

PROGRAMME

FROM DEPENDENCY TO AGENCY? EUROPE'S
QUEST FOR COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY,
STRATEGIC INDEPENDENCE AND RESILIENCE

28.09.2026

Monday

18.00h

PANEL DISCUSSION

Europe between Morality and Power: Strategic Agency in a World of Upheaval

Dr. Navid Kermani, Author, Laureate of the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade

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19.30h

Prof. Dr. Volker Perthes, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)

Chair: Dr. Mayssoun Zein Al Din, Director, AIA NRW

29.09.2026

Tuesday

09.00h

Registration

09.30h

Opening Remarks

Dr. Mayssoun Zein Al Din, Executive Director AIA NRW

Guido Déus, Lord Mayor of the City of Bonn

Keynote

Matthias Hauer, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Research, Technology and Space

10.00h

Panel I

Minilateralism/Multilateralism – or what will be the future of global governance?

Prof. Dr. Volker Perthes, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP)

Dr. Norbert Röttgen, Deputy Leader of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag

Prof. Dr. Róbert Ragnar Spanó, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Chair: Kristin Zeier, Deutsche Welle (tbc)

11.30h

Coffee Break

29.09.2026

Tuesday

12.00h	Panel II Protecting Critical Infrastructure – New Public-Private Partnerships Axel Petri , Deutsche Telekom AG Prof. Dr. Jürgen Stock , former Secretary General of Interpol and Deputy President of the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) Dr. Moritz Weiß , Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München Chair: Kristie Pladson , Deutsche Welle
13.30h	Lunch Break
15.00h	Panel III Science, Technology, and Europe's Strategic Autonomy Prof. Dr. Anna-Katharina Hornidge , German Institute of Development and Sustainability, IDOS Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Michael Hoch , University of Bonn Chair: Eva Wolfangel , Independent Journalist
16.30h	Closing Address A European Perspective: Comprehensive Security in an Age of Geopolitical Change Armin Laschet , Member of the German Bundestag, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the German Bundestag Chair: Dr. Mayssoun Zein Al Din , Director, Academy of International Affairs
17.00h	
17.30h	Reception
-	Anniversary Address
20.00h	Power, Responsibility and Europe's Role in the World Nathanael Liminski , Minister for Federal, European and International Affairs and Media of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and Head of the State Chancellery

DÉUS, Guido

Guido Déus has been Lord Mayor of the City of Bonn since 2025. Prior to that, the CDU politician served as a member of the North Rhine-Westphalia State Parliament from 2017 to 2025, and until 2017 he worked for the Federal Agency for Real Estate. In 1992, he graduated with a degree in public finance.

HAUER, Matthias

Matthias Hauer is the Parliamentary State Secretary for Research, Technology and Space. As CDU politician, he has been a member of the Bundestag since 2013 and, since 2021, has served as chair of the Ruhr Region working group of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group, as well as deputy chair of the North Rhine-Westphalia regional group of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group. In 2005, Hauer passed the second state examination in law and has been a specialist solicitor in banking and capital markets law since 2010.

PROF. DR DR H.C. HOCH, Michael

Prof. Dr Dr h.c. Michael Hoch has been Rector of the University of Bonn since 2015. Since 2023, he has also been President of the German National Academic Foundation. He has served as Professor of Molecular Developmental Biology at the University of Bonn since 1999, and from 2006 to 2015 he was the founding Director of the LIMES Institute. Hoch obtained his PhD in developmental biology.

PROF. DR HORNIDGE, Anna Katharina

Prof. Dr Anna-Katharina Hornidge serves as Director of the German Institute of Development and Sustainability since 2020. She is also a Professor for Global Sustainable Development at the University of Bonn since 2020 and Co-Chair of the German Advisory Council on Global Change since 2024 after serving as a member since 2020. She holds a PhD in Sociology.

KERMANI, Navid

Navid Kermani lives in Cologne as a freelance writer. He holds a postdoctoral degree in Middle Eastern Studies and has taught as a visiting professor at numerous universities. Navid Kermani regularly reports from war zones and crisis regions. He has received numerous awards for his literary and essayistic work—including the Kleist Prize, the Joseph Breitbach Prize, the Hölderlin Prize, and the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade—and, most recently, the Thomas Mann Prize for his novel “Das Alphabet bis S”.

LASCHET, Armin

Armin Laschet has been a Member of the German Bundestag since 2021 and is currently Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. From January 2021, he served for one year as Federal Chairman of the CDU and was the Union's candidate for Chancellor in the 2021 federal election. From 2017 to 2021, Laschet was Minister-President of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. He was also a member of the state parliament from 2010 to 2021 and, prior to that, a Member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2005. In 1987, he passed the First Law Examination.

LIMINSKI, Nathanael

Nathanael Liminski has been Minister for Federal and European Affairs, International Affairs and the Media for the State of North Rhine-Westphalia since 2022 and has served as Head of the State Chancellery of North Rhine-Westphalia since 2017. The CDU politician has also been a member of the North Rhine-Westphalia State Parliament since 2025. He completed his studies in Medieval and Modern History, Political Science and Constitutional Law at the University of Bonn in 2010, graduating with a Magister Artium.

PROF. DR PERTHES, Volker

Prof. Dr Volker Perthes is Senior Distinguished Fellow and member of the Executive Board at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP). He has served as UN Under-Secretary-General, Special Representative for Sudan and head of UNITAMS (2021-2023) and as UN Under-Secretary-General, Head of Independent Strategic Review Team for UNAMI (2023-2024). He holds a PhD in Political Science from Ruhr-University Bochum.

PETRI, Axel

Axel Petri serves as Deputy Chief Security Officer at Deutsche Telekom since 2021. The expert in digital security has been with the company since 2008. He passed the second law examination in 1999.

DR RÖTTGEN, Norbert

Dr Norbert Röttgen is Deputy Leader of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag. He has been a Member of the Bundestag since 1994 and, since 2025, has served as Deputy Leader responsible for foreign affairs, defence, the Interparliamentary Conference on the CFSP and CSDP, the Council of Europe and human rights. Prior to this, he served as Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee from 2014 to 2021. He passed his second Law Examination in 1993 and was awarded his doctorate in 2001.

PROF. DR SPANÓ, Róbert Ragnar

Prof. Dr Róbert Ragnar Spanó is a former president of the European Court of Human Rights from 2020 to 2022. In 2013 he was elected a judge to the court, serving as its vice president from 2019 to 2022 and as its president from 2020 to 2022. He has been a partner at the multinational law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher since the end of this tenure. He graduated with a Magister Juris degree from the University of Oxford in 2000.

PROF. DR STOCK, Jürgen

Prof. Dr Jürgen Stock served as secretary general of Interpol from 2014 to 2024. Before that, he served as vice president of Interpol from 2007 and as vice president of the Bundeskriminalamt from 2004. Currently, he is a counsel with Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer. He is also an Honorary Professor of Law and Criminology at the University of Gießen. He passed the second Law Examination in 1995.

PD DR WEISS, Moritz

PD Dr Moritz Weiss is a Senior Lecturer at the Chair of International Relations at the Geschwister Scholl Institute of Political Science, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. His research focuses on (informal) institutional theory, European integration, and security and technology policy. He holds a PhD in Political Science.

DR ZEIN AL DIN, Mayssoun

Mayssoun Zein Al Din is Executive Director of the Academy of International Affairs NRW, Associate Fellow at the Center for Advanced Security, Strategic and Integration Studies (CASSIS) and lecturer at RWTH Aachen University and the University of Bonn. Her research focuses on international relations and the Arab world. She holds a PhD in Political Science, which she obtained at RWTH Aachen University. From 2012 to 2020, she was also responsible for international policy issues in the office of the former Minister President of North Rhine-Westphalia.