English Abstract

1. A short presentation

The Catholic Academic Exchange Service (KAAD) is the scholarship institution of the German Catholic Church for post-graduate students and scientists from (developing) countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Middle East, as well as Eastern and South Eastern Europe. The KAAD supports its scholars in form of scholarships and educational programs and offers spiritual and personal assistance in view of future multiplying functions students will have in their home countries. This is based on cooperation with partner committees and associations of alumni in those countries and it aims at setting up (scientific) networks and at contributing to a holistic development, which includes religious and inter-religious dimensions.

History and legal form

During the 1950s, when German Catholics opened themselves increasingly toward questions and concerns of the Global Church, particularly organizations of Catholic lay people recognized the opportunities that could develop in this area through a dialogue with international students in Germany. In this context, KAAD developed out of an initiative at the Catholic Convention (Katholikentag) in Fulda in 1954. Four years later it was formally registered in Bonn as a non-profit association.

Since its foundation in 1958, KAAD has been able to support more than 10,000 individuals. A look back into history reveals that KAAD is a unique institution in the Catholic world, due to its volume and strategic focus on lay people from developing countries and Eastern Europe.

In its General Assembly the directors of the large church-sponsored relief organizations cooperate with representatives of the dioceses and of Catholic university chaplaincies. A President heads the institution and the Academic Council, the body that selects scholarship holders, and which is composed of internationally distinguished university professors. KAAD acts as a clearing institution of the German Bishop’s Conference for all matters concerning foreign students and scientists in Germany.
2. Overview

The first year after the eventful 60th anniversary of KAAD was characterized by reviewing and deepening the impulses of 2018, not least in an Annual Convention which once again focused on the concept of development (cf. chap. 3.3), and in the events abroad, in which the professional and church-related networking of the worldwide KAAD community was intensified, also as a consequence of our „Conference on Future Issues“ at Manila in 2018 (cf. chap. 2 and 3.5). Supervisory committees and external scientists had attested KAAD an „exemplary good result“ (according to the General Assembly 2019) and structural effects of its work in the partner regions. Cardinal Turkson even characterized it as „a unique instrument of ‘communio’ in our Global Catholic Church“.

In the year under review, the German Bishops’ Conference has thus once again taken into consideration the importance of KAAD and acknowledged it (in Commission VIII headed by Cardinal Woelki in October, in the Permanent Council of the German Bishops’ Conference, DBK, in November). Through the promotion of personalities and networking, KAAD, as an international scholarship organization of German Catholics, is not only part of the development budget of Church and State. A promotion understood as „holistic“ has obviously also proved its worth in the way the scholars, as „elites of service and responsibility“, help to shape development processes and thereby use and create leeway for people to develop.

The aid effectiveness of our support is seen in our scholars’ successful reintegration, their multiplier effects and their networking. The authoritative publication “Wissenschaft weltoffen 2019” lists KAAD in 5th place concerning the support of foreign visiting scholars, as the most important of the smaller German scholarship organizations. By now our community consists of 50 partner committees and 34 alumni associations. This is the best proof that our approach of promoting individuals through scholarships and pastoral assistance actually leads to long-lasting community- and institution-building.

2019 in brief: events, numbers, committees

From April 25th-28th, 2019, the Annual Convention with the topic "'Development': Concept and Practice" hosted 206 scholars and 71 guests from 47 countries in Bonn (cf. chap. 3.3). Among the numerous events held in our partner countries, the International Seminars in Indonesia and Ethiopia as well as an Expert Group’s Conference in North Macedonia were particu-
larly important (see chap. 3.5; further alumni seminars are presented in the reports for each continent). A planned International Convention in Peru has been postponed until 2020.

During the year under review the educational program of KAAD in Germany and abroad comprised 62 events with 1,797 participants (for further details, see chap. 3 and the overview under chap. 6.5).

Chapter 2 reports in detail on the activities of the five continental departments, their strategic considerations and focal points as well as visits to partner countries during the year under review. In 2019, KAAD-representatives visited a total of 14 focus and partner countries.

Publication activity has also expanded online since 2016 through a relaunch of our homepage and the creation of a Facebook Page. In addition to documenting our work, there were publications by alumni in Africa, Latin America, Middle East and Eastern Europe via their own magazines or scientific editions. In this respect, 2019 was particularly extensive, also as a review of the KAAD anniversary (see, in more detail, chap. 4).

In 2019, KAAD was able to sponsor a total of 463 scholars (previous year: 470): among these, 290 individuals in Scholarship Program 1 (288), 103 in Scholarship Program 2 (108) and 70 in the Eastern Europe Program (74). The Office in Bonn directly received 4,701 first application requests (5,543) (for more facts and numbers, see chap. 5.1 and 6).

In the reporting year, the total budget of about 5 million Euros was still financed half (50%) by Church taxes (VDD - Association of German Dioceses). 2019 was, however, the sixth and last year in a row of cost-cutting measures, which last until 2020 and which were thus prematurely terminated in agreement with VDD. Significantly, and more increasingly, Misereor/the KZE, the Federal Foreign Office, and Renovabis contributed to the budget (cf. chap. 1.3). Although not very high in quantitative terms, third-party funds from universities and dioceses, via cooperative relationships, are an important additional pillar of our work (in 2019 even 7%); added to this are other revenues, most of which originate from repayments of student loans (cf. the overviews in chap. 6.3). Now in existence for ten years, our Foundation has also made a significant contribution (cf. chap. 1.5).

At their annual meeting on May 8th, 2019 (the „birthday“ of KAAD 61 years ago) and in addition to the regular budget issues, the General Assembly and the Board of Directors of the registered association KAAD once again reviewed the anniversary year 2018 and above all acknowledged the deepening of our international network and the effectiveness of our support work, as
impressively documented by a scientific study of two migration experts commissioned by the German Bishops’ Conference (cf. Annual Report 2018, pp. 98 f. and 108), and discussed strategic consequences of this. A new Board of Directors was also elected (please see below chap. 1.2). In the General Assembly, the directors of the major Catholic relief organizations work together with representatives of the dioceses, religious orders, and university pastoral care; the episcopal representative is auxiliary bishop Wilfried Theising (Münster/Vechta). On December 19th, a second meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors took place in Stuttgart with the aim to exchange views on medium-term strategic orientations.

The *Academic Council*, staffed by distinguished scientists of different academic disciplines and two Church representatives, meets twice a year. 373 applications had to be decided on by these voluntary experts in 2019, whereby for each new (third-party funded) project also new criteria had to be developed. For information on a personnel-related change please see chap. 1.2.

At 27 universities, KAAD *liaison lecturers* were active in the year under review (change of personnel in Cologne; at the end of the year, also Prof. Hoping, the deserving liaison lecturer in Freiburg resigned from his function). Through invitations to groups of scholars and conflict mediation, they provide, among other things, an important service that complements the work of the local university chaplaincy and also contributes to the new forms of diocesan encounters of scholarship holders (cf. chap. 3.4). Within the framework of the Annual Convention in Bonn they meet to share their experience.

*(Cf. the lists of committee members, liaison lecturers and staff members of the Bonn Office in the appendix.)*

**Change in personnel**

With the end of his term of office at Missio Aachen, *Prelate Dr. Klaus Krämer* also resigned as Chairman of KAAD e.V. on July 31st. For eight years Prelate Krämer was a committed Chairman and successfully promoted KAAD, in particular in the painful cost-cutting discussions of 2013, which still set limits to our work today. His extensive experience relating to the Global Church together with his connection to the academic and scientific field were a great asset to the association. As his successor was elected *Canon Dr. Heinz Detlef Stäps*, who has been a member of our General Assembly since 2016 and of the Board of Directors since 2018. As former university chaplain and expert in our Academic Council, and above all through his current position as Head of the
Global Church Department of the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart, Dr. Stäps is familiar with all areas of KAAD’s support for scholarship holders. He comes from a diocese which is characterized by a diverse and broadly linked Global Church work.

*Burkhard Haneke* was elected as Vice Chairman. As Board member, he represents the major Catholic relief organizations. Like his predecessor, Dr. Gerhard Albert (cf. Annual Report 2018, p. 12), he is managing director of the project management at Renovabis, the Catholic relief organization for Central and Eastern Europe in Freising, and thus succeeded Dr. Albert in this position. In addition, the theologian, slavist and political scientist has broad experience in public relations. A further member of the board is Prof. Dr. Eberhard Schockenhoff, the president of KAAD.

As (Global) Church expert and representative of the organizations and institutions represented in the association KAAD, the Jesuit *Michael Schöpf* has taken up his position in our Academic Council (selection board) in 2019. He is Chairman of the Advisory Committee of Misereor and Head of the Center for Global Issues at the School of Philosophy of the Jesuits in Munich (until the end of 2019). Previously he was Regional Director Europe of the Jesuit Refugee Service (Brussels). He contributes a rich international experience, especially from East and Central Africa, to our work. Together with him university chaplain Matthias Haas (Stuttgart) continues to evaluate the ecclesiastical and social aspects of the applications.

At the beginning of the reporting year there had already been some personnel changes in our office concerning the assistance to the Secretary General (cf. Annual Report 2018, pp. 12 ff.). These changes aim at a more efficient structure of the central working areas, which shall be supported by more employees and for which - with the involvement of the administration - orienting guidebooks are being prepared. In addition, however, this should also contribute to intensifying the networking between the continental departments and underline the common service to the Global Church. On January 17th, at the traditional „annual opening“ of the KAAD office, the topic of „service community“, as we want to put it into practice, was in the center of attention, introduced by a keynote of the President.

On September 1st, 2019, the President of KAAD, Prof. Eberhard Schockenhoff, appointed *Dr. Nora Kalbarczyk* (Head of the Middle East Department) as Deputy Secretary General of Dr. Hermann Weber. The long-standing Deputy Secretary General, Dr. Heinrich Geiger, had asked for an early release from his position due to his age-related retirement in 2020.
Due to the retirements of two long-serving employees, the office will again face significant changes in spring 2020. Since 1990, i.e. for almost 30 years, Dr. Heinrich Geiger has assumed the position of Head of the Asia Department and Deputy Secretary General and has helped to shape KAAD's work. He is going into well-deserved retirement on April 1st, 2020 and is succeeded by Dr. Esther-Maria Guggenmos (religious studies scientist/sinologist from Erlangen). Already on March 1st, 2020, Edith Kalus (accountant at KAAD since 2007) enters her well-earned retirement. Our long-standing, committed administrative manager, Ute Baumgart, takes over this position at her own request. She is succeeded by Martina May-Topalidis (previously University Administration, Cologne) on April 1st, 2020. Regarding these changes in personnel, please refer in detail to the KAAD newsletter of January 2020.

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