to rebuilding a shattered land.

No, it is not 2003; it is 1945, and the country is Germany, not Iraq.

In his remarkably well-timed new book, *The Conquerors*, historian Michael Beschloss takes us back in time and shows in compelling detail how the postwar Germany future was debated – sometimes bitterly – and finally decided after hostilities ceased in Europe.

The author unfurls the intense intra-Cabinet fighting over which direction to take. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, President Franklin Roosevelt's close friend, stepped in to take a leading role in the planning, advocating the "pasteurization" of Germany. Secretary Morgenthau believed the only way to prevent the rise of another militant Germany was to force it back to becoming a giant agricultural state incapable of building war machines. His plan called for shutting down Germany's entire industrial complex, and shifting those businesses to war-ravaged England and the Soviet Union as a form of reparation.

The Morgenthau Plan was opposed by the War Department, especially by Secretary of War Henry Stimson and Assistant Secretary of War John J. McCloy, who would later become U.S. High Commissioner for Germany and the founding Chairman of the American Council on Germany. Mr. McCloy most

aggressively opposed the Morgenthau Plan, fully understanding the need for Germany to continue as an industrialized power, but one firmly grounded in democracy. Beschloss brings to life the arguments of both sides as they lobbied FDR throughout the latter days of his administration.

The author also covers one of the more controversial aspects of the war: the decision not to bomb Nazi concentration camps. Beschloss, whose skills in combing through archives for yet-untold historical nuggets is renowned, reveals new evidence showing that it was President Roosevelt's decision alone not to bomb the camps. For years, there has been an erroneous belief that Mr. McCloy made that decision.

Beschloss also uncovers and discusses President Roosevelt's heretofore-underestimated knowledge of the horrific fate Jews were facing in the camps, adding further complexity to FDR's decision not to allow more Jewish refugees into the United States.

In the end, while much of the debate occurred on President Roosevelt's watch, it was President Truman who ultimately decided the future of Germany after FDR's death. Secretary Morgenthau never recovered from the loss of President Roosevelt, and was never able to build a close relationship with President Truman. It was Mr. McCloy who, ever brilliant and steady at the helm, showed President Truman the way to put Germany on the path to stability and democracy.

Michael Beschloss proves again why many consider him America's finest living historian. And with his fine new tome, he also provides us a valuable lesson on what it takes not only to fight and win a war, but also what is required to win the peace.

*ACG Director Frank Kelly (YL 1996), who has been a frequent member of the Steering Committee of Young Leaders Conferences, was recently named Managing Director and Head of Government Affairs for the Americas of Deutsche Bank.*

## Other Books of Interest

### *The Ambivalent Alliance: Konrad Adenauer, the CDU/CSU, and the West, 1949-1966*

By Ronald Granieri (YL 2001)  
Berghahn Books 2003, 256 pp.

This volume is among the first to re-examine conventional wisdom about the transatlantic alliance during this time period, based on newly opened personal and party archives. An Associate Professor of History at Furman University, Granieri gives a behind-the-scenes look at the surprising backdrop against which the alliance was formed: Konrad Adenauer and the Christian Democrats/Christian Socialists were originally torn about whether to pursue continental European integration based on Franco-German reconciliation or the formation of an Atlantic community bridging Europe and the "Anglo-Saxons." The author chronicles how the skillful Chancellor maneuvered between allies and adversaries alike to help shape the Western community and Germany's role in it.

### *Driving Soviets Up the Wall: Soviet-East German Relations, 1953-1961*

By Hope M. Harrison (YL 2003)  
Princeton University Press 2003, 368 pp.

This new book compels readers to see the building of the Berlin Wall in a different light. An Assistant Professor of History and International Affairs at The George Washington University, Harrison argues that East Germans pushed a reluctant Soviet Union into its construction. Her book chronicles how the East Germans had requested in 1953 that the border with West Berlin be sealed, but the Soviets instructed the East Germans to solve their domestic and foreign problems to stem the flow of refugees. Harrison's work illustrates how the East Germans, over the following seven years, resisted Soviet pressures for liberalization and in turn forced the Soviets to allow the wall to go up. An early review called the book "essential reading for anyone interested in the history of the Cold War."



## Warburg Chapter Events

Recent programs of the ACG's Eric M. Warburg Chapters and Pilot Chapters have focused on the latest developments in the relationship between the United States and Europe in the post-September 11 world. Topics of discussion pivoted around the strains caused by the war in Iraq, the role of international institutions such as NATO and the United Nations, and efforts to improve the tarnished transatlantic relationship.

**Bettina Lüscher**, Media Analyst and former CNN Bureau Chief in Berlin, spoke in Indianapolis, Minneapolis, Dallas, and San Francisco on the transatlantic rift and the new phase in the bilateral relationship. **Michael Rühle**, Head of the Policy Planning and Speech Writing Section in the Political Affairs Division of NATO, addressed audiences in Los Angeles, Richmond, San Francisco, and Wisconsin on the future of transatlantic security and the Middle East. The ACG published an Occasional Paper based on his talks. **Craig Kennedy**, President of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, spoke in Nashville and Indianapolis on the Atlantic alliance and on "Old Europe, New Rules." **Peter Gottwald**, incoming Deputy Chief of Mission at the German Embassy in Washington, D.C., spoke in Phoenix, Dallas, and Denver on "Why Europe and the United States Still Need Each Other." **Ulrike Guérot**, Head of the EU Unit at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), visited Wisconsin, St. Louis, Nashville, Boca Raton, and Boston to share her insights on transatlantic tensions over Iraq, Franco-German relations, and the European Constitution.

A panel on "Immigration and Integration: Post-9/11 Developments in Germany and the United States" featuring **Barbara John**, then Commissioner for Foreigner and Refugee Affairs in the Berlin Senate; **Cem Özdemir**, Trans-



Dr. Andreas Oldag, New York correspondent for *Süddeutsche Zeitung*; Pittsburgh Warburg Chapter Director David A. Murdoch; and newly named McCloy Journalism Fellow April Johnston of *The Beaver County Times*, with Editor Keith Briscoe and Publisher Alan Buncher

atlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States and former member of the German Bundestag; and **William Bass**, a Denver immigration attorney and Denver Warburg Chapter Director; and local representatives from the Department of Homeland Security made presentations in Minneapolis, Madison, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, and Atlanta.

Other speakers so far this year have included **Rudolf Scharping**, former German Defense Minister and Deputy Chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany; **Eberhard Kölsch**, then Deputy Chief of Mission at the German Embassy in Washington; **Ambassador Richard W. Fisher**, Managing Partner of Kissinger McLarty Associates and former Deputy U.S. Trade Representative; **Garrick Utley**, Chairman of the ACG; **Kurt Biedenkopf**, former Minister-President of Saxony; **Elizabeth Jones**, Assistant Secretary for European Affairs at the U.S. Department of State; **Holger Mey**, Executive Director and CEO of the Institute for Strategic Analyses in Bonn; **Harald Müller**, Chairman of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt/Main; **Wilfried Prewo**, Chief Executive of the Hannover Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK); **Montgomery Meigs**, Tom Slick Visiting Professor of World Peace at the University of Texas, Austin; **Volker Anding**, the German Consul General in Miami; **Volkmar Schultz**, former member of the Bundestag; and

**Andreas Oldag**, New York correspondent for *Süddeutsche Zeitung*.

In late September, the Pittsburgh Warburg Chapter and Chapter Director **David A. Murdoch**, the German Honorary Consul in Pittsburgh, welcomed a delegation of 15 officials and academics from Saarland to discuss how economic development can effectively extend beyond an industrial base. Minister-President **Peter Müller** addressed the two regions' common challenges in a discussion titled "From Steel Town to Town of Knowledge and Technology." Minister-President Müller was accompanied by Minister for Education, Culture, and Science **Jürgen Schreier**, among other government officials, along with representatives of Saarland University, the University of Applied Sciences, the German Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence, and the Institute for Experimental Physics.

## ACG Opens a New Chapter

On October 6, the ACG launched an Eric M. Warburg Chapter in Charlotte, North Carolina, at a well-attended event jointly sponsored by the European-American Business Forum. **Gerhard Spoerl**, Washington Bureau Chief of premier weekly news-magazine *Der Spiegel*, spoke on "The Image of America in Germany: Spanning Generations."

"The creation of an ACG chapter in Charlotte is the latest evidence of a steadily growing German influence in the region," said **Michael Almond**, President and CEO of the Charlotte Regional Partnership and the Director of the ACG's chapter in Charlotte. Those who are interested in participating in events in Charlotte are encouraged to contact Mr. Almond at [malmond@charlotteregion.com](mailto:malmond@charlotteregion.com).

## Conferences



Sergei Karaganov, Chairman of the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy in Moscow, and Andrey Konopliankin, Vice Secretary General of the Energy Charta Secretariat, at the conference on “Energy Issues in Euro-American Relations and the Influence of Russia”

The ACG recently convened two major conferences, the XXI American-German Biennial Conference and a conference on energy issues and relations with Russia.

The Biennial Conference, held in cooperation with the Atlantik-Brücke, took a close look at “Transatlantic Relations after Iraq: Fissures and Frictions of War – Repairing, Rebuilding, Rethinking.” The conference took place from June 12 to 14 at the Berlin headquarters of Deutsche Telekom AG. Keynote speakers included **Angela**

**Merkel**, Chairman of the Christian Democratic Union, and German Foreign Minister **Joschka Fischer**. Other participants included **Roland Koch**, Minister-President of Hesse; **Charles Ries**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs at the U.S. Department of State; **Kenneth Juster**, Under Secretary for Industry and Security at the U.S. Department of Commerce; **Karsten D. Voigt**, Coordinator for German-American Cooperation at the German Foreign Office in Berlin; and **George Rupp**, President of the International Rescue Committee in New York.

The conference on “Energy Issues in Euro-American Relations and the Influence of Russia” was held from June 29 to July 1, in cooperation with Columbia University’s Harriman Institute and Institute for the Study of Europe, and Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik. Topics included “Russia as a ‘Reliable Alternative’ to Middle East Oil,” “Russia and OPEC,” and “The U.S.-Russian ‘Energy Partnership’: Prospects and Problems.” **Wolfgang Schäuble**, a member of the Bundestag and Deputy Chair of the CDU/CSU Bundestag Group, delivered a keynote speech, with commentary by **Sergei**

**Karaganov**, Chairman of the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy in Moscow.

In addition, the ACG and the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies collaborated with the Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden on a conference addressing “A European Security Strategy: Fiction or the Foundation of an Effective Common Foreign and Security Policy?” on October 10 and 11 in Berlin. A group of government officials, journalists, and representatives from think tanks from the United States and eastern and western Europe met for an intense discussion of the prospects and challenges facing the development and implementation of a common European security strategy in a post-Cold War and post-9/11 world. **Robert Cooper**, Director of External Affairs at the Council of the European Union, opened the conference with an overview of the European Security Strategy as proposed by Javier Solana. Other speakers included Atlantic Council Chairman **Ambassador Henry E. Catto**, **Ulrike Guéröt** of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), and **Stephen Szabo** of The Johns Hopkins University’s Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.

## Corporate Membership Activities

The Business Advisory Committee of the American Council on Germany met with **John P. Lipsky**, Chief Economist and Global Head of Economic Policy and Research at JPMorgan and an ACG Director, in early September to discuss the economic climate and with SEC Commissioner **Paul Stewart Atkins**, an ACG Young Leader alumnus (1993), in mid-March to talk about corporate governance issues.

Dr. Lipsky highlighted encouraging data that vouch for the recovery of the U.S. economy, particularly in terms of

corporate profits. Commissioner Atkins emphasized that the Securities and Exchange Commission is making efforts to address German organizations’ concerns about the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. The SEC is attempting to ensure that the new rules of corporate governance – from the role of the Board of Directors in reviewing financial statements to the accountability of the top executive – do not deter German companies from listing in the United States.

Other BAC events included private dinners with German Interior Minister **Otto Schily** and Ambassador **Hanns Schumacher**, then Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the UN.

The American Council on Germany also recently launched a series of Executive Summaries of all major Council discussions for the Business Advisory Committee. The service enables BAC members to stay in touch with the current state of transatlantic relations even when their schedules do not allow for attending events in person. In addition, the BAC received another issue of *BAC Spotlight*, a newsletter that highlights the latest news among BAC members.

The Business Advisory Committee is made up of corporate contributors who support Council activities with \$5,000 or more per year.

## Young Leaders Confront 'Partnership Amid Tensions'

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The participation of young American and German policymakers, business-people, lawyers, journalists, academics, and others ensured that the discussions were wide-ranging, well informed, and interesting. In addition to the formal sessions on policy topics so well organized by Young Leader alumni **Daniel Casse**, Senior Director of the White House Writers Group; **Frank Kelly**, Managing Director and Head of Government Affairs for the Americas of Deutsche Bank; and **Ed McFadden**, Special Assistant and Chief Speechwriter for the U.S. Attorney General, the group heard presentations by ACG Chairman **Garrick Utley**, Phoenix Mayor **Skip Rimsza**, Atlantik-Brücke Chairman Emeritus **Walther Leisler Kiep**, Sheriff **Joe Arpaio**, Rabbi **Robert Kravitz**, expert on American Indian law Professor **Paul Bender**, Scottsdale Mayor **Mary Manross**, and Arizona State Senator **Robert Burns**.

Sheriff Arpaio's presentation was by far the most controversial part of the conference. His hard-line views on how prison inmates should be treated – including forcing them to wear pink underwear and housing some of them in tents – provoked so much controversy that ACG President **Gerry Hamilton** made an impromptu decision to set aside time at the end of the day for further discussion among the delegates, after the sheriff's departure. That discussion turned out to be probably the most important and emotional discussion of the conference and included fundamental reflections on human rights and crime and punishment. Some delegates took the opportunity the next day to examine the sheriff's prison and the tents and later shared with the group their conclusion that the conditions were not as harsh as described.

The conference organizers left the delegates a good amount of time to get to know one another informally and to get to know Phoenix and the surrounding area. Great socializing abounded near the many swimming pools of the Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch, on the golf course, and in the restaurants and bars, and many close friendships were formed between Americans and Germans. The American delegation also spent two days together before the conference began, getting acquainted and seeing the wonderful red rocks of Sedona and other sites.



Young Leaders delve into key transatlantic issues of the day. Here, German delegate Martin Giese emphasizes his point as other delegates look on.



Scottsdale Mayor Mary Manross (middle) is flanked by American Young Leader Karen E. Kerr, Managing Director of ARCH Venture Partners, and German Young Leader Volker D. Holtfrerich, Head of the Personal Office of the Governing Mayor of Berlin

In between intense policy discussions at the conference sessions, the Young Leaders had a fascinating trip to the Luke Air Force Base in Phoenix, which trains all U.S. F-16 fighter pilots, and to the Mars Global Surveyor Space Flight Facility at Arizona State University. All in all, it was a fantastic week, in which everyone learned a lot, had a great time, and made some wonderful new friends.

*Hope M. Harrison is an Assistant Professor of History and International Affairs at The George Washington University.*

## Obituary

### Otto L. Walter

The American Council on Germany mourns the loss of **Otto L. Walter**, an Honorary Director of the American Council on Germany who was known as a leading authority on German/American law and taxation. He died on January 12, 2003, at the age of 95.

Dr. Walter was a founder of the law firm of Walter, Conston, Alexander & Green, the predecessor firm in New York of Alston & Bird. He served as an adviser to the German Ministry of Finance and played a strong role in the early development of tax treaties between the United States and Germany. Dr. Walter authored numerous books and articles, including the four-volume bilingual work on the German-American Income Tax Treaty published by the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation.

At New York Law School, Dr. Walter was instrumental in developing a program in international law and taught international taxation. The school later awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree and established a lecture series in his name.

Dr. Walter promoted transatlantic relations through an array of activities, serving as a Director of the German American Chamber of Commerce and the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, in addition to his role in the American Council on Germany. He was awarded both the Cross of the Order of Merit and the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit by the Federal Republic of Germany. He also was named German-American of the Year in 1998 by the German American Committee of the USA, Inc.





## The Council and Its Mission

The American Council on Germany is a private, nonprofit organization that was incorporated in New York in 1952 to encourage reconciliation and understanding following the two disastrous world wars in the 20th century. The ACG's mission today is to strengthen and promote open communication and mutual understanding between the United States and Germany. The new challenges and changes facing both countries at the dawn of the 21st century demand intensified dialogue and close cooperation, as it is essential that these two key partners in the transatlantic alliance have a clear understanding of each other's concerns and interests.

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## Multilateral Young Leaders Program on 'The Future of Europe' Inaugurated

The American Council on Germany, the Dräger Foundation, and the Ebelin and Gerd Bucerius ZEIT Foundation have selected participants in a new young leaders study group on "The Future of Europe: Perspectives for European Integration." Opinion leaders and decision-makers from ages 28 to 38 are convening at four meetings over a 24-month period to discuss current and pending challenges facing Europe and the transatlantic relationship.

Four broad topics provide the framework for each of the meetings:

- "Redefining Europe in the 21st Century," to take place in Berlin;
- "Modernizing European Structures – The Dynamics of Widening and Deepening," in Warsaw;
- "Europe and the Transatlantic Partnership," in the Washington, D.C., area;

- And "Compromises for the Greater Europe," in Brussels.

The core participants include 37 young leaders, with 10 hailing from the United States; eight from Poland; 17 from western Europe, including 10 Germans; and two from Russia, together representing business, government, media, and the NGO community. At each meeting, participants are engaging in discussions with senior leaders from the United States and Europe to gain deeper insights into the issues Europe faces as it undergoes a fundamental transformation resulting from the enlargement process. The program is designed to foster leadership qualities in young professionals and create a network of transatlantic colleagues through stimulating dialogue on current political, economic, and social issues across national boundaries.