

119th General Meeting of AmCham Germany in Berlin on July 6, 2023

Multi-board member Simone Menne re-elected as President of AmCham Germany

Transatlantic partnership has developed outstandingly and has even greater potential

AmCham Germany calls for stronger political impetus to promote free trade and prevent a subsidy race

Berlin, July 6, 2023 – The 119th General Meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce in Germany (AmCham Germany) took place in its 120th anniversary year in Berlin – the site of its founding. The highlight of the Recognition Dinner the evening before was a keynote address and exchange with **Andreas Michaelis**, State Secretary at the German Foreign Office and Germany's designated new Ambassador to the United States. It took place at Deutsche Bank's renowned art forum PalaisPopulaire, Unter den Linden.

Last Thursday's general meeting passed forward-looking resolutions by a large majority on the strategic further development of AmCham Germany and even greater involvement of members in economic policy activities and initiatives to strengthen the transatlantic partnership. **Simone Menne**, a member of the supervisory board of several DAX and transatlantically active companies and one of the best-known voices for women in leadership positions, was re-elected by the members as President of AmCham Germany for another two years.

"I am very pleased about re-election and look forward to further successful cooperation with the members of the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, the chairs of our regional chapters and policy committees, all members, and the team of the two offices. The transatlantic relations have developed excellently in the past years and have an even greater potential. AmCham Germany will continue to work with extraordinary commitment to exploit this potential and further strengthen transatlantic sovereignty," says Simone Menne on her re-election.

Of course, the transatlantic partners are also competing in terms of location, because competition is an essential feature of the social market economy. So are the rule of law and adherence to contracts. This is all more the case among partners with sharing the same democratic and liberal values. Political talks to promote transatlantic relations, for example in the EU-U.S. Trade and Technology Council, have made great progress. Nonetheless, they could already be further along in delivering more concrete results on promoting free trade and preventing a subsidy race. The upcoming elections in Germany, the European Union, and the United States should also be considered.

In addition, Germany must do a better job with its location homework. Subsidies alone do not ensure competitiveness: The development of energy prices requires more effective countermeasures, bureaucracy is increasing rather than decreasing, the level of education and the shortage of skilled workers need more effective measures, and digitization must finally at least stand up to international comparison. With resilient planning security and technology-open innovation support as well as market-oriented

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regulation, companies can make an even better contribution to addressing the challenges.

AmCham Germany's general meeting was followed in the afternoon by a half-day business conference on key issues and current challenges facing the transatlantic partnership. Keynote speakers and panel participants were:

- **Adel Al-Saleh**, CEO of T-Systems and Member of the Board of Management, Deutsche Telekom AG
- **Klaus Bürg**, Vice President EMEA, Palo Alto Networks GmbH
- **Ambassador Dr. Amy Gutmann**, U.S. Ambassador to Germany
- **Simone Menne**, President, AmCham Germany
- **Minister Wolfgang Schmidt**, Head of the Federal Chancellery and Federal Minister for Special Tasks
- **Christoph Weigler**, General Manager DACH, Uber

Further information on Simone Menne, President of AmCham Germany can be found [here](#).

About AmCham Germany

The American Chamber of Commerce in Germany (AmCham Germany) is the voice of transatlantic business. We strive to enhance global economic and trade relations built on a strong foundation of American and German partnership. We actively support and promote our members' interests through our global networks in business, politics and AmChams worldwide. 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.

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