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FOUNDATION  
PROFILE

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———— INSPIRING

ENABLING —————

———— ACHIEVING

**THE HERTIE FOUNDATION** Since the foundation was formed, we have invested more than 400 million euros in charitable causes. We support people and projects through our two main pillars: brain research and strengthening democracy.

The Hertie Foundation builds on the life's work of Georg Karg, owner of the Hertie Waren- und Kaufhaus department stores. At the initiative of his children and heirs, Brigitte Gräfin von Norman and Hans-Georg Karg, the Board of Directors of the Hertie Family Foundation decided on 10 December 1974 to set up a foundation to promote science, education and general and vocational training (Gemeinnützige Hertie-Stiftung zur Förderung von Wissenschaft, Erziehung, Volks- und Berufsbildung).

Today, our foundation "family" includes prestigious institutions like the **HERTIE INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL BRAIN RESEARCH** in Tübingen, the **HERTIE SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE** in Berlin and **START-STIFTUNG GMBH** in Frankfurt am Main, which supports people from migration backgrounds. With our **FELLOWS & FRIENDS** programme and our **FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**, we have developed ways for the foundation's friends and alumni to stay in touch, follow what we do and help promote our work.

€400 M

INVESTED

in charitable projects since the foundation's inception

≈ 25

CURRENT PROJECTS

6

GERMAN PRESIDENTS

have been patrons of Hertie projects:  
Roman Herzog, Johannes Rau,  
Horst Köhler, Christian Wulff,  
Joachim Gauck, Frank-Walter Steinmeier

≈ 70

EMPLOYEES  
including student temps

4800

ALUMNI IN THE FELLOWS & FRIENDS PROGRAMME

250

COOPERATION PARTNERS

Ministries, universities, businesses,  
local authorities, foundations ...

Subsidiaries:

HERTIE INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL BRAIN RESEARCH

HERTIE SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE

START-STIFTUNG GMBH

**INSPIRING – ENABLING – ACHIEVING**

Mankind is at the heart of our work. Within our core areas we work to improve social cohesion and living conditions. In line with the foundation's motto, we initiate projects that make a difference, bring about change and create long-term benefits.

»Foundations have the privilege of working independently of politics and profit maximisation. That's why we are able to commit ourselves fully to serving people, in line with our founder's intention.«

**FRANK-J.  
WEISE**  
Chairman of the  
Hertie Foundation

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## WE INSPIRE

We have been inspiring people and projects to make a difference for over 40 years. We help people to help themselves and expect those we support to make an appropriate contribution as well. Above all, we initiate and run a large number of projects ourselves.

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## WE ENABLE

We have a strong will to create. We want to make a difference and bring about change. We are convinced that government actions need to be supplemented by citizens' initiatives and we see our work as a contribution to an active, democratic and enlightened civil society.

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## WE ACHIEVE

We prioritise sustainability. A large number of our projects have been running for many years; others are now successfully independent or have been transferred to friends and partners, who continue to run them. This satisfies our aim of embedding projects and their impacts in society.

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# Brain Research

Our brain influences who we are, and how we feel, speak and act. It makes us what we are. As Germany's largest private sponsor of brain research, we help to improve people's understanding of the human brain, the way it works and its diseases.

Our projects in the field of brain research inject new ideas into clinical brain research and the fight against neurodegenerative diseases and multiple sclerosis. In addition, we improve the way research is organised and share our findings with the public.

44%  
OF NEW MS  
PATIENTS

are under the age of 30

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Projected number of  
DEMENTIA  
SUFFERERS  
WORLDWIDE  
IN 2050:

115.4 M

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27%  
OF ALL EUROPEANS

suffer from a brain disorder

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€159 M

FUNDING  
FOR BRAIN  
RESEARCH

since the foundation's inception

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NOBEL  
LAUREATES

have served on the jury of the  
Eric Kandel Young Neuroscientists  
Prize: Linda Buck,  
Paul Greengard, Edvard Moser,  
Erwin Neher and Bert Sakmann

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# EVERY 20 YEARS

THE NUMBER OF ALZHEIMER  
PATIENTS DOUBLES

The rise is caused not only by demographic change, but also by greater awareness, which increases the likelihood of an Alzheimer's diagnosis – the basic prerequisite for access to treatment and care.

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## BRAIN RESEARCH

# CREATING STRUCTURES

Our society is ageing, making us more susceptible to brain disorders. This is why we need more research and better organisational models for research. In Tübingen we set up the Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research – Germany’s biggest, state-of-the-art centre for research into neurological diseases – as a model for reform.

# FIGHTING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

More than 200,000 people suffer from multiple sclerosis in Germany. This inflammatory disease of the central nervous system has been a focus of our funding efforts ever since the Hertie Foundation was set up. We support research into the causes of multiple sclerosis and its treatment, offer patients support so that they can help themselves, and work to break down prejudice.

# INFORMING PEOPLE

What is consciousness? And can you delete memories? Knowledge about the human brain has increased rapidly, particularly in recent years, and is of interest to everyone – not just the experts. We support scientific events, present exciting research findings clearly and publish them through websites, lectures, exhibitions and projects for schoolchildren.

» For us humans, brain research is part of the search for ourselves, for the human condition. The brain determines our perceptions, decisions, emotions and actions. Neuroscience therefore has an effect on all areas of life.«

**PROF.  
WOLF SINGER**  
Member of the Hertie  
Foundation Board  
of Trustees, director  
emeritus of the Max  
Planck Institute for  
Brain Research

# Strengthening democracy

Democracy forms the basis for peace, freedom and security, making it a mainstay of our society, but political apathy is currently taking on dramatic forms. We support people and projects that play an active role in strengthening our democracy and securing social cohesion in Europe.

Our projects in the field of strengthening democracy inject new ideas that enable people to help shape our democracy, promote integration and strengthen social cohesion. We have a particular focus on convincing young people that getting involved in our democracy is worthwhile.

## THE 5TH CENTURY B.C.

was when the early precursors of democratic government first emerged

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JUST

8%

of the members of German political parties are YOUNGER THAN 30

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On average, since 1990, parties have

LOST

37%

OF THEIR MEMBERS

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28.5%

DIDN'T VOTE in the 2013 Bundestag election

52.1%

DIDN'T VOTE in the 2014 European elections

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200,000

SCHOOLCHILDREN

practise political debating each year through the Jugend Debattiert programme

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## STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

## SHAPING SOCIETY

We are convinced that our society needs people who want to make a difference in the world. At the Hertie School of Governance we give students the tools they need to make a difference. As we prepare young people for leadership tasks, we are stretching and supporting the democracy shapers of the future.

## SUPPORTING INTEGRATION

We see integration as an important part of a sound democracy and social cohesion. For this reason, we support people and projects that demonstrate new solutions for successful integration. With our German Integration Prize (Deutscher Integrationspreis), for instance, we are using crowdfunding for the first time and testing new models for finding, selecting and financing foundation projects.

## FORMING OPINIONS

A lively culture of debate is a mainstay of a healthy democracy. With our national Jugend Debattiert school competition we help young people to respect other opinions from an early age, to argue their own position and to contribute to a diverse, democratic society as responsible citizens.

» How does democracy function beyond the nation state – in the EU, for instance? How robust are democracies against populism and how good are they at integrating? Our aim is to contribute to a better functioning of open, pluralistic societies through a better understanding of democracies.«

**PROF. HENRIK  
ENDERLEIN**  
Vice President of the  
Hertie School of  
Governance

# M I L E S T O N E S

1974

The Hertie Foundation is established.

The Hertie name comes from Hermann Tietz, who co-founded the Hertie chain of department stores at the end of the 19th century.

1974–94

A focus on **multiple sclerosis** (research & support for patients).

1992

**Hertie Award for Commitment and Self-Help** presented for the first time.

1998

Karstadt shares are sold off, severing the link to the department store and creating **new options** for expanding the foundation's funding activities.

1999

**berufundfamilie gGmbH** set up to address issues of combining work and family. Audits introduced. Since 2016, certifications have been handled by **berufundfamilie Service GmbH**.

2000

A pilot debating project for young people (**Jugend Debattiert**) launches in Frankfurt and is soon rolled out nationwide.

2001

First **NeuroForum Frankfurt** lecture series provides up-to-date insights into brain research. **START** scholarship offered for the first time. There are now over 2000 scholarship holders and alumni.

2003

**Hertie School of Governance** set up in Berlin as the first private German university for public policy.

2004

**Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research** opens in Tübingen. It is Germany's biggest, state-of-the-art centre for research into neurological diseases.

2006

First **Hertie Senior Research Professorship** for neuroscience awarded.

2009

**Eric Kandel Young Neuroscientists Prize** awarded for the first time.

2011

[www.dasgehirn.info](http://www.dasgehirn.info) goes live.

2012

**fellows & friends** platform set up to consolidate all alumni activities.

2015

**Hertie Innovation Centre for Advanced Practitioners** established.

2016

**German Integration Prize** awarded for the first time.



The foundation's headquarters are in Frankfurt am Main. We also have an office in Berlin that acts as a link to our projects in Berlin and the networks of the capital.

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