

**Leipzig Book Fair
(March 15 -18, 2018)**

Leipzig, February 5, 2018

Europa21: ARE *WE* REALLY THE BEST?

Participants “Europa21. Thinking tomorrow’s society” at the Leipzig Book Fair

Podium 1

Jón Gnarr is an Icelandic actor, comedian and author. In 2010 he was elected mayor of Reykjavík and governed the capital of Iceland for four years. He is an advocate of human rights in Iceland, Europe and the whole world.

Mely Kiyak is a political columnist and author who has gathered many awards. She writes a column for Zeit Online (“Kiyaks Deutschstunde”) and another for the Maxim-Gorki-Theater in Berlin (“Kiyaks Theaterkolumne”).

Wolfgang Gründinger is a lobbyist for the future and author of seven books, the last one being “Alte-Säcke-Politik” (“Old Fart Politics”). He is an advisor for digital information to the Federal Association for Digital Economics.

Moderation: **Jenny Friedrich-Freksa** studied Communication in Social and Economic Contexts in Berlin. After stays in Paris, Geneva and Rome she worked for several years for the daily newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung in Munich. Since 2005 she has been the editor-in-chief for the Kulturaustausch Journal in Berlin.

Podium 2

Rokhaya Diallo is a French journalist and filmmaker. She has her own slots on Radio and TV and regularly writes essays and analytical articles for French newspapers. She has received several awards for her activism against racism and sexism.

Ghayath Almadhoun is a Palestinian-Syrian-Swedish poet and filmmaker. He has been living in Stockholm since 2008 and has published several books of poetry which have been translated into several languages.

Diana Kinnert is a political scientist, activist and author. She is a member of the CDU party and has been a member of the Young People’s Advisory Council of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. At present she writes a column for Zeit Online. Her latest book “Für die Zukunft seh’ ich Schwarz. Plädoyer für einen modernen Konservatismus” (“The future appears to me rather black. Arguing for a modern form of conservatism”) has been published by Rowohlt Verlag.

Moderation: **Jenny Friedrich-Freksa** studied Communication in Social and Economic Contexts in Berlin. After stays in Paris, Geneva and Rome she worked for several years for the Süddeutsche Zeitung in Munich. Since 2005 she has been the editor-in-chief for the Kulturaustausch Journal in Berlin.

Podium 3

Stefan Schlegel works as a Senior Research Fellow at the Max-Planck-Institute for Research on Multireligious and Multiethnic Societies in Göttingen. He is a board member of the liberal movement “Libero“.

Elisa Simantke has reported from, among other places, Scotland and Greece as a journalist. Since 2016 she has been coordinating the research network “Investigate Europe” with authors from all over Europe.

Matthias Meisner is an editor of the Berlin-based daily newspaper Tagesspiegel. As a correspondent he has been reporting on German politics and on the parties of the left. He is co-editor of the book “Unter Sachsen. Zwischen Wut und Willkommen” (“Among Saxons. Between Wrath and Welcome”) which was published in 2017.

Aleksandra Rybińska is a political scientist. She was born in Warsaw, emigrated in 1982 and grew up in Germany and Great Britain. Since 2014 she has been working as a journalist for the internet newspaper wPolityce.pl and the weekly journal wSieci.

Moderation: Harald Asel is an editor, author and moderator with Inforadio (rbb).

Podium 4

Doris Akrap is an author and an editor with taz. She wrote the foreword for “Wir sind ja nicht zum Spaß hier” (“We aren’t here just for fun”), a book by Deniz Yücel, a journalist imprisoned in Turkey which was published recently by Nautilus.

Kateryna Mishchenko is an author, curator and publisher. She is the co-author of the book “Ukrainian Night“, her essays have appeared in collections on the Euromaidan published by Suhrkamp.

Åsne Seierstad is a Norwegian author and journalist. She was recently honored with the Leipzig Book Award for European Understanding (2018) for her book “One of Us. The History of a Mass Murder“.

Moderation: **Ebru Taşdemir** is a taz editor and is part of the network “Neue Deutsche Medienmacher” (“New German Media Workers”). She is the inventor of “hate poetry“.

Podium 5

Robin Alexander is a reporter for the daily newspaper Die Welt. He writes on German themes with a focus on Angela Merkel. His book “Die Getriebenen. Merkel und die Flüchtlingspolitik” (“The Driven. Merkel and refugee Politics”) came out in 2017.

Danae Sioziou was born in Germany and grew up in Greece. She studied English Literature and Art Management in Athens as well as History in Athens and Berlin. Her book “Useful Children’s Games” was released in 2016.

Gáspár Miklós Tamás is a Hungarian philosopher and teacher at Budapest University, whose research fields include the critique of capitalism and totalitarianism.

Moderation: **Ebru Taşdemir** is a taz editor and is part of the network “Neue Deutsche Medienmacher” (“New German Media Workers”). She is the inventor of “hate poetry”.

Podium 6

Yassin Musharbash is an investigative journalist for the weekly newspaper Die Zeit and a novelist. Recently Kiepenheuer & Witsch published his thriller “Jenseits” (“On the Other Side”).

Adam Szymczyk was born in Poland and is well-known to the public as the curator-in-chief of 2017’s documenta 14 in Kassel.

Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung is a curator from Berlin. He received a doctorate in medical biotechnology and then studied biophysics in Montpellier. He is the founder of the interdisciplinary art center SAVVY Contemporary in Berlin.

Nino Haratischwili is a theatre director, dramatist and novelist from Georgia living in Hamburg. She has received several grants and awards for her work.

Moderation: **Mohamed Amjahid**

European Duels

Duel 1

Adam Szymczyk was born in Poland and is well-known to the public as the curator-in-chief of 2017’s documenta 14 in Kassel in 2017.

Aleksandra Rybińska is a political scientist. She was born in Warsaw, emigrated in 1982 and grew up in Germany and Great Britain. Since 2014 she has been working as a journalist in Poland.

Duel 2

Margarete Stokowski has been a free-lance Polish-German author since 2009 writing for, among others, taz and Missy Magazine. In 2015 she started contributing a weekly column for Spiegel Online.

Zana Ramadani was born in Skopje and is one of the co-founders of “Femen Germany”. She is a member of the CDU. As an activist and author she works for women’s rights and engages in a critique of Islam.

Moderation: **Mohamed Amjahid**

Artist Duo

Various & Gould have been working together since 2005. They exemplify the simple and effective formula $1 + 1 = 3$. Common interests such as a love for paper, an enthusiasm for random beauty in everyday life and especially for work in the public sphere are the basis of their collaboration. They are passionate about screen-printing and collage. Socially relevant themes such as work, migration, gender, death, globalization, religion or financial crisis are mostly handled playfully. Their works are influenced by political posters, Dada

and Pop Art; they are characterized by strong colors and a complex tissue of symbols, allusions and styles.

Curator, Europa21_2018

Mohamed Amjahid is an editor in the politics department of the weekly newspaper Die Zeit. As a reporter he travels all over Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. His first book “Unter Weißen. Was es heißt, privilegiert zu sein” (Among Whites. What it Means to be Privileged) was released in 2017.

About the Robert Bosch Stiftung

The Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH is one of Europe’s largest foundations associated with a private company. In its charitable work, it addresses social issues at an early stage and develops exemplary solutions. For this purpose, it plans and implements its own projects. Additionally, it supports third-party initiatives that have similar goals.

The Robert Bosch Stiftung is active in the areas of health, science, society, education, and international relations.

Moreover, in the coming years, the Foundation will increasingly direct its activities on three focus areas:

- Migration, Integration, and Inclusion
- Social Cohesion in Germany and Europe
- Sustainable Living Spaces

Since it was established in 1964, the Robert Bosch Stiftung has invested more than 1.4 billion euros in charitable work.

About the Leipzig Book Fair

The Leipzig Book Fair is the most important spring gathering of the book and media industry and sees itself as a show for readers, authors and publishing houses. It presents the first publications of the year, the latest themes and trends, and shows both German-language literature by young writers as well as new publications from Central and Eastern Europe. Thanks to the unique connection between the Book Fair and “Leipzig liest” – Europe’s biggest reading festival – the Book Fair has become a magnet for the public. In conjunction with the Leipzig Book Fair, the Manga-Comic-Con (MCC) is being staged in Hall 1, parallel to which the 24th Leipzig Antiquarian Book Fair is taking place.

Contacts for media:

Ruth Justen

PR Manager

Europa21. Thinking tomorrow's society.

Tel.: +49 (0) 174 / 7831 205

E-mail: ruth@justen-journalismus.de

Julia Lücke

PR Manager

Leipzig Book Fair

Tel.: +49 (0) 341 / 6 78 6555

Fax: +49 (0) 341 / 6 78 16 6555

E-mail: j.luecke@leipziger-messe.de

Chiara Josten

Manager Media Relations

Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH

Tel.: **+49 (0) 711/46084-750**

Fax: **+49 (0)** 711/46084-10750

E-mail: Chiara.Josten@bosch-stiftung.de

Leipzig Book Fair on the web:

<http://www.leipziger-buchmesse.de>

Leipzig Book Fair on social media:

<https://www.facebook.com/leipzigerbuchmesse>

<https://twitter.com/buchmesse>

<https://instagram.com/leipzigerbuchmesse>

Robert Bosch Stiftung on the web:

<http://www.bosch-stiftung.de>

Robert Bosch Stiftung on social media:

www.twitter.com/BoschStiftung

www.facebook.com/RobertBoschStiftung