



COUNCIL OF THE  
GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE  
at HARVARD e.V.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person, or if we wait for some other time.  
We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

---

*Barack Obama*



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at **HARVARD** e.V.

# DEAR FRIENDS OF THE GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE, DEAR HARVARD FELLOWS,

We invite you to become part of a young transatlantic 'startup' that focuses on shaping the German-American future. Why do we want you to join us on this journey? Just as simple as that: 'E pluribus unum' – together, we can achieve more than we can alone. We do not want to simply leave it to others to make the world a somewhat better place. This is what we feel passionate about and what motivates us – and the mere fact that you are reading this indicates that we share the same values.

We want to achieve our vision by stimulating a new framework for inspirational and honest dialogues on today's most pressing issues, such as climate change, migration, international trade and the digital revolution or global security.

We are actively building powerful and long lasting connections across sectors and generations when students with a diversity of international experiences meet with politicians, CEOs, or Harvard Professors at events of the Council.

In particular, we want to create opportunities for aspiring young leaders to contribute their fresh ideas and shape our social, political, economic, and academic future. We hope that our various event series and formats throughout the year on both sides of the Atlantic, such as discussion forums, workshops, site visits of various organizations, and intimate wine & dines will provide the respective platforms for such fruitful exchanges.

Our core mission is to support the German American Conference at Harvard. We want to serve as a stable foundation that the organizing committee of the each conference can build upon. We offer a means for students involved in organizing the Conference to pass on responsibility to the next team while keep on being available whenever called upon for advise.

While we are aware that this is a tremendous project, we strongly believe that if everyone makes a small contribution, we can make this dream come true. Let's start now!

A warm welcome to the Council of the German American Conference at Harvard e.V.!

Yours,



Frederic Rupprecht  
CHAIRMAN &  
GAC CO-CHAIR 2015



Noshad Irshad  
CHAIRMAN &  
GAC CO-CHAIR 2015



Fredrik von Bothmer  
DIRECTOR  
(LEGAL)



David Middelbeck  
DIRECTOR  
(DIGITAL & IT)



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Learn about the history of the German American Conference at Harvard and its successful development.



In **2008**, passionate students from Harvard University have set the cornerstone for a transatlantic success story. The foundation of the now called: German American Conference – a student-run conference at Harvard University



**GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE**  
*a student-run conference at HARVARD UNIVERSITY*



The **STUDENT-LED** conference has established itself as one of the most successful conferences at Harvard.



# THE LARGEST STUDENT-LED CONFERENCE OF ITS KIND IN THE UNITED STATES



## THE CONFERENCE

Watch the official after movie of the German American Conference at Harvard. You can also find it on our website: [www.harvard-gac.org](http://www.harvard-gac.org)

THIS SUCCESS STORY IS THE RESULT OF MANY PASSIONATE STUDENTS, WHO DECIDED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY INVESTING THEIR TIME AND EFFORT IN STRENGTHENING OUR TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS.



## 8 YEARS OF INSPIRING DIALOGUES



**2008**

**GERMANY IN THE MODERN WORLD**

**Chair Team**  
 1. Marcel Dietsch  
 2. Max Milz  
 3. Geraldine Prasuhn



**2009**

**DIVISION AND UNITY**

**Chair Team**  
 1. Eva Gerdemann  
 2. Malte Janzarik



**2010**

**ADDRESSING GLOBAL CHALLENGES: DIRECTIONS FOR A NEW DECADE**

**Chair Team**  
 1. Lukas Streiff  
 2. Nadja Himpler,  
 3. Birte Schreitter von Schwarzenfeld



**2011**

**THE GERMAN CONFERENCE AT HARVARD: FUTURE**

**Chair**  
 Matthias Bäuml



**2012**

**DECIDEDLY INDECISIVE? THE GERMAN ANGST OF LEADERSHIP**

**Chair**  
 Kate Sadegh-Zadeh



**2013**

**THE END OF THE WEST AS WE KNOW IT?**

**Chair**  
 Kai Brückerhoff



**2014**

**THE US AND GERMANY: DRIFTING APART?**

**Chair Team**  
 1. Mirco Günther  
 2. Léa Steinacker



**2015**

**GERMANY AND THE U.S.: BUILDING OUR FUTURE**

**Chair Team**  
 1. Frederic Rupprecht  
 2. Noshad Irshad  
 3. Julia von Cube  
 4. Bernhard Guerich

THE CONFERENCE HAS NOW BECOME AN INSPIRING GET TOGETHER OF AMERICAN AND GERMAN LEADERS FROM BUSINESS, POLITICS AND ACADEMIA WITH STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS.



GENERAL MICHAEL HAYDEN  
FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE CIA AND NSA

200+  
SPEAKERS

4000+  
PARTICIPANTS

1 Transatlantic  
Network

8

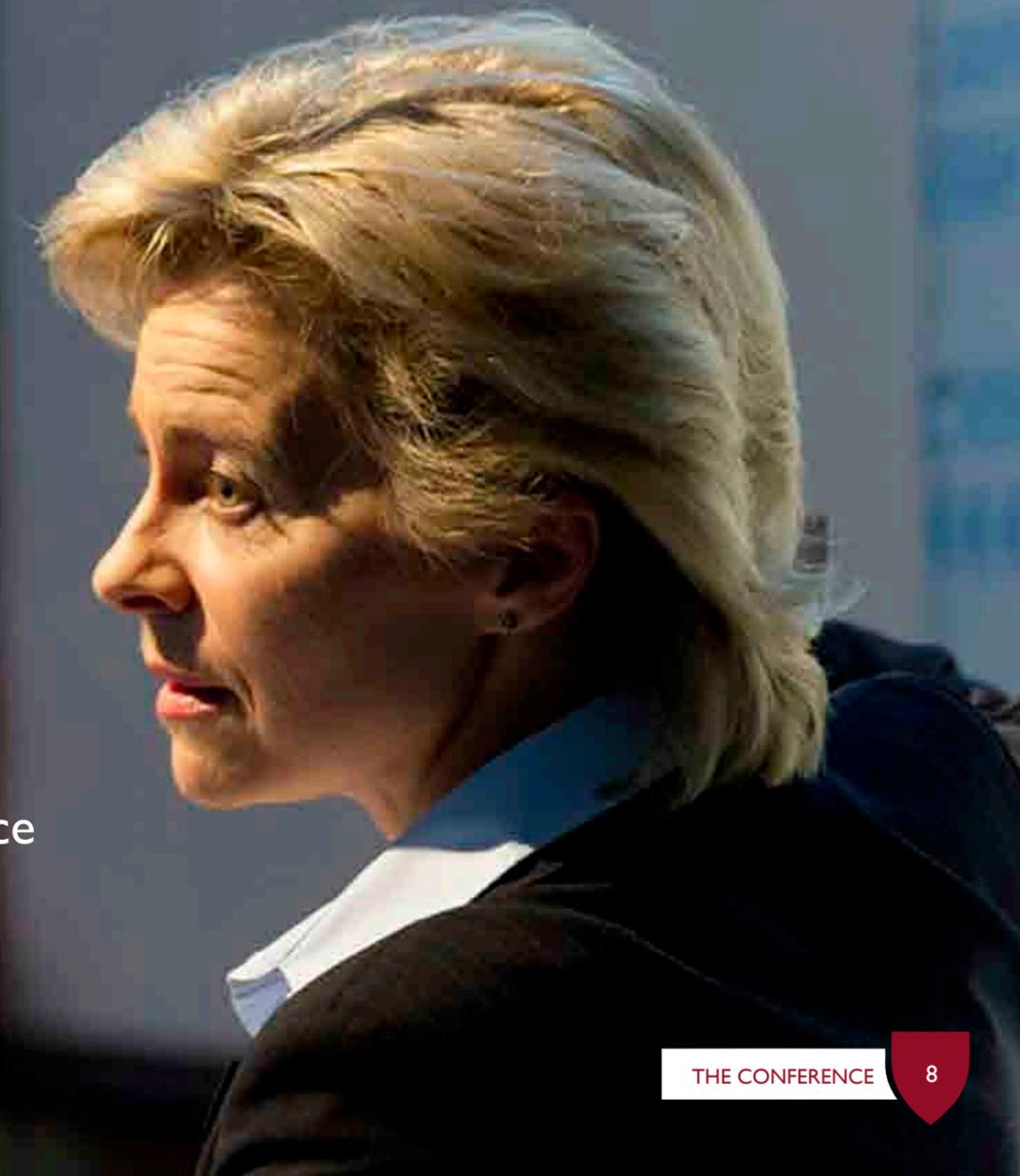
CONFERENCES



INGO ZAMPERONI  
CORRESPONDENT FOR ARD GERMAN TV

“The contribution and the impulses achieved by the German American Conference for our bilateral relations, cannot be overestimated”

DR. URSULA VON DER LEYEN  
FEDERAL MINISTER OF DEFENSE



# CONTINUING THE SUCCESS STORY OF THE GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Join us on:

**April 7th - 9th, 2017**

## Connecting Future Generations

Topics will include the societal polarization, entrepreneurship, the future of work, urban mobility, security, innovation and many more.

### CO-CHAIRS OF THE 9TH GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE



FABIAN BALDAUF



GREG DOBAK



RACHEL SEAVEY

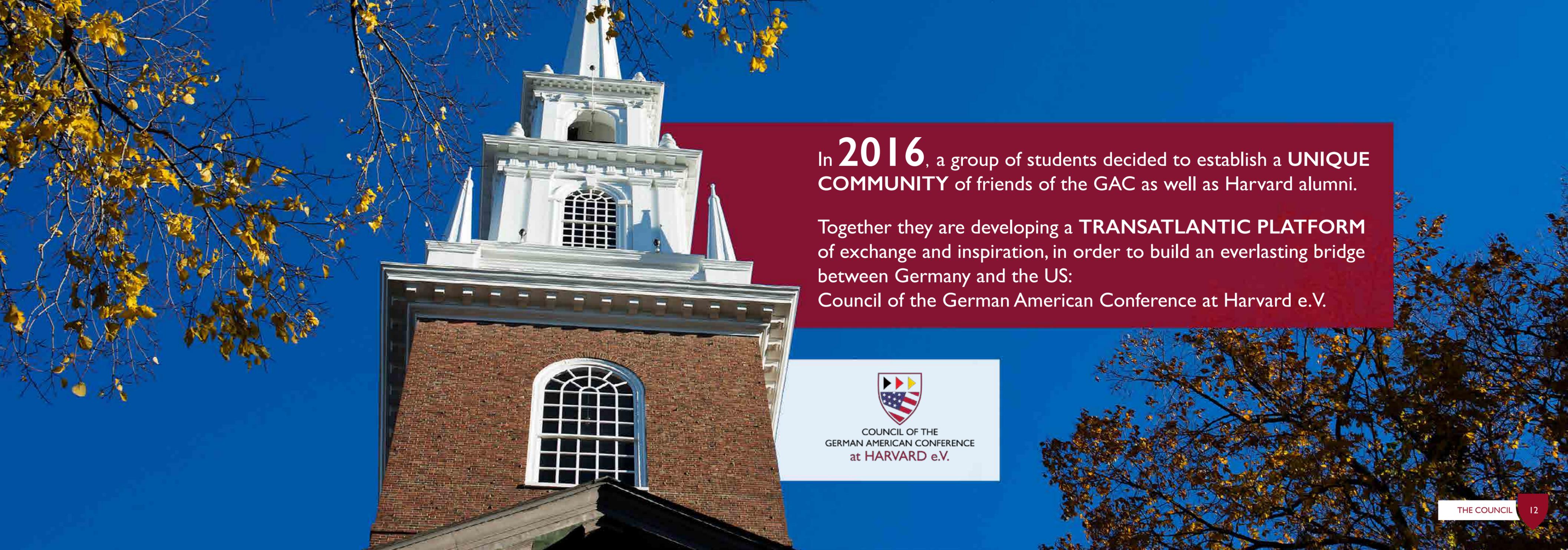


TIM ENKE



SOPHIE WEIHMANN

Contact us to get involved:  
[chairs2017@germanamericanconference.org](mailto:chairs2017@germanamericanconference.org)



In **2016**, a group of students decided to establish a **UNIQUE COMMUNITY** of friends of the GAC as well as Harvard alumni.

Together they are developing a **TRANSATLANTIC PLATFORM** of exchange and inspiration, in order to build an everlasting bridge between Germany and the US:  
Council of the German American Conference at Harvard e.V.

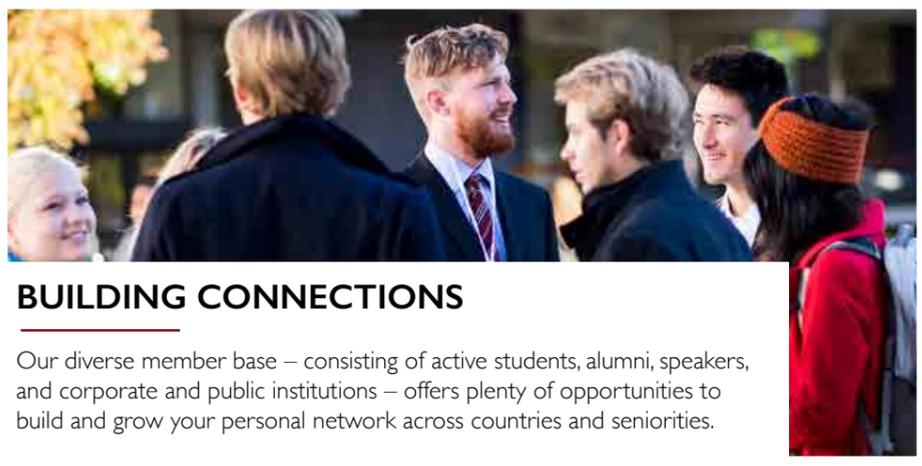


COUNCIL OF THE  
GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE  
at **HARVARD** e.V.

THE COUNCIL SERVES AS AN ALUMNI CLUB FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE AS WELL AS FOR FORMER HARVARD FELLOWS, AND BEYOND THAT SUPPORTS THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT HARVARD.



**CONFERENCE SUPPORT**  
 The Council supports the student team in the planning and organization of the respective German American Conference at Harvard.

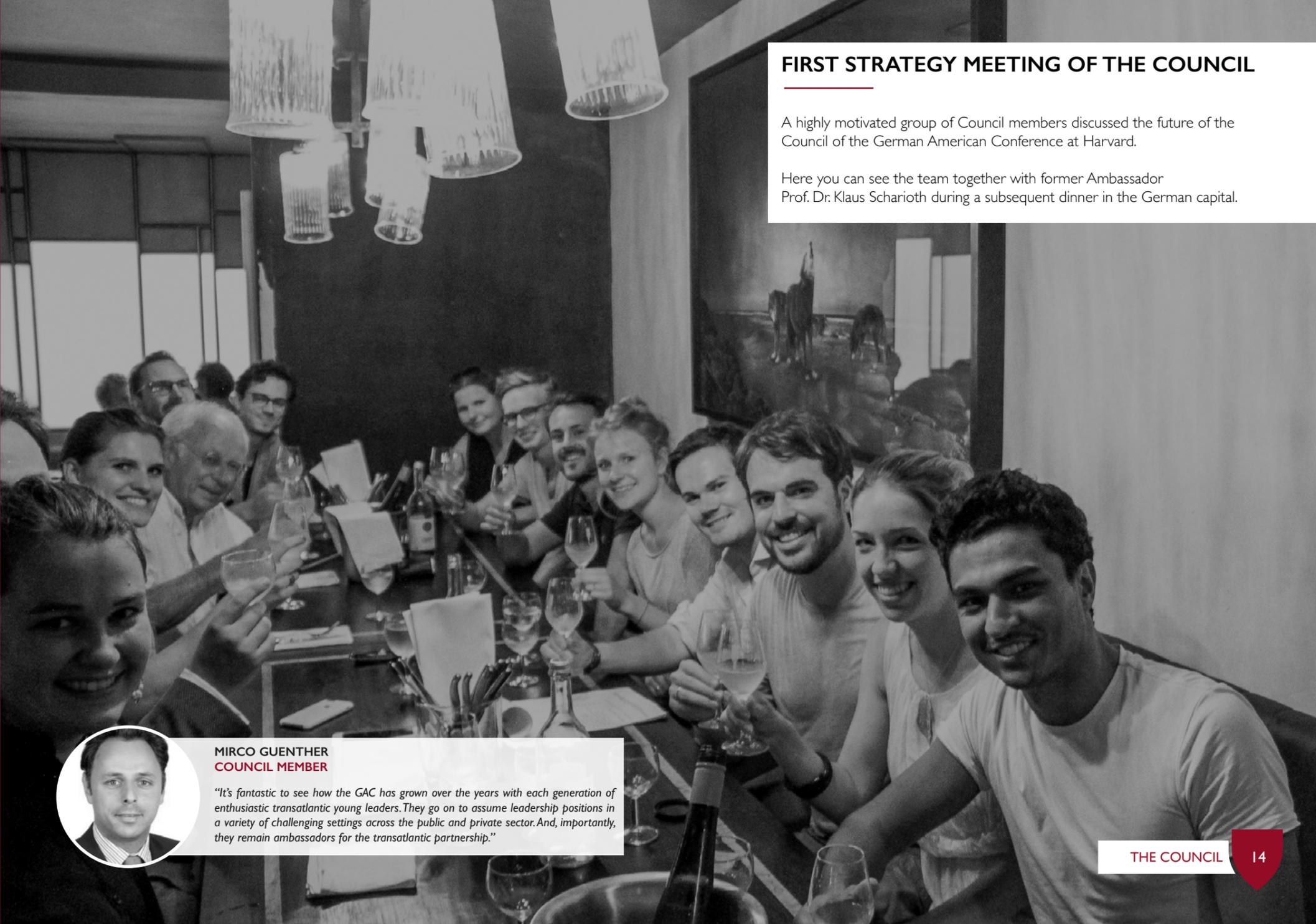


**BUILDING CONNECTIONS**  
 Our diverse member base – consisting of active students, alumni, speakers, and corporate and public institutions – offers plenty of opportunities to build and grow your personal network across countries and seniorities.



**TRANSATLANTIC EVENTS**  
 The Council strives to foster fresh and constructive debates on transatlantic issues. Join our various new event formats, including regular discussion forums, workshops, site visits of various organizations and intimate wine & dines on both sides of the Atlantic.

**FIRST STRATEGY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**  
 A highly motivated group of Council members discussed the future of the Council of the German American Conference at Harvard.  
 Here you can see the team together with former Ambassador Prof. Dr. Klaus Scharioth during a subsequent dinner in the German capital.



**MIRCO GUENTHER**  
**COUNCIL MEMBER**  
*"It's fantastic to see how the GAC has grown over the years with each generation of enthusiastic transatlantic young leaders. They go on to assume leadership positions in a variety of challenging settings across the public and private sector. And, importantly, they remain ambassadors for the transatlantic partnership."*

THE COUNCIL'S ORGANIZATIONAL SETUP ENABLES US TO BOTH TAKE THE GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE TO THE NEXT LEVEL AND PROVIDE A TREMENDOUS EXPERIENCE FOR THE ALUMNI OF THE CONFERENCE AND HARVARD UNIVERSITY.



**KILIAN MITTL**  
**HEAD OF MEMBER RELATIONS**  
 "Our members have an extraordinarily diverse set of backgrounds and aspire to be or are already leaders in their respective fields. Bringing them together and hearing their different perspectives is enormously interesting and a joy to facilitate."

**JULIA VON CUBE**  
**GAC CO-CHAIR 2015**

„The German American Conference at Harvard gives us the unique opportunity to learn and understand what the transatlantic partnership really means to Germany, to the U.S. – to all of us.“



# THE ORGANIZATION

## MEMBERS COMMUNITY

- Organizers of the Conference
- Harvard Alumni
- Friends of the Conference
- Speakers
- Sponsors

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- Director (IT)
- Director (Legal)

## THE COUNCIL

- German Ambassador to the U.S.
- Consul General of Boston
- Executives of Institutions
- Strategic Advisors

- Council Team
- City Ambassadors
- Scouts
- Strategic Partners

## PRESIDIUM

## SUPPORTERS

# OUR PRESIDIUM

The Council is supported by a strong Presidium, including global leaders and Harvard faculty members.

We are proud to have committed Presidium members on our side, who support us with their wisdom, passion for transatlantic relations, and unique network of global shapers.

„There are a lot of issues to be tackled in this world, but we can join forces and that is something very inspiring.“

“From the first moment on, I was amazed by the commitment and drive of the Council’s members. Their enthusiasm for the idea of a transatlantic friendship indeed builds bridges, not only across the Atlantic but also across generations and political camps – as such, I wish the project every success!”

“The German American Conference at Harvard provides a high-level platform for transatlantic dialogue for future leaders. This is forward-looking transatlantic cooperation at its best.“

“It is amazing what the students built up over the years - relevant and impactful. They deserve our support in making the GAC a sustainable institution by being ourselves pro-active pillars of the network the Council shall become. I proudly contribute!“

“The field that defines the transatlantic partnership is rich; it extends to the thousands of people-to-people contacts and relationships – from students and young people, to scholars and scientists, to cultural and social figures, to business and political leaders. And these ties especially depend on you and how you – and other young people like you – fill them with life.“



**DR. GUIDO GOLDMAN**  
Director of the Program for the Study of Germany and Europe, CES, Harvard University



**JÜRGEN HARDT, MdB**  
Transatlantic Coordinator at the Federal Foreign Office



**DR. RALPH HORLEMANN**  
Consul General of Germany to New England



**DR. ANNETTE JULIUS**  
Secretary General Studienstiftung



**PROF. DR. KARL KAISER**  
Senior Associate Program on Transatlantic Relations, WCPIA, Harvard University



**BODO LIESENFELD**  
CEO, Liesenfeld International



**PROF. DR. MIRIAM MECKEL**  
Editor in Chief, WirtschaftsWoche



**PROF. DR. MATHIAS RISSE**  
Professor, HKS, Harvard University



**PROF. DR. KLAUS SCHARIOTH**  
Dean of the Mercator College for International Affairs



**DR. PETER WITTIG**  
German Ambassador to the US



**OUR PRESIDIUM**  
A complete list of our Presidium members can be viewed on our website or by simply scanning this code.

Presidium Members as of October 1st, 2016

WE ARE CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR PASSIONATE PEOPLE, WHO WANT TO BE A PART OF OUR TEAM.

CREATIVE MINDS

SIMON GINCBERG  
HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS



*"Working for such a great purpose together with so many brilliant minds is a lot of fun and super inspiring. Especially since everyone is so passionate about their work and our joint mission to actually make a difference with our transatlantic platform."*

SCOUTS

ORGANIZATIONAL GURUS

GET INVOLVED

CITY AMBASSADORS

GAME CHANGERS

If you feel spoken to by one of those terms and want to support us on our mission, we look forward to hearing from you: [board@harvard-gac.org](mailto:board@harvard-gac.org)

# CITY AMBASSADORS

**CAMBRIDGE**  
German American Conference at Harvard

**NEW YORK CITY**  
Dominika Sarnecka

"Building a Transatlantic Network truly is the focus of the Council. We engage both German and American leaders and foster a cooperation between them and young professionals on both continents. With this goal in mind, we set New York as the center of our US activity."



**WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
Christian-Hendrik Heusermann

"With populism and isolationism growing on both sides of the Atlantic - also among the young generation - it is important to come up with new innovative ideas and narratives for the transatlantic relations. GAC is such an exciting conference as it does this by bringing American and German students together and let them define and discuss these new topics. I look forward to supporting GAC with this endeavor in Cambridge and Washington D.C."



"Dynamic debates and constructive exchange are the cornerstone of effective transatlantic relations. The GAC facilitates both with strong minds from across the Atlantic at a place bustling with inspiration. Organizing the conference together with Mirco Günther in 2014 was a true highlight of my time at Harvard."

**DÜSSELDORF**  
Léa Steinacker

**HAMBURG**  
Frederic Rupprecht

**BERLIN**  
Council of the GAC e.V.

**MÜNCHEN**  
Kilian Mittl

Across Germany and the United States, the Council is currently present in seven cities with City Ambassadors. Our City Ambassadors are the go-to person for new and existing members from the respective region. They organize regional member events throughout the year and help grow the Council's regional presence.

Want to become a City Ambassador for your region as well?  
Please contact us: [board@harvard-gac.org](mailto:board@harvard-gac.org)



## BECOME A MEMBER!

We would love to welcome you as a companion on our journey.

If you have an affiliation with the GAC or Harvard University, you are invited to become a member of our Council and join our fast growing network.

If we sparked your interest, please reach out to us via our website! All details as well as our application form can be accessed by simply scanning this code or via: [www.harvard-gac.org/join-us/](http://www.harvard-gac.org/join-us/)



**FABIAN BALDAUF**  
HEAD OF KEY ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT

"Building lasting connections and friendships across the Atlantic is a giant project, but we are glad to have so many fantastic people and organizations accompanying our endeavor. Working together with such a passionate and inspirational team on transatlantic relations is one of the most exciting things to do."

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

STAY IN TOUCH  
WITH OLD HARVARD FRIENDS  
AND MAKE NEW ONES

SUPPORT AND SHAPE  
THE NEXT GENERATIONS OF  
GERMAN AMERICAN CONFERENCES

ATTEND  
EXCLUSIVE EVENTS

CONNECT  
WITH TRANSATLANTIC LEADERS

## BECOME A CORPORATE MEMBER AND CONNECT WITH THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW.

### BENEFITS

-  Access to all sponsoring packages of the German American Conference and the Council (details provided upon request via: [info@Harvard-gac.org](mailto:info@Harvard-gac.org))
-  Tickets for our regular events in Germany and the U.S. (e.g. German American Conference at Harvard, Council Forum, Presidium Dinner)
-  Right to vote at the Council's annual members meeting



**ARTJEM WEISSBECK**  
CEO & CO-FOUNDER KAPTEN & SON

*"Our attendance at the GAC 2015 was the first step of expanding our company to the U.S. – the conference not only opened up a powerful network of mentors, partners, employees and friends to us, but especially helped us understand the dynamics of the U.S. market first hand. We are happy to have recently opened our U.S. office in NYC."*



**FRANK MATTERN**  
DIRECTOR & GLOBAL HEAD OF RECRUITING  
MCKINSEY & COMPANY

*"I [...] congratulate the students who put this all up. It is a pleasure to be a part of it."*

CONNECT WITH GERMAN AND AMERICAN HARVARD STUDENTS

CONNECT WITH GERMAN AND AMERICAN YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FROM HARVARD

CONNECT WITH BUSINESS PARTNERS

ACCELERATE YOUR BUSINESS GROWTH ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC

CONTRIBUTE TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE GERMAN AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP

If you are interested and want to receive more information, please reach out to us via [www.corporate.harvard-gac.org](http://www.corporate.harvard-gac.org)

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS.

**HANIEL**  
Stiftung

 **LIESENFELD**  
INTERNATIONAL

*Supporters listed as of October 2016*



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Represented by the board of directors  
Frederic Rupprecht (Chairman)  
Noshad Irshad  
Fredrik von Bothmer  
David Middelbeck

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