

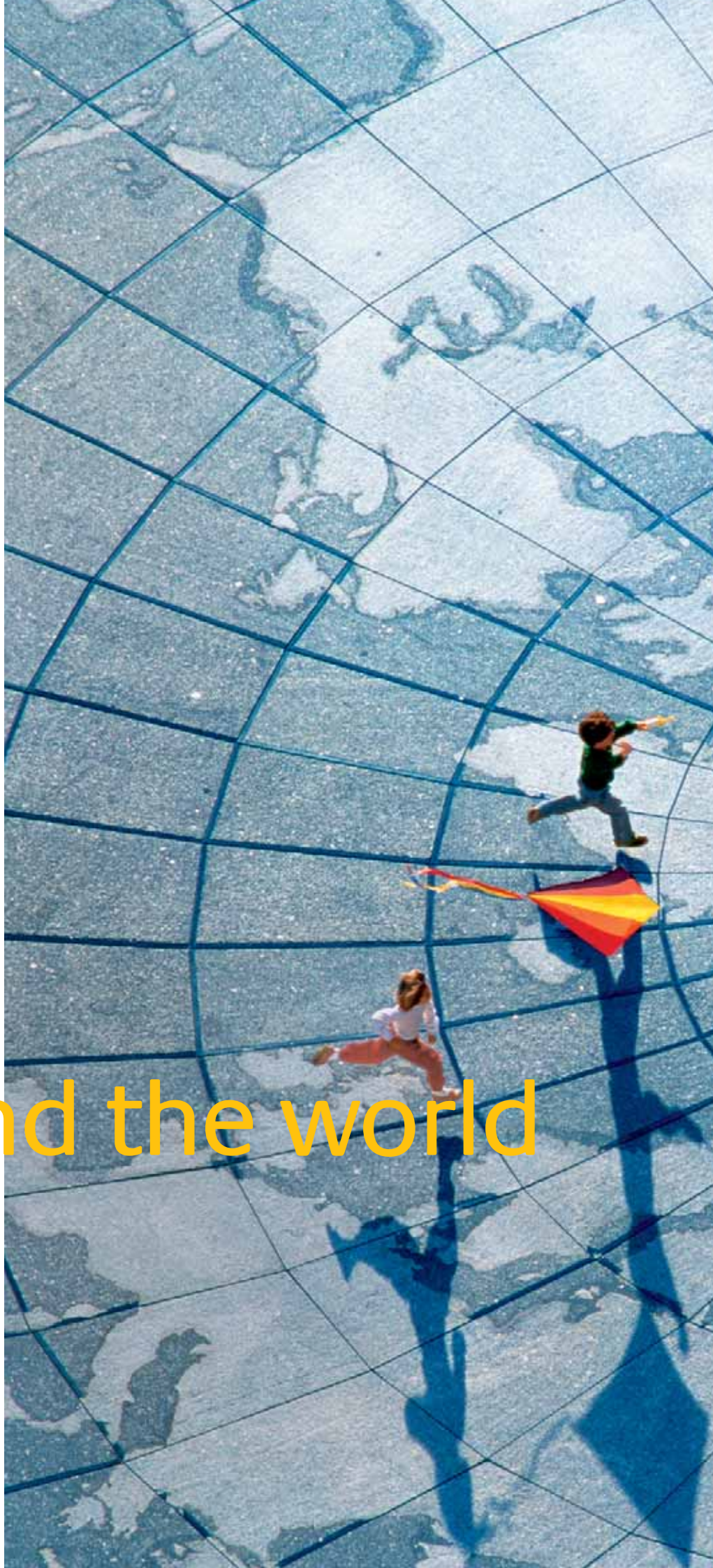


Auswärtiges Amt

# Around the world

The Federal Foreign  
Office – priorities  
and positions

2005/06



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Maintaining relations with other states as well as with international and supranational organizations lies at the heart of foreign affairs

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The Federal Foreign Office is a service-oriented and approachable organization which supports external economic policy and promotes cultural dialogue

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All you ever wanted to know about the Federal Foreign Office: organization, locations, staff, training paths, budget statistics



Dear readers,

At the start of the 21st century we face new and varied challenges in the area of foreign policy. An efficient, flexible and approachable Foreign Service is one of the most important requirements for Germany to do justice to its growing responsibility in the world and successfully grapple with these international challenges.

The advancement of globalization is opening many doors to our country but also harbours risks and dangers. International terrorism, failing states and pandemics such as the recent outbreak of avian flu can quickly pose a real threat to our country and interests. The Federal Foreign Office has the important task of confronting these challenges, developing solutions and shaping our international policy.

On the following pages we want to give you an idea of foreign policy's responsibilities and objectives and allow you to take a behind-the-scenes look at our work. How do we maintain relations with other states? Why are we committed to Afghanistan and other crisis regions? What role do cultural exchange and intermediary organizations such as the Goethe Institute play in our foreign policy? What form should external economic promotion take? What does the Federal Foreign Office do when crises and natural disasters strike? What help can our missions abroad offer when Germans require emergency assistance in foreign climes?

This brochure will provide some answers to these and other questions. It also contains tips on what you have to do to apply if you are interested in a career with the Federal Foreign Office.

I am delighted that you want to find out more about us, and wish you an enjoyable read.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank-Walter Steinmeier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr Frank-Walter Steinmeier  
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs



Chancellor Merkel and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier arrive in France for an official visit

## Diplomacy

Shaping policy

Partners and mediators

The view from inside

# How is foreign policy actually made on the ground?

Today Germany maintains diplomatic relations with more than 190 states. However, the work involved in fostering these relations is not restricted to official visits by heads of state, which are largely dominated by the dictates of protocol. Strengthening contacts between business partners, schools and research institutions is equally important. The 226 German missions abroad are committed to developing external relations and promoting a positive image of Germany all over the world.



Liberia, Monrovia



USA, Washington



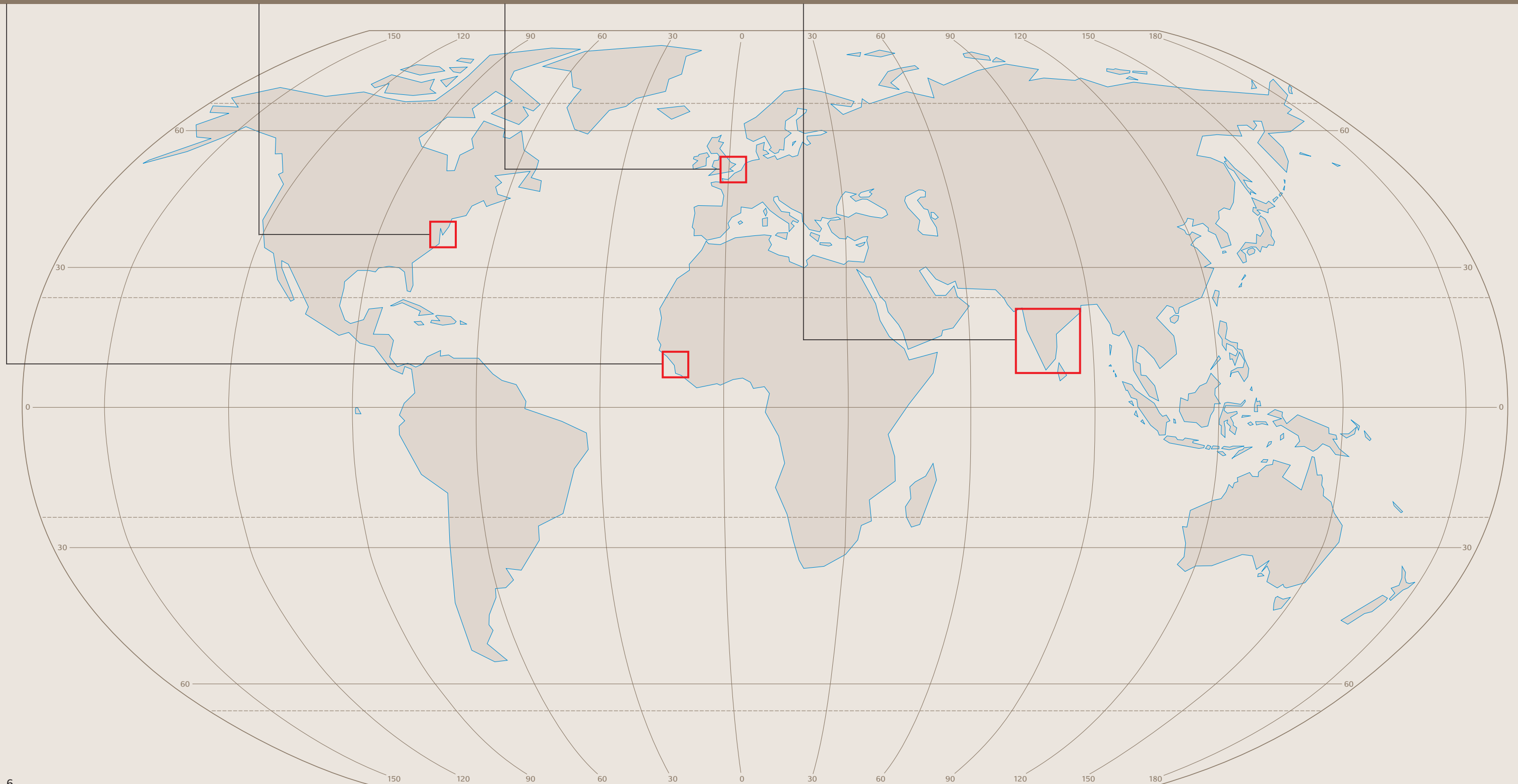
Belgium, Brussels



India, Mumbai

## Germany around the world

On the following pages we introduce four missions abroad which could hardly be more different. The German Embassy in Washington and the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union are almost as big as a small ministry. In Monrovia, by contrast, Thomas Freudenhammer is ambassador, technical caretaker and head of administration rolled into one. In the booming city of Mumbai the Consulate-General's priorities chiefly centre around business contacts. Two embassies, one permanent representation, one consulate-general, with a single common task – representing Germany's interests in the world to the best of their ability.





## LIBERIA

# Heading a 'micro-embassy' in Monrovia

Thomas Freudenhammer

German Embassy in Monrovia

> Head: Ambassador Thomas Freudenhammer

> Employees: 4

In August 2005 I left Mexico City, accompanied by my wife, to become the new ambassador in Monrovia.

It was pitch black by the time we set off from *Roberts International Airport*, which serves the Liberian capital, to the city centre. Since the outbreak of civil war in 1990, the whole of Liberia has lacked a public electricity and water supply. Consequently it was only the next morning that we were able to see the real extent of the destruction and decay in Monrovia.

Fortunately we were able to move into a 140 m<sup>2</sup> bungalow in the former grounds of the German Embassy, which houses both our office and our living quarters. In 2003 the UN Mission set up its headquarters in these grounds. Consequently we are guarded by a Philippine contingent of UN soldiers. The UN also supplies electricity and water, which are priceless assets in this country.

After the Federal Foreign Office had installed a direct satellite connection with Berlin for us in the very first week, several more weeks passed before the office and apartment furniture arrived. To the sound of tropical rain falling persistently outside, we lived and worked in the almost empty bungalow with nothing more than a few pieces of mouldy furniture dating from the time before the civil war.

The Liberians gave me a very warm welcome. After only two weeks I was able to commence my official work as ambassador to Liberia. But why am I actually here? Of course, the main priority of my work is to observe and support

the peace process. The 15,000 UNMIL international peacekeeping troops were able to disarm the former rebels and the child soldiers. They also ensured that the first elections were conducted peacefully. On 16 January 2006 the experienced economist and former finance minister Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was able to take up office as the new President of Liberia – the first female President ever to be elected in Africa.

Another task, together with international partners, is to support the new Liberian Government in its fight against corruption and to advise it as it seeks to establish a transparent state administration. I have also been able to use Federal Government funds to launch a major agricultural reconstruction project. Ten million euro have been earmarked to build new roads, villages and plantations in the destroyed regions of Southeast Liberia over the next three years. In addition I make sure that assistance is available for the few Germans still in the country, for example, by helping them with passport applications.

In just under six months my wife and I have succeeded in establishing a small German Embassy in Monrovia after a long period of absence. The first celebration of the Day of German Unity in the former Ambassador's residence was a moving occasion. The last time Germany celebrated its 'national day' in Monrovia, the prospect of German unity was still a distant one. Opportunities like this, and particularly the observation of the peaceful run-up to the elections in autumn 2005, help us forget many a trouble and setback.

## UNITED STATES

# German diplomacy in Washington

Martina Nibbeling-Wrießnig

'She's in the air!' is the cry, as soon as the Federal Chancellor's aircraft has taken off from *Washington Dulles* airport on the flight home. On the ground the 60 or so embassy workers involved in the preparations for her visit begin the clean-up operations in the delegation office at the President's Guest House, where the Germans have been based, and the adjacent press office. For one day it has been the centre of reporting on Angela Merkel's first trip to the United States. The drivers and the extra vehicles are sent home. The Ambassador and his deputy, who accompanied the talks in the White House and elsewhere, breathe a sigh of relief, as do the tireless organizers from the protocol section and the staff in the Embassy kitchen, who conjured up a gala dinner for more than 200 guests.

So what does a German embassy do? You might think that 369 delegations each year, including, in 2004, three visits from the Chancellor, four from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and numerous visits by Cabinet ministers, would be more than enough for it to handle. But a lot of work also goes on behind the scenes. German tourists rarely consider how much preliminary work takes place in the consular section so that they can travel to the United States without a visa, without a hitch. Likewise, school exchange pupils and students hardly realize that their stay is possible thanks to complex bilateral agreements. When Germans are caught up in natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and require emergency assistance, they receive help promptly and unbureaucratically through the embassy.

Analysis of American domestic and foreign policy and cooperation in combating terrorism are the tasks of the Political Department. German companies profit from the work of the Economic and Science Department on the double-taxation convention. The United States is the most popular country for German companies to invest in, as well as the largest foreign investor in Germany. Overall investments on both sides amount to around 200 billion euro. The German Embassy is also a fixture in the cultural life of the American capital, offering a broad programme of events. For example, the Ambassador invited guests to a ceremony at his residence to mark the inauguration of the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin. Each year our Cultural Department participates in the Jewish Film Festival in Washington, which took place for the 16th time last March. The German contribution *Alles auf Zucker* (*Go for Zucker*), starring Henry Hübchen, has been showing at cinemas since January.

The German Information Center and the Embassy's Department for Press, Information and Public Affairs strive to promote a clear and comprehensible image of Germany in the United States through such methods as an advertising spot on the radio drawing attention to the website [www.germany.info](http://www.germany.info) or the FIFA World Cup, or via TV spots, magazines and electronic newsletters. And who knows? Maybe Germany's positive image even triggered the decision by a widow to return to the Embassy a collection of ancient coins 'confiscated' by her late husband, a US soldier, in 1945.

German Embassy in Washington

> Head: Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger

> Employees: 188

[www.germany.info](http://www.germany.info)



## EUROPEAN UNION

# Helping to shape European policy

Martin Kotthaus

Permanent Representation  
of the Federal Republic  
of Germany to the European  
Union

> Head: Ambassador  
Dr Wilhelm Schönfelder

> Employees: 170

[www.eu-vertretung.de](http://www.eu-vertretung.de)

It is, fortunately, rare for children to suffer from serious diseases such as cancer, yet this also means that the market potential for drugs specifically for children is limited. Consequently too few medications are tested and dosed according to children's needs, even today. However, a child's metabolism differs from that of an adult, so drugs can affect them differently – sometimes having a stronger, sometimes a weaker impact. This is a problem which all EU member states had to face. It therefore made sense for them to find a broader, Europe-wide solution. However, each of the 25 EU member states has its own health service traditions. Communication was essential if a compromise acceptable to all parties was to be reached at European level. This is one of the most important tasks of the 25 Permanent Representations of the member states to the European Union in Brussels. As embassies they represent their countries' interests to the European institutions and the other member states, but also promote other states' positions in their own countries.

In the case of medication for children, the onus was initially on the European Commission. It submitted for discussion a *Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on medicinal products for paediatric use*. Among other things the Proposal provided for financial incentives for the pharmaceutical industry by offering a six-month extension of expiring patents for medicines tested specifically for children, and formed the basis of discussions between the Council and the European Parliament. The Council is made up of Government

representatives from the EU member states. As ministers cannot travel to Brussels for every meeting, decisions are prepared in a several-stage process. On this issue the *Council Working Party on medicinal products and medical devices* had to make the first move. Each Permanent Representation of the 25 member states sent one representative to discuss the proposal, which involved consideration of 25 different health service systems and 20 languages and often included experts from the capitals. All parties were convinced of the necessity of the initiative. The problem was agreeing on how best to implement it. After the session, participants informed their ministries at home and asked for instructions for the next meeting. After several rounds of negotiations, a document emerged which the majority could accept. However, several tricky political issues could not be resolved at this level. They had to be carried over to the second stage of the process, the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER), which consists of the ambassadors of the EU member states. But even the COREPER was unable to settle the issue of the duration of the patent extensions. It eventually had to be decided by the health ministers themselves.

On 9 December 2005 the Ministerial Council voted in favour of the negotiated version of the Regulation by 24:1. To the delight of the staff of the Permanent Representation, who had been heavily involved in every stage of the proceedings, 2006 saw an important step on the way towards adoption of the Regulation, and thus further improvement in our children's health.

## INDIA

# Everyday life at the economic consulate in Mumbai

Hans-Heinrich  
Freiherr von Stackelberg

*Our partner, India* was the motto of this year's Hannover Messe, which took place in April. At the German Consulate-General in Mumbai, or Bombay, as most of the 15 million inhabitants of the metropolis on India's west coast still say, we can sense the truth of this motto in our day-to-day work. Ties between Germany and India are becoming closer and closer, which is inevitably resulting in the ongoing expansion of the Consulate-General's spectrum of tasks.

As the world's leading exporter and top investment location in Europe, Germany is constantly on the lookout for trading partners and investors, also drawing on the help of its diplomatic and consular representations. When an Indian corporate giant such as Reliance Industries buys a German firm like Trevira, saving it from bankruptcy, we perceive this as a positive move and it receives the backing of the Consulate-General. The reverse is also true. It is therefore no coincidence that German companies such as Siemens, BASF, Bayer and DaimlerChrysler have been manufacturing in India for decades, dominating that vast market for German products. The Consulate-General's location in Mumbai, India's economic power centre, generating five percent of the gross national product and 40 percent of income tax contributions, ensures that its activities have a strong business focus. Hardly any international trade fair takes place without the Consulate-General's involvement. There is a constant need to explain Germany's identity and promote its strengths.

Recently we welcomed the Mayor of Stuttgart, Mumbai's twin city, and his delegation, who were visiting Mumbai to intensify contacts in the areas of business, science and cooperation in film production (keyword Bollywood). The economics ministers from three Länder have announced their intention to come to Mumbai. On each occasion the little team at the Consulate-General will forge contacts, organize talks and arrange appointments.

Likewise, cultural professionals, scientists and academics desiring to participate in further training or perform in the other country receive similar support. In this we are assisted by the Goethe Institute in Mumbai, which here bears the name Max Müller Bhavan in honour of the German Sanskrit scholar. The Consulate-General is also involved in development cooperation. Some of the most satisfying aspects of our work are the opportunities we have to help schools or health centres in rural areas. One example is the Our Lady of Rosary primary and secondary school in Goa, which pursues the ideal of offering tuition to the poorest of the poor among the rural population. Thanks to a Consulate-General donation of almost 5,500 euro for teaching materials, the school's resources now comply with modern requirements.

We, the staff at the Consulate-General in Mumbai, see ourselves as mediators between two worlds, offering assistance in all areas in which Germans and Indians interact and require our advice.

German Consulate-General  
in Mumbai

> Head: Consul-General  
Hans-Heinrich Freiherr  
von Stackelberg

> Employees: 30

[www.germanconsulate-  
mumbai.org](http://www.germanconsulate-mumbai.org)

# Germany's image abroad affects us all

Current surveys show that people in most countries have a positive impression of Germany. And yet we are often perceived merely as an economic power. German cars enjoy an excellent reputation, as do German engineering and German technology. We are also renowned as a traditional research hub. However, few people are aware that we also perform trailblazing research in future technologies, or that international fashion brands such as Adidas, Puma, Hugo Boss and Escada are made in Germany. Modern life, contemporary art and culture and trendsetting architecture are areas often overlooked by other countries when they focus on Germany. Likewise, our international commitment to UN peace missions, the prevention of environmental disasters and humanitarian relief is often disregarded. The great willingness of the German people to donate money and provide assistance is little known, and hospitality is not considered to be one of our strengths. A representative international survey conducted by the US market research institute GMI in autumn 2005 revealed that respondents could well imagine employing Germans in positions of responsibility (first place out of 25). However, the same respondents believed that they would feel more welcome as guests in other countries (with Germany in 14th place). And last but not least, only few people associate Germany with beautiful landscapes, interesting cities and a rich cultural heritage. That is something we want to change.

## A modern image of Germany

It is not enough for German products to be popular abroad and for Germans to be regarded as reliable business partners. Germany must make a name for itself on the international stage as a leading economic and research location. How others see us is important. A state

whose commitment to peace and democracy is globally acknowledged and which is not suspected of harbouring selfish interests can mediate in international crises. A country with a reputation as a holiday destination will also attract investors. After all, foreign industrialists on the lookout for locations for their companies are interested not only in wage costs, rule-of-law principles and tax burdens, but also in the living standard in a country, its leisure and cultural facilities, safety for their families and educational opportunities for their children. An outdated image of Germany could result in a considerable amount of potential remaining untapped.

The future of the country and its jobs depends on whether people decide to invest, work, study, conduct research and spend holidays here.

Our concern is not driven by the simple desire for more affection, but by our political and economic stake in boosting Germany's profile in the international arena and positioning it across the board. We want to generate interest and curiosity, awaken understanding for our values through dialogue and help people from other countries build lasting ties with Germany. To do this we need a long-term strategy and ongoing cooperation with mediators and partners who shape Germany's image abroad.

## From theory to practice

Take two current examples. Surveys in Japan revealed patchy and outdated knowledge of Germany and a waning interest in our country, particularly among the younger generation, prompting Germany to launch the *Germany in Japan 2005/2006* initiative which ran from April 2005 to spring 2006. During this period more than 1,200 events in the spheres of culture, business and science were held,

coordinated by the Federal Foreign Office and the German Embassy in Tokyo conspiring to present a warm, cosmopolitan and future-oriented image. Federal ministries, the German federal states (Länder), the Goethe Institute and other German cultural promoters, research institutions and private organizations worked together, while German business ran projects and provided sponsorship. The Japanese experienced Germany as an active economic partner, a cultural centre for everything from classical to avant-garde and an attractive education, research and investment location. Various fashion and lifestyle events, pop and rock concerts gave the younger generation – tomorrow's leaders – the opportunity to witness that the old clichés no longer apply to Germany.

In today's global information society the electronic media strongly influence the way in which people abroad perceive a country and its citizens. Particularly in the runup to the World Cup people are eyeing our country with keen interest. The Federal Foreign Office is deliberately exploiting this opportunity in various different ways. Cooperating with the *Germany – Land of Ideas* initiative it was able to win internationally renowned German personalities for a film to be shown throughout the world by our missions abroad and other mediators. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, member of the German Council of Economic Experts Beatrice Weder di Mauro, astronaut and physicist Ulf Merbold and others describe how they see Germany in the 21st century and what Germany means to them. Promoting Germany involves conveying a plausible modern image of our country. This does not require us to see everything through rose-coloured glasses, but we do need to highlight our strengths and advantages. We don't want to alter Germany's image, but we do want to enhance it. Germany has many positive facets – we want to publicize that fact so that people can get to know them.

## What the stars think about Germany



'... a land that continues to draw on the traditions of the past while embracing the opportunities of the future.' Anne-Sophie Mutter, violinist



'Work and research in the important fields of future technologies is conducted throughout Germany.' Ulf Merbold, physicist and astronaut

## Public relations by the Federal Foreign Office in 2005 Facts and figures

- > 16 million visits (per month) to the Federal Foreign Office website, [www.diplo.de](http://www.diplo.de), in five languages
- > 175 websites of missions abroad worldwide in 43 languages
- > [www.socceringermany.info](http://www.socceringermany.info) provides football fans with information about Germany in nine languages, focusing on the FIFA World Cup
- > [www.young-germany.de](http://www.young-germany.de) introduces Germany to 20 to 30-year-olds, tomorrow's leaders, in cooperation with 23 partner organizations
- > more than 1,000 foreign journalists and multipliers throughout the world got to know Germany through our visitors programme
- > bimonthly magazine 'Deutschland' with a press run of 400,000, in 11 languages (also on line)
- > handbook 'Facts about Germany' with a press run of 415,000, in 13 languages (also on line)
- > Focus on the USA: 54 journalists and other multipliers from the United States benefited from seminars, exchange programmes and conferences in Germany
- > Focus on media dialogue on the Middle East: around 100 journalists and media experts exchanged views and experiences
- > promotion of independent media: 85 projects in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

## STATE VISIT

# ‘We are Pope’ – a visit with a difference

Ricarda Redeker



Ricarda Redeker, author of this article, in conversation with Pope Benedict XVI

### Extract from the programme of one day of the visit

Friday, 19 August 2005

Private mass

**10.00 a.m.** Proceed by car to Villa Hammerschmidt in Bonn

**10.30 a.m.** Welcome by Federal President Horst Köhler, private talks

**12.00 noon** Visit to the synagogue of the synagogue community in Cologne

**1.30 p.m.** Lunch with young people from all over the world (Archbishop's Palace)

**4.30 p.m.** Proceed to St Pantaleon Church in the popemobile

**5.00 p.m.** Meeting with seminarians from all over the world

**6.15 p.m.** Ecumenical meeting (Archbishop's Palace)

**7.15 p.m.** Private dinner

Surely everyone has heard of that headline from the German tabloid ‘Bild’? The election of German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger to the papacy certainly left no one cold.

The Protocol Division at the Federal Foreign Office, responsible for such things as Visits by Heads of State or Government and by Foreign Ministers as well as Travel Abroad by the Federal President, the Federal Chancellor and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs, was soon confronted with the fact. After all, the Pope is not only the Head of the Catholic Church, but also the Head of State of the Vatican – and this particular combination presented us with new challenges. World Youth Day 2005 in Cologne, for which preparations had been under way for three years and which had formed its own plc for this purpose, had been looming for some time and Pope John Paul II had already promised to attend the event. But now a German Pope, Benedict XVI, had been elected. Incidentally, it wasn't a state visit. State visits are only visits by heads of state (not of government) specifically described as such. ‘Normal’ visits, such as an official visit by a head of state at the invitation of the Federal President, demand a series of tried and tested ceremonial procedures, particularly if they take place in Berlin. A welcome with military honours and talks with the Federal President and the Federal Chancellor are just a few of the ceremonial elements involved in an official visit.

All well and good, but Pope Benedict XVI was coming to Cologne. That was one aspect. The other was that he wasn't coming simply at the invitation of the Federal President – he was also coming to attend World Youth Day. The first task was to make a clear distinction between the church and the state. Working out who should do what, and how should it be done so

that everything fitted together was the daunting task we faced for this untypical visit. We soon realized that the priority was not detailed programme planning but rather flexibility and the comprehensive coordination of all participants, which included:

- > the World Youth Day organization, which, with few exceptions, was run by volunteers
- > the nunciature as the Vatican's mission abroad
- > Land North-Rhine/Westphalia and the participating cities of Cologne, Bonn and Düsseldorf, which were expecting an influx of more than one million visitors
- > security agencies at all levels

They were all eager to do their job well, and there was a lot they wanted to know.

Answers had to be found to such questions as, ‘Where will the plane land, at the military section of Cologne/Bonn airport or the civilian section?’ ‘What form will the military honours then take?’ Alternatives A, B and C were tested, along with the rest of the alphabet. ‘How long will the lane of honour be?’ ‘How many metres of red carpet will each of the alternatives A to Z need?’ ‘How can we guarantee the Holy Father's security in view of the crowds of young people expected?’ ‘How many vehicles will be needed?’ ‘Who will welcome the guest, apart from the host, the Federal President, representatives of the World Youth Day, the German Bishops' Conference and federal, regional and municipal politicians?’ ‘What about accompanying partners?’ At times the number of hands to be shaken grew to almost 100, before being reduced again in a not entirely straightforward procedure. There seemed to be no end to the questions. Several preparatory visits were made to Cologne and Bonn with and without a delegation from the Vatican. Everything was doublechecked, and everyone had opinions



Pope Benedict XVI on his arrival at Cologne/Bonn airport for the 20th World Youth Day

and concerns which had to be taken into consideration. The special requirements of the church and the rather more mundane organizational problems had to be dovetailed and resolved. Concepts such as bishopric with regional competence, Pilgrims' Affairs and Pilgrim Assembly Areas, long-term volunteers and Head of the Liturgy Section were initially somewhat alien to us, but we soon got used to them and all participants were able to learn from one another.

The visit proved to be a great success, although it was extremely hard work. Thousands of people lined the streets wherever possible, even standing in the Rhine to catch a glimpse of the Holy Father. They waited for hours, and even at midnight, after the vigil on the Marienfeld, thousands were still chanting, ‘Benedetto! Benedetto!’ The atmosphere in Cologne and the surrounding area was indescribable thanks to the crowds of exuberant young people, and in spite of all the sleepless nights, I wouldn't have missed this experience for the world.





Rebuilding infrastructure in Afghanistan. Workers repair a road on the outskirts of the capital, Kabul

Diplomacy

Shaping policy

Partners and mediators

The view from inside

# What do the world's crises have to do with us?

Whether in Somalia, Liberia or Afghanistan, many crisis points in the world have erupted as a consequence of state failure. But what do the crises in these countries have to do with us in Germany? A great deal, as the following article on Afghanistan reveals. Following decades of violence, state structures have successfully been rebuilt in Afghanistan under the auspices of the United Nations. Identifying political and humanitarian crises and conflicts as early as possible and intervening with appropriate action is an important goal of German foreign policy.



A soldier from the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan (ISAF) distributes the ISAF News in Kabul

**'WHAT DO THE WORLD'S CRISES HAVE TO DO WITH US?'**

**Principles of German foreign policy after 1989**

*Burghard Brinksmeier, Policy Planning Staff*

The Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany defines the basic principles of German foreign policy in the Preamble and four Articles (1, 9, 24 and 26). They are: the maintenance of international peace, the prohibition of wars of aggression, the decision to cooperate in a spirit of openness with transnational institutions including the possibility of transferring sovereign rights to international organizations as well as the respect and implementation of human rights.

These basic principles still apply despite the many radical shifts in the political framework conditions in the 15 years since the collapse of the Communist Eastern bloc, all the way down to the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001 and the Iraq war in 2003.

Reunification considerably extended the options and tasks of German foreign policy. Crisis prevention, crisis management and crisis resolution were added to the agenda. The dedication to peace missions shown by development workers, civilian instructors and diplomats, as well as German soldiers in the Balkans, the Horn of Africa and Afghanistan, demonstrates that Germany is rising to its new challenges. At the same time the goal is to identify crises at an early stage and to act before they escalate. A glance at current hotbeds of crisis shows that conflicts often erupt when human or minority rights are systematically infringed. Our efforts to ensure the observance of human rights are therefore an important contribution to crisis prevention.

**GERMANY'S INVOLVEMENT IN RECONSTRUCTION**

**Afghanistan on the road to democracy**

*Dr Silke Kerstin Lechler, Special Task Force for Afghanistan*

'I'm an Afghan!', declares the man behind the wheel of the Berlin taxi taking me and my two colleagues from the Federal Ministry of the Interior back to the Federal Foreign Office after a meeting on the Afghanistan conference in Doha.

As soon as we climbed into the car we continued the discussion of the past few hours on preparations for our conference *Afghanistan: Border management – a regional approach* without noticing the way our driver pricked up his ears at the mention of Afghanistan. An interesting

coincidence – four people, one topic: Afghanistan. For one, the homeland, for the others, a job and no doubt to some extent a vocation.

The driver, Farid S., asks us whether we have ever visited his homeland, whether we like it and, most importantly, about our assessment of the security situation and the further development of the country. He explains that in the next few weeks his brother wants to return to Afghanistan, to the capital, Kabul, after more than 14 years in exile. Our driver is worried about him. He tells us that his father was murdered during the Taliban era, as were many other members of his family. >



A police officer directs traffic in the centre of Kabul

He says his brother will no longer find any relations in Kabul. Given his family's situation, we are not surprised that Farid S. is extremely well informed about Germany's role in Afghanistan's reconstruction. He praises the efforts of Germany and other states, and is swift to acknowledge their commitment and express his gratitude, and yet we get the impression that Farid S. is fairly sceptical about further progress in his country. The democratization process seems to be advancing too slowly for his liking. Moreover, he believes that its impact has not yet reached those who truly need it, the Afghan people. Is our driver right? Is reconstruction in Afghanistan really moving too slowly? As in so many other areas, the old aphorism also applies in this case – a glass can be both half empty and half full. If you asked me, I would say that the glass is half full – at least. In the last three years significant progress has been made in Afghanistan. Nonetheless, there is still a great deal to be done.

When Farid's brother returns to Kabul, he will show his papers to Afghan border police who have been trained and equipped thanks to German assistance. In the context of Afghan security sector reform, which was defined as a central task of the international community at the Bonn Conference in 2001, Germany has assumed responsibility for rebuilding the Afghan police and border police. However, at the beginning of 2002 most of the police infrastructure in Afghanistan had been destroyed, affecting all organizational structures as well as the police force's material and financial resources. Almost all the police officers active in Afghanistan at that time had never received the training they needed to perform their task and had never officially been given police responsibilities. Their public image was, understandably, extremely negative. The Central Government, whose influence was largely restricted to Kabul at the beginning

of the transitional period, had almost no control over these pseudo-police officers, who numbered around 150,000.

The goal of our engagement as a lead nation in rebuilding the national police and the border police in Afghanistan therefore had to be to establish a professional, ethnically balanced force committed to democracy and human rights.

**Police reconstruction in Afghanistan:**

- > Reorganization of a civilian, non-military police force
- > Reconstruction and equipping of destroyed police stations
- > Establishment of a training system
- > Training, or where this was not possible, demobilization of the former 'police officers'
- > Creation of a code of police conduct based on rule-of-law principles
- > Implementation of the state's monopoly on the use of force and the authority of the Afghan Government throughout the country

To achieve this, the Federal Government set up a task force at the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry of the Interior. Police reconstruction in Afghanistan is an inter-ministerial task which we are tackling jointly with our colleagues at the Interior Ministry. In Kabul a Police Project Office was established, in which 39 German police officers are currently stationed. A special envoy coordinates the project and advises the Afghans in international negotiations. Germany has already made available more than 59 million euro for >



Towns and cities in Afghanistan where the Federal Armed Forces are stationed

**Afghanistan: facts and figures**

Last updated in May 2005

<b>Name</b>	Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
<b>Location</b>	Central Asia, bordering on Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (to the north), China and Pakistan (to the east and south), Iran (to the west)
<b>Area</b>	652,000 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Capital</b>	Kabul (with an estimated 2.8 million inhabitants)
<b>Population</b>	Ca. 27.8 million (2002 estimate), of which 38 % Pashtun, 25 % Tajik, 19 % Hazara, 6 % Uzbek, 12 % smaller ethnic groups (Turkmen, Baluchi, Nuristani, etc.) Precise information on the ethnic composition of the population is not available.
<b>Languages</b>	Dari (50 %), Pashto (35 %) and numerous other languages
<b>Religions</b>	Muslim (99 % of the population, of which 84 % Sunnite and 15 % Shiite), other less than 1 %
<b>National Day</b>	19 August (Independence Day)
<b>Independence</b>	8 August 1919 (from Great Britain; Treaty of Rawalpindi)
<b>System of government</b>	Republic, Presidential system with 2 Vice-Presidents
<b>Head of State and Head of Government</b>	Hamid Karzai
<b>Parliament</b>	The new Constitution adopted by the Constitutional Loya Jirga in January 2004 provides for a parliament with two chambers. Elections for the lower house were held in September 2005.



A German ISAF police officer gives a football to an Afghan boy in Kabul during the 'Children Against Drugs' campaign

rebuilding the police force. The total cost of reintroducing the necessary police infrastructure amounts to around 480 million euro. An additional 120 million euro are required for police salaries. Without the help of international partners Germany would not be able to fulfil the task of rebuilding the police. Australia, Canada, China, France, the United Kingdom and the United States, to mention but a few countries, have given us considerable support. But is Germany's involvement in the police sector bearing fruit? Will Farid's brother really find a police force worthy of its name when he returns to Afghanistan in the next few days?

Despite all the existing weaknesses and deficits, we can answer this question in the affirmative. Important police structures have already been rebuilt. The central institutions of the national police are operational and well equipped. Since August 2002 the newly erected police academy has provided basic training to more than 3,700 police officers at the higher intermediate and intermediate service levels and further training to more than 1,600. Of the 34 Afghan provinces, 19 are now involved in reconstruction work. The German police officers at the Police Project Office in Kabul and their colleagues at the branch offices in Herat, Kunduz and Feyzabad are highly esteemed and popular with their Afghan colleagues and the public. I still remember staying in Herat on one occasion, wanting to check on the progress of our various police projects in the province. Whenever we walked through the city and my colleague was wearing the uniform which identified him as a German policeman, many people spoke to us and expressed their appreciation of Germany's commitment – a phenomenon that German police officers at home are not always privileged to observe.

The Federal Government is supporting efforts to increase the proportion of women in the Afghan national police force. Although the involvement of women in the police service does not necessarily correspond to traditional local understanding of their role, 58 women have already joined the police force. Previously it was almost impossible to recruit female

trainees from the provinces as no suitable accommodation for women was available. A hall of residence for up to 100 female trainee police officers was therefore erected on the grounds of the academy and officially handed over in early 2005. From my own experience I can say that the women serving in the Afghan police force are confident and dynamic in carrying out their responsibilities. During conversations with us they were quick to point out where they believe problems still lie and requested our help to resolve them. This gives us hope.

However, we must concede that not all goals have been attained, despite these successes. The integration of the provinces into the programme is proceeding more slowly than planned, as the security situation in many regions has considerably hampered or totally prevented the reconstruction of the police force. The reform of the Afghan Interior Ministry has progressed very sluggishly in the past years. Many police officers are not yet receiving a regular and adequate wage. Yet this should not make us lose heart.

As well as our involvement as a lead nation in police reconstruction, we are taking numerous other measures to ensure that Farid's brother will find a secure Afghanistan when he returns after 14 years. Following the collapse of the Taliban regime Germany demonstrated from the outset a strong commitment to rebuilding the country. Germany assumed responsibility by organizing the pioneering Afghanistan Conferences in Bonn and in Berlin in 2004. Through our engagement in this sorely tried country at the foot of the Hindu Kush we want to enable the people there to once again live in dignity after more than 25 years of civil war. But Germany's commitment is also a direct response to the terrible events of 11 September 2001. The planning for the attacks on the United States also took place in Afghanistan, where Osama bin Laden's terrorist network al Qaida had based its operations and built training camps. The Taliban Government in Afghanistan at that time actively promoted terrorism. Combatants hostile to the Govern-



An ISAF member of the Federal Armed Forces uses a road model to provide traffic control training to Afghan police in Kabul

ment are still active in the regions on the border with Pakistan. Our commitment is therefore also intended to defuse one of the hot spots of international terrorism and hence improve security for us all.

One key pillar is our participation in the *International Security Assistance Force* in Afghanistan (*ISAF*). The presence of ISAF has given lasting stability to the security situation in Kabul and the surrounding area. Germany, with a total of 2,250 soldiers, remains the largest provider of troops for ISAF. We are supporting the planned expansion of the force, which is designed also to improve security and stability in the provinces, with our *Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs)* in Kunduz and Feyzabad. The goal of the work of the PRTs is to strengthen the authority of the Afghan Central Government in the provinces and to promote stabilization and reconstruction measures at local level. Federal Foreign Office personnel are in charge of the civilian projects in the two teams, undeniably a very special crisis appointment.

Security is a vital condition for Afghanistan's reconstruction after more than 20 years of combat and civil war. Yet the country needs more than a mere guarantee of security if it is to become a sustainably viable, functioning state. Political and economic reconstruction must be driven forward so that people such as Farid's brother have an income and can support their families. Germany is therefore

working to advance Afghanistan's reconstruction in many other areas as well as police rebuilding and the ISAF. Along with the United States and Japan, Germany is providing the greatest financial support for reconstruction (see box).

#### Tasks of the two German PRTs in Kunduz and Feyzabad:

- > Support and strengthening of the provincial government
- > Coordination of and advice for police reconstruction in the provinces
- > Support of reconstruction, particularly the water and power supply, as well as rural development, by offering alternatives to drug production
- > Building and strengthening of civil society, e.g. promotion of the status of women
- > Support of multilateral partners such as the EU and the UN

We decide together with the Afghan Government how these financial resources are invested. To date our focus has been on measures to promote and strengthen political and state institutions and civil society. For only a state with a stable political system in which its citizens play an active role is truly safe from extremist/terrorist tendencies and can be a >

> Dr Silke Kerstin Lechler,  
author of this article, in Herat



>> Members of the PRT in Kunduz  
in conversation with the Governor  
and nomads



reliable partner to the international community in the long term. Through our financial assistance we are also helping to create jobs by promoting private enterprise, to develop an environmentally viable energy supply, to provide clean drinking water and to improve the basic education system.

All German activities are closely coordinated with our partners within the international community, particularly the United Nations. The United Nations has coordinated and promoted the reconstruction of Afghanistan from the start. Its record of achievements is overwhelmingly positive, whether they be the construction of state institutions, the adoption of a constitution in line with international standards or the organization of elections. The fact that both the presidential elections in 2004 and the parliamentary and regional elections in 2005 adhered largely to democratic principles was not least thanks to the United Nations and its special mission in Afghanistan, UNAMA. On 15 February 2006, Tom Koenigs, a German, became head of UNAMA. This is no doubt an acknowledgement of the Federal Republic's outstanding commitment to Afghanistan. The further development of the country will in future remain a joint task of

the international community and Afghanistan, under the auspices of the United Nations. This was also the message conveyed by the major international Afghanistan Conference on 31 January 2006 in London. Meanwhile, the task of shaping reconstruction will be transferred to the hands of the Afghans, something we have expressly desired and encouraged. To the hands of people like Farid's brother, who are finding the confidence they need to tackle the new challenges they constantly face.

Germany's commitment is well regarded in Afghanistan. Our contribution is perceived and valued as sincere and welcome assistance. Farid shares this view. 'Taschakor!' he exclaims, as we get out of the taxi. 'Thank you very much!' 'Taschakor!' we reply.

**German financial assistance for Afghanistan:**

- > 320 million euro (2002–2004)
- > 320 million euro for 2005–2008

**Envisaged German military contribution to stabilizing Afghanistan:**

- > Up to 3,000 soldiers in the ISAF

**HUMANITARIAN AID**

# Earthquake in Pakistan

As is so often the case, the first reports are confusing. It is Saturday, 8 October 2005. That morning the media bring reports of an earthquake in Northern Pakistan measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale. Apparently a towerblock in Islamabad has collapsed. Thanks to our modern telecommunications networks we are able to talk to our Embassy in Islamabad within seconds. There they know little more than we do. Pakistan television reports on the rescue of people from the debris of the one ruined building, but precise news from the north of the country is not forthcoming. Days will pass before the true extent of the disaster becomes clear.

Probably more than 75,000 people have been killed, and 70,000 people injured. 3.5 million people are affected by the earthquake. The damage is estimated to exceed 5 billion dollars. Relief measures are launched immediately. As with every natural disaster, the most important helpers are the victims themselves. Their improvisation talent will be crucial to their survival over the next few months – winter is just around the corner. Destroyed transport routes and the isolation of the regions hinder the relief operation. International aid also begins to arrive. The key players here are national and international non-governmental organizations and the humanitarian organizations of the United Nations. The crisis poses enormous challenges in terms of logistics as well as the coordination of the assistance and the helpers. And yet, in the days and weeks after the disaster, a relief network will form which makes it possible to help the victims survive the winter, albeit in very tough conditions.

The humanitarian aid funded by the Federal Foreign Office begins in the first few hours following the disaster. Our Embassy receives funds to purchase relief materials locally. The Federal Agency for Technical Relief sets off for Pakistan with a rescue team and water purification devices. The German Red Cross receives an initial



Camp in the province of Kashmir, Pakistan, in the aftermath of the earthquake

contribution for relief projects in cooperation with its partners in the Red Cross/Red Crescent Family. The German armed forces also respond very quickly and send helicopters, transport aeroplanes and doctors from neighbouring Afghanistan. In the following weeks the Federal Foreign Office supports more than 20 projects run by humanitarian organizations with almost 7 million euro. Around half of this goes to United Nations organizations. As well as medical care and drinking water facilities, weatherproof tents, blankets, warm clothing and stoves are provided and distributed with the help of local authorities. Meanwhile, more than 20 million euro have already been donated in Germany, which enables the relief agencies to continue their work with their own resources. By early 2006 the situation in the earthquake region has somewhat improved, partly due to the relatively mild winter up until this point. Most of the victims can be supplied with food and have provisional shelter. Medical care is in place. Reconstruction measures will be the priority in 2006. The focus of the Federal Foreign Office's humanitarian relief shifts back to the Sudan, to Central and Eastern Africa and to the various other crisis points throughout the world.

# Foreign Minister, what are the priorities of German foreign policy in 2006?

The priorities of foreign policy emerge in the same way as those in other areas of life. Some are dictated to us, others we set ourselves. Iran, for example, has set us a priority with its nuclear programme. This calls for diplomacy, namely the ability to reach compromises, but also to make abundantly clear where the limits are. Another priority is undoubtedly the debate on which direction Europe will take, particularly in view of the rejection of the Constitutional Treaty in the referenda in France and the Netherlands. However, that discussion will not only take place behind closed doors in the ministries, but will be conducted by our citizens. In 2007 Germany will assume the EU Presidency. That will give us the opportunity to set our own priorities which will require careful preparation on our part.

**German foreign policy sees itself as peace policy. How can the Federal Foreign Office specifically contribute to world peace? What significance do cultural exchange and media projects have in this context?**

Here I would distinguish between two factors – institutional issues and concrete projects. An example of each: the organization responsible for promoting international peace under its Charter is the United Nations. The United Nations framework stems from the period immediately after the Second World War. It goes without saying that reform is needed. Reforming the United Nations requires a lot of patience. But it is essential, because humanity faces global challenges which we can only resolve together, under the auspices of the

United Nations: environmental issues, terrorism, states which fail as a consequence of internal conflict ...

And a specific example: The Federal Foreign Office has been promoting a project tackling small arms and light weapons in Afghanistan for several years. In the last decades small arms have claimed the lives of more people worldwide than all other types of weapon put together. In Afghanistan mobile teams financed with Foreign Office resources have collected and destroyed more than 1,200 small arms and light weapons and over 1,000 tons of ammunition in the past year alone. I regard that as a direct contribution to peace and development. And going on to the second part of the question – in January 2006 I was in Cairo, where Germany was the guest country at the book fair. I was able to see first hand the vast significance of dialogue between cultures. We all know that dialogue with the Islamic world is not always easy for either side. The often violent demonstrations which broke out in many Muslim countries in response to the publication of a few caricatures in a Danish newspaper once again made this startlingly clear. And yet I am convinced that there is no alternative to this dialogue, which we are aiming to stimulate through our foreign cultural policy and also by means of Arabic television programmes broadcast by Deutsche Welle. Our intention is to explain our political and economic system and to prompt discussion on the approach we have adopted in the competition of ideas. By so doing we can promote a model that has



brought us in Europe peace, security and prosperity and which has convinced us of its value. Foreign policy today is a European task.

**What does this mean for the Federal Foreign Office?**

That is indeed the future – a united Europe must also speak with one voice to the rest of the world. We were therefore particularly keen to include the goal of a European Foreign Affairs Council in the European Constitutional Treaty. Nonetheless, European foreign policy is already part of our day-to-day agenda. Every day we discuss key issues with 25 member states and consult our partners. Texts are circulated and commented on. Incidentally, the Federal Foreign Office hosts on a regular basis exchange civil servants from other European states. After all, diplomacy will never go anywhere without good personal contacts.

**How do you prepare for talks with your colleagues? What documents do you take with you?**

I always make sure I am briefed by the responsible Federal Foreign Office colleagues before each meeting, either verbally or in writing. They provide me with background information and proposals on what position we should adopt for each meeting and on each issue.

**Does your work leave you any time for hobbies?**

First I must say that every day my job gives me opportunities for a lot of fascinating encounters.

It awakens my curiosity for foreign lands and their people. But if I'm honest, the work load my position as Foreign Minister entails doesn't leave me much time for private interests. Whenever I can, I take a trip to the mountains with my family for a few days. Then I put my family first.

## Dr Frank-Walter Steinmeier

5 January 1956	Born in Detmold, Lippe District
1976–1982	Read law and as from 1980 political science
1982–1986	First and second state law examination and legal training in Frankfurt am Main and Giessen
1986–1991	Academic assistant, Chair of Public Law and Political Science, Department of Law, Giessen University
1991	Desk officer for media law and policy, State Chancellery of Land Lower Saxony
1993–1994	Head of the Office of the Minister-President of Land Lower Saxony
1994–1996	Head of the State Chancellery department responsible for policy guidelines and interministerial coordination and planning
1996–1998	State Secretary and Head of the State Chancellery of Land Lower Saxony
1998–1999	State Secretary in the Federal Chancellery and Commissioner for the Federal Intelligence Services
1999–2005	Head of the Federal Chancellery
Since November 2005	Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs



German Embassy building in Budapest, Hungary

Diplomacy

Shaping policy

Partners and mediators

The view from inside

## Why exactly do we need embassies?

The German missions abroad foster cultural dialogue and promote Germany. Like the cultural mediators, they present Germany as a modern cultural and scientific location. They forge contacts for German companies and are an important starting point for firms desiring to conduct business with foreign partners. In addition, they are available around the clock and provide rapid and effective assistance to Germans in need in close cooperation with the Head Office.

# Our missions abroad: partners, mediators and service providers

Why exactly do we need embassies?  
A glance at the hypothetical daily routine of a German mission abroad might explain why.

The Federal President has announced that he will be coming to visit. The political section clarifies the details of the visit with the Foreign Ministry. German companies demonstrate what they have to offer at a drinks fair. The desk officer for economic affairs visits the trade fair stand with the Ambassador and invites the participants to her home to introduce them to potential business partners. A group of school-children learns about the work of a German mission abroad by interviewing the desk officer for cultural affairs. Later that afternoon the desk officer for cultural affairs will open the exhibition *Weltsprache Fußball – Planet Football* organized by the Goethe Institute in the cultural centre. The press officer is updating the Embassy's website, as the information for visitors travelling to Germany for the FIFA World Cup has to be explained in the local language. In Germany the summer holidays have just begun. That means that in the legal and consular section all thoughts of holidays must be put on ice. Replacement documents must be issued to tourists whose passports have been stolen. The mission can even be contacted at night via the telephone hotline.

A hypothetical, yet not untypical scenario. Three topics in this chapter provide insights into this daily routine – external economic promotion, foreign cultural policy and the broad area of services.

The Federal Foreign Office Head Office and its missions abroad support and advise major corporations as well as small and medium-sized enterprises. They are service providers, 'door-openers', political backers and networkers for German business. In this chapter an entrepreneur has the chance to report on his experiences with the Federal Foreign Office.

Foreign cultural and education policy opens up German culture to foreigners. So-called cultural mediators such as the Goethe Institute, the German Academic Exchange Service and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, as well as German schools abroad, provide language courses, cultural programmes and scholarships on behalf of the Federal Foreign Office. These events help foster lifelong links with Germany.

The Federal Foreign Office is a partner and a service provider. In the wake of natural disasters such as the tsunami in December 2004 its crisis management is at the centre of public attention. But the staff of the missions abroad also offer advice and support for more mundane 'crises', such as when tourists are robbed or even arrested. And when you are planning your holidays, you would be well advised to take a look at the travel and security information on the Federal Foreign Office website.

## Objectives and tasks of the legal and consular section

- > Assistance with citizenship, passport and status-related affairs for Germans
- > Certificates, authorizations and documents, legalization of foreign official documents and confirmation of the authenticity of German official documents
- > Announcement of births and deaths, assistance with the repatriation of deceased persons and the handling of estates
- > Emergency assistance for Germans abroad (including persons missing abroad, kidnappings, hostages)
- > Assistance for Germans caught up in disasters (natural disasters, violent conflict) and accidents
- > Support for German prisoners, particularly via legal protection and the transfer of requests for judicial assistance
- > Legal advice in the fields of economic and cultural relations with the host country



Houses destroyed by the tsunami on the beach in Thailand

## Objectives and tasks of external economic promotion

- > Support of German companies on the global market
- > Current information on economic and political conditions abroad and on risk factors
- > Advice and support for companies on issues of economic policy
- > Clarification and assertion of German economic interests vis-à-vis government agencies in the host country
- > Initiation of business-related talks with political and economic decision-makers
- > Forging of contacts between German institutions, individuals and companies and the host country
- > Promotion of Germany as a business location
- > Activity as a representative of the Federal Government in international bodies such as the WTO, OECD, UN and EU to advocate conditions conducive to trade and investment and equal opportunities for German companies



A freight ship from China at the Eurogate Terminal in Hamburg

## Objectives and tasks of foreign cultural and education policy

- > Presentation of Germany as a country with a world-famous and multifaceted cultural scene
- > Raising Germany's profile as an educational location, e.g. by awarding scholarships to top young researchers from all over the world
- > Promotion of the German language in Europe and throughout the world
- > Contribution to international crisis and conflict prevention, e.g. by assisting with the rebuilding of schools and universities in Afghanistan
- > Promotion of European integration, e.g. by introducing an EU-wide framework for initial and further training
- > Contribution to preserving cultural diversity in the world, e.g. by supporting the restoration of endangered cultural sites in developing countries
- > Creation of a stable foundation for international relations by promoting dialogue between people from different countries



Youth rally in Essen to mark the German-Polish Year 2005/2006



SERVICES

# Consular services abroad: information, advice and assistance

Germany is one of the few countries which has made legal provision for the protection of its citizens abroad. The Consular Law states that Germans in trouble abroad must receive help. This assistance should always help them to help themselves, i.e. the cost of the services rendered must be reimbursed.

What form does consular assistance take in practice? Here are two examples.

The Gassners\* are on holiday in Turkey. While they are browsing in a bazaar, Mrs Gassner's handbag, containing credit cards and cash as well as the passports, is stolen. The family asks a consular officer at the Consulate-General in Istanbul for help. The consular officer allows the Gassners to phone their parents at home in Germany from the Consulate, so that they can transfer money to them via Western Union. As the Gassners have copies of their papers at the hotel and have already reported the theft of their documents to the police, the consular officer can immediately fax a request for authorization to issue replacement passports to the responsible passport office in Germany. Once the authorization has arrived, she issues new temporary passports to the Gassners. The Gassners collect the money transfer from Western Union and are able to return to Germany.

The newly wed Lehmanns\* are spending their honeymoon in Hawaii. While they are there, Mrs Lehmann is suddenly taken seriously ill.

When she falls into a coma, she is admitted to the intensive care unit of the hospital in Honolulu. Mr Lehmann desperately asks the Consulate-General in San Francisco for help. The consular officer's research reveals that the Lehmanns have omitted to take out travel insurance. As the hospital in Honolulu wants to discharge the patient because of the unresolved issue of costs, the Consulate-General arranges a flight to take the patient to Germany. Mrs Lehmann's relatives pool their resources and transfer a proportion of the cost of the transportation to the Federal Foreign Office. Mrs Lehmann can then be transferred to a German hospital.

The day-to-day work of consular officers is varied and never routine. Every case is different, but they always have to look after people who require information, advice or urgent assistance. Nonetheless, the officers are not only involved in emergency situations. They also issue countless certifications, authorizations and document authentications and respond to the most diverse requests for information.

**Consular services in a nutshell:**

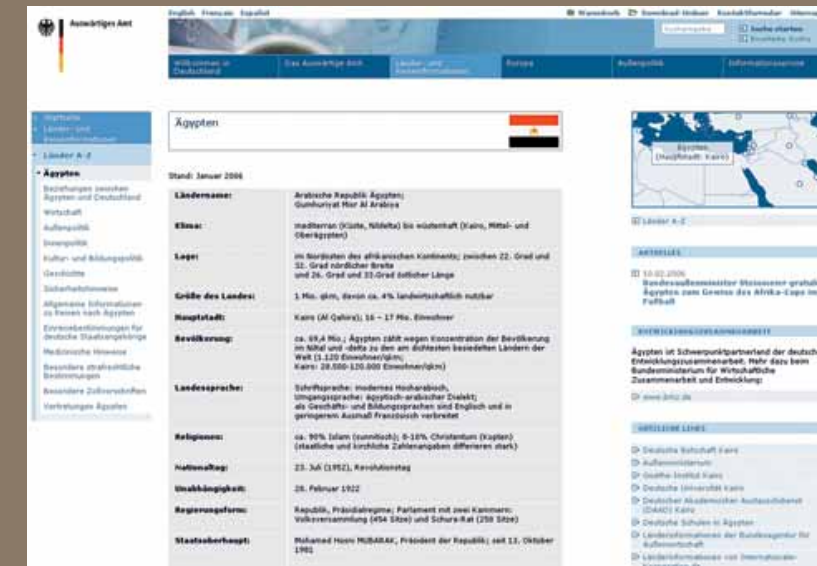
- > more than 200,000 passports issued each year
- > approximately 2.4 million visas issued
- > more than 100,000 consular cases each year

(\* ) Names have been changed

## Our online travel service

Faraway and exotic countries are becoming increasingly attractive as holiday destinations. Many factors should be taken into consideration before and during a trip. What is the political situation in the country, and what security precautions should be taken? What documents

do you need to enter the country, and what medical preparations, such as vaccinations, are required? Our online travel service provides answers to these and other questions for all major international holiday destinations.



On our website at [www.auswaertiges-amt.de](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de) you can find detailed information on your destination by clicking on 'Länder- und Reiseinformationen' (in German only).



We provide answers to frequently asked questions on travel security.

**Typical categories in our online travel service (some only available in German)**

Example: Egypt

**Information service**

- > Press releases
- > Speeches

**Travel and security information**

- > Security information
- > General information for travellers
- > Entry requirements
- > Medical information
- > Information on law enforcement
- > Customs information

**Missions**

- > Foreign missions abroad
- > German missions

**Country information for Egypt**

- > Egypt at a glance
- > Bilateral relations
- > Foreign policy
- > Domestic policy
- > Economic relations
- > Economic statistics
- > Cultural and education policy
- > History

**Importing souvenirs**

- > Precautions with exotic souvenirs

**Useful links (selection)**

- > German Embassy in Cairo
- > Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- > German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce
- > German schools in Egypt
- > Goethe Institute in Cairo

**Downloads**

- > Travel sheet for Egypt in pdf format

CRISIS RESPONSE CENTRE

# Serving you around the clock



Staff of the Crisis Response Centre in Berlin

The first news of a crisis is often no more than a sparse headline ...

Very early in the morning one day in July 2005 the news agencies bring very vague reports of 'Several serious explosions in a popular beach resort'. Soon after, further press reports state that the explosions have caused many deaths and injuries among local people and tourists. The civil servant on duty at the Situation Centre in the Crisis Response Centre is on the alert – it is the main holiday period and the resort is popular with German tourists. The civil servant immediately informs the competent German Embassy, the Crisis Management Commissioner and the Press Division. In a telephone conference held with the German Ambassador before dawn the decision is taken to send a team to the resort. Its task will be to clarify whether German tourists are involved and, if so, to provide them with assistance, in cooperation with the local authorities.

When crises abroad occur, whether they involve attacks like this, or other problems, such as hostage-taking, kidnapping, the rescue of Germans from political and military crises and natural disasters, the Crisis Response Centre is the responsible Federal Government unit.

With the help of its 24-hour Situation Centre it is able to take the necessary steps to tackle a crisis at any time.

### The Crisis Unit convenes

Although, at the beginning of a crisis, it is often difficult to obtain enough reliable information, the moment soon comes at which the information available has to be sorted, compared and put together to form a more complete picture. After all, the various players have to coordinate their respective tasks. Nothing is more counter-productive than uncoordinated activity.

Decisions on how next to proceed have to be made jointly and implemented effectively. That is the role of the Crisis Unit, which is formed in the Crisis Response Centre immediately after a crisis has been identified and which will come together even at weekends or during the night if necessary.

### During a crisis the phones rarely stop ringing

A crisis is generally accompanied by an often dramatic increase in phone calls from citizens who are concerned about relatives or who simply want to know what they should do about travelling to the affected country. In such cases the Federal Foreign Office issues a special hotline number. The telephone pool at the Crisis Response Centre (up to 70 staff) deals with the calls which come in through the hotline so that lists of missing persons and those who wish to know their whereabouts can be issued within a very short time. The staff – volunteers from the whole of the Foreign Office – receive special training for this task.

### We want you to travel in safety ...

In this day and age trips to far-off countries are easier and more comfortable than ever before.

Composition of the crisis unit for the tsunami in Asia

Minister for Foreign Affairs		
State Secretary		
Crisis Response Centre		
<p>▼ Federal Agency for Technical Relief</p> <p>Association of German Travel Agents and Tour Operators</p> <p>Robert Koch Institute</p>	<p>▼ Minister's Office</p> <p>State Secretary's Office</p> <p>Relevant country divisions</p> <p>Consular Division</p> <p>Health Service</p> <p>Task Force for Humanitarian Aid</p> <p>Press Division</p>	<p>▼ Head of the Federal Chancellery</p> <p>Federal Ministry of Justice</p> <p>Federal Ministry of the Interior</p> <p>Federal Ministry of Health and Social Security</p> <p>Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development</p> <p>Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance</p>

Yet the growing urge to visit foreign climes is matched by mounting risks. The Federal Foreign Office intends its travel and security information to help its citizens to decide whether to travel abroad, and if so, where. Ultimately, travellers themselves are responsible for deciding whether or not to embark on a journey. The travel and security information includes up-to-date and comprehensive data about the destination, such as the climate, the health situation, entry requirements and customs. Where necessary it draws attention to country-specific security risks for travellers and Germans abroad, e.g. kidnapping, political developments or the danger of terrorist attacks. The travel and security information is based on the Foreign Office data available at the time and is checked for reliability. It is constantly updated in close consultation with the German missions and the German security authorities, if necessary also at weekends and on Bank Holidays. The security information may therefore also contain recommendations to avoid certain regions in a country or to refrain from embarking on trips that are not absolutely necessary.

Travel warnings are only issued if people must be warned against travelling to a particular country or region at all, for example in the case of war, civil war or other uncontrollable dangers. A travel warning replaces the security information.

### Help desk

The Federal Foreign Office help desk is also affiliated to the Crisis Response Centre. It offers an automated information service, particularly covering travel and security information, visa regulations and the addresses of the missions abroad. In addition, it currently has five members of staff working as central contacts who can provide more detailed information in person. The help desk has also compiled answers to the most frequently asked questions on the Internet under [www.diplo.de/en/Infoservice/FAQ/Uebersicht.html](http://www.diplo.de/en/Infoservice/FAQ/Uebersicht.html).



Rebuilding a mosque destroyed by the tsunami in Indonesia



Sharing information at the International Automobile Exhibition

External economic service in figures.

More than 210 economic sections at missions abroad are available as contact points for German companies and for companies in the host country with an interest in Germany.

Each year the missions abroad support and accompany a total of 250 trade fairs with official German participation worldwide.

Over 700 business representatives come to the annual Economic Conference which takes place during the Conference of Heads of German Missions at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin – the largest Foreign Office event for German business.

**SERVICES**

External economic promotion at the Federal Foreign Office

Global trade and cross-border investment contribute significantly to growth, employment and prosperity in Germany. Exports account for roughly one third of GDP. In other words, one euro in every three is earned abroad. External economic promotion is therefore a core task for the Foreign Service. The Federal Foreign Office and its economic services at the missions abroad support the overseas activity of German companies throughout the world, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises.

The staff at the German embassies and consulates-general as well as at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin see themselves principally as advisors and mediators for the companies. In addition, the missions abroad

promote Germany as a business location and help foreign companies to establish initial contacts with German partners. The Federal Foreign Office also works to improve the conditions for German business activities throughout the world, for example by taking an active role in negotiating investment promotion and protection contracts and double-taxation conventions. As a representative of the Federal Government in international bodies such as the WTO, the OECD, the UN and the EU it strives to promote framework conditions conducive to trade and investment and equal opportunities for German companies.

**ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE IN PRACTICE**

From Tauberbischofsheim to Novosibirsk

Dr h c Alois Eimannsberger

For sales talks in Russia, persuasion tactics rather than technical details are the name of the game.

I have seldom concluded contracts in offices and conference rooms. Most have taken place during picnics or near banyas, the Russian saunas. German engineering continues to enjoy a first-class reputation for quality, service and reliability in Russia. There is a demand for compact solutions combining technology, financing and marketing rather than for individual machines. To be able to compete with much cheaper providers from the Far East, however, we are having to put more and more effort into marketing.

Russia is an important export market for us, the *Weinig Group*. We are a medium-sized manufacturer of wood processing machines from Tauberbischofsheim. The Russian Federation has a quarter of the earth's wood supplies. Moreover, the Russian economy has been booming for several years. Unfortunately, the oil and gas industries are profiting most from this growth, while the wood industry continues to suffer from inadequate investment and reform. Nonetheless, Russia has become a central pillar of our exports in the last decade.

This requires us to know the business environment very well and to maintain personal contacts. The Federal Foreign Office and its staff in Germany and abroad have frequently been a great help to me in this regard. Take, for example, the Economic Section of the Embassy in Moscow. The diplomats there are happy to share their expertise with others and offer valuable tips, especially on how to deal with the Russian authorities and government offices. They have helped us avoid errors of judgement

on several occasions in the past. Neither should we underestimate the impression the presence of a representative from the German Embassy makes on our clients, such as the German Consul-General at the opening of the *Steelwood* factory in Novosibirsk. It was only natural for the Consul-General to attend the opening, but it greatly impressed our Russian client.

Another vital form of support involves the issuing of visas for our Russian business partners. Around 300 visa applications are processed each year for the *Weinig Group* alone. It goes without saying that each case is very urgent – every client is important to us. Without rapid processing of applications, the existence of the *Weinig Group* would be in jeopardy. What the embassies and consulates achieve in this area is amazing. Amid all the vast numbers of visa applications they have to ensure that the correct individuals travel to Germany and that the visas don't get into the wrong hands.

Division 403 at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin, the Task Force for Foreign Trade and Payments II, is another asset for us. The staff there show expertise, competence, commitment and humour in dealing with requests and queries. What is more, they do not merely respond to questions, but also organize and are actively involved in seminars, conferences and meetings on current export business topics. I have to admit that when I started working in Russia, I didn't think I would need the help of the Federal Foreign Office. Now I really value its assistance.



Weinig is the market leader in solid wood processing machinery

Dr h c Alois Eimannsberger, aged 49, married, three children. Has worked for Weinig for 17 years, has been sales manager responsible for the East since 1994.

In 2005 *Weinig AG*, based in Tauberbischofsheim, celebrated its centenary. With 1,100 staff at the headquarters in Tauberbischofsheim and 2,200 staff in the Group, Weinig is the largest employer in the Tauber-Franconia region and the global market leader in solid wood processing machinery. Exports now total 92 percent, with a turnover of approximately 370 million euro in 2005. The main sales markets are the United States, Russia, China and Europe.

# Football unites – a photographic exhibition on tour

*‘Man is only fully human when he is playing.’*

Friedrich Schiller

Football has become part of everyday culture, spanning the world and crossing borders. What is more, football speaks a language everyone can understand.

The Federal Foreign Office and the Goethe Institute were quick to recognize this and used their network of 226 missions abroad and 144 Goethe Institutes to exploit the mood of anticipation before the World Cup, often with surprising results.

*‘In Manitoba I got talking to a 35-year-old man from the Middle East. He was telling me about his favourite picture of Diego Maradona from the 1986 World Cup in Mexico’,* recounts Maggie from Canada. The two of them found the very same picture in the exhibition *Weltsprache Fußball – Planet Football* organized by the Goethe Institute, which features 50 high-quality photographs from the MAGNUM agency. This exhibition has been on tour since February 2004, visiting 200 venues in 98 countries. Frequently discussions and interviews supplement the photos. At the Goethe Institute in Rotterdam, for instance, two national players from the 1974 World Cup, Bernd Hölzenbein and Johnny Rep, came together at the opening of the exhibition. Numerous visitors shared with them as they revived old memories and discussed the differences and similarities between the Germans and the Dutch, not only in connection with football. This inspired several major Dutch newspapers to report on the event the next day. One paper even bore the headline, *‘Peace in Rotterdam’*.

To date more than 90,000 visitors have learned more about Germany through the exhibition and the cultural programme, not only with regard to football, but also in the areas of German culture, society and lifestyle.

German football is a topic of conversation throughout the world. Staff at the Goethe Institutes and embassies receive more requests about the current Bundesliga results than about German political developments. People get into conversation and share their views. And then it isn’t too long before we are welcoming a new visitor to the embassy or the Goethe Institute, maybe to a German film festival. Take the German Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan, in Brunei Darussalam, where the Crown Prince, accompanied by his family, personally opened the Football Film Festival on 8 February. As a result the Embassy was at the centre of public attention for several days, and Germany went up a few points in people’s estimation.

Football is also a great way to awaken interest in the German language. Goethe Institutes from Tokyo to London are offering special football-related German courses to prepare football fans abroad for visiting Germany, its cities and stadiums.

Football, under the roof of foreign cultural policy, thus not only creates excellent opportunities to exchange views and information. It also reinforces the positive image of our country and provides Germany with a unique chance to demonstrate what it has to offer, not only to politicians and opinion-makers. In this game Germany has already scored its first goal.



‘Weltsprache Fußball – Planet Football’, Photo exhibition organized by the Goethe Institute on tour in Copenhagen

### The Goethe Institute

- > The Goethe Institute promotes German language and literature abroad
- > Global presence: 144 Institutes (including branch offices) in 78 countries
- > Funding from the Federal Foreign Office: around 178 million euro (in 2005)
- > More information under [www.goethe.de](http://www.goethe.de)

### Useful cultural and education policy links

- <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/en/Aussenpolitik/Kulturpolitik/Kulturpolitik.html> Information on foreign cultural and education policy
- [www.deutsche-kultur-international.de](http://www.deutsche-kultur-international.de) Comprehensive list of links on foreign cultural and education policy
- [www.auslandsschulwesen.de](http://www.auslandsschulwesen.de) Federal Office of Administration – Central Agency for Schools Abroad (German only)
- [www.goethe.de](http://www.goethe.de) Goethe Institute
- [www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de) German Academic Exchange Service
- [www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de) Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
- [www.ifa.de](http://www.ifa.de) Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations
- [www.unesco.de](http://www.unesco.de) German Commission for UNESCO
- [www.dainst.de](http://www.dainst.de) German Archaeological Institute



The Swedish King Carl Gustaf presents the Nobel Prize for Chemistry to Robert H. Grubbs

#### Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

- > The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation has enabled more than 22,000 researchers to visit Germany since 1953.
- > 40 of these have been awarded Nobel Prizes, 5 in 2005 alone.
- > Federal Foreign Office support: around 26.5 million euro (in 2005)
- > More information under [www.humboldt-foundation.de](http://www.humboldt-foundation.de)

#### German Academic Exchange Service

- > The German Academic Exchange Service has supported around 620,000 students and scientists since 1950.
- > International presence: 14 branch offices, 46 information centres and 414 DAAD lecturers
- > Federal Foreign Office support: around 117.1 million euro (as of 2005)
- > More information under [www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de)

*‘Education and innovation are the raw materials of our country.’*

Dr Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor

*‘Whoever seriously wants to discover something new needs patient sponsors. Germany has such sponsors.’*

Prof Theodor Hänsch, 2005 Nobel Prize winner and Humboldt alumnus

## FOREIGN CULTURAL AND EDUCATION POLICY

# Science crosses borders – Nobel Prize for Germany

Winning friends for Germany throughout the world and putting German research at the top of the global field – these are the goals of foreign cultural and education policy.

The Federal Foreign Office promotes various exchange programmes run by the German Academic Exchange Service and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Up-and-coming top researchers and leaders from all continents thus have the chance to come to Germany to study or conduct research. This not only enriches our research landscape. The many personal contacts which develop and the positive experiences gleaned by the students and researchers also benefit economic and political relations between Germany and their home countries, as the following prominent examples illustrate.

#### Robert Grubbs, Nobel Prize winner

A research fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is not merely a distinction – it is also a promise for the future. The American Robert Grubbs came to Mülheim an der Ruhr to the Independent Department for Radiation Chemistry at the Max Planck Institute for Coal Research (now the Max Planck Institute for Bioinorganic Chemistry) in 1975 at the age of 33. He subsequently became one of the leading international experts in organometallic chemistry. And as if that were not impressive enough, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2005, along with four other Humboldt fellows – Richard Schrock, Roy Glauber, John Hall and Theodor Hänsch.

#### Wangari Maathai, winner of the Nobel Prize for Peace

Scientists who come to conduct research in Germany not only have their own education in mind. Often they contribute significantly to development in their own countries. One such example is Wangari Maathai. The Kenyan, who was awarded a DAAD scholarship to conduct research in Germany in 1978, was not only the first East African woman to obtain a doctorate in biology. She has also launched various initiatives to raise awareness of environmental issues and women’s rights. African women to date have planted around 20 million trees as part of the *Green Belt Movement* she has established. In 1984 Wangari Maathai received the Alternative Nobel Prize and in 2004 the Nobel Prize for Peace for her achievements.

#### László Sólyom, Hungarian President

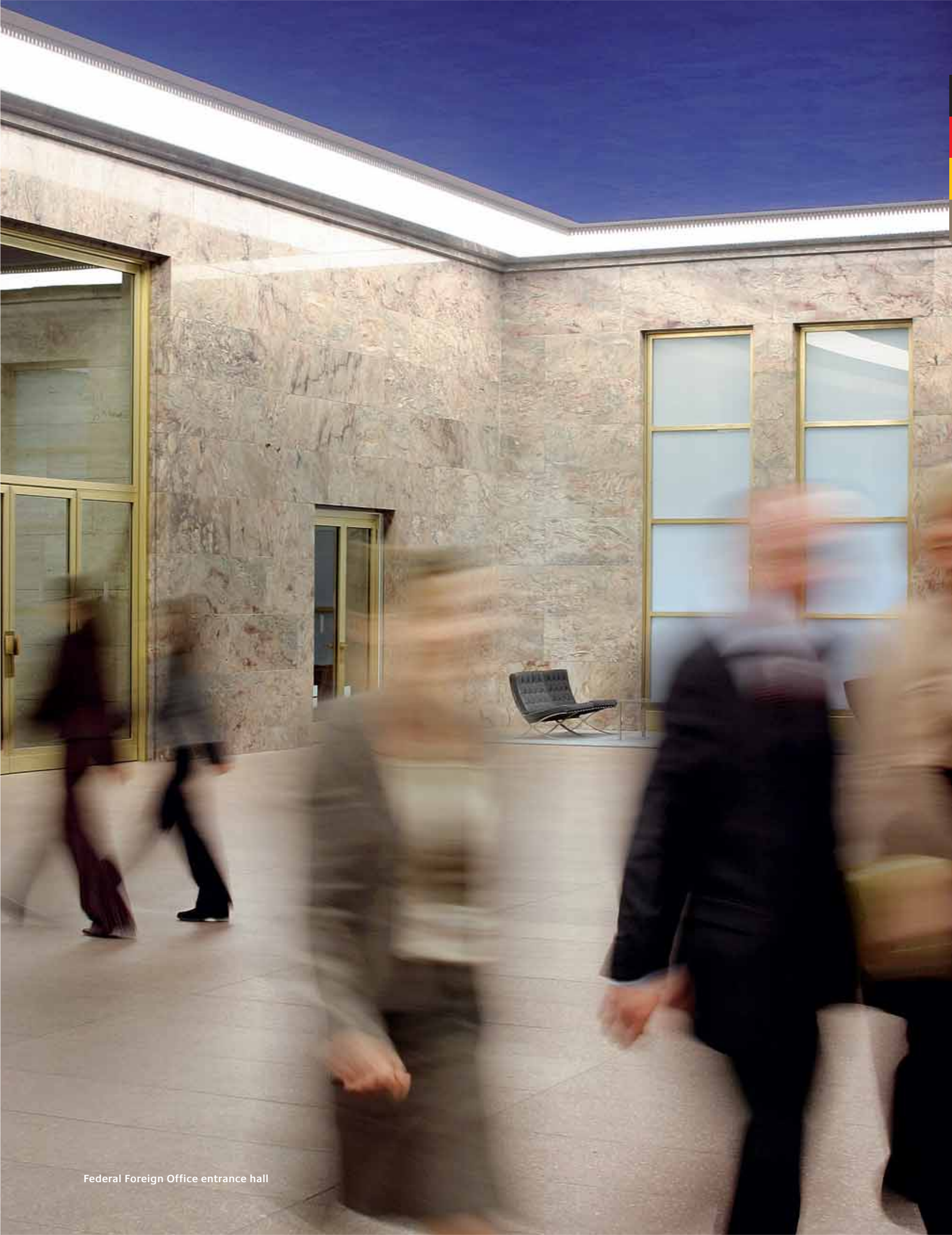
Most former fellows remain close friends with Germany and retain a keen interest in the country even after their stay, particularly when they hold key positions in politics or academia. László Sólyom is one of them. The lawyer, who speaks fluent German, visited Germany on several occasions during the 1980s to conduct research on civil and constitutional law. Last year the Hungarian parliament elected the former Humboldt fellow as state president. Sólyom was also one of the leaders of democratic change in Hungary.



Wangari Maathai receiving the Nobel Prize for Peace



László Sólyom, President of Hungary



Diplomacy

Shaping policy

Partners and mediators

The view from inside

# The view from inside

Everything you always wanted to know  
about the Federal Foreign Office

Statistics, dates, facts and figures, background. Where are the 226 missions abroad? How many people belong to the Foreign Service? How high is its annual expenditure? How can I embark on a career at the Federal Foreign Office? Where can I order a brochure? What is meant by a placement? This chapter contains the answers to all these questions, and more.



German Embassy in Prague, Czech Republic

German Embassy in Tallinn, Estonia

German Consulate-General in Istanbul, Turkey

German Embassy in The Hague, the Netherlands

- Embassy
  - Branch of an Embassy
  - Consulate-General, Consulate, Vice-Consulate
  - Branch of a Consulate-General
  - ◆ Multilateral Representation
  - ▲ Representation Office
  - ▼ Liaison Office
  - ▲ Mission with restricted operations
  - ▶ Unofficial mission
- Permanent representations worldwide:
- Brussels a) to the EU  
b) to NATO  
c) to the WEU
  - Geneva a) to the Office of the UN and other international organizations  
b) to the Conference on Disarmament
  - New York to the UN
  - Paris a) to the OECD  
b) to the UNESCO
  - Strasbourg to the Council of Europe
  - Vienna a) to the Office of the UN and other international organizations  
b) to the OSCE

The terms used and the cartographic images do not represent a statement on the legal status of territories or borders.

## OUR MISSIONS ABROAD

# A global presence

The Federal Foreign Office, with its Head Office in Berlin and its network of 226 missions abroad, represents Germany around the world. Currently Germany maintains diplomatic relations with more than 190 states. The German embassies are located in the respective capitals or at the seats of Government. In addition, other major cities in larger countries have consulates-general and consulates. There are also 12 representations with international organizations such as the United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna and the European Union in Brussels.



A current address list of all German missions abroad can be found at [www.auswaertiges-amt.de](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de)

Status: February 2006

# Occupation and vocation: my dream job – diplomat



Accommodation for trainees  
and seminar participants

Work in the Foreign Service is more than just an occupation.

Outstanding qualifications, good language skills, the ability to work in a team and intercultural competence are prerequisites for many professions today. Yet the Foreign Service also expects its staff to be willing to move house every three to four years, from Germany to another country, or from one mission abroad to another. This gives employees the unique opportunity to see the world from different perspectives. However, the frequent moving around is often a burden for families.

The Federal Foreign Office trains its civil servants internally (see box). All applicants must go through a rigorous selection procedure which tests intellectual skills and competence as well as language skills, social interaction in a group and the ability to speak in public. The application criterion for the higher service is a university degree. In addition, very good knowledge of English and French is required,

and basic knowledge of a third language and experience abroad are desirable. Training for the attachés, as the prospective civil servants in the higher service are known, lasts one year and, as well as theory, covers practical skills such as rhetoric, negotiating techniques and aspects of protocol. Applicants should demonstrate that they can maintain a good balance between authority and social skills. For regardless of where they are posted and in what field they specialize, personnel in the higher service assume responsibility from an early stage, particularly in the missions abroad. There they might head the Legal and Consular Section or serve as the Permanent Representative of the Ambassador, responsible for numerous colleagues. To become an ambassador or consul-general, candidates must first have successfully proved themselves in various responsibilities at home and abroad.

Candidates with a university entrance qualification and graduates from technical colleges can apply for the higher intermediate service. Requirements include proficiency in English and French, and experience abroad is desirable. Training consists of a three-year college-level course with a strong practical component which prepares applicants for the demanding tasks of the higher intermediate service. These include the key areas of legal and consular issues, business, administration and languages as well as development cooperation, culture, media, protocol and politics. Careers in the higher intermediate service are anything but monotonous. Civil servants on this career path may become head of the administrative or the legal and consular sections of an embassy or be involved in protocol-related tasks to prepare for state visits at home and abroad.

Thomas Arndt,  
Trainee for the higher intermediate service:  
*Several months of work experience in the Legal Directorate-General of the Federal Foreign Office and at the German Embassy in Moscow have given me interesting insights into the broad range of tasks covered by the higher intermediate service – business, culture, legal and consular affairs, to name just a few areas. I can't wait to find out what field I'll be working in when I've completed my training, and where in the world it will take me. A career in the Higher Intermediate Foreign Service demands a high degree of flexibility, but also offers greater opportunities for your personal development than any other job.*

Candidates for the intermediate service level require organizational skills, a keen interest in information technology and the willingness to work with legal provisions. Applicants should have an intermediate qualification (e.g. intermediate school leaving certificate) or a lower secondary school leaving certificate and a pertinent vocational qualification, such as a commercial qualification, as well as a good command of English. The two-year training gives applicants the necessary theoretical knowledge. Civil servants in the intermediate service work mainly in administration (e.g. file and cash office administration, property and personnel administration, IT service) as well as in the legal and consular section.

The Foreign Service offers outstanding opportunities for outstanding young people.



Junior diplomats during training

## The Foreign Service Academy in Berlin Tegel (Reiherwerder)

The Foreign Service Academy is situated in the grounds of Villa Borsig in Berlin Tegel, on the Reiherwerder peninsula. Since the beginning of 2006 trainees from all three career levels have been taught here and the foundations been laid for their future activity at home and abroad. During training students can live in the grounds of the Academy.

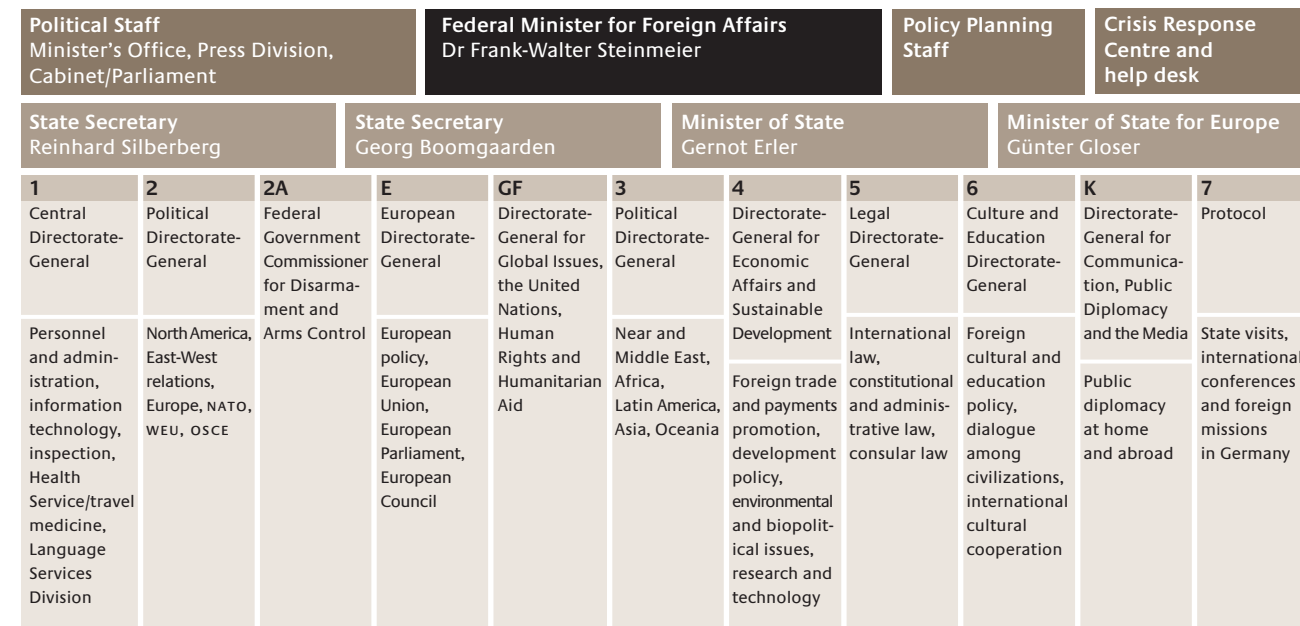
More information on the Foreign Service and training for diplomats is available at:

- [www.diplo.de/hoehoererdienst](http://www.diplo.de/hoehoererdienst)
  - [www.diplo.de/gehobenerdienst](http://www.diplo.de/gehobenerdienst)
  - [www.diplo.de/mittlererdienst](http://www.diplo.de/mittlererdienst)
- (German only)



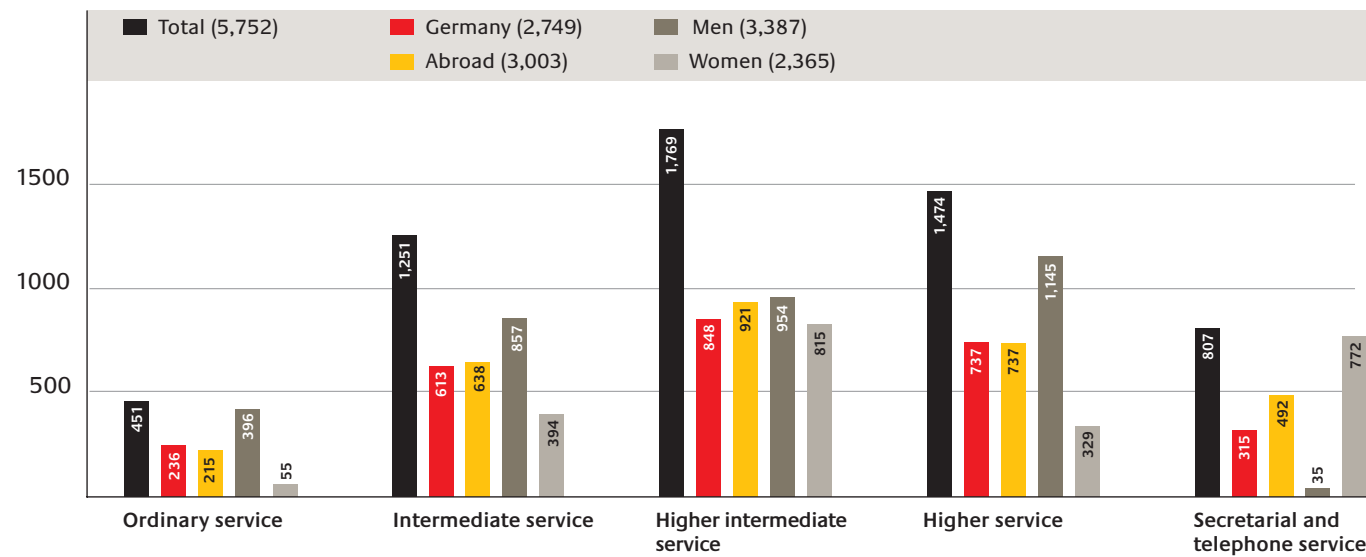
# Diagrams and financial report

## Structure of the Federal Foreign Office



## Federal Foreign Office staff (overview)

Number of non-seconded personnel (local staff) working at missions abroad: 5,126 (of which 1,023 are local German staff).  
 110 Federal Foreign Office employees are working in other agencies or foreign ministries.  
 1,175 employees from other agencies are working at the Federal Foreign Office on a temporary basis.



## Budget 2005

### Total

Federal budget 2005	€ 258,300 million	0.39 % increase on 04 budget	FFO proportion of Federal budget 05	FFO proportion of Federal budget 04
Federal Foreign Office budget 2005	€ 2,205.783 million	1.5 % increase on 04 budget	0.85 %	0.84 %

### Distribution between the individual chapters in %

Chapter 0501	Chapter 0502	Chapter 0503	Chapter 0504	Chapter 0511	Individual plan 05
Federal Foreign Office	General authorizations	Federal represen- tations abroad	Maintenance of foreign cultural relations	German Archaeo- logical Institute	
€ 222.507 million	€ 827.757 million	€ 588.541 million	€ 546.093 million	€ 20.885 million	€ 2,205.783 million
10.1 %	37.5 %	26.7 %	24.8 %	0.9 %	100.00 %

### Budget allocation

		Budgeted amount 2005	Budgeted amount 2004
<b>36.8 %</b>	<b>Operational costs for the Foreign Service (Chapter 0501 and 0503)</b>	<b>€ 811.048 million</b>	<b>€ 858.358 million</b>
of which 74.5 %	Personnel costs	€ 604.471 million	€ 634.733 million
of which 16.2 %	Material administrative costs	€ 131.738 million	€ 153.682 million
of which 0.2 %	Subsidies	€ 1.614 million	€ 3.008 million
of which 9 %	Investments	€ 73.225 million	€ 66.935 million
<b>24.8 %</b>	<b>Cultural budget (Chapter 0504)</b>	<b>€ 546.093 million</b>	<b>€ 557.574 million</b>
of which 37 %	Project funds and scholarships	€ 202.441 million	€ 208.809 million
of which 33 %	School fund	€ 178.597 million	€ 179.973 million
of which 26 %	Intermediary organizations	€ 143.651 million	€ 148.229 million
of which 4 %	Building fund	€ 21.404 million	€ 20.563 million
<b>37.5 %</b>	<b>Political expenditure (Chapter 0502)</b>	<b>€ 827.757 million</b>	<b>€ 736.262 million</b>
of which 72 %	Contributions to international organizations and institutions	€ 599.013 million	€ 529.423 million
<b>0.9 %</b>	<b>German Archaeological Institute</b>	<b>€ 20.885 million</b>	<b>€ 21.384 million</b>

### International contributions (amounts over € 1 million individually listed)

Institution	Budgeted amount 2005	Budgeted amount 2004
United Nations	€ 446 million	€ 366.16 million
of which regular contribution	€ 115 million	€ 115 million
of which compulsory contributions to UN peacekeeping missions, etc.	€ 331 million	€ 251.16 million
UNESCO	€ 22.121 million	€ 30.199 million
Council of Europe	€ 29.239 million	€ 29.743 million
OSCE	€ 20.1 million	€ 22.8 million
NATO (civilian section)	€ 26 million	€ 28 million
Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization	€ 6.557 million	€ 7.761 million
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	€ 6.67 million	€ 7.519 million
UNICEF	€ 4.85 million	€ 5 million
WEU (civilian section)	€ 2.484 million	€ 2.409 million
UNHCR	€ 4.85 million	€ 5 million
EU Common Foreign and Security Policy	€ 1.2 million	€ 1.2 million
UNRWA (refugee aid)	€ 2.968 million	€ 3.068 million
UNRWA	€ 2.52 million	€ 2.6 million
ICRC	€ 1.16 million	€ 1.2 million
Other	€ 22.294 million	€ 16.764 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 599.013 million</b>	<b>€ 529.423 million</b>
(of which compulsory contributions ca.)	(€ 580.662 million)	(ca. € 510.873 million)
Percentage of international contributions in the Federal Foreign Office budget	27.2 %	(2004: 24.2 %)

### Other significant budgeted amounts

Measure	Budgeted amount 2005	Budgeted amount 2004
Humanitarian relief	€ 53.053 million	€ 41 million
Equipment aid, democratization aid, human rights	€ 22.646 million	€ 18.5 million
Disarmament aid	€ 60 million	€ 64.428 million
Support for OSCE measures	€ 2.808 million	€ 2.9 million
UN, WEU and EU police missions	€ 7.554 million	€ 6.3 million
Support for peacekeeping measures	€ 27.15 million	€ 13.897 million
War graves	€ 3.728 million	€ 3.85 million

BEHAVIOUR AND ETIQUETTE

# Federal Foreign Office good manners guide



Imagine that the Ambassador has invited you to dinner at his residence. Here are a few tips to ensure your evening will be a success.

On the invitation you might find the following dress code:

- Dark suit
- Black tie
- White tie

For certain events the following dress codes apply, even if they are not specifically mentioned:

- Luncheon: lounge suit
- Dinner: lounge suit, dark suit
- Receptions: lounge suit, dark suit
- Reception during a state visit, anniversary celebration, conferral of awards and decorations, academic award ceremonies, funerals: dark suit, morning coat, cutaway
- Evening invitations: dark suit, black tie
- Ball: black tie, white tie
- The women must dress accordingly.

You are requested to accept or decline the invitation in the following way:

- U.A.w.g. Um Antwort wird gebeten (please reply)
- R.S.V.P. Répondez, s'il vous plaît, (please reply)
- p.m. pour mémoire (reminder for an invitation which has already been accepted)

**Introductions**

Announcement of the first and last names of the guest, with their academic title, peerage and profession

**Socially**

- The gentleman is introduced to the lady.
- The younger person is introduced to the elder.

**Officially**

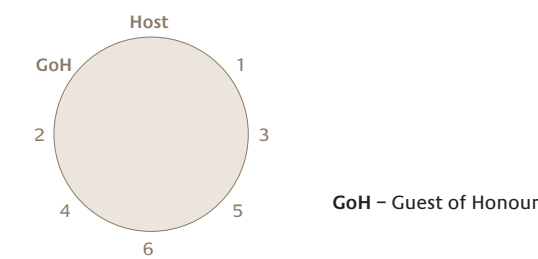
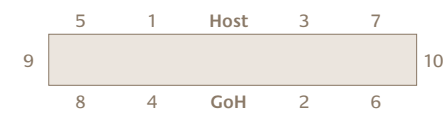
- The lower ranking person is introduced to the higher ranking person.
- Titles are used in connection with names.

**Social ranking**

- The lady is senior to the gentleman.
- The older person is senior to the younger.
- The stranger is senior to the colleague/relative.
- The foreigner is senior to the local person.

**Placement**

A placement is another word for the table seating plan. According to German seating etiquette, the highest ranking male guest sits to the left of the hostess, according to international seating etiquette he would sit to her right.



Contact

The Federal Foreign Office  
Werderscher Markt 1  
10117 Berlin  
Tel. +49 (0)30 5000-0  
Fax +49 (0)30 5000-3402  
poststelle@auswaertiges-amt.de  
www.auswaertiges-amt.de

The Federal Foreign Office provides information 24 hours a day under +49(0)30 5000-2000. The Federal Foreign Office help desk is also happy to respond via email to any requests you may have. Please address your queries to buergerservice@auswaertiges-amt.de.

Visitor Centre

Groups of visitors can discuss topical foreign policy issues with Federal Foreign Office staff.

Please apply to:

The Federal Foreign Office  
Public Diplomacy (Germany)  
Tel. +49 (0)30 5000-2304  
Fax +49 (0)30 5000-52304

Brochure Dispatch Office

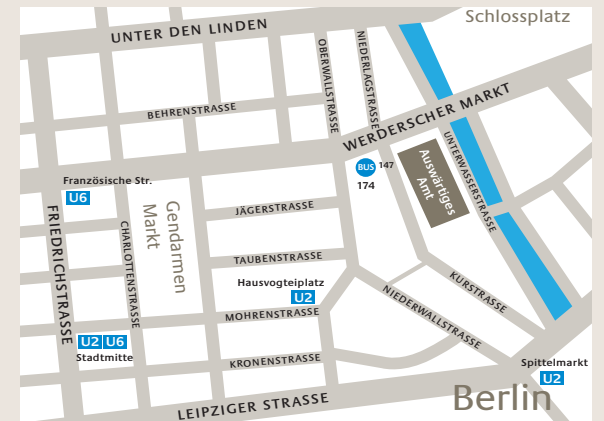
You can order publications on central foreign policy issues, the work of the Federal Foreign Office and career opportunities in the Foreign Service from our Brochure Dispatch Office. You can find a list of current publications at [www.auswaertiges-amt.de](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de) > Informationsservice > Publikationen (German only).

You can order our publications from:  
broschuerenstelle@auswaertiges-amt.de or  
The Federal Foreign Office  
Brochure Dispatch Office  
Werderscher Markt 1  
10117 Berlin  
Tel. +49 (0)30 5000-4195 and 5000-4990  
Fax +49 (0)30 5000-54195 and 5000-54990

Political archive

In our political archive you can access German foreign policy files which are more than 30 years old. The reading room is open Mondays to Thursdays from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and on Fridays until 3 p.m. If you wish to conduct research here, please write to:  
The Federal Foreign Office  
Political Archive  
Werderscher Markt 1  
10117 Berlin  
Tel. +49 (0)30 5000-2159  
Fax +49 (0)30 5000-3948  
Email: 117-R@auswaertiges-amt.de

Travel and security information is available at [www.auswaertiges-amt.de](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de)



Images

Andreas Tauber  
Page 27, 34, 42, 44, 45

Federal Foreign Office  
Page 8, 9, 13, 24, 31, 44, 47

Federal Office for Building and Regional Planning  
Page 46

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European Commission, Photothek  
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Page 6/Herzau, 7/Jonkmanns, 18/Hahn, 20/Hahn, 23/Maecke/GAFF, 35/Tueremis, 36/Kirschgessner

Press and Information Office of the Federal Government  
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Udo Meinel  
Page 51

The Federal Foreign Office values gender-specific language. However, this publication does not use gender-equal formulations throughout, as the explicit use of both forms would have impaired the readability of some texts.



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