

PRESS RELEASE

M100 SANSSOUCI COLLOQUIUM 2010: „FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN EUROPE“

8 September 2010, Potsdam

Potsdam, 28 July 2010. For the sixth time the international media conference **M100 Sanssouci Colloquium** invites **international editors-in-chief and leading media professionals** to join an intensive dialogue in the scenery of Potsdam's historical Palaces and Gardens.

To match Potsdam as a venue known for tolerance and freedom of speech the conference is dedicated to „**Freedom of Speech in Europe**“ this year. Free press plays a pivotal role in healthy democracies. However, journalists are exposed to increasing pressure and censorship not only in Eastern European states but also in Western Europe. According to Freedom House, freedom of the press and freedom of speech are declining the fourth year in a row in the whole of Europe.

The Colloquium facilitates a direct exchange between the participants in order to determine the state of freedom of the press and freedom of speech in Europe – how governments try to infringe freedom of the media; the consequences that economical pressure and cost reduction entail; the implications of digitalisation for freedom of the press but also the opportunities it offers. Also the relationship between the judiciary and the press will be dealt with.

This year, the participants of this high-profile conference include amongst others: Wolfgang **Blau** (Zeit Online, Germany), Mario **Calabresi** (La Stampa, Italy), Kai **Diekmann** (BILD, Germany), Mathias **Döpfner** (Axel Springer AG, Germany), Mikhail **Fishman** (Newsweek, Russia), Peter **Frey** (ZDF, Germany), Grzegorz **Jankowski** (Fakt, Poland) Hans-Ulrich **Jörges** (Stern, Germany), Paul **Johnson** (The Guardian, GB), Maxim **Kashulinsky** (Forbes, Russia), Michal **Kobosko** (Newsweek, Poland), Berthold **Kohler** (FAZ, Germany), Roger **Köppel** (Die Weltwoche, Switzerland), Merit **Kopli** (Postimees, Estonia), Christoph **Lanz** (DW-TV, Germany), Giovanni di **Lorenzo** (Die Zei, Germany), Georg **Mascolo** und Matthias **Müller von Blumencron** (Der Spiegel, Germany), Jørn **Mikkelsen** (Jyllands Posten, Denmark), Jan-Eric **Peters** (Welt-Gruppe, Germany), Agnieszka **Romaszewska-Guzy** (Belsat, Poland), Anita **Rozentale** (Bauskas Dzive, Latvia), Frank **Schirmmacher** (FAZ, Germany), Tøger **Seidenfaden** (Politiken, Denmark), Markus **Spillmann** (NZZ, Switzerland), Paul **Steiger** (ProPublica, USA), Roland **Tichy** (Wirtschaftswoche, Germany) und John **Witherow** (Sunday Times, UK).

M100 is an initiative by the state capital of Potsdam and Potsdam Media International e.V. and takes place as part of medienwoche@IFA

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The Colloquium is sponsored by **Air Berlin** and **Citroën, Branch Berlin-Alboinstraße**. In cooperation with **medianet.berlin-brandenburg**.

Further information under www.m100potsdam.org

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