

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FREYA VON MOLTKE FOUNDATION

Report period: 1 Oct 2015 – 30 Sept 2016

In 2015, we reflected on the fragile state of Europe. Our yearly theme: "Europe under Construction" refers to the European crisis and approaches to solving it. This inspired our projects and the events we supported in Kreisau. Above all, projects dealing with the causes, conditions and effects of migrations in the history and present of Europe were included in the sponsorship. The project "Refugees in Europe - Welcome to Paradise?" (€ 6,758) was aimed at young people from Germany, Poland and Greece, while the training for specialists of the non-formal education "Activists against Xenocide" (€ 2,000) was as well a meeting for young people from Denmark, Germany, Estonia and Great Britain. The well-proved format "Forum Dialogue" (2,000 € funding) brought together children aged 10 to 14 from socially, economically and geographically disadvantaged society groups in Germany, Poland and the Ukraine. In these and other projects supported by the Foundation with a total amount of € 18,023 every one of the nearly 200 participants received the opportunity to meet not only peers from other countries but also to gain knowledge and competences with regard to one of the most pressuring problems of Europe and the world and to develop an empathic view. The donations of our donator have made this possible!



Young people at a workshop in Kreisau © Kreisau-Initiative e.V.



Helmut Caspar von Moltke in conversation with participants of the journey

Which historical and social conditions have led to the strengthening of the right-wing populists? How is it possible to reinforce the European idea against the particular national interests of member states? How durable is the basis of common values? With these and other questions we were dealing during this year's Kreisau Journey. Piotr Buras (Warsaw), Dr. Christoph von Marschall (Berlin) and Prof. Dr. Krzysztof Ruchniewicz (Wroclaw) gave interesting inputs on the situation in Europe and the political developments in Poland, which inspired lively discussions among the participants. The traditional evening at the *Berghaus* was a particularly touching experience. Our donator Dr. Petra Keller spoke with Dr. Axel Smend, son of Günther Smend, one of the participants of the 20 July Plot, and Helmut Caspar von Moltke about the difficult situation of the relatives of the German resistance members after the war. Next year's Kreisau Journey will take place from the 14th – 17th September 2017. Feel free to join us!

In March 2016, the annual meeting of the young donor circle took place in cooperation with the German Resistance Memorial Center and the Schwarzkopf Foundation, this time on "Women in Resistance against National Socialism". Starting out from gender and role models in National Socialism, the participants dealt with the biographies of women who did not fit into the woman-role-model of the Nazis and who advocated a democratic society. The final panel discussion took place in the premises of the Schwarzkopf Foundation. The Thuringian Green Party politician Astrid Rothe-Beinlich and the right-wing extremist expert Dr. Esther Lehnert discussed with Ulrich von Schwerin, one of our young donors, about women in the right-wing extremist scene and the uprising right-wing populist movements.

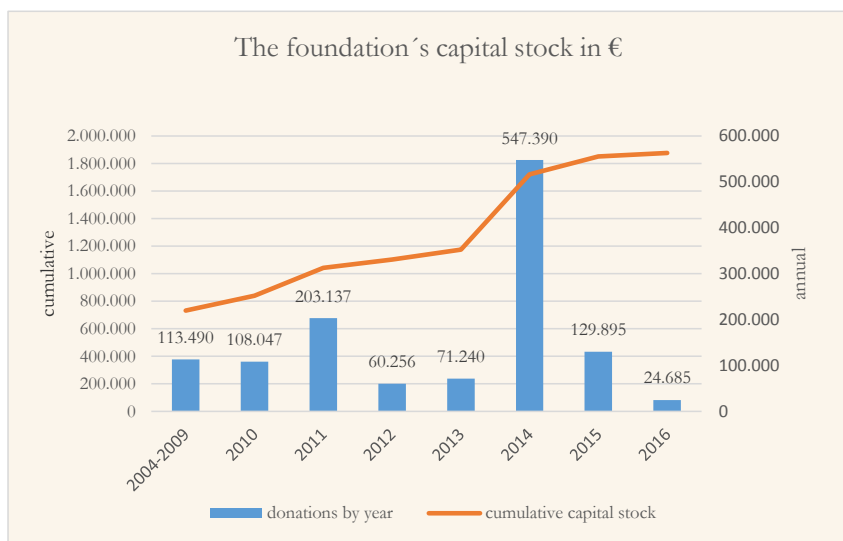
In the period under review we succeeded in launching two important public relations projects: the documentary film about Freya von Moltke and the translation of the "farewell letters" by Helmut James and Freya von Moltke into Polish. Both projects take the legacy of the Kreisau Circle into focus: the intensive dialogue between people with different confessions and political views is a message that has not lost its relevance despite changing circumstances. At the same time, these projects also point to the New Kreisau.

The documentary film "Die Geschichte einer Liebe - Freya" by the producer Antje Starost and the director Hans-Helmut Grotjahn is finished now thanks to the support we received in 2015. The film has already been shown at two festivals - in Hof and in Biberach a.d.Riss. Unpublished, personal interviews, which the two filmmakers took up with Freya von Moltke

in 2001 in Vermont form the main part of the documentary. The second focus are extracts from the correspondence between Freya and Helmuth James. In the spring of 2017 we will present the film in closed presentations in Cologne and Berlin to supporters of our foundation. English subtitles will be provided soon.

Furthermore the "farewell letters" will be released in the autumn of 2017 in the reputed publishing house in Krakow ZNAK. The correspondence which Freya and Helmuth James von Moltke conducted during his prison stay from September 28, 1944 to January 23, 1945, will be presented to the Polish readership. We hope to also reach people who had little interest in German-Polish and European dialogue so far.

Another project is being prepared: On April 1 and 2, 2017, a special version of the St John Passion by Johann Sebastian Bach, supplemented with texts from the trials against Alfred Delp SJ and Helmuth James von Moltke, will be shown in the Berlin churches St. Marien and Maria Regina Martyrum. Through the scenic linking of the processes Bach's "Johannes-Passion" gains new relevance and thereby a challenging and oppressive drama. The project is organized jointly by the two church communities as well as by the Memorial Foundation for July 20, 1944 and the FvMS. We are looking forward to many guests.



In the past 12 months the Freya von Moltke Foundation received 42 capital contributions and the capital stock has grown by € 136,430. Nevertheless, the Freya von Moltke Foundation is not spared the effects of precarious interest rate development. Despite a considerable increase in capital (€ 681,000 over the past three years), earnings stagnated at around € 40,000 p.a. However, in order to secure the work of the New Kreisau, it is still important to continue to build up the foundation's capital stock, even if Kreisau should only feel the blessing of the current growth in years. In this situation the Freya von Moltke Foundation is more than ever dependent on general contributions.

The foundation received around € 35,000 of this kind of donations in the past twelve months. We would like to take the opportunity to thank all our supporters very, very warmly!

There were significant changes in our office: Esther Reichert and Joanna Bars left the Freya von Moltke Foundation at the end of 2015. Since January 2016, Thomas Runge is the new assistant to the management, supporting the Foundation in office administration and data management. Laura Brüggemann, who was already working as a trainee for us, is a permanent student assistant since December 2015. Together with Franziska Fischer, student assistant since March 2016, she supports us in the public relations work, the organization of events and the care of the young donor circle. We all like to work together very much in the new team and hope to reach more people with the message of the New Kreisau in the coming years.



Franziska Fischer, Agnieszka v. Zanthier, Thomas Runge, Laura Brüggemann

More information can be found in the full version of the report – available in German language. We will be happy to send it to you upon request – or you can just download it from our website.