

———— INSPIRING

ENABLING —————

———— ACHIEVING

THE HERTIE FOUNDATION

Since our foundation, we have dedicated more than 500 million euros to charitable purposes. We support people and projects within the scope of our key issues, 'Brain Research' and 'Strengthening Democracy'.

The Hertie Foundation is grounded in the life's work of Georg Karg, owner of the Hertie Waren- und Kaufhaus GmbH. On the initiative of the children and heirs, Brigitte Gräfin (Countess) von Norman and Hans-Georg Karg, the board of the Hertie Familienstiftung (family foundation) decided to establish the Gemeinnützige Hertie -Stiftung zur Förderung von Wissenschaft, Erziehung, Volks- und Berufsbildung (The Hertie Foundation for the Promotion of Science, Education, Public and Vocational Training) on the 10th December 1974. The name 'Hertie' dates back to Hermann Tietz who had co-founded the department store company of the same name at the end of the 19th century.

Well-known organisations, such as the **HERTIE-INSTITUT FÜR KLINISCHE HIRN-FORSCHUNG** (clinical brain research) in Tübingen, the **HERTIE SCHOOL** in Berlin, as well as the **START-STIFTUNG GGMBH** in Frankfurt am Main, number among our foundation 'family'. With **FELLOWS & FRIENDS** and the **FREUNDESKREIS E.V.**, we have initiated formats whereby companies and alumni of our Foundation continue to stay in contact with us, observe our work and help to advance it.

500 M.

EUROS SPENT
on charitable projects

≈ 25

CURRENT
PROJECTS

6

FEDERAL
PRESIDENTS

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

≈ 70

EMPLOYEES
including student assistants

7,000

ALUMNI OF THE
FELLOWS & FRIENDS
PROGRAMME

Subsidiaries:

START-STIFTUNG
GGMBH

HERTIE SCHOOL

HERTIE-INSTITUT FÜR
KLINISCHE HIRNFORSCHUNG
(CLINICAL BRAIN RESEARCH)

200

COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERS

ministries, universities, companies,
municipalities, foundations

INSPIRING – ENABLING – ACHIEVING

People are at the centre of our work. Within the scope of our guiding themes, we are committed to improving co-existence and living conditions. In the spirit of our foundation's motto, we initiate projects which inspire, change and create long-term benefits.

» Foundations have the privilege of being able to work independently of politics and profit maximisation. This is why we can place ourselves fully at the service of the people in the spirit of our founder. «

**FRANK-J.
WEISE**

Chairman of the Board
of the Hertie Foundation

WE INSPIRE

For nearly 50 years, we have been endowing people and projects to succeed. We offer assistance for self-help and expect that those we support also make an appropriate contribution themselves. We predominantly initiate our own projects and are operationally-active.

WE ENABLE

We have a pronounced will to shape things, we want to enable and change things. We are convinced that state action has to be complemented by citizens' initiatives and see our actions as a contribution to an active, democratic and enlightened civil society.

WE ACHIEVE

We focus on sustainability, on the long-term. Many of our projects have been running for several years, others have been successfully transferred to become independent, or to friends and partners who continue the respective projects. In this way, we stay true to our claim to anchor projects and their achievements in society in the long-term.

Brain Research

Our brain influences who we are, how we feel, speak and act. It makes us who we are. As one of the largest private sponsors of brain research in Germany, we help people to better understand our brain, how it works and the diseases it can cause.

In our guiding theme, 'Brain Research', our projects provide impetus in clinical brain research and in combating neuro-degenerative diseases and multiple sclerosis. Furthermore, we improve the organisation of research and share insights gained with the public.

44%

OF ALL MS CASES
affect people under the age of 30

Extrapolation of the number of
PEOPLE WITH
DEMENTIA
WORLDWIDE

115.4
M.

27%

OF ALL
EUROPEANS
suffer from brain disease

€

195 M.

OF FUNDING
PROVIDED

for neurological science research, since
the establishment of the foundation



NOBEL
LAUREATES

have thus far been represented on the jury
of the Eric Kandel Young Neuroscientists
Prize: Linda Buck, Paul Greengard, Edvard
Moser, Erwin Neher, Bert Sakmann and
Thomas Südhof

Currently, around

1.6 M. PEOPLE

ARE AFFECTED BY DEMENTIA;

by 2060, this number will increase to approximately three million in Germany. The rise is not only due to demographic change, but also to increased awareness: it increases the likelihood of an Alzheimer's diagnosis, because this is actually the prerequisite for access to treatment and care.

BRAIN RESEARCH

CREATING STRUCTURES

We live in an ageing society and are therefore more susceptible to diseases of the brain, and this is why we need more research and better organisation models. With the 'Hertie-Institut für klinische Hirnforschung' (clinical brain research) in Tübingen, we have founded Germany's largest and most modern centre for research into neurological diseases as a reform model; with the Hertie Network of Excellence in Clinical Neuroscience, we are providing networking for outstanding neuroscientists at six locations throughout Germany.

THE FIGHT AGAINST MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

In Germany, more than 200,000 people suffer from multiple sclerosis. Since the establishment of the Hertie Foundation, the focus of our funding efforts has been on this inflammatory disease of the central nervous system. We support research into the causes of, and therapies for, the disease, offer those affected help to help themselves and are committed to breaking-down prejudice.

INFORMING PEOPLE

What is consciousness? Can machines learn to think? Particularly in recent years, our knowledge and understanding of the brain has greatly increased – and this is not just of interest for experts. We support scientific events, prepare exciting findings in brain research in a vivid way and communicate them in lectures, films, exhibitions, blogs and social media.

» Research into brain disease presents medicine with a very particular challenge. These diseases are frequently highly complex and those affected are burdened with profound disturbances of their personal experience. Interdisciplinary neuroscientific centres, such as the 'Hertie-Institut für klinische Hirnforschung' (clinical brain research) are doing real pioneering work in this field.«

**PROFESSOR DR.
H.C. MULT. OTMAR
D. WIESTLER**
Member of the Board of
Trustees of the
Hertie Foundation,
President of the
Helmholtz Association

Strengthening Democracy

Every democracy is only as strong as the people who support it, and because we believe that democracy can be practised, our projects impart knowledge and skills which enable people to actively participate in democratic processes. In this way, we secure and promote our democratic culture and social cohesion – digitally and analogue.

In our guiding theme of 'Strengthening Democracy', we set impulses in our own projects, and together with our partners, which maintain and expand democratic competence in our society. To achieve this, we are primarily involved in the thematic fields of 'good governance', the 'democratic public sphere' and 'social cohesion'.

ONLY

30%

of Germans have
CONFIDENCE
IN POLITICAL
PARTIES

57%

of mayors in larger cities have
filed complaints regarding

HATE AND
VIOLENCE

Almost one-third of all internet-users

PRIMARILY GET THEIR
NEWS VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

in the 18-24 age group, it is actually

52%

14.4%

of eligible voters in the 2021
federal elections

WERE YOUNGER THAN 30 YEARS OF AGE

200,000

PUPILS & STUDENTS

practise the culture of political debate every year at
'Jugend debattiert' (young people debate)

STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

ORGANISING POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Trust or confidence in a democracy depends on how people view or experience the state, its institutions and representatives in authorities and parliaments. This is why we are committed to improving political processes and decision-making, whilst also motivating young people in particular to actively participate in our democratic culture – such as at the ‘Hertie School’ and projects like ‘Jugend entscheidet’ (young people decide).

COMMUNICATING DEMOCRATICALLY

Constructive discourse is a fundamental precondition for a strong democracy. It needs debate, but also respect for those who think differently, be this on- or offline. We are committed to a lively culture of debate in society and business. However, we also support the recognising and countering of fake news, disinformation and hate speech on the net and engage productively, for example, with projects, such as ‘Jugend debattiert’ (young people debate) or the ‘Business Council for Democracy’.

SOCIETAL COHESION

We are convinced that a lively democratic culture forms the basis of successful co-existence; this is why we support people and initiatives which contribute to a strong and multifaceted democracy, thus strengthening our societal cohesion – such as with projects entitled ‘MITWIRKEN’ (collaboration/achieving together) or ‘START’.

» Pluralist, open democracy is the operating system which connects society and the state – and that which separates us from the autocrats. However, we must do more in order to renew and defend – both internally and externally. This is the great challenge of our time.«

**DR. CONSTANZE
STELZENMÜLLER**
Fritz Stern Chair on
Germany and
trans-Atlantic Relations,
Brookings Institution

MILESTONES

1974

The Hertie Foundation is established.

The name 'Hertie' dates back to Hermann Tietz who had co-founded the department store company at the end of the 19th century.

1974–94

First and foremost, funding in the area of **multiple sclerosis** (research and support of those affected).

1992

First awarding of the **Hertie Prize for Commitment and Self-Help**.

1998

Due to the sale of Karstadt shares, there are no longer any ties to the department store – this creates **new opportunities for expanding** the funding.

1999

Founding of the **berufundfamilie gGmbH** and establishing of the audit. Since 2016, **berufundfamilie Service GmbH** has been responsible for the certification.

2000

The pilot project entitled '**Jugend debattiert**' (young people debate) launches in Frankfurt and, shortly thereafter, nationwide.

2001

First **NeuroForum-Frankfurt** provides up-to-date insights into brain research.

2003

Foundation of the **Hertie School** in Berlin as the first private university for public policy.

2004

Opening of the **Hertie-Institut für klinische Hirnforschung** (clinical brain research) in Tübingen, one of Germany's largest and most modern centres for research into neurological diseases.

2009

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

2012

Setting-up of the **fellows & friends** platform to concentrate the Alumni activities.

2017

The **German Integration Prize** is awarded for the first time and, as of 2020, expanded thematically and in terms of content as '**MITWIRKEN**' (collaboration/achieving together).

2019

The **Hertie Network of Excellence in Clinical Neuroscience** brings together the best minds from research and clinical application.

2020

'**Jugend entscheidet**' (young people decide) is advertised and seeks courageous municipalities who want to encourage young people to become actively involved in politics.

2021

The **Business Council for Democracy** begins its work as a democracy initiative for the working world.

2022

The **START-Stiftung gGmbH** celebrates its 20th anniversary.



The headquarters of our foundation is in Frankfurt am Main. In addition, we have an office in Berlin which serves as an interface for the projects in Berlin and the capital city's networks.

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