

THE TRANSATLANTIC SYMPOSIA SERIES

Concept

The Transatlantic Students Symposia series provides a student-based and largely student-run space for the discussion of topics of contemporary relevance, introducing students of the humanities (not necessarily of Political Science) to political and historical topics with a strong relation to present-day issues and practical applications. Thus we provide them with an outlook into a possible post-university profession.

To achieve this, the student-based symposia are accompanied by faculty-led workshops and courses. The symposia themselves form the concluding event of a week of related activities, visits, talks and workshops. In that regard, the Symposia stand between traditional seminars and conferences.

The participants of the Symposia are students from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., and other universities, thus creating a truly international atmosphere.

Aims

- creating a productive group dynamics as a prerequisite for a working cultural exchange
- forging personal and academic contacts
- offering students of literary and cultural studies insights into the level of practical politics via an interdisciplinary approach
- by integrating practical components offering an outlook on future career opportunities and internships (in diplomacy, politics, consulting, cultural work, etc.)
- by integrating academic components (the conference) offering a deeper understanding of academic work
- the thorough discussion of a political topic relevant to contemporary society

Organizers of the Series:

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Further Information: www2.hu-berlin.de/transatlantic

International Students – International Perspectives



The Transatlantic Students Symposia



**BMW Center for
German and European Studies**



American Studies

STRUCTURE OF THE SYMPOSIA

I. Preparatory Phase

The preparatory phase consists of physical attendance workshops for each group. We will discuss the general topic and find more specific issues for the student papers. To coordinate both sides of the Atlantic, we utilize an on-line course system to facilitate discussion, share courseware and perform and coordinate joint tasks. The symposium web site features information on the individual participants and their projects. The papers to be presented at the symposium will be finished by the beginning of the symposium week.

II. Symposium Week

The symposium week consists of several days of joint activities. These are:

- cultural activities (theater, opera, musical, museum visits, etc.)
- social activities
- academic workshops by expert speakers on several issues related to the topic of the symposium
- visits to political (both official authorities and NGOs) and economic institutions related to the topic of the symposium

III. Symposium

A two-day public academic conference featuring keynote speakers from the political sphere and the papers prepared by the students.

IV. Alumni Phase

We will stay in touch and create a community of former symposium participants. Previous participants will be invited to all upcoming events, and we will also offer an on-line discussion forum to facilitate an on-going exchange.

PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

Our Partners:

American Studies Program, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
BMW Center for German and European Studies, Georgetown University
Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson; European University Viadrina; Univerzita Karlova v Praze; Oregon State University; european school of governance, Berlin
Heinrich Böll Foundation

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Georgetown University
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Fachschaft des Instituts für Anglistik und Amerikanistik

PREVIOUS SYMPOSIA

With the BMW Center for German and European Studies, Georgetown University, Washington D.C. (2005-now):

- *Federalism and Regionalism in the United States, Canada and Europe*
Quebec, Washington D.C., 2010
- *The End of the West and the East? Challenges for Integration in Europe and the United States in the 21st Century.*
Berlin, Cyprus, 2009
- *Media and Identity in the United States and the European Union*
New York, Washington D.C., 2008
- *United in Diversity?*
Minority Rights in the United States and the European Union
Split, Mostar, Cottbus, Berlin, 2007

additional partner:

Indian Education Office, Oregon State University, Corvallis

- *Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor?*
Immigration and Citizenship in the United States and the European Union
Washington, D.C., 2006
- *The European Dream. The Continuing Process of European Unification*
Prague, Frankfurt/Oder, Berlin, 2005

additional partners:

Europa-Universität Viadrina, Univerzita Karlova v Praze



With Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson (2003-2004):

- *The Role of the UN as a Supranational Institution*
Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson and New York, 2004
- *Reactions to Terrorism.*
Between Political Answers and Cultural Questions
Berlin, 2003