

Membership / Donations

Under the terms of GKND's statutes, both natural persons and legal entities whose activities constitute a guarantee of their support for the association's aims are eligible for GKND membership.

It is not mandatory for members to hold German citizenship. Intelligence and security services and their active-duty staff cannot become members. The managing committee rules on applications for membership.

Annual membership subscription at the moment are € 60 for natural persons and € 150 for legal entities.

Students and trainees may apply for the reduced annual subscription of € 30. Please submit appropriate certificates.

GKND is registered with Charlottenburg Local Court (23076 Nz) and has been recognized as a non-profit association by Berlin's Tax Office in charge of corporate bodies (No. 27/640/56525).

August 2010

Notes

Contact

If you are interested in GKND, like to know more about us or get in contact with us, please write to

GKND e. V. Mail address:
Kurfuerstendamm 43, D-10719 Berlin

www.gknd.de E-Mail: info@gknd.de

GKND

Gesprächskreis Nachrichtendienste
in Deutschland e. V.

Kurfürstendamm 43 · D-10719 Berlin
www.GKND.de · info@GKND.de

Gemeinnütziger Verein
Steuernummer 27/640/56525
Amtsgericht Berlin-Charlottenburg Nr. 23076Nz



Aims · Activities Structure · Membership Contact

Aims

Established in July 2003, GKND was entered into the official register of clubs and societies at Charlottenburg Local Court in January 2004. It was founded with the aim of contributing to a constructive, public discussion about secretly operating intelligence services in our democratic nation. In this regard, GKND's primary intention is to address these services' future-oriented issues that result from global changes and from changes in the Federal Republic of Germany's global political interests. Such issues relate to the services' objectives, tasks, methods of operation, organizational structure, international cooperation and parliamentary supervision.

GKND wants to foster dialogue on these issues at the national and international level with the intention of creating transparency in Germany and supporting reasonable approaches to an opening vis-à-vis science and the media -- always taking account of the services' need for secrecy. Foreign, Western nations such as the United States, Great Britain and France where the services' role and work have long been the subject of independent research and political counselling serve partly as a model.

GKND's work is based on professional experience of retired senior staff of German intelligence services and the specific views held by active-duty scientists, economists, politicians as well as members of the media and government institutions. The collaboration of these disparate forces of society is intended to facilitate a broad-based, critical and, most importantly, independent approach.

GKND's autonomy is also guaranteed by the fact that its activities are not funded by the intelligence services but through membership dues, donations and grants.

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Activities

GKND pursues its objectives through analyses, conferences, public statements as well as media comments and informal talks. All results are normally designed to be published. From the variety of activities these should be emphasized:

- Three international conferences (together with the Protestant Academy Berlin) on subjects of *Democratic Control of Intelligence Services internationally compared, Security and Civil Liberties in Europe* (in co-op. with the Humanistische Union and Friedrich-Naumann-Foundation), and *Ethics of Governmental Action esp. regarding Security Institutions*
- Publication of the volume *Geheimhaltung und Transparenz* (Secrecy and Transparency) in the series *Democracy and Intelligence Services*, LIT-Verlag, in 2007
- International conferences on the role of intelligence services to cope islamistic terrorism, in co-op. with the Hanns-Seidel-Foundation, the Ass. for Defence- and Security-Politics, the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), and others (e. g., *Terror upon God's Order, Finances of Islamistic Terrorism, Terrorism and Weapons of Mass Destruction*)
- Rounds of discussions and conferences on: Drugs and Organized Crime; What governments can expect from their intelligence and security services; Trouble spots Iraq, Iran, North-Korea; The East German Stasi's Rosenholz-data; China; Scandals of intelligence services; Ways to improve parliamentary oversight and control of intelligence services (with the participation of Members of the German Parliament).

GKND Projects (selection):

- Working conference with the Hanns-Seidel-Foundation on *Private Intelligence Services. Private Security & Military Firms*
- Conference *Europe and the Intelligence Services* in co-op. with the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation in Berlin
- Conference regarding *Network Security* exemplified on the reformed co-operation of Germany's Federal Armed Forces and Foreign Intelligence Service BND as well as of Police and Intelligence Departments in the Joint-Counter-Terrorism-Centre (GTAZ), in co-op. the with Federal Academy for Security Politics
- Discussion of the *Necessity of an Intelligence Culture in Democracy*
- Publication of the volume *Democracy and Civil Liberties* in the series *Democracy and Intelligence Services*, LIT Verlag

Structure

GKND holds **general meetings of all members** and has a **managing committee** composed of onetime members of German intelligence services as well as scientists, economists and military personnel.

Chairman	Wolbert Smidt <i>First Director (ret.) at the Federal Intelligence Service (Bundesnachrichtendienst / BND)</i>
Vice Chairman	Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Krieger <i>Historian at Marburg University</i>
Vice Chairman	Helmut Stachelscheid <i>Director (ret.) at the Fed. Office for the Prot. of the Constitution (BfV)</i>
Treasurer	Authari G. Lapp <i>Brigadier General (ret.)</i>
Secretary	Dr. Bodo Wegmann <i>Political Scientist</i>
Media Repres.	Juergen Schneider BND (ret.)
Committee Members	Adolf Brueggemann <i>Colonel (ret.)</i> Volker Foertsch <i>First Director (ret.) at BND</i> Prof. Dr. Eva Horn <i>Literature Scientist, Vienna University</i>

The **advisory board** provides support to the managing committee.

Chairman	Dr. Hans-Georg Wieck <i>Ambassador (ret.) and Former President of the BND</i>
Vice Chairman	Dr. Rudolf von Hoegen <i>Former President of the Armed Forces Counter-Intell. Office (MAD)</i>
Committee Members	Dr. Peter Frisch <i>Former President of the BfV</i> Prof. Dr. Hansjoerg Geiger <i>Former President of BfV and BND, and former State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Justice</i> Charles Hoffmann <i>Former Director of Luxemburg's Intelligence Service</i> Dr. Rainer Kesselring <i>Former Vice President of the BND</i> Hans Elmar Remberg <i>Former Vice President of the BfV</i> Werner Schowe, Brig. Gen. (ret.) <i>Former Vice President of the BND</i> Klaus Vollmer, Brig. Gen. (ret.) <i>Former Head of the MAD</i>

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