

Adelbert von Chamisso Prize

The Hungarian-born author **Terézia Mora** has been awarded the Adelbert von Chamisso Prize 2010. The prize is presented by the Robert Bosch Stiftung to authors who write in German, but whose native language or cultural background is not German. The two sponsorship awards went to the Baghdad-born writer and poet Abbas Khider, and to the playwright and prose writer Nino Haratischwilli, who hails from Georgia.



Cultural report published on European reading habits

In the current *Progress Europe* cultural report, 33 authors from 18 countries studied the **role of literature in Europe**. The authors included names such as Umberto Eco, Rafik Schami, and Tim Parks. The cultural report is published in five languages.

► www.bosch-stiftung.de/kulturreport

Utilizing the strengths of older associates

"We urgently need an open, sophisticated discussion about the importance of older employees for the labor market," said Dieter Berg, member of the Board of Management of the Robert Bosch Stiftung. He was presenting the results of the **ELMA practical project**, run at

the Bosch plant in Ansbach, as an example. The project highlights the ability of older associates to learn and change, emphasizing that a training concept is required to maintain their working capability. This will include cognitive and physical training, as well as a healthy lifestyle.

► www.bosch-stiftung.de/elma

Robert Bosch Stiftung takes on the challenge of social responsibility

Review of 2009: €64 million invested in support of community projects

Stuttgart | szm | Following the values and instructions of Robert Bosch himself, many of the projects taken on by the Stiftung involve conceiving and testing solutions for social and community issues. In particular these include educational projects as well as projects that help shape European integration and the vital development of civil society. The dividend payments that the Stiftung receives as a shareholder of Robert Bosch GmbH is what allows these investments to be made. The new activity report published by the Stiftung outlines what the foundation has done this year to reach its targets.

Strengthening civil society

In times when the state has limited financial resources and its freedom is increasingly restricted, citizens are called upon to demonstrate greater initiative and commitment and to rely less on the state. Taking on more individual and community responsibility helps to strengthen civil society, which has always been one of the major objectives of the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Social responsibility is emphatically demonstrated in activities that address the issues of age, support and education in nurseries and schools, and the integration of immigrants - all of which were very important issues for the Stiftung in 2009.

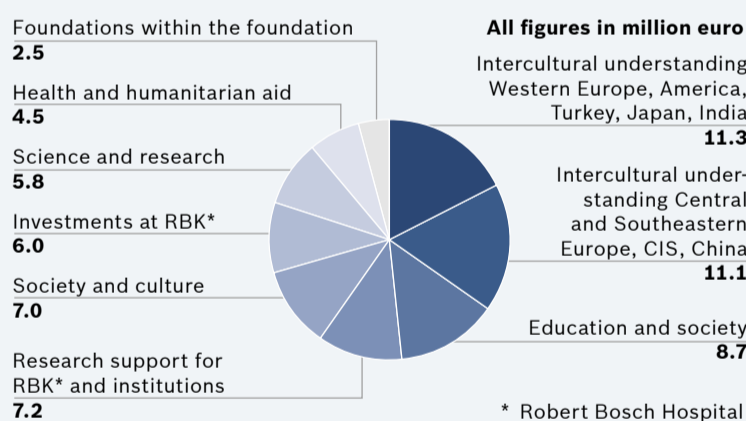
A look at countries other than Germany illustrates how the potential of older people can be better utilized. Germany also has plenty to learn when it comes to education in early childhood. The new research scheme devised by the Stiftung is intended to ensure that Germany uses better qualified personnel and more appropriate resources in this area in the future. More commitment is also the key issue regarding integration - on the one hand through



School meets science: In Berlin, the Stiftung presented the 2009 prize for projects designed to attract students to natural sciences and technology.

Photo: Karen Massine

Total Stiftung donations in 2009



The chart shows all of the donations made by the Stiftung, divided into specific programs,

the Robert Bosch Hospital (RBK) and the institutions, totaling €64.1 million.



► Activity report 2009: Download from www.bosch-stiftung.de/publikationen

new forms of cooperation in communities, on the other through better education, while positive examples should always be used to convince and encourage.

Facilitating contact

In terms of intercultural understanding, the Robert Bosch Stiftung wants to devote more effort to the major task of European integration. The objective is to develop a greater interest and enthusiasm for Europe, particularly among young people. The Stiftung's worldwide activities are increasingly focused around issues of global importance, such as security, constitutional law, climate protection, demographics, and economics. New programs such as European political project weeks at schools in Germany and in other EU countries, exchanges for German and Turkish young people, and a German-Japanese journalists' scheme are just a few examples of such work.

Fostering talent

The exporting nation Germany will only be able to maintain its position in the global economy if it succeeds in reinforcing its advantage with innovative products and services. Employing exceptionally well-educated and qualified people is a prerequisite for this. For this reason, society needs to make more intensive use of the potential of young people. These days, issues of social background, gender, and ethnicity continue to hinder some young people's development. The Robert Bosch Stiftung is therefore working within and outside the education system to ensure that the talents of young people - especially from an immigrant background - are identified as early as possible and fostered. This area is set to become even more of a focus.



Launch of the Research Training Group with Bernhard Eitel of Heidelberg University.

Care for dementia patients

Heidelberg | bz | Dementia is a disease that radically changes the lives of those affected and their families. Beyond their personal surroundings, it affects many areas of community life, its institutions, and the economy as a whole. Despite the importance of the illness, there is a lack of sound scientific findings when it comes to therapy and care.

The Dementia Research Training Group now provides 13 researchers from different disciplines with the opportunity to develop a practical body of knowledge that will help to provide improved treatment for dementia and the appropriate therapy and care services. The focus will be on issues such as educational concepts for dementia sufferers' everyday lives, nutrition, and physical activity.

Group funding

The Research Training Group at the University of Heidelberg is cooperating with the Universities of Halle-Wittenberg, Kaiserslautern, Osnabrück, Erlangen-Nuremberg and Munich, coordinated by the age research network. The Robert Bosch Stiftung is funding the group to the tune of around €920,000 over the next five years. The official launch was part of a symposium in March at the Alte Aula in Heidelberg.

Junior professorship for young academics

Stuttgart | pe | "My family and friends give me strength and stability in my everyday life, while the Robert Bosch Stiftung gives me scope for creativity and innovation in my research," says Regina Palkovits. "Together, they allow me to help shape our green future."

Palkovits is the recipient of the third Robert Bosch Junior Professorship in Sustainable Use of Natural Resources, following Nina Farwig (2008) and Asia Khamzina (2009). She will soon establish a new research group at the RWTH Aachen University, with the goal of discovering how plastics or propellants can be obtained in the future by splitting cellulose. Her research results will help developing and

transitional countries to position themselves as "energy providers of the future." The Robert Bosch Stiftung is providing a total of €1 million over five years to fund the research.

"The Robert Bosch Junior Professorship allows me to help shape our green future."

Regina Palkovits

- particularly in developing and transitional countries - at a German university or research institution of their choice. The Robert Bosch Junior Professorship is awarded every year. The selection committee for the award is chaired by Klaus Töpfer, former German Environment Minister and Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

Making universities family friendly

Eight selected educational institutions show that studying with children is possible

Berlin | pe | The majority of students feel that the atmosphere at German universities is not child-friendly. This has been confirmed in surveys conducted by the Hochschul-Informationssystem. Children are almost invisible in everyday university life, and student parents are very much an exception. The fact that it is extremely difficult to combine studying, an academic career, and a family is demonstrated by the high number of childless female students and academics.

The Freie Universität Berlin has been setting up new plans for combining academic studies and family life. For example, pregnant chemistry students can now perform interactive experiments on their laptops in order to avoid contact with toxic substances. The development of such computer-based participation covers the in-

terests of both research and the family. The Freie Universität Berlin is one of eight German universities that won awards in the Families at University competition in May 2008. At a conference encouraging students with families to attend university in Berlin in March, the eight universities each presented their concepts for improved family orientation.

Success factor

German Minister for Families, Kristina Schröder, emphasized the fact that family-friendliness will be a success factor for future universities. A comprehensive range of childcare facilities is just one of the instruments that can be used to make a university more family-friendly. Other solutions include part-time study programs and special timetables for parents, e-learning, mentoring programs



Children and alma mater: Helping parents to study places demands on universities.

Photo: Björn Hänsler

for students, financial incentives, assistance for international study with children, family welcome centers, and support for "dual-career couples." The eight selected

universities have been working for two years on developing exemplary practices. Their experiences will subsequently be available to all universities.