



IMPORTANT INITIATOR OF IMPETUS FOR A UNIFIED EUROPE

Europe has been for more than six decades a guarantor of peace, freedom and democracy. The Community is moving closer and closer together – the six original founding states have grown into a union of 27 members. Cooperation and integration have superseded the centuries of confrontation on the European continent. Never before in their history have its peoples and states lived and worked together as they do today. Europe has a common currency, a common home market and a common trade policy. And Europe is starting to live up to its international responsibility to a greater extent than it has done before.

None of this, however, was a matter of course – nor is Europe a perpetuum mobile. Again and again it takes strength, courage and hard work to create more common ground on our continent. The euro has become in this process the most visible and tangible sign of Europe's resolve to durably consolidate and deepen its unification. And so the financial and state-indebtedness crisis of recent years is not just any crisis; it is a test, an hour of truth for the idea of European unification.

Against the background of these current challenges, the Board of Directors of the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen aims therefore with the awarding of the prize in 2012 to send out a signal for the unity of Europe. In the person of Wolfgang Schäuble we pay tribute to an important contender for the community currency – a personality for whom Europe has been for many years a matter of the heart and of inner conviction, and who knows that only together will Europe be able to meet the challenges of a globalized world. "Europe is like a bicycle. Stop it, and it falls over." These words of Jacques Delors, the great European and Charlemagne laureate of 1992, were quoted by Schäuble in a speech on European policy in Paris. This makes clear once more that even in difficult times Wolfgang Schäuble aims to vigorously advance the work of unification, and to organize more community of purpose in Europe.

On 17 May the Federal Finance Minister, Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, will be awarded the 53rd International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen. The honour will be conferred on a great European who has rendered historic service on behalf of overcoming German and European division, and who especially in times of crisis has been an important initiator of impetus for advancing unification towards Political Union.

Let us give Wolfgang Schäuble a cordial welcome to Aachen.



Marcel Philipp
Mayor

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WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE



CITATION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE CONFERRING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN IN HONOUR OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL FINANCE MINISTER DR. WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE



In tribute to his outstanding service in the cause of overcoming the division of Germany and Europe and his role as a generator of ideas and an important protagonist in nearly all progress in European integration in the last three decades, and in recognition of his important contribution to stabilizing the Monetary Union and deepening the unification process, the Board of Directors of the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen honours in the year 2012 the Federal Minister of Finance, Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble.

"Twenty-one years after the peaceful unification of East and West Germany, and after weeks of intensive debates on Europe...it is most particularly rewarding at this point to look back again and call to mind the importance of Europe for Germany's second chance....The fact that we are privileged to live in a unified Germany under the free and democratic rule of law, in prosperity and peace, surrounded by nations joined with us in friendship – this was for most members of the generation preceding us unimaginable....Without our embedding in the European Union, the peaceful reunification of Germany would have become infinitely harder – if not impossible. We remember the misgivings of individual friends and partners of ours, misgivings that it was possible to counter by citing Germany's deep-rooted integration in united Europe. We would be ill-advised to consider this passé today. Rather, it is still true that the future and the success of

reunited Germany are inextricably bound up with its integration in European institutions and their continued purposeful development....In the last few months it has become clear that the answer to the crisis can only mean more Europe."

When Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble speaks about Europe, he is by no means concerned about fiscal and monetary policy problems alone. Much more frequently he calls to mind very basic questions; for Europe is for him a matter of the heart and of inner conviction. And when even such sharp-tongued critics as the philosopher Jürgen Habermas see the longest-serving member of the German Parliament as "the last prominent European in the Cabinet", the words also suggest great respect for the life work of the man from Baden.

The euro stands for Europe's resolve to durably strengthen and deepen its unification. It stands for the conviction that only together is Europe equal to the challenges of a globalized world. Thus the future of the euro is indivisibly linked to the persuasive force of the idea of European unification. All the more important, therefore, are the auxiliary stabilizing measures that since 2009 have successively been implemented; all the more important are, above all, the appropriate steps to take in consequence of the current crisis. Europe stands at a crossroads – leading either to political union or long-term unimportance! When today extremely nervous financial markets test whether and to what extent the European design – that of monetary union without political union including closely coordinated budgetary, financial and social policies – is able to function, it becomes clear that the communitization of monetary policy must be followed by further steps, that in the long term more Europe is the only option promising stability, growth and security.

The consolidation of state finances in the entire EU, the installation of the budget and debt brake, the strengthening of the right to impose sanctions in the event of non-adherence to the criteria of the common currency – all of these are right steps. Beyond this however we need a wide-ranging debate on the deepening of European unification going far beyond the debt debate and the euro. "For the crisis...shows first of all that European unification is the right answer to the 21st century. Secondly, that in fact we are no longer fully sovereign and have not been so for a long time; for the events in other countries, other markets, other systems directly influence our lives....European unification takes into account the fact that since the mid-20th century the nation state has no longer been able to

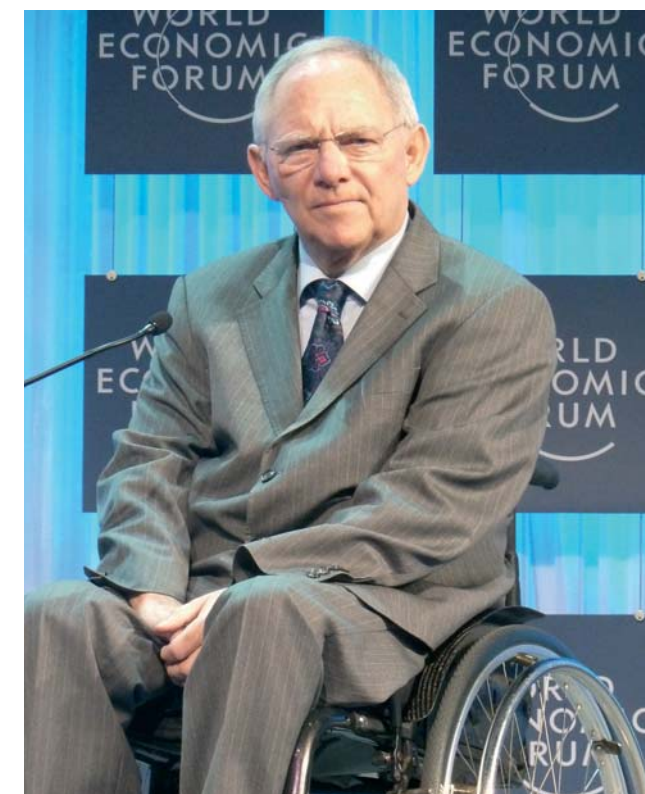
**"THE ANSWER TO THE
CRISIS CAN ONLY MEAN
MORE EUROPE".
(DR. WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE)**

perform that which it had performed since the 17th century. Accordingly, what we need in the 21st century is a new form of governmental cooperation." The man who said that is numbered among those who in the past 30 years made a decisive contribution to the development of the European Union, and among those who today bear key responsibility for the stability of Europe:

Wolfgang Schäuble was born on 18 September 1942 in Freiburg im Breisgau. After finishing secondary school in 1961 he studied law and economics at the universities of Freiburg and Hamburg. After completing the first state legal exam (1966) a legal traineeship and the second state legal exam (1970) he earned his doctorate in 1971 and joined the tax administration of the State of Baden-Württemberg.

In 1972 he was elected for the first time to the German Bundestag (Parliament), to which he has since belonged without a break as a directly elected representative. At the latest it was by the time of his election as Parliamentary Manager of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in 1981 that long-term and very intensive cooperation began with Helmut Kohl, who two years after the change of government in November 1984 appointed him Federal Minister for Special Tasks and Head of the Federal Chancellery.

In April 1989 Schäuble switched to the Federal Ministry of the Interior, where in the year thereafter, as the Federal Government's chief negotiator, he was in charge of shaping the East-West-German unification treaty, together with Günther Krause, at that time Permanent Secretary to the GDR Prime Minister de Maizière. Schäuble and Krause signed the treaty, comprising several hundred pages, on 31 August 1990. In retrospect, Schäuble emphasizes: "Such a felicitous development was not necessarily to be expected – considering the partitioning of Europe into hostile blocs facing each other and armed to the teeth, and considering the bloody suppression of the striving for freedom in East Berlin on 17 June 1953, Hungary in 1956, Czechoslovakia in 1968 and Poland in 1981. Only with this scenario as a starting point can the significance of the events of 1989–1990 be really assessed: from the Monday demonstrations in the GDR to the consummation of state unity on 3 October 1990. And the way all that happened was not disorderly; it proceeded on the basis of juridically water-tight laws and treaties, and a dialogue conducted on an equal footing. The decisions taken back then have proved to be the right ones. Reunified Germany has become normal, in the best sense of the word."



Only a few days after unity was accomplished, Schäuble was severely injured in an attempt on his life on 12 October 1990 and since then has been confined to a wheelchair. A bare six weeks later he returned, governed by iron discipline, to public life. Following the first all-German elections and his initial reappointment as Interior Minister, he became in 1991 head of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the Bundestag, which he built up into the "strongest power base in the government camp" alongside the Chancellery ("Süddeutsche Zeitung", 28 March 1994), also and above all accomplishing its conceptual repositioning. It was Schäuble himself (along with the CDU representative Karl Lamers) who in September 1994 presented a position paper with ideas on European policy, a paper whose impulses have been reflected up to the present day in the debate on the future of Europe. In it Schäuble called for a further institutional development of the EU: "The aim must be the strengthening of the EU's ability to act, and its democratic and federal organization and development. To this end it will be necessary to answer the constitutional question – who does what? – in a document resembling a constitution and marking out in clear language

the respective responsibilities of the European Union, nation states and regions, and defining the Union's non-material foundations....All existing institutions, the Council, the Commission, the Presidency and the European Parliament, must be reformed....Besides increased efficiency, democratization must be recognized as the guiding principle for all reforms." And if Schäuble was already stressing back then the necessity of a resultant "common, mutually aligned policy" in the sectors of monetary, fiscal, budgetary, economic and social policy for the Monetary Union, all the more urgent is this challenge as it faces the EU today.

After the government lost its majority in the autumn of 1998, Schäuble became in November of the same year the CDU's national chairman in addition to heading the parliamentary group. In the course of the donations affair that came to light at the end of 1999, he announced in February 2000 his resignation from both posts in order "to initiate and make possible a fresh start". Thereafter,



besides continuing to hold a seat in the Bundestag, he concentrated mainly on his activity as head of a working group on the respective allocation of responsibilities between the EU and its member states, advocating above all more authority for the EU in foreign and security and defence policy.

In October 2002 he re-joined the executive committee of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the Bundestag as the deputy of Angela Merkel. With his re-appointment as Interior Minister in the Grand Coalition (CDU/CSU and SPD), he returned definitively in 2005 to the first rank of national politics, and with the launching of the Islam Conference he sent out a widely noticed signal of

integration and intercultural dialogue. Four years later the Chancellor called on her predecessor as party chairman to be the Federal Finance Minister.

On both the national and European level, Wolfgang Schäuble is one of the few currently active politicians who were involved in the crucial progress made in European integration from the 1980s on: in 1986 the Single European Act leading to the Single Market; in 1990 the Unification Treaty overcoming German and European division; in 1992 the Treaty of Maastricht creating the Monetary Union, and the European Union superseding the European Communities; in 1996 the Stability and Growth Pact; in 1997 the Treaty of Amsterdam, up to the Lisbon Treaty of 2007. As a member of the government and/or majority leader in the Bundestag, Schäuble was in a responsible position involving him in all these steps, some of which he decisively helped to structure.

Thus it was not very surprising that the Chancellor in 2009 entrusted the most experienced CDU/CSU politician with the post of Finance Minister, functioning as the key to stabilizing the common currency. Schäuble had a crucial share in all measures agreed since then: e.g. on the national level the prohibition of uncovered short sales and the Bank Restructuring Act; and on the European level the Greek aid package, the reform of the Stability and Growth Pact, the Euro-Plus Act ("debt brake" inter alia), the European "bailout fund" (EFSF, EFSM), the recapitalization of the banks and the European Stability Mechanism (ESM).



Above and beyond the very broad range of individual crisis-relief and crisis-prevention measures, Schäuble has long worked to initiate and implement structural and institutional reforms: "We are building a new



institutional architecture for the euro-zone, which will mean more Europe and more stability....In the euro-zone so far, there has been only a common monetary policy and no finance policy. That is the problem, and that is what we must change, step by step. On the European level we must achieve more binding commitment and more ability to carry things through."

Germany and France have in the view of Schäuble, whose life roots are in the Baden-Alsace border region, special responsibility: "The successful achievement of European unification lies in the Germans' existential interest. What is good for Europe is good for Germany. Europe cannot be built on the hegemony principle....But it is regularly expected of us as the largest member state that we, shoulder to shoulder with France, assume a leadership function. For only if and when Germany and France pull together can frequently difficult questions be resolved."

To this end Europe must, in his view, "continue to be willing to move, to reform itself institutionally, to speak with one voice....I am convinced that the answer to the global challenges is more Europe." "It is often asked: What does this mean for the young? My answer to the question of what all this means for the young is for me at any rate clear: Without a Europe that is succeeding,

that faces up to its responsibility in this world full of exciting change, full of great challenges – and also full of fascinating opportunities – our chances in this world are slim. A Europe that is succeeding is the best provision we can make for a good future."

In the person of Federal Finance Minister Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble, the Board of Directors for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen honours in the year 2012 a great European who has made a historic contribution to overcoming German and European division, who has shared in all important progress in European integration of the last three decades and who, especially in times of crisis, has been an important initiator of impetus for advancing unification towards Political Union.

aachen

TEXT OF THE CERTIFICATE

ON ASCENSION DAY, THE 17TH OF MAY 2012,
IN THE CORONATION HALL OF THE AACHEN TOWN HALL,
THE FORMER IMPERIAL PALACE,
THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN
WAS AWARDED TO
THE FEDERAL FINANCE MINISTER

Dr. Wolfgang Schäuble

IN TRIBUTE TO HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE
IN OVERCOMING THE DIVISION AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE STRENGTHENING OF EUROPE.

INSCRIPTION ON THE MEDAL
CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN 2012

Wolfgang Schäuble

FOR THE UNITY OF EUROPE



DR. WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE FEDERAL FINANCE MINISTER

DATE OF BIRTH
18 September 1942
BIRTHPLACE
Freiburg, Germany

EDUCATION

1961 – 1966
Study of law and economics at the universities of
Freiburg im Breisgau and Hamburg; first state legal examination

1970
Second state legal examination

1971
Doctor of Laws degree

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

1966 – 1971
On the staff of the university of Freiburg
assistant to the Rector's commissioner
for political education

1972
Regierungsrat (senior civil servant)
in the finance administration of the state
of Baden-Württemberg

1974 – 1984
Lawyer for the Pension Fund for members
of the legal profession



POLITICAL CAREER

1972
Member of the German Bundestag (Parliament)

1981-1984
Parliamentary Secretary of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group
in the German Bundestag

1984
Federal Minister for Special Tasks and head of the Federal Chancellery

1989
Federal Interior Minister

1991 - 2000
Head of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the Bundestag

1998 - 2000
CDU National Chairman

2005
Federal Interior Minister

Since October 2009
Federal Finance Minister

AWARDS

- Germany: Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (1991)
- France: Grand Officer of the ordre National du Mérite (1988)
- Italy: Grand Cross of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (1986)
- Luxembourg: Grand Officer of the Order of the Oak Crown (2011)
- Medal of Merit of the state of Baden-Württemberg (2008)
- Honorary doctorates from several universities



THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN CITIZENS' PRIZE FOR GREAT EUROPEANS

DR. JÜRGEN LINDEN

FEDERAL FINANCE
MINISTER DR. WOLFGANG
SCHÄUBLE WITH IMF
MANAGING DIRECTOR
CHRISTINE LAGARDE.



FEDERAL FINANCE
MINISTER DR. WOLFGANG
SCHÄUBLE THE GUEST OF
POPE BENEDICT XVI



An idea on behalf of which outstanding personalities, heads of government and state and even the Holy Father accept a prize whose origin derives solely from a citizens' initiative in the best sense of those words – such an idea must be an important one. And the tribute paid years ago by Helmut Kohl, former Chancellor and honorary citizen of Europe, to the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen as the "most important political award" that Europe had to confer clearly indicates the historical development of the citizens' prize for great Europeans, a prize that was born amid the ruins of the Second World War.

Soon after the end of that war, following years of mental manipulation and indoctrination, the Aachen merchant Dr. Kurt Pfeiffer, together with a few friends, founded a small literary society called the "Corona Legentium Aquensis", which would become the embryo of the Charlemagne Prize. With Pfeiffer's financial support the literary society, growing in importance and influence in Aachen, was able to put on exhibitions and lecture series with politicians, scholars and creative artists from all over Europe. The discussions in the Corona inspired Pfeiffer to think about possible ways to take part in the political process in Europe – outside of political parties and parliaments but actively and with public impact – and to participate in a peaceful shaping of the future.

A few days before the Christmas of 1949, Pfeiffer used a meeting of the Corona on 19 December to present his idea for the endowment of an Aachen Prize "for the most valuable contribution in the service of West European understanding and joint endeavour and in the service of humanity and world peace". The initiative met with an extraordinarily positive response, both in the press and on the part of important personalities. This encouraged Pfeiffer to mount a vigorous campaign for his plans. Within a short time he assembled senior representatives of the city administration, the technical university, the Catholic church, municipal politics and the business community for the proclamation of the "Charlemagne Prize of the City of Aachen".

Participating for the city were Mayor (Oberbürgermeister) Dr. Albert Maas, City Manager Albert Servais, and Bürgermeister Ludwig Kuhnen. They saw the Prize as a way to revive Aachen's half-forgotten European past and to focus the attention of European-minded people on the Imperial City. The fact that Pfeiffer assigned high priority to the economic aspects of unification was probably supported with vigour in particular by those founders representing the business community. Among them were the President

of the Chamber of Commerce (and later Mayor of Aachen), Hermann Heusch; the Luxembourgian head of the Vereinigte Glaswerke, Dr. Jean Louis Schrader; the head of the Philipswerke, Carel Nieuwenhuysen of the Netherlands; and the textile manufacturer Erasmus Schlapp. Along with Bishop Dr. Johannes Josef van der Velden, who was in charge of the Charlemagne church and mausoleum, the signatories of the Proclamation included three university professors: the Rector of the University of Technology, Dr. Wilhelm Müller; Dr. Franz Krauß; and Dr. Peter Mennicken.

Some three months after the noteworthy meeting of the Corona, the "Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen" was founded on 14 March 1950; it was to carry out all tasks connected with the conferring of the Prize, and its first Board of Directors was made up of the twelve signatories of the Proclamation. Consisting of a certificate of honour, a medal and a cash award of 5,000 deutschmarks, the Prize was to be conferred annually on a person who had rendered outstanding service to Europe. The energy with which Pfeiffer and his friends got to work is shown by the fact that on Ascension Day in 1950 the first Charlemagne Prize was conferred on Richard Count Coudenhove-Kalergi, the founder of the Pan-European Movement. The award ceremony in the Coronation Hall of Aachen's Town Hall left an indelible impression. For the first time since the war, the former Imperial Palace – still marked by war-damage – was the scene of an important municipal and European celebration. The positive media reaction at home and abroad inspired the Board of Directors to take an even bolder part in the process of European unification. The conferring of the Prize in 1952 on Italy's Prime Minister Alcide de Gasperi was the international breakthrough for the award.

The political leaders of the 50s – Jean Monnet, Konrad Adenauer, Robert Schuman and many more – followed the Italian and were honoured in Aachen for their outstanding service on behalf of building a United Europe. The Charlemagne Prize thus gained political influence and international prestige. Paul Henri Spaak, commenting in his speech of thanks in the Coronation Hall in 1957 on the list of past laureates, rightly noted that "These are the most famous names in political postwar Europe."

After the presentation to de Gasperi, the Charlemagne Prize developed more and more into a pre-eminently political award; for it is the elected representatives of the state who stand in the first rank of those who are actively engaged in the process of European unification and through whom, by means of the Charlemagne Prize, political influence can be brought to bear. On the other hand,

AACHEN CATHEDRAL



the cultural and spiritual dimension of European unity also received its due emphasis, reflected in the choice of later award-winners such as Don Salvador de Madariaga, Frère Roger and György Konrád.

In 1962 it was not possible to award the Prize – for the second time in its history. To date there have been ten years in which it was not awarded. The conferring of the Charlemagne Prize in 1963 on Sir Edward Heath, who

would later become British Prime Minister, marked a turning-point in its history in that Heath was the first laureate representing not a member-state but one that wanted to join the Community. The membership negotiations had in fact collapsed shortly before, and the purpose of this gesture was to point to a future to be shared together.

In the 70s and 80s, the awarding of the Prize to representatives of the emergent democracies in Greece and Spain was an important signal intended to strengthen the forces of democracy and to bring these states closer to the European Community. In 1981 the award went to Simone Veil, the first female laureate and the first president of the European Parliament, directly elected by the citizens of Europe.

Dr. Kurt Pfeiffer, the initiator of the Charlemagne Prize, died on 30 January 1987. He remained to the end of his life on the Board of Directors, actively participating in the development of the Prize. Shortly afterwards, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the last candidate proposed by Pfeiffer – who had in mind a reaffirmation of the transatlantic ties – was nominated for the Charlemagne Prize.

The vote for Kissinger, accompanied by the resignation of two dissenting members of the Board of Directors, provided the impetus for a critical review of the aims of the Charlemagne Prize, the selection of laureates, and also the relationship between the city and the parent organization – which was mindful of its autonomy and which, seeking to underscore the character of the award as an Aachen Bürgerpreis, i.e. initiated and fostered by Aachen's citizens, took the occasion to change the name to "Internationaler Karlspreis zu Aachen" ("zu" pointing to the city as location, in place of "von" suggesting proprietorship).

The upheavals in central and eastern Europe and the events of 1989-90 culminating in German reunification occasioned a further substantive development of the Charlemagne Prize in the form of a declaration supplementing and updating the Founders' Proclamation. In this joint Declaration of 14 November 1990 the Aachen City Council and the Charlemagne Prize Board of Directors called for "comprehensively conjoining" the states of Europe. They also emphasized – as a major new challenge – the importance of United Europe in the cause of reconciling North-South polarities and in safeguarding our natural resources.



CHARLEMAGNE BUST IN THE CATHEDRAL TREASURE CHAMBER IN AACHEN

The awards of the 90s, conferred in particular on representatives of the countries of northern and central-eastern Europe, were accordingly focused fully on the idea of "comprehensively conjoining" Europe. These laureates, coming as they did from countries not yet belonging to the European Union, embodied the hope for European unification with the broadest possible scope.

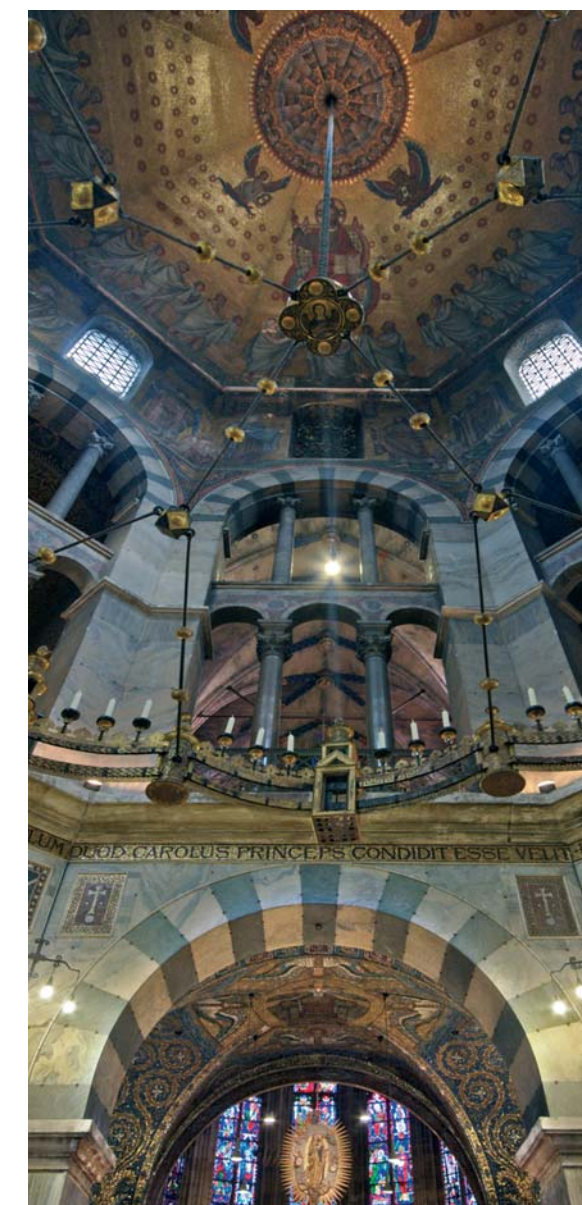
The honouring of U.S. President Bill Clinton in the anniversary year 2000, 50 years after the International Charlemagne Prize was first awarded, paid tribute to the representative of a nation that throughout five decades had always been a reliable partner of the free nations of Europe. The Board of Directors' subsequent choices – honouring Valéry Giscard d'Estaing and Pat Cox, Carlo Ciampi and Jean-Claude Juncker, Angela Merkel and Donald Tusk – put conspicuous accents on a deepening of the integration process and a strengthening of the parliamentary and democratic substance of the Union. In honouring Javier Solana and Andrea Riccardi, the award focused in turn on Europe's international responsibility.

In 2002 for the first time, the Charlemagne Prize jury conferred the award on an object, the community achievement called the euro, whereas in the year past, 2011, the personality was honoured who for many years had rendered outstanding service on behalf of the stability of our common currency: the then president of the ECB, Jean-Claude Trichet.

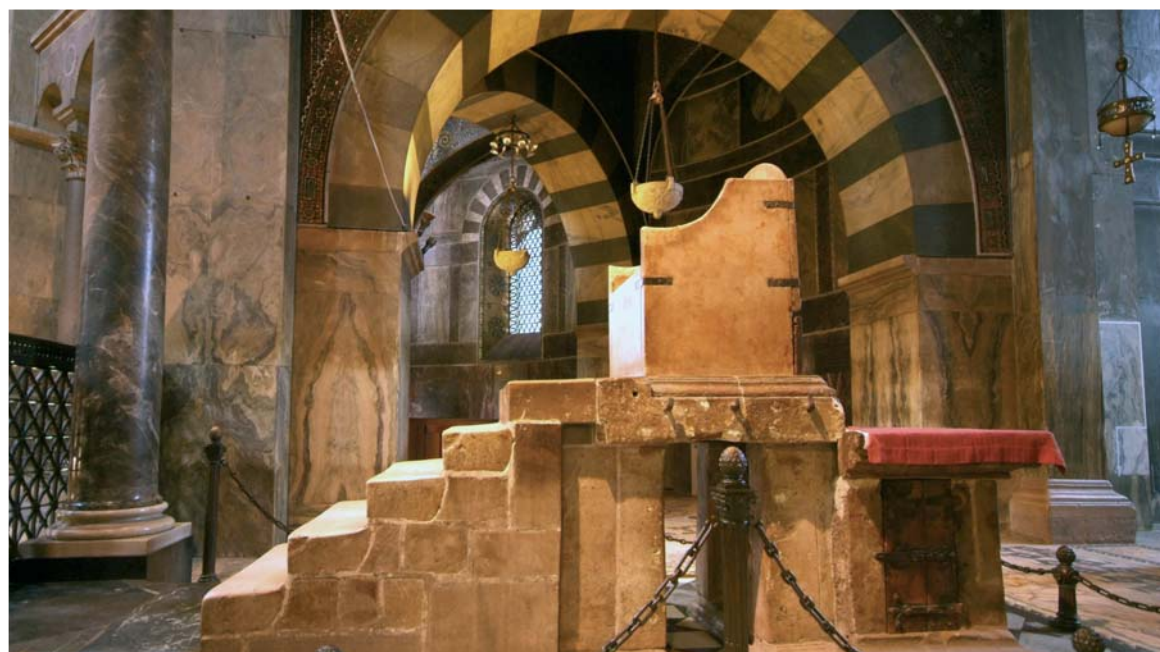
Today, more than sixty years after the first conferring of the International Prize of Aachen, we are well aware that on the road to United Europe there is still a long way to go. A milestone on that road, be it noted, was reached six years ago: When on 1 May 2004 ten new states joined the Union, postwar history, shaped by the Cold War and the partitioning of Europe, was finally laid to rest. The historical development leading to this comprehensive conjoining of the European family of nations is inseparably linked to the personality and the pontificate, lasting over 25 years, of Pope John Paul II. In tribute to an outstanding life work in the service of international understanding, humanity and world peace, it was therefore an honour for the custodians of the Charlemagne Prize to be able to confer on Pope John Paul II the Charlemagne Prize Extraordinary. The unique and truly extraordinary award ceremony took place on 24 March 2004 in Rome.

The conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen traditionally takes place on Ascension Day in the Coronation Hall of the Aachen Town Hall. On the day before, the Charlemagne Prize Europe Forum is held: a conference of distinguished participants to discuss topics

relevant to the future of Europe. An additional event is the conferring of the new "European Charlemagne Prize for Youth", initiated in 2008 jointly with the European Parliament. This award takes up the idea first presented by Kurt Pfeiffer to his literary society, supplementing and enriching it: Like the traditional Charlemagne Prize, the Youth Prize honours role models – in this case young people whose lives exemplify the community of Europeans, thus impressively carrying on the great work of unification.



BARBAROSSA CHANDELIER AACHEN CATHEDRAL



CHARLEMAGNE'S THRONE
AACHEN CATHEDRAL

More than 60 years after its initial proclamation, the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen is still today enduringly contemporary and relevant. Particularly the past weeks and months have exposed sensitivities and weaknesses, including some in the EU; they have shown how important it is to expand in Europe the substance of what we hold in common. If the European Union is not to be just a system of common political institutions or a common market, it must see itself, preferably today rather than tomorrow, as a Political Union. As different from one another as the worldwide financial and economic crisis, the historic events in the Maghreb and the disaster in Japan are, they all make it abundantly clear once more that the European nation states on their own are in no way equal to the challenges of a globalized world. Whatever is at stake, be it peace and freedom, economic well-being and social justice, or energy security and climate protection, the only choice left to the EC member states is the choice between independence without influence and pooling their own interests to achieve a common European position.

The difficulties and the challenges, undiminished in magnitude, facing us in coping with the debt crisis in EU states are indeed not owing to an excess of European unity but rather to the lack of further steps towards integration. It is therefore crucial for the member states and the EU in its entirety to take the right action in consequence of the current crisis. And this consequent action can only be: more Europe.

Already in its selection of Jean-Claude Trichet in 2011, the Board of Directors very purposefully combined the award with a call, addressed to European politics and policy, to continue to deepen integration and to organize a Political Union that can do justice to the claims it makes for itself as well as to its international responsibility. And if the members of the euro zone agree at long last to coordinate their fiscal, budgetary and economic policies in such a way as to make possible a common and mutually aligned policy in these fields as the

outcome, this will be an important step towards achieving more binding commitment on the European level. Wolfgang Schäuble is a forceful and important protagonist on this road. His word carries weight – in Germany and in Europe. He is one of the few currently active politicians who from the 1980s on were involved by important offices and functions in the crucial progress made in European integration: the Single European Act and the Treaty of Maastricht, the Stability and Growth Pact and the treaties of Amsterdam and Lisbon. The East-West-German Unification Treaty of 1990, which was also the means of overcoming the division of Europe, will always be associated with his name. And a good two decades later, great hopes are now pinned on him with regard to crisis-management and achieving a new quality of European cooperation.

As in the past, the Charlemagne Prize of 2012 is thus not only an expression of thanks for outstanding service on the way to a United Europe; it is also a wake-up call, a signal to keep moving consistently along this path. In keeping with this definition, the scope of the Charlemagne Prize itself and the activities of its institutions have long comprised much more than the ceremony on Ascension Day. With the establishment of the Charlemagne Prize Foundation and the Europe Forums, with extensive ancillary programmes organized year by year, and with numerous presentations at other venues, the Charlemagne Prize today communicates its European aims and ambitions much more vigorously than the initiators of the award were able to do in their day. Thus the presentation ceremony in the historic Town Hall is the climax of a large programme of events – lectures, readings, discussions, concerts and performances – during which the diversity of Europe is resident in Aachen.

Dr. Jürgen Linden
Spokesman of the Charlemagne Prize Board of Directors


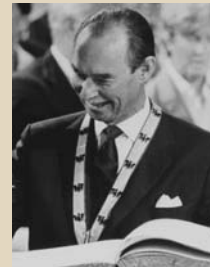


AACHEN CATHEDRAL

THE CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE LAUREATES

				
1950 RICHARD GRAF COUDENHOVE-KALERGI FOUNDER OF THE PAN- EUROPE MOVEMENT	1951 PROF. DR. HENDRIK BRUGMANS RECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN COLLEGE IN BRUGES	1952 ALCIDÉ DE GASPERI PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY	1953 JEAN MONNET PRESIDENT OF THE HIGH AUTHORITY OF THE EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY	1954 DR. KONRAD ADENAUER FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
				
1955 SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF GREAT BRITAIN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO	1957 PAUL HENRI SPAAK SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO	1958 ROBERT SCHUMAN PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	1959 GEORGE C. MARSHALL FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1960 DR. JOSEF BECH HONORARY STATE MINISTER, PRESIDENT OF THE LUXEMBOURG CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
				
1961 PROF. DR. WALTER HALLSTEIN PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY	1963 THE RT. HON. EDWARD HEATH, M.B.E., M.P. BRITISH LORD PRIVY SEAL	1964 PROF. DR. ANTONIO SEGNI PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY	1966 JENS OTTO KRAG PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK	1967 JOSEPH LUNS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

THE CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE LAUREATES




				
1969 THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED BY JEAN REY , PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION	1970 FRANÇOIS SEYDOUX DE CLAUSONNE FORMER FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	1972 THE RT. HON. ROY JENKINS, P.C., M.P. POLITICIAN	1973 DON SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA PHILOSOPHER, SOCIOLOGIST, HISTORIAN	1976 LEO TINDEMANS PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
				
1977 WALTER SCHEEL FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	1978 KONSTANTIN KARAMANLIS PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF GREECE	1979 EMILIO COLOMBO PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	1981 SIMONE VEIL PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT	1982 H.M. KING JUAN CARLOS I OF SPAIN
				
1984 PROF. DR. KARL CARSTENS FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	1986 THE PEOPLE OF LUXEMBOURG	1987 PROF. DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1988 FRANÇOIS MITTERRAND PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND DR. HELMUT KOHL FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	1989 FRÈRE ROGER FOUNDER OF THE COMMUNAUTÉ OF TAIZÉ

THE CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE LAUREATES

				
1990 DR. GYULA HORN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY	1991 VÁCLAV HAVEL PRESIDENT OF THE CZECH AND SLOVAK FEDERAL REPUBLIC	1992 JACQUES DELORS PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES	1993 FELIPE GONZÁLEZ MÁRQUEZ PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN	1994 GRO HARLEM BRUNDTLAND PRIME MINISTER OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY
				
1995 DR. FRANZ VRANITZKY FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA	1996 H.M. QUEEN BEATRIX OF THE NETHERLANDS	1997 PROF. DR. ROMAN HERZOG FEDERAL PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	1998 PROF. DR. BRONISLAW GEREMEK FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND	1999 ANTHONY CHARLES LYNTON BLAIR PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
				
2000 WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2001 GYÖRGY KONRÁD PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY OF ARTS BERLIN, WRITER AND SOCIOLOGIST	2002 THE EURO REPRESENTED BY WIM DUISENBERG, PRESIDENT OF THE ECB	2003 VALÉRY GISCARD D'ESTAING PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION	2004 PAT COX PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

THE CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE LAUREATES

CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE EXTRAORDINARY

				
2004 HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II	2005 DR. DR. CARLO AZEGLIO CIAMPI PRESIDENT OF THE STATE OF ITALY	2006 DR. JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER PRIME MINISTER OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG	2007 DR. JAVIER SOLANA MADARIAGA HIGH REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	2008 DR. ANGELA MERKEL FEDERAL CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
				
2009 PROF. DR. ANDREA RICCARDI HISTORIAN AND FOUNDER OF THE COMMUNITY OF SANT'EGIDIO	2010 DONALD TUSK PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND	2011 DR. H.C. JEAN-CLAUDE TRICHET PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK		



PROCLAMATION 1949

The city of Aachen, once the centre of the entire Western world, becoming thereafter a border town, has always been aware of the historical task of true border-existence: "To mediate and communicate, and to overcome boundaries". The inhabitants of our city were joined by blood-ties to the people of the neighbouring states, and in Aachen there have always been men of superior mind and vision, who in the face of all national parochialism and supposed interests have endeavoured to find the common and binding elements of the Occident and Western civilization.

After two world wars during which the effects of the border situation of our city were especially detrimental and in which the honest efforts of several generations to overcome imaginary national antitheses proved futile, our city, submerged in its own rubble, has striven for its right to survival. But with the broader perception deriving from its dreadful experience, it is more willing than ever actively to engage in the cause of Western unification, and that of economic unity as the indispensable preliminary stage.

Since human progress has always been initiated by individual personalities of genius who despite all opposition totally dedicated themselves to their idea, it must indeed be useful and beneficial to point to these men as examples, and to urge emulation and realization of their ideas.

A number of citizens of our city of Aachen, forever bound to it by birth or by fulfilment of their life vocation, have therefore decided to establish an International Prize of the city of Aachen which in memory of the great founder of Western culture is to be named the "Charlemagne Prize of the City of Aachen".

It will be awarded annually to deserving personalities who have fostered the idea of Western unification in political, economic and intellectual-spiritual regard.

With the participation of the Mayor, the Oberstadtdirektor (chief executive official), the Bishop of Aachen, the Rector of the Technical University and eight other representatives of the business and intellectual life of our city, a Society has been founded which shall be the executive body implementing the tasks in connection with the awarding of the "Charlemagne Prize of the City of Aachen". This Society, which will speak and act on behalf of our great historic tradition and commitment, will in 1950 nominate an award-winner and after the election will announce his name to the public. It aims thereby not only to point in repeated admonition to the unresolved problem of European unification; it will also seek to indicate approaches to the practical solution of this urgent question. In so doing, it seeks the sympathetic cooperation not only of the citizenry of Aachen but the entire Western world.

DR. ALBERT MAAS
MAYOR

ALBERT SERVAIS
OBERSTADTDIREKTOR

DR. JOHANNES JOSEF VAN DER VELDEN
BISHOP OF AACHEN

PROF. DR. WILHELM MÜLLER
RECTOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

DR. KURT PFEIFFER
MERCHANT

HERMANN HEUSCH
PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DR. FRANZ KRAUSS
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

LUDWIG KUHNEN
BÜRGERMEISTER

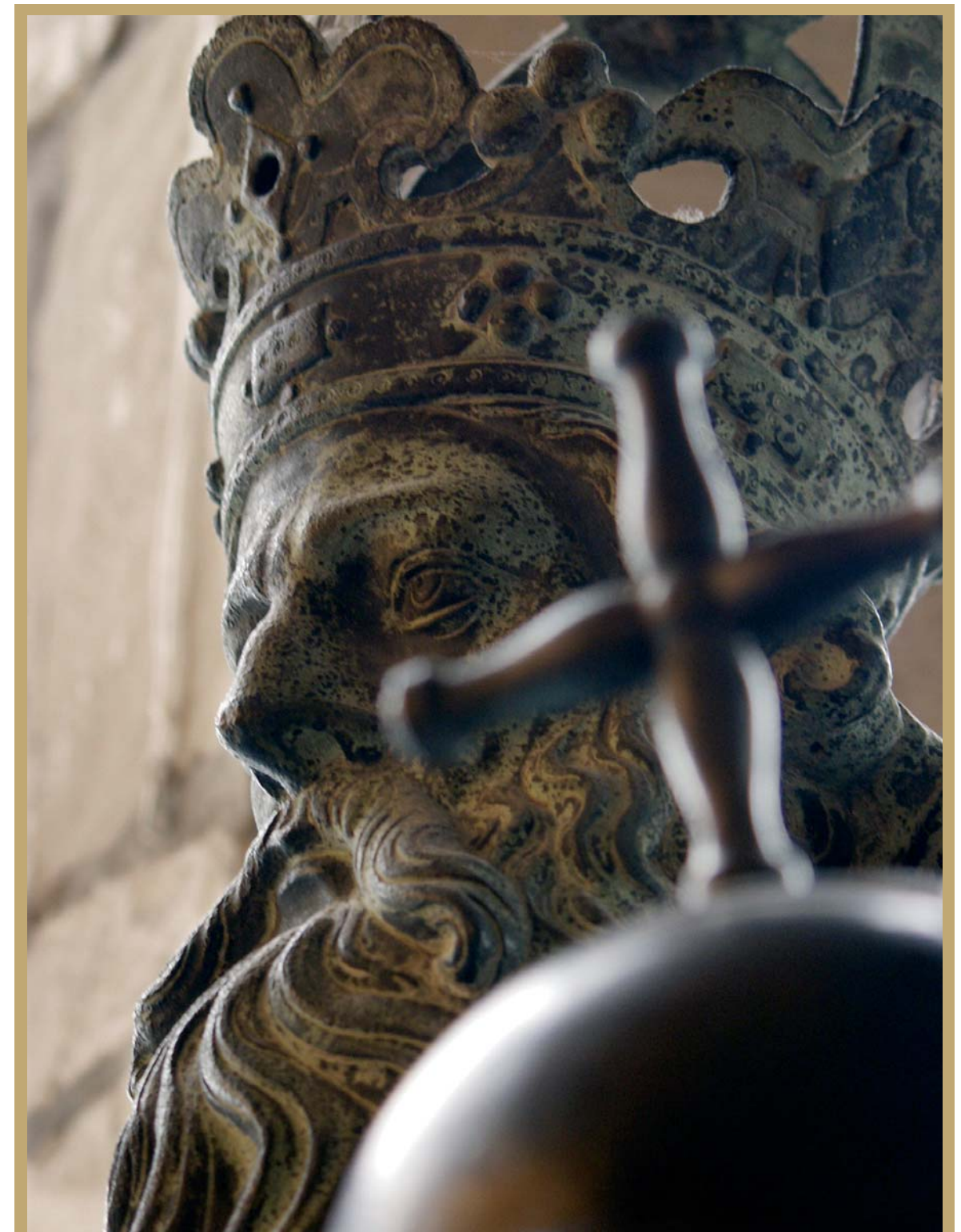
DR. PETER MENNICKEN
UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

CAREL NIEUWENHUYSEN
COMPANY DIRECTOR

ERASMUS SCHLAPP
TEXTILE MANUFACTURER

DR. JEAN LOUIS SCHRADER
COMPANY GENERAL DIRECTOR

STATUE OF CHARLEMAGNE
DETAIL



DECLARATION OF THE AACHEN CITY COUNCIL AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE CONFERRING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN

1990

In respect for the founders of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen and in recognition of the historic proclamation of 1949, the Aachen City Council and the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen declare:

Like the founders of the Charlemagne Prize, we believe that the City of Aachen, by virtue of its age-long border situation, its history, and its current situation in the heart of Europe, has a special commitment to our continent's growing together, to the overcoming of borders and to the friendship of the peoples of Europe.

Given the developments in Germany and eastern Europe since 1989, a comprehensive form of joining together is no longer a utopian venture. In addition, a special role will accrue to Europe in the settlement of the North-South antithesis; and the problem of conserving our vital natural resources by the protection of the environment in Europe and our overpopulated earth will loom ever larger.

The City of Aachen and the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize therefore reaffirm their resolve to award, on Ascension Day in the historic Coronation Hall of the Aachen Town Hall, the

INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN

to personalities and to organizations fostering in a special way the aforementioned goals. The prizewinners will be selected by the Board of Directors of the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen, an independent organization.

Aachen, 14 November 1990

Dr. Jürgen Linden
Mayor of the City of Aachen

Consul Hugo Cadenbach
Spokesman of the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE CONFERRING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

MARCEL PHILIPP
Mayor of the City of Aachen

MSGR. HELMUT POQUÉ
Dean of the Cathedral

PROF. DR.-ING. ERNST SCHMACHTENBERG
Rector of the Aachen University of Technology (RWTH)

ELECTED MEMBERS:

DR. JÜRGEN LINDEN
Spokesman of the Charlemagne Prize Board of Directors

PAUL NEETESON
General Delegate of the Compagnie de Saint Gobain

DIETER PHILIPP
President of the Aachen Chamber of Crafts

IRENE SCHULTE-HILLEN
President of the German Foundation of Musical Life

MICHAEL WESTKAMP
Chairman of the Board, AachenMünchener

MICHAEL WIRTZ
Consul, Partner Grüenthal GmbH

MEMBERS NAMED BY THE PARTIES REPRESENTED ON THE CITY COUNCIL:

ARMIN LASCHET
1st Deputy Chairman of the CDU, State Parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia

HEINER HÖFKEN
Chairman of the SPD, Aachen City Council

HERMANN JOSEF PILGRAM
Member of the GREENS, Aachen City Council

GEORG HELG
Chairman of the FDP, Aachen Municipal-Regional Council

MEMBERS PROPOSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

JOHANNA HOLZHAUER
Senior Editor

PROF. DR. HANS-GERT PÖTTERING MEP
President of the European Parliament (retd.), Chairman of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

MEMBERS DELEGATED BY THE FOUNDATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN:

DR. MICHAEL JANSEN
Spokesman of the Executive Committee

WILHELM BONSE-GEUKING
Chairman of the Foundation Council

(AS OF MAY 2012)



FOUNDATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN - STATUTES



FOUNDATION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE

EXCERPTS FROM THE STATUTES

§ 2 PURPOSE OF THE FOUNDATION

- The purpose of the Foundation is the promotion of the unification of Europe, understanding and communication among the states, the peoples, and the citizens, in particular also
 - the promotion of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen: its importance, its independent conferment, and the further development of its tradition,
 - the collection, preservation and study of the documents of the Charlemagne Prize awards, in an archive to be established for this purpose; and the founding of a scholarly library covering European topics,
 - cooperation and shared sponsorship in arranging programmes and events accompanying the award ceremonies of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen, especially as relating to the person of the Charlemagne Prize awardee, his homeland and his activity in European politics and policy,
 - the organizing and holding of meetings and events promoting the European cause and instilling public awareness of Europe in the political, economic, scientific-academic, cultural and social sectors.
- The Foundation pursues solely and directly public-service aims as defined in the relevant tax-relief laws.
- The Foundation's activities are altruistic and not primarily for its own economic ends. Its funds may be used only for purposes in accordance with the statutes.

§ 5 ORGANS OF THE FOUNDATION

- Organs of the Foundation are: the Executive Committee and the Foundation Council.
- The Foundation has a management body.

§ 6 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- The Executive Committee consists of four persons.
- The term of office is five years. Re-appointment is permissible. The Executive Committee appoints its Spokesman and Deputy Spokesman itself.

§ 12 FOUNDATION SUPERVISORY AUTHORITY

- The Foundation Supervisory Authority is the Cologne Regional Administration; the highest Supervisory Authority is the Interior Ministry of North-Rhine-Westphalia.
- The Supervisory Authority is to be informed upon request about the affairs of the Foundation at any time.
- Information about changes in the make-up of the Executive Committee and of the Foundation Council, as well as the annual accounts and report of activities, are to be submitted automatically to the Foundation Supervisory Authority.

PREAMBLE

PROCLAIMED IN 1949 BY CITIZENS OF AACHEN AND SINCE 1950 AWARDED TO GREAT EUROPEANS IN SPIRIT AND IN DEED, THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN IS TO BE ENHANCED IN ITS IMPORTANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND THE LIFE TOGETHER OF THE CITIZENS, PEOPLES, NATIONS AND STATES IN EUROPE; AND IS TO BE FOSTERED SPIRITUALLY AND MATERIALLY IN ALL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, ACADEMIC-SCIENTIFIC, INTELLECTUAL-CULTURAL AND SOCIAL SECTORS AS AN AROUSING AND INSPIRING SIGNAL.

TO THIS END THE UNDERSIGNED, THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF AACHEN, DR. JÜRGEN LINDEN, AND THE FORMER SPOKESMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN, CONSUL HUGO CADENBACH, AACHEN, HEREBY INITIATE THE ESTABLISHING OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN WITH HEADQUARTERS IN AACHEN.

4 DECEMBER 1997

PATRONS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OF THE FOUNDATION COUNCIL OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN



FOUNDATION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL
CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE

PATRONS:

H.M. THE KING OF SPAIN JUAN CARLOS I
H.M. THE KING OF THE BELGIANS ALBERT II
H.R.H. GRAND DUKE HENRI OF LUXEMBOURG
H.E. DR. HEINZ FISCHER, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

HONORARY CHAIRMAN:

DR. ANDRÉ LEYSEN
Honorary Chairman of Agfa Gevaert N.V.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

DR. MICHAEL JANSEN
Permanent Secretary (retd.), Spokesman of the Executive Committee

PROF. DR.-ING. DR. H.C. MULT. DIPL.-WIRT. ING. WALTER EVERSHEIM
former Spokesman of the Charlemagne Prize Board of Directors

JAN HUYGHEBAERT
Honorary Chairman of the Board of the KBC Groep N.V.

DR. BETTINA LEYSEN
medical doctor, teacher (culture and medicine) at the Catholic University of Mechelen

MEMBERS OF THE FOUNDATION COUNCIL:

WILHELM BONSE-GEUKING
Chairman of the Foundation Council; Chairman of the RAG Foundation Executive Committee

CHEVALIER ALFRED BOURSEAUX
Président Administrateur Délégué Cablerie d'Eupen S.A.

MICHAEL BREUER
Minister of State (retd.) President of the Rheinischer Sparkassen- und Giroverband

H.E. RAFAEL DEZCALLAR
Ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain to the Federal Republic of Germany

UWE FRÖHLICH
President of the BVR cooperative banking group, Bundesverband der Deutschen Volksbanken und Raiffeisenbanken

DR. ULRICH HERMANN
Chief Executive Officer, Wolters Kluwer Germany Holding and Wolters Kluwer Deutschland GmbH

DR. JÜRGEN LINDEN
Spokesman of the Charlemagne Prize Board of Directors

DRS. RENÉ VAN DER LINDEN
Honorary President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe

DR. WERNER HOYER
Minister of State (retd.); President of the European Investment Bank

HANS KAUHSEN
Chairman (retd.) of the Board of the Aachen Sparkasse

PROF. DR. RENATE KÖCHER
Managing Director of the Institut für Demoskopie Allensbach

WOLFGANG KOPF
Senior Vice President for Public and Regulatory Affairs, Deutsche Telekom AG

HANNELORE KRAFT, MEMBER OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT
Prime Minister of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia

DR. DIETMAR KUHN
Chairman of the Board (retd.), RWE AG

DR. KURT LIEDTKE
Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Robert Bosch Foundation

MARCEL PHILIPP
Mayor of the City of Aachen

PROF. DR. DR. H.C. HANS-WERNER SINN
President of the ifo Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich

PROF. DR. JÜRGEN F. STRUBE
Honorary Chairman of the Board of Directors, BASF SE

DR. H.C. ROGER DE WECK
General Director, SRG SSR idée suisse

KLAUS WELLE
Secretary-General of the European Parliament

PROF. DR. ERNST-LUDWIG WINNACKER
Secretary General of the Human Frontier Science Program Organization



ON ASCENSION DAY, THE 17TH OF MAY 2012, IN THE CORONATION HALL OF THE AACHEN TOWN HALL, THE FORMER IMPERIAL PALACE, THE INTERNATIONAL CHARLEMAGNE PRIZE OF AACHEN WAS AWARDED TO THE FEDERAL FINANCE MINISTER, DR. WOLFGANG SCHÄUBLE, IN TRIBUTE TO HIS IMPORTANT SERVICE IN OVERCOMING THE DIVISION AND CONTRIBUTING TO THE STRENGTHENING OF EUROPE.

CORONATION HALL,
AACHEN TOWN HALL

