

MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER



From an Active Trimester to Another one

Our foundation has embarked into new projects and started its pre-trip for future conferences, as well as participated to major workshops and welcome new guests.

Top News

New Conferences and Round
Tables

Welcoming Dr. Lars Hänsel
Hannover Messe Preparation

Brussels Visit

New Länderberichte

More Engagement and
Networking Opportunities





Welcome from the Director

Dear Friends of KAS-Canada,

The month of March stood for a strong expansion of our activities in every respect. We as KAS Team Canada are a little proud of this. In our tried-and-tested podcast format, we dealt with the consequences of the announced punitive tariffs imposed by the USA against Canada and their consequences. Our interviewees are recognized experts in Canada (CGAI and Mr. Aaron Gasch Burnett) Just feel free to listen again. But our roundtable format in the Rideau Club behind closed doors has also become established. Together with the Asia-Pacific Foundation, we were able to organize a roundtable with the participation of numerous ambassadors, according to the representatives from European Union Tuts, Japan, Germany, and the South Korea. Our country report for Canada has been able to present the current political situation in Canada in detail. After Mark Carney was sworn in on March 13 to succeed Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who has since resigned, Canada is apparently facing new elections at the end of April or in May (adjust here if necessary). At this point, we would like to thank former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for his work since 2015 and wish his successor, Mark Carney, all the best and much strength for the good of Canada. The upcoming election campaign in Canada will undoubtedly be influenced by punitive tariffs after Donald Trump's attacks on his closest ally Canada. Who do Canadians most trust to fend off the attacks of the USA wisely and prudently and to limit the economic damage? The election winner of the province of Ontario, Doug Ford, has announced increased counter-tariffs on energy supplies to the USA as prime minister, thus drawing the ire of the American president. Congratulations to the election winner in Ontario too, and just as much strength and success for the benefit of the people in the important province of Ontario. While at the beginning of 2025 it still looked like a clear electoral success for the conservatives under the leadership of Pierre Poilievre, the latest polls now predict a neck-and-neck race between the Liberals and the Conservatives. Pierre Poilievre is an experienced and clever politician who is trusted by just as many observers to lead the proud country of Canada, especially since he also takes a very clear Canada-First stance. As a political foundation, we are looking forward to further developments, especially since the new and reduced cabinet of the new Prime Minister, who himself does not have a seat in the House of Commons, consists to a large extent of well-known representatives of the former Trudeau government.

In these times of global crises, Canada undoubtedly needs a stable and effective government as soon as possible. Trade war with the USA and the challenges at home are enormous. Canada's further course is also of high geopolitical relevance because Canada holds the presidency of the G7 countries this year and preparations for the meeting of the annual conference in Canada in June 2025 are in full swing.

In March, our office was actively involved in the dialogue program Germany-Canada of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Our Head of the North America-Europe Department, Dr. Lars Hänsel, was able to hold numerous discussions on the current situation in Canada and with regard to the transatlantic alliance. As part of an additional roundtable discussion, he took a look at the recent elections to the German Bundestag in Germany, from which the CDU/CSU emerged as clear winners. The ongoing coalition negotiations with the Social Democrats, who achieved their worst result since the Second World War, are expected to lead to the election of Friedrich as the new chancellor before Easter in Germany. Then Germany, which is still the third strongest economy in the world, will once again have a government capable of acting. The turning away of the USA under Donald Trump from Europe and partly also from NATO is not without consequences there either. The prospective Chancellor Friedrich Merz has announced that he will gradually become more independent of the US in terms of security policy. Germany and Europe will face the current changes with all their strength and will also continue to actively support Ukraine in its fight for freedom and democracy and against the oppression and dictatorship of the Russian aggressor. In my view, strengthening our own defence capability is now an absolute priority. However, the talks with the Ambassador of Israel to Canada and representatives of the Jewish communities in Canada were also significant. By the way, in March, our office and our small team prepared for the preparation of a delegation trip of 9 Canadian representatives from business, science and politics-related areas. Canada is this year's partner country of the world's largest industrial trade fair in Hanover. I was Chairman of the Supervisory Board and the Executive Committee for five years and am looking forward to an exciting programme in Hanover with the participants of this trip, but also to discussions in Magdeburg (Saxony-Anhalt) or with industry representatives and, of course, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Berlin. By the way, some federal states in Germany have established good connections with provinces in Canada in recent years. Both the work between our federal states, as well as the members of parliament of Canada and Germany and the members of the European Parliament, and here especially the EPP, must be intensified in these challenging times of historic upheaval. As a foundation, we continue to rely on a strong transatlantic bond between our countries. Trade wars usually harm everyone who is involved in or affected by them. Securing free world trade and the friendship between Canada and Germany will remain important in the future.

Inside This Issue

- Projects and events end of Q1 of 2025
- New events, conferences
- Welcoming Dr. Hansel and Pre-Trip to Whitehorse Yukon

Dr. Bernd Althusmann

Projects and Events at the end of Q1 2025

Our office has attended to multiple events in March and end of February 2025:



-Organized first roundtable event at Rideau Club in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Foundation.

Esteemed guests included H.E. Tjorven Bellmann, Ambassador of Germany to Canada, H.E. Kanji Yamanouchi, Ambassador of Japan to Canada, H.E. Lim Woongsoon, Ambassador of Korea to Canada, H.E. Geneviève Tuts, EU Ambassador to Canada and Professor Patrick Leblond.



-Participation to Ottawa Conference on Security and Defence, meeting with Hon. Bill Blair, the Minister of National Defence.

-Meeting with Mr. David Cooper, the Vice-President and Head of Government Relations for the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs.

-Meeting Mr. Aaron Burnett at our Office.

-Meeting with KAS Europe Office at Brussels.

-Preparation for Hannover Messe.



KAS Dialogue Programme Visit of Dr. Lars Hänsel

Our office was honored to welcome Dr. Lars Hänsel, our Head of the Department Europe and North America in Canada for a short visit.

Dr. Hänsel met with Dr. Stockemer (UOttawa), Prof. Hurrelmann (Carleton University) to talk about KAS' engagements in academia, organized a roundtable at Rideau Club on Elections in Germany, met with Mr. Blaine Favel to talk about Canada's Indigenous Economy and its history, met with Mr. John Bitzan, Senior Analyst of Bank of Canada, Mr. Kyle Matthews to talk about the Montreal International Security Summit, and paid a visit to EU Delegation in Canada.



Pre-Trip to Whitehorse, Yukon

Our team went to Whitehorse, Yukon to plan the preparation of the Arctic Security Conference, which will take place in September 2025, in collaboration with MacDonald Laurier Institute and as part of our bigger #KAS4Security policy.

Our colleagues Marie and Ezgi was pleased to meet with Andrew Smith, Intergovernmental Relations Officer, in Yukon Government while their visit.

The planning regarding the logistics, climate conditions and cultural activities have been planned.

We are looking forward to welcome you in September 2025, for the 2-day conference and excited to present our work for our network very soon with invitations.



New Episode of KAS Unfiltered

The new episode of our podcast: KAS Canada Unfiltered is hosting the Senior Fellow Mr. Aaron Gasch Burnett, at the Democratic Strategy Initiative, based in Berlin, originally from Calgary.

Guests talk about the past provincial elections in Ontario with Doug Ford, leadership race within the Liberal Party of Canada • Parti Libéral du Canada, the impacts of the new administration in the United States of America and tariffs, and further impacts on European relations, specifically Germany. 🌍✍️

Listen the new episode through here:

<https://ow.ly/1ROx50Vf16c>

To listen to our podcast and other episodes, go to Spotify to our channel.



06/08

Social media and interaction boost

We would like to thank you for reacting to all of our posts and event announcements. Thanks to your reactions, we have more than 1000 followers on LinkedIn now and looking forward to increase our engagement as well!

**+1000
FOLLOWERS
ON LINKEDIN !**

A big
**THANK
YOU**

Our Canada Office, based in Ottawa, was established in 2019, promotes multilateral cooperation as well as exchange between Canada, Germany and Europe on the most important global challenges of our time, especially in the areas of security, technology, climate change and migration.

As the first Chancellor of the newly-formed Federal Republic of Germany from 1949-63, Konrad Adenauer changed the face of post-war German and European history more than any other individual. Adenauer's experiences during the Second World War made him a political realist and he focused his attention on promoting the idea of pan-European cooperation. Our foundation is based on his values.

"When the world seems large and complex,
we need to remember that great world ideals all begin
in some home neighbourhood."

Konrad Adenauer

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