

Vereinigung ehemaliger Mitglieder des Deutschen Bundestages und des Europäischen Parlaments (VeMDB)

On behalf of the German Association, Prof. Dr. Nils Diederich submitted a follow-up report of the Malta Colloquy to the Bureau of the European Association, which was discussed in Paris on 14 March 2013.

European Association: Malta Colloquy, 2 November 2012
“**SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION PROCESSES
IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST**”

According to a plan, adopted by the German delegation after the conference in Malta, the following **activities** were done:

The president of the German Association (VeMDB) has sent in December 2013 a letter with the Appeal of Malta and the appeal concerning Syria (translated in German by Uwe Holtz) to the following personalities resp. institutions:

Parliamentary institutions:

- The president of Deutscher Bundestag, Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert
- The chairman of the Committee for Foreign Affairs, Ruprecht Polenz
- The chairman of the Sub-committee for cultural questions in Foreign Affairs, Dr. Peter Gauweiler
- The chairman of the Committee for European Affairs, Gunther Krichbaum
- The chairwoman of the Budgetary committee, Petra Merkel
- The chairwoman of the Committee for economic Cooperation and development, Dagmar G. Wöhrl
- The chairman of the Committee of inner Affairs, Wolfgang Bosbach

Political Foundations:

- The President of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Dr. Peter Struck +
- The President of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Prof. Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering
- The President of the Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, Prof. Dr. Hans Zehetmair
- The President of the Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit, Dr. Wolfgang Gerhardt
- The Presidents of the Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Barbara Unmüßig and Ralf Fücks
- The President of the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung, Heinz Vietze

Media:

- Home-page of the VeMDB: <http://www.vemdb.de> (directly: http://www.vemdb.de/index.php?article_id=23&clang=0#jump5)
- Deutsche Welle (German international radio and tv), statement by Uwe Holtz, 20.11.2013, “Appeal” in German language, “Syria-declaration”: http://www.vemdb.de/index.php?article_id=22&clang=0

- Report by Nils Diederich on the Malta conference in “nachrichten” (news) , December 2012 (http://www.vemdb.de/files/d_nachrichten_2012-12_website.pdf) , a Journal which is distributed to all members of the German Association of former members and to all active members of the German Bundestag

Other contacts and activities:

- Torsten Wolfgram, member of the German delegation to Malta, spoke with Foreign minister Dr. Guido Westerwelle and proposed, to send the “Appeal” and the “Declaration” to the ambassadors in the concerned countries.
- Uwe Holtz informed
 - the Center for European Integration Research, Bonn
 - the Foundation Science and Politics, Berlin
 - the German Development Institute, Bonn and
 - the Bundestag international scholarship program, Berlin
- Nils Diederich informed the Scientific Director of the “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik”, Prof. Dr. Sandschneider about the Malta conference.
- [Addendum: At the Center for European Studies of Bonn University on 24 April 2013, Prof. Dr. Uwe Holtz gave a lecture on the outcome of the Malta Colloquy before master students and young diplomats from North Africa and the Middle East.]

Until now we received the following **reactions**:

- Letter of Chairwoman Petra Merkel, Budget committee (Jan, 16)
She informed that she had send the papers to the rapporteurs for the budget of the ministry of Foreign affairs. Those two MP planned a travel of information to Egypt.
- Letter of President Dr. Hans-Gert Pöttering, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Jan, 28)
„Both documents give many impulses, who are important for the activities of the KAS in the region concerned.” He will send the papers of the assistants of KAS in those countries.
- Letter of Director Christian Hegener, Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung (Jan, 21)
The Stiftung agrees with the papers. The HSS Is active especially in Tunisia.
- Letter of Hajo Lanz, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, director for Middle East and North Africa , reported that – during a regional FES conference in Beirut in early February – all the FES collaborators got the Malta documents and were asked to check how they can be used for their national and regional activities.
- Letter of Managing Director Dr. Wolfgang Gerhardt, Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit (Feb, 13). He is in full consensus with both papers. FNS tries, to further democratization in the region. He invited to a conference about Syria. Nils Diederich took part in this conference.