



Press Announcement

German Chancellor Angela Merkel to Receive the Henry A. Kissinger Prize

BERLIN—January 17, 2020—The American Academy in Berlin will award the Henry A. Kissinger Prize to Chancellor Angela Merkel. Chancellor Merkel and former US Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will both attend the ceremony, which takes place at the Great Orangery of Charlottenburg Palace on January 21, 2020. Remarks will be delivered by Dr. Kissinger, former US Secretary of State John Kerry and, by video, former US President George W. Bush.

The Henry A. Kissinger Prize, awarded annually to a renowned figure in the field of international diplomacy, recognizes Chancellor Merkel for three decades of public service and her principled policies for shaping an increasingly integrated and resilient European Union. Her moral and intellectual leadership as German chancellor has consistently promoted democratic values and the ideals of self-governance and free inquiry, in both her domestic political practice and foreign policy. In so doing, she has markedly contributed to Germany's convening power on the world stage and resolutely maintained the transatlantic partnership.

The Henry A. Kissinger Prize was established to honor a founding chairman of the American Academy in Berlin. Former US Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's initiatives to create and sustain a stable East-West relationship helped to lay the foundation for change in Europe, the end of the Cold War, and the unification of Germany. Previous recipients of the prize are former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt (2007); 41st President of the United States George H. W. Bush (2008); former President of the Federal Republic of Germany Richard von Weizsäcker (2009); former New York Mayor and philanthropist Michael R. Bloomberg (2010); former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl (2011); former US Secretary of State George P. Shultz (2012); Munich Security Conference founder Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist (posthumous, 2013); former US Secretary of State James A. Baker, III (2014); former President of Italy Giorgio Napolitano and former Federal Foreign Minister and Vice Chancellor of Germany Hans-Dietrich Genscher (2015); former US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power (2016); Germany's former Federal Minister of Finance Wolfgang Schäuble (2018); and US Senator (AZ) John McCain (2018).

The American Academy in Berlin was established in 1994 by Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke and other distinguished Americans and Germans to foster greater understanding and dialogue between the United States and Germany. A private, nonprofit, nonpartisan center for advanced research in a range of academic and cultural fields, the Academy awards semester-long fellowships to emerging or established scholars, writers, and professionals each year. It also brings American thought leaders to Berlin for briefer visits for a robust exchange of views between the peoples of Germany and the United States.

Press Contact:

Tony Andrews, Communications Coordinator

Phone: +49 (0)30-80483-143; email: aa@americanacademy.de