



THE CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUP ON GERMANY

ESTABLISHED 1983

THE CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUPS — GERMANY · TURKEY · JAPAN · EUROPE
PROGRAMS OF THE U.S. ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (FMC)

ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL STUDY GROUP ON GERMANY



Official White House Photo
by Pete Souza

“When I visited Berlin this past June and stood at the Brandenburg Gate, I celebrated the strong and vital bond that united Americans and Germans. For three decades, The Congressional Study Group on Germany (CSGG) has worked to enrich this bond, helping to fortify the relationship between the United States and Germany.

By promoting dialogue between legislators, the CSGG generates insights into our important partnership and enhances understanding between our countries. And by focusing on our shared agenda—spurring economic growth and job creation, expanding transatlantic trade and investment, and promoting freedom, security, and prosperity around the globe—the organization is helping to build a stronger future.

Congratulations on 30 years of strengthening ties. I wish you all the best for the years ahead.

— *President Barack Obama*

The Congressional Study Group on Germany (CSGG) represents one of the largest and most active exchange programs between the U.S. Congress and the legislative branch of another country. Since its founding in 1983, much has transpired in the U.S.-German relationship over the years, and The Congressional Study Group on Germany will continue to offer a forum for both nations’ lawmakers to examine global challenges and discuss and debate policies for economic growth, expanded trade, and international security matters with leading representatives from academia, foundations, think-tanks, industry, and the diplomatic community.

Bipartisan teams of Members of Congress serve as Co-Chairs in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. They host visiting delegations to Washington, represent the Study Group during Capitol Hill events, and advise the Study Group about the priorities of the U.S.-German relationship.



Senator Jeff Sessions
(R-AL)



Senator Jeanne Shaheen
(D-NH)



Rep. Charlie Dent
(R-PA)



Rep. Tim Ryan
(D-OH)

OUR PROGRAMMING

Three main pillars form the basis of Study Group programming:

Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminar

The Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminar brings together Members of the U.S. Congress with their counterparts in the German Bundestag for several days of intensive, in-depth discussions.

In addition to current and former lawmakers from the United States and Germany, representatives from the U.S. State Department, the German Foreign Ministry, and the business and academic communities also participate. The Seminars alternate between Germany and the United States.

The Seminar, which constitutes the pinnacle of Study Group programming each year, has been an invaluable platform for a frank exchange of opinions and ideas and a mechanism for creating and reinforcing personal friendships and ties across the Atlantic.



The 30th Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminar in Berlin at the German Foreign Office with State Minister Georg Michael Link

Senior Congressional Staff Study Tour

The annual Congressional Staff Study Tour complements events throughout the year on Capitol Hill that are geared toward senior Congressional staff. These trips give participants the chance to hear about Germany's political and economic landscape first-hand and to learn how the transatlantic relationship has changed. The result is greater understanding, better cooperation, more direct channels of communication, and a heightened appreciation for Germany. Alumni of our trips help to form a cadre of engaged and empowered individuals in Congress working to preserve and advance the U.S.-German relationship.



A roundtable on U.S.-German business investments on Capitol Hill featuring the Presidents of the BDI and DIHK

Distinguished Visitors Program on Capitol Hill

The Distinguished Visitors Program exposes participants to the issues that affect U.S.-German relations by bringing high-level speakers to Capitol Hill.

The Congressional Study Group on Germany is pleased to have the opportunity to plan and organize events for visiting Members of the Bundestag, German cabinet-level officials, and Minister Presidents from the various states of Germany.

The Study Group works with the German Embassy, political foundations, business representatives, and the academic community to host substantive roundtable discussion on Capitol Hill.



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“The Congressional Study Group on Germany is celebrating its 30th anniversary. This in itself shows its members’ commitment to fostering the close relations between our two countries and filling them with vibrancy. This is an aim which I wholeheartedly share. I am very grateful for our meetings, which have always guaranteed a valuable exchange of views on issues of common interest.

An open and trusting dialogue – that is precisely what makes the links between parliamentarians on both sides of the Atlantic such an important pillar of the German-American partnership and friendship. — *Chancellor Angela Merkel*

Featured speakers and distinguished guests from recent programming include:

Jan Philipp Albrecht MEP (The Greens) · H.E. Dr. Peter Ammon, German Ambassador to the United States · **Phil Barnett**, Staff Director, House Energy and Commerce Committee · **Martin Blessing**, Chairman of the Board of Managing Directors, Commerzbank · **Bernard Gustin**, President and CEO, Brussels Airlines · **Peter Beyer MdB (CDU)**, Bundestag Foreign Affairs Committee · **Lothar Binding MdB (SPD)** · **Dr. Peter Frey**, Editor-in-Chief of ZDF · **Dr. Ulrike Guerot**, European Council on Foreign Relations · **Emily Haber**, Deputy Foreign Minister of Germany · **State Secretary Anne Ruth Herkes**, German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology · **Joachim Herrmann**, Minister of the Interior, Free State of Bavaria · **State Secretary Dr. Günter Krings MdB (CDU)** · **Dr. Stefan Mair**, BDI · **The Hon. Tom McMillen**, Former Member of Congress · **Philipp Mißfelder MdB (CDU)**, Foreign Affairs Spokesman ·



(L-R) AUSTR Dan Mullaney, Bernard Gustin, Ambassador Jan Matthysen, and The Hon. Bart Gordon



Ruprecht Polenz, MdB with Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA)

Dan Mullaney, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative · **Dr. Konstantin von Notz MdB (The Greens)** · **Ruprecht Polenz MdB**, Chairman, Bundestag Committee on Foreign Affairs · **Hans-Gert Pöttering, MEP**, CDU/European People’s Party · **Dr. Norbert Röttgen MdB (CDU)**, Chairman of the Bundestag Committee on Foreign Affairs · **Dr. Philipp Rösler**, Vice Chancellor of Germany · **Tommy Ross**, Senior Defense and Intelligence Advisor, Office of Senate Majority Leader · **Ambassador Miriam Shapiro**, Deputy US Trade Representative · **Dr. Volker Treier**, DIHK · **H.E. Peter Wittig**, German Ambassador to the United States Delegations from the **German-American Association for Parliamentary Staff**, **German Federal College for Security Studies**, **Atlantik-Brücke**, and **German Association for Healthcare IT**

OUR SERVICES

Non-partisan, High-level, and Effective

Networking: The goal of our programs is to bring together policymakers, business representatives, and other stakeholders and experts to exchange views on the most critical issues of the day.

In addition to our Co-Chairs, we maintain strong connections with dozens of Members of Congress and countless other senior staff. Through our Diplomatic Advisory Council (DAC), we also have an outreach to the diplomatic community. With each program, our network grows.

Effective Use of Time: Ad hoc networking is frequently time consuming and—in the long run—ineffective. However, through our Study Groups, our partners are invited to participate in issue-driven events that put them directly in contact with top-level representatives who are committed to transpacific relations. All of our participants find real, tangible value in our programming.

Identification of Critical Issues and Key Players: We work in close contact with our partners to help us identify issue priorities from both



the public and private sectors. We also look to our members to help identify and alert us to visiting high-level representatives or dignitaries that we may feature in our programming.

Outreach to Former Members of Congress:

The Congressional Study Groups benefit from the fact that our programs are administered by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC), a 501(c)(3) organization committed to promoting public service and strengthening representative democracy at home and abroad.

Former Members of Congress possess unique and extensive expertise, and are able to serve as advisors in understanding complex legislation, policy formulation, and regulations. Freed from the constraints of office, former Members are able to provide more candid guidance and opinions. They are invaluable resources for The Study Groups.

Recognition for Support: The many programs and activities of the Congressional Study Groups would simply not be possible without the continued support of our members and partners.

We make every effort to recognize patronage whenever appropriate on digital and printed materials, as well as verbally at our events.



“The Representative of German Industry and Trade (RGIT) partners with a variety of organizations in Washington to augment RGIT’s own efforts at strengthening transatlantic ties. A key partner is The Congressional Study Group on Germany, which offers an unparalleled range of programs designed to facilitate an open dialogue and exchange of views between Members of Congress and stakeholders from industry on both sides of the Atlantic.

— Dr. Thomas Zielke, President, Representative of German Industry and Trade

OUR PARTNERS

“ The Congressional Study Group on Germany is an effective channel for German and American lawmakers to voice their viewpoints on the transatlantic relationship and on global affairs more generally. Global change requires cooperation between allies to be effective, and The Congressional Study Group on Germany offers Members of Congress and the Bundestag the opportunity to exchange ideas openly and find common solutions to challenges facing both of their respective nations.

— *Craig Kennedy, President of The German Marshall Fund of the United States*

Activities of The Congressional Study Group on Germany are supported by The German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Atlantik-Brücke, and the corporations which make up the Study Group’s Business Advisory Council (BAC).

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

STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION



Business Advisory Council

Airbus North America Holdings

Allianz

BASF

B. Braun Medical

Daimler

Deutsche Post DHL

Deutsche Telekom North America

Eli Lilly and Company

Fresenius SE & Co. KGaA

Lufthansa German Airlines

Representative of German Industry and Trade

United Parcel Service

Volkswagen of America, Inc.

From time to time, the Study Group also collaborates with like-minded organizations. When we work together, we maximize our outreach and efforts to strengthen the U.S.-Germany relationship. We are thrilled to have the support of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany and the German political foundations — the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, the Hanns Seidel Foundation, the Heinrich Böll Foundation, and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

TESTIMONIALS

The Congressional Study Group on Germany does important work. In my view, the relationship between Germany and the United States remains very significant to both countries. I am very proud that my Administration presided over the tearing down of the Berlin Wall and helped to bring about the unification of Germany. These were historic events in which the U.S. played a supportive role, and it is important that we continue to be active in strengthening the American-German relationship.

— *Former President George H. W. Bush*

“For the past three decades, The Congressional Study Group on Germany has been an invaluable venue for fostering and enhancing German-American relations. By bringing key legislators and legislative staff from the United States and Germany together, the Study Group has helped forge personal and professional ties. As a regular participant in the Study Group’s events, such as the 2013 Congress-Bundestag Seminar, I very much appreciate the role of this institution in strengthening our deep political and cultural bonds. I am deeply grateful for the tremendous service which the Study Group, its Chairs, its Members, and its dedicated staff have done to the bilateral and the transatlantic relationship.

— *Dr. Peter Ammon, German Ambassador to the United States*

The transatlantic partnership has been a foundation of U.S. foreign policy since World War II. The end of the Cold War and the attacks of September 11, 2011, have brought with them a new set of challenges and opportunities for the Alliance. The Congressional Study Group on Germany reinforces the deep political and cultural bonds that exist between the United States, Germany, and Europe.

— *Secretary Chuck Hagel (R-NE, 1997-2009), former Senate Co-Chair of The Congressional Study Group on Germany*

Real insight comes through personal experience. The Congressional Study Group on Germany is a unique forum for leaders from both sides of the Atlantic to speak with each other openly. For me, it was an invaluable network to bring Germany’s message to the U.S. Congress. Relationships formed over the years through the Study Group have helped both sides to understand one another and to keep the transatlantic partnership focused on our common goals, even in times of disagreement and transatlantic friction.

— *Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, Chairman of the Munich Security Conference and former Ambassador to the United States*



For many years The Congressional Study Group on Germany has played a vital role in facilitating contact between, on one side, German parliamentarians and other German political figures, and with Members of Congress on the other. I wholeheartedly support its work and wish it continued success in the future.
— *Vice President Joseph R. Biden, former Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee*

The Congressional Study Group on Germany has made an enormous contribution to the German-American relationship. The annual seminars, meetings, and study tours they sponsor provide U.S. Congressional participants and their German Bundestag counterparts the opportunity to learn from each other and help maintain and strengthen a transatlantic foundation of trust. These programs are one of our best guarantees that U.S.-German relations remain close, strong, and mutually beneficial.
— *Senator Dan Coats (R-IN), former U.S. Ambassador to Germany*

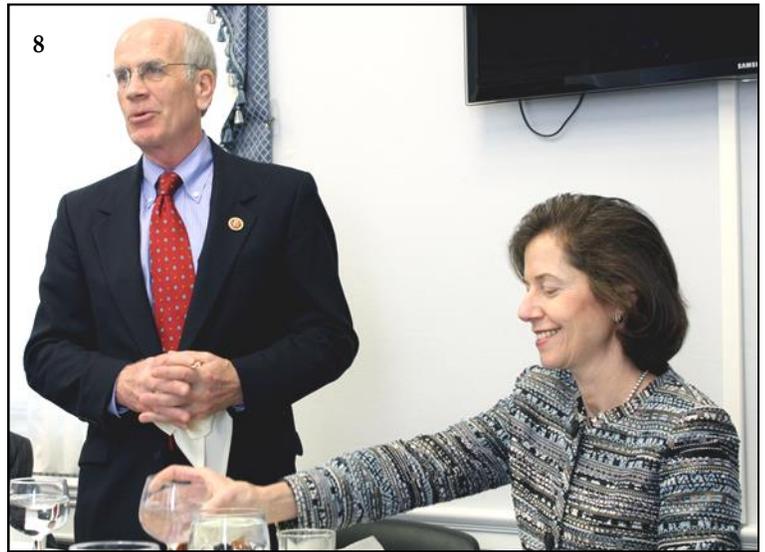
The Congressional Study Group on Germany is our indispensable partner in the ongoing and fruitful cooperation between the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag. We sit together, talk together and try to understand each other. In times of disturbance, we succeeded to overcome misunderstandings on both sides of the Atlantic. In times of challenge, we try to help and support each other as best as possible. We will continue to do so.
— *Hans-Ulrich Klose, MdB, former Chairman of the Bundestag's German-American Parliamentary Group*

As the founding Chairman of The Congressional Study Group on Germany, I am pleased to see that it has become such an important instrument of dialogue between the United States and Germany. There is no substitute for the kind of exchange between Members of Congress and the Bundestag that is enabled through the Study Group. Members form personal relationships with one another; our two countries gain understanding and insight into one another; and cooperation between the U.S. and Germany is empowered.
— *The Hon. Lee Hamilton (D-IN, 1965-1999), former Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee*





1 - The 30th Annual Congress-Bundestag Seminar meets with State Minister Georg Michael Link; 2 - German Ambassador Dr. Peter Ammon with The Hon. Bart Gordon and Spanish Ambassador Jorge Dezcallar Mazarredo ; 3 - Vice Chancellor Philipp Rösler; 4 - The German-American Association of Parliamentary Staff (DAVP) discuss energy issues with Phil Barnett, Democratic Staff Director of the House Energy and Commerce Committee; 5 - Rep. Tim Ryan, CSGG Co-Chair, addresses a Study Group roundtable; 6 - Rep. Eliot Engel, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, with Croatian Ambassador Joško Paro



7 - Rep. Jim Costa with Assistant USTR Dan Mullaney, Bernard Gustin, CEO of Brussels Airlines, and Belgian Ambassador Jan Matthyssen; 8 - Rep. Peter Welch and Deputy USTR Miriam Sapiro discuss the announcement of the Transatlantic and Trade Investment Partnership; 9 - Rep. Jim Costa addresses a delegation from the Atlantik-Brücke; 10 - Rep. Russ Carnahan and State Minister Emily Haber; 11 - Rep. Tim Murphy and Dr. Rainer Stinner, MdB, examine archival documents at the German Federal Foreign Office; 12 - Rep. Diana DeGette and Lino Lipinsky on the top of the Reichstag



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