

**PRESS RELEASE****FEDERAL CHANCELLOR MERKEL HOLDS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT  
INTERNATIONAL MEDIA CONFERENCE M100 SANSSOUCI COLLOQUIUM**

*Potsdam, Germany, 26 August 2010.* On the occasion of this year's M100 Media Prize held in Potsdam on the 8 September 2010, the Federal Chancellor, Angela Merkel, will hold the keynote speech. The M100 Media Prize annually honours a personality who left his or her marks in the world and reflects their service to the safeguarding of freedom of expression and the deepening of democracy. In 2006, chancellor Merkel was already the keynote speaker of the Colloquium.

Since 2005, the M100 Sanssouci Colloquium has been inviting **international editors-in-chief and leading media professionals** to join the intensive dialogue in the scenery of Potsdam's historical Palaces and Gardens.

Federal Chancellor Merkel stated, "It is in these months, that we as Germans remember on how the SED dictatorship was overcome and our country reunited, 20 years ago. We are still aware of what a lack of freedom implies and should therefore never forget how precious it is. Freedom of the press is one of the main features of a liberal democracy.

The high-profile participants of the conference this year include, Wolfgang **Blau** (Zeit Online, Germany), Stephan **Detjen** (Deutschlandfunk, Germany), Kai **Diekmann** (BILD), Mikhail **Fishman** (Newsweek, Russia), Peter **Frey** (ZDF), Grzegorz **Jankowski** (Fakt, Poland) Hans-Ulrich **Jörges** (Stern, Germany), 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), Matthias **Müller von Blumencron** (Der Spiegel, Germany), Jørn **Mikkelsen** (Jyllands Posten, Denmark), Morgan **Olofsson** (SVT, Sweden), Jan-Eric **Peters** (Welt-Gruppe, Germany), Agnieszka **Romaszewska-Guzy** (Belsat, Poland), Anita **Rozentale** (Bauskas Dzive, Latvia) Frank **Schirmmacher** (FAZ, Germany), Tøger **Seidenfaden** (Politiken, Denmark), Mark **Thompson** (Thomson Reuters, UK), Roland **Tichy** (Wirtschaftswoche, Germany), Christopher **Walker** (Freedom House, USA) and John **Witherow** (The Sunday Times, GB).

**The prize winner as well as the laureate will be announced on 3 September, 2010.**

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

M100 is substantially funded by the **state capital Potsdam, Media-Board Berlin-Brandenburg** and the **Foreign Office**. This year the Colloquium is furthermore supported by **Reporters without Borders**. The Colloquium is sponsored by **Air Berlin, Citroën, Branch Berlin-Alboinstraße** and **Plista GmbH**. Co-operationpartner are **medianet.berlin-brandenburg, Foundation Prussian Palaces and Gardens Foundation Berlin-Brandenburg** and **Federal State of Brandenburg**. Please find further information under [www.m100potsdam.org](http://www.m100potsdam.org)

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