

Hilary 2021

TERMCARD

PRESIDENTS' WELCOME



Dear Members and Friends of the German Society,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a great Christmas break, and that you and your families are all safe and well.

Wherever you are this term - in Oxford, in Germany, at home or not - we have been busy preparing interesting and exciting events. Look out for our fantastic speaker line-up this term, featuring Thomas de Maizière (former Federal Minister of the Interior and former Federal Minister of Defense), Christian Lindner (leader of the FDP) and Dunja Hayali (journalist and television presenter) amongst many more. To mark the beginning of a new post-Brexit era of relations between the UK and EU, we will also be hosting a Brexit panel with the Cambridge University German Society. This is your opportunity to question some world-leading experts.



Although online, this term is not all work and no play. Our Events Officers have prepared an exciting lineup of online social events. From an Icebreaker session with the Cambridge German Society to a pub quiz and an Easter egg painting event, this term promises to be social despite COVID-19's best efforts.

Finally, Hilary term will be our committee's last term in office. Please join us at our Annual General Meeting on the 27th of February to elect the future committee. If you are interested in getting involved with the German Society, we encourage you to reach out to us and to attend our "Meet the Committee Stammtisch" on the 12th of February.

All the best,

Alaa Baazaoui

Co-President St John's College Tor Walberg Co-President Jesus College

YOUR COMMITTEE ***

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SPEAKERS 🚣

As always, we have invited speakers from various backgrounds to facilitate insightful and engaging conversations about topics that matter. Moreover, we will continue to receive confirmations from speakers throughout the term, so make sure to <u>follow our newsletter</u> to keep up to date with all of our exciting events.

The committee is always looking for ideas on whom to invite, so if you have any ideas, please pass them on to the committee, and we will try to organise an event!

Christian Lindner – Leader of the FDP



Christian Lindner is a German politician and leader of the Free Democratic Party (FDP). In the past, he has been in both the state parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia and the Bundestag, where he is also currently serving as head of the FDP parliamentary group. He has gained national attention for holding coalition negotiations with the CDU and the Greens (also known as the "Jamaika-Koalition") In this speaker event, we will discuss the current state of liberalism in Europe and how the values of the West are currently under pressure.

The interview and Q&A session will be conducted in **German**.

Wednesday of Week 1 | 20 January | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (GMT) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Dr Thomas de Maizière – German Politician (CDU)



Dr Thomas de Maizière is a German politician and has, amongst many other governmental positions, served as Federal Minister of the Interior (twice) and as Federal Minister of Defense. Currently, he is co-chair of a committee seeking to strengthen the NATO alliance. He was also part of the committee overseeing preparations for the 30th anniversary of German reunification; a reunification that he helped to shape as a member of the West German negotiation team. In this interview, we will talk about his illustrious political career, some of the current problems facing German politics, as well as the changes which have occurred in the German political scene over the past few decades.

The interview and Q&A session will be conducted in German.

Wednesday of Week 2 | 27 January | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (GMT) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Dunja Hayali – Journalist and Television Presenter



Dunja Hayali is a German journalist and television presenter. She hosts the "ZDF-Morgenmagazin" and another show called "Dunja Hayali" as well as various other programs. In the past, she has interviewed leaders such as Angela Merkel and the Austrian chancellor Sebastian Kurz. Over the course of her career, she has stood out through her commitment to tackle racism and xenophopia whilst encouraging open dialogue. This interview will centre around key questions, such as when to restrict access to public platforms and the media as has recently been the case in the United States. We will also touch on how German media talked about COVID-19 and the way in which scientific discussion was translated into newspaper headlines.

The interview and Q&A will be conducted in **German**.

Date and Time TBC | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Prof Reinhard Genzel – Astrophysicist and Academic



Prof Reinhard Genzel is a German astrophysicist and co-director of the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics where he heads the Galactic Center Group. He is also a well-known and accomplished academic, as a professor at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich and an emeritus professor at UC Berkeley. In 2020, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics together with Andrea Ghez and Roger Penrose for their "discovery of a supermassive compact object at the centre of our galaxy", which only added to his illustrious list of prizes. We will talk about his work as an astrophysicist, which eventually led him to make his Nobel-prize-winning discovery as well as what discoveries remain to be made in the future.

The interview and Q&A will be conducted in English.

Tuesday of Week 6 | 23 February | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (GMT) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Aminata Touré – MP at Schleswig-Holstein's State Parliament



Aminata Touré is a German politician and vice-president of Schleswig-Holstein's state parliament, where she has been serving as an MP since 2017. This makes her not only the first Afro-German vice president of a state parliament, but also the youngest. She studied political science in Kiel and Madrid. She is the Green's speaker for migration, women and inequality, children and youth, LGBT issues, and anti-racism. She has gained prominence by promoting a campaign to remove the word 'race' from the German "Grundgesetz". In this interview, we will discuss, in addition to the aforementioned topics, the importance of representation and her commitment to encouraging more people to engage in politics.

The interview and Q&A will be conducted in German.

Thursday of Week 7 | 4 March | 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm (GMT) | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

Brexit Panel





In Cooperation with the Cambridge University German Society



With many of the long-term consequences of Brexit still unforeseen and many of the short-term consequences unfolding, it is a topic which will be with us for the foreseeable future. In this panel co-hosted with the Cambridge University German Society, we will explore these consequences. Stay tuned for an array of speakers - politicians, experts and commentators, who will offer their opinions on the future relations between the UK and EU.

The panel will be conducted in **English**.

Date and Time TBC | Online (link will be sent out closer to the date)

All our speaker events are free to attend for members and non-members.

Exact times may change due to logistical reasons, so make sure to <u>subscribe to our newsletter</u>, like our <u>Facebook page</u>, and follow us on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Twitter</u> to always get the latest information.

CAREER EVENTS 🚔

German Diplomacy Career Event



Are you interested in a career at the German Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt)? Then keep your eyes peeled! Together with the Akademie Auswärtiger Dienst, we are organising an event for those of you who would like to know more about a career in German diplomacy. This event will provide you with information about the

recruiting process and you will have the opportunity ask your questions to experts in the field. More information will follow in the next weeks, so stay tuned.

Date and Time TBC | Online

German Society Research Symposium 2021



We are very pleased to announce the launch of our first inaugural German Society Research Symposium in Hilary Term, a unique opportunity for students of the German Society to share their academic research with our community in an informal environment. This event promises to be a great opportunity for students across degrees and departments to present their work, receive feedback, and learn more about our students' interdisciplinary research in Oxford. There will be prizes

for participants. Look out for more information in our weekly newsletters.

Week 8 | Exact Date and Time TBC | Online

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS



If you have enjoyed our socials and speaker events, and you are keen to get involved in running our society, then your time has finally come: Every Hilary, a new committee is elected! Attend the events below to ask questions and get involved.

Meet the Committee Stammtisch



Are you interested in getting involved in the committee next year? Feel free to join us for an informal session to find out how to get involved, what roles are available and listen to our personal experiences as part of the German Society committee.

Friday of Week 4 | 12 February | 7.00 pm (GMT) | Online

Annual General Meeting



Elections for the new committee of the Oxford German Society will take place during our Annual General Meeting on Saturday of Week 6 (February 27th). Please note that everybody who is interested in running for a position is encouraged to submit a short introduction at least one week before the election. If you are interested in joining the committee, do come to our Meet The Committee Stammtisch to learn more about each role and how the

society is run. More information on the election procedures will be circulated in due course.

Saturday of Week 6 | 27 February | 3.00 pm (GMT) | Online

Further information may be found in the Election guide on our website.

SOCIALS 👼

Oxbridge Social



While we might not be able to pay our beloved rivals in Cambridge a visit this term, there is nothing stopping us from meeting them virtually. This Icebreaker session will be held in a speed-dating format, matching one student from each university per round – so join to meet old friends and make new ones.

Monday of Week 2 | 25 January | 6.30 (GMT) | Icebreaker

Pub Quiz



By now, some of us will probably have forgotten what a "pub" looks like, but rest assured, we still know how to do a good old quiz. Join us for a few rounds of tricky questions about Oxford, Germany and the world. The winning team will get a voucher for drinks and food at an actual pub!

Friday of Week 3 | 5 February | 7.30 pm (GMT) | Online

Games Night



To distract you from your essays/problem sheets/research, we are hosting a virtual games night. Using different breakout rooms we will play a selection of party favourites, including "Among Us", which is similar to the German classic "Werwolf".

Friday of Week 6 | 26 February | 7.00 pm (GMT) | Online

Painting Easter Eggs



Easter might not be around the corner yet, but that shouldn't stop us from painting Easter Eggs just like we used to as children. We can supply those of you in Oxford with painting equipment and meet the rest of you on Zoom.

Thursday of Week 8 | 11 March | 6.00 pm (GMT) | Online

We might organise more events as the term proceeds, so make sure to <u>subscribe to our newsletter</u>, like our <u>Facebook page</u>, and follow us on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Twitter</u> to always get the latest information.

LANGUAGE CLASSES ♣₹

We are very happy to be able to offer free German language classes for our members. The classes are open for all those interested in picking up the German language or brushing up their skills from school. Beginners, intermediate, and advanced learners are all welcome!

In light of the current social distancing guidelines, we will be offering classes online:

Beginner Class (taught by Patrick Wittum)

Saturdays of Term | 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm (GMT) | Microsoft Teams

Intermediate Class, Group One (taught by Sarah Fengler)

Saturdays of Term | 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm (GMT) | Microsoft Teams

Intermediate Class, Group Two (taught by Anna Weber)

Sundays of Term | 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm (GMT) | Microsoft Teams

Advanced Class, Group One (taught by Désirée Meyerding)

Saturdays of Term | 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm (GMT) | Microsoft Teams

Advanced Class, Group Two (taught by Björn Vahsen)

Sundays of Term | 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm (GMT) | Microsoft Teams

Due to unprecedented demand, the beginner class and both advanced classes have reached capacity. Spaces in the intermediate class are highly limited. If you would like to participate, please email language@oxford-germansoc.co.uk and we'll assign you a space or put you on our waiting list.

For more information, <u>subscribe to our newsletter</u>, like our <u>Facebook page</u>, follow us on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>, or <u>email our language officer</u>.

OUR SPONSORS 💖

Our sponsors provide the financial support that enables us to invite our speakers and put on all our events. They also organise career events in cooperation with the Oxford University German Society. All important information regarding the events will be provided by <a href="mailto:ema







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JOIN THE SOCIETY! ___

Become a member of Oxford's central hub for German culture and language! We seek to entertain and bring together all those interested in Germany, including learners of the German language and students from German-speaking countries. Membership will give you free entry to most of our events as well as access to a unique network of students who share your interest in Germany. After your graduation, you will be designated a "friend of the society", keeping your right to attend all Stammtische, events, and talks.

You can become a member at one of our events or join online on our website.



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