



## German Leadership, Responsibility, Solidarity?

A workshop as part of the Mercator European Dialogue

STIFTUNG  
MERCATOR

G | M | F The German Marshall Fund  
of the United States  
STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

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HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN & FOREIGN POLICY



## YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

DEAR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT,  
DEAR PARTICIPANT,  
DEAR MEMBER OF THE MERCATOR  
EUROPEAN DIALOGUE COMMUNITY,

We hereby invite you to take part in a workshop on  
“German Leadership, Responsibility, Solidarity?”  
in Berlin on November 25-26, 2015.

Europe is being faced with many challenges. Among these are the Euro crisis, the Ukraine crisis and the refugee crisis. In some of these cases German "leadership" has been praised, while in others it has been criticized. The goal of this workshop is to bring together 15 to 20 national parliamentarians and experts from different European countries to discuss, reflect and analyze the leadership role of Germany in the broader context of changing power relationships in the EU.

It is part of the Mercator European Dialogue project and adds to the four topical priorities that have been identified during the Berlin meeting in September 2015, which are to be carried forward simultaneously. We will be in touch about the four priority areas in a separate e-mail soon.

We would be honored if you joined us for the workshop on “German Leadership, Responsibility, Solidarity?” which is a great opportunity to connect with your colleagues who are part of the Mercator European Dialogue.

Kind regards,

**Daniela Schwarzer**  
GMF

**Ansgar Gessner**  
GMF



## ABOUT THE ISSUE

Germany is at the center of three ongoing crises facing Europe: the Euro crisis, the Ukraine crisis, and the refugee crisis. In some of these cases, German "leadership" has been praised, while in others it has been criticized. What do recent developments tell us about power structures in the EU, and in particular about Germany's role? What are the expectations and perceptions of other EU member states regarding the role of Germany? Is Germany learning to "lead"? How can German leadership develop within the existing structures of the EU?

## WHY IT IS WORTH PARTICIPATING

- » Discuss, reflect and analyze leadership structures within the EU
- » Meet and share your perspectives **with colleagues** from other European parliaments and experts
- » Interact in an innovative and safe environment

## BRING ALONG

Please bring an article or a headline from a newspaper or a magazine to the workshop, which in your opinion presents the common view on German leadership in your country.



## AGENDA

NOVEMBER 25 - 26, 2015

### WEDNESDAY

**20.00 Dinner & get-together**

at Grünfisch | Graefestraße 26 a | 10967 Berlin

### THURSDAY

**08.30 Arrival and refreshments**

at German Marshall Fund of the United States |  
Voßstraße 20 | 10117 Berlin

**09.00 Welcome, introductions, agenda and process**

Dr. Daniela Schwarzer, GMF  
Ansgar Gessner, GMF  
Peter Woodward, independent facilitator

**Germany – the uncomfortable leader?**

Introductory scene-setting thought piece –  
GMF participants share their initial perceptions  
of the emerging German role

**Exploring perceptions of Germany's approach  
to three crises**

- I. Ukraine
- II. Euro-Zone
- III. Refugees

3 introduction pieces followed by group  
and plenary exploration

**12.40 Lunch**

**13.30 What makes Germany act in the way it does?**

Exploring underlying characteristics and impulses

**How might Germany act smarter?**

What characteristics should underpin a more  
effective leadership approach by Germany?  
What should it avoid doing?

**How should we take this conversation forward?**

Group discussion to identify ideas to expand  
the conversation

**16.30 Close**



## LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

### Venue

German Marshall Fund of the United States  
Voßstraße 20 | 10117 Berlin

### Registration

We would be grateful if you registered at your earliest convenience and no later than **Friday, October 30, 2015**. Please register with Thea Greve at [tgreve@gmfus.org](mailto:tgreve@gmfus.org).

### Travel

To book your flight, please contact our travel agent Carlson Wagonlit Travel. Please use the keyword “Mercator European Dialogue” when booking your flight. [team20.berlin.de@contactcwt.com](mailto:team20.berlin.de@contactcwt.com) or +49 30 24 65 90 20

### Accommodation

Motel One Berlin-Leipziger Platz  
Leipziger Platz 12 | 10117 Berlin

### Expenses

Travel and accommodation costs are borne by the Mercator European Dialogue, unless you specifically wish to pay for yourself.

## CONTACTS

For registration, organizational or logistical questions, please contact:



### Thea Greve

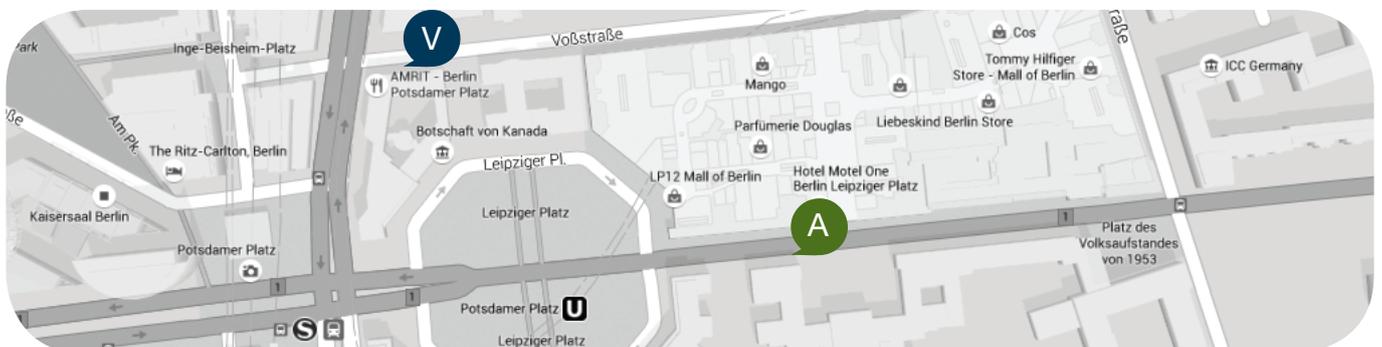
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For questions about the project, please contact:



### Ansgar Gessner

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## A EUROPEAN DIALOGUE BY A EUROPEAN NETWORK OF PARTNERS

### STIFTUNG MERCATOR

Stiftung Mercator is a private foundation which fosters science and the humanities, education and international understanding. It specifically initiates, develops and funds projects and partner organizations in the thematic fields to which it is committed: it wants to strengthen Europe, improve integration through equal

educational opportunities for everyone, drive forward the energy transition as a trigger for global climate change mitigation and firmly anchor cultural education in schools. Stiftung Mercator feels a strong sense of loyalty to the Ruhr region, the home of the founding family and the foundation's headquarters.

### G | M | F The German Marshall Fund of the United States STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) strengthens transatlantic cooperation on regional, national, and global challenges and opportunities in the spirit of the Marshall Plan. GMF contributes research and analysis and convenes leaders on transatlantic issues relevant to policymakers. GMF offers rising leaders opportunities to develop their skills and networks through transatlantic exchange, and supports civil society in the Balkans and Black Sea regions by fostering democratic initiatives,

rule of law, and regional cooperation. Founded in 1972 as a non-partisan, non-profit organization through a gift from Germany as a permanent memorial to Marshall Plan assistance, GMF maintains a strong presence on both sides of the Atlantic. In addition to its headquarters in Washington, DC, GMF has offices in Berlin, Paris, Brussels, Belgrade, Ankara, Bucharest, and Warsaw. GMF also has smaller representations in Bratislava, Turin, and Stockholm.



The Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) was founded on 11 October 1965 on the initiative of Altiero Spinelli. The Institute's main objective is to promote an understanding of the problems of international politics through studies, research, meetings and publications, with the aim of increasing the opportunities of all countries to move in the direction of supranational organization, democratic freedom and social justice (IAI Bylaws, Article 1). It's main research areas

include: EU Institutions and Politics, the EU's Global Role, Turkey and the Neighbourhood, International Political Economy, Mediterranean and Middle East, Transatlantic Relations, Security and Defence, Italian Foreign Policy, Energy. A non-profit organization, the IAI is funded by individual and corporate members, public and private organizations, major international foundations, and by a standing grant from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



The Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) is an independent and plural think tank based in Barcelona, dedicated to the study, research and analysis of international affairs. Created in 1973 as an International Documentation Centre of Barcelona, it is a private foundation since 1979. CIDOB promotes global governance and good practices – based on local, national and European democratic government – to ensure

that people possess the basic elements to live their lives free from fear and in liberty, by facilitating a dialogue that includes all diversities and which actively defends human rights and gender equality. CIDOB is a dynamic community of analytics that works to produce and offer to all political actors – from individual citizens to international organizations – information and ideas to formulate and promote policies for a more secure, free and fair world for everyone.



ELIAMEP is an independent, non-profit and policy-oriented research and training institute. It neither expresses, nor represents, any specific political party view. It is only devoted to the right of free and well-documented discourse.

ELIAMEP's mission is to provide a forum for public debate on issues of European integration and international relations to conduct scientific research that contributes to a better informed and documented knowledge of the European and international environment.