

A large, realistic elephant stands in the center of a grand, ornate hall. The elephant is facing forward, with its trunk slightly curled. The hall features high ceilings with intricate moldings, large columns, and wall-mounted sconces. The lighting is warm and ambient, creating a majestic atmosphere.

Annual Report 2024

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Foreword by Ambassador Christoph Heusgen, Chairman of the Munich Security Conference



Christoph Heusgen

Dear friends!

The year in which the Munich Security Conference turned sixty left little room for celebration. Instead, it was marked by escalating violence, deepening political polarization, and the weaponization of interdependence. Russia's ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, the spiraling conflict in the Middle East, and the huge number of refugees in Sudan are only the most blatant examples of a world in disarray. Visions of the global order seem to drift apart while persistent accusations of Western double standards erode trust in universal principles and the rules enshrined in the UN Charter.

The 2024 Munich Security Report, titled "Lose-Lose?," called on decision-makers to revive positive-sum cooperation and set the tone for our activities. Highlighting the need to respect the UN Charter, addressing conflicts around the globe, strengthening the transatlantic alliance amidst pivotal elections, and bolstering support for Ukraine were central aims of our main conference as well as subsequent events and publications. Held at the margins of NATO's anniversary summit in Washington, DC, our Transatlantic Defense Roundtable explored strategies to future-proof the Alliance in the face of external and internal threats. In September, we brought together leading European decision-makers and thinkers with their counterparts in Kyiv to discuss short- and long-term support strategies and ensure that they match Ukraine's needs.

Fostering dialogue to develop a more inclusive and shared vision of the rules-based international order based on the UN Charter has never been more crucial. I am therefore happy that, across the 60 sessions of this year's main conference, more than a quarter of speakers were from countries of the so-called Global South and more than half female. The Munich Strategy Retreat in Bellagio, held on the sidelines of the G7 summit, focused on the question of how to ensure that an order that is becoming more multipolar works for everyone and solves pressing problems. Our Munich Security Brief, titled "Standard Deviation," shed light on the global debate about Western double standards. The findings were discussed on the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York. After bringing together the transatlantic partners with their counterparts in the Indo-Pacific and Africa, this year's Munich Leaders Meeting took place in Rio de Janeiro, allowing for in-depth exchanges on pressing global and regional challenges with leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean. Beyond traditional security issues, we continued to address broader security challenges, ranging from energy, climate, health, and food security to cyber and economic security.

Growing political polarization also underscored the importance of debating foreign and security policy at home. I am therefore very glad that we pursued our "Zeitenwende on tour" with events all across Germany, engaging the public in an open dialogue on the changing challenges to our foreign and security policy.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our friends, sponsors, and partners, but also to my wonderful, dedicated MSC team without whom this work would not be possible. I am convinced that our mission has never been more vital.

Christoph Heusgen

Foreword by Benedikt Franke, Vice-Chairman & CEO of the Munich Security Conference



Benedikt Franke

Dear friends!

2024 will be remembered not only as the year in which the Munich Security Conference turned sixty, but also as a year in which the cracks in our world have continued to broaden – and shifts in the global order have become even more apparent. In a world increasingly shaped by multipolarization, we have tried to double down on our efforts to foster dialogue and cooperation.

By design, our activities mirrored many of the key developments of the past year, including the increasing (and justified) assertiveness of the so-called “Global South” (yes, we are STILL looking for a better term), the ongoing war in and for Ukraine, escalation in the Middle East, and the growing threat to democracies from within and without – to name but a few. From Baku to Rio, from Kyiv to Singapore, from Mendoza to Doha, we have tried to offer attractive platforms and protected spaces for exchanges at the highest levels to discuss these and other challenges. At the same time, we have expanded our efforts to build trust and networks through targeted initiatives such as the Middle East Consultation Group and the Women Parliamentarians Program. All of the activities detailed in this annual report, and the enormous efforts required, have only been possible because we have continued to develop the organization and team behind them. Building on the transformation of the past decade, we went through an extensive strategy review process in 2024 to ensure that we will retain – and ideally even add to – our purpose, relevance, and usefulness as an

institution. As part of this process, we have re-achieved internal alignment on our mission, key objectives for the next five years, and, most importantly, over 350 concrete measures to help us reach the next level – as a team, as an organization, and as a world-leading brand. Importantly, we will continue to define ourselves by the quality of our work, not by the number of events or staff, and will remain true to our vision “peace through dialogue”, our exclusive focus on security, and our transatlantic roots. At the same time, we will continue to re-invent ourselves whenever needed.

Naturally, the announcement of the appointment of Jens Stoltenberg as the next Chair of the Munich Security Conference caught the attention of many. As a team, we are greatly looking forward to helping him build on the achievements of Christoph Heusgen and fill our aforementioned strategy with life. As all Chairs before him, Jens Stoltenberg will make good use of our wonderful network of friends and partners to support our mission, drive our development, and, most importantly, make a difference.

As we continue our mission to provide the world’s best independent, high-level, and informal fora for open, constructive, and impactful debates of foreign and security policy, we hope that you will continue to engage with us, support us, and challenge us. Against this background, I hope this report does not only provide you with a useful overview of our activities and initiatives, but also a renewed proof of concept. Together with the entire team of the Munich Security Conference, I am very much looking forward to working with you in the year to come.

Benedikt Franke

Executive Summary

MSC Activities 2024 in a Nutshell

The Munich Security Conference is active throughout the year - whether in Germany and Europe, the United States of America, the Global South, the Middle and Far East or Central and South America. We have picked out a few figures that illustrate our commitment in 2024.

MSC Events (beyond the main conference):

- 40 (inclusive 2 Retreats and 2 Defense Roundtables) in 20 countries (inclusive 5 events in the US)

MSC Publications

- 10 (inclusive Munich Security Report and Munich Security Brief)

MSC Initiatives

- 5 (Food Security Task Force, Middle East Consultation Group, Security Innovation Board, Women Parliamentarians Program, Munich Young Leaders)

MSC Zeitenwende on tour

- 10 Events
- 5 Podcasts
- 1 Livestream
- 1 Publication
- Range of the events (on site and online): over 15.500
- Partners and suppliers of Zeitenwende on tour: 8

Media

- 12.98 mio. total impressions on all MSC platforms
- 272 appearances of the MSC leadership and experts in the media

MSC Partners

- 4 Governmental Partners
- 20 Institutional Partners
- 77 Supporters
- 33 Suppliers



Conference Booklet

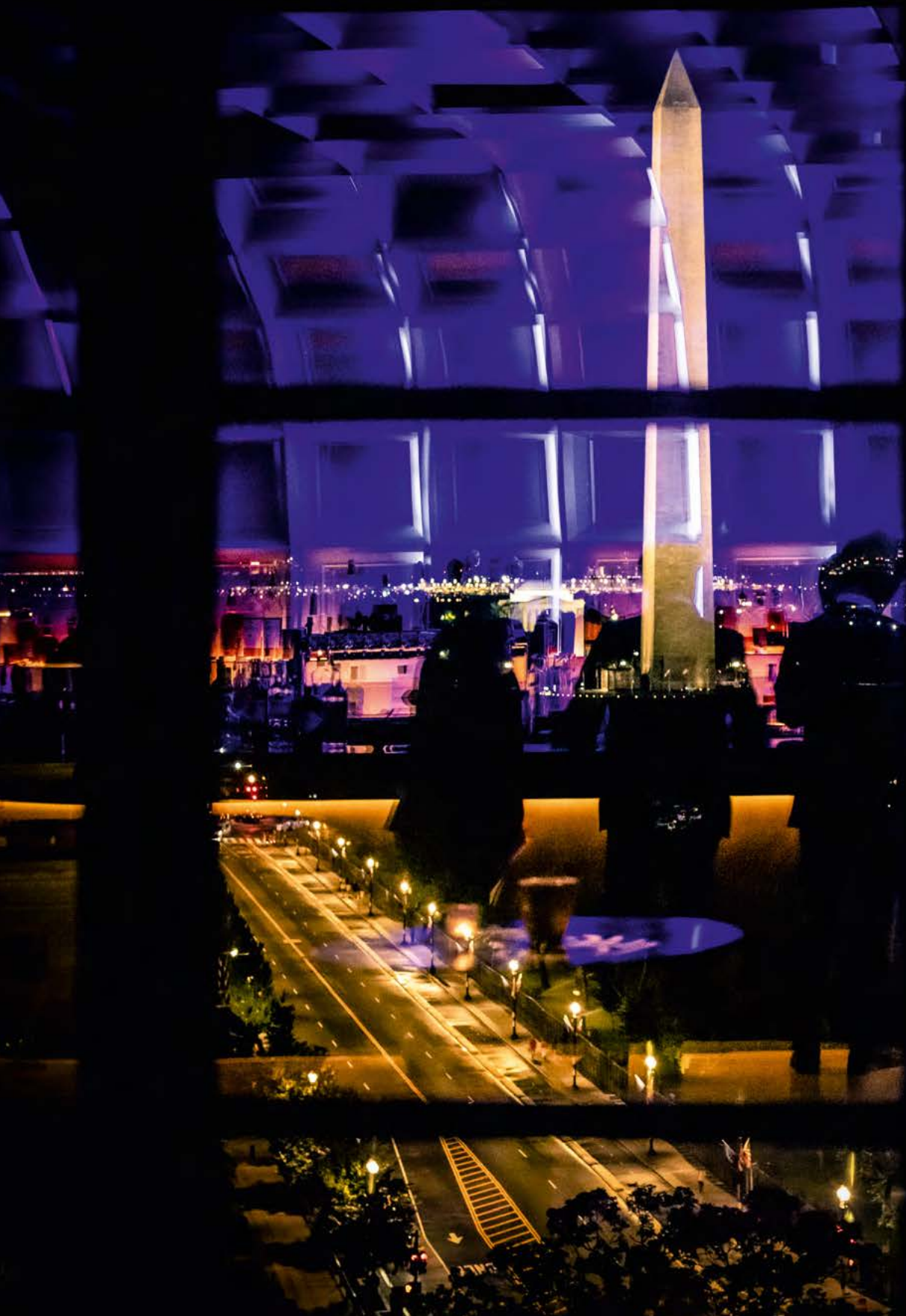
Munich Strategy Retreat Bellagio 2024

June 16-18



Munich Strategy Retreat Bellagio 2024

BOOKS
CONFERENCES



1 Events

MSC Events in 2024 at a Glance

● January 18



MSC @ Global Forum for
Food and Agriculture
(in cooperation with the
German Federal Ministry of
Food and Agriculture)
Berlin

● February 12



MSC Kick-Off
Berlin

● February 15



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Munich

● February 16 – 18



Munich Security Conference
2024
Munich

● March 13



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Eisenach

● March 19



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Baden-Baden

● May 7



MSC in Berlin with Bill Gates
Berlin

● May 13



MSC Food Security
Task Force Meeting I
Rancho Mirage



● July 16



MSC @ Republican National
Convention
Milwaukee

● July 18



MSC Night Cap @ “Road to
Election 2024”
Online

● August 15



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Salzburg

● August 20



MSC @ Democratic National
Convention
Chicago

● August 25 – 26



MSC @ ONS
Stavanger

● September 5 – 7



MYL Annual Meeting
(in cooperation with
Körber-Stiftung)
London

● September 12



European Defense
Roundtable
Kyiv

● September 18



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Hofheim am Taunus

● October 1



MSC @ Warsaw Security
Forum
Warsaw

● October 7 – 8



MSC @ Hamburg
Sustainability Conference
Hamburg

● October 10



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Frankfurt (Oder)

● October 15



XVI Conference of the
Defense Ministers of
the Americas
Mendoza

● October 15



Cyber Security Roundtable
Brussels

● October 25



MSC @ APK 2024
New Delhi

● November 11 – 12



MSC @ COP 29
Baku

● November 19 – 21



Munich Leaders Meeting
Rio de Janeiro

● November 26



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Gelsenkirchen

● December 1 – 3



Munich Strategy Retreat
Elmau

● December 3 – 5



MSC Food Security Task
Force Meeting II
Rome

● December 5



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Naumburg

● December 7 – 8



MSC @ Doha Forum
Doha

● December 10



MSC Zeitenwende on tour
Pforzheim



60th Munich Security Conference

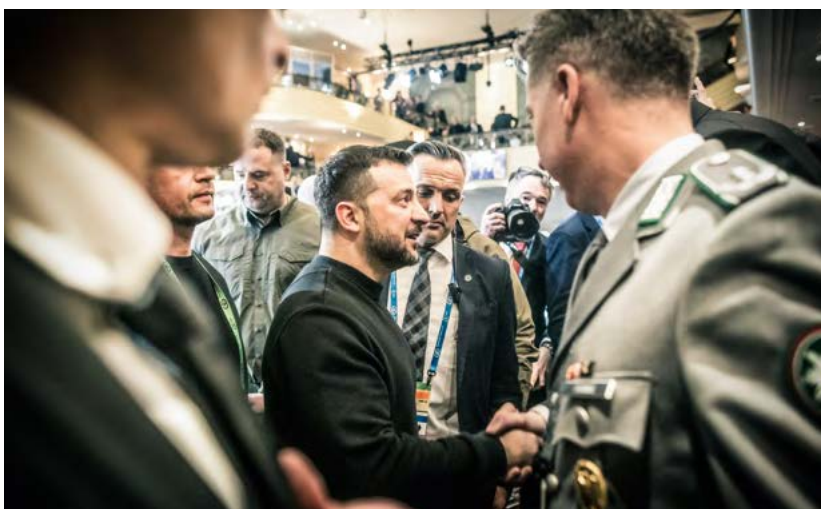
Events of the Munich Security Conference (MSC) take place throughout the year. The MSC brings together decision-makers from politics, business, science, and civil society in a wide variety of formats. While the main conference in February marks the annual highlight, the MSC also organizes various formats with a more specific focus and target group.



Shortly after Yulia Navalnaya learned of her husband's death in Russian custody, she appeared before the world public at the MSC and held Russian President Vladimir Putin responsible in a moving speech.

From February 16–18, more than 500 decision-makers and thought-leaders gathered in Munich for the 60th edition of the Munich Security Conference. Since its inception in November 1963 under the leadership of Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist as "Wehrkundetagung" – a transatlantic military studies meeting – the conference has grown considerably in both scope and size. Today, it represents a comprehensive concept of security that encompasses not only traditional national and international security issues, but also – among other things – the economic, environmental, and human dimension of security. In addition, while remaining true to its transatlantic focus, the 60th MSC convened leaders from around the world and is proud to have had more than 50% women speakers in the about sixty sessions of its main program.

While the variety of event formats and security challenges has expanded in the decades since its inception, the MSC's core mission has remained the same: to provide a platform for meaningful debate and to build peace through dialogue. The most intimate setting for discussion is the MSC Roundtable format. Each roundtable brings together an exclusive group of 15 to 30 participants for in-depth, off-the-record conversations on a specific topic. The MSC's Townhalls, Conversations and Public Square events engage 60 to 90 MSC participants in a public, on-the-record exchange. These formats are designed to encourage lively interaction between panelist and the audience. For its side events, the MSC partners with leading institutions to host sessions on the sidelines of the flagship conference. Many renowned think tanks, government institutions and civil society organisations have



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was on site again in 2024 to call for support for Ukraine.

used this platform, making the MSC Side Events an enriching element of the conference program.

As a conference of superlatives, the 60th MSC had to address a superlative number and range of crises and challenges. Two years after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the start of the 2024 conference weekend was overshadowed by the news that Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny had died in prison, followed just hours later by an inspiring speech by his wife, Yulia Navalnaya, who accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of atrocities and called on the international community to bring him and other perpetrators to justice.

Overall, the conference was characterized by the transatlantic partners' reaffirmation of their continued support for Ukraine against Russian aggression despite symptoms of fatigue and increasing politicization of military and financial assistance. And while the Europeans' efforts to step up to the challenge was noted by many speakers, others highlighted the need for faster and more substantial action. Additionally, the reaffirmation of the US' "iron-clad support" for Europe's security by Vice President Kamala Harris could not dispel the Europeans' worries about increasingly isolationist tendencies. Lose-lose dynamics were prevalent in many discussions and seemed to threaten to undermine the benefits of the global cooperation which is becoming increasingly urgent in the face of global challenges such as climate change.

Discussions on the war in Gaza addressed, among other topics, elements of a potential peace agreement between Israel, the Palestinians, and Arab states, including, in the short term, the release of Israeli hostages, a ceasefire, and humanitarian aid to Gaza. Finally, the discussions during the 60th MSC highlighted the widening gap between the transatlantic partners and countries of the Global South, reinforcing criticisms of double standards. This was particularly evident in calls for reform of international institutions and for greater solidarity on the challenges facing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

As part of the anniversary conference, a photographic exhibition was unveiled in the passageway of the Hotel Bayerischer Hof. Starting with a glance into the main hall during the third-ever conference, the gallery paid tribute to both iconic personalities and significant moments in the MSC's rich history. Among many others, the unique moments captured on camera

included the signing of the ratification document of the New START Treaty at the MSC 2011, as well as the "Munich Special Edition 2021," which took place as a virtual online conference due to the Covid-19 pandemic and brought together then US President Joe Biden, then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, then German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and French President Emmanuel Macron. In addition, an extensive exhibit at the "Amerikahaus" displayed MSC-related memorabilia such as the ashtray of legendary former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and a life-size model of the famous "elephant in the room."



Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, President of the MSC's Foundation Council, at the opening of the exhibition for the 60th Munich Security Conference with the "elephant in the room"

Exhibition: 60 Years Munich Security Conference

The Munich Security Conference celebrated its 60th anniversary from January 31 to February 19, with a major exhibition at the Amerikahaus. At the opening, the Chairman of the Munich Security Conference (MSC), Ambassador Christoph Heusgen, together with his predecessors Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, President of the Foundation Council of the Munich Security Conference Foundation, and Horst Teltschik, welcomed high-ranking guests. Bavarian Minister-President Markus Söder congratulated the Munich Security Conference on its 60th anniversary in his welcoming address and praised its lasting contribution to global peacekeeping.

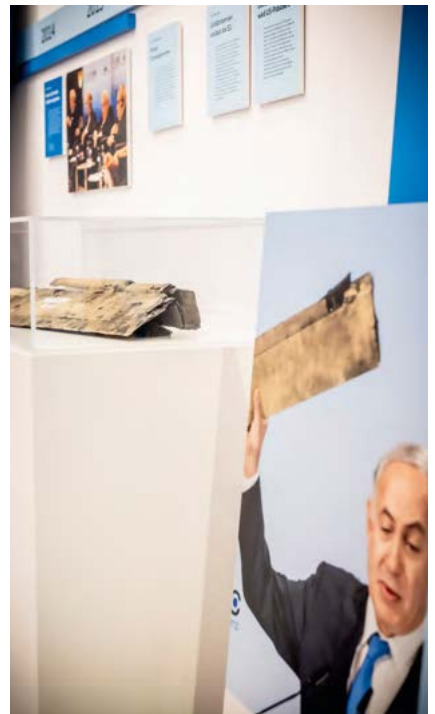
Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist initiated the “Internationale Wehrkundebegegnung” in 1963 in response to current events (Cuban Missile Crisis), in the knowledge of the horrors of war and the responsibility for the future. Those who can act must also act - Ewald von Kleist was convinced of this. He himself almost gave his life in 1944 to end the war by attempting to assassinate Hitler. In this spirit of responsibility for a peaceful future the Munich Security Conference was founded. Von Kleist and his successors were honored with portraits in the entrance hall of the exhibition.

The exhibition showed how the Munich Security Conference (MSC) has developed into the world's most important stage for international security policy. However, it also illustrated how it has changed since 1963: It has grown and broadened its focus. The MSC represents a comprehensive concept of security that includes not only traditional security issues, but also the economic, environmental, and human dimensions of security. At its core, the MSC has remained true to its transatlantic roots.

Peace through Dialogue

“Peace through dialogue” as the motto: The exhibition on 60 years of the Munich Security Conference illustrated the dynamics of a global security idea based on mutual listening. It brought to life the MSC's goal of building trust and contributing to the peaceful resolution of conflicts through continuous and informal dialogue within the international security community. In the defense of peace, words can be an unconventional but sharp weapon. However – and this was made clear by looking at the timeline rolled out on the upper floors of the Amerikahaus - not every aggressor can be stopped in this way.





Munich Rule

The Munich Rule was the MSC's guiding principle for the exhibition: "Engage and interact with each other. Don't lecture or ignore one another." Founder Ewald von Kleist had conceived the conference as a place for discussion among equals and not as a podium conference where a few get to speak, and the rest must listen. For this reason, the exhibition also emphasized substantial exchange during numerous guided tours.

Timeline

The exhibition highlighted the continuities that make up the MSC's reputation and still growing importance. The two parts of the timeline linked historical events with MSC highlights and editorials summarized the global situation in each decade.

Munich Moments

The Munich Moments, arranged on the timeline, were the eye-catchers of the exhibition. For example, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu confronting the Iranian Foreign Minister with a drone piece (2018). Or Chairman Wolfgang Ischinger in an EU hoodie (2019), Joschka Fischer's "I am not convinced" (2003), Vladimir Putin's speech (2007), the signing of the ratification of New START between the USA and Russia (2011), and not to forget former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt smoking on the stage of the 50th conference next to Henry Kissinger (2014) – and much more memorable Munich Moments.

Wall of Photographs - Michael Kuhlmann

Michael Kuhlmann has been capturing the moving moments and unique atmosphere of the Munich Security Conference since 2012. His photos tell stories and go far beyond the documentary. Kuhlmann likes to change perspective, finding the unusual angle and opening the space to see the familiar in a new way. Without getting too close to the people portrayed, Kuhlmann allows the viewer a glimpse behind the scenes.

Elephant in the Room

The foyer of the Amerikahaus was dominated by an almost life-size white elephant. The "elephant in the room" is a metaphor first used by the Russian writer Fyodor Mikhailovich Dostoyevsky for a problem that is clearly recognizable and significant, but is nevertheless not addressed, for example for fear of disadvantages or breaking a taboo. The MSC has set itself the goal of always placing the "elephant in the room" at the center of its discussions.

Find out more:



“ Er machte deutlich, dass er wenig Geduld für belanglose Reden oder politisches Getue während der Konferenz hatte.

— William S. Cohen,
früherer US-Verteidigungsminister und
langjähriger Gast in München über den
Gründer der Konferenz, Ewald von Kleist



Media Coverage of the Jubilee Exhibition

Selected Examples

[illegible]

DL 30.01.2024, 18:00 Uhr / 02:13

Sicherheitskonferenz - Münchner
Sicherheitskonferenz feiert 60-jähriges Jubiläum mit
Ausstellung im Amerikahaus



Public Events at the MSC 2024

On the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference numerous events for the public took place. They offered everybody the opportunity to participate in the debates at first hand. The focus of the events was on current issues such as the "Zeitenwende" in German security policy, Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and the need for innovation in the field of digital and information technology, as well as the link between security policy and culture.

The MSC Concert

The Munich Security Conference (MSC) and the Munich Chamber Orchestra (MKO) hosted the MSC Concert at the Cuvilliés Theater in Munich on Thursday, February 15. In times of crisis, upheaval, and uncertainty, the event took place under the title "Furor and Harmony: The Art of Diplomacy". The evening began with a panel discussion, moderated by Stefan Kornelius (Politics Section Head, Süddeutsche Zeitung).

Olha Stefanishyna (Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Ukraine, Munich Young Leader 2021/2022), Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer (Former Minister of Defense, Federal Republic of Germany), and chess grandmaster Garry Kasparov shed light on the situation in Ukraine. Yuliia "Taira" Paievska (Paramedic and Veteran, Kyiv) reported from the war front in an urgent appeal. The following concert was supported by the Liz Mohn Stiftung. The famous Tenor Rolando Villazón performed with Nombulele Yende (Sopran), Stefano Montanari conducted the MKO.

The MSC Innovation Night

The seventh MSC Innovation Night on February 15, placed a particular emphasis on partnerships. The need to accelerate innovation has been recognized across the Alliance, but views and experiences differ widely on the means to achieve this goal and the type of partnerships needed to enable innovation. The Munich Security Conference, in partnership with the Bundeswehr Cyber Innovation Hub, provided a platform to discuss best practices and lessons learned with some of the most accomplished and forward-thinking minds in defense and innovation such as General Carsten Breuer, Chief of Defense, Federal Armed Forces, Federal Republic of Germany.



The MSC Security and Literature Series

Since 2017, the MSC Security and Literature Series at the Literaturhaus München is an integral part of the Munich Security Conference. In debates about the predictive power of literature, prominent authors and leaders from around the world showed interactions between politics and culture. Since its inception, we have had the privilege of hosting esteemed political figures, such as Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Norway Erna Solberg, late US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Belarusian opposition leader Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Nataša Pirc Musar, Former Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya, Raychelle Omam, and the European Union's Special Representative for the Gulf Region, Luigi Di Maio. The literary counterparts included well-renowned authors such as Booker Prize winner David Grossmann, Nobel Laureates Herta Müller and Wole Soyinka, as well as Geschwister-Scholl Prize winner Andrey Kurkov.

In 2024, the MSC Security and Literature Series took place from February 15–17. The first day focused on the “Global South”. The second day with author Francesca Melandri and Luigi Di Maio (EU Special Representative for the Gulf Region and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic) was dedicated to the Guest of Honor of the Frankfurter Book Fair 2024, the Italian Republic. On the moving third evening, prominent guests gathered to read from the works of Ukrainian authors who died in Russia's full-scale war of aggression. Marietta Slomka (ZDF) moderated the evening with Nico Lange (MSC Senior Fellow), Tatiana Teren (Executive Director, PEN Club Ukraine), Kateryna Kalytko (poet and author) and Claudia Roth (Minister of State for Culture and Media, Federal Chancellery, Federal Republic of Germany).

MSC goes Cinema

Crises and wars pose major challenges for the world and our society. The search for detailed and trustworthy information is often difficult. In cooperation with Deutsche Welle, the MSC showed films in the “Mapped Out” format in the “ASTOR Film Lounge at ARRI” on February 16. In addition to two films on the Middle East conflict, the film “Putin's Wars: From Chechnya to Ukraine” was shown for the first time. The MSC invited renowned experts to give the audience a deeper insight into the respective topics and answer questions from the audience.



At the MSC Security & Literature Series, authors and politicians discuss the interactions between security, politics, and culture.



General Carsten Breuer (right), Chief of Defense, German Federal Armed Forces, was 2024 one of the guests at the MSC Innovation Night to talk about innovations in defense.

MSC Events (selected)

MSC Roundtable on Regional Security, Singapore

On May 31, the Munich Security Conference (MSC) held a Roundtable discussion on Regional Security in Singapore. The meeting focused on the interconnections between transatlantic and Asia-Pacific security challenges. The meeting highlighted some of the very specific and immediate ways in which threats to security in one region reverberate in other regions. Participants agreed that constantly upholding international rules and strengthening global and regional institution is key. Collaborative partnerships should be nurtured wherever possible to build long-term trust.

Munich Strategy Retreat, Bellagio

From June 16 to 18, the MSC hosted its first Munich Strategy Retreat in Bellagio for a select group of experts to promote the strategic debate on international foreign and security policy choices and priorities. Following the G7 summit in Apulia, the Strategy Retreat concentrated on understandings, hopes, fears, and visions, that countries from within and beyond the transatlantic community attach to the ongoing transformation and a multipolar order more broadly. At the heart of the discussions was the question of what a more multipolar world order looks like and what role formats like the G7, the BRICS group, and others will play in shaping the transition as well as the emerging order itself. Building on discussions at this year's Munich Security Conference and considering the results of the G7 Summit in Apulia, participants also debated how they can jointly ensure that a multipolarizing international order works to the advantage of a much broader global constituency, ensuring more inclusive global growth, and better solutions to pressing global problems. With the support of the Rockefeller Foundation, this Munich Strategy Retreat brought together around 40 high-ranking participants from government, academia, international organizations, and businesses from all parts of the globe in the stunning surroundings of Lake Como, for frank and in-depth debates.



Nancy Pelosi, former Speaker of the US House of Representatives, in conversation with Wolfgang Schmidt (left), Head of the Federal Chancellery of the Federal Republic of Germany, and MSC Chairman Christoph Heusgen in Washington, DC



Transatlantic Defense Roundtable (in cooperation with Atlantic Council), Washington, DC

On July 11, the Munich Security Conference, in partnership with the Atlantic Council, organized a roundtable on transatlantic defense in Washington, DC. Around 40 decision-makers and leading experts from government, parliament, the military, the private sector and academia came together for discussions on how to adapt transatlantic security cooperation. The event concluded with a reception and a symphony concert on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of NATO in the Library of Congress.

MSC @ Republican National Convention, Milwaukee

On July 16, the Munich Security Conference hosted a MSC Family & Friends Reception on the sidelines of the Republican National Convention held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The President of the Foundation Council, Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, welcomed numerous Republican thought leaders and decision-makers in addition to 95 international guests.

MSC @ Democratic National Convention, Chicago

Only a few weeks later on August 20, our Vice-Chairman and CEO, Benedikt Franke, hosted a MSC Family & Friends Reception on the sidelines of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, that brought together various US Senators, Governors, and Representatives with international guests of the convention. Supported by the American Friends of the MSC, both receptions aimed at further expanding our profile in the United States, at establishing new contacts and maintaining our existing network ahead of the US elections in November.

European Defense Roundtable, Kyiv

On September 12, the Munich Security Conference hosted a European Defense Roundtable in Kyiv. The Roundtable focused on Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. In two sessions and a confidential nightcap, participants discussed how Ukraine's international partners can achieve a more systematic and consistent approach to their support for Ukraine.



Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, President of the MSC Foundation Council, gave interviews in front of tanks during the MSC European Defense Roundtable in Kyiv.

This event was organized in cooperation with Yalta European Strategy (YES), which hosted its annual meeting in Kyiv subsequently. The MSC brought a group of about fifty high-level decision-makers, think-tankers, academics, and industrial representatives to Kyiv to enable a direct dialogue between them and their Ukrainian counterparts. Travelling jointly by night train from Poland, the group arrived in Kyiv in the early morning for a day of topical discussions.

In the first session, participants focused on the short term, discussing what challenges are most pressing for Ukraine and what assistance the country most urgently needs from its international partners. Many participants raised the issue of air defense, as Ukraine still lacks sufficient systems to defend its population from Russian air attacks. More controversial was the question whether Ukraine's western neighbors should help defend the airspace over western Ukraine with their own air defense systems. Finally, the group considered the role that negotiations should play in ending Russia's war against Ukraine. The second session concentrated on defense industrial cooperation between Ukraine and its partners. The aim was to explore how support to Ukraine could be structured in the long term. The European Defense Roundtable highlighted the importance of direct exchanges between Ukrainian decision-makers and experts and their counterparts in other European countries.

MSC @ XVI Conference of the Defense Ministers of the Americas, Mendoza

On October 15, the MSC hosted its first-ever MSC event in Latin America, a panel discussion titled "Global Security Cooperation in the Western Hemisphere" as part of the XVI Conference of the Defense Ministers of the Americas in Mendoza, Argentina. In cooperation with the Argentine Council for International Relations (CARI), the event brought together a range of high-level speakers: CARI President Francisco de Santibañes, the moderator, spoke with Luis Petri (Minister of Defense of the Argentine Republic), General Laura Richardson (US SOUTHCOM Commander), and our CEO Benedikt Franke. The event was part of our outreach efforts to the region in the run-up to the MSC's Munich Leaders Meeting at the side-lines of the G20-Summit in Rio de Janeiro.



Flags on the Maidan in Kyiv commemorate the Ukrainian soldiers who died in the Russian war of aggression.



In Kyiv, the MSC organized rounds of talks with around 50 high-ranking decision-makers, including Oleksandr Kamyshin (right), Ukraine's Minister of Strategic Industries until September 2024.

MSC @ ONS, Stavanger

The Munich Security Conference, in partnership with the Offshore Northern Seas Foundation, organized a high-level roundtable on energy security. In six sessions, around 50 decision-makers and leading experts explored current geopolitical dynamics in the field of climate and energy and discussed about the security policy dimensions of the green transition. Under the theme “Imagining the Geopolitics of a Net Zero World”, the Munich Security Conference (MSC) co-hosted an energy security roundtable with the Offshore Northern Seas Foundation (ONS) on August 25 and 26. The event on the eve of the bi-annual ONS Conference, one of the world’s largest energy fora, brought together around 50 participants from various sectors, including politics, industry, academia, and civil society, as well as different countries of both the Global North and South.

Energy security was the focus of the talks in Stavanger.



Cyber Security Roundtable, Brussels

On October 16, the Munich Security Conference organized a roundtable on cybersecurity at the Association de la Noblesse du Royaume de Belgique in Brussels. During two sessions, high-ranking participants discussed Artificial Intelligence (AI) regulation as well as developments in cyber-security. The day was rounded off by a night cap session on tech sovereignty and innovation. At the start of the EU’s new legislative term, challenges persist to make the digital decade a success: cyber threats are on the rise, tech supply chains are increasingly weaponized as part of the great power rivalry between the US and China, while artificial intelligence brings new opportunities but also risks to the cyber domain. Against this backdrop, more than 30 experts from government, the tech industry, and think tanks came together to discuss how the EU can guarantee security by regulating new technologies while also maintaining its competitiveness and innovation power.



Munich Leaders Meeting, Rio de Janeiro

From November 19 to 21, the Munich Security Conference hosted a Munich Leaders Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The event brought together 80 decision-makers and experts from all over the world. The discussions revealed diverging views on the global order but also highlighted the potential for greater cooperation with countries of Latin America and the Caribbean – and for collaboration within the region itself.

The Munich Leaders Meeting (MLM) in Rio de Janeiro took place on the heels of the G20 summit, two weeks after the US elections, and at a time of heightened geopolitical tensions. It was part of the Munich Security Conference's (MSC) efforts to increase outreach to other world region. The MLM in Rio was the organization's first major event in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), convening decision-makers and thought leaders from the region, Europe, and other parts of the world. The discussions addressed fundamental questions of global governance reform, strengthening of democracy, how to expand mutually beneficial economic cooperation, and how to address shared challenges such as organized crime, food insecurity, as well as climate change and its ripple effects on global health. At the first meeting of members of the AI Elections Accord following its launch at the Munich Security Conference in February this year, participants also spoke about the deceptive use of AI in past elections.

MSC @ COP

Under the theme “Code Green: Stepping Up Joint Climate Action,” the Munich Security Conference hosted four events alongside the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, building on its engagement at the past three COP summits in Glasgow, Sharm El-Sheikh, and Dubai. On the second day of the summit, November 12, the MSC brought together participants from politics, industry, academia, and civil society, and from countries of both the Global North and South. Enriched by the participants' diverse, cross-sectoral perspectives, the discussions illustrated the multifold climate security dimensions and sketched-out pathways towards stronger international climate cooperation amidst rising geopolitical tensions.



Munich Strategy Retreat Elmau

From December 1 to 3, the MSC held its annual Munich Strategy Retreat, bringing together a select group of experts to develop recommendations on critical international security challenges. This year's retreat occurred at a pivotal juncture for transatlantic relations, shaped by the recent US presidential election and the ongoing war in Ukraine. Central to the discussions were pressing issues such as European defense, transatlantic economic cooperation, and collective geopolitical strategies. These deliberations were particularly significant against the backdrop of escalating geopolitical tensions and increasing threats to the rules-based international order. The retreat highlighted the urgency of supporting Ukraine, bolstering European defense, and maintaining a united transatlantic front in the face of revisionist powers. Despite internal challenges, the need for constructive transatlantic collaboration to address the immense obstacles ahead became evident.

Held annually at Schloss Elmau in Southern Germany, the Munich Strategy Retreat is an exclusive, off-the-record gathering of approximately 50 participants. While many high-quality events on foreign and security policy exist, no comparable forum is available in Germany or Europe. The Munich Strategy Retreat aims to fill this gap by fostering strategic debates on foreign and security policy priorities for the transatlantic alliance. In addition to shaping strategic priorities, the retreat provides valuable input and guidance for all MSC activities and programs.



MSC Initiatives

MSC Women Parliamentarians Program

As a leading international platform for debating foreign and security policy issues, the MSC is convinced that relevant and effective dialogue must include diverse voices. Yet studies show that politics remains the sector with the largest gender gap globally, and women are still particularly underrepresented in foreign, security, and development policy. That is why, with the Women Parliamentarians Program (WPP) and the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the MSC aims to strengthen the voices of female decision-makers. With the WPP, the MSC has established a network that connects young female parliamentarians across borders, regions, and party affiliations. Through selected formats, such as participation in MSC events, study trips, and background discussions, the program provides a platform for WPP members to exchange, to engage with international leaders from the MSC network, and to generate new ideas and approaches for foreign, security, and development policy. Launched in 2023 as a Germany-focused program, the MSC broadened the network in 2024 globally. In addition to the dedicated WPP events, the members were invited to participate in other selected MSC events throughout the year. In 2024, the MSC brought together a group of 16 young, female, recently elected parliamentarians, who work in the fields of foreign, security, and/or development policy. Cohort members represent countries from all parts of the globe, including India, Canada, Ghana, Tanzania, Argentina, and Ukraine.



At MSC 2024, the members of the WPP met with former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, among others.

Activities in 2024

To start the year for WPP 2024, the Kick-Off took place at the Munich Security Conference, where members of the program met with senior leaders including Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas, former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and Speaker Emerita of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi. The discussions ranged from policy priorities, to personal experiences of the challenges faced by women in politics, and shed a light on how to leverage female networks to advance policy. In addition, the members participated in the entire conference program, took advantage of ample opportunities for bilateral exchanges, and connected with the members of the WPP 2023 cohort in an informal setting.

WPP Study Trip to Washington, DC

In June, members of the program took part in a study trip to Washington, DC. The agenda comprised a series of high-level discussions, which enabled the participants to connect with senior representatives of the US administration, multilateral organizations, as well as NGOs. The parliamentarians left Washington, DC with a heightened sense of the foreign, security, and development policy priorities of the US ahead of the elections, as well as new input regarding perspectives for multilateral cooperation. The group met with Republican Congressman Michael Turner to discuss the US role in foreign affairs, and Democratic Congresswoman Veronica Escobar to address challenges faced by women and minorities in public service. In the White House, WPP members spoke with Phil Gordon, National Security



In Washington, DC, members of the program held discussions about the upcoming elections and America's role in foreign policy, here with Homeland Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.



In Washington, DC,
US Congressman
Michael Turner received the
Women Parliamentarian
Program's members.

Advisor to the Vice-President, about US national security priorities, particularly in the Middle East. The conversation with Neera Tanden, advisor to the President, centred primarily on the US elections. In addition, exchanges with the Director of National Intelligence, Avril Haines, and Homeland Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas provided insights into the threat of foreign interference in elections as well as the US approach to migration. The parliamentarians also engaged with non-governmental leaders: They discussed advocacy strategies with Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, President and CEO of the ONE Campaign and met with Anshula Kant, Managing Director and CFO at The World Bank, who shared her views on reforming multilateral spaces.

The Middle East Consultation Group

The MSC has convened a Middle East Consultation Group (MECG) as a unique and valuable forum to informally exchange views at a time of heightened tension, conflict and polarization in the region. The group assembles carefully selected active and former high-level policymakers and experts from across the Middle East to discuss challenges and opportunities facing the region. Participants will explore issues including but not limited to the Middle East's political, security, economic and human development in an inclusive and protected space. The MECG will seek to identify and prioritize the key issues critical to unlocking the region's immense potential. The group's work also underlines the MSC's credibility as a trusted convener on the international stage and its ability to bring together high-level experts to engage seriously on policy matters.

On December 8, the MSC launched the MECG with an off-the-record meeting held on the sidelines of the Doha Forum in Qatar. The discussion took place right after historic news of President Bashar al Assad's ouster from Syria had emerged. The venue, on the margins of the Doha Forum where pertinent discussions on regional politics, conflicts and economic developments were taking place, provided an enriching backdrop for exchanges.

Looking ahead, the MECG will convene a series of meetings until the fall of 2025, with significant gatherings planned at the Munich Security Conference in February 2025. In addition, stand-alone events in capitals in the region, hosted by the respective governments, and roundtable discussions on the margins of international events will also take place throughout the year. The core group of around 20 senior active and former policymakers and experts from the Middle East that form the MECG will be complemented by exchanges with additional experts and decision-makers from within and outside the region at events throughout the year. The MSC Secretariat will summarize and synthesize the discussions undertaken by the group as well as the questions identified in a final report to be published in 2025.

The MECG is chaired by Vice-President of the MSC Foundation Helga Maria Schmid, who also serves as President of the European Institute of Peace and is the former Secretary General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Schmid will also chair the MECG's upcoming meetings, guiding the discussions and agenda throughout 2025, alongside MSC Vice-Chairman Rainer Rudolph.

MSC Food Security Task Force

Food security is often still treated as a primarily humanitarian issue, despite the well-documented links between fragile food systems and (inter)national security. Exacerbated by climate change and ongoing migration trends, food insecurity is a major destabilizing factor. In the 21st century, the weaponization of food will become one additional tool in the strategic arsenal of geopolitical competition and confrontation.

The MSC Food Security Task Force was established in February 2024 as an ongoing workstream linking high-level MSC policy events on the intersection of food systems and security over a two-year period. It aims to foster a policy debate that shifts the conversation towards geopolitically informed, systemic solutions, and to develop action-oriented strategies, including financial commitments and institutional reform. The Task Force has sixteen members and convenes central actors from diverse regions and sectors, including national security, development, think tanks, and the private and finance sectors. The group includes representatives from key multilateral organizations, such as the World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Bank, NATO, as well as the German, US, and Norwegian governments.

Activities in 2024

MSC 2024

The MSC Food Security Task Force was launched at the Munich Security Conference 2024 in February. Food security was prominently featured throughout the main program with a MSC Roundtable discussion entitled “Nutritional Intelligence: Food Insecurity as a Predictive Indicator” and a MSC Townhall discussion focusing on “Recipe for Resilience: Fostering Cooperation for Sustainable Food Systems”.

MSC Food Security Task Force Meetings

The first MSC Food Security Task Force Meeting took place in May 2024 in California, at the Sunnylands Annenberg Estate, and focused on developing joint strategies to raise the importance of food security on the international agenda and within the traditional security community. The second meeting was held in Rome in December. The city is a hub for food security, being home to both the WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which co-hosted the meeting.



The second MSC Food Security Task Force Meeting took place in Rome.

Other MSC Food Security Discussions

Throughout the year, MSC hosted a number of discussions on food security. In January, MSC partnered with the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture to host a high-level debate at the Global Forum on Food and Agriculture in Berlin on “Food, Climate and Security: Joining Forces for a Safer Tomorrow.” The debate underscored the importance of building food systems that are resilient to shocks related to geopolitics, conflict, and climate change. In November, MSC hosted a panel at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, entitled “Planetary Wealth: An Economic Case for Food Security.” The session highlighted that investments in food systems transformation save money in the long run, when considering the avoided human suffering, planetary damage, and conflict-related costs. Shortly thereafter, a MSC Roundtable on food security during the Munich Leaders Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, discussed “Critical Agriculture: Tackling Food Insecurity and Trade Dependencies”.

Munich Young Leaders

The Munich Security Conference and Körber-Stiftung want to give promising young professionals and future decision-makers the opportunity to participate in important political debates, introduce innovative ideas on the international scene, and strengthen their personal and professional networks. To further this goal, the MSC and Körber-Stiftung have been organizing the Munich Young Leaders (MYL) program since 2009, bringing together young leaders in the fields of foreign and security policy. To date, more than 300 talented minds from over 60 countries and a wide range of professional backgrounds have become part of this distinguished group. Among them are ministers, members of parliament, senior civil servants, commanders, and leading political experts from some of the world's most prestigious institutions. Every year, a new cohort of 25 outstanding talents becomes part of the MYL network. They come from governmental institutions, parliaments, think tanks, the media, and the private sector. The Munich Young Leaders are nominated by the Körber Stiftung in coordination with the MSC, based on proposed candidates identified by German Embassies in selected countries.

Munich Young Leaders are given the chance to take part in the MSC and engage with high-ranking personalities and key decision-makers on foreign policy and security-related issues. Besides this, Alumni gatherings take place regularly all over the world. Former Annual Meetings have been held in Rabat, Warsaw, Moscow, Madrid, New York, Tallin, New Delhi or most recently London. At Annual Meetings, MYL alumni meet with senior experts and decision-makers, who share their insights and debate current foreign and security policy challenges with the MYL. Throughout the year, MYL are also invited to selected additional events organized by the MSC and Körber-Stiftung.

Find out more:



Activities in 2024

The Munich Young Leaders at the MSC 2024

In February, we were able to once again welcome a new cohort of Munich Young Leaders at the MSC 2024, who had the opportunity to take part in a variety of formats of the main program as well as specifically tailored exclusive background discussions on the sidelines.



The program and discussions offered the MYL the opportunity to actively engage with leading personalities in foreign and security policy and to exchange diverse perspectives on the most pressing issues in global affairs. The MYL discussed current challenges in foreign and security policy with Nana Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, Wolfgang Schmidt, Head of the Federal Chancellery and Federal Minister for Special Tasks of Germany, Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs of the Republic of India, Ng Eng Hen, Minister for Defense of the Republic of Singapore, Nancy Pelosi, Speaker Emerita of the House of Representatives of the United States, and Hakeem Jeffries, Minority Leader in the House of Representatives of the United States. Additionally, the group met with MYL alumna Rym Momtaz, who gave the cohort an insight into political dynamics in the Middle East.

MYL Annual Meeting in London

In September, the MYL Annual Meeting took place in London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK), gathering alumni and members of the current cohort from around the globe. Held shortly after the British general elections, the meeting provided a forum for discussions on pressing global issues such as the future of global order, developments in Ukraine and the Middle East, and economic security.

During a diverse and interactive two-day-program, the MYL met with UK government representatives for exclusive background discussions, engaged in diverse panels and in-depth breakout sessions, and visited cultural sites in London. One of the highlights of this year's Annual Meeting was the high-level conversation with Catherine West, Minister for the Indo-Pacific at the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office, who joined the Young Leaders for an intimate exchange on the future trajectory of UK foreign policy, with a particular focus on Indo-Pacific relations. The program also included panel discussions on multipolarity and the evolving global order, regional security in Ukraine and the Middle East, economic security, migration and asylum policies as well as democracy in the super-election year of 2024. In a reflective session, participants also engaged in a candid exchange on mental health and its intersection with working in the field of security. The two-day program concluded with a boat trip on the Thames, an excursion to the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office, followed by a visit to the Kew Gardens. This offered the MYL participants a chance to deepen their understanding of the UK's diplomatic history and cultural heritage, providing a fitting end to an enriching meeting.



Zeitenwende on tour

Discussing foreign and security policy with citizens

After more than thirty successful "Zeitenwende on tour" events in cities across Germany since the start of the event series in 2022, one message stands out: German citizens are keenly interested in foreign and security policy discussions and eager to voice their overwhelmingly well-informed opinions and concerns. Launched in the wake of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the MSC set out to create "Zeitenwende on tour" as a format to foster inclusive conversations about the future of Germany's foreign and security policy between citizens, decision-makers, and experts. These discussions take place in a signature "Townhall" format and encourage citizens and panelists to engage in respectful and fact-based dialogue at eye level, to listen to opinions with which they may disagree, and to raise their own concerns and questions. Convinced that such inclusive conversations on controversial topics are crucial for democratic discourse in liberal societies, the MSC has partnered with the prestigious Alfred Landecker Foundation to host "Zeitenwende on tour" debates starting in the summer of 2024.

Each Townhall brings together up to 350 citizens from all walks of life and four to six panelists from politics, academia, non-governmental organizations, and the media. Together, they discuss and respond to questions and comments from citizens. In the face of increasing polarization and targeted disinformation campaigns by malign actors, these face-to-face conversations add a much-needed personal dimension to often abstract or emotionally charged political debates. In addition to these two-hour discussions, each Townhall invites citizens and speakers to continue the conversation after the official end of the event, providing crucial opportunities for follow-up questions and personal interactions. As Germany's international environment evolved, new aspects of the impact of international politics on citizens' lives emerged in the discussions, ranging from the consequences of Germany's long-standing dependence on Russian energy, to events in the Middle East and the Red Sea, to the US presidential election and the future of Germany's relations with China. In addition, domestic politics and the implications of regional elections for Germany's foreign and security policy gained in importance and led to sometimes heated yet always civil debates.



Young people are particularly affected by international politics: whether it is the dangers of climate change or the ongoing debate about drafting young adults into the military in times of active war in Europe - the experiences, fears, and hopes of young people will shape Germany's future. For this reason, the "Zeitenwende on tour" events place special emphasis on involving students and their teachers in the debate. In June 2024, 150 teenagers from local schools in Gütersloh were invited to a special Townhall dedicated to the young generation in cooperation with the renowned Liz Mohn Foundation to engage in discussions with high-ranking decision-makers and experts. Particularly in vocational schools, where teenagers and young adults focus on practical skills related to their chosen careers, topics such as politics and society are less prominent in the curriculum than in "Gymnasium" high schools, which prepare students for college. For this reason, "Zeitenwende on tour" places a special emphasis on visiting these schools to ensure a truly inclusive debate and to encourage young people from all walks of life to engage in foreign and security policy discussions.

Prominent speakers at "Zeitenwende on tour" events in 2024 include Bodo Ramelow, then Governor of Thuringia, Wolfgang Schmidt, Head of the Federal Chancellery, Veronika Grimm, Member of the German Council of Economic Experts, Wolfgang Schüssel, former Chancellor of Austria, Marie-Agnes Strack-Zimmermann, Chair of the Defense Committee of the German Bundestag, Major General Christian Freuding, Director of the Joint Planning and Command Staff of the German Armed Forces, Lieutenant

Find out more about
Zeitenwende on tour:



Moderator Nina Moghaddam incorporated the young participants' questions into the discussion at Zeitenwende on tour in Gütersloh.



General André Bodemann, Commander of the German Armed Forces Homeland Defense Command, and Claudia Major, Head of International Security Research at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs.

Each Townhall event has its own characteristic focus, atmosphere, and dynamic based on the questions and emotions of the citizens. In some cities, protesters position themselves at the entrance to the building, waving peace flags, playing music, and holding signs. Typically, these protesters call for more diplomatic efforts to end ongoing wars and stop the flow of weapons. Each time, the protesters have been invited to participate in the event, and more often than not, some or even all of them choose to join the conversation. These diverse compositions of audiences, local grievances,



Liz Mohn, entrepreneur and President of the Liz Mohn Stiftung, supports Zeitenwende on tour. At the townhall in Gütersloh, she emphasized the importance of exchange, especially with young people.

and issues prevalent in the current public debate shape the unique atmosphere of each townhall, with emotions ranging from concerned, frustrated, or angry to curious, optimistic, and energetic. After ten "Zeitenwende on tour" events in 2024 alone, it is clear that the majority of citizens are well aware that Germany, but also each individual citizen, must adapt to an increasingly challenging international environment and actively contribute to preserving democracy, freedom, security and economic prosperity in their communities and cities, in Germany and in Europe.

In 2024, the Munich Security Conference (MSC) published "Aber die NATO! 10 populäre Mythen über Putins Krieg gegen die Ukraine". It refutes false claims about Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. In the emotionally charged debate, myths keep cropping up that do not stand up to historical and factual scrutiny. Populists and extremists in particular use these myths to justify the Russian attack or to reject further support for Ukraine. During the town halls and school visits by Zeitenwende on tour, committed people often ask for historical facts, counter-arguments, and specialist information in order to be able to hold their own in debates. In "Aber die NATO!", the ten most common myths are refuted with hard facts to counter fake news and Russian-controlled propaganda.



Find out more about
"Aber die NATO!":



Lyudmyla Melnyk, Head of the Ukraine Program at the Institute for European Politics, gave a vivid report on the situation in Ukraine at Zeitenwende on tour in Naumburg an der Saale.



Tour Stops 2024

February 15	München
March 13	Eisenach
March 19	Baden-Baden
June 24	Gütersloh
August 15	Salzburg
September 18	Hofheim am Taunus
October 10	Frankfurt (Oder)
November 26	Gelsenkirchen
December 5	Naumburg an der Saale
December 10	Pforzheim



Zeitenwende on tour always seeks out special places - like the stage of the Landestheater Eisenach.

Zeitenwende Podcast

A turning point in world politics – the Zeitenwende - what happens now?

In the Munich Security Conference's Zeitenwende Podcast, the hosts Lisa Marie Ullrich, Ulrike Strauss, and Nico Lange talk to citizens from all over Germany, representatives from politics and society, and security policy experts about developments and background information in foreign and security policy.

The focus is on what the Zeitenwende means for people in Germany. How do citizens assess the developments of the turning point – especially regarding energy prices and inflation, arms deliveries to Ukraine, consequences for the environment and climate change, or social justice?

This is a selection of topics covered in the Zeitenwende Podcast:

Trump is coming back – so what now?

Trump is returning to the White House. But what does this mean for NATO? Will security in the future only be available on a cash basis? How can the Europeans position themselves? What role does Germany play?

Security and defense – can Europe do anything?

It feels like the alarm is going off repeatedly for the Europeans. After Brexit, Crimea, and Trump with Russia's major attack on Ukraine. When and how will the Europeans finally do more for their own security? What would a European Security Union look like? What can a “defense commissioner” achieve?

TikTok, compulsory military service, fear of the future - a turning point at school?

Young people are particularly affected by the Zeitenwende: Will I have to do military service soon? Can I still look forward to the future? Will our democracy survive? How and where can I get information? How do I deal with friends and acquaintances who like and share disinformation and propaganda?



Find out more about
Zeitenwende Podcast:



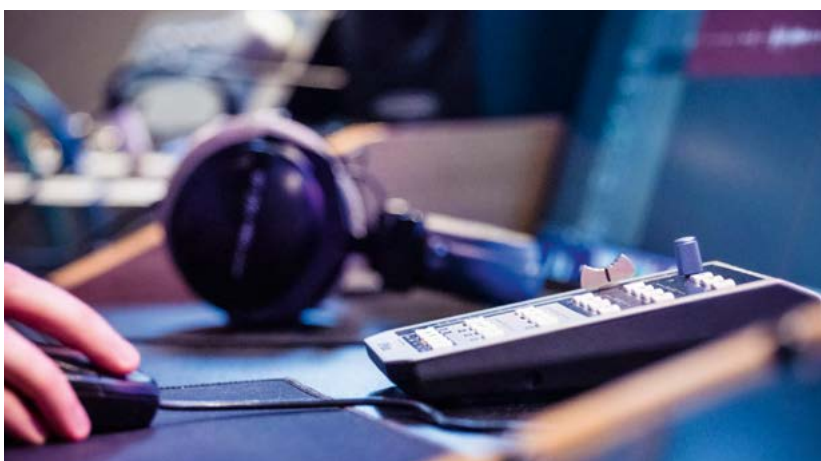
Intelligence services: Lack of insight or Zeitenwende undercover?

Insights into the world of the German Federal Intelligence Service are rare, especially on such a hot topic: From Habeck to Prigoschin – in this special episode, Nico Lange talks to former agent Gerhard Conrad to find out whether the BND got Ukraine and Russia wrong, why we need spy satellites and what “turning point” means for intelligence services.

Tune in! New episodes are available wherever podcasts are available.



The hosts Lisa Marie Ullrich, Ulrike Strauss, and Nico Lange regularly bring exciting interview partners to the podcast microphone.



Twelve episodes of the Zeitenwende podcast have now been released - to be continued.

Zeitenwende To Do List

German foreign policy, security policy, defense policy, and trade policy must change significantly in response to the “Zeitenwende” of Russia's full-scale invasion in Ukraine. The Munich Security Conference has been discussing these changes with citizens throughout Germany since 2022. In doing so, we are taking a concrete look at what has already been implemented or at least begun politically and what tasks are still urgently needed in response to the “Zeitenwende”.






Support Ukraine

- ✓ Supply weapons in active conflict
- 🌐 Coordinate closely with transatlantic partners
- ✓ Supply infantry fighting vehicles and battle tanks
- ✓ Supply modern artillery
- Supply longer-range weapons
- 🌐 Support delivery of F-16 fighter aircraft
- ✓ Provide air defense systems
- Overcome self-deterrence
- 🌐 Massively expand ammunition production
- 💡 Equip Ukraine's future armed forces
- Clearly formulate political objectives of military aid
- Provide security guarantees for Ukraine
- 🌐 Bring German defense industry to Ukraine
- Invest in Ukrainian defense industry
- 🌐 Train Ukrainian armed forces








Make the Bundeswehr operational

- Reduce military bureaucracy
- 💡 Accelerate procurement
- 💡 Increase industrial capacities
- Plan realistically for personnel and capabilities
- Reduce HQ staff numbers, increase battle troop size
- Exercise more and realistically
- Improve reserve strategy
- Permanently increase the defense budget to 2 percent or more of GDP
- 🌐 Implement special funds quickly
- 💡 Decide on new compulsory service or conscription





Further develop NATO and the EU

-  Strengthen the European pillar in NATO
-  Secure eastern flank through forward defense
-  Strengthen European air defense
-  Use and expand EU instruments for military aid
-  Make the EU capable of acting in terms of security policy
-  Regain confidence in Germany in Central Eastern Europe
-  Assume German leadership role
-  Strengthen defense and deterrence against hybrid warfare





Change Russia policy

-  Severe sanctions for breach of civilization
-  Investigate and deal with Russian corruption and influence peddling in Germany
-  No more German special Russia policy
-  Build up more regional expertise on Russia (and China)
-  Synchronize Russia policy with partners in Central Eastern Europe
-  Communicate better and more directly with Russians
-  Set effective limits to Putin's actions






Reduce critical dependencies

-  Get away from Russian gas, oil, and coal
-  Reduce risks in relation to China
-  Develop new suppliers in Africa, Latin America and Asia
-  Improve Europe's technological independence





Include the “Global South”

-  Avoid double standards
-  Fulfill promises, keep financing commitments
-  Take justified concerns seriously
-  Communicate the advantages of the EU approach better

Implement the “Zeitenwende”

-  Conduct a broad social debate
-  Formulate and implement a National Security Strategy
-  Increase societal resilience
-  Set clear priorities for security and defense
-  Continue “Zeitenwende on tour”

Legend:

-  Complete  In progress  Started  Not started/In jeopardy

The MSC Security Innovation Board

Focusing on Progress

The creation of the MSC Security Innovation Board indicates the commitment to sustain exchange, facilitate innovation, and identify new technologies relevant to meeting current and future security challenges. As part of its activities, the Munich Security Conference (MSC) is hosting numerous events on the intersection of defense policy and cyber security and technology issues. From its Cyber Security Summits around the world to the MSC Innovation Night on the eve of the Munich Security Conference, the MSC has developed a track record as a forum of exchange between decision makers from the technology industry and defense and security policy alike.

As innovation continues to accelerate, the MSC has used its convening power to recruit a group of distinguished experts to

- further develop its activities at the intersection of technology, innovation, and defense and security policy.
- foster a sustained exchange between critical players to support the formulation of common policies/approaches and the development of strategic innovation alliances.
- help identify promising technologies that could contribute to solutions, particularly in the areas of cyber security, climate, health & energy security, safeguarding democracy, equitable development, and conflict prevention and resolution.
- educate the security community about advances in technology and their potentially disruptive geopolitical, strategic, and military consequences.



**How *not* to kill
your Democracy
with Tech**

Advances in technology can have potentially disruptive geopolitical, strategic, and military consequences.

Event in 2024

What are the most important lessons regarding defense innovation from the current ongoing wars and where should NATO prioritize investments? This was one of the guiding questions discussed on July 9, at the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Under the title "Defense Innovation Discussion: Duplication, Distraction, and Other Pitfalls of Innovation" the MSC Security Innovation Board invited some high-ranking guests ahead of the NATO summit in Washington, DC, for an enriching exchange.



The MSC brings together experts to explore the rapid pace of technological development and its impact on defense issues.

The Ewald von Kleist Award



“The legacy of Ewald von Kleist is that at some point, people need to come together for a cause bigger than themselves.”

John Kerry,
Kleist Award Ceremony,
Munich Residence,
Kleist Award Ceremony,
Munich Residence,
February 17, 2024

About Ewald von Kleist

Ewald von Kleist was the founder and defining personality of the Munich Security Conference. As its patron for over 30 years, Kleist was instrumental in advancing the transatlantic security dialogue and introducing post-war Germany into NATO and the broader Cold War security order. With this award, the Munich Security Conference has been honoring leading personalities in security politics who have made an outstanding contribution to international understanding and conflict resolution since the award's inception in 2009. Recipients have included Helmut Schmidt, Henry Kissinger, Javier Solana, the OSZE, the United Nations, Angela Merkel, and Jens Stoltenberg.

The Munich Security Conference honored Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados, and John F. Kerry, United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, with the Ewald von Kleist Award 2024 in deep appreciation of their efforts to advance climate action, justice and security. The award was presented at the invitation of Minister-President Markus Söder on February 17.



MSC Chairman
Christoph Heusgen
(right), Bavarian Minister-
President Markus Söder
(2nd from left)
with the awardees

Ewald von Kleist Award Recipients 2013-2024

2024	Mia Amor Mottley Prime Minister of Barbados John F. Kerry United States Special Presidential Envoy for Climate
2023	Finland and Sweden Accepted by Magdalena Andersson (former Prime Minister of Sweden), Ulf Kristersson (Prime Minister of Sweden), Sanna Marin (Prime Minister of Finland) and Sauli Niinistö (President of Finland)
2022	Jens Stoltenberg Secretary General, North Atlantic Treaty Organization
2021	Angela Merkel Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
2020	United Nations accepted by Ambassador Jean-Pierre Lacroix, UN Under Secretary General for Peace Operations
2019	Alexis Tsipras Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic Zoran Zaev Prime Minister of the Republic of North Macedonia
2018	John McCain US Senator
2017	Joachim Gauck Federal President of the Federal Republic of Germany
2016	Laurent Fabius Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development of the French Republic; President COP 21 and Christiana Figueres Secretary General of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
2015	The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Didier Burkhalter (Chairman in Office 2014), Ivica Dacic (Chairman in Office 2015), Frank-Walter Steinmeier (Chairman in Office 2016), Lamberto Zannier (Secretary General)
2014	Helmut Schmidt Former Federal Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany and Valéry Giscard d'Estaing Former President of the French Republic
2013	Joseph Lieberman Former US Senator

The John McCain Dissertation Award



“A strong EU, a strong NATO and a true strategic partnership between them is profoundly in our interest. (...) Americans and Europeans share a common goal -- to build an enduring peace based on freedom.”

John McCain,
US Senator for Arizona,
Financial Times
March 18, 2008

About John McCain

Senator John McCain was a companion, partner, and friend of the Munich Security Conference for more than four decades. After first attending the conference as a young Navy officer, he eventually came to lead the United States Congressional delegation to the MSC for more than 20 years in his role as senator. As such, he played a key role in establishing the conference as an important forum for the transatlantic community.

John McCain was known for his courageous actions as a prisoner of war in Vietnam, and his subsequent long and successful political career. He consistently stood up for what he believed in, both domestically and internationally, up until his death in August 2018. The causes he lent his voice to included strengthening the transatlantic relationship, the moral responsibility of the West, and democratic control of the armed forces. Over the course of his political career, Senator McCain often looked beyond party lines and was an example of extraordinary leadership. His voice of reason will be missed dearly.

Senator McCain was a staunch transatlanticist who defended the alliance at its best and confronted it with its worst. In times when the transatlantic bond can no longer be taken for granted, we are keen to honor him at the MSC.

The Award

The Munich Security Conference has launched the John McCain Dissertation Award in cooperation with the Hochschule für Politik München / TUM School of Governance, the Geschwister-Scholl-Institute for Political Science at LMU Munich, the Bundeswehr University Munich, and the McCain Institute for International Leadership. Together we strive to establish the McCain Award as the most coveted prize of its kind.



The John McCain Dissertation Award is awarded annually to up to two outstanding doctoral dissertations for exceptional academic contributions in the field of political science, history or policy analysis with an emphasis on transatlantic relations — including its security, technological, political, trade and financial, social and cultural dimensions. The award has several components, including participation in Munich Security Conference events and a first prize up to of 10,000 Euros.

The selection process is led by an expert jury which includes Eugénia da Conceição-Heldt (Munich School of Politics and Public Policy at the TUM), Carlo Masala (University of the Federal Armed Forces), Berthold Rittberger (Geschwister Scholl Institute for Political Science, LMU Munich), Trine Flockhart (University of Southern Denmark), Stephanie Hofmann (European University Institute, Geneva Graduate Institute), Andrew Moravcsik (Princeton University), Mark Green (The Woodrow Wilson International Center), Francis Gavin (Johns Hopkins University), and Evelyn Farkas (McCain Institute).

The John McCain Dissertation Award Recipients 2019-2024

2024	Sarah Denise Rozenblum Cornell University's Jeb E. Brooks School of Public Policy Moritz S. Graefrath University of Notre Dame, William & Mary Global Research Institut
2023	Marino Felipe Auffant Post Doctoral Fellow, Kissinger Center for Global Affairs, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore
2022	Rachel Myrick Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Duke University, Durham
2021	Due to the pandemic, the MSC Special Edition 2021 took place as a live broadcast event. Consequently, no awardee was honoured.
2020	Balazs Martonffy American University, Washington, DC and Oscar Jonsson King's College London
2019	Abigail Post Anderson University and Ulrike Esther Franke University of Oxford





2 Publications

MSC Publications in 2024

“The last time the world was witnessing a global *Zeitenwende*, most observers believed things would change for the better. (...) But the optimism of the early post-Cold War era has long vanished”

“Lose-Lose?” Munich Security Report, 2024

In addition to its annual flagship publication, the Munich Security Report (MSR), in 2024, the MSC also released a Munich Security Brief (MSB) on the global debate about Western double standards, as well as eight publications in the framework of its new, much shorter publication format, which was introduced in November 2023. The latter included four Munich Security Analyses (policy papers), two Munich Security Opinions (opinion pieces), and two Munich Security Debriefs (readouts of MSC events).

Leading up to its sixtieth anniversary conference in February, the MSC published the Munich Security Report 2024. Titled “Lose-Lose?,” it explores the dynamics that are spurred if ever more governments prioritize relative payoffs rather than engage in positive-sum cooperation and invest in an international order that, despite its obvious flaws, can still help grow the proverbial pie for the benefit of all. The report also stimulates the debate on how the transatlantic partners and like-minded states can balance two difficult requirements: On the one hand, they have to brace for a much more competitive geopolitical environment, where relative-gains thinking is unavoidable. On the other hand, they have to revive positive-sum cooperation, without which more inclusive global growth and solutions to pressing global problems can hardly be attained.

“The debate about Western double standards has become a discussion about the future of universal rules that is deeply entangled with the dynamics of great power competition.”

“Standard Deviation” Munich Security Brief, 2024

In September, the MSC also launched a Munich Security Brief to coincide with the UN Summit of the Future in New York. The MSB, written by Sophie Eisentraut and titled “Standard Deviation,” explores the global debate on Western double standards, which has taken up steam as accusations of Western double standards have become increasingly vocal, particularly from governments in the Global South. Supported by new survey data from nine populous countries in the Global South, including Brazil, India, and South Africa, the publication offers insights into how societies in these countries perceive Western states’ compliance with universal rules and principles and how they look at the rules-based order as such. The publication was launched at the Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the United Nation in New York.

Throughout the year, the MSC released various pieces in its new publication format. The four Munich Security Analyses published include one by Leonard Schütte, written in German, that presents exclusive survey data on

the way Germans look at their country's support for Ukraine; one written by Sophie Eisentraut on similarities in the strategic lessons Indians and Europeans have drawn from Russia's war; one written by Nicole Koenig and published on the occasion of the MSC Roundtable on European Defense in Kyiv in September, in which Koenig presents concrete to-dos on European security and defense for the EU's new leadership team; and one written by Paula Köhler and Randolph Carr and published in the context of the MSC Cyber Security Roundtable in Brussels in October, which takes stock of AI-supported disinformation in the 2024 super election year.

The two Munich Security Opinions published include one written by Gerhard Conrad on the demands of the Zeitenwende for the German intelligence services and one written by Leonard Schütte, in which he suggests a "European Burden Seizing Initiative" by European NATO members. Schütte's piece was published in the run-up to the NATO Summit and the MSC's Transatlantic Defense Roundtable.

Lastly, the MSC also published two Munich Security Debriefs. The first was a readout of the Munich Security Conference 2024, in which Nicole Koenig and Randolph Carr summarize the key takeaways from the main conference in February. The second highlights the takeaways from the Munich Leaders Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, the MSC's first major event in Latin America and the Caribbean, which took place in November. It was written by Isabell Kump and Amadée Mudie-Mantz.

Some publications are presented in more detail on the following pages.

"The threat from Russia and related risks still rank considerably higher than in 2021."

Munich Security Index,
2024

"It is time for European Allies to grow up and seize proportionate responsibility for defending Europe."

"Remedy for Longevity"
Opinion 2/2024

Munich Security Report 2024

Lose-Lose?



Tobias Bunde, Sophie Eisen-
traut, Leonard Schütte (eds.),
Munich Security Report
2024: Lose-Lose?,
Munich: Munich Security
Conference, February 2024,
[https://doi.org/10.47342/
BMQK9457](https://doi.org/10.47342/BMQK9457)

The Munich Security Report 2024 explores the lose-lose dynamics that are spurred if ever more governments prioritize relative payoffs rather than engage in positive-sum cooperation and invest in an international order that, despite its obvious flaws, can still help grow the proverbial pie for the benefit of all. The report also stimulates the debate on how the transatlantic partners and like-minded states can balance two difficult requirements: bracing for a much more competitive geopolitical environment, where relative-gains thinking is unavoidable, and reviving the type of cooperation without which more inclusive global growth and solutions to pressing global problems can hardly be attained.

Key actors in the transatlantic community, in powerful autocracies, and in the so-called Global South have become dissatisfied with what they perceive to be an unequal distribution of the absolute benefits of the international order. From the perspective of many developing states, the international order has never delivered on its promise to grow the pie for the benefit of all. But as highlighted by data from the Munich Security Index 2024, an exclusive annual index of risk perceptions that the MSC developed together with its partner Kekst CNC, even the traditional guardians of the order are no longer satisfied, as they see their own shares of the pie shrinking.

As more and more states define their success relative to others, a vicious cycle of relative gains thinking, prosperity losses, and growing geopolitical tensions threatens to unroll. The resulting lose-lose dynamics are already unfolding in many policy fields and engulfing various regions. In its chapters, the 2024 edition of the Munich Security Report zooms in on four regions and three policy fields where lose-lose dynamics are particularly pronounced, namely Eastern Europe, the Indo-Pacific, the Middle East, and the Sahel region as well as economics, climate, and technology. The chapters highlight that rather than being resolved, many regional conflicts and crises are characterized by growing zero-sum dynamics. And rather than reforming the open and rules-based international order so that it better delivers on its promised mutual benefits, the international community is currently moving in the opposite direction.

The report features a range of exclusive and previously unpublished data. For the Munich Security Report 2024, the MSC once more cooperated with a number of institutions, including The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), Global Trade Alert, der International Energy Agency (IEA), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

Media Response

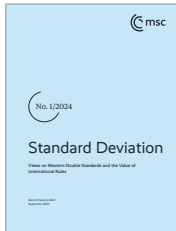
The Munich Security Report 2024 and the Munich Security Index were referenced in leading German and international media outlets, including The Guardian, Deutsche Welle, CNBC, Project Syndicate, Tagesspiegel, Handelsblatt, The Kyiv Independent, and others.

In addition to the presentation of the report at the Bundespressekonferenz, multiple background briefings conducted, and more than 7,500 direct downloads of the full report within four weeks after its release, the report was shared with thousands of stakeholders in the MSC network across the world and was accompanied by further promotional activities in coordination with national and international partner organizations. Within the first weeks after publication, the MSR website received more than 32,000 page views.



Munich Security Brief

Standard Deviation



Sophie Eisentraut,
 “Standard Deviation: Views
 on Western Double
 Standards and the Value of
 International Rules,”
 Munich: Munich Security
 Conference, Munich
 Security Brief 1,
 September 2024,
[https://doi.org/10.47342/
 LDPB2956](https://doi.org/10.47342/LDPB2956)

Governments in many parts of the world have expressed concern that, at a time of growing geopolitical competition, Western states are reducing their commitment to international rules and principles. Some of them, African states in particular, have borne the brunt of alleged Western hypocrisy, which includes the experience of vaccine apartheid. But not all those alleging hypocrisy actually seek to push the West into greater normative consistency and strengthen international standards. Instead, they use their criticism to relativize their own rule revisionism or to legitimize an altogether unprincipled policy approach. Western governments thus face a dilemma, which is only bound to grow as geopolitical competition intensifies. If they ignore allegations of hypocrisy, cynicism about universal principles and the rules-based international order will grow. Yet many of them fear that a more self-critical engagement with their own inconsistencies could well strengthen the opponents of international rules.

Solving this dilemma not only requires Western states to listen more attentively to other governments’ accusations. It also demands that they better understand how the double standards debate and the tensions involved in it are playing out in the court of public opinion. Generously supported by funds from the Otto Wolff Stiftung, the MSC commissioned a survey in nine populous countries in the Global South to shed light on how people in these countries judge Western and other countries’ record of compliance with international rules.

Above all, the data collected from Brazil, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Turkey highlights that people in other parts of the world do not see Western states as disproportionately rule-abiding – but it also suggests that in this regard, the US and European countries are far from homogeneously perceived. Moreover, although the survey data shows that many people are vulnerable to revisionist narratives, it also reveals that, overall, people still believe in the merit of existing international rules.

Based on these insights, the author of this Munich Security Brief proposes three measures that Western governments should take moving forward: reducing inconsistencies that conflict with many countries’ longstanding

demands for greater justice and inclusion; adopting more honest communication about when consistency meets its limits; and exercising stronger pushback against what is implied in some governments' criticisms, namely that an order characterized by double standards is no longer preferable to an order without standards at all.

The Munich Security Brief was launched on two separate occasions. In addition to being launched on the margins of the UN Summit of the Future in New York, bringing together several high profile speakers and participants at the Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the United Nations, the publication's findings were also presented during a second launch event at the Hertie School in Berlin just a few days later.

Media Response

The Munich Security Brief and the survey data it features was picked up by German and international media outlets like Deutsche Welle, Focus Online, The National, and GZERO Media. The author also summarized her findings in an op-ed for Foreign Policy, one of the leading magazines on global politics, economics, and ideas.

More than 700 print copies of the publication were distributed among relevant stakeholders in the MSC network, with many located in countries of the Global South.



MSC Security Briefs in 2024



Isabell Kump and Amadée Mudie-Mantz, “Fragmented and Multi-Aligned,”

Munich: Munich Security Conference, Munich Security Debrief 2, December 2024, <https://doi.org/10.47342/RYFC9534>.

In November 2024, the MSC hosted a Munich Leaders Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The event brought together 80 decision-makers and experts from all over the world. This debrief summarizes the key takeaways of the event, which revealed diverging views on the global order but also highlighted the potential for greater cooperation with countries of Latin America and the Caribbean – and for collaboration within the region itself.



Randolf Carr and Paula Köhler, “AI-pocalypse Now? Disinformation, AI, and the Super Election Year,”

Munich: Munich Security Conference, Munich Security Analysis 4, October 2024, <https://doi.org/10.47342/VPRS3682>.

AI-enhanced disinformation was predicted to wreak havoc on elections around the world in 2024. However, the real negative effect of AI seems to have been limited. Several factors can explain why AI disinformation mostly fell flat, but they should not give rise to complacency. Technological and societal trends around AI indicate that greater disruptions to democratic processes are on the horizon.



Nicole Koenig, “From Soft Talk to Hard Power: Ten To-Dos for the European Defence Union,”

Munich: Munich Security Conference, Munich Security Analysis 3, September 2024, <https://doi.org/10.47342/YSB06544>.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen started her second term vowing to build a “real European Defence Union.” This Union can become an important enabler of a stronger European pillar within NATO. The EU’s new leadership team should swiftly agree on a concrete defense to-do list and rally member states behind it. Ten priority items stand out.

Leonard Schütte, “Remedy for Longevity: A European Burden-Seizing Initiative for NATO to Age Well,”

Munich: Munich Security Conference, Munich Security Opinion 2, July 2024, <https://doi.org/10.47342/GEKG7367>.

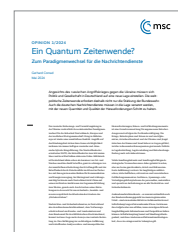
Celebrations of NATO’s 75th anniversary should not obscure the fact that centrifugal forces are pulling the US away from Europe. If European NATO Allies merely watch this shift happening, they will cede further control over their security. Instead, they should recreate the transatlantic bargain by launching an initiative to seize the bulk of the burden of conventionally defending Europe.



Gerhard Conrad, “Ein Quantum Zeitenwende? Zum Paradigmenwechsel für die Nachrichtendienste,”

Munich: Munich Security Conference, Munich Security Opinion 1, May 2024, <https://doi.org/10.47342/AMQW8289>.

In light of Russia’s war on Ukraine, German politics and society must adapt to a new reality. This turning point in global politics not only necessitates the strengthening of the Bundeswehr, but also demands efforts to ensure that the German intelligence services keep pace with the new quantity and quality of challenges. This opinion piece was published in German.



Randolf Carr and Nicole Koenig, “Dark Clouds and Silver Linings: Key Takeaways From the Munich Security Conference 2024,”

Munich: Munich Security Conference, Munich Security Debrief 1, February 2024, <https://doi.org/10.47342/HIQV3321>.

The conference’s sixtieth anniversary was one of superlatives, but also had to address a superlative number and breadth of crises and challenges. Still, some key themes emerged over the weekend: the need to insulate transatlantic unity from isolationism; the call of “now” for European action; the search for ways out of the Middle East’s vicious cycle; the reimagining of global order; and, across the board, the finding – or missing – of silver linings.





3 Reach and Visibility

Global Media Coverage

Global Media Coverage of the Main Conference 2024

On its 60th anniversary, this year's Munich Security Conference proved to be more relevant than ever. Amidst numerous conflicts – from Haiti to Sudan and Yemen to Myanmar, and Russia's brutal war on Ukraine – the Munich Security Conference 2024 offered an unparalleled platform for high-level debates on our time's key foreign and security policy challenges, which once again attracted hundreds of media representatives from all around the globe to cover the discussions.

Overall, this year's Munich Security Conference attracted over 1,200 accredited journalists from 54 countries, generating a significant amount of global media coverage. Notably the leading global and top 20 German newspapers reported extensively on the conference, with a combined circulation of over 62 million. In total, the 60th Munich Security Conference was featured in well over 7,000 newspaper articles across national and international media outlets. This year's conference was also widely covered on television, with 7,416 reports broadcasted on 167 channels. Additionally, news from the conference was picked up by 76 different news agencies, resulting in a total of 5,245 reports. Strategic media partnerships with prominent organizations such as the Bayerischer Rundfunk, Deutsche Welle, POLITICO, and Foreign Affairs further amplified MSC's reach and visibility. The media coverage of the 60th MSC focused on the security policy issues discussed in Munich, as well as the MSC's transformation towards the highly respected international forum it is today. For the very first time, the Live from Munich Studio run by our partner APCO Worldwide enabled MSC participants to connect with any leading news platform in the world. Essentially, the studio worked as a matchmaker between interested participants and global news channels, which included coverage in multiple languages and regions.

Through a sustained social media strategy and public outreach efforts, the MSC successfully amplified its numbers, reached new key audiences, and built momentum for future initiatives. This approach led to more than 21,800 new social media followers and over 407,700 user interactions across all social media platforms.

MSC Coverage Throughout 2024 in Numbers

Digital Communication by the Organization

1,441

posts by the MSC across all platforms (+ 373 stories)

> 10,550

followers of Chairman Christoph Heusgen's X account (+ 6.9 % increase compared to 2023)

78

tweets by Chairman Christoph Heusgen's X account

> 214,400

followers across all MSC platforms (+ 11.3 % increase compared to 2023)

12.98 mio.

total impressions (including paid impressions)

> 407,700

total user interactions

819,000

total visits of the MSC website

> 400,000

total views of MSC livestreams and videos

5,713

newsletter subscribers (+ 17.4 % increase compared to 2023)

Media Appearances by MSC Representatives

272

appearances of the MSC leadership and experts in the media

112

Chairman Christoph Heusgen
• international: **24**
• national: **88**

105

President of the Foundation Council Wolfgang Ischinger
• international: **21**
• national: **84**

3

Vice-Chairman Rainer Rudolph

22

CEO Benedikt Franke

30

other MSC representatives (25 appearances of Gerhard Conrad)

Sample Coverage

Online

More than 13 million users were interested in DW's MSC coverage in Russian, including exclusive interviews and several special editions of the news show DW Novosti.



BR Livestream of Kamala Harris and Christoph Heusgen during the conversation "The US in the World" on the main stage.



MSC 2024 in Numbers

> 1,200accredited journalists
participated on-site**369**

different media outlets

54countries represented

7,832(+ 22% compared to 2023)
(Europe 5,176, USA 601,
Asia 1,650, Africa 55,
Latin America 291)**5,245**reports from 76 news
agencies (+ 10% compared
to 2023)**> 62 mio.**circulation of leading
global and top
20 German newspaper
reporting on MSC 2024

> 8.15 mio.MSC-owned social media
impressions**> 322,300**total MSC-owned livestream
views**> 409,000**visits to the MSC
website in
February 2024

> 21,800

new fans and followers

The New York Times

As Putin Threatens,
Despair and Hedging in
Europe

The New York Times

As Putin Threatens, Despair and Hedging in Europe

In Munich, the mood was both anxious and unmoored, as leaders faced confrontations they had not anticipated. Warnings about Mr. Putin's possible next moves were mixed with Europe's growing worries that it could soon be abandoned by the United States, the one power that has been at the core of its defense strategy for 75 years.

Barely an hour went by at the Munich Security Conference in which the conversation did not turn to the question of whether Congress would fail to find a way to fund new arms for Ukraine, and if so, how long the Ukrainians could hold out. And while Donald Trump's name was rarely mentioned, the prospect of whether he would make good on his threats to pull out of NATO and let Russia "do whatever the hell they want" with allies he judged insufficient hung over much of the dialogue.

Steven Erlanger, David E. Sanger, The New York Times, February 18, 2024

Le Monde

Europeans prioritize
defense against
Russian threat at
Munich Security
Conference

Le Monde

Was it the tragic death of Alexei Navalny? The withdrawal of Ukrainian forces from the small town of Avdiivka under assault from Russian invaders, just a few days before the invasion's second anniversary? Ukrainian leaders' cries for help over the ammunition shortage? A backlash against Donald Trump's doubts about the strength of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)? Perhaps it was all of the above. Nevertheless, a strong sense of urgency regarding the need to defend Europe gripped participants at the 60th Munich Security Conference, which took place from Friday, February 16 to Sunday, February 18.

Sylvie Kauffmann, Thomas Wieder, Le Monde, February 19, 2024

Media Partner (excerpt)

MSC Media Partnership with Bayerischer Rundfunk

20

hours of live streaming and live interviews on TV and social media in both German and English

> 500,000

visits of articles published on the BR24 website about the MSC

> 50,000

viewers on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning following the conference live on BR television

> 250,000

viewers watched the documentary “Hotel Weltpolitik” broadcasted on February 14, 2024

MSC Media Partnership with Deutsche Welle

13

language programs for worldwide audiences

> 20 mio.

users across all DW social media accounts + dw.com

> 49

hours of live streaming and live analysis on TV and social media (in English, Ukrainian, and Russian)

> 16.5 mio.

views on YouTube and YouTube Shorts (primarily in Russian and English)

■ South China Morning Post

EU-China relations:
spectre of Trump hangs
over Munich conference
as Beijing looks for
openings in Europe

South China Morning Post

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi gave a forceful defence of Beijing's ties with Moscow and warned the West not to cross red lines on Taiwan, during a combative speech at the Munich Security Conference on Saturday.

At a gathering dominated by the prospect of a US retreat from the international stage under a second Donald Trump presidency, Wang pitched Beijing as a reliable actor.

"No matter how the world changes, China is a responsible major country that will keep its major principles and policies consistent and stable ... In a turbulent world China will be a force for stability," he said.

But – just a day after Wang met his US counterpart Antony Blinken – there were also thinly veiled swipes at the United States and a firm rejection of a direct request for China to rein in Russia, almost two years into its invasion of Ukraine.

Finbarr Bermingham, South China Morning Post, February 17, 2024

MSC Media Partnership with European Broadcasting Union

717

channels used the material

> 27

hours of published footage

82

countries in which the material was used

MSC Media Partnership with Foreign Policy

65,000

subscribers received the Situation Report newsletter

167,740

people have read the four issues on the MSC 2024 in total

41,000

readers per issue on the MSC 2024 on average

MSC Media Partnership with Foreign Affairs

> 350,000

total print ad impressions

914,623

total e-newsletter "Foreign Affairs Today" sent

55,374

total e-newsletter "Books and Review" sent

MSC Media Partnership with RTL/ntv

> 6.5 mio.

viewers on linear TV

> 50

countries in which video content was distributed to European News Exchange Partners

> 2.3 mio.

clicks on websites, social media, and video-on-demand

MSC Media Partnerships with Politico

> 13,000

people have listened to the "Power Play" podcast featuring the MSC 2024

> 100,000

subscribers receive the "Global Playbook" newsletter on average per edition

> 425,000

subscribers received other newsletter featuring the MSC

Special Issues and Op-Eds

Special issue in the Süddeutsche Zeitung.

The SZ traditionally publishes a special insert on security issues in the run-up to the Munich Security Conference, this year entitled “Security 2024”. The twelve-page print version was made available to participants at the MSC.

The SZ is one of Germany's leading nationwide daily newspapers with up to about 1.2 million readers per print issue and 10.68 million unique visitors to their website per month.

This year's special edition comprehensively examines various geopolitical issues and conflicts around the world, including power shifts, the impact of AI on modern warfare, the future of NATO and European security, the conference as an institution, Russian propaganda, the Sahel region's shifting alliances, and the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

SICHERHEIT 2024

SZ-Spezial zu 60 Jahren Sicherheitskonferenz in München

Absolut nicht in Ordnung

Die internationale Politik ist geprägt von wachsender Unruhe, Regelbrüchen und Provokationen bis zum Krieg. Wer für Frieden sorgen und seine Ideen von Sicherheit umsetzen will, muss stark sein – oder gar Zwang anwenden.

Von Stefan Kornelius

In Dam Alijev, Präsident Aserbaidschans, ist ein Mann, der es nicht nur in der diplomatischen Welt, sondern auch in der Welt der Medien und der Politik zu einem der wichtigsten Akteure der Welt geschafft hat. Seit 2019 ist er der Präsident der Aserbaidschans, ein Land, das seit 1991 ein unabhängiges Aserbaidschan ist. Seit 2019 ist er der Präsident der Aserbaidschans, ein Land, das seit 1991 ein unabhängiges Aserbaidschan ist.

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Den US-Bürgern ist die Welt zu viel geworden. Donald Trump nutzt dieses Bauchgefühl im Wahlkampf skrupellos aus.

Putins Regelbuch zur Zerstörung der internationalen Ordnung wird vielfach kopiert – von der Sahel-Region bis Nordkorea.

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Op-Ed by Leonard Schütte in the Tagesspiegel

On February 9th, 2024, the Tagesspiegel published an Op-Ed by MSC's Senior Researcher Leonard Schütte. The Op-Ed presented selected findings of the Munich Security Analysis "Wer A sagt, muss auch B sagen."

TAGESSPIEGEL

Tagesspiegel,
February 09, 2024

GASTBEITRAG

Umfrage zur Ukraine Die Deutschen sind der Hilfe müde – ein fataler Fehler



Leonard Schütte
ist Senior Researcher bei
der Münchner Sicherheitskonferenz.

Nach anfänglicher Zögerlichkeit ist Deutschland zum wichtigsten Partner der Ukraine nach den USA geworden. Ende 2023 beschloss die Bundesregierung die Militärhilfen für die Ukraine für 2024 auf acht Milliarden Euro zu verdoppeln. Zuvor waren im Bundeshaushalt nur vier Milliarden Euro Unterstützung vorgesehen. Beim EU-Sondergipfel Anfang Februar drängte Bundeskanzler Olaf Scholz darauf, dass die EU-Mitgliedstaaten „alles in ihrer Macht Stehende tun, um die Ukraine zu unterstützen.“ Scholz wird immer mehr zum rhetorischen Antrieber bei Militärhilfen, auch wenn es zu beachten gilt, dass der deutsche Beitrag gemessen am Bruttoinlandsprodukt nicht so beeindruckend ist: In relativen Zahlen stellen 13 Länder größere bilaterale Hilfen als die Bundesrepublik zur Verfügung.

Die deutsche Unterstützung für die Ukraine wird auf den ersten Blick in der breiteren Bevölkerung nicht infrage gestellt. Die jüngsten Umfrageergebnisse des Munich Security Index 2024 zeugen von einem klaren Bewusstsein, dass ein russischer Sieg verheerende Folgen für die Ukraine und Europa hätte. So sehen 56 Prozent der Befragten das Risiko weiterer Angriffe Russlands auf andere Länder, sollte die Ukraine den Krieg nicht gewinnen. 48 Prozent stimmen der Aussage zu, dass „Europa [...] nur dann sicher sein [wird], wenn Russland den Krieg verliert.“ Nur 19 Prozent widersprechen dieser Aussage.

Die Zustimmungswerte nehmen allerdings rapide ab, sobald es um konkrete politische Konsequenzen geht. Waren im Mai 2022 noch 46 Prozent dafür, mehr Kriegsgeflüchtete als bisher aufzunehmen, sehen



Immer weniger Deutsche wollen die Ukraine militärisch oder humanitär unterstützen.

das in der aktuellen Umfrage nur noch 25 Prozent so. Knapp ein Drittel (32 Prozent) spricht sich dagegen aus. Eine ähnliche Entwicklung ist bei den Zustimmungswerten zur Frage, ob Deutschland mehr schwere Waffen als bisher liefern sollte, zu verzeichnen. Mittlerweile sind die Gegner von verstärkten Lieferungen schwerer Waffen in der Überzahl. Auch wollen immer weniger Deutsche Russland stärker sanktionieren oder mehr humanitäre Hilfe als bisher leisten.

Russland rüstet massiv auf

Natürlich hat sich die Ausgangslage stark verändert: Im Frühling 2022 wurde noch debattiert, ob Deutschland der Ukraine überhaupt schwere Waffen liefern sollte; im Herbst 2023 ging es unter anderem um die Lieferung von Marschflugkörpern. Diese Einordnung kann trotzdem

nicht über eine nachlassende Unterstützung in der Bevölkerung hinwegtäuschen, auch im internationalen Vergleich sind die deutschen Zustimmungswerte gering.

Über die Parteigrenzen hinweg ist die Bereitschaft, die Ukraine stärker als bisher zu unterstützen, mit einzelnen Ausnahmen seit Mai 2022 zurückgegangen. Unterstützerinnen der AfD sind die größten Gegner:innen verstärkter Hilfen jeglicher Art für die Ukraine, die der Grünen durchweg die stärksten Befürworter:innen. Große Differenzen herrschen bezüglich der verstärkten Aufnahme von Kriegsgeflüchteten. Grünen-Anhänger:innen mit einer Nettostimmung von +38 und AfD-Unterstützer:innen mit einer Nettoablehnung von -52 bilden die Pole des Spektrums. Aber auch Wähler:innen von CSU, FDP und CDU sind dagegen, dass Deutschland mehr tun sollte bei der Aufnahme ukrainischer Kriegsgeflüchteter. Anhänger:innen der Linken und der SPD sind knapp dafür. Den Beitritt der Ukraine zur Europäischen Union unterstützen Anhänger:innen aller Parteien, außer der AfD, wenngleich auch hier die Zustimmungswerte deutlich gefallen sind.

Bei aller geleisteten Hilfe für die Ukraine – und im Kontext aufziehender Verteilungskonflikte in Deutschland und weltweiter Krisen – mögen die fallenden Zustimmungswerte zu verstärkter Unterstützung nachvollziehbar sein. Insbesondere vor dem Hintergrund der wahrscheinlich nachlassenden US-amerikanischen Unterstützung und der massiven Aufrüstung Russlands ist diese einseitige Zeitenwendemüdigkeit fatal.

Es ist daher eine zentrale Aufgabe der Unterstützer:innen der Ukraine, der deutschen Bevölkerung die Botschaft zu vermitteln, dass die Bundesrepublik mehr als bishergefordert sein wird. Denn die Ära, in der die Bundesrepublik die Verteidigung Europas an die USA auslagern und die Friedensdividende einstreichen konnte, ist vorüber.

T

Lesen Sie weitere
Hintergründe zu
diesem Thema auf
tagesspiegel.de



Jetzt lesen

Op-Ed by Benedikt Franke in POLITICO

In his Op-Ed for Politico, published on February 16, 2024, Benedikt Franke, the MSC's Vice-chairman and CEO, underscores the importance of integrating security considerations into Europe's tech policies from the outset to mitigate cyber threats effectively.

POLITICO

POLITICO,
February 26, 2024

It's time to security proof Europe's tech policies

Our opponents will exploit every weakness we show and every vulnerability we leave unpatched.

SHARE



General view before the 2024 Munich Security Conference | Johannes Simon/Getty Images

OPINION

FEBRUARY 16, 2024 4:03 AM CET

BY BENEDIKT FRANKE

Benedikt Franke is vice-chairman and CEO of the Munich Security Conference.

“Prevention is better than cure.”

This phrase, attributed to Dutch philosopher Desiderius Erasmus, is as valid in today's security environment as it was 500 years ago. It simply makes more sense to stop something bad from happening than having to deal with its consequences later.

MSC 2024 Digital Communication

For its 60th anniversary, the MSC focused particularly on informing attendees, followers and stakeholders about the Munich Security Conference and its history. Using the official hashtag #MSC2024, participants and interested parties could gain exclusive insights and engage with the ongoing debates. The MSC also commemorated its 60th anniversary by highlighting key moments from its history with the hashtag #sixdecades.

In the run-up to and during the conference weekend, the MSC shared platform-specific content on X, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and new platforms such as Threads and Bluesky*. With 765 posts on all platforms, the MSC significantly ramped up its social media presence and more than doubled its output from 2023. This effort resulted in over 8.15 million total impressions and more than 115,200 interactions. The MSC also saw a notable increase in its online community, gaining over 21,800 new fans and followers.

Selected panels and press conferences were broadcast on the MSC's social media channels in addition to the website. Overall, our livestreams were viewed over 322,300 times. The growing interest was particularly evident on YouTube with 95,100 total views of MSC YouTube videos — a 79.8% increase compared to 2023. The MSC 2024 was the most public and accessible conference yet.

* In the run-up to the conference, the MSC launched its social media presence on the platforms Bluesky and Threads. While the MSC continues to use these channels to access diversified audiences, analytics are not yet available for these platforms and hence are not included in this data collection.

MSC 2024 Digital Communication in Numbers

765

posts by MSC 2024 across
all social media platforms
(+ 122.4% compared to 2023)

> 21,800

new fans and followers
(+11.8% compared to 2023)

> 115,200

total interactions

> 8.15 mio.

total impressions
(incl. paid advertising)

> 409,000

total visits of the MSC website

> 95,100

total views of MSC YouTube
videos (+79.8% compared to 2023)

> 322,300

total MSC livestream views
(+3.6% compared to 2023)

> 5,300

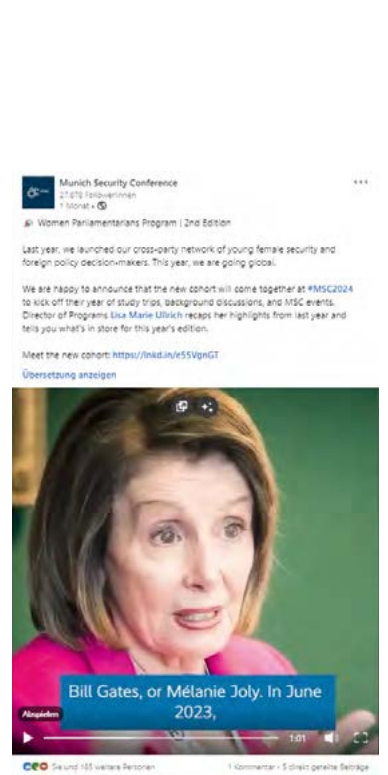
total newsletter subscribers
(+ 6.2% compared to 2023)

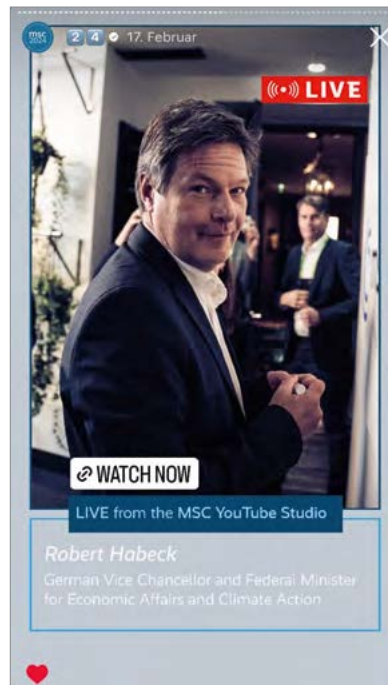
In Pictures

X



LinkedIn



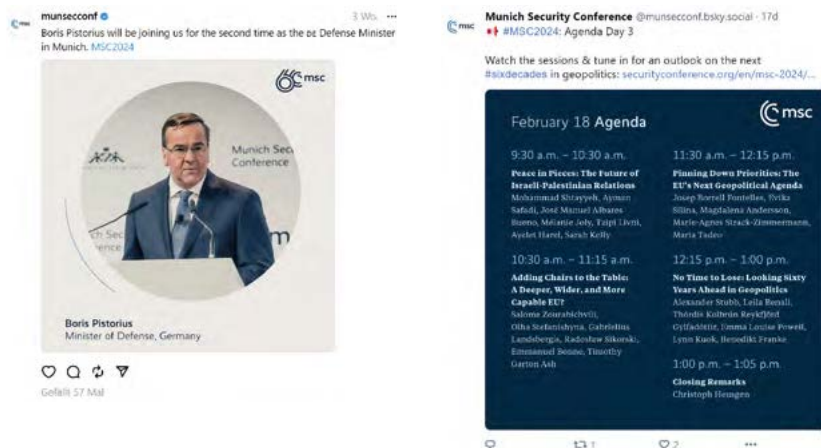


Instagram



Facebook

Bluesky & Threads



Website



Agenda

Search title or speaker

Friday, February 16 Saturday, February 17 Sunday, February 18

Format

☐ Main Stage I ☐ Main Stage II ☒ Townhall ☐ Roundtable ☐ Spotlight

Topic

☐ Defense ☐ Global Order ☐ Human Security ☐ Sustainability ☐ Technology

Reset filter

Friday, February 16 | from 10:00 a.m.








10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Townhall

Sustainability, Human Security, Global Order

Currency for Change: World Politics on a Budget

Opening Townhall

 Kyriacos Mitsotakis Prime Minister, Hellenic Republic	 Christian Lindner Federal Minister of Finance, Federal Republic of Germany
 Diana Mendive Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Foreign Investment, Argentine Republic	 Vera Songwe Chair and Founder of the Liability and Sustainability Facility, Co-chair of the Independent High Level Expert Group on Climate Finance
 John Studzinski Managing Director and Vice-Chairman, FMCO	 Wang Huiyao (Left Comment) Founder and President, Center for China and Globalization, Former State Counsellor of the People's Republic of China
 Zanny Minton Beddoes (Moderator) Editor-in-Chief, The Economist	


Watch the recording Learn more

Agenda

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Munich Security Conference 2024





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Media Library

Recent Events

 Munich Security Conference 2024	 Munich Young Leaders Annual Meeting	 Munich Leaders Meeting
 Munich Security Conference 2023	 MSC Kick-off 2023	 Munich Strategic Review 2022

1 / 17

Live Streaming

Building the success of last two year's live streaming offers, the MSC team decided to continue to make large parts of the program publicly and digitally available. For the third time, the MSC broadcast various sessions simultaneously on its website and streamed selected program items live on social media. In addition to the live streaming on X, YouTube, Facebook, and LinkedIn, selected streams were made available to associated organizations, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). A digital conferencing platform for registered participants and journalists offered a range of virtual engagement options.





Live streaming from the MSC 2024
will start shortly.

ME 1 PVW

MSC2024

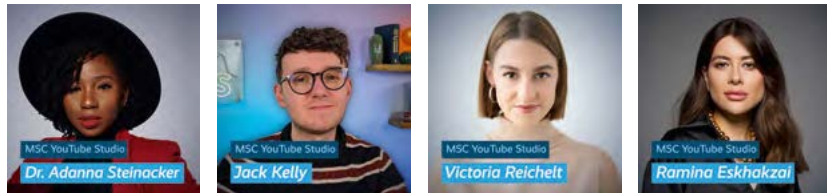


MSC YouTube Studio

The MSC YouTube Studio has been an integral part of the Munich Security Conference program for several years. In partnership with YouTube, the MSC brings together the conference guests with prominent YouTube creators from around the world for an intimate one-on-one conversation on the most pressing security questions of our time.

This year, the host team consisted of our four YouTube creators and renowned journalists: Ramina Eskhakzai from Ukraine, Jack Kelly from the UK, Victoria Reichelt from Germany, and Adanna Steinacker from Nigeria. In a total of 22 conversations, the hosts questioned their guests on a wide range of issues, from the wars in Sudan and Ukraine, the geopolitical impact of energy security, to democratic resilience and female empowerment in politics. The hosts also distributed the material on their own channels. This way, the MSC was able to benefit from the reach and authenticity of the creators and tap into new audiences and target groups.

#MSCYouTubeStudio: Interview Hosts



- Transitioned from clinical medicine to entrepreneurship, Adanna Steinacker provided her unique perspective on female empowerment and holistic health.
- We are happy that Jack Kelly was part of our #MSC2024 YouTube Creators team once again. He is the founder of the United Kingdom's pioneering digital outlet TLDR News.
- Victoria Reichelt is a household name for German media consumers. The experienced presenter speaks on behalf of young people with “those at the top” at #DIEDAOBEN and did the same with the global stakeholders from the world of security policy.
- As a war journalist from Ukraine, Ramina Eskhakzai joined the studio to take our guests out of the conference atmosphere and into the harsh reality of the front line.

MSC YouTube in Numbers

4

Hosts with a combined reach
of more than 2.9 million
YouTube subscribers

22

MSC YouTube Studio recordings

> 95,100

total YouTube Studio views

> 10,000

subscribers on the
MSC YouTube channel

22

Interviewees:

Mariam bint Mohammed Saeed
Almheiri, Jason Bordoff, Carsten
Breuer, Valdis Dombrovskis,
Comfort Ero, Mircea Geoană,
Robert Habeck, Kaja Kallas,
Arielle Kayabaga, Bogolo Joy
Kenewendo, Dmytro Kuleba,
Ricarda Lang, Neema Lugangira,
Alaa Murabit, Hannah Neumann,
Wolfgang Schmidt, Mirjana
Spoljaric Egger, Olha
Stefanishyna, Narendra Taneja,
Düzen Tekkal, Kristina Lunz,
Catarina dos Santos-Wintz

MSC Studio

The MSC Studio moved locations within the Hotel Bayerischer Hof to improve spacing and availabilities for the participants. This offers the opportunity to produce high-quality video content directly on location. Equipped with cutting-edge recording and streaming technology, the MSC Studio was available to partners and media organizations to host shows or live conversations, press conferences, or other digital engagements. This year's edition included a Deutsche Welle interview with Nancy Pelosi and a Welt interview with Sigmar Gabriel, as well as several discussion panels.



SIGMAR GABRIEL: "Russland wird uns nicht übermorgen mit Nuklearwaffen angreifen" | WELT SPEZIAL



MSC Studio in Numbers

24

total events

15

interviews

5

podcast recordings

8

news show recordings

Live from Munich Studio

Due to the popularity of our interview opportunities in the MSC YouTube Studio and MSC Studio, this year, we provided, in cooperation with APCO Worldwide, another option for journalists and media representatives to record interviews and other broadcast formats with the Live from Munich Studio. Throughout the weekend, media representatives could use the studio to interview participants and broadcast the recordings on their respective platforms.



MSC Live in Numbers

130

interviews and unique pieces of coverage delivered by the studio

68

tier-one broadcasters, news-wires, print outlets and digital platforms reached across Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America

7

special pieces of coverage including news intros and piece-to-cameras recorded at the studio

5

separate broadcast locations established throughout the conference due to demand

Munich Security Report 2024: “Lose – Lose?”

The annual flagship report is traditionally published as a discussion starter for the Munich Security Conference in February and is targeted at an expert audience as well as the interested public. The 2024 edition was downloaded more than 7,500 times within four weeks, with selected data and analysis featured widely in German and international media, including Tageszeitung, Deutsche Welle, CNBC, Tagesspiegel, Handelsblatt, and others.

Amid growing geopolitical tensions and rising economic uncertainty, many governments are no longer focusing on the absolute benefits of global cooperation but are increasingly concerned that they are gaining less than others. The Munich Security Report 2024 explores the lose-lose dynamics that are spurred if ever more governments prioritize relative payoffs rather than engage in positive-sum cooperation and invest in an international order that, despite its obvious flaws, can still help grow the proverbial pie for the benefit of all. Published ahead of the 60th Munich Security Conference, the report also stimulates the debate on how the transatlantic partners and like-minded states can balance two difficult requirements: On the one hand, they have to brace for a much more competitive geopolitical environment, where relative-gains thinking is unavoidable. On the other hand, they have to revive positive-sum cooperation, without which more inclusive global growth and solutions to pressing global problems can hardly be attained.



The Munich Security Report 2024 was presented by Tobias Bunde and Christoph Heusgen to members of the press at the Federal Press Conference.



MSR 2024 in Numbers

> 1,300

individual copies sent out
ahead of the MSC 2024

36

mentions in print media

> 32,000

page views of MSR website

> 7,500

total downloads of the report
within 4 weeks

700

total online mentions
(news websites)

> 140,100

total impressions of MSC
social media posts on the
MSR 2024

Media

Project Syndicate,
February 12, 2024



Deutsche Welle,
February 12, 2024



China and Russia no longer perceived as top security threats, research finds

Karen Glick

China and Russia are considered less of a threat to Western populations now than a year ago, according to a new study which points to rising concern around non-traditional risks. Mass migration due to war or climate change and the rise of radical Islam now rank among the top perceived risks among G7 countries. The majority of respondents in Western countries also said they see China and the Global South becoming more powerful over the coming decade, while Western powers are more likely to stagnate or decline. China and Russia are considered less of a threat to Western populations now than a year ago, as public concern pivots to non-traditional risks such as mass migration and radical Islam, new research said.

Public perception of traditional hard security risks remains higher now than three years ago, but has fallen since 2022, the year Russia invaded Ukraine, survey results from the Munich Security Index 2024 showed.

The findings point to a disconnect between public sentiment and political policy as world leaders meet later this week at the Munich Security Conference to discuss what the organizers called a "downward trend in world politics, marked by an increase in geopolitical tensions and economic uncertainty."

Top of the agenda will be the ongoing wars between Russia and Ukraine and Israel and Hamas, as well as NATO expansion and a potential return of Donald Trump to the White House.

Public opinion was broadly aligned on medium-term economic and geopolitical risks, however, with the majority of re-

spondents in Western countries of the view that China and other powers from the Global South

raising of concerns. Included in that were warlike worries around the risks of nuclear conflict and

others noted that sentiment was mainly concentrated in Europe and North America, and was

election cycle could further exacerbate the risks of "democratic backsliding, growing societal



would become more powerful over the coming decade while Western powers were more likely to stagnate or decline.

In the polling of 12,000 people across G7 countries plus Brazil, India, China and South Africa, few Western respondents believed that their country would be more secure and wealthy in 10 years' time. By contrast, most of those in emerging economies thought they would be better off financially and in political terms.

Russia, China rank on the decline while Russia ranked as a top threat for G7 countries last year, the majority of those perceived risks have since faded, according to the study conducted from October to November 2023.

Only citizens from the U.K. and Japan still consider Moscow a top risk this year, while Germany and Italy recorded a significant

disruptions to energy supplies. China was also seen more favorably this year than last by five of the G7 countries, with Canada and Japan the exceptions. Notably, though, Chinese respondents saw all countries apart from Russia and Belarus as more threatening now than before. It was also the only country to name the U.S. as a threat.

Perceptions of non-traditional risks increased across all countries, however, with people around the world expressing concern about environmental threats, the risks of mass migration as a result of war or climate change, and organized crime. Environmental issues ranked as a top three concern in all countries except the U.S.

The perceived threat of radical Islam also showed a marked increase, though the report's au-

thors noted that sentiment was mainly concentrated in Europe and North America, and was

likely a consequence of the Israel-Hamas war. Cybersecurity issues, meanwhile, ranked as a top risk in China and the U.S., as both countries step up their restrictions against one another in the race for [technological dominance](#).

The index was accompanied by a report entitled "Lose-Lose," which pointed to the continued shift away from global cooperation and toward transactional, protectionist policies.

"As more and more states define their success relative to others, a vicious cycle of relative-gains thinking, prosperity losses, and growing geopolitical tensions threatens to unravel. The resulting lose-lose dynamics are already unfolding in many policy fields and engulfing various regions," the report said.

It added that this year's [survey](#)

polarization, and rising right-wing populism," further unsettling international cooperation.

"Populist forces have further amplified the sentiment that some actors are gaining at the expense of others, as an extreme form of liberalism 'sacrificates who wins and who loses from economic globalization,'" it added.

The report suggested that the re-election of Trump as U.S. president could potentially "spell the end of trusted cooperation among democratic states." Indeed, on Saturday the Republican presidential candidate said that he would "encourage" Russia to [attack NATO allies](#) if they did not meeting their spending commitments.

The Guardian,
February 12, 2024

21.03.24, 16:04

National self-interest stymying global cooperation, report finds | World news | The Guardian



World news

🕒 This article is more than 1 month old

National self-interest stymying global cooperation, report finds

Survey by Munich Security Conference suggests nations define success as relative to others rather than the common good

Patrick Wintour *Diplomatic editor*

Mon 12 Feb 2024 11:15 CET

The world has entered a new era marked by zero-sum thinking in which countries seek relative advantage through protectionism, self-interest and rejection of mutually beneficial cooperation, a report from the prestigious Munich Security Conference suggests before its annual meeting at the weekend.

Frank Specht Berlin

Mit seiner Äußerung, die USA würden unter seiner Präsidentschaft sämtliche Nato-Mitglieder nicht mehr gegen Russland verteidigen, hat US-Präsident Donald Trump ein Thema für die am Freitag beginnende 60. Münchner Sicherheitskonferenz (MSC) gesetzt. Der MSC-Vorsitzende und frühere deutsche Botschafter in Washington, Christoph Heugens, nennt die Äußerung einerseits „erratisch“, sieht sie aber auch als Weckruf an die Europäer, sich stärker um die eigene Sicherheit zu kümmern.

Welche Themen dominieren nach das dreitägige Treffen? Die wichtigsten Antworten.

Um welche Themen wird es gehen?

Es gebe so viele Krisen, Konflikte und Herausforderungen wie selten zuvor in den 60 Jahren seit Bestehen der Münchner Sicherheitskonferenz, sagte der MSC-Vorsitzende Heugens. Großen Raum werden die Kriege in der Ukraine und in Gaza einnehmen.

Die Sicherheitskonferenz widmet sich aber auch Krisen, die in der weltweiten Öffentlichkeit nicht so im Fokus stehen, etwa den Kriegen und damit verbundenen Hungersnöten in Somalia und im Sudan sowie der Bandenregiment in Haiti. Insgesamt wird es rund 60 Foren mit rund 250 Sprechern und Sprechern im Hauptprogramm geben.

Dabei geht es auch um einen erweiterten Sicherheitsbegriff, um Themen wie Klima-, Ernährungs- und



Demonstration für Palästinenser in Gaza im Jemen: Die Houthi-Angriffe auf Schiffe im Roten Meer gefährden den Welthandel.

Kriege, Hunger, Klimawandel, Trump Sorge vor dem Weltenbeben

Am Freitag beginnt die 60. Münchner Sicherheitskonferenz. Um welche Themen wird es gehen? Wer kommt nach München? Das sind die wichtigsten Fakten.



US-Präsidentschaftskandidat Trump: Provokation als Taktik.

Energiesicherheit, den Einsatz von Künstlicher Intelligenz (KI) oder eine Reform des Uno-Sicherheitsrats. Auch der sich zuspitzende Konflikt zwischen China und Taiwan steht mit auf der Agenda.

Wer kommt nach München?

Übergreifendes Thema der Konferenz soll die regelbasierte Weltordnung und die Herrschaft des Rechts sein, auch wenn diese durch Autokraten wie Russlands Präsident Wladimir Putin herausgefordert wird. Uno-Generalsekretär António Guterres wird die MSC eröffnen. Aus den USA werden Vizepräsidentin Kamala Harris und Außenminister Antony Blinken erwartet. Der ukrainische Präsident Wolodymyr Selenski ist eingeladen, und es sei nicht ausgeschlossen, dass er komme, erklärte Heugens vor der Bundespresskonferenz in Berlin. Regierungvertreter aus Russland werden in München nicht vor Ort sein. Aus Israel wird Staatspräsident Itzhak Herzog erwar-

ter, der palästinensische Premier Mohammad Schtajaj ist eingeladen.

China ist hochrangig durch Außenminister Wang Yi vertreten, der bereits im vergangenen Jahr nach München gekommen war. Aus Taiwan wurden keine Regierungsmitglieder, aber Vertreter der Wirtschaft und der Zivilgesellschaft eingeladen.

Die Europäische Union ist unter anderem durch Kommissionspräsidentin Ursula von der Leyen, den Außenbeauftragten Josep Borrell und den belgischen Premier Alexander de Croo als amtierenden Ratspräsidenten vertreten. Bundeskanzler Olaf Scholz wird am Samstag sprechen, außerdem nehmen mehrere Minister teil.

Insgesamt werden nach Angaben der Veranstalter rund 180 Regierungsvertreter anwesend sein, darunter rund 70 Teilnehmer aus dem sogenannten globalen Süden, etwa die Präsidenten Guatemalas, Ghanas und Kolumbiens, der jordanische König sowie der Außenminister Indiens.



MSC-Chef Heugens: Sicherheit beinhaltet auch Klima-, Ernährungs- und Energiesicherheit.

Wie ist die Einschätzung der Sicherheitslage in der Welt?

Die Autoren des Munich Security Report 2024, der zur Sicherheitskonferenz erscheint, sehen die regelbasierte Ordnung der Welt in großer Gefahr. Viele Regierungen weltweit sähen nicht mehr die Vorteile internationaler Kooperation, sondern seien vor allem auf den eigenen Vorteil bedacht und fürchteten, weniger von der Zusammenarbeit zu profitieren als andere. Politik werde zunehmend als Nullsummenspiel verstanden – wenn einer sich ein größeres Stück vom Kuchen sichere, gehe das zwangsläufig zulasten anderer. Dieses Denken trete an die Stelle des Ideals der regelbasierten Ordnung, gemeinsam den „Kuchen“ zu vergrößern und den globalen Wohlstand zu mehren.

Das Beratungsausschussmitglied CNC hat für die MSC jeweils 1000 Bürger in den 67-Ländern, Brasilien, China, Indien und Südafrika zu ihrer sicherheitspolitischen Wahrnehmung befragt. Bei der Frage, ob ihr Land in zehn Jahren sicherer und wohlhabender dastehen wird als heute, gibt es gerade in den westlichen Demokratien großen Pessimismus. In Japan bejaht nur jeder zehnte Bürger die Frage, in Deutschland glauben 19 Prozent, dass ihr Land sicherer, und 14 Prozent, dass es wohlhabender sein wird. Deutlich höhere Zustimmungswerte von um die 60 Prozent sind in China und Indien zu verzeichnen.

Welche Rolle spielen der US-Wahlkampf und die jüngsten Nato-Äußerungen von Präsidentschaftsbewerber Trump?

Auch wenn Trump derzeit kein offizielles Amt innehat, bestimmt er die Agenda der Sicherheitskonferenz mit. Erst am Wochenende hatte er mit ei-

ner Wahlkampfaussage für Wirbel gesorgt, dass die USA unter seiner Präsidentschaft Nato-Mitglieder, die ihren finanziellen Verpflichtungen nicht nachkommen, nicht vor Russland schützen würden. MSC-Chef Heugens sprach erinnerte daran, dass Trump schon in seiner Zeit als US-Präsident die europäischen Nato-Mitglieder aufgefordert habe, ihre Hausaufgaben zu machen. Dies habe er nun „auf die ihm eigene Art“ noch einmal betont, sagte Heugens.

Die USA stockten 3,5 Prozent ihrer Wirtschaftsleistung in die Verteidigung, während viele europäische Länder – darunter Deutschland – lange nicht einmal das Zwei-Prozent-Ziel der Nato erfüllt hätten. Das sei amerikanischen Steuerzahlern nur schwer zu vermitteln, sagte Trump.

In München wird es deshalb auch um die Frage gehen, wie die Europäer in der Sicherheitspolitik unabhängiger vom großen Verbündeten jenseits des Atlantik werden können. Dazu gehöre auch, ernsthaft über das Angebot des französischen Präsidenten Emmanuel Macron zu reden, mit unter den französischen Nuklearschild zu schlüpfen, sagte Heugens.

Gibt es neben den öffentlichen Foren auch konkrete Verhandlungen, etwa über einen Waffenstillstand in der Ukraine?

Hauptziel der Konferenz ist der Austausch auf den unterschiedlichsten Ebenen, und dank der Vielzahl prominenter Gäste ist dazu reichlich Gelegenheit. Offiziell geplant ist am Rande der Konferenz ein Treffen der Außenminister der sieben wichtigsten Industrieländer (G7).

Ob es auch konkrete Gespräche über den Ukrainekrieg geben werde, hänge mit davon ab, ob Präsident Selenski komme, sagte Heugens. Der MSC-Präsident sieht keine Aussicht auf erfolgversprechende Verhandlungen zwischen den Kriegsparteien, solange Putin Selenski nicht einmal als Verhandlungspartner anerkenne.

Für die Zeit nach einem Friedensschluss seien Sicherheitsgarantien für die Ukraine nötig, die Putin nicht – wie einst das Budapest Memorandum – mit Füßen treten könne. Im Budapest Memorandum hatte sich die Ukraine bereit erklärt, ihre Atomwaffen abzugeben, und dafür Sicherheitsgarantien von Russland, den USA und Großbritannien erhalten. Diese hatten Putin aber nicht daran gehindert, seinen Angriffskrieg gegen die Ukraine zu beginnen.



4 People and Organization

People, Culture, and Organizational Development

The year 2024 marked a significant chapter in the history of the Munich Security Conference as the 60th Anniversary was celebrated with an extraordinary Jubilee Conference. The anniversary conference saw Ambassador Dr. Christoph Heusgen in his second year as Chairman and with Rainer Rudolph stepping into his first term as Vice-Chairman. In addition, Andreas Block, former Head of the Digital Editorial Team at the German Federal Press Office, joined the leadership as the new Communications Director in the fall of 2024. Taking on a new role, Jamel Flitti was promoted from Head of the Chairman's Office to Interim Program Director, overseeing the Programs & Engagement team.

In contrast to the expansion seen in recent years, the MSC's team size remained stable in 2024 with 82 staff members in the core team. The workforce, with an average age of around 33 years, has a women's proportion exceeding 57% with women holding more than 54% of leadership positions. In addition to the 34 team members at our Berlin office and the 48 at our Munich office, over 50 temporary employees have been engaged to support the core team in preparation for the Munich Security Conference 2025. The ongoing success of the special project "Zeitenwende on Tour", introduced in 2022, led to its extension for another year, retaining the five additional staff members hired exclusively for this program. A new initiative, the Middle East Consultation Group, was launched in the fall of 2024 to bring high-level experts and former policymakers together with the goal of supporting ongoing diplomatic efforts across the broader Middle East. Six additional staff members were brought on board solely for this initiative.

True to our motto of continuous improvement and keeping the professionalism of our events at the highest level, the organization puts even more emphasis on protocol and participant management with significantly enhancing the MSC's capacity to manage conference preparation. Moreover, digital transformation remains a key priority for the MSC. This includes the restructuring of the Knowledge Center to provide all employees with important information quickly, easily and to always keep them up to date. Furthermore, a desk booking system to streamline employee's office work planning was successfully introduced. Upcoming projects include the

implementation of a customer-relationship-management tool, expanding in-house controlling processes and the opening of our international offices. Continuing to prioritize learning and skill development, the MSC Academy remains integral to our organizational culture and was expanded in 2024. The Academy offers employees access to a wide array of workshops and lectures on e.g. the US election, protocol, and mental health. It also provides development opportunities that contribute to both professional and personal growth.

Investing in personnel development remains a core focus of the MSC, reflecting our commitment to valuing our employees and ensuring their growth, retention and overall well-being. We introduced a new performance management process and developed performance indicators to reward performance and enhance transparency within the organization. This system was fully integrated into the MSC's digital HR platform, allowing for the tracking of goal achievement as well as providing employees with valuable insights into their performance and growth opportunities within the MSC.

As networking and cross-professional collaboration are the backbone of the MSC's best results, the organization built its own Alumni Network. The inaugural MSC Alumni event was hosted in February 2024, bringing together current and former employees to foster connections, share experiences and strengthen the MSC community.

The MSC Strategy 2030

The MSC is the world's leading platform for the debate of foreign and security policy. This reputation is constantly reconfirmed by events and activities. The Strategy 2030 recommends 17 overall goals and 300+ concrete measures to achieve them. The executive board will report once a year on the implementation. The strategy has been developed in close partnership with the team and partner universe.

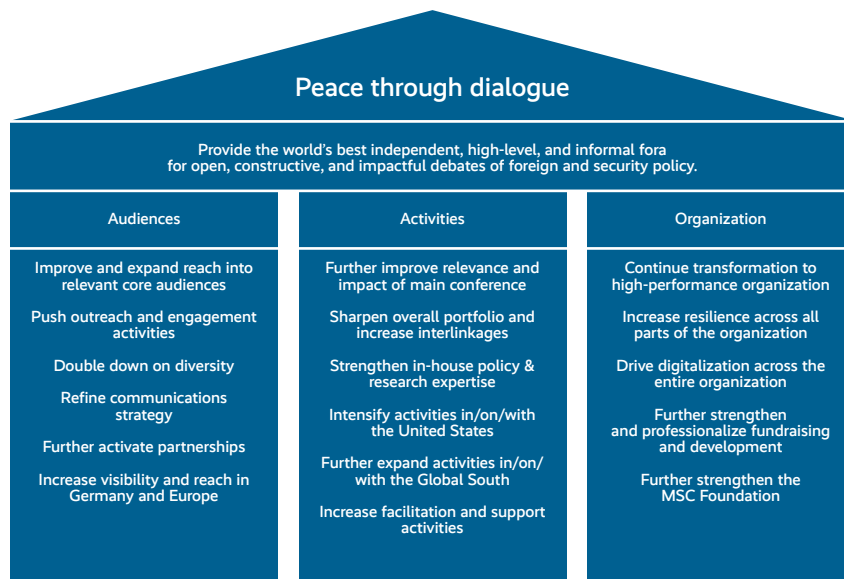
The MSC USPs and advantages are clear: The thematic focus did not deviate significantly from the original focus on security. The level of participation is high, prominent, and renowned. The MSC is a market place of ideas and provides facilitation services such as multilaterals and task forces. The MSC is characterized by diversity, interactivity, and program depth and breadth. Risk management is pronounced (funding sources, partisanship, partnerships, commercialisation, organic growth, etc.). But there is the need to continue investing and improving. The MSC does not need to get much bigger, but it can still get better.

This is what we want to be: A lean and high-performance organization with a clear mission, vision, and identity. A recognized facilitator of peace and security efforts. The partner of choice for leading IOs, CSOs, national governments, private sector leaders, and the world's most preeminent experts on the most relevant security challenges. A key partner for the German (and Bavarian) government and parliament. A global leader on conference management and policy facilitation. Well-resourced, independent, and resilient. The 2030 Strategy will help to focus on these goals.

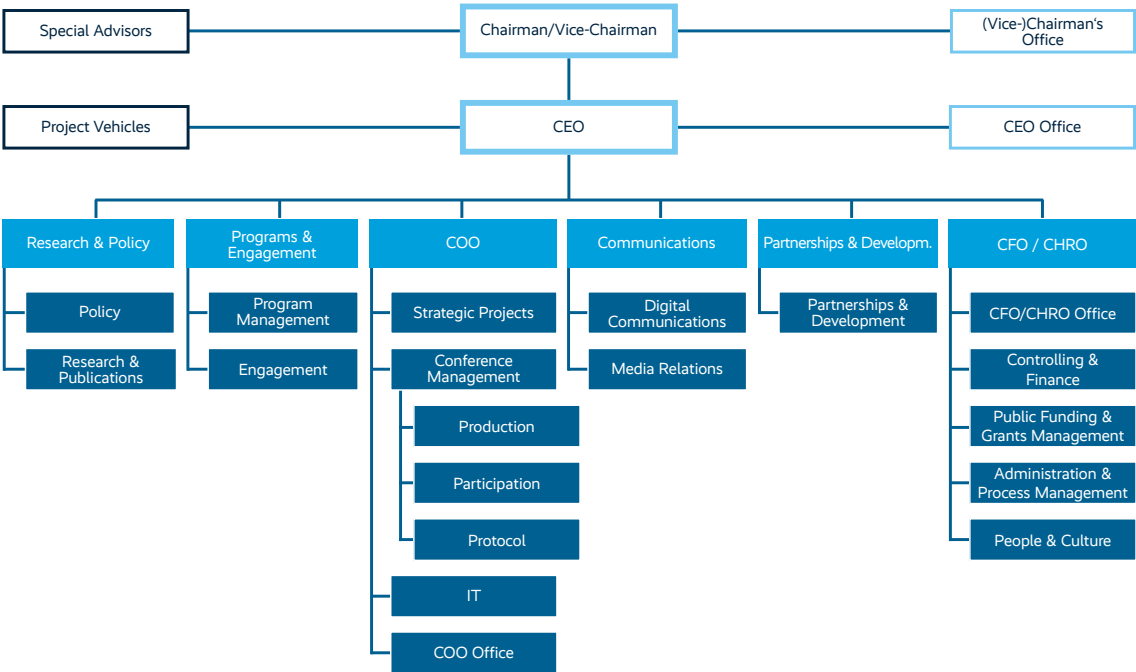
Identity Issues: Who We Are - What We Say

Our Vision	Our Strategy	Our Brand	Our Culture
<p>Peace through dialogue</p> <p>Our Mission:</p> <p>We provide the world's best independent, high-level, and informal fora for open, constructive, and impactful debates of foreign and security policy.</p>	<p>We make diplomacy work by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing opportunities, back channels & visibility • connecting people, fostering networks & building trust • curating & advancing debates and initiatives • breaking silos & preconceptions • amplifying ideas & enabling drivers • raising awareness through events & publications • helping those in charge make the best possible decisions. 	<p>We are the global market leader, because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • we focus on relevance & consequence • we are driven by content & purpose • we are committed to interactivity informality, and impartiality • decision-makers trust us • we are supported by a strong network of partners • we embrace change 	<p>The MSC is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • people-oriented & personable • non-profit & self-driven • idealistic & ambitious • professional & courteous • creative & flexible • strongly committed to European values and the rule of law
Who we are	What we do	What we stand for	How we are

Strategic Objectives and Specific Goals



Organizational Structure | Org Chart





The MSC Foundation

About the MSC Foundation

Since its foundation in 1963, the MSC has been constantly evolving. Originally established as “Wehrkunde,” a private initiative by its founder Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist, the conference has become the world’s leading independent forum for international security policy.

The MSC Foundation was established in 2018 to ensure the independence and long-term sustainability of the MSC and its growing activities in an era of geopolitical uncertainty. Over the past decade, the MSC has complemented the annual main conference in Munich with a growing variety of formats at the highest level over the entire year, and in major capitals around the world, covering a very broad spectrum of international security issues, including defense, cyber, and arms control as well as, inter alia, energy, climate, and human security. With the annual Munich Security Report and other papers and research reports, the MSC has also started to develop a growing think-tank capacity.

The MSC Foundation was established under German civil law by Ambassador Ischinger who donated all shares of the existing MSC gGmbH to the foundation. The gGmbH continues to carry out all operational activities of the MSC. Amongst others, the German Federal Government, the Bavarian State Government, the Robert Bosch Stiftung, and EnBW AG have already made significant financial contributions to the MSC Foundation. A range of other important organizations, companies, and private individuals have announced their intention to become donors.

Find out more:



Ambassador Ischinger chairs the Foundation Council (Stiftungsrat) which provides guidance to the Board (Vorstand), chaired by Benedikt Franke. Other foundation bodies include the Advisory Council and a Board of Trustees. If you want to know more, please check the MSC website.

The Foundation Council

The Foundation Council serves as the primary decision-making body of the Munich Security Conference Foundation. It is currently comprised of seven members – including, ex officio, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees – and is chaired by a President, currently Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, who also served as Chairman of the Munich Security Conference, until February 19, 2022. Helga Maria Schmid holds the position of Vice President of the Foundation Council.

President



Wolfgang Ischinger
Ambassador (ret.), President of the
Foundation Council, Munich Security
Conference Foundation, Munich

Vice-President



Helga Maria Schmid
Former Secretary General, Organization
for Security and Co-operation in Europe;
Vice-President of the Foundation Council,
Munich Security Conference Foundation,
Vienna

Members



Hans Albrecht
Chairman, Global Bridges
e.V., Berlin



Nikolaus von Bomhard
President of the Council,
German Institute for
International and Security
Affairs, Munich



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Board for Procurement,
Porsche AG, Weissach



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Französisches Institut,
Ludwigsburg



Florian Herrmann
Head of the State
Chancellery and Minister of
State for Federal Affairs and
Media, Free State of
Bavaria, Munich



Christoph Heusgen
Ambassador, Chairman,
Munich Security
Conference Munich



Wolfgang Schmidt
Head of the Federal
Chancellery and Federal
Minister for Special Affairs,
Federal Republic of
Germany, Berlin



Christoph Walther
Founder,
CNC Communications,
Munich

The Executive Board

The Executive Board serves as the operational leadership of the MSC Foundation and is charged with the day-to-day operations of the organization. The Board is led by the Executive Director.

Executive Director



Benedikt Franke
Vice-Chairman &
Chief Executive Officer,
Munich Security
Conference, Munich

Members



Tobias Bunde
Director of Research &
Policy, Munich Security
Conference, Munich



Lisa Marie Ullrich
Director of Programs,
Munich Security
Conference, Munich



Sara-Sumie Yang
Chief Financial Officer and
Chief Human Resources
Officer, Munich Security
Conference, Munich

Executive Staff



Secretary General
Ulrike Strauss,
Chief Operating Officer &
Head of Strategic Projects,
Munich Security
Conference, Munich



Deputy Secretary General
Marcel Lewicki,
Director of Partnerships &
Development, Munich Se-
curity Conference, Munich

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees, under the chairmanship of Wolfgang Schmidt, offers strategic advice to the MSC Foundation Council and its President. The Board is composed of eminent donors and supporters of the Munich Security Conference Foundation. It meets at least once a year, usually on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.

Chair



Wolfgang Schmidt
Head of the Federal
Chancellery and Federal
Minister for Special Affairs,
Federal Republic of
Germany, Berlin

Vice-Chair



Florian Herrmann
Head of the State
Chancellery and Minister of
State for Federal Affairs and
Media, Free State of
Bavaria, Munich

Members



Graham Allison
Douglas Dillon Professor of
Government, Harvard
University, Cambridge, MA



Sheikh Mohammed bin
Abdulrahman bin Jassim
Al Thani
Prime Minister and
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the State of Qatar, Doha



Ottilie Bälz
Senior Vice-President for
Global Issues at the Robert
Bosch Stiftung, Germany,
Stuttgart



Frank Haun
Chief Executive Officer,
KMW+NEXTER Defense
Systems, Amsterdam



Alexander Soros
Chair of the Board of
Directors, Open Society
Foundations, New York



Georg Stamatelopoulos
Chairman of the Board of
Management/Chief Execu-
tive Officer EnBW Energie
Baden-Württemberg AG,
Karlsruhe, Germany

The Advisory Council 2024

The Advisory Council, led by its Chairman Joe Kaeser, serves as a sounding board for the President of the Foundation Council and advises the President on the general direction of work of the Munich Security Conference Foundation. It consists of distinguished friends and partners of the Munich Security Conference. Its members are appointed to a five-year term and meet at least once a year, usually on the sidelines of the annual Munich Security Conference.

Chair



Joe Kaeser
Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Siemens Energy, Munich

Members



Paul Achleitner
Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Deutsche Bank AG, Frankfurt a.M.



Oliver Bäte
Chief Executive Officer, Allianz SE, Munich



Carl Bildt
Former Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Sweden, Stockholm



Josep Borrell Fontelles
Vice President of the Commission and High Representative for Foreign Policy and Security Policy, European Union, Brussels



Thomas Enders
President, German Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin



Fu Ying
Chairperson, Center for International Strategy and Security, Tsinghua University; former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Beijing



Arancha González Laya
Dean, Paris School of
International Affairs,
Sciences Po; former
Minister for Foreign
Affairs of the Kingdom of
Spain, Paris



Jane Harman
Chair of the Board of Trust-
ees, Freedom House; Board
Member of the American
Friends of the MSC, Mu-
nich Security Conference,
Washington, DC



Kersti Kaljulaid
Global Advocate of the
United Nations Secre-
tary-General, Every
Woman Every Child; for-
mer President of the Re-
public of Estonia, Tallinn



John F. Kerry
Former Secretary of State
of the United States of
America, New Haven



David Miliband
President and Chief Execu-
tive Officer, International
Rescue Committee; former
Secretary of State for
Foreign and Commonwealth
Affairs of the United King-
dom, New York



Federica Mogherini
Former Vice President of
the European Commis-
sion and High Represen-
tative for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy, Euro-
pean Union, Brussels



Louise Mushikiwabo
Secretary General,
Organisation Internatio-
nale de la Francophonie;
former Minister of Foreign
Affairs, Republic of Rwan-
da, Kigali



Raychelle Omamo
Former Cabinet Secretary
for the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, Republic
of Kenya, Nairobi



Nancy Pelosi
Speaker Emerita of the
House of Representatives
of the United States of
America, Washington, DC



Boris Pistorius
Federal Minister of
Defense, Federal Republic
of Germany, Berlin



Radosław Sikorski
Minister of Foreign
Affairs, Republic of
Poland, Warsaw



Ine Eriksen Søreide
Chairwoman of the Stand-
ing Committee on Foreign
Affairs and Defense, former
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Kingdom of Norway,
Oslo



5 Partnerships

Governmental Partners 2024

Bundesministerium der Verteidigung (BMVg)

Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit (BMZ)

Presse- und Informationsamt der Bundesregierung (BPA)

Bayerisches Landesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (LSI)

Institutional Partners 2024

Asia Bridge – Euro-Asian Initiative

Atlantic Council

Atlantik-Brücke

Federation of German Industries

Brookings Institution

Center for Civilians in Conflict

Center for Strategic and

International Studies

Center on Global Energy Policy at

Columbia University

Chatham House

Coalition for Epidemic

Preparedness Innovations

United Nations Climate Change
Conference

German Council on Foreign
Relations

Doha Forum

European Council on Foreign
Relations

Elcano Royal Institute

Emirates Policy Center

European Union Institute for
Security Studies

German Marshall Fund of the
United States

Deutsche Gesellschaft für

Internationale Zusammenarbeit
Hertie School

International Center for Defense
and Security

International Crisis Group

Interpol

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Körber-Stiftung

Mercator Institute for China Studies

Mitre Corporation

NATO Climate Change and Security

Centre of Excellence

NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence

Centre of Excellence

ONS Foundation

Potsdam Institute for Climate

Impact Research

Special Competitive Studies Project

Stockholm International Peace

Research Institute

German Institute for International
and Security Affairs

Office of the United Nations High
Commissioner for Refugees

University of the Bundeswehr
Munich

German Armed Forces Reservists
Association

Women in International Security

Women Political Leaders

World Food Programme

Supporters 2024

Accenture	Hensoldt
Airbus	HypoVereinsbank
Alfred Landecker Foundation	Indra Sistemas
Allianz	Infineon
APCO	ING DiBa
Apple	KKR
ARTOC	KNDS
Atlas Invest	Kongsberg
Auterion	Lazard
Amazon Web Services	Leidos
Bayer	Leonardo
BCG	Lockheed Martin
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Maersk
BMW	MBDA
BMW Foundation	McKinsey & Company
Boeing	Merck
BP	Meta
Breakthrough Energy	Microsoft
Capgemini	Motwani Jadeja Foundation
Cargill Foundation	NXP
Climate Neutrality Foundation	Open Society Foundations
Commerzbank	Oracle
Dataminr	Palantir
Deloitte	Palo Alto Networks
Deutsche Bank	Planet
DHL	PwC
DP World	Qualcomm
EnBW	Recorded Future
Equinor	Rheinmetall
EY	Robert Bosch Stiftung
Fincantieri	Rockefeller Foundation
Goldman Sachs	Rohde & Schwarz
Google	Saab
Helsing	SAP

Schwarz Group
Siemens Energy
Stanton Foundation
Swiss RE
Tennor Holding
UNIPER
VARO Energy
Wellcome Trust
Westenergie

Suppliers 2024

Asana	Telekom
AWS	TopDesk
Bavaria Zelte	Veridos
Birk Kopier & Drucksysteme	x-plizit IT solutions GmbH
Cancom	Xchange Technology GmbH
Circula GmbH	XM Cyber
CodeTwo	Zeeh Design
comcrypto GmbH	
Dallmeier Systems	
dataglobal München GmbH &	
Co. KG (vysoft)	
DeepL SE	
GREIMEL IT-Systemhaus GmbH	
Keepit	
Lumen4Events	
Microsoft	
Monarch	
MondayCoffee	
Mühlbauer Druck	
Myra Security GmbH	
NinjaOne	
Personio	
Qualimero	
Rohde & Schwarz	
Stadtwerke München	
Suckfüll Handels GmbH	
Smiths Detection	

Partners and Suppliers of MSC Zeitenwende on tour

Alfred Landecker Foundation

Liz Mohn Stiftung

Salzburg Global Seminar

Baden-Badener

Unternehmergespräche

Evisco

Landestheater Eisenach

Lumen4Events

MetaDesign

Zeeh Design



6 Finances

Facts and Figures

The Munich Security Conference looks back on another successful year, celebrating its 60th anniversary conference. Continuing the trend from the previous year, a notable growth in income was registered. This indicates a prevailing substantial interest in the MSC's events and activities. In 2024, the MSC extended existing partnerships and established new ones. In order to carry out its various activities, the MSC receives donations from the public and private sectors as well as from philanthropic foundations. To maintain the MSC's independence and reduce potential default risks, the MSC takes great care to ensure that financial contributions from a single supporter do not account for more than eight percent of the organization's total budget.

Activities in the previous year revolved around the 60th anniversary conference, a fact that is reflected in the numbers. While expenditure for other projects and events have decreased, an additional EUR 2 million were spent on the Munich Security Conference in February 2024. This highlights the anniversary conference as the apex event of the year.

The MSC is committed to strengthening the controlling processes to ensure a robust financial foundation and to maintain a clear focus on the financial performance. By implementing more precise monitoring tools and strategies, we aim to optimize our ability to make informed decisions. With transparency as a key priority, we will continue to keep our stakeholders well-informed and engaged as we drive sustainable growth.

In the light of the multitude of current crises and building upon the MSC's successful formats to assemble decision makers from around the world, the interest in MSC events and initiatives has increased significantly. This is reflected in the growth of revenues for the past fiscal year. The organization is grateful for the continued support and trust of all partners who remain committed to supporting the Munich Security Conference despite the challenging global economic environment. Without the support of private and public sector partners, the work of the MSC as the world's leading forum for international security policy would not be possible.

Figure 1 | The MSC budget, 2019-2024

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Income	9,521,152 €	6,763,230 €	14,595,666 €	18,521,207 €	20,130,832 €
Expenditures	9,761,118 €	6,891,535 €	13,278,590 €	18,082,954 €	19,825,853 €
Main conference	3,947,440 €	532,872 € **	5,375,584 €	5,569,565 €	7,718,767 €
Other projects and events	1,107,843 €	497,987 €	1,030,094 €	2,440,181 €	1,332,677 €

**MSC 2021 Special Edition

Figure 2 | Composition of MSC income

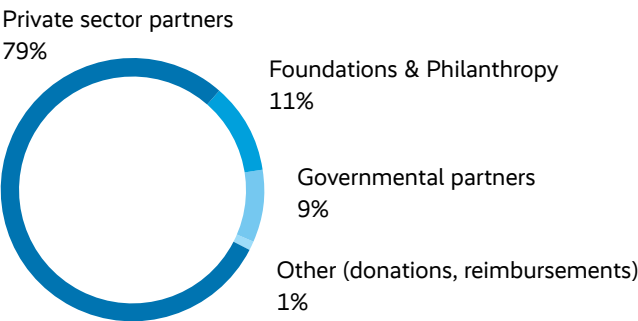


Figure 3 | Distribution of private sector contributions

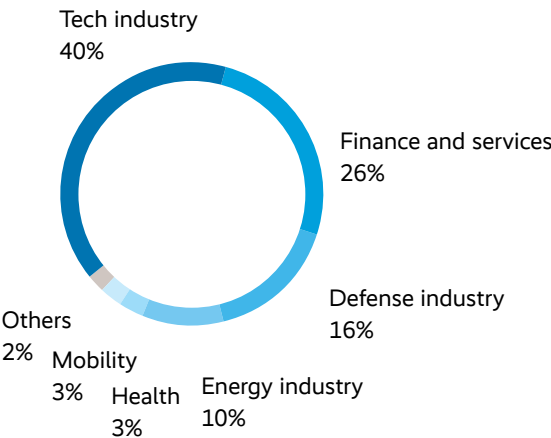
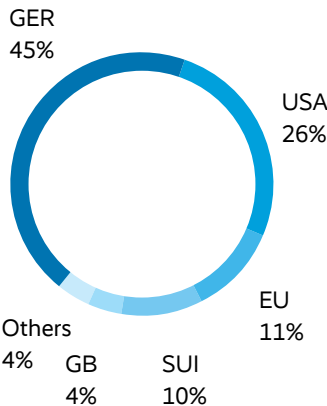


Figure 4 | Income Distribution per Region







Notes

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The background of the entire page is a photograph of a grand, ornate interior space, likely a hallway or a room in a historical building. The walls are covered in light-colored, vertically-oriented panels with intricate carvings and moldings. Two ornate, multi-bulb sconces are mounted on the wall, casting a warm, golden light. The floor is dark and polished, reflecting some of the light. The overall atmosphere is formal and elegant.

About the Munich Security Conference (MSC)

The Munich Security Conference is the world's leading forum for debating international security policy. It operates under the roof of the independent MSC Foundation. In addition to its annual flagship conference, the MSC regularly convenes high-profile events around the world. The MSC publishes the annual Munich Security Report and other formats on specific security issues.

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