

Briefe aus Alumni Newsletter

Berlin

44
11 '15

of the KRUPP INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR STANFORD STUDENTS IN GERMANY



What's New in Berlin

by Karen Kramer

My Life in Stuttgart

by Anna Breed

Where the Wind of Change Blows

by Mauricio Sanchez



Alfried Krupp von Bohlen
und Halbach-Stiftung

Grußwort der Krupp-Stiftung

by Prof. Dr. Ursula Gather



Seit nunmehr zehn Jahren informiert der „Alumni Newsletter“ aktuelle und ehemalige Stipendiaten des „Krupp Internship Program“, und ein Grußwort der Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung ist seit Beginn ein traditioneller Bestandteil.

Das „Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany“ besteht nun schon seit 33 Jahren und zählt damit zu den ältesten Stipendienprogrammen der Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung. Bisher haben 1.190 Studenten aus Stanford die Möglichkeit wahrgenommen, in Deutschland zu studieren und als Praktikanten zu arbeiten in mittlerweile mehr als 520 verschiedenen Unternehmen und Institutionen.

Als ich im Frühjahr die diesjährigen Stanford-Stipendiaten bei dem traditionellen Treffen auf Villa Hügel kennenlernen konnte, hat mich wieder einmal die Offenheit beeindruckt, die die jungen Studierenden Deutschland entgegenbringen.

Wie prägend die neuen Eindrücke und Erfahrungen während des Deutschlandaufenthalts sein können, haben die Berichte zweier Alumni gezeigt, die mir Karen Kramer anlässlich des Treffens 2015 überreichte.

Dr. jur. Juge Gregg war Krupp-Praktikant 1993 und schildert diese Zeit als die wichtigste Erfahrung, die er während seiner Lehrjahre machen konnte. Er kam als angehender Umweltingenieur nach Berlin und verließ die Stadt mit dem Entschluss, sich später im Bereich der internationalen Umweltpolitik engagieren zu wollen. Heute arbeitet er als Jurist für das Justizministerium der USA in der Abteilung für Umwelt und Naturvorkommen und lehrt internationales Umweltrecht bei Stanford in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Nadia Elghobashi-Meinhardt traf im Frühjahr 1998 in Deutschland ein. Sie berichtet, Deutschland und insbesondere Berlin habe sie sofort in den Bann geschlagen. Nach wiederholten Studienaufenthalten in Deutschland begann sie im Jahr 2000 ein Studium an der Chemiefakultät der FU Berlin, das sie im Oktober 2005 mit der Promotion im Bereich der Quantenmechanik abschloss. Frau Dr. Elghobashi-Meinhardt lebt seither in Deutschland, ist hier verheiratet und hat drei Kinder. Sicherlich wird auch in Zukunft mit dem Newsletter und den jährlichen Treffen der Kontakt untereinander und mit der Stiftung in bewährter Weise gepflegt und aufrechterhalten. Darauf freue ich mich. ■

Prof. Dr. Ursula Gather,
Vorsitzende des Kuratoriums der Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung



In the Gobelín Hall at Villa Hügel on May 21, 2015.

L-R: Ramón Saldívar, Burke Family Director of the Bing Overseas Studies Program and Professor of English and Comparative Literature,

Prof. Dr. Ursula Gather, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Krupp Foundation, Stanford in Berlin director Dr. Karen Kramer, and Dr. Thomas Kempf, Board Member of the Krupp Foundation.

The photograph on the front page shows spring quarter students and interns in front of the Ruhr Museum which is located in the former coal washing building at the Zeche Zollverein in Essen.

What's new in Berlin by Karen Kramer



This year I write to you not from autumnal Stanford-in-Berlin, but from the sun-blessed campus of Stanford-in-Stanford, where I have been invited to spend a guest quarter developing courses for returning Krupp interns and Berlin Program students. From this vantage point—the one most of you normally have—Germany is far away; only the “really big stuff” makes it into US news; it is hard to get a *concrete* sense of what’s really happening there, how things feel “on the ground.” In one of the courses I am teaching this quarter, Contemporary Politics in Germany, students (and their instructor) try to stay abreast of developments in Germany. Having left Germany before Chancellor Merkel opened the borders to refugees from Syria late this summer, I am limited to German and American news reporting to get a concrete sense of the multifarious effects that policy has had—logistically and politically. Because news is one thing, life is another. This is one reason why we share with you, each year, glimpses into life-on-the-ground in Germany as experienced by your younger peers, the interns of the Krupp Internship Program for Stanford Students in Germany.

On-the-ground, the past academic year was another good one. Wolf Junghanns describes some of the exciting internships students completed this year in his contribution to this volume, and students’ academic experiences in Berlin and the EU were profound as well. Four acclaimed Stanford professors joined local Berlin faculty in providing students insight into varying aspects of politics and culture—German, European, and global. Paulla Ebron (Cultural Anthropology, autumn quarter)



Florian Pape of the Stanford Club of Germany (MBA 1993) with (L-R): Taryn Harvey (Mechanical Engineering), Mia Hutchinson (Mechanical Engineering, Product Design), Donny Li (Mechanical Engineering, Education, Symbolic Systems), Kate Buehner and Kat Pfleeger (both: Mechanical Engineering).

L-R: Matthew Rodman (Biology, Computer Science), Adela Čajić (Human Biology, Modern Languages), Emma Budiansky (Human Biology, German Studies), Russell Wong (Management Science & Engineering).



BOSP Director Professor Ramón Saldívar with (L-R): Betelhem Girma (Civil Engineering, African Studies), Mauricio Sanchez (Mechanical Engineering) and Matthew Molina (Mechanical Engineering).



Spring quarter students, interns, staff, and faculty with members of the Krupp Foundation and the Stanford Club of Germany at Villa Hügel, Essen, May 21, 2015.



Foto: Hans Jörg Michel, Mannheim (www foto-drama.com)/Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Düsseldorf

1920s style scenery for Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "The Magic Flute," produced by the Komische Oper Berlin in cooperation with the

Deutsche Oper am Rhein in Düsseldorf. As part of the visit to the Krupp Foundation, active and prospective interns attended this spectacular

performance which synchronized on-stage acting and singing with a sophisticated moving animation.

explored with students the way in which history and memory are instantiated in the built city of Berlin; Tom Fingar, whose career spans both academia and policy (he was for many years a top policy advisor in Washington), helped winter quarter students to understand the nature and implications of globalization for politics in his course "Global Trends: Anticipating the Future in order to shape it." In spring quarter, Professors Paula Moya and Ramón Saldívar taught two exciting courses, "Culture Clashes: Race and Ethnicity in Germany and the US" and "Berlin's Culture of Landscape and Public Space." Students of the "Culture Clashes" course, who had studied theories of ethnicity, ably informed the confrontations and intense discussions of the entire spring quarter group during a H.G. Will field trip on European expansion to Dubrovnik/Croatia and Mostar/Bosnia; the stark clash of narratives experienced there in discussions with parties quite recently at

war provided deep insight both into tensions that continue to persist in that region and into the complexity of inter-ethnic relations in general. The Will trip in autumn brought students to a different country of ex-Yugoslavia, Slovenia—a country fortunate enough to have had experienced only a few days of war at the very beginning of conflict in the region—and winter quarter students traveled to Malta, where they were received by the former Chancellor, the current President and Minister of Education, and a renowned classicist who explained the rich ancient history of that beautiful island; the salient recurrent theme there was the plight of refugees from North Africa, hundreds of whom have drowned in the Mediterranean, trying to reach Malta and other southern European countries in overladen and makeshift vessels.

For the past two years, Krupp interns have enjoyed a weekend seminar with the affiliated student group of the Alfried Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg in Greifswald, convening first in Greifswald and then, this year, in Berlin. Collaboration between this accomplished group of German students and Stanford's Krupp interns has proven richly productive for both sides; this year's meeting included a session comparing higher education in Germany and the US, and a day of d.school team-exploration.

We now invite you to take a few moments to experience Germany in ways more direct and more real than news media can provide, and we thank contributing Krupp interns of 2015 for sharing with you their insights and perspectives on life-on-the-ground in Germany. ■

Dr. Karen Kramer,
Director, Bing Overseas Studies Program in Berlin

My Life in Stuttgart by Anna Breed



I completed a five-month internship at Bosch in Stuttgart, Germany. I worked in their Automotive Electronics division, doing reliability engineering. For me, taking spring quarter off and doing the longer internship was definitely the best decision I could have made. Additionally, leaving Berlin to intern enriched my experience of Germany. I studied in Berlin in winter quarter, and absolutely love the city, but while I was in Berlin, I spent my time almost exclusively with the other Stan-

ford students. At first I knew no one in Stuttgart. There were no other Stanford students and I didn't even know any other Americans living there. Stuttgart had a stronger sense of "German" culture, but this was exactly what I was hoping to find during my time abroad. Berlin has a culture almost in its own category; it is a very international and vibrant city. I loved being able to work elsewhere in the country, so that I could see more of *Germany* and experience a city that was modern and in-



Anna Breed and Kate Buehner on a visit to the famous Heidelberg Castle.

dustrialized, yet still very steeped in older traditions.

Stuttgart is a city in southern Germany of about 600,000 people. It is very technically oriented. Bosch is a huge international engineering firm and has at least six sites that I know of around Stuttgart. Mercedes-Benz and Porsche are also centered in the Stuttgart area, and so much of the city is engineering-focused. The main part of the city is very modern, but there are also older sections that you can stroll through and feel as if you have suddenly stepped back in time. Stuttgart has a lot of traditional city festivals. During the summer in particular, there is almost always something going on in some part of the city. The Universität Stuttgart also has summer programs. For about half of my time in Stuttgart I lived in a *Studentenwohnheim* (student halls of residence), which was defi-

nately a good decision. I was able to meet people from the university, and this allowed me to experience academic culture as well.

One thing that I would recommend is to encourage fellow interns to hang out with friends outside of work, once they have settled in. I was much more hesitant about this, because I had been told that coworkers getting together for a drink was not the normal thing to do. However, I found that my fellow interns were excited about this idea, and having the American initiate was really all it took. It really enriched my personal life.

I also chose to take a further language class in the evenings. No matter what city you end up traveling to for your Krupp internship, I would recommend researching language classes, because they are a great way of meeting new people and obviously of improving your German, allowing you to take full advantage of your experience in Germany. Overall, I would recommend trying as much as possible to *not* hang out with fellow Stanford students or interns. While it is more difficult, making the effort to meet a variety of people in a new city greatly enriches the cultural experience. Traveling to other parts of Germany also fosters a better sense of the culture and country. I would also definitely recommend staying for a longer internship if possible, because the more time you spend involved in productive work and in interaction with Germans, the more you learn about the culture and the people—and the more enduring your friendships will be. ■

Anna Breed (Mechanical Engineering, German Studies) studied in Berlin in winter and interned with Robert Bosch GmbH-Automotive Electronics in spring and summer of 2015.

→ After visiting the photography exhibition „Der schöne Schein“ at the Gasometer in Oberhausen, the group of spring quarter students and interns had lunch at the long-established Kaisergarten restaurant in Oberhausen. With Karen Kramer in front, Jutta Ley on the left, Margaret Haymann of the Krupp Foundation and professors Paula Moya

and Ramón Saldívar on the right.
Link:
<http://www.gasometer.de>
→ Past Exhibitions.





Status Report on the Krupp Internship Program by Wolf-Dietrich Junghanns

Initially the academic year 2014–15 looked like any other recent placement year with many applicants to the Krupp internship program focusing on technology. However, the introduction of the Mindestlohngesetz for all professions from January 2015 and its effects on interns unsettled many companies and institutions when it came to the financing of internships. The law prescribes that the current minimal wage of 8,50 €/hour must be paid by the employer and not by third parties. This applies to all internships lasting longer than three months which are not a mandatory part of the students' studies. The government wants to prevent the exploitation of interns and also stop the malpractice of hiring interns instead of contracting regular employees. Admittedly, better regulation of internships was long overdue. At the same time, however, the law restricts students' time for search and orientation to find the right field of studies and, for students of the humanities and social sciences in particular, to work on more challenging projects in order to gain professional experience during their studies—because not every company and institution is able to pay the minimum wage to interns who still need a certain amount of supervision.

Tian Wang (Symbolic Systems) alongside his colleagues at POSpulse/24Insights GmbH in Berlin, where he worked to develop market research software.



Adebia Ntoso (Electrical Engineering) and one of the "smart textiles" with microcontrolled LED effects which she helped to develop as part of a cooperation between her host, the fashion label MOON Berlin, and the Fraunhofer-Institut für Zuverlässigkeit und Mikrointegration.



It took us and some of our hosts time to understand the exact consequences of the law, but after some initial hesitation we were able to place five applicants who wanted to intern between three and six months. And gradually, as the year progressed, we were able to coordinate again 43 internships, as in 2013–14. Thirty-five of these were in engineering and computer science. We found 22 new hosts or new subdivisions of former hosts, and 21 hosts outside Berlin or Potsdam. The south was especially very well represented, with 14 internships



Betelhem Girma (Civil Engineering, African Studies) in the lab of the Department of Urban Water Management at the Technische Universität Berlin.

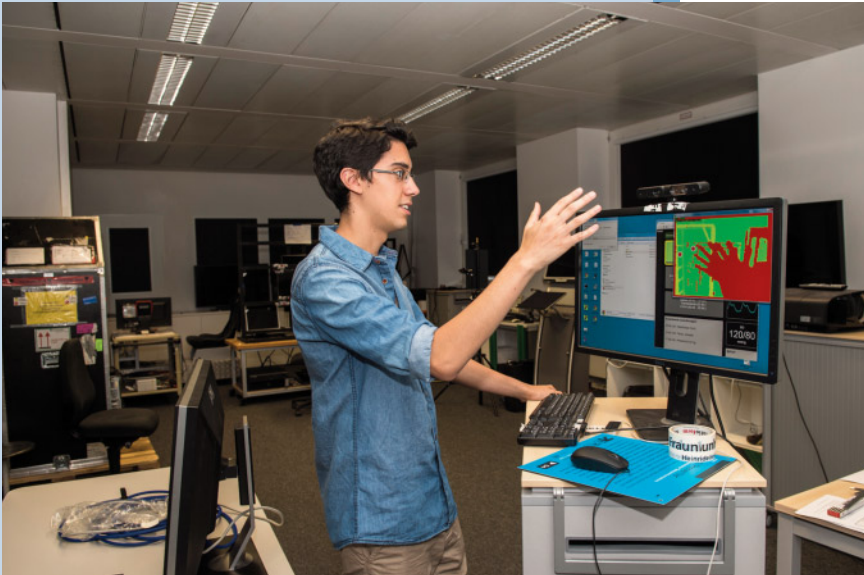
Left side: The job location: TU campus at the Technologie- und Innovationspark Berlin (TIB) in Mitte.

Janet Phan (Human Biology) sitting in on a doctor-patient talk at Ambulanz für integrierte Drogenhilfe (aid Berlin). She is our third intern to have shadowed the general and addiction medicine practitioner Chaim Jelinek.





Emma Budiansky (Human Biology, German Studies) tending to her plants at the Prinzessinnengärten (Nomadisch Grün GmbH) in the summer of 2015.



Joseph Pena (Symbolic Systems), our first intern at the Heinrich-Hertz-Institut (Fraunhofer-Institut für Nachrichtentechnik, Berlin), demonstrates the effect of touch-free interaction technology, for which he developed a design-test cycle.

Right: After interning with SAP in Walldorf in 2014, Kelley Luyken (Management Science & Engineering, German Studies) came back for a second internship, this time in business development with the start-up qLearning Applications in Berlin.



in Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria, reflecting the economic strength of these regions. Furthest away from Berlin were our interns in Nordrhein-Westfalen—St. Augustin and Mülheim an der Ruhr—and in Saarbrücken in the Saarland. Kat Pflieger (Mechanical Engineering), who interned with Siemens Steam Turbine, actually lived in Essen and not in Duisburg, as was the case with our former interns who commuted to Mülheim.

qLearning Applications, Berlin; Mauricio Sanchez (ME) perfected the rotor blades of enbreeze's windmills—we had two internships with them in Cologne but recently the company moved to Berlin.

Unusual internships included Vivian Ly's (Earth Systems) work in alternative farming at the Gärtnerhof Oberreute in Kißlegg in the beautiful Allgäu, Upper Swabia, as well as Samantha Dennler's (Chemical Engineering) research in biofuel at the Hessische Biogasforschungszentrum in Bad Hersfeld, part of the Fraunhofer-Institut für Windenergie und Energiesystemtechnik IWES, Kassel. If I remember correctly, this was our first internship in this particular field of sustainable energy production. In the past, our IWES interns have

Aus unserer Serie mit Wortspielen in der Werbung der Berliner Stadtreinigung. Foto: Mit freundlicher Genehmigung der BSR. © Berliner Stadtreinigung (2015). Siehe auch: <http://www.bsr.de> <http://produkte.bsr.de>





Sally Lape (Architectural Design, Art Practice) with our long-term host, architect Duane Phillips, intern Eleonora Svegliati and Honey at the Architektur und Städtebau office in Berlin-Charlottenburg.

worked on wind energy solutions, and others worked to develop solar energy solutions at the Fraunhofer-Institut für solare Energietechnik in Freiburg i. Br. Another extraordinary internship related to agriculture was Emma Budiansky's (Human Biology, German Studies) stay at the Prinzessinnengärten, Berlin's famous urban and mobile gardening project. The same applies to Matthew Rodman's (Biology, Computer Science) plant research with the Leibniz-Institut für Pflanzen-genetik und Kulturpflanzenforschung (IPK) in Gatersleben, situated in the somewhat remote foothills of the Harz mountains, one of the "Sehnsuchtsorte" of German Romanticism. There one can still hide from the internet!

As always, it would be impossible to mention all the fascinating projects here. But I would like to at least

mention some of the promising new hosts who we were able to find, either with the help of former Stanford students or through the students' and their professors' contacts to German partners. Stanford alumna Laura Schulte (Art History) invited Ishan Someshekar (Symbolic Systems) to spend five months in Munich working for the booming online platform selling baby and toddler products, windeln.de. Todd Pope, Stanford Berlin and Krupp program alumnus and former Krupp Internship Coordinator, initiated our first internship with B. Braun Aesculap in Tuttlingen, where Lina Ibrahim (ME) worked on orthopedic technology, also for five months. Cynthia de Dalmady (Electrical Engineering) developed synchronizer circuits with Munich's Infineon Technologies, and Marc Cuson will stay in Ditzingen for a full six months, until mid-January 2016, helping to develop powerful lasers at the renowned Trumpf Laser- und Systemtechnik GmbH.

Many thanks to all the professors, former and present students for supporting the placements of our Krupp interns! We at the Berlin center are very happy that, even with the changed circumstances surrounding the new minimum wage law, we were able to organize so many excellent internships. As far as the prospects for the new academic year are concerned, we hope that both we and our past and potential new hosts have gained enough experience with the new law to be able to continue to offer challenging internships all over the country. ■

Katherine Pfleeger (Mechanical Engineering) spent the spring of 2015 interning with the Siemens Steam Turbines division in Mülheim an der Ruhr, and sub-

sequently spent the summer with fuchsendelster (Martinek & Schellenberg GbR) in Berlin, experimenting with open-air furniture designs made out of

recycled materials. The name of this restaurant and café-bar alludes to "Herrn Fuchs und Frau Elster," two popular figures from a children's program on GDR

television who lived in a fairytale forest. In short, this typically Berlin institution represents an attempt to reenchant the urban jungle.



(De-)Constructing the Iconography of Consumerism

by Marin Reeve

Cleaning the Santa Maria Novella shelves was difficult work. There were six of them, decreasing in depth from the bottom up, in sum constituting a tapering shrine to the monastic-pharmacy-turned-cosmetics-label that I was to re-baptize. Over the course of an hour and a half on one of the hottest days of the summer, I dusted and wiped its surfaces, disassembling and reassembling product displays in small batches and assuming a studied guise of idleness every time a customer came in, persistent until the whole was purged of impurities. My handiwork was mechanical, but I was conscious of its implications: I was maintaining the fantasy around the products and their supposed powers.

I interned for a woman named Melanie Dal Canton in Berlin this summer, and days like this spent in her namesake cosmetics shop were perhaps the most illuminating of my experience. MDC, located in Prenzlauer Berg, was a descendent of the concept store, a ubiquitous commercial entity in Berlin offering clothing curated for a specific lifestyle. Instead of the body's decoration, however, Frau Dal Canton's inventory prioritized its treatment. Through an array of ointments, scents and objects priced luxuriously, produced organically, and displayed cleanly, MDC argued for slow fashion, sustainability, and the beauty of simplicity, and I helped to spread this doctrine.

The way I saw it, my work for Frau Dal Canton was of a diametric nature, split between manual and intellectual labors that still somehow informed each other. My more "proletarian" duties transpired in the shop and included such tasks as taking out the recycling, packaging online orders, running short-range errands, folding laundry, engaging drifting customers, and, yes, cleaning shelves. Though at first instruction-based—Marin, align the Susanne Kaufmann selection; Marin, sweep the entryway; Marin, offer Herr Mathieu a glass of water—this work eventually became intuitive, and I came to understand how the minutia of the shop collaborated towards the ultimate goal of transporting the customer. It was not until I had straightened the incense or filed the day's receipts for the hundredth time that I divined what it took to cast the aura of the brick-and-mortar store.


What is more, though, this work would be essential for the cerebral tasks that Frau Dal Canton assigned me later. She was concerned with the intellectual engineering of her brand, a puzzle that she asked me several times to "mach Dir mal Gedanken darüber," or, literally, to "make thoughts about." I translated product de-



scriptions, researched potential collaborators, and conceptualized holiday sales strategies, among other things, towards this end, but my most important work served the cultivation of MDC's instagram account. This was where I interpreted my physical presence in the shop creatively, taking hundreds if not thousands of photographs on-site to imbue the brand's social media presence with an increasingly trendy realism. In addition to generating promotional content for MDC, this project introduced me to such concepts as purchase incentivization, transparency in business, and the peculiarity of the online "experience." Though explaining to peers that I spent the summer puttering around a cosmetics boutique in one of the wealthiest districts of Berlin sometimes garners dismissive smirks, the humility of my work was in fact the perfect channel through which to approach a genuinely complex problem: How might the spell of the shop—the cathedral of consumerism—remain poignant in an increasingly virtual market? I myself rarely even wear mascara, but what I learned in my three months at MDC will nonetheless tag along as I take my general interest in fashion into a future that may or may not include shelves to clean. ■

Marin Reeve (Art/Art History, German Studies) studied in Berlin in spring and interned with MDC research + development, Berlin, in summer of 2015.

Where the Wind of Change Blows by Mauricio Sanchez



Mauricio Sanchez assembling and controlling a windmill.—Renewable energy remains a significant area of interest among the Berlin students.

In the summer of 2015 I interned at enbreeze GmbH, a wind energy start-up now based in Berlin, but founded in 2009 in Cologne. I loved Berlin, and I had fallen in love with the city when I first visited three years before my study abroad program, but my time at enbreeze was what made last summer a mesmerizing experience. Having spent two years at Stanford, I was used to working with people who would be willing to spend 14 hours a day working and neglecting their free time. In fact, I had come to believe that to see good results, that sort of work discipline was necessary. Working at enbreeze, and living in Berlin, really opened my eyes in terms of work-leisure balance. Life in Berlin is relaxed: there is plenty to do in your free time, and nothing stopping you from doing it, since everyone seems to structure their life around clear boundaries for how much time their work should take and how much time they should have for themselves. The community we had in enbreeze was amazing: it was a small team (eight people), and we ate lunch together every day, switching between English and German (unfortunately, since one of the workers spoke almost no German). Once a week we had a barbecue at someone's house, and we would stay up late talking and drinking beer. In less than a week I already felt fully at home in enbreeze. And what was most amazing was that the great community and social life we had did not compromise how cool the product was. The wind turbine prototype that the company is developing uses a pitch control system that is not used anywhere else. It was extremely complex, but being able to be part of its development, and being able to understand how it worked was very rewarding. Everyone on the team was excited about the turbine they were building, and everyone had a very clear picture of their role in the company. They had all been there since the company started, mostly as a continuation of my boss's graduate thesis, and then advanced to building 10 kW, 30 m tall turbines. They

„Wenn der Wind der Veränderung weht, bauen die einen Mauern und die anderen Windmühlen“

Ancient Chinese proverb

had all been interns there, and made me feel part of their team.

The tasks they gave me during my internship were very valuable to me. My main project was to make a structural model of the wind turbine blade for the 10kW turbine. The structural model would basically describe the stiffness and mass of the blade at different sections along the blade span, and would be used in an aeroelastic simulation. The simulation would then predict how the turbine would operate under all sorts of wind conditions, and would be used to certify the turbine for safe operation. I had to use two traditional software tools for modeling wind turbines, which are completely text-based, meaning that I had to input the blade properties as numbers and code into .txt input files and then run a command prompt that would output a stiffness and mass matrix. It was definitely challenging, and it took a while to learn how to operate the software and interpret the results, but it was also extremely rewarding. In the end, due to lack of information from the blade manufacturer (I was modeling a blade that was already built, so the model was only needed for certification purposes), I ended up with several models that could all represent the blade.

Another project I worked on was a dynamic simulation of the blade to find the pitching moment on the blade due to centrifugal forces (wind turbine blades can rotate about a radial axis to change aerodynamic properties, and that is called pitching). What I had to do was set up a model of the mass distribution along the blade in a Computer-Aided Design tool called Autodesk Inventor (which is the Autodesk version of SolidWorks), and use the dynamic simulation feature to compute the pitching torque. It was not very hard, but due to imprecise information from the blade manufacturer, it took a long time.

Additionally, I was given the task to check the code for the calculations of the six springs that would prevent the blades from pitching individually due to gravity. I made many corrections to existing code that changed the results completely, and they were implemented in the construction of the turbine immediately, with satisfactory results. There was actually a lot of adjusting of the turbine towards the end of the internship, and my input was often needed, since the springs so greatly affected the workings of the other systems, which was very rewarding. I never thought I would be given such a high level of responsibility as an intern.

My living situation was thankfully almost ideal, although expensive. I lived in a big apartment with a German girl who was very nice to me while we roomed together. The way to work was long, but I learned to ap-

preciate it over time. After one hour and fifteen minutes, having taken the S25 to Südkreuz, then the Ringbahn to Ostkreuz, then the S5 to Friedrichsfelde Ost and finally the tram to Rhinstraße/Gärtnerstraße, I reached the office, having spent the entirety of the trip reading. To some people it would be dreadful, but riding the Berlin metro was always interesting for me. My flatmate introduced me to her German friends. They only spoke German, which helped my language skills more than any class would have. They were also a lot less career-oriented than most Stanford students. My flatmate and most of her friends had not gone to university, but rather had completed their *Ausbildung* and were much more focused on their free time. I really enjoyed that. I spent part of my weekends with them watching football games at someone's house, or getting drinks at a cocktail bar. It was all in German, and I felt very accomplished.

Spending my summer in Berlin was a priceless experience, and one that I cherish. I learned a lot of German, I gathered experience related to my field, and I broadened my view of the world. ■

Mauricio Sanchez (Mechanical Engineering) studied in Berlin in spring and interned with *enbreeze GmbH*, Berlin, in summer of 2015.

Neu in Berlin (I)

Das Wohnungsunternehmen *degewo* hat auf einem seiner Wohnhäuser den öffentlich zugänglichen „Marzahn Skywalk“ errichtet.

Foto: Mit freundlicher Genehmigung der *degewo* Berlin
<http://www.degewo.de>.
© Cathrin Bach/Konzept und Bild.



Filmtips

Als wir träumten

<http://www.alswirtraeumten.de>

Andreas Dresen („Sommer vorm Balkon“, „Wolke 9“, „Halt auf freier Strecke“ u. a.) verfilmte mit Hilfe eines Drehbuchs des nun schon legendären Regisseurs und Schriftstellers Wolfgang Kohlhaase („Solo Sunny“!) den gleichnamigen Erfolgsroman von Clemens Meyer, der im Film auch einen Cameoauftritt hat. Es ist ein Film über das Erwachsenwerden einer Gruppe von Jugendlichen, die in der anarchischen Nachwendzeit am Leipziger Stadtrand eine illegale Diskothek betreibt und sich nicht nur mit Skinheads auseinandersetzen muß (siehe auch Peter Richters Roman „89/90“, der in Dresden spielt). Die DDR ist weg und das neue System noch nicht verfestigt. Alles steht auf Anfang, alles scheint möglich. Ein kurzes Leben im Rausch. Und die Erinnerung daran. Nicht alle Literaturliebhaber waren beglückt, aber die FAZ befand: „Weltklassekino“.

Victoria

<http://www.centralfilm.de>

Dieser u. a. bei der Berlinale 2015 ausgezeichnete Berlin-Film macht zunächst dadurch auf sich aufmerksam, daß er in einer einzigen Kameraeinstellung von 136 Minuten gedreht wurde und sich auf die Improvisationskunst seiner Darsteller verläßt – das Drehbuch war bloß zwölf Seiten lang. Doch auch das Berliner Nachtleben fasziniert weiterhin: Die Spanierin Victoria ist neu in der Stadt. Bei einem Streifzug durch Berlin lernt sie eine Gruppe junger Männer kennen, die mit ihr feiern – und sie in ein kriminelles Abenteuer hineinziehen, das zum Albtraum wird.

Frau Müller muß weg

<http://www.constantin-film.de/kino/frau-mueller-muss-weg>

In dieser Schulkomödie mit der „Entertainerin“ Anke Engelke versuchen „besorgte Eltern“ – ein Euphemismus für *heliocopter parents* aus den Mittelschichten – die schulischen Probleme ihrer Kinder mit der Absetzung der Lehrerin zu lösen. Ist die Versetzung auf das Gymnasium in Gefahr, ist jedes Mittel recht. Doch die Lehrerin verweigert sich der Intrige und löst eine Auseinandersetzung unter den Eltern selbst aus. Die Konflikte eskalieren, auch die zwischen Ost- und Westdeutschen. Und die Kinder? An sie wird zuletzt gedacht. Ein Film mit überraschenden Wendungen.

Der Staat gegen Fritz Bauer

<http://www.derstaatgegenfritzbauer.de>

Der Spielfilm erinnert an den hessischen Staatsanwalt, ohne den die Frankfurter Auschwitz-Prozesse der sechziger Jahre wahrscheinlich nicht zustande gekommen wären und der auch einen wesentlichen Anteil an der Auffindung Adolf Eichmanns in Argentinien hatte. Fritz Bauers (1903–1968) Bestehen auf der Aufklärung der NS-Verbrechen und der Bestrafung der Täter war in der Republik des „Wirtschaftswunders“ nicht nur störend, seine Arbeit wurde auch direkt behindert: von der eigenen Staatsanwaltschaft über das Bundeskriminalamt bis hin zur Regierung Konrad Adenauers, die es ablehnte, von Argentinien die Auslieferung Eichmanns zu fordern.

Verliebt Verlobt Verloren

<http://www.verliebtverlobtverloren.de>

Dieser Dokumentarfilm ist Sung-Hyung Chos dritter „Heimatfilm“: nach ihrem großen Erfolg „Full Metal Village“ und der Erkundung südkoreanisch-westdeutscher Beziehungen in einem deutschen Dorf in Südkorea in „Endstation der Sehnsüchte“. Nun verfolgt sie die Lebensgeschichten nordkoreanisch-ostdeutscher Paare. In den fünfziger Jahren, noch während des Korea-Krieges, delegierte der nordkoreanische Staat junge Männer in die DDR, um sie ausbilden zu lassen. Einige verliebten sich und gründeten Familien, doch Anfang der Sechziger mußten sie zurück nach Nordkorea und ihre Partner und Kinder für immer zurücklassen.

Tod den Hippies! Es lebe der Punk!

<http://www.eslebederpunk.x-verleih.de>

Filme über das alte, wilde West-Berlin, die Rettungsinsel für Abenteurer und Wehrdienstverweigerer aus der westdeutschen Provinz, sind en vogue. Das Leben „zwischen Subvention und Subversion“ liefert Stoff für mehr oder weniger nostalgische Erinnerungen. Oskar Roehler (u.a. „Die Unberührbare“) läßt Robert, gespielt von Tom Schilling („Oh Boy“), auf die schmutzige Realität treffen – er versteht sich als Künstler, aber mangels Geld wird er Reinigungskraft in einer Peepshow. Er trifft aber auch auf berühmte Figuren der Zeitgeschichte wie die Musiker Blixa Bargeld („Einstürzende Neubauten“) und Nick Cave sowie den Regisseur Rainer Werner Fassbinder, kurz vor dessen Tod 1982. New Wave und Neuer Deutscher Film. Eine Farce mit autobiographischen Zügen.

WDJ

Die Böhms – Architektur einer Familie

<http://www.lichtblick-film.com/dokumentarfilme/film.asp?id=20>

“Concrete Love—The Boehm Family” is the English title of a documentary by Maurizio Staerkle-Drux following Gottfried Böhm, a famous 93-year-old architect who has yet to retire. This film has everything needed to make a great documentary: a fascinating main character, beautiful background and scenery, and a surprisingly dynamic set. Yet the film truly captures Gottfried Böhm in a very real and human light, transforming him from this mythical character of the architecture scene into someone much more human. During the course of the filming, his wife dies. We see how much of an affect Mrs. Böhm, also an architect, had on the work of her husband. In a touching scene, we see Mr. Böhm remodeling the head of his wife in clay, and then setting it in her French house. The churches built by Mr. Böhm and his three architect sons are featured heavily in the film. The shots of these churches are very powerful. However, what really stands out in the film is the way in which the viewer gets to peer into Böhm’s everyday life. For instance, we see the intergenerational conflict over styles of architecture and the sibling rivalry over architecture contests and jobs. There is a great scene in which the crew interviews the gardener, and we learn that he was also an architect. Basically everyone in the Böhm family is an architect, and that makes for some interesting family dynamics that are caught on camera. The Goethe-Institut has chosen “Concrete Love” as its film of the year.

Payton Broaddus

(Electrical Engineering; Berlin, winter quarter 2015)

Une jeunesse allemande – eine deutsche Jugend

by Lina Ibrahim



The presence of both historical content density and aesthetic interest in a film is somewhat of a rarity in my experience, at least in regards to honest documentaries. Whether that is a result of my self-selection of films or my own definition of “aesthetic interest,” I am not certain. Probably both. As a beginner in intellectual film critique, both of my criteria could admittedly benefit from some broadening. “Une jeunesse allemande” provided a coherent and entrancing perspective on the gradual growth of the Baader-Meinhof Group, eventually to become the Red Army Faction. Alongside and integral to this storyline were the contributions of Berlin’s DFFB students. Knowing little about the individual rebels in this group or the RAF as a whole before entering the film, I am grateful to have left the theater neither bored nor confused, although quite confident that the film was skewed—at least relative to my limited prior impressions of the topic.

The film was far from condemning of the terrorist acts of the group in their early years. We were delicately and intimately placed into the setting of these students’ journey of young rebels turned violent militant group and the linearity of this portrayal was essential to our perception of the story. Through inserted pieces of original DFFB footage, of interviews with the extremely eloquent Ulrike Meinhof, and of news footage of protests and working conditions in Berlin, we formed an intimate relationship with the characters before being thrown into the malicious acts they

would eventually commit. The honesty and closeness of the aesthetic mediums of the film ensured that we came to empathize—and as a student who had not formed a strong opinion on them prior to watching the film—unknowingly root for the rebels before being forced to question the decency and morality of their actions. The creeping portrayal of the students’ path from progressive to militant, from impassioned to inhumane, was painfully shocking and sparked questions about the roots of radical groups I have learned of through both textbooks and film. As the credits rolled I emerged from the film not unavailingly skeptical, but gratefully curious to explore a newly multi-dimensional understanding of this particular facet of “a German youth.”

The abundance of historical information in “Une jeunesse allemande” was mesmerizing, filled with details of and personal facts about the students of the DFFB and the becoming rebels of the Baader-Meinhof Group. In a time in which film was considered a radical tool for political protest, it was jarringly powerful to study the medium of early political film by means of the very medium of political film itself. ■

Link: <http://www.wfilm.de/une-jeunesse-allemande-eine-deutsche-jugend/>

Lina Ibrahim (Mechanical Engineering) studied in Berlin during winter quarter and interned with B.Braun Aesculap in Tuttlingen during the summer and autumn of 2015.

Who am I – Kein System ist sicher

by Lucy Wang



Benjamin, a pizza delivery boy by day and hacker by night, is a nobody before he meets Max, a charismatic party boy who also loves hacking. But unlike Benjamin who hacks machines, Max hacks people—he calls it “social engineering.” Max introduces Benjamin to his friends Stephen (a thrill seeker) and Paul (a hardware hacker). Together, they form the hacker group CLAY: Clowns Laughing At You. Their ultimate goal is to gain

the respect of the notorious hacker MRX. CLAY succeeds at a series of hilarious hacks, such as changing the stock price image on the news to a graph of a middle finger and swapping a political party’s campaign video to one of the campaigner humping a dog. Benjamin, a nobody before, gains confidence and finds good friends in Max, Stephen, and Paul. He even attracts the attention of his crush Marie, who ignored him before. However,

these hacks do not impress MRX who laughs them down on the dark web. Every time they fail to impress MRX, Max becomes more and more upset. Finally, they decide to hack the Federal Intelligence building. This catches the attention of MRX, who gives CLAY a task to prove their worth. Meanwhile, Europol is on their tails. Hanne Lindberg, leader of the investigation into the hacker group FR13NDS, discovers that MRX is a part of FR13NDS, and that CLAY may be involved with MRX. Benjamin makes a fatal mistake and his identity is discovered by MRX. What follows is a series of reveals.

First, the viewer is led to believe that Max, Stephen, and Paul are killed by MRX. Benjamin goes to Lindberg to seek entrance into the Witness Protection Program. Then, the viewer watches from the point of view of Lindberg, who believes Benjamin has multiple personality disorder and that CLAY was in fact only him. Finally, the viewer discovers that Benjamin had "socially engineered" this whole scheme—he had led Lindberg to believe he had multiple personality disorder so that Max, Stephen, and Paul could become invisible again. These reveals are what makes the film. Swiss director Baran bo Odar succeeds in socially engineering the viewer. This fast-paced German thriller with an impressive cast (Tom Schilling, Hannah Herzprung et al.) is a fun, clever, and utterly mindboggling experience. ■

Link: <http://www.whoami-film.de/site/>

Lucy Wang (Computer Science) studied in Berlin in the winter of 2015.



In March, Danielle Vaughan (née Lostaunau; International Relations/ German Studies, Deutsche Bahn intern in 2006) and her husband James visited the Villa. Monica Eccheverria (Management Science & Engineering, 3M Deutschland intern in 2006) was greatly missed.



Janet Phan (Human Biology, second from the left) with students of the Junges Kolleg Greifswald in the Alfred Krupp Wissenschaftskolleg in

Greifswald and design students from Berlin during the d.School workshop at the beta-haus Berlin in Kreuzberg on April 11.

Neu in Berlin (II)

Der Rohbau des Berliner Schlosses, genauer: des „HUMBOLDT FORUMS“, ist fertiggestellt. Nun werden die nachgeahmten historischen Fassadenteile daran befestigt. Im Jahr 2020 wird man nicht nur

die Ausstellungen eines „Zentrums für Kunst, Kultur, Wissenschaft und Bildung“ besuchen, sondern in einem Dachrestaurant auch Kaffee trinken können. – Fortsetzung folgt.

Links:
<http://www.humboldt-forum.de>
<http://www.sbs-humboldt-forum.de>



Wir sind jung. Wir sind stark.

by Kate Buehner



“**Wir sind jung.** Wir sind stark” is an ode to the tumultuous German feelings of a changing time as well as to finding one’s place in the world. Set in Rostock in August 1992, it depicts the events leading up to the major protest against and attack on the Sonnenblumenhaus, a dorm for Vietnamese contract workers.

Following a group of young friends, a Vietnamese refugee, and several other auxiliary characters as they find their way to the protests, director Burhan Qurbani, the German born son of refugees from Afghanistan, provides a broad spectrum of perspectives. Echoing the true timeline of events fairly closely, the film not only provides an insight into the country’s general unease, but also to how the youth must define themselves. Both engaging and solemn, the film is one you will want to watch a second time.

The movie begins with a broad shot of empty streets strewn with trash and the first signs of unrest—three kids going around picking up bottles, a van full of teenagers making Molotovs, and the lone *Polizei* trying to maintain the calm—all preparing the viewer for the chaos to come. Instead of focusing on the riots, however, the story weaves together several story lines before forcefully bringing the main characters all together in one night of rioting, and providing the viewer a first-

hand look at exactly what was going on. There is Stephen, a grave brooding teenager, who spends his day on the beach under the watchful eye of a neo-Nazi extremist. In contrast, there is the older government official who must deal with the politics of the asylum seekers, and finally, there is the young Vietnamese woman who must deal with the racist and anti-refugee comments directed at her, providing a counterpoint to the German view of the asylum seeker.

Shot in black and white before, seemingly randomly, switching to color, “Wir sind jung” adopts a grave, serious tone equal to such a turbulent event. The intricate presentation of the characters provides a definitive showing of the sentiments of that generation. In the 24 hours depicted in this film, we watch as friendships develop, family relations are strained, and immigration is discussed. We watch as boredom, loss, and belonging define the actions of many. This movie is able to humanize a day that is still darkly remembered in Germany. ■

Link: <http://jungundstark.de>

Kate Buehner (Mechanical Engineering) studied in Berlin in winter and interned with Rolls-Royce Deutschland in Berlin-Dahlewitz in the spring of 2015.

→ Participants of the summer internship seminar with professor Regina Casper (fourth from the left in the second row) and Jutta Ley and

Wolf-D. Junghanns in the background on August 28, 2015, at Haus Cramer.



Kinofenster

Filmportale

deutscher und internationaler Filme, Filmliteratur u.a.:

<http://www.filmportal.de>

<http://www.film-zeit.de>

<http://www.kinofenster.de>

(Das Onlineportal für Filmbildung)

<http://www.bpb.de> (Mediathek, Shop/Filmhefte)

Kinderfilminformationen:

<http://www.kinderfilmwelt.de>

<http://www.top-videonews.de>

<http://www.kinderfilm-gmbh.de>

Deutsches Fernsehen in den USA:

<http://www.onlinetvrecorder.com>

Berliner Filmfestivals

<http://www.festiwelt-berlin.de>

How to come back?

Tips for recent alumni

The *Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung* offers fellowships for U.S. scientists and scholars:

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de>

For many years the *Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft (CDS)* has provided internships and practical training opportunities in business, engineering, finance, tourism, IT, media/communications, international relations, the nonprofit sector, German studies, economics, and other fields for up to 12 months. After fusing with the Association for International Practical Training, CDS continues its initiatives under the new name "Cultural Vistas."

<http://www.culturalvistas.org>

"The Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals (CBYX) is a fellowship funded by the German Bundestag and US Congress, that annually provides 75 American and 75 German young professionals the opportunity to spend one year in each others' countries, studying, interning, and living with hosts on a cultural immersion program. The program is open to candidates in all career fields who are interested in a year of cultural exchange."

<https://www.cbyx.info>

The *Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)* and the German Committee of the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE) help individuals find study and research opportunities at all levels as well as internships:

<http://www.daad.de>, <http://www.iaeste.de>

The Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship Program enables young professionals from the US to spend one year working in their field in Germany:

<http://www.bosch-stiftung.de>

The "*Bundeskanzler-Stipendium für Führungskräfte von morgen*" scholarship is offered in cooperation with the Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung:

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/bundeskanzler-stipendium.html>

The Internationales Parlaments-Stipendium (IPS) lasts five months (March 1 to July 31) and includes meetings, seminars, and an internship with a parliamentarian:

<http://www.bundestag.de/ips>

The German Center for Research and Innovation (GCRI) in New York is a governmental initiative to internationalize science and research. It is a clearinghouse providing information on research and funding opportunities for researchers (graduate students, post-docs, etc.) all over Germany and logistical help:

<http://www.germaninnovation.org>

The German-American Fulbright Commission has special programs for U.S. citizens, e.g. grants for teaching assistantships at German high schools:

<http://www.fulbright.de>

The International Cooperative Education (ICE) helps arrange summer jobs and internships:

<http://www.icemenlo.com>

The *Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V. (KAS)* provides stipends to German and international graduate students for further education and graduate work, especially for young people who want to become leaders in the fields of politics, business, science, media, and culture:

<http://www.kas.de> (Über uns – Abteilungen – Begabtenförderung)

YOUNG GERMANY, a career, education and lifestyle guide, lists institutions offering research scholarships:

<http://www.young-germany.de>

Aus: Hannah Arendt: Ich selbst,
auch ich tanze. Die Gedichte.

© 2015 Piper Verlag GmbH, München.

Die Untergrundbahn

Hannah Arendt

Aus Dunkel kommend,
Ins Helle sich schlängelnd,
Schnell und vermessen,
Schmal und besessen
Von menschlichen Kräften,
Aufmerksam webend
Gezeichnete Wege,
Gleichgültig schwebend
Über dem Hasten,
Schnell schmal und besessen
Von menschlichen Kräften,
Die es nicht achtet,
Ins Dunkle fließend
Um Oberes wissend
Fliegt es sich windend
Ein gelbes Tier.

Hannah Arendts Denken war wesentlich von Poesie geprägt und sie selbst dichtete oft in Zusammenhang mit konzeptionellen Überlegungen. Der Piper-Verlag hat nun erstmals alle bekannten Gedichte mit Kommentaren in einem Band versammelt.

Arendt (1906 Linden/Hannover – 1975 New York) beschreibt eine typische Großstadterfahrung: Tempo und Getümmel, das betriebsame Durcheinander des modernen Lebens und die enormen Kräfte, die es bewegen. Zugleich faszinieren der unterirdische Verkehr mit dem Kontrast von Tag und Nacht, wie die Bergwerke der Romantiker, durch Zauber und Unheimlichkeit. Der Untergrund hat metaphysisches Potential, unübersehbar offenbar auch für die zukünftige metaphysikkritische Theoretikerin der Politik. Im Winter 1923–24, als diese Zeilen entstanden, war nicht abzusehen, daß die Untergrundbahn nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg ein prominentes Motiv in Arendts Faschismus- und Stalinismus-Kritik werden würde: Das Netz und die palastartigen Stationen der Moskauer Metro waren in Weltrekord-

absichten gebaut worden und dienten Arendt als Beispiel für den totalitären Anspruch, das sowjetische Gesellschaftssystem sei allen anderen überlegen (siehe: „Elemente und Ursprünge totaler Herrschaft. Antisemitismus, Imperialismus, Totalitarismus“, auf Deutsch ebenfalls bei Piper verlegt).



Introducing the “Berlin Policy Journal”

by Sylke Tempel

Want to know more about what is shaping German foreign policy? Missing European voices in international affairs? Curious about what’s happening in and around Berlin? Intrigued—yet puzzled—by the inner workings of the EU? Welcome to the “Berlin Policy Journal,” a new, non-partisan digital magazine from the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), distributed every two months via an app available for Apple and Android devices. For a long time now we have been hearing calls for Germany to play a bigger role in world affairs, to no longer “hide behind its past” and shoulder greater responsibility when it comes to finding solutions to international crises and safeguarding international security. The cry at last reached the German political scene. At the beginning of 2014, German Federal President Joachim Gauck, Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, and Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen declared openly at the Munich Security Conference that the time had come for the country to take on greater responsibility in international affairs.

Their good intentions collided with reality soon enough—a month later, German Chancellor Angela Merkel had to take the lead in reigning in Vladimir Putin when the Russian president seized Crimea in March 2014 from Ukraine, trampling on Europe’s post-war

peace and security order. And during this hot Euro-crisis summer, when the question of Greece leaving the eurozone loomed large, Germany managed to keep Europe’s single currency intact—but took a lot of criticism in the process (remember #thisisacoup trending on Twitter?) for allegedly forcing the left-wing Syriza government in Athens to accept tough “austerity” measures in return for another bailout to avert bankruptcy.

Thus the ugly German was back in July. But only one month on, in September, it was all goodwill and sunshine again: Germany was praised for its *Willkommenskultur*, accepting hundreds of thousands of refugees from war-torn Syria, Afghanistan, and elsewhere. However, its principled stance has brought Merkel the trickiest leadership crisis yet at home, creating unrest within the ruling CDU/CSU party, and led to a lot of misgivings from fellow EU leaders.

Germany’s roller-coaster ride is not only puzzling to the casual onlooker—Berlin is puzzling the pros and foreign affairs wonks, too. German leadership, by definition, is dramatically different from, say, US leadership. For one thing, the Federal Republic is not an executive power. For another, Berlin always acts within a European context; having the EU hard-wired in its foreign-political DNA, Germany cannot, for example, have a Russia policy of its own—it needs to keep a Union of 28 member states united.

At home, with the exception of a short period during the 1950s, German chancellors always had to navigate unruly coalition governments, and had to keep smaller parties happy. And Germany’s supreme constitutional court, the *Bundesverfassungsgericht*, has had a word or two to say about the ways Germany acts abroad, especially militarily and in terms of European integration. Given those checks and balances, and the unique historical burden it carries as a result of its role in the Second World War, Germany is now “learning on the job,” as Daniela Schwarzer of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) put it recently. And while trying to play a bigger role, Berlin is still lagging when it comes to explaining itself and its policies to international audiences. And there is a sometimes remarkable transatlantic gap: the world often seems an entirely differently place when viewed from the US and from Europe.

“Berlin Policy Journal,” aims at bridging that gap—setting themes, furthering debates, and making German and European foreign policy more *verständlich*.

When we started the journal in April this year, we were clear that there would never be a print edition. In-



spired by what we observed from afar in Silicon Valley and on the Stanford campus, where most young people use tablets and smartphones to access information, we opted for an app to publish our bimonthly magazine—accompanied by an active website (berlinpolicyjournal.com) which features additional content: blogs like “Berlin Observer,” “Eye on Europe,” “Planet Moscow,” and “Manhattan Transfer” (on transatlantic relations) that follow what is happening on the ground in Europe.

In an age when more data and information is available that one can possibly digest, we felt it was impor-

tant to pick and chose and offer our readers first-class analysis and op-eds—with a bimonthly magazine at the core that helps international readers get a handle on whats happening in Berlin, Brussels, and beyond.

So if you want to get back in touch with Berlin, check out the “Berlin Policy Journal.” If you would like to be part of discussions about what is shaping German and European foreign policy, ask for an internship via the Stanford in Berlin Krupp Internship program. ■

Dr. Sylke Tempel is editor-in-chief of the Berlin Policy Journal and lecturer at Stanford in Berlin.

Loss of Control – Citizens’ Concerns Increase

The socioeconomic consequences of the flow of refugees are increasingly becoming the focus of attention by Prof. Dr. Renate Köcher. The Allensbach Institute

The refugee crisis is directly affecting increasing numbers of citizens. A total of 86% report that their area has taken in refugees, with 48% reporting large numbers of refugees. The majority of citizens are very aware of the problems associated with the influx, in particular with respect to accommodation. To give one example, 40% of citizens report that gymnasiums in their local districts had been converted into emergency shelters.

An initially relaxed attitude is shifting to deep concern under the pressure of the continuous influx and growing problems. In August, 40% of citizens were greatly worried, with this figure rising to 44% in September, and to 54% today.¹ These concerns are by no means solely a response to the immediate logistical problems. On the contrary, the majority of citizens are becoming increasingly skeptical about the medium- to long-term socioeconomic consequences. The overwhelming majority believe that, in the short term, this immigration wave chiefly brings risks; a mere 6% feel that the opportunities outweigh the risks, and the remaining 16% consider that the risks and opportunities balance each other out. In comparison, the long-term prospects may be assessed more favorably, but in no way positively: 46% still say that the influx of refugees will bring great risks in the long run, while just 18% predict positive benefits.² Most citizens doubt whether the newcomers’ qualifications will suffice to justify the hope that many of them will quickly be integrated into the job market. Only 14% of citizens believe that many of the refugees have had a good education.

The population is most concerned with social consequences. The majority is aware that the influx will significantly increase the number of Muslims living in Germany. Two thirds of citizens expect that refugees will significantly change Germany. 62% also fear that terrorist organizations will use the influx of refugees to smuggle in terrorists.

How will the growing concerns of the majority co-exist with the willingness to help and the ‘welcoming culture’, a term which quickly became a cliché, which dominated the bulk of media coverage for weeks? Initially, when the number of refugees was considerably lower than it is today, the overall feeling was one of compassion, and there was a great eagerness to get involved. 15% of the adult population has become involved in recent months, amounting to just under 9.5 million people.

The majority of citizens also expressed approval for taking in refugees in their immediate vicinity, and initially expressed the belief that they could deal with even more refugees there—although many added the caveat “just a few more.” Even then, the majority believed that the country was close to its limit. Only a small minority argued in favor of letting in as many refugees as Germany could possibly take.

In and of itself, public opinion was inconsistent. This became dramatically clear when people’s remarks in private conversations were examined. A few weeks ago, when the majority believed their region could still handle more refugees, most people went on record saying that a negative stance was dominant in conversations



“Container village” in Berlin-Zehlendorf, managed by the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB). In 2016, the Berlin Senate plans to build 24.000 modular dwellings for refugees at 60 different locations and infrastructure which can be used both by local residents and refugees.



Refugee hostel in Berlin-Pankow.

“Anstoß zur Begegnung:” Earlier this year, the 1. FC Union invited refugees from hostels in the Salvador-Allende-Gebiet, Berlin-Köpenick, tenants of the degewo, Berlin’s biggest housing provider, and soccer fans to a Meet

and Greet evening in the stadium “An der Alten Försterei.” Now many more of such kick-off events are needed to enable the local integration of the refugees.



with relatives, friends, and acquaintances. Now, 69% conclude from their private conversations that most people oppose the intake of more refugees; only 17% mainly encounter supporters in their conversations. This record of private conversations paints a picture contrary to the many ambivalent assertions of personal opinion, and a total contrast to those pictures from a few weeks ago portraying an enthusiastic welcome.

Recently, many have claimed that public sentiment towards this issue is in the process of shifting. This is only partly true. Instead, the facts show that many people did not initially dare to reveal their concerns outside of their circle of trusted friends. In addition, 43% of the population is now under the impression that one cannot freely voice an opinion on the refugee situation, and that one must be very careful about what one says. This impression is even more prevalent in eastern Germany, and predominates in both western and eastern Germany alike among those whose concerns about the situation are greater than average.

This unusual phenomenon of large parts of the population believing that they are not allowed to freely voice their opinions on current and serious problems is partly due to the fear of being lumped in with a group to which one neither belongs nor wants to belong. The vast majority of those concerned about the continuing influx of refugees are neither xenophobic nor members of the far right. Many people fear, however, that they will be suspected of being one or the other if they express their worries publicly.

This is even more the case given that many people believe the risks of the current developments are not adequately treated in public political discussions or in the media. Barely a third of the population feels that the media coverage on the refugee situation is balanced, while 47% think that it is biased. Of those who have deep concerns about the developments, as many as 55% believe the coverage to be one-sided. These findings are anomalous. In general, the majority of citizens think that media coverage is largely fair, whereas in this case, there is a prevailing impression of selective coverage, glossing over risks as well as critical developments and opinions.

At the same time, the population has been faced with a cross-party consensus over the past few months. With the exception of the CSU, any differences between positions that are apparent to the public are minute; but they do not address basic issues of capacity limits or political management possibilities. The debate on how many refugees the country can handle and what the political consequences will be, an issue considered by the people to be of urgency, is not being held—at least not publicly.

This political cross-party consensus is being pitted against a cross-party concern at the level of the population. Supporters of the SPD are just as concerned as those from the CDU and CSU, the FDP, and the Left Party. The only people in any way less concerned are the supporters of Alliance 90/the Greens. However, even among them, 42% are now extremely alarmed. Likewise, there is doubt among supporters of all parties that Germany can cope with the influx of people. Only one in five people are confident, while 71% are pessimistic based on the huge number of refugees and the unabated influx.

Particularly worrying is the widespread doubt across the whole population as to whether politicians have any idea at all how to contain and deal with the issues. The majority of citizens not only detect a lack of control, but they also consider the political sphere to be at a loss. 57% of citizens are convinced that Germany has lost absolutely all control over how many refugees enter the country. Likewise, many are under the impression that no politician, regardless of party affiliation, has any idea how to handle the refugee situation. One in two people believe politicians have lost their grip on reality. Approximately half of the population accuses politicians of thinking too little about the interests of the German people.

Simultaneously, the great majority is convinced that there are ways of responding to the situation actively, at least to a limited extent. 71% of people assume that the German government itself is partly responsible for the problems, for instance as a result of the excessive incentives with which Germany has increased the flow of refugees. The supporters of all the parties represented in the Bundestag agree on this for the most part. The refugee package that has just been decided upon is the first step towards winning back the people's trust in political will and capacity to act.

The overwhelming majority make a case for concentrating on refugees from war zones and rejecting the considerable number of other refugees quickly and systematically. Most people are aware that a durable stemming of the influx also depends on whether violent conflicts in the countries of origin can be kept in check, and whether the extensively unstable regions and countries can gradually and successfully be re-stabilized. All of that will not be enough to overcome the crisis, according to the majority's evaluation. The population is for the most part convinced that it simply will not work without a maximum limit. 56% demand a cap on the number of refugees that Germany is able to take in. The majority of supporters of the CDU/CSU, the SPD, the FDP and the Left Party are in favor of this. Even 41% of the Greens support the idea.³

Most people are entirely aware of the gravity of the issues and the challenges that the politicians face. They know that only some of the measures will work in the short term, and that others need a lot of staying power. However, they expect clarity on the goals of the politicians and the measures that could gradually curb this problem. Above all, they hope for signs that the politicians themselves are confident of being able to regain control over developments. ■

Prof. Dr. Renate Köcher is managing director of the **Institut für Demoskopie Allensbach (Ifd Allensbach)**.

Source: Kontrollverlust – die Besorgnis der Bürger wächst.
In: Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 21.10.2015, S. 8.
Links: <http://www.faz.net>
<http://www.ifd-allensbach.de>

Courtesy of the author. Translated from German by Sylee Gore.

Notes:

1. October 21, 2015.
2. As shown in the graph which appeared in the original article.
3. Ibid.

Neu in Essen



Nun haben auch die Radfahrer eine *Autobahn*! Im November wurde das erste Teilstück des zukünftig 100 km langen *Radschnellweges Ruhr* eröffnet: Auf einer ehemaligen Eisenbahntrasse führt es über etwa 5 km von Mülheim an der Ruhr bis nach Essen. Der ins-

gesamt 6,5 m breite RS1 (<http://www.rs1.ruhr>) besteht aus einem asphaltierten Rad- und einem Fußweg, die durch einen Schotterstreifen voneinander getrennt sind. Für 1,8 Millionen Menschen wird er einmal zehn Städte, 60 Unternehmenszentralen und

vier Universitäten miteinander verbinden und, so die Hoffnung, auch den Autoverkehr reduzieren: um 50.000 Autos/Tag.
Foto: Regionalverband Ruhr/Tom Schulte.

In memory of Pat Wood (1982–2005):
After growing for ten years, Pat's tree
bore twenty apples for the first time.

Impressum

Krupp Internship Program
for Stanford Students in Germany
Stanford in Berlin
<http://www.stanford.fu-berlin.de>
internship@stanford.fu-berlin.de
Pacelliallee 18–20, D-14195 Berlin

PHOTO CREDITS:

Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-
Stiftung (6), Cathrin Bach/Konzept und
Bild (16), Berliner Stadtreinigung (1),
degewo Berlin/ Cathrin Bach/Konzept und
Bild (1), DGAP/ Berlin Policy Journal (1),
Hans Jörg Michel/fotodrama, Deutsche
Oper am Rhein (1), Piper Verlag GmbH
(1), Regionalverband Ruhr/Tom Schulte
(1), Anna Breed (2), Katherine Buehner
(1), Lina Ibrahim (1), Wolf-Dietrich Jung-
hanns (7), Karen Kramer (1), Donny Li
(1), Lucy Wang (1).

Thank you to all donors of images and
texts.

Editing: Wolf-Dietrich Junghanns (WDJ).
Proofreading: Only Today/Sylee Gore
(English, History, 1999), Berlin
(<http://www.thisisonlytoday.com>).
Design: Sonja Hennesdorf.



Alfried Krupp von Bohlen
und Halbach-Stiftung

Mit freundlicher Unterstützung der:
Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach-Stiftung,
Essen
<http://www.krupp-stiftung.de>

