



The Work of the Hanns Seidel Foundation.



In the service of democracy, peace and development

For more information about Hanns Seidel Foundation in English: www.hss.de/english

Bavaria in Germany –

Homeland of Hanns Seidel Foundation:



Foundation Headquarters, Munich



Munich Conference Centre



Kloster Banz Educational Centre (former monastery)

THE IDENTITY OF HANNS SEIDEL FOUNDATION

Democracy can survive only with a democratically-minded population. This lesson, learned from the failure of the first German Republic, the Weimar Republic, led the Federal Republic of Germany to establish political foundations. As an important part of political culture, these foundations would henceforth serve as a lasting and profound anchor for democratic awareness in our country. Former German President Roman Herzog accurately characterised them as “schools of democratic thought and action, testbeds for civil courage and common sense that bestow upon us the ethical principles without which our political system cannot function.” Today, six political foundations operate in Germany, spanning the political spectrum. Each is closely aligned with one party. Their legitimacy comes from nearly complete state funding from the German parliament. Their conscious and intentional coexistence is an exercise in pluralism founded upon on a basic consensus on liberal democratic principles. “Democracy,” Herzog also said, “means example as well as instruction.”

The Hanns Seidel Foundation, named after the former Bavarian prime minister and CSU chairman, has belonged to this family of foundations since 1967. It is politically aligned with the Christian Social Union and engages in political education with the aim of promoting the democratic and civic education of the German people on Christian foundations. Its educational programmes extend beyond party boundaries and are open to all interested citizens. Its commitment to democracy, peace, and development abroad also rests on these foundations. In addition, the foundation’s practical actions focus on standards of human dignity and tolerance, freedom and

responsibility, solidarity and sustainability, equality of opportunity and intergenerational justice, and subsidiarity as a principle of responsibility and structure.

Mission and objectives must be pursued consistently. Structures must be reviewed, processes corrected, and new formats developed and introduced. Digitalisation is also becoming increasingly important for political education. We are very well positioned here. Online seminars are no substitute for face-to-face seminars, but they complement our range of services decisively. This enables us to generate new reach to young target groups. Participation in the socio-political debate, dialogue with various interest groups, and the development of solution strategies are among our tasks – which we fulfil nationally and internationally, always in the service of democracy, peace, and development. This brochure provides a compact overview of the Hanns Seidel Foundation’s wide-ranging activities.



Markus Ferber, MEP
Chairman



Oliver Jörg
General secretary

THE FOUNDATION AS A NETWORK



Its engagement as a socio-political educational institution and a player in development cooperation gives the Hanns Seidel Foundation access to a **global network**. It has fostered contacts in Germany and abroad over the course of decades. As a party-affiliated organisation, it enjoys good relations with associations, churches, and various cultural institutions, and especially the educational sector and the world of academia. The network is complemented by countless contacts with people whose ideals align with those of Christian socialism, and this of course includes our current and former fellows. The focus here is on multipliers who seek conversation with the Hanns Seidel Foundation.

As a platform for socio-political discourse on various topics, the Hanns Seidel Foundation promotes the exchange of opinions.

Our recognised expertise in development cooperation has given us ties to governments, parliaments, and heads of state in more than 60 countries. Our local project partners are closely involved with civil society in their countries.

OVERVIEW: MISSION AND FIELDS OF ACTIVITY



The conceptual and operational work of the Hanns Seidel Foundation is primarily concentrated in five departments. Whilst the **Academy for Politics and Current Affairs** focuses on current trends and scholarly research, the **Institute for Political Education** offers seminars on a number of different topics. The **Institute for Scholarship Programmes** runs programmes that benefit talented, socially committed academics. The **Institute for International Cooperation** operates and evaluates development cooperation projects. The main focus here is good governance, democracy-building, help for self-help, and sustainable development. The **Institute for European and Transatlantic Dialogue** sees itself as a bridge-builder and mediator within Europe and with the USA and Canada.

The Central Services supports these five departments as a service provider. The Banz Monastery Educational Centre and the Conference Centre at the foundation's headquarters in Munich are places to meet and engage in dialogue. The overarching guidelines governing the foundation's work include the relationship between citizens and the

state and the tension between globalisation and regionalisation. Here too, the focus is on the new role of Germany and Europe as a result of international conflicts and migration, the impact of the increasing individualisation of society and questions of responsibility for future generations.

POLICY ADVICE – DEVELOPING STRATEGIES AT THE ACADEMY

The **Academy for Politics and Current Affairs** addresses social and political issues and analyses trends. It considers itself a **think tank** and brainstorming forum for politics and society.

Its work aims to act on current and relevant challenges/issues in order to develop problem-solving strategies in the most important areas of political, social and economic life and offer practical policy solutions. **Policy advice** and **policy analysis** are done in dialogue: policy-makers discuss current issues with leaders from academia, the business world, society, culture and the media.

The outcomes of this process are prepared for the media and made available to decision makers.

Discussion on global security in Munich



The Hanns Seidel Foundation Academy differs from other political research institutions in a number of ways, including the fact that issues are addressed by experts from different fields. An **interdisciplinary approach** is a prerequisite for adequately unravelling the complexity of national societies and the international political and economic system.

Chairman Markus Ferber, MEP opens a conference for more and better communication with citizens



POLITICAL EDUCATION – SEMINAR PROGRAMMES FOR EVERYONE

Political education aims to explain **how politics works**, provide **political orientation**, and encourage and empower **involvement**. Our seminars, conferences, workshops, planning sessions, and role-plays or discussions focus on citizens who want to educate themselves.

Since the **Institute for Political Education** was founded, several hundred thousand people have taken part in our events. This enhances political awareness and gives citizens socio-political skills and the tools necessary for voluntary work. The benefits for the individual are manifold and include a better understanding of democratic voting processes and the ability to engage in civil society. The scope of topics is extremely diverse, ranging from migration and integration to questions of sustainability

and family- and women-specific issues. Digitalisation, business and media ethics, democratic competence, international security policy, values, religion, and society are but a few of the subjects of the educational events, which take place in our Kloster Banz educational centre or Munich conference centre or at decentralized locations throughout Bavaria, and, recently, also as online seminars in the digital space.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMMES – TALENTED INDIVIDUALS RECEIVE SUPPORT

Scholarship programmes enrich studies – and not just financially. More than 1,300 fellows receive a scholarships from the **Institute for Scholarship Programmes**. These scholarships consist of both **conceptual and financial support**. The aim is to contribute to the education of personally and academically qualified young academics and to reward outstanding scholarly achievements in doctoral programmes. Conceptual support here means participating in courses aimed at enabling fellows to critically and constructively contribute to the development of the democratic rule of law. Their political, professional, social and personal skills are primed, providing a broad foundations for their future leadership capabilities. Scholarship recipients are chosen by a selection committee based on a **combination of personality, performance, and social engagement** considerations.

In addition to participating in course-related support programmes, fellows often take on societal and social leadership responsibilities. They are aware of their roots and remain in contact with the foundation. The scholarship alumni club has more than 2,000 members.

This is the right path as evidenced by the fact that former fellows have risen to lead companies, associations and organisations, with many involved in policy-making.



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Hanns Seidel Foundation has been involved in **International Cooperation** for more than 40 years, with special focus on development cooperation, and is active in around 80 projects in more than 50 countries. The goal of the international activity, which is based on Christian social ideals, is to promote decent living conditions and contribute to sustainable development by enhancing peace, democracy, rule of law, and social market economies. Together with local partners, we implement projects in the areas of political consulting and political education. In doing so, equal-footing cooperation and our partners' independence and self-responsibility is of particular concern to us.

The **European Office in Brussels** manages the development policy dialogue with the responsible European Union contacts. European development cooperation is discussed in dialogue forums and specialist conferences. These events form a platform to point out approaches for cooperation and thus help shape European policy. A key factor here is sustainable networking of our project partners with EU experts. We continue the dialogue with the public and decision-makers in politics and science in Munich through the publication series of "Arguments and materials of development cooperation" and "Development Policy Forum" events.



Promotion of ecological sustainability and environmental awareness



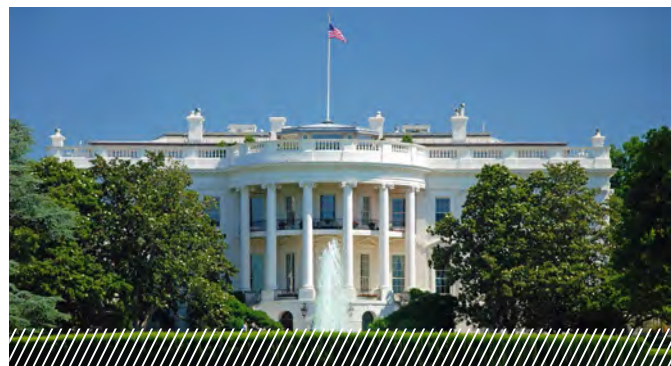
Civics Academy Youth Dialogue participants at the Nelson Mandela Foundation in South Africa



South African Ombudswoman
Thulisile Madonsela



Participants at a conference on
renewable energy in Namibia



Washington: Transatlantic contacts
to the USA and Canada



Delegation from Chile on "The EU institutions and current developments in the EU"
visiting Brussels



Brussels: European and development policy dialogue



Supporting a more people-oriented parliament in
Myanmar – A visitor service has been developed



Insight into the work of the
parliament in Colombia



Moscow: Contacts and dialogue programmes
in the Russian Federation

▶ EUROPEAN AND TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE

Europe's political environment has changed considerably in recent years and presents us with challenges that require increased cooperation at the regional and international levels. The **Institute for European and Transatlantic Dialogue** is therefore committed to identifying, analysing and discussing opportunities for transnational action.

The liberal world order with its multilateral understanding of politics, global norms and values, open societies, and markets seems endangered. In addition, there are topics such as illegal migration, BREXIT, the public debt issue, intra- and extra-European conflicts, and the rapid change in the traditional party structure. A closely related issue is that of the future of the European Union. Positions within the Member States vary widely, especially on questions about fundamentally communitarising fiscal policy, but also on the issue of migration.

The Institute sees itself as a bridge-builder and mediator in Europe and as a platform for developing approaches to difficult political issues and transnational initiatives. The primary goal of the Institute is to create **mutual understanding and trust** through **dialogue measures**, such as expert meetings, delegation trips, workshops, panel discussions and conferences in order to develop common positions and compromises on content.

The Institute for European and Transatlantic Dialogue is responsible for Hanns Seidel Foundation contacts in **European countries** and to important industrial countries such as **the U.S., Canada, and Russia and to NATO and the EU**. With regard to relations with the U. S. and Russia, bilateral dialogue with each country will be strengthened and refined.

Panel discussion in Brussels
on the role of the Balkans



German-Greek Symposium in Athens
on security and stability in the Balkans



Panel discussion in Brussels on the
priorities of the Austrian EU Presidency



BERLIN OFFICE

Not far from the German Bundestag, the **Hanns Seidel Foundation capital office** represents the foundation in the German capital. The employees act as direct contacts for the German Bundestag, the Federal Government, and the ministries, parties, associations and embassies on site.

International cooperation entails close contact with the Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the diplomatic missions of the more than 60 countries in which the HSF does project work. The capital office represents the foundation in the relevant committees and regularly serves high-ranking delegations from abroad.

The representative office serves as an exchange platform and conference venue for Hanns Seidel Foundation events in Berlin. Panel discussions, background talks, workshops, seminars, and expert conferences are held to network those who work in politics, science, business, and society. In addition, there are regular events for the foundation's scholarship-holders.

The aim is to form a link between theory and practice and to strengthen political dialogue. Thematically, the work is oriented towards current federal political and international questions.

With a panel discussion on European sovereignty at the Bavarian Representation in Berlin



Celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Hanns Seidel Foundation's capital office





Hanns Seidel (1901–1961) was born in the Bavarian town of Aschaffenburg and earned his law degree in 1929. He became a member of the Bayerische Volkspartei (BVP) in 1932 and the next year ran in his home town's city council elections. After the Nazis took power, Seidel was taken into "protective custody" because he had been protecting a large number of Jews. He served in the military from 1940–1945. Once the war was over, the American military government appointed politically respectable Seidel to the post of Aschaffenburg District Administrator. In 1946, he successfully ran for election as a CSU candidate for the Constituent Assembly and the Bavarian Landtag (state

parliament). In September 1947, Prime Minister Hans Ehard appointed Seidel Bavarian State Minister of Economics. The CSU faction in parliament elected him their spokesperson in 1954, making him the opposition leader to the Coalition of Four (SPD, Bayernpartei, FDP, GB/BHE). In 1955, as the new party chairman, he joined his Secretary General, Friedrich Zimmermann, in the effort to fundamentally modernise and reorganise the CSU. When the Coalition of Four collapsed in 1957, the CSU once again formed a government, and the Landtag appointed Hanns Seidel Minister President of the State of Bavaria by a majority. The population rewarded Seidel's expertise and gave the CSU its best outcome since 1946 in the 1958 regional elections with nearly 50% of the vote. It was with great regret that Seidel was forced to resign as Minister President in 1960 and CSU party chair the following year due to a back injury he suffered in an accident. Hanns Seidel died as a result of his injuries on 5 August 1961. A few months later, planning began for a foundation affiliated with the party and named after Hanns Seidel.

ARCHIVE FOR CHRISTIAN SOCIAL POLITICS



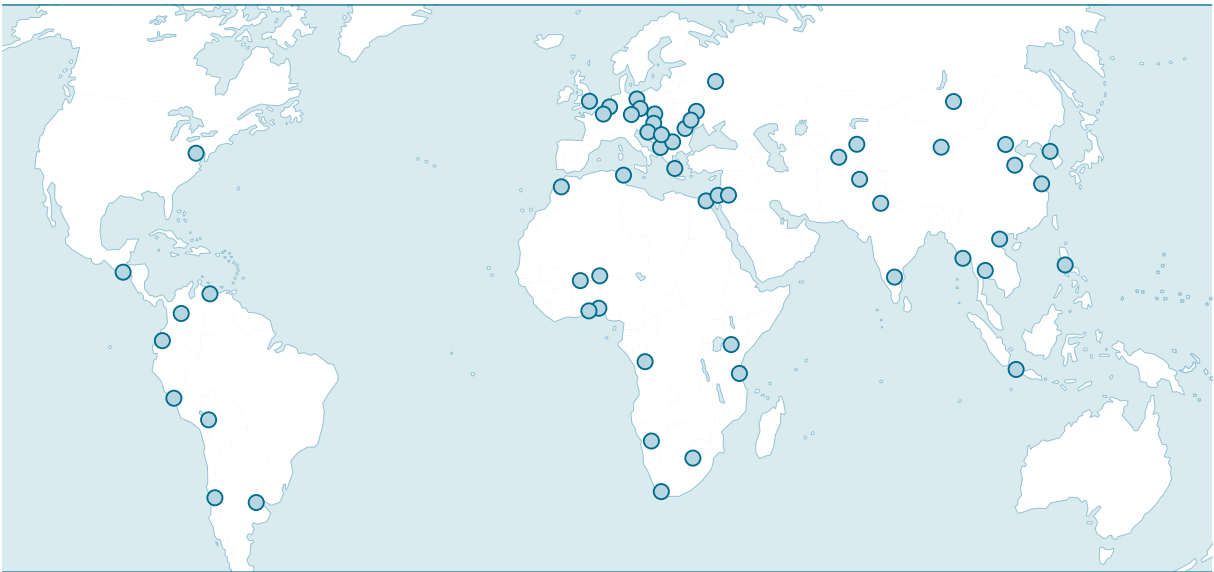
Political foundations maintain publicly accessible archives to safeguard the historical tradition of the party affiliated with them. **The Archive for Christian Social Politics (ACSP)** has the task of collecting, indexing, and making accessible analogue and digital sources on the development of the Christian Social Union and its politicians, and of conducting its own research. The documents of the foundations themselves are also collected. The aim is to document the origin and development of the CSU and the activities of its functionaries and elected officials as comprehensively as possible. The ACSP also documents and researches the predecessor organisations, the main political and social movements, and their historical roots. The focus is on the documents of the party leadership; the state, district, and county levels; and the parliamentary faction. The archives of well-known CSU politicians are also kept in safekeeping.

The ACSP is thus the historical “memory” of the Christian Social Union. It sees itself as a service facility that provides information for a variety of inquiries online and in the reading room. By collecting and processing the historical material, it makes the political processes in our democracy visible. The archive creates the basis for scientific research and contributes to education on the history of politics with events, exhibitions, publications, and a variety of online offers.

One challenge for archives in the modern media age is to secure and make use of digital heritage. In addition to electronic data stocks from file and document management systems, politicians' websites and social network accounts of politicians are also secured. The retro-digitisation of analogue documents and objects allows preservation and comprehensive and location-independent access to archive material.



Today, the **Hanns Seidel Foundation** is involved in educational projects in Germany and over 50 other countries around the world. The CSU-affiliated foundation's slogan is **"In the Service of Democracy, Peace, and Development"**.



● Hanns Seidel Foundation Agencies

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