

Dear scholars, alumni, friends, and partners of
KAAD,

The painful loss of our President still overshadows our work and we do not want to miss out on commemorating Prof. Eberhard Schockenhoff with an exclusive newsletter. This should also be understood as a response to your many messages of condolence. The following text continues our obituary both on the homepage and in the newspaper FAZ of 25th July.

Despite the restrictions caused by the pandemic, KAAD has tried over the last months to continue its educational programme, partly online and partly as events in attendance (see the reports on the homepage and the preview of our topics in 2021). Our traditional pilgrimage to Rome also took place at the end of August. All of this was much appreciated by our scholarship holders, especially with regard to spiritual guidance in difficult times. Despite restrictions on international air traffic, a number of new scholarship holders also arrived for the language course in Bonn and for the coming winter semester. Hence, we will hopefully be able to hold a larger welcoming event in Bonn at the end of October.

On behalf of the staff of KAAD,



Dr. Hermann Weber
Secretary General



KAAD-Annual Jubilee Convention 2018: f.l.t.r.:
Prof. Dr. Hünemann, Prof. Dr. Schockenhoff, Archbishop
Schick (Bamberg), Cardinal Turkson, Prelate Dr. Krämer

In Commemoration of Eberhard Schockenhoff, the late President of KAAD

On 18th July 2020, Professor Dr. Eberhard Schockenhoff died after suffering a serious accident in his rectory in Sölden, near Freiburg. Together with the worldwide KAAD community, we mourn the death of our President. Since October 2016, from the top of our organisation he actively supported our work enriching it with his ideas. He looked forward to joining us for a second term starting next year. Together with the German Catholic Church and the community of theologians, KAAD loses an outstanding intellectual who approached our scholarship holders open-heartedly. As late as in March 2020, only days before the lockdown, his sharp contributions enriched the international KAAD



International KAAD Convention on
the Philippines, Nov. 2018
(reception at the Jesuit University)

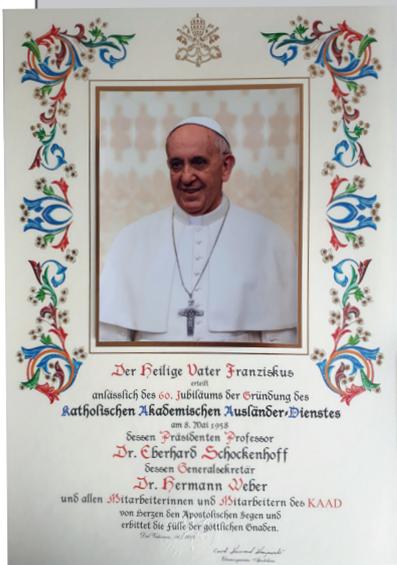
convention in Lima, Peru. The highlight of his time in office was the 60th anniversary of KAAD in 2018, which he shaped at the central events in Bonn, Berlin, and Manila.

Schockenhoff was an enthusiastic and inspiring academic lecturer and his work covers the entire range of Catholic moral theology, most recently his comprehensive essay on peace ethics ("No end to violence?"). Born in Stuttgart in 1953, he studied theology in Tübingen and Rome where he was ordained a priest in 1978. He worked together with Alfons Auer and Walter Kasper and after holding a professorship in Regensburg, he accepted the chair of Moral Theology at the University of Freiburg in 1994. From 2001 to 2006, he was a member and since 2008 also Deputy Chairman of the German Ethics Council.

In his letter of appointment as President of KAAD, Cardinal Marx stressed in the name of the German Bishops' Conference "we consider KAAD to be of great importance for its successful support of young researchers and academics from many different churches worldwide." In the almost four years of his now tragically ended term of office, Eberhard Schockenhoff has done an outstanding job of meeting the diverse demands of the KAAD community. Already in the first Annual Convention, led by him in April 2017, he gave a comprehensive, interdisciplinary impulse on reflexions of development in the worldwide KAAD community. His speech was entitled "**Peace Research and Peace Ethics as an Interdisciplinary Task**". Schockenhoff's vision of KAAD was again summarised in his article "**Local Elites Instead of Development Aid Workers**",

published in the March issue of the Catholic magazine Herder Korrespondenz 2019.

In the eventful year of 2018 (60 years of KAAD), he received the certificate of blessing of the Holy Father Francis on behalf of the entire KAAD office. He summarised central peace-ethical reflections in a **contribution to the "Festschrift"** on the occasion of the 60th birthday of



KAAD Secretary General Hermann Weber (2019).

The response of the media to the tragic death of the much appreciated and popular moral theologian was considerable. Messages of condolence from Germany and abroad were sent directly to KAAD, among them the Rector of the Catholic University in Lima (PUCP), Carlos Garatea Grau, the President of the Central Committee of German Catholics (ZdK), Prof. Sternberg, the Managing Director of AGIAMONDO, Dr. Lücking-Michel and the Secretary General of the Cusanuswerk, Dr. Scheidtweiler, as well as from members of our academic council and former staff members. In his letter of condolence to the family of the deceased, Secretary General Dr. Hermann Weber wrote:

"As the spontaneous comments of many scholarship-holders and alumni show, in particular from Latin America, Eberhard Schockenhoff was a true witness of faith and central academic figure whose ideas enriched the worldwide KAAD community. He was a much-appreciated partner for conversation who always showed a cordial hospitality. [...] He joined us on a number of trips abroad,

such as to Beirut, Porto Alegre, Manila and as late as in March 2020, to Lima, which also opened up new horizons for him. The reception at his rectory on the occasion of an office outing in 2018 will remain unforgettable."

On 3rd August, a commemorative church service for the large KAAD scholarshipholder group took place in the KSG Berlin. P. Thomas Eggensperger OP, one of KAAD's spiritual counsellors, held a short **funeral oration**.

The following messages of condolence (see also the comments on our facebook page) shall close the obituary:

"We the KAAD African scholars, [...] received the news of his untimely death with shock and great sorrow. Many of us vividly remember Prof. Dr. Schockenhoff from our interactions with him during the annual events of the Jahresakademie. We remember his last communication to us in April when he sent us Easter greetings and a message of encouragement at the onset of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. As African scholars, we are particularly grateful for his love for Africa and the contribution he made to the continent through KAAD. We had looked forward to welcoming him this year at the KASEA seminar in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and the KAAD conference in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Prof. Dr. Schockenhoff served KAAD and the Church with dedication and unmatched faithfulness. We are grateful for having met and known him. We join the KAAD family and the German Catholic Church in celebrating a life well-lived and in bidding farewell to a gallant servant of God, a great scholar and a selfless soul. May God grant consolation to the KAAD community and the German Catholic Church."

"KAAD-AKAP has fond memories of him leading the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of KAAD in Tagaytay City in the Philippines in November 2018. Requiescat in Pace!" -Theo San Luis, on behalf of the Association of KAAD Alumni in the Philippines (AKAP).



Excursion as part of the International Convention in Beirut (2017)

"We thank God for his life and work and hope that his family and the entire KAAD community will find the needed strength and comfort." – Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, **Palestine**, Member of the Partner Committee.



Discussion at the Annual Convention of 2019 after the lecture of Prof. Dr. Markus Vogt

"I will always remember his authentic joy and passion for a modern testimony, exploration and proclamation of the faith. I met him even before I became a KAAD scholar while studying in Freiburg. He was one of the few professors who regularly had lunch in the canteen. I attended several of his lectures and as guest student also his lecture on moral theology. I fondly remember his masses in Freiburger Münster." - Ignacio Garcia, Alumnus **Mexico**.

"The very good and inspiring conversations I had with him during the conference in Lima (2020) have remained vividly in my memory. We have lost an excellent, analytically sharp thinking and at the same time visionary moral theologian and priest, who stood out due to his



International Convention in Porto Alegre (Brazil) in 2018 with Archbishop Jaime Spengler (2. f.l.)

deep humanity and his authentic faith. May he now experience the fulfillment of his life in God, and may faith in the resurrection be a source of comfort to us."

- Dr. Birgit Weiler SCMM, Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya, Lima, **Peru**.

"He will always be remembered as a brilliant and talented academic, a deeply convinced humanist. We feel privileged and grateful that we were able to share with him the experiences of the KAAD seminar in Lima. Jointly with his family and the KAAD community, we, the Ecuadorian Association of Catholic Alumni in Germany (AEBCA), remember him in our prayers. May he rest in peace!" - Oswaldo Mata Mera, President of the Alumni Association AEBCA, **Ecuador**.

"Without doubt, his very friendly, clear and active character was striking. In prayer, we feel deeply bonded with the KAAD community and the Catholic Church in Germany. May he continue to be an inspiration to us so that we may follow his example and make our contribution wherever we are." - Víctor Francisco Casallo Mesias, Alumnus **Peru**.

"May he rest in peace. His legacy will continue, especially through what has been sown in so many people thanks to the work of KAAD". - Fr. Luis Ferney López Jiménez, member of the Partner Committee in **Colombia**.



Prof. Dr. Eberhard Schockenhoff with Cardinal Barreto, Lima (Peru) March 2020