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AmCham Germany's Policy Committees Reports 2010-11

Advocacy

AmCham Germany Policy Activities

Voice of Business

Policy Committees, specialized Working Groups and the International Business Committee constitute AmCham Germany's forum for discussing and defining policy recommendations on critical business issues. They develop position statements and press releases in order to deliver our member's opinions to decision-makers and stakeholders in Germany, the US and Brussels. With your support, AmCham Germany can be an effective voice on the policy issues that matter to you.

Structure and Organization of Committees

Some committees are composed of a small Steering Group and a larger Corresponding Group. All Corporate Members are welcome to become Corresponding Members. Corresponding Members receive frequent e-mail updates on Committee activities, position papers, and meetings. Members are expected to be active, delivering their input on the issues that matter most to them. If you are interested in a committee, please find below the annual report of all committees and contact details of the responsible AmCham Germany staff.

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Corporate & Business Law Committee

Committee's Mission

The AmCham Corporate and Business Law Committee analyzes and monitors questions relating to commercial and company law in transatlantic business operations. The committee provides a forum for exchanging information and best practices. The committee continuously expands its dialogue with decision-makers in Brussels and Berlin.



Chairpersons

Dr. Mark C. Hilgard,
Mayer Brown LLP
Joachim Scholz,
BASF SE

Review Activities 2010-11

Class Actions, Mass Litigation, Collective Redress

During a meeting in late January 2010, participants discussed insights into class action litigation in Europe and in other various jurisdictions, covering viewpoints of experienced plaintiff and defense class action lawyers. The meeting was jointly organized by the Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA), the American Bar Association (ABA), Section of Litigation, the Deutsche Anwaltverein (DAV), the German Chamber of Commerce (IHK) Frankfurt am Main, the Rechtsanwaltskammer (RAK) Frankfurt am Main, the Stiftung der Hessischen Rechtsanwaltschaft, the Fortbildungs- und Service GmbH der Hessischen Rechtsanwaltschaft and AmCham Germany.

Experts gave guidance on multi-jurisdictional litigation and addressed different types of class action, such as antitrust class action and securities litigation in the capital markets. Topics such as the role of liability insurers in mass litigation scenarios and the impact of bankruptcy on pending class

actions were also presented. The status of prominent cases such as The Pirate Bay and Deutsche Telekom was another topic addressed by experienced lawyers in the field of mass litigation.

Social Media Networks

In a meeting in early November 2010, members of the Committee engaged in discussions on the consequences of the growing proliferation of social media networks and their usage in the workplace. Risks and opportunities for businesses as well as advantages and disadvantages of regulating the use of social media networks in the workplace were identified. As of today, a large majority of firms does not yet have a formal social media policy. Furthermore, recent jurisdiction declared most layoffs based on social media usage invalid.

Compliance

Committee Members gathered in late March 2011 to meet with Dr. Andreas Pohlmann, Member of the Executive Board of Ferrostaal AG, to discuss the challenges associated with implementing compliance within the organizational structures for small-and medium sized companies

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ Data protection, IT security
- ▶ Corporate governance – Compliance issues for the German "Mittelstand"

More Information

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Corporate Responsibility Committee

Committee's Mission

As businesses continue to identify corporate responsibility as part of their market strategy, AmCham seeks to highlight the various activities of multinational companies in the field of corporate responsibility. The CR Committee provides a platform for the exchange of best practices. The group convenes to identify trends in the field of CR and to discuss regulatory initiatives with the goal of preparing statements to present to political decision makers and the media. In doing this, the CR Committee seeks to support the activities of multinational corporations among relevant organizations and stakeholders within the domain of corporate responsibility.



Chairperson

Uwe Kleinert, Coca-Cola GmbH

Review Activities 2010-11

Discussing the national CSR strategy with Dr. Annette Niederfranke and Jörg Trautner (BMAS)

During the discussion the members underlined discussed the diverse and numerous activities of their companies in the field of CSR and stressed the importance of not distinguishing between German and foreign companies. The goal is to become more involved in further developments and discussions with the stakeholders developing the CSR strategy.

Position Statement on the draft of the German Sustainability Code ("Nachhaltigkeitskodex")

Complexity of a new codex in comparison to already existing codices:

It should be the goal of a codex to simplify reporting instead of creating additional work for both SMUs but also large corporations.

Effect on international capital markets:

International standards are more suitable for multinational corporations that are trad-

ing on both the US and the German stock exchange.

Voluntary reporting as a successful procedure in practice:

A new codex shall be based on a voluntary basis in analogy to the Global Reporting Initiative.

CR Publication 2011 and Survey on „Corporate Volunteering“

With the 6th edition AmCham Germany and the FAZ-Institut continue to follow trends in Corporate Volunteering and stress their importance to both society and the corporate world. This year's publication, which is to coincide with the European Year of Volunteering 2011, focuses on corporate volunteering and is accompanied by a survey carried out together with Roland Berger Strategy Consultants. The publication and survey will be available at the beginning of May.

AmCham Corporate Responsibility Charta

The CR Charta summarizes in ten points the numerous activities and principles of its member companies on a common set of issues.

Committee Issues in 2010/2011

- ▶ Activities and future of the "CSR Forum" by the German Federal Government
- ▶ Development of a national CSR Strategy
- ▶ Position statement on the draft of the German Sustainability Code by the German Council for Sustainable Development

More Information

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Financial Services Committee

Committee's Mission

The Financial Services Committee engages in policy issues and discussions relating to financial developments on national, European and global levels. The committee takes a special interest in the promotion of a business- and investment-friendly financial legal framework in Germany. Activities focus on developments in the banking and insurance industry, consolidation trends and bank assurance concepts on both the EU and national level. Additionally, trends and developments in the financial services sector in the United States are closely monitored.



Chairpersons
Rolf Maihöfer,
Citigroup
Volker Sach,
F.A.Z.-Institut

Review Activities 2010-11

The global financial and economic crisis remains a major topic for the Financial Services Committee and the issue of differing regulations between the US and EU will be examined.

Effects of the Global Financial Crisis

At a roundtable discussion on June 29, 2010, the committee welcomed Prof. Dr. Stefan Gerlach, Managing Director, Institute for Monetary and Financial Stability and six representatives from the media and the finance sector to engage in a lively discussion at the House of Finance at the Goethe Universität Frankfurt on the causes of the financial crisis and, most importantly, the lessons to be learned from it. While opinions on the best methods to address the crisis may differ, all agree that this is a subject that merits everyone's attention.

Other Meetings Over the Past Year Include:

- ▶ November 4, 2010, John Douglas, Former General Counsel of the US Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and partner at Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP, Washington, DC, "Key Aspects of the New Financial Regime"
- ▶ November 19, 2010, Thomas Mirow, President, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Joint Committee Meeting with Corporate and Business Law Committee

AmCham Position Paper:

Reshaping the Global Financial System

The Committee addressed structural and legal aspects of the global financial system and offers its own recommendations on how best to address the challenges of the current environment in a position paper (9/2010).

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ International financial market integration
 - ▶ Basel III
 - ▶ Accounting standards
 - ▶ Hedge Funds and Private Equity – Alternative Investment Funds
 - ▶ Restructuring and Insolvency
 - ▶ Capital market access and competitiveness, Capital Requirement Directive
- ▶ Global financial crisis/ Sovereign debt crisis

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Government Relations Committee

Committee's Mission

The Government Relations Committee is AmCham Germany's primary coordinator when the Chamber deals with political decision-makers in Germany. Its main objectives are improving Germany's business position on the world market („Standort Deutschland“), enhancing conditions for investment in Germany and promoting fair competition within Germany's various markets. In pursuing these aims, the committee regularly meets with Members of Parliament as well as the Administration and, among other activities, hosts AmCham Germany's annual parliamentary reception in Berlin.



Chairperson

Hans-Peter Teufers,
United Parcel Service

Review Activities 2010-11

- ▶ For the seventh time, the Government Relations Committee (GRC) was active in supporting AmCham Germany's Parliamentary Reception "Parliament meets US Investors" held on April 20, 2010 in Berlin on the occasion of the presentation of the annual Business Barometer. This publication evaluates Germany as a business location from the perspective of US investors.
- ▶ On October 4, 2010, members of the Government Relations Committee jointly with the Transatlantic Business Committee met with the US Embassy's new Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, Seth Winnick, and briefed him on current political issues relevant to their businesses in Germany.

- ▶ In another joint breakfast meeting on January 21, 2011, committee members discussed the US National Export Initiative and German-American Economic Relations with Lorraine Hariton, Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs, US Department of State.

Committee Issues in 2010-11

- ▶ Germany as a business location („Standort Deutschland“)
- ▶ Liberalization of telecommunications, postal and energy markets
- ▶ Germany as a transport and logistics location
- ▶ Copyright law

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ Maintain close contact with the German government and key political decision makers in order to enhance conditions for investment in Germany
- ▶ Closely monitor the 2011 elections in seven German states, establish new contacts and continue existing dialogues

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Health Care Committee

Committee's Mission

The Health Care Committee represents the interests of international pharmaceutical research companies in Germany. The Committee focuses on regulatory issues related to pharmaceutical products and seeks to promote a less regulated market, friendlier investment climate and further research opportunities within Germany on the national and European level. It aims to engage policy makers and manufacturers in cooperative efforts and to combine strengths with other pharmaceutical lobby groups. The committee seeks to maintain clear, constructive and open communication with various policy and decision-makers and to monitor the development of the pharmaceutical market.



Chairpersons

Jeremy Morgan, Lilly
Deutschland GmbH
(Chair)

Günter Fortmann, LAWG
PhRMA (Co-Chair)

Review Activities 2010-11

In the light of the federal government's efforts to push for cost reductions within the German health care system and the legislative process of the Act on Restructuring of the Pharmaceutical Market (AMNOG), the AmCham Germany Health Care Committee strongly intensified its dialogue with politicians and experts to discuss the planned interventions directly affecting the pharmaceutical industry. In numerous meetings, members of the Health Care Committee were in constant contact with Members of Parliament and representatives of health, economic and research ministries at federal and state level, with a particular focus on federal states that have strong pharmaceutical industry representation. In a Top Level Meeting with the Federal Minister of Health

Dr. Philipp Rösler (October 22, 2010), committee members stressed the significance of planning reliability and of access to innovative medicines and addressed the connection between health, innovation and economic policies. Finally, the committee continued its close dialogue with the US Embassy throughout the year, meeting, among others, with Ambassador Philip D. Murphy for a roundtable discussion on October 5, 2010.

Studies

- ▶ "Forecast Special Care Drugs: Development of the Market of Special Care Drugs" (IGES Institut)
- ▶ Available for download at: www.amcham.de/public-affairs/health-care.html

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ Continue the constructive dialogue with the German government on federal and state level as well as other stakeholders
- ▶ Establish inter-ministerial dialogue between the Federal Ministry of Health, the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology, and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research
- ▶ Safeguard implementation of the new legislation (AMNOG)
- ▶ Continue to generate awareness for a more innovation-friendly climate
- ▶ Demonstrate the added value of innovations for patients
- ▶ Explain possible negative consequences of public pricing negotiations with the Central Federal Association of Health Insurance Funds on German exports

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Health Technology Committee

Committee's Mission

The health care market in Germany continues to expand. Recognizing this ever-present potential for investment and employment, the AmCham Health Technology Committee focuses on the importance of innovation for the health care sector and its potential to enhance the efficiency of the German health care system. The committee's mission is to engage in stakeholder discussions about the future of medical technology in Germany as well as to spread information about innovation in the health care sector and the value of health technology for individual patients. While closely collaborating with the Health Care Committee, which represents the interests of international pharmaceutical companies, the Health Technology Committee chooses a broader perspective, also including the dynamic medical device and diagnostic industries.



Chairperson
Matthias Borst,
Becton Dickinson GmbH

Review Activities 2010-11

▶ On July 14, 2010, the AmCham Health Technology Committee came together for its official kick-off meeting in Frankfurt, gathering more than a dozen representatives from pharmaceutical, medical devices, health IT and diagnostic industries. The participants discussed the future activities of the Committee, which will focus on the importance of innovation for the health care sector and its potential to enhance the efficiency of the German health care system.

- ▶ On October 22, 2010 representatives of the Health Technology Committee together with members of the Health Care Committee participated in a Top Level Meeting with the Federal Minister of Health Dr. Philipp Rösler, raising among other issues the importance of laboratory diagnostics in prevention and personalized medicine as well as the swift implementation of new technologies.
- ▶ In the further process of shaping the Committee's profile and developing its work program, committee members convened twice (December 1, 2010, Berlin; February 28, 2011, via conference call) to define priority issues and lay out a communications strategy.

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ Make a contribution in showing how from the perspective of US investors the efficiency of the German health care sector can be increased, while ensuring patients' benefits and creating positive effects for Germany as a competitive health care business location
- ▶ Develop and present a cornerstone paper on the following committee issues: (1) hygiene and infection management, (2) processes, (3) (in-company) prevention, (4) faster implementation of new technologies, (5) personalized medicine, and (6) healthy aging
- ▶ Establish a constructive dialogue and actively engage in discussions with all stakeholders involved

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International Business Committee

Committee's Mission

Combining the resources and long-standing expertise of the former SMB Committee and the German American Business Support Committee, the International Business Committee (IBC) expands AmCham Germany's competence on an international level, while keeping sight of its core mission; fostering transatlantic economic relations.

In a globalized business world, the IBC offers helpful contacts and practical guidance on business matters in the United States. Further objectives of the committee include delivering first-hand information on current economic developments, unbureaucratic help on trade and investments, as well as providing a useful and continually expanding network in Europe, the BRIC-states, NAFTA and Latin America. The IBC especially focuses on small and medium-sized enterprises, a major membership segment of AmCham Germany.

Chairpersons



Ernst Voss, Ross Europa GmbH
Martin Koppenborg, MB-technology GmbH

Review Activities 2010-11

Legal HR Topics in Russia, Poland and Hungary

To extend and stress its international direction, the IBC held a joint event with DLA Piper UK LLP on "Legal HR Topics in Russia, Poland and Hungary". Four labor law experts discussed the current situation to aid investors in their respective countries, thus providing an excellent overview for employers.

Workshop: State Funds for Innovative Methods

Additionally, the IBC organized a workshop for small and medium-sized businesses in Hessen that were interested in receiving state funds for their innovative approaches and methods. The HA Hessen Agentur was a valuable partner here and provided an abundance of information for the participating companies.

Webinar: Expanding Your Business into Germany

As a pilot, the IBC held a two-part, free webinar for companies interested in investing in Germany. "Expanding your business into Germany" targeted foreign investors and dealt with legal and tax issues as well as the regional specifics of the Rhein-Main-region.

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Social and Labor Affairs Committee

Committee's Mission

The Social and Labor Affairs committee seeks to improve labor market conditions in Germany and thus provide greater incentives for investment. It focuses on the following issues:

- ▶ encouraging deregulation of the labor market
- ▶ promoting international personnel mobility, e.g. work permit regulations for foreign employees
- ▶ monitoring and discussing current political developments and legal initiatives related to the labor market on the national and EU level



Chairpersons

Caroline Bitsch,
JUSTEM Rechtsanwältin
Gert Schröder,
UPS

Review Activities 2010-11

Position Statement on Shortage of Skilled Labor

It remains imperative to open the labor market to foreign specialists. The lack of specialized workers will become more acute in the coming years for demographic reasons. AmCham proposes measures that improve access to the German market for foreign skilled labor in order to keep the business location attractive and competitive for companies and investors.

Matrix Structures and Current Labor Market Challenges

The committee will convene on May 31, 2011 in order to discuss current labor market challenges, such as the shortage of skilled labor, demographic change and a female hiring quota. Furthermore, members will have a best-practice exchange on matrix

structures. Dr. Gerlind Wisskirchen, Partner, CMS Hasche Sigle will present legal and theoretical challenges related to matrix structures and Sebastian Wolf, Director HR Projects, Pfizer, Europe, Africa, Middle East Region, will provide insights from the company perspective.

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ Matrix structures in multinational corporations
- ▶ Data Protection
- ▶ Temporary Agency Workers
- ▶ Short-Time Work
- ▶ Immigration and Posting of Workers
- ▶ Shortage of skilled labor

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Sustainability Committee

Committee's Mission

The Sustainability Committee supports the principles of long-term economic efficiency, demand-oriented innovation, social responsibility and excellence in environmental processes and product management within European and German legislation. The committee monitors and engages in the political debates on German environmental policy as well as on European legislative developments and their implementation in Germany. Topics such as climate change and energy policy, energy efficiency, product stewardship, sustainable industrial policy and consumer safety are primary areas of responsibility for the committee.



Chairperson

Dr. Ingrid Herzog, Dow Deutschland Inc.

Review Activities 2010-11

Discussing a sustainable mobility policy with Dirk Inger from the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development

While working on a position statement on innovation for a sustainable mobility, the committee convened with Dirk Inger and Johannes Wien from BMVBS in order to gain new insights into the next steps and priorities of the German government in the field of mobility.

Transatlantic Climate Bridge - Cooperation with US Embassy, Auswärtiges Amt, BMU, BDI
Representatives from the above-mentioned organizations and the government met with representatives from the AmCham Sustainability Committee in February 2011 in Berlin. The goal is to deepen cooperation and increase the exchange of information between all stakeholders on activities, events and delegation visits.

Sub-Working Group on Energy Policy

Responding to the initiative of several AmCham members, AmCham Germany founded a working sub-group on energy policy. The group will be working closely with the sustainability committee under the lead of Dr. Wolfgang Dierker, GE. Priority topics will be identified at the upcoming meeting of the sustainability committee on April 12, 2011 in Berlin.

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ Position statement on innovation for a sustainable mobility (January 2011)
 - ▶ Reducing fuel consumption through improvements in efficiency and the use of lighter building materials
 - ▶ Continued development of sustainable energy sources, including bio-fuels
 - ▶ Alternative fuels: electric cars and fuel cell vehicles that run on renewable energy sources
 - ▶ Promotion of intelligent transportation systems
 - ▶ Efficient use of resources
- ▶ Climate change, energy efficiency and innovation
 - ▶ Green IT
 - ▶ Smart grids
 - ▶ Renewable energy
 - ▶ Sustainable consumption and production
- ▶ Product Stewardship
 - ▶ RoHS/WEEE
 - ▶ REACH

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Tax Committee



Committee's Mission

The Tax Committee monitors the debates on taxation issues in Germany and provides detailed and constructive suggestions to German policy makers for improving tax regulations and administrative practice. The Committee is the most influential tax-focused lobbying group of inbound investors in Germany and maintains good relations across all parties with political leaders and administrative officials at the regional and federal levels. The committee publishes at regular intervals a "Tax Update" newsletter to inform the membership about its work, results and topics.



Chairperson

Charlotte Winzer, P&G

Review Activities 2010-11

The committee focused its efforts on influencing political decision makers and the tax administration mainly on:

- ▶ § 146 AO (maintaining accounting data and servers outside of Germany), improved legislation has just been proposed as part of the "Jahresteuergesetz 2010")
- ▶ transfer of function legislation ("Funktionsverlagerung") with an emphasis on the need for consistency with OECD and international practice, improvements towards better consistency with international standards have been achieved through changes of the original legislation as part of the adoption of the "EU 'Gesetzes zur Umsetzung steuerlicher EU-Vorgaben sowie zur Änderung steuerlicher Vorschriften (17/506), Artikel 9a „Änderung des Außensteuergesetzes

The Committee achieved this through

- ▶ Continuous dialogue with various representatives from the German Finance Ministry (BMF)
- ▶ Meetings with representatives from the Finanzausschuss of the German Bundestag
- ▶ Continuing relationships with several regional political and administrative representatives (Länderregierungsvertreter)
- ▶ Ongoing dialogue with finance representatives from all German parties in various meetings

Tax Update

The Tax Committee summarizes in a Tax Update which is published electronically its major activities and positions.

The Committee's Agenda for 2011–12

Careful monitoring and work of political and legislative developments in the area of e.g. international taxation e.g. TP guidance, transfer of function, potential reform of group taxation and minimum taxation of tax losses, e-balance sheet, reform of communal financing.

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Telecommunications, Internet and Media (TIM) Committee

Committee's Mission

The Telecommunications, Internet and Media (TIM) Committee promotes the continuing liberalization of the TIM markets in Germany. It raises its voice in debates concerning legal changes in telecommunications, IT and media law and aims to create fair competition in those markets. Committee issues range from the expansion of broadband infrastructure to copyright law, cloud computing, data protection or internet service provider liability. To make its voice heard, the TIM Committee publishes position papers and hosts regular breakfast discussions as well as committee meetings with key political players in the field.

Chairpersons

Mike Cosse, Microsoft Deutschland GmbH
Dr. Nikolaus Lindner, eBay GmbH
Dr. Gunnar Bender, E-plus Mobilfunk GmbH



Review Activities 2010-11

TIM Spring Meeting "Responsibility in the German Telemedia Act"

At this year's TIM Spring Meeting held on June 14, 2010 at eBay in Dreilinden, a panel of experts including Thomas Jarzombek, MdB (CDU); Lars Klingbeil, MdB (SPD); Dr. Konstantin von Notz, MdB (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen); Jimmy Schulz, MdB (FDP); Prof. Dr.

Hubertus Gersdorf, University of Rostock; Dr. Wolf Osthaus, 1&1 Internet AG; and Dr. Severin Löffler, Microsoft Deutschland GmbH, explored current issues with companies directly affected by the ambiguity present in current laws and discussed the imminent need for amendments to the German Telemedia Act.

Ongoing TIM Committee effort on reform of the German public broadcast fee system

Throughout 2010, the TIM Committee jointly with other trade associations was active in making the voice of German business heard on the current reform of the German public broadcast fee system. In addition to joint press releases and position statements, representatives of the TIM Committee participated in a meeting with ZDF-Chairman Markus Schächter.

TIM Fall Meeting on amendment of the German Telecommunications Act

On October 7, 2010 TIM Committee members convened for their Fall Meeting at E-Plus in Berlin to discuss the amendment of the German Telecommunications Act (TKG). After a keynote speech by Vice President of the German Network Agency, Dr. Iris Henseler-Unger, presented the investment and competition goals of the amendment, Martin Dörmann, MdB (SPD); Andreas G. Lämmel, MdB (CDU); Burkhardt Müller-Sönksen, MdB (FDP); and Tabea Rößner, MdB (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) participated in a panel discussion on the German Parliament's position on the amendment.

Parliamentary TIM Breakfast "Cloud Computing – Economic Implications, Chances and Challenges"

The TIM committee concluded this year with a Parliamentary TIM Breakfast on December 16, 2010 at the Deutsche Parlamentarische Gesellschaft. After the presentation of DIW's study "Economic Implications of Cloud Computing", Members of Parliament and company representatives discussed chances and challenges of the cloud with Thomas Jarzombek, MdB (CDU) and Dr. Konstantin von Notz, MdB (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen).

TIM Breakfast on ancillary copyrights for press publishers

On February 24, 2011 a TIM Breakfast hosted by Taylor Wessing focused on the current reform of copyright law, particularly the introduction of ancillary copyrights for press publishers. Participants discussed with Ansgar Heveling, MdB (CDU) and Malte Spitz (Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen) whether ancillary copyrights are the appropriate way to secure quality journalism.

The Committee's Agenda for 2011–12

The TIM Committee will continue to actively engage in debates on current telecommunications, IT and media issues and will focus in 2011-12 on the following priorities:

- ▶ Interim report of the Enquete Commission "Internet and Digital Society"
- ▶ Amendment to the German Telecommunications Act (TKG)
- ▶ Copyright law reform / ancillary copyrights for press publishers

- ▶ Privacy, data protection and data security

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Transatlantic Business Committee

Committee's Mission

The Transatlantic Business Committee pursues the overall Chamber goal of achieving unrestricted trade and investment between the United States and Germany. In particular, the reduction of remaining non-tariff barriers is promoted. The committee brings leading figures in American and German politics together with representatives from prominent American and German firms to discuss current transatlantic business issues. The committee plays a leading role in the Chamber's efforts to support and lead to success of the Transatlantic Economic Initiative.



Chairperson
Ulrich Schmitz,
ThyssenKrupp AG

Review Activities 2010-11

The Transatlantic Business Committee (TBC) continued to provide a platform for dialogue between German companies and US government officials.

Committee's Meetings included:

- ▶ October 4, 2010: Meeting with the US Embassy's new Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs Seth Winnick, ThyssenKrupp AG Representative Office, Berlin
- ▶ January 21, 2011: Breakfast Discussion with Lorraine Hariton, Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs, US Department of State, AmCham Germany Office, Berlin

The Committee's Topics 2010

- ▶ Closely followed the G20 Summit in November 2010
- ▶ Positioned AmCham Germany regarding the work of the Transatlantic Economic Council, promoting the elimination of non-tariff barriers
- ▶ Supported AmCham Germany's '10 Point Program for Future Transatlantic Cooperation'

The Committee's Agenda for 2011-12

- ▶ follow current transatlantic developments and position AmCham Germany regarding business topics such as the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) and the G8 and G20 Summits
- ▶ inform about current US policy developments such as the National Export Initiative
- ▶ promote positive bilateral relationships between the US and German governments
- ▶ provide a platform for dialogue with US government representatives
- ▶ promote a transatlantic zero-tariff agreement on trade in goods
- ▶ monitor WTO Doha Round negotiations

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Top Level Meetings 2010-11

- ▶ Dennis Hightower
US Deputy Secretary of Commerce
Dinner, Berlin, 27.01.2010
- ▶ Christine Lieberknecht
Minister President of Thuringia
Top Level Meeting, Erfurt, 08.06.2010
- ▶ Rainer Brüderle
Federal Minister of Economics and Technology
Top Level Meeting, Berlin, 28.06.2010
- ▶ Dr. Jens Weidmann
Head of the German Federal Chancellery's Economic and Financial Policy Division
Meeting with selected AmCham members, Frankfurt, 27.08.2010
- ▶ Peter Harry Carstensen
Minister President of Schleswig-Holstein
Top Level Meeting, Berlin, 24.09.2010
- ▶ Dr. Philipp Rösler
Federal Minister of Health
Top Level Meeting (Health Care Committee), Berlin, 22.10.2010
- ▶ Sigmar Gabriel
Chairman of the Social Democratic Party
Top Level Meeting, Berlin, 02.12.2010
- ▶ Volker Bouffier
Minister President of Hesse
New Year's Reception, Frankfurt, 28.01.2011
- ▶ David McAllister
Minister President of Lower Saxony
Top Level Meeting, Berlin, 11.04.2011

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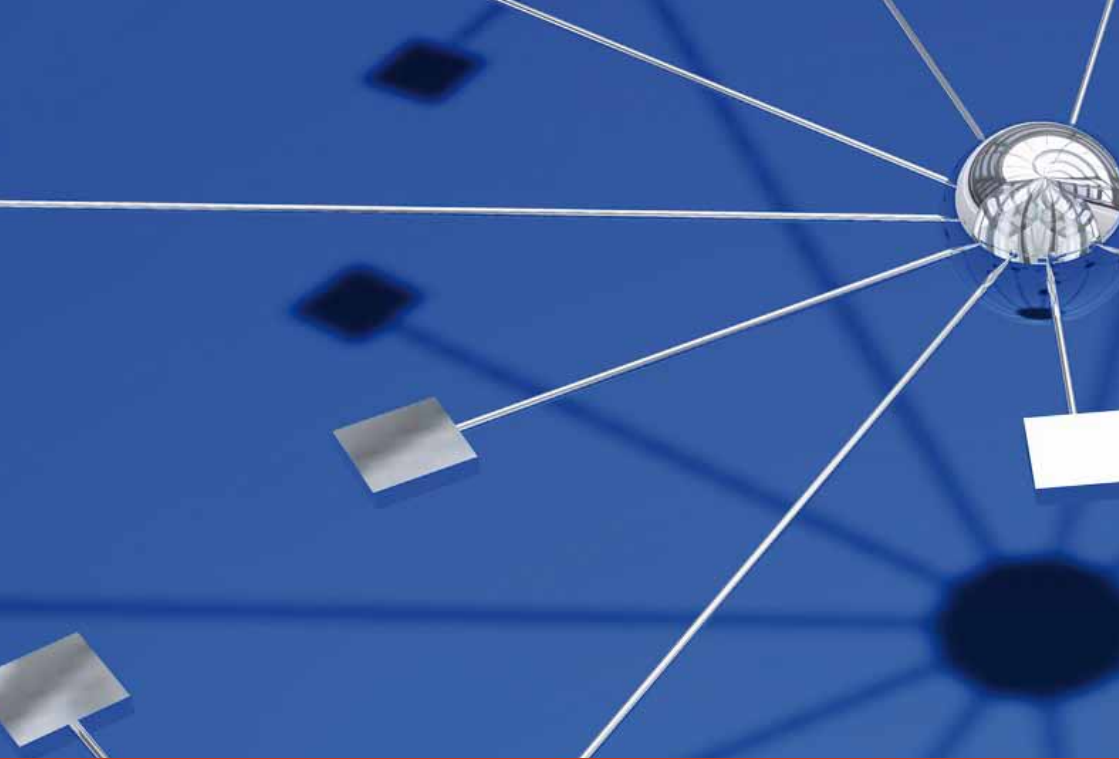
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Access Your Global Network.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Germany strives to enhance global economic and trade relations built on a strong foundation of American and German partnership. We actively promote our members' interests through business, policy and the AmCham global network. AmCham Germany enables cross-cultural understanding, cooperation and new investment through our commitment to transparent dialogue, unrestricted trade and a competitive and open business climate.