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Dear scholarship holders,
dear alumni,
dear partners and friends of KAAD,

At the beginning of the academic year, we want to provide you with some insights into the manifold activities of KAAD at home and abroad.

Please enjoy reading!

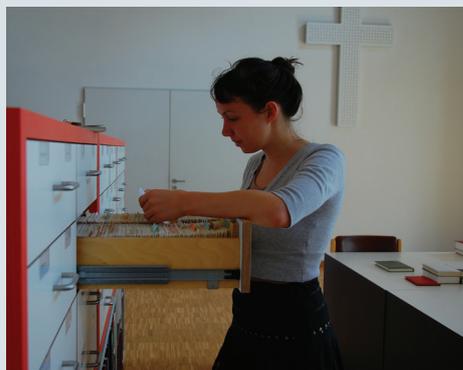
Your KAAD Team



NEW HOMEPAGE

The new homepage of KAAD went online in early summer. Here, we intend to present different substantial and regional focal points of our work to an interested public. We also want to inform you about the various events and personalities in the worldwide KAAD network. The English version of the homepage will be online by the end of the year.

More at www.kaad.de



SPECIAL SUPPORT UKRAINE

Since spring, KAAD has been providing scholarships for study and research projects in Germany to students and academics from Ukraine affected by the war at short notice. In addition, following the policy of the Federal Government, students from Belarus and Russia who are already in Germany can also apply.

EDUCATIONAL AND NETWORKING EVENTS

Annual Convention

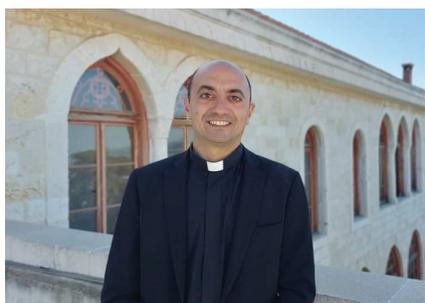
After last year's Annual Convention had to be moved to the virtual space, this year it took place in Bonn on the topic "Synodal Church – Global Church Perspectives" with 200 participants from fifty countries. The aim of the 35th KAAD Annual Convention was to discuss the inner-German church reform discourse applying a perspective of the Global Church and to illuminate similar debates in other parts of the church in the world. In doing so, the complexity and polyphony of the Global Church spectrum became obvious.



Alongside the discussion of the topic, the farewell of four long-standing members of our Academic Committee, Professor em. Dr. Heinz Neuser, Professor em. Dr. Christian Hannick, Professor em. Dr. Gerhard Maas, and Professor Dr. Hans-Joachim Lauth, as well as the appreciation of our former General Secretary Dr. Hermann Weber in a ceremonial act - with a further 350 participants in the live stream – were the main focus.

Another highlight was the awarding of the "Peter Hünemann-Award" of the KAAD Foundation Peter Hünemann for the years 2021 and 2022. Dr. Constansia Atieno Mumma-Martinon from Kenya, who works as a researcher and lecturer in the field of Peace and Conflict studies – an area that is central to KAAD as a global community – received the award for 2021.

The prize for the year 2022 was awarded to our partner committee in Lebanon, consisting of Professor Dr. Dr. Souad Slim, Professor Dr. Roula Talhouk, Reverend Professor Dr. Jules Boutrous and Professor Dr. Ziad Fahed. Educating people and bringing people of different faiths together, in short: training change agents for the Lebanon of the future is their aim. They were honoured for this work.



Another honour followed a short time later: In May, Pope Francis gave his approval to the election made by the Synod of Bishops of the Syrian Patriarchate of Antioch of Rev. Jules Boutros as Bishop of the Patriarchal Curia

His episcopal consecration by Patriarch Ignatius Joseph III. Younan took place in the Syrian Catholic Church of Mary in Harissa on 22 June 2022.

International Conference 2022 in Zimbabwe



Once a year, KAAD organises an international conference in one of our five world regions. From 21 to 24 July 2022, KAAD in cooperation with Arrupe Jesuit University in Harare, Zimbabwe, finally held the academy, which had been postponed since 2020 due to the pandemic. The conference was attended by 85 scholarship holders, alumni, and partners from more than ten African countries as well as from Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. Also the President of KAAD, Fr. Dr. Hans Langendörfer SJ, as well as the Head and the Assistant of the Africa Department, Dr. Marko Kuhn and Fernanda Hulverscheidt-Fagundes, were present. The conference had set as its theme the contextualization of the Catholic social doctrine in Africa. It aimed to create an understanding of the specific situation in African societies concerning social justice and the distribution of wealth, including the fight against oppression, subsidiarity, and the role of the state. In addition to the academic part of the programme with lectures and workshops, the participants met with representatives of different organisations and institutions during visits to various locations in Harare to discuss the role of the churches in the areas of education, civil society, justice and peace, option for the poor and modern communication.

Katholikentag 2022 in Stuttgart

The 102nd Katholikentag, which took place in Stuttgart from 25 to 29 May 2022 under the motto "Sharing Life", was also a place for KAAD to present itself and its networks, cultivate and establish contacts and discuss various topics. The KAAD was present with a group of 46 people. In addition to 38 scholarship holders, the group included staff as well as Professor Dr. Ulrich Engel, the KAAD President Fr. Dr. Hans Langendörfer SJ, and the Secretary General. Together, the group ran a stand on the Church Mile and organised two very well attended public panels on the topic of "The Synodal Way from the Perspective of the Global Church" as well as a seminar on "The Woman be Silent in the Parish: Between St. Paul and Mary 2.0" for the KAAD scholars participating in the Katholikentag. As part of this seminar, scholarship holders visited thematically appropriate events of the Katholikentag and conducted internal discussions and



reflection rounds. The five days were filled with enriching, sometimes also controversial discussions, inspiring encounters, and of course, common prayers. Finally, the group met for a brief exchange of views with Cardinal Turkson, who has been associated with KAAD for many years. The Katholikentag presented to the international students a young and lively German Church - a somewhat surprising experience for some.

KAAD at the Annual Conference of the Cusanuswerk

This year, the annual conference of the Cusanuswerk with around 800 participants took place in Baarlo/ Venlo, the Netherlands from 10 to 12 June 2022, in cooperation with KAAD. It addressed questions of the future prospects of the Catholic Church worldwide. The focus was on the Catholic Church in Africa, which, with its growth and its cultural dynamics, is increasingly shaping the Global Church. Thus, 25 KAAD scholarship holders – due to the topic mainly from African countries, but also from Palestine, Egypt, Colombia, Armenia, Lithuania, Bangladesh, Myanmar, and Indonesia – as well as the President, the Secretary General, and the Head of the Africa Department of KAAD took part. As was the case at the KAAD Annual Convention in April, which was in return attended by Cusanuswerk scholars, there were important points of contact in the thematic discussion: the Synodal Way, which the Catholic Church in Germany is following and the World Synod of Bishops, which is currently being prepared with the participation of the faithful all over the world.



Other Events

In addition to these events, there have been numerous other seminars, conferences, and meetings at home and abroad. In 2022 regularly scheduled educational events, e.g. on the topics "The European Union and Eastern Europe - Between Hope and Disillusionment", "Space and Sustainability: On the Compatibility of Space Research and Social-Ecological Transformation" or "Rhetorics of Alienation. Contemporary Processes of Interreligious Coexistence in Asia", took place. In addition, the Spiritual Days and Alumni Conferences in Armenia, Georgia, Poland, and Tanzania were hosted. Local meetings have been organised so far this year in Heidelberg, Frankfurt, and Stuttgart. Also, the expert groups have already met. Further trips are planned, among others, to Guatemala, Colombia, Jordan, South-East Asia, and South-East Europe. More information about the trips and events can be found on our homepage (and in the coming year in our Annual Report 2022).

EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION

The KAAD's educational events for the coming year are determined annually in the summer by the Educational Commission, which consists of elected representatives of the scholarship holders. They have previously agreed on topics and set priorities with their respective regional groups. In June of this year, the 27-member KAAD Educational Commission – consisting of 15 delegates of the scholarship holders, the KAAD management, ten staff members, and the two spiritual advisors – met and discussed the KAAD's educational programme for the year 2023.

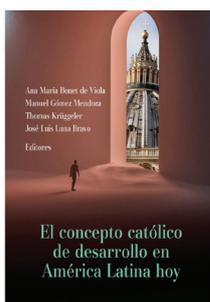


Read more on our homepage.

PUBLICATIONS



This spring, the 200 pages counting KAAD Annual Report was published in a slightly different form. It contains all the important information on KAAD's work and networks and is available on our homepage or can be ordered at zentrale@kaad.de.



Also in spring, the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP) published the book "El concepto católico de desarrollo en América Latina hoy" (The Catholic Concept of Development in Latin America Today). This publication brings together works by international experts and alumni of the Latin American expert group on Peace and Justice. It was originally produced within the framework of the KAAD International Conference 2020 in Lima. Worth to be mentioned are the contributions of the Munich social ethicist Professor Dr. Markus Vogt and Pedro Ricardo Cardinal Barreto Jimeno SJ, Archbishop of Huancayo (Peru). The book project is the result of a well-established cooperation between the PUCP and KAAD.



To honour the former KAAD Secretary General Dr. Hermann Weber, the KAAD has published a selection of Weber's published and non-published texts from his time as Secretary General under the title "Weltkirche im akademischen Raum. Das Wirken Hermann Webers im KAAD anhand einer Textauswahl aus drei Jahrzehnten" ("Global Church in the academic field. Hermann Weber's work at KAAD based on a selection of texts from three decades") and ceremoniously presented to him at this year's Annual Convention. The texts deal with questions of international educational migration in the field of encounter between church and university, including the emergence of transnational networks, the European Higher Education Area, and the history of KAAD.

CHANGE IN PERSONNEL

Changes in Board and General Assembly of KAAD



Burkhard Haneke

At the end of his term of office as Managing Director of Renovabis Solidarity Initiative, Burkhard Haneke also resigned from the Board and the General Assembly of KAAD e. V. in May 2022. He had been serving in both bodies with great commitment and Global Church expertise since 2019. He accompanied as Vice-Chairman the change of leadership of KAAD after the sudden death of KAAD President Professor Dr. Eberhard Schockenhoff in 2020 and the retirement of the long-standing KAAD Secretary General Dr. Hermann Weber in 2021.



Pfarrer Prof. Dr. Thomas Schwartz
Foto: Dieter Mayr/KNA

Reverend Professor Dr. Thomas Schwartz was elected as his successor as Vice-Chairman in May 2022, and also became a new member of the General Assembly. Thomas Schwartz has been the Managing Director of Renovabis since September 2021. Prior to that, he was a professor of business ethics at the University of Augsburg, where he had already worked as a university chaplain in earlier years. Schwartz, who received his doctorate under Eberhart Schockenhoff, is also a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts.



Prof. Dr. Simone Paganini

There have also been changes and new appointments at the level of liaison lecturers. In Aachen, Professor Dr. Simone Paganini followed Professor Dr. Patrick Becker, who had received a call to Erfurt. Simone Paganini has been a professor of Biblical Theology at RWTH Aachen since 2013. He has focused his research on new methods of technology-supported academic content (blended learning, gamification, flipped classroom, virtual reality) and is co-founder of the Centre for Human-Animal Studies in Aachen.



Prof. Dr. Tanja A. Börzel

A new liaison lecturer has also been recruited for Berlin: Professor Dr. Tanja A. Börzel is a professor of Political Science and heads the European Integration Unit at the Otto Suhr Institute of Political Science at the Free University of Berlin. She is the spokesperson of the Cluster of Excellence "Contestations of the Liberal Script". She follows Professor Dr. Bernhard Grimm (Biology, Humboldt University), who filled this office with commitment for eight years.

Changes in the KAAD Office



Dr. Anselm Feldmann

Just in time for the Annual Convention end of April and after a very short vacancy, Dr. Anselm Feldmann was appointed as the new Head of the Asia Department. Anselm Feldmann studied Social Work at the University of Applied Sciences Munich. He received a MA in Sustainable Development from Chiang Mai University, Thailand and a doctorate in International Development from the University of Birmingham, UK, with a focus on transnational social movements, transcultural competence, and social space. After teaching in the United Kingdom, Thailand and Myanmar, he now brings his expertise to KAAD. The position of head of the department became vacant at the end of March when PD Dr. Esther-Maria Guggenmos had been appointed to a professorship for Religious Studies at the University of Lund, Sweden. She remains connected to our network through the expert group Religion in Dialogue.



Nils Fischer

On 1 June, Nils Fischer took over as Head of the Middle East Department. Nils Fischer studied Philosophy, Islamic Studies, Arabic Studies, and Iranian Studies in Bonn, Tehran, and Damascus. Afterwards, he worked at the Institute for Science and Ethics at the University of Bonn, at the Humboldt University in Berlin, and, most recently, at the Vinzenz Pallotti University in Vallendar (formerly Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Vallendar). His thematic focus is on health and ethics with a focus on North Africa, the Middle East, as well as on interculturality, inter-religiousness, and diversity. His predecessor Dr. Christoph Schwarz moved to the University of Innsbruck in January 2022.

Since 01 July 2022, the office team has been enriched by Jessika Braun. She has taken over the secretariat of the Africa Department. Jessika Braun is a travel agent and has worked for the International Paralympic Committee for the past 14 years. Since the end of July, KAAD is also pleased to have been reinforced by the internationally experienced Sandra Stiel, who has taken over the secretariat of the Eastern Europe Department.



Jessika Braun



Sandra Stiel

OBITUARY

KAAD mourns the death of Stephanus Mulyadi, the first recipient of the Peter Hünemann Award (2012). Stephanus Mulyadi came from Sejiram, which is in West Kalimantan, Borneo, Indonesia. As a scholarship holder of KAAD, he completed a Master's degree in Adult Education at the TU Dresden from 2006 to 2008. After studying Theology and subsequently working for the Catholic social organisation Yayasan Sosial Bina Sejahtera (YSBS) and a youth centre, the then almost forty-year-old left to study in Germany. And what he took with him from Germany about adult education was a major influence on his work after his return. Stephanus Mulyadi was a social multiplier and inter-religious dialogue was natural for him. He loved to be among people, listening to them and organising concrete aid projects. He passed away completely unexpectedly at the beginning of March 2022 at the age of only 55. His personality and his work will continue to shape our KAAD network.

A detailed obituary can be found on our homepage.

