

German Congress on Crime Prevention 2016 in Magdeburg

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***Welcome to the annual prevention surveying
in troubled times***

Erich Marks

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German Congress on Crime Prevention 2016 in Magdeburg – Welcome to the annual prevention surveying in troubled times

A warm welcome

I would like to welcome all participants and guests to the opening of the 21st German Congress on Crime Prevention cordially. I am glad that over 2.000 experts from the field of crime prevention from all federal states of Germany as well as from 40 states¹ worldwide have found their way to Magdeburg and Saxony-Anhalt.

My warm welcome to the annual congress 2016 applies to each single person and each single representative from again more than 1.000 government agencies, organisations and associations which want to communicate, discuss and expand their experiences and knowledge from the wide field of crime prevention.

Out of the large number of present elected officials and other guests of honour, I may welcome at this point some personalities whose attendance is an outstanding pleasure and honour for the congress:

*Prof. Dr. Regina **Ammicht Quinn***, Speaker of the International Centre for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities of the University of Tübingen (IZEW)

*Eva von **Angern, MdL***, Vice Chairperson of the faction DIE LINKE in the state parliament of Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg

*Heike **Bartesch***, Government Director at the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Berlin

*Jörg **Baumbach***, President of the Federal Police Directorate Pirna

*Christiana **Berg***, President of the Central Police Directorate of Lower Saxony, Hannover

*Christiane **Bergmann***, President of the Police Directorate Saxony-Anhalt South, Halle

*Dr. Ludovit **Biro***, Counsellor of Slovakian embassy, Berlin

*Dr. Karl-Heinz **Blümel***, Director of the Federal Police, Berlin

*Martin **Boess***, Director of the Swiss Crime Prevention, Bern

¹ Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Ghana, Great Britain, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Italy, Iran, Jordan, Korea, Latvia, Luxemburg, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Switzerland, Serbia, Spain, Sudan, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela, United States of America.

- Ram Maya **Bogati***, Deputy of the parliament of Nepal, Kathmandu
- Michael **Brall***, Vice president of the Federal Police Directorate Pirna
- Manfred **Bunk***, Manager of the Crime Prevention Council Saxony-Anhalt
- Prof. Dr. Marc **Coester***, President of the German Association for Social Work, Criminal Law and Criminal Policy (DBH), Berlin/Cologne
- Stefan ***Daniel***, Executive Director of the Management Board of the German Forum for Crime Prevention, Bonn
- Gerhard **Degner***, President of the Police Directorate Saxony-Anhalt East, Dessau
- Ava **Diaconu***, Consulate General Romania, Bonn
- Prof. Jochen **Dieckmann***, Chairman of the Crime Prevention Council North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf
- Marten van de **Donk***, Director RAN Centre of Excellence, Amsterdam
- Norbert **Drude***, President of the Customs Criminal Investigation Office, Cologne
- Günther **Ebenschweiger***, President of the Austrian Centre for Crime Prevention, Graz
- Dr. Michael **Ermrich***, Executive Director of the East-German Sparkassenverband, Berlin
- Heinz-Josef **Friehe***, President of the Federal Office of Justice, Bonn
- Joachim **Fritz***, Head of Department, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Berlin
- Prof. Dr. Helmut **Fünfsinn***, Hessian Attorney General, Frankfurt am Main
- Petra ***Guder***, Programme Manager at the Glen Mills Academy Deutschland, Lübbecke
- Prof. Dr. Ulf ***Gundlach***, State Secretary off duty, Magdeburg
- Prof. Dr. Ute-Ingrid **Haas***, Chairwoman of the Crime Prevention Council Lower Saxony, Hannover
- Dr. Reiner **Haseloff***, Prime Minister of Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg
- Robert **Heimberger***, President of the Bavarian State Office of Criminal Investigation, Munich
- Frank-Martin **Heise***, Chief of the State Office of Criminal Investigation Hamburg
- Bernd ***Holthusen***, Section Head at the German Youth Institute, Munich
- Jan **Holze***, Deputy Chairmann of the German Sport Youth, Frankfurt am Main
- Uwe **Jacob***, Director of the State Office of Criminal Investigation North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf
- Bodo **Kaping***, President of the Federal Police Directorate Bad Bramstedt
- Prof. Dr. Eun Bong **Kang***, Secretary General, National Research Council for Economics, Humanities and Social Sciences (NRCS), Seoul, Korea
- Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen **Kerner***, Chairman of the German Foundation for Crime Prevention and Offender Support, Cologne/Tübingen
- Prof. Dr. Zin Hwan **Kim***, President, Korean Institute for Criminology (KIC), Seoul, Korea
- Prof. Dr. Angela **Kölb-Janssen***, MdL, Member of SPD faction in the state parliament of Saxony-Anhalt, Halberstadt
- Alois **Kösters***, Chief editor of the *Volksstimme* (Voice of the people), Magdeburg
- Hagen **Kohl***, MdL, Chairman of the Internal Committee in the state parliament of Saxony-Anhalt (AfD), Magdeburg

Uwe Kolmey, President of the State Office of Criminal Investigation of the State of Lower Saxony, Hanover

Tobias Krull, MdL, Member of the CDU faction in the state diet of Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg

Eva Kühne-Hörmann, Minister of Justice of the Federal State of Hesse, Wiesbaden

Johannes Kunz, Director of the Office of Criminal Investigation of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate, Mainz

Mario Lehmann MdL, Member of the AFD faction in the state diet of Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg

Dr. Olaf Lobermeier, Managing Director of proVal, Hannover

Wolfgang Lohmann, Inspector of the German riot polices, Berlin

Ingolf Mager, Director of the State Office of Criminal Investigation of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania, Schwerin

Andreas Mayer, Managing Director of Police Crime Prevention at State and National Level, Stuttgart

Gisela Mayer, Chairwoman of the German Foundation against Violence in Schools, Winnenden

Dr. Jörg Michaelis, President of the State Office of Criminal Investigation Saxony, Dresden

Karin Müller, MdL, Member of the faction BÜNDNIS 90/DIE GRÜNEN in the Hessian state parliament, Wiesbaden

Dr. Oliver Müller, Deputy Chairman of the parliamentary group DIE LINKE in the city council of Magdeburg

Holger Münch, President of the Federal Office of Criminal Investigation, Wiesbaden

Jürgen Mutz, Chairman of the board of trustees of the DVS foundation, Bonn

Antje Niewisch-Lennartz, Lower Saxony Minister of Justice and vice president of the Foundation German Forum for Crime Prevention, Hannover

Ibrahim Osman, Consul of the republic of Sudan, Berlin

Jürgen Osmers, Chief of the criminal division of the State Office of Criminal Investigation Bremen

Prof. Dr. Christian Pfeiffer, Criminologist, Hannover

Norbert Pieper, Senior Expert, Corporate Security Deutsche Post DHL, Bonn

Holger Platz, Deputy mayor of the city of Magdeburg

Thomas Przybyla, President of the Federal Police Directorate Hannover

Maik Reichel, Director of the state Agency for civic education Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg

Rita Salgmann, Chairwoman of the committee police crime prevention of the federal lands and state (KPK), Hannover

Robert Schäfer, President of the State Office for the Protection of the Constitution in Hesse, Wiesbaden

Dr. Martin Schairer, Chairman of the German-European Forum for Urban Security, Stuttgart

Klaus Scharrenberg, Managing Director Lotto-Toto Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg
Dr. Dieter Scheidemann, Deputy mayor for urban development, construction and traffic of the state capital Magdeburg
Jürgen Schmökel, Director the State Office of Criminal Investigation Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg
Andreas Schomaker, President of the Police Directorate Saxony-Anhalt North
Jürgen Schubert, Vice president of the Federal Police headquarter, Potsdam
Michael Schulze, Director of the State Police, Magdeburg
Dieter Schürmann, Director of the criminal division North Rhine-Westphalia, Düsseldorf
Frank-Michael Schwarz, President of the State Office of Criminal Investigation Thuringia, Erfurt
Werner Schwimm, Director of the criminal division Saarland, Saarbrücken
Dr. Mohsen Sharifi, First Secretary, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Berlin
Dr. Peter Sicking, Programme Manager, Humanitarian Community German Lions Club, Wiesbaden
Holger Stahlknecht, Minister of the Interior of the state Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg
Dr. Wiebke Steffen, Member of the federal committee of the WEISSER RING and Scientific Consultant at the German Congress on Crime Prevention, Heiligenberg
Katrin Stüllenberg, Chairwoman of the Crime Prevention Foundation, Münster
PD Dr. Rainer Strobl, Managing Director proVal, Hannover
Sabine Thurau, President of the Hessian State Office of Criminal Investigation, Wiesbaden
Dr. Lutz Trümper, Lord Mayor of the state capital Magdeburg
Dirk Volkland, Director of the State Office of Criminal Investigation Brandenburg, Eberswalde
Mohamed Wagdi Ahmed Zeid, Diplomat in the political department in the embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Berlin
Prof. Dr. Harald Welzer, Director of the foundation FUTURZWEI, Berlin
Dr. Tamara Zieschang, State secretary in the Ministry of the Interior and Sport of Saxony-Anhalt, Magdeburg
Klaus Zimmermann, Mayor of the state capital Magdeburg

The opening of the congress coincides with the beginning of the Ramadan. Federal President Christian Wulff, who has been a patron of the German Congress on Crime Prevention for several times, has put his speech for the 20th anniversary of the German Unity under the headline „Appreciate diversity – Support solidarity“ in which he i.a. mentioned that „first of all we need to take a clear position. An understanding of Germany, that affiliation is not restricted to a passport, a family history or a creed, but covers a wider field. Christianity belongs to Germany without a doubt. Judaism belongs to Germany without a doubt. That is our Christian-Jewish history. But also Islam now belongs to Germany. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe expressed in West-

östlicher Divan („West-Eastern Divan“) over 200 years ago: „He who knows himself and others, here will also see, that the East and West, like brothers, parted ne’er shall be.“ In this sense, I am glad to wish all people with Muslim faith to the beginning of the Islamic fasting month a blessed Ramadan.

The German Congress on Crime Prevention (GCOCP) on the one hand is the in 1995 founded and meanwhile biggest annual congress worldwide on the topic area crime prevention and adjoining fields of prevention. On the other hand, the GCOCP forms with its institute for applied prevention research (DPTi)² as well as further key activities a platform for information, knowledge transfer and interdisciplinary dialogue between prevention practice, prevention research and prevention politics. My special thanks in this place go to our national and international partner organisations and their representatives as well as the whole team of the GCOCP in the background.

In total, over 500 speakers and institutions inform about the current (inter-)national status of crime prevention work.

In addition to the exchange of the whole range of topics of crime prevention as well as adjoining fields of prevention, the congress dedicates itself to this year’s key topic. „Prevention and freedom – For the necessity of an ethical discourse“ – with this theoretical sounding title, very urgent current and practice-oriented questions are picked up. Prevention moves in the area of tension between security and freedom. Both are moral value categories and supporting pillars of the democratically composed society. How far can the wish for security go, if, at the same time, the freedom of individual or certain groups is being unsettled by preventive arrangements? Is prevention a value in itself or shall the decisions for or against prevention arrangements be led by rational cost-benefit-calculations? Prof. Dr. Regina Ammicht Quinn from the International Centre for Ethics in the Sciences and Humanities at the University of Tübingen will give us a broad overview on the key topic of the congress in her congress report and her opening speech which will be complemented by numerous lectures on both congress days.

Within the congress, the 10th Annual International Forum (AIF) will take place with high-ranking international speakers. Besides that, I am glad that a great many of interesting stage plays and movies will be shown. Numerous parallel events complete the programme. All information on the speakers and the various congress contributions can be found on the website: www.praeventionstag.de.

Prevention and integration

Local, governmental and civil society structures are currently faced with a very special challenges in Europe and the current social situation demands clever preventive

² <http://www.praeventionstag.de/nano.cms/institute>

action in many ways and better preventive concepts and strategies. The German Congress on Crime Prevention takes the situation thematically up and highlights within this year's congress also the intersection of (crime-)prevention with the range of topics of integration, social cohesion, radicalisation and strengthening of democracy.³

Prevention and integration are closely connected in many ways. Prevention and integrative acting are particularly successful when on the one hand they react early to concrete situations and on the other hand are oriented long-termed and sustainable. What kind of supporting contributions can be fulfilled by projects, programmes and strategies from the wide field of crime prevention for the integration of refugees in municipalities? Nationwide, a variety of projects and initiatives in municipalities exist. They support reducing prejudice and creating a social coexistence. Nevertheless, preventive initiatives for supporting the integration of asylum seekers are not established in the municipalities comprehensively. At this point starts the idea of the newly arranged expert and information portal www.pufii.de. It is the aim of the web portal to bundle efficient projects and make them available for other municipalities, to provide information and the exchange between experts and therefore to make a contribution of prevention for the work of integration in the municipalities. Further details can be found on the website www.pufii.de.

I wish all participants and guests a stimulating information and experience exchange and as many impulses and cooperation agreements as possible for further concerted work between prevention practice, prevention politics and prevention research.

³ see Steffen (2016): „Prävention und Integration – Anmerkungen zu einigen aktuellen Schnittmengen und Perspektiven“ <http://www.praeventionstag.de/nano.cms/dpt-21-kongressprogramm?xa=details&id=494>

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