



DIG DEEPER.

**Netzwerk Recherche's application to host the
Global Investigative Journalism Conference 2019**

Proposal by



netzwerk
recherche

in cooperation with

interlink.academy
International Dialog and Journalism



CORRECT!V
RECHERCHEN FÜR
DIE GESELLSCHAFT

Contact

Günter Bartsch
Managing director of Netzwerk Recherche

+49 30 49854465
bartsch@netzwerkrecherche.de

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page 1 – Jörg Modrow (mediaserver.hamburg.de);
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Christian Spahrbier (mediaserver.hamburg.de);
page 15 – Christian Spahrbier (mediaserver.hamburg.de), Roberto Kai Hegeler (mediaserver.hamburg.de)

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Say what is there (instead of a summary)

“Say what is there.” This maxim of Rudolf Augstein, founder of the German news magazine *Der Spiegel* and the godfather of investigative journalism in Germany, may sound simple and self-evident. But that is what reporting is all about: searching for the truth, saying what is there. It’s not always as simple as it sounds. Today, investigative journalists all over the world are facing attacks – obviously of very different kinds. Nevertheless, “Say what is there” is what connects us. Netzwerk Recherche brings together all those who are on this mission. In Hamburg, in 2019.

About us



Netzwerk Recherche (NR) is the German association of investigative journalists. Founded in 2001 it quickly grew into one of the most important journalism NGOs in the federal republic. Its aim is to strengthen the research skills of journalists to improve the quality of media coverage. To achieve this, the organisation also draws attention to the importance of journalistic research for a democratic society and advocates freedom of information.

NR’s annual conference is the biggest journalism event in Germany. In 2017 it attracted around 900 participants. Netzwerk means network. Connecting people and fostering investigative journalism is what we are all about.

Today more than 800 members and hundreds of volunteers contribute to the work of the non-profit organization. NR was one of the founding members of the Global Investigative Journalism Network in 2003. For the Global Conference the association formed a team of experienced reporters and conference organizers.

Beside Netzwerk Recherche there are two other German members in the Global Network: the **Interlink Academy for International Dialog and Journalism** and the nonprofit newsroom **Correctiv** have both agreed to take part in this enterprise.

📄 page 5-8

Why Hamburg?

Hamburg is the hub of investigative journalism in Germany. In no other city will you find so many professional muckrakers than in Germany’s second biggest city (population: 1.9 million).

Hamburg has been the natural host city of NR’s annual conference since 2002. The city is home to well-known and respected newspapers and magazines like *Der Spiegel*, *Die Zeit* and *Stern*. Media houses such as Norddeutscher Rundfunk (Northern German Broadcasting, NDR) and Gruner + Jahr are long-time partners and hosts of NR events.

The city of Hamburg is aware of the important role of free and independent media. The senate as well as the regional media initiative next.Media Hamburg support NR’s work and are now – along with many other partners – backing the application to host the Global Investigative Journalism Conference 2019.

📄 page 13-16

Venue

We expect at least 1,000 participants – and have therefore arranged a flexible and at the same time comfortable combination of two locations nearby: **Spiegel publishing house** and the **HafenCity University Hamburg** have agreed to host the GIJC 2019. Their new buildings offer excellent conference infrastructure, a comfortable working atmosphere and integrated catering facilities.

The HafenCity is a new and growing quarter in the heart of Hamburg's harbour located a short distance from other parts of the center and interesting places like the new Elbphilharmonie (Elbe Philharmonic Hall). Hamburg's entertainment district St. Pauli/Reeperbahn with bars, music clubs, restaurants and theaters is just a stone's throw away. Transportation is convenient as subway stations are located just a few steps from the buildings and lead to the main station in 6 minutes and to the airport in 30 minutes.

Organizing the conference at this venue allows the participants to choose between all kinds of accommodation (and prices), all reachable in a short time either on foot or via public transport.

We can have the university to ourselves in the academic holidays and hence would suggest scheduling the GIJC in late September 2019.

📄 page 10-12

Funding



Netzwerk Recherche has many years of experience in fundraising and existing long-term partnerships with foundations, governmental institutions and media companies. Thanks to cooperation with *Der Spiegel* and *HafenCity University* the costs for the venue will be manageable.

We are very grateful that the **Konrad Adenauer Foundation**, co-host of GIJN's "Uncovering Asia" conferences and one of the main partners of the GIJC 2017 in Johannesburg, has already committed itself to providing substantial funding for travel grants and speakers' expenses. In addition, other institutions have committed to supporting the conference, particularly the **Senate of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg** (the city state's government) and foundations like the **Rudolf Augstein Stiftung**.

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Der Spiegel publishing house

We the journalists

GIJC in Hamburg - vision and program

We want to make the Global Investigative Journalism Conference in Hamburg a meeting point where experienced investigative reporters and editors share their knowledge and enthusiasm with each other and with newcomers to this marvelous profession. Netzwerk Recherche has always considered journalistic research to be a craft. It's great to have talent – yet what really counts is know-how. But in days like these we must reflect on our role more than ever: what is our task, our duty? And how can we improve?



Let's learn.

Investigative journalism knows no borders – and no limits. The GIJC has been always and always will be an accelerator of international team investigations, innovative research and analytical methods.

However the conference will also go beyond 'digging'; we will promote new nonprofit models of financing journalism, and bring entrepreneurs and sustainable businesses to Hamburg: from local community projects to well-established investigative newsrooms.



Let's team up.

We will be glad to create a diverse program together with the Global Investigative Journalism Network – and with you: the investigative community. To get new workshop ideas and exciting project lightning talks, we want to start an open call for papers.

Netzwerk Recherche has the know-how to organize a conference of this kind: The annual conference in 2017 hosted 136 sessions. Around 900 participants had the opportunity to learn from and hold discussions with 270 speakers and trainers.



Let's stand together.

We learned from our fellow colleague Khadija Ismayilova. "Keep fighting for human rights, for those who are silenced", she wrote when imprisoned. "Be loud, and be public."

That is what we tried to do when demonstrating for her release in front of the Federal Chancellery when Azerbaijan's president Aliyev was visiting Germany in 2015. And that is what we are doing now to free our colleague Deniz Yücel who is imprisoned in Turkey for doing his job – our job. Since the foundation of the Global Investigative Journalism Network in 2003 journalists have faced many threats. In 2017, according to Reporters without Borders, 15 journalists were killed and hundreds are in jail.



Let's debate.

The media is often defamed as “fake news” and “lying press” – and the economic crisis is far from being tackled. At the same time, we see incredible courage, a capacity to innovate and great entrepreneurial spirit. Self-criticism and transparency are eminent factors for the credibility of today's news media. We must meet the increased expectations of our audiences. We want to discuss these issues at the Global Conference – and we don't want to gloss over the elephants in the room. For example, should journalists use documents leaked by hackers that are possibly connected to governments when their state interests are at stake?



Why do we apply?

In recent years, Germany has become a further center for international team investigations. This got particularly evident with the Pulitzer Prize-winning Panama Papers research of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) which was launched by NR members Bastian Obermayer and Frederik Obermaier of Süddeutsche Zeitung and with contribution of members of Netzwerk Recherche and of the NR board who will be part of the GIJC 2019 team.

Netzwerk Recherche itself strengthened its international profile by engaging further in international conferences (like the GIJC and the European Investigative Journalism Conference), inviting speakers from all over the world and welcoming visitor groups e.g. from Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America.

The audience's very positive reaction to this international approach led us to aim for more. Hosting the Global Conference is a great opportunity for our association to help our members and conference participants to get in contact with colleagues and potential partners from all over the world. Equally, international reporters will be able to get in contact with journalists from major German media companies and organisations.



Members of the Netzwerk Recherche's board and management attended multiple GIJCs and gained a good sense of what it takes to organise a successful conference. We are very glad for the helpful advice from our fellow colleagues who organized the conferences in Lillehammer and Rio de Janeiro.



Another experienced player in the international field and a GIJC co-member is the **Interlink Academy for International Dialog and Journalism**. The Hamburg-based Academy develops and organizes international professional training and exchange programs for journalists. They work with journalists from all over the globe. The Interlink Academy is a partner for our GIJC application and would be co-organizer. It has office spaces in Hamburg and could provide a desk for a conference secretariat and a meeting room.



Correctiv, the first investigative nonprofit newsroom in Germany, also agreed to support the conference. In its investigations Correctiv cooperates with national and international teams and media corporations. They are currently preparing for their first “Campfire Festival for Journalism and New Media”. The idea of the festival is to bring journalists and citizens together to learn, tell stories and share thoughts. Correctiv is also an experienced workshop organizer.

The Team



Julia Stein

Julia is chairwoman of Netzwerk Recherche and head of the politics and research department at Northern German Broadcasting (NDR) in the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein. Before that, she was deputy director of NDR's investigative department. As a member of the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) she has played a major role in the international team investigations Panama Papers, Luxleaks, SwissLeaks and OffshoreLeaks.



Cordula Meyer

Cordula Meyer is second chairwoman of Netzwerk Recherche and head of the national desk of *Der Spiegel*, a department focused on investigative reporting that also covers internal security, terrorism and refugee policy. As a reporter Cordula covered terrorism and islamism at the national desk, worked as *Der Spiegel's* Washington correspondent and was also a science reporter specializing in nuclear issues. From Japan she covered the Fukushima nuclear crisis.



Werner Eggert

Werner is a journalist and journalism trainer. He is the founding director of the Interlink Academy for International Dialog and Journalism, and also works as a media consultant and journalism trainer for various institutions in Germany and abroad. Werner has been active in international media development for more than twenty years and has worked amongst others for Bertelsmann, Deutsche Welle and GIZ/InWEnt. Over the last twenty years, he has established strong relationships with the journalism communities in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe.



Günter Bartsch

Günter is managing director of Netzwerk Recherche. In this role, he oversees the association's conferences and workshops and leads Netzwerk Recherche's nonprofit journalism start-up initiative to promote this model of financing sophisticated forms of journalism in Germany. Before joining Netzwerk Recherche he worked as a freelance journalist with a focus on analysing and investigating PR campaigns, lobbying and think tanks. He conducts seminars on research methods and media ethics e.g. for the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and Heinrich Böll Foundation.



Jochen Schiewe

Jochen is Professor for Geoinformatics and Geovisualization at HafenCity University Hamburg. He is vice president of the German Cartographic Association (DGfK), chair of the DGfK Commission on "Cartography and Research" as well as chair of the ICA conference series "GeoViz_Hamburg" in 2011, 2013 and 2015. His research focus is on modeling and visualization of uncertainties, usability of maps, and cartographic algorithms.



Daniel Drepper

Daniel is editor-in-chief of BuzzFeed Germany and formerly was co-founder and senior reporter at Correctiv, the first nonprofit investigative newsroom in Germany. Until May 2014, Daniel was a fellow at the Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism and a scholar at the Brown Institute for Media Innovation at Columbia University in New York City. Daniel is member of the Netzwerk Recherche board.



Christina Elmer

Christina leads the data journalism team at *Spiegel Online* and is a member of the editorial board. She also trains journalists in data reporting and online research. Before she joined *Spiegel Online* in 2013, Christina worked at *Stern* magazine's investigative unit. Her journalistic career began in 2007 at the German press agency dpa, where she was part of a team that set up Germany's first department for data journalism and computer-assisted reporting. As a board member of Netzwerk Recherche she is actively engaged in pushing data journalism forward and encouraging colleagues to use new techniques and tools.



Manfred Redelfs

Manfred is the head of the Research & Investigations Unit at Greenpeace Germany. A journalist by training, he worked for the news program at Norddeutscher Rundfunk in Hamburg before concentrating on investigations. He studied political science and journalism in Hamburg, Washington, Berkeley and Oxford. His PhD thesis is about Investigative Reporting in the United States. Besides his job with Greenpeace in Hamburg, Manfred works as research coach for several publishing houses and vocational training programs for journalists.



Thomas Schnedler

Thomas works as a project manager at Correctiv, where he is responsible for setting up the Reporterfabrik ('reporter factory'), a web academy for journalism. He was research associate for the Rudolf Augstein Foundation Professorship on the practice of quality journalism at the University of Hamburg. Since 2006 he has been working as a lecturer in the training of journalists, among others at the Hamburg Media School and at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. In his dissertation he investigated precarious work in journalism. Tom is a member of the Netzwerk Recherche board.



Albrecht Ude

Albrecht is based in Berlin and Friesland, works as freelance journalist, researcher and research trainer (online investigations, source and fact checking, and security issues) focussing on structured internet research, privacy and security, censorship and civil rights in the digital world. Albrecht teaches at journalistic academies, publishing companies and broadcasting institutions in-house, and also at universities. He is editor-in-chief of the Netzwerk Recherche newsletter and member of the board.



Vanessa Wormer

Vanessa is a data journalist at Süddeutsche Zeitung in Munich and member of the Panama Papers investigation team. In 2015 she passed the Lede Program in Computing and Data Science at Columbia Journalism School. Before she worked as an Online Editor at the German local newspaper Heilbronner Stimme and was Rudolf Augstein data fellow at Correctiv. Vanessa is member of the Netzwerk Recherche board.



Documentation

Our national conferences are documented in multiple ways: in a permanently updated conference blog, on social media and in a printed newspaper that is created at the conference. We cooperate with journalism schools, university courses and newspaper trainees who write articles and create multimedia contributions. We are happy that the Rudolf Augstein journalism chair at Hamburg University and the journalism academy of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation have already agreed to contribute.

Editorial team of NR's annual conference blog and newspaper





Fundraising & Support

To keep the attendee fees of our events affordable we raise additional funding for our conferences. This starts with finding generous partners who provide their rooms and infrastructure – like the *Spiegel* agreed to do for the GIJC. For our annual conference in 2017 we raised an additional 40,000 EUR from foundations and other funding institutions and another 24,000 EUR from sponsors and advertisers. Advertising panels at our current annual conference venue are limited – but the HafenCity University offers multiple possibilities for sponsors to present themselves to the conference participants. In this way we hope to secure further funding.

As already mentioned we have found strong partners with great experience in the sector of journalistic education, especially the **Konrad Adenauer Foundation**, which has already consented to provide substantial funding for travel grants and speakers’ expenses at the GIJC 2019 in Hamburg. The foundation is well-known to journalists particularly in Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa – for example as a sponsor for GIJN’s “Uncovering Asia” conferences and the GIJC 2017 in Johannesburg.

Our Partners

The following partners have already agreed to support our application for hosting the GIJC 2019:



schöpflin stiftung :



Other long-time partners of Netzwerk Recherche and possible GIJC promoters are:





Hamburg

70 years ago, after the darkest period of German history, a journalistic start-up culture prevailed in Hamburg and was linked to names such as Rudolf Augstein (who founded *Der Spiegel*), Henri Nannen (founder of *Stern*), and Gerd Bucerius (founder of *Die Zeit*). Innovations by these and other journalists and publishers in Hamburg have left their mark on the present German press market. The best-known representative of this movement is the news magazine *Der Spiegel*. We are therefore very pleased that the publishing company has agreed to host the Global Investigative Journalism Conference 2019.



Foyer at *Der Spiegel*

The Venues

Der Spiegel

DER SPIEGEL

The first issue of *Der Spiegel* appeared in January 1947 as the successor of a magazine called *Diese Woche* ('This Week'). The original magazine was modelled on American and British news magazines and had been conceived by members of the British military government shortly after World War II as an outlet to at long last provide the German people with "objective news" once again. A handful of young German journalists led by Rudolf Augstein took this call for critical journalism literally, and didn't spare the allies either.

The "Spiegel affair" of 1962 was probably the most important event in the magazine's history, and an important test for democracy in the young Federal Republic of Germany. One night in October, the police occupied *Spiegel's* news and publishing offices, accusing the magazine of treason for publishing a cover story entitled "Limited Readiness for Defense". The story was about a NATO exercise during which it became apparent that the German military, the Bundeswehr, was in a sorry state. Authorities arrested Augstein as well as the magazine's editors-in-chief and several journalists. Augstein remained in jail for 103 days. A wave of protest swept across the country and it ultimately became apparent that Defense Minister Franz Josef Strauss had lied about his role in the affair, leading to his resignation.

To this day, *Der Spiegel* continues to expose scandal and impropriety with far-reaching consequences in the world of politics and business. Spiegel Online is the biggest quality online news publication in Germany. They have an English-language edition.



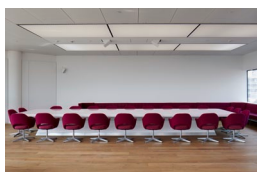


HafenCity University

HCU | HafenCity Universität
Hamburg

It is just a few minutes walk from the *Spiegel* building to the HafenCity University Hamburg (HCU), the University of Architecture and Metropolitan Development. It has the capacity to host the greatest part of the GIJC (see information box).

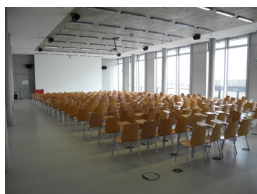
The university moved into its new building in the HafenCity in 2014. It has the capacity for 300 employees and around 2,400 students. The event management division has great experience in organizing major conferences. In the last four years the HCU hosted events with more than 1,000 attendees, most recently the Civil20 Summit, a conference that brought together more than 600 representatives of civil society, representing more than 200 organisations from over 60 countries a few weeks before the G20 summit. The university restaurant will serve as a meeting point for the conference delegates and can feed full meals to more than 1,000 people over lunch. All lecture halls and seminar rooms offer the necessary technical equipment (projectors/screens, blinds, speakers etc.).



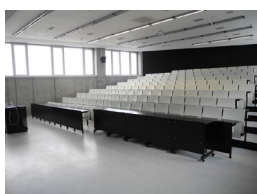
Der Spiegel
conference
room



HCU Cafeteria



Holcim
Auditorium



Lecture Hall
150

Rooms	Capacity	Rooms	Capacity
Der Spiegel		Lecture Hall 200	200
Foyer (if needed)	1,000	Lecture Hall 150	150
Main conference room	85	HafenCity University, 2nd floor	
Conference room	35	Lecture room	94
Conference room	35	Lecture room	60
Conference room	35	Lecture room	58
HafenCity University, ground floor		Lecture room	42
Foyer (lunch & coffee breaks, sponsors)	1,200 (all foyers)	Lecture room	42
Canteen & cafeteria	300	Lecture room	42
HafenCity University, 1st floor		Lecture room	42
Foyer (registration desk, lunch & coffee breaks, exhibitions, sponsors)	1,200 (all foyers)	Lecture room	26
Holcim Auditorium (ability for video transmission to the Lecture Halls)	300	Lecture room	26

(more lecture rooms available in 3rd floor if needed)



Speicherstadt



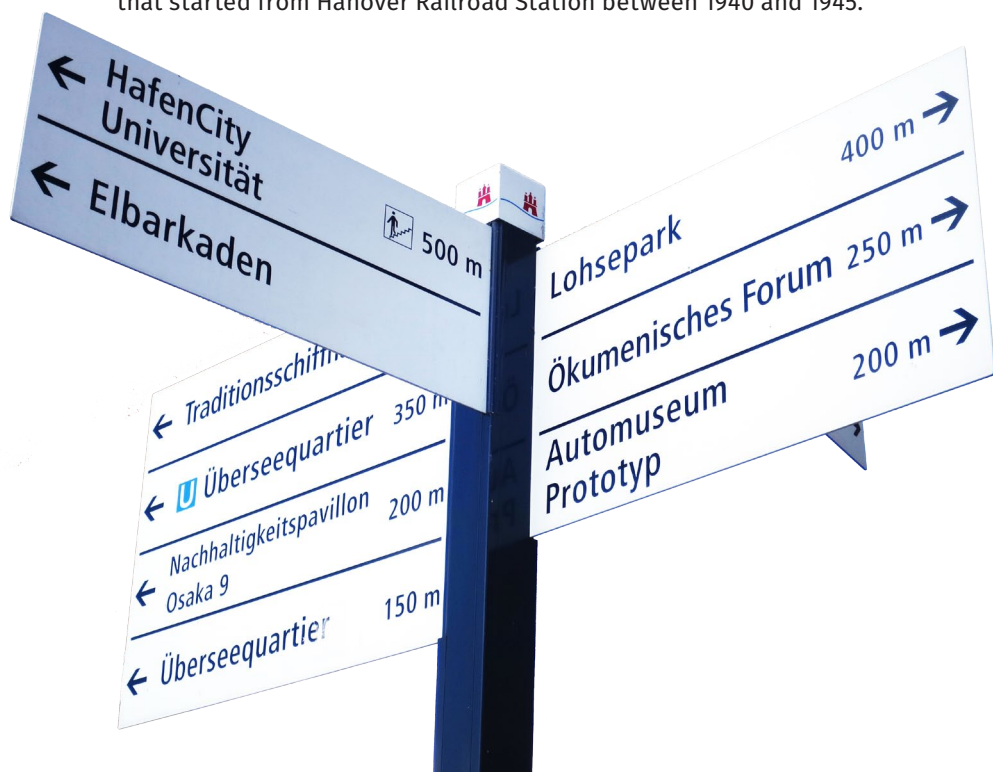
Wifi

Beside the existing strong Wifi environments of the venues the senate will also establish a powerful, free Wifi network in all event rooms as well as in the public area between the Hafencity University and the Spiegel building.

Lohse Park

The two venues are beautifully connected by a green belt, the Lohse Park. Despite being the largest park in the Hafencity (10 hectares / 4 acre) it is just a short walk between the two buildings (approx. 600 meters). Benches and seating areas in Lohse Park are invitation places to relax, and quiet sections of the park alternate with busy areas offering games for all age groups and a basketball court.

The park is also place of remembrance in the very center of the city. The “denk.mal Hannover-scher Bahnhof” is a dignified reminder of the deportation transports of Jews, Sinti and Roma that started from Hanover Railroad Station between 1940 and 1945.





Networking / Framework Program

The Global Investigative Journalism Conference is not only a place to learn from the best investigative journalists and excellent research trainers, but also an ideal place to meet – be it well-known partners or new colleagues from all over the world. To promote networking we will arrange an extensive program. The City Senate has already agreed to support this idea in multiple ways:

- A gala event and award ceremony in the Grand Ballroom of the Hamburg City Hall,
- visits to the Elbphilharmonie Plaza,
- and a Harbour boat trip on a traditional Barkasse (former dockworkers ferry)

In addition to that we will plan a club night (no doubt: we need The Muckrakers' support to succeed here!) and other evening events. We are in talks with potential hosts and sponsors for such events, especially media companies in the city center who have hosted get-togethers at our conferences previously. Beside that we will arrange newsroom tours at the major corporations, e.g. at *Spiegel Online*, *Stern* and *Die Zeit*.

Grand Ballroom
of the Hamburg
City Hall



Surroundings & Recovery

Hamburg is not only Germany's media capital but also a city worth visiting for many other reasons. In its "52 Places to Go in 2017" list the New York Times names Hamburg "a haven for architecture and design" and emphasized Zaha Hadid's meandering promenade along the Elbe river and the Elbphilharmonie, a glass-paneled building mounted atop a former warehouse, which are both within walking distance from the conference venues.

Hamburg was an independent city state for hundreds of years. Today it is one of the 16 federal states of the Federal Republic of Germany. Hamburg is located in the north of Germany about 100 kilometres from the Elbe estuary and the North Sea. The city of Hamburg has 1.9 million inhabitants and is the second largest city in Germany and one of the main economic growth centres in Europe.

Hamburg is a city that offers a lot to discover. The maritime feeling and the variety of arts and culture makes Hamburg a unique place with sights for every taste. The *Spiegel* and the HafenCity University are located in the Hafencity area, a kind of peninsula close to Hamburg Old Town with a lot of sights close by. Hamburg's newest landmark and impressive concert venue, the Elbphilharmonie, and the Speicherstadt, the world's largest warehouse complex and Unesco World Heritage Site are must-sees on every trip to Hamburg. Nightlife takes place on the Reeperbahn, the most famous street in Hamburg in the heart of St. Pauli. It offers everything from theatres and galleries to trendy nightclubs and smoky sailor bars. After having spent the night on Reeperbahn, the best idea is to visit the Fischmarkt (fish market) on Sunday morning, an institution since 1703 where you can find fresh fish but also fruit, flowers, clothing and souvenirs. Close to the Fischmarkt is another impressive sight, the St. Pauli Landungsbrücken (piers) that feature spectacular views and must-see historic waterfront buildings that double as major public transport hubs.



For those who fancy arts and culture, the Deichtorhallen offers international contemporary art and photography set in imposing architecture. The Kunsthalle ('art hall'), one of the largest museums in Germany, houses one of the few art collections in Germany that covers seven centuries of European art, from the Middle Ages to the present day. The Bucerius Kunstforum next to the city hall is an international exhibition centre and a forum for all the arts, characterized by focused exhibition concepts and an interdisciplinary program of events that attracts art lovers from all over the world.

Hamburg's best-known districts are probably the Gängeviertel and the Schanzenviertel, quarters with a lively fringe theatre and art scene. While the Schanzenviertel is Hamburg's hip hotspot and attracts visitors with boutiques, bars, restaurants, cafés, a quirky vibe and alternative nightlife, the Gängeviertel, once a living quarter with narrow and winding streets, is today a proud creative space for music, exhibitions and art.



Accommodation

The HafenCity offers a growing number of hotels – some are just a few footsteps away from the venues, for example:

- **25hours Hotel HafenCity:** 700m from HafenCity University/*Der Spiegel*; price range: 120–160 EUR, modern and lively atmosphere.
- **Ameron Hotel Speicherstadt Hamburg:** 800m from HafenCity University/*Der Spiegel*; price range: 180–290 EUR, with all comfort.
- **Motel One am Michel** (20 minutes on foot and by metro from door to door, price range: 65–85 EUR, nice furnished hotel. Next to Reeperbahn, ideal for night owls.
- For those who want to enjoy maritime flair for reasonable prices we suggest the **Seemannsheim Hamburg** driven by the German Seamen's Mission (25 minutes by metro, price range: 41–53 EUR, all rooms with basin, phone, TV, some with shower/toilet)
- **IBIS Hamburg-City**, 650 metres to the venues, price range: 90–110 EUR.
- **IBIS St. Pauli**, next to Reeperbahn, ideal for night owls, price range: 90–110 EUR.
- **The Westin Hamburg** in the Elbphilharmonie building: for those who want to enjoy something special, very luxury (20 minutes walk from HafenCity University, prices range from 250 to 400 EUR depending on room category and date)

Well-priced alternatives to hotels are several **hostels** in and around downtown (prices starting at 25 EUR).

hostwriter

Or find a place to stay with journalists in Hamburg: Couchsurfing is a good way to get in contact with other members of our partner **Hostwriter**.

We will block-book a large number of rooms for speakers and attendees in nearby budget hotels and negotiate discounts. Attendees will arrange their own accommodation; it will not be included in the attendee fee.

Hamburg's
entertainment
district St. Pauli/
Reeperbahn





Travel

Whichever direction you are coming from, and however you are getting here, Hamburg is easily accessible by air, rail and road, and even by ferry via the Lübeck-Travemünde Baltic Sea port.

Arriving by plane

60 airlines fly direct to Hamburg from 120 destinations around the world. The airport is situated only 8.5 kilometres from Hamburg's city centre and is connected to the city's comprehensive public transport network via S-Bahn (suburban railway; 30 minutes journey to the venue).

Arriving by rail

Hamburg is also easily accessible for all those arriving by train from other parts of Germany or Europe, and Berlin is less than two hours away by rail.

Local public transport

In Hamburg you can get around the city very easily without a car – thanks to the city's comprehensive local public transport network that even includes water travel. Six S-Bahn lines, four underground lines and numerous bus connections ensure excellent transport links even beyond the city boundaries.

The HVV KombiTicket for meetings, conventions and seminars allows participants to comfortably commute between their event location and their hotel at reasonable rates – and to include a short boat trip with one of the HADAG port ferries. Another option is the Hamburg CARD, which not only provides free travel by bus, S-Bahn and port ferry, but also reduced admission to more than 150 tourist attractions.



Public Bike System

Sign up to StadtrAD Hamburg, the local city bike program and hire a bike at one of the 120 service points around the city. The first 30 minutes are free of charge, after that the trip will cost €0,08 per minute or €12 per day. So, if you want, you can ride for free all day – as long as you check in your bike at any station within 30 minutes. To sign up, you can use a credit card. Hamburg is a cycle-friendly city, with many wide avenues and bicycle lanes, as well as parks.

Visa

For citizens of more than 90 countries no visa is required to enter Germany.

In cooperation with the Federal Foreign Office we want to provide support in securing visas for the conference participants who need it. Interlink Academy is very experienced in giving support to visa applicants from all over the globe.

For detailed information about each country, see appendix.

Safety & Security

With over 12 million overnight stays in 2016, Hamburg is a popular city for guests from all over the world. Hamburg is a safe and free place for both residents and tourists. It offers a high standard of security infrastructure and everyone can be sure to be well-taken care of in case of emergencies. Nevertheless, as in all bigger cities, it is recommended to remain vigilant in the city centre, especially at night and in areas like the main station. It is necessary to pay attention to valuables and act responsibly at all times.

Appendix



Small phrase book for Hamburg

English	Hamburgish
Good morning!	Moin!
Good day!	Moin!
Hello!	Moin!
Good afternoon!	Moin!
Good evening!	Moin!



Overview of visa requirements/exemptions for entry into the Federal Republic of Germany

Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)	Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)
Afghanistan	yes	Bolivia	yes
Albania (5)	no	Bosnia and Herzegovina (5)	no
Algeria	yes	Botswana	yes
Andorra (4)	no	Brazil (4)	no
Angola	yes	Brunei Darussalam	no
Antigua and Barbuda	no	Bulgaria (2)	no
Argentina	no	Burkina Faso	yes
Armenia	yes	Burundi	yes
Austria (2)	no	Cambodia	yes
Australia (including the Cocos Islands, Norfolk Island, Christmas Island) (3)	no	Cameroon	yes
Azerbaijan	yes	Canada (3)	no
Bahamas	no	Cape Verde	yes
Bahrain	yes	Central African Republic	yes
Bangladesh	yes	Chad	yes
Barbados	no	Chile	no
Belarus (see also White Russia)	yes	China (People's Republic) (6)	yes
Belgium (2)	no	Colombia	no
Belize	yes	Comoros	yes
Benin	yes	Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo)	yes
Bhutan	yes	Congo (Republic of the Congo)	yes
		Costa Rica	no

Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)	Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)
Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	yes	Hungary (2)	no
Croatia	no	Iceland (3)	no
Cuba	yes	India	yes
Cyprus (2)	no	Indonesia	yes
Czech Republic (2)	no	Iran	yes
Denmark (2)	no	Iraq	yes
Djibouti	yes	Ireland (2)	no
Dominica	no	Israel (3)	no
Dominican Republic	yes	Italy (2)	no
Ecuador	yes	Jamaica	yes
Egypt	yes	Japan (3)	no
El Salvador (4)	no	Jordan	yes
Equatorial Guinea	yes	Kazakhstan	yes
Eritrea	yes	Kenya	yes
Estonia (2)	no	Kiribati	no
Ethiopia	yes	Korea (Republic of Korea, South Korea) (3)	no
Fiji	yes	Korea (Democratic People's Republic, North Korea)	yes
Finland (2)	no	Kosovo	yes
France (2) (including French Guyana, French Polynesia, Guadeloupe, Martinique, New Caledonia, Réunion, St Pierre and Miquelon)	no	Kuwait	yes
Gabon	yes	Kyrgyzstan	yes
Gambia	yes	Laos	yes
Georgia (5)	no	Latvia (2)	no
Ghana	yes	Lebanon	yes
Greece (2)	no	Lesotho	yes
Grenada	no	Liberia	yes
Guatemala	no	Libya	yes
Guinea	yes	Liechtenstein (2)	no
Guinea-Bissau	yes	Lithuania (2)	no
Guyana	yes	Luxembourg (2)	no
Haiti	yes	Macao (6)	no
Honduras (4)	no	Macedonia (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) (5)	no
Hong Kong (6)	see China (People's Republic)	Madagascar	yes
		Malawi	yes

Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)	Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)
Malaysia	no	Portugal (2)	no
Maldives	yes	Qatar	yes
Mali	yes	Romania (2)	no
Malta (2)	no	Russian Federation	yes
Marshall Islands	no	Rwanda	yes
Mauritania	yes	Saint Kitts and Nevis	no
Mauritius	no	Saint Lucia	no
Mexico	no	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	no
Micronesia	no	Samoa	no
Moldova (5)	no	San Marino (4)	no
Monaco (4)	no	São Tomé and Príncipe	yes
Mongolia	yes	Saudi Arabia	yes
Montenegro (5)	no	Senegal	yes
Morocco	yes	Serbia (8)	no
Mozambique	yes	Seychelles	no
Myanmar (Burma)	yes	Sierra Leone	yes
Namibia	yes	Singapore	no
Nauru	yes	Slovak Republic (2)	no
Nepal	yes	Slovenia (2)	no
Netherlands (2)	no	Solomon Islands	no
New Zealand (including the Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau) (3)	no	Somalia	yes
Nicaragua	no	South Africa	yes
Niger	yes	South Sudan	yes
Nigeria	yes	Spain (2) (including Spanish territories in North Africa with Ceuta and Melilla)	no
Norway (2)	no	Sri Lanka	yes
Oman	yes	Sudan	yes
Pakistan	yes	Suriname	yes
Palau	no	Swaziland	yes
Palestinian territories	yes	Sweden (2)	no
Panama	no	Switzerland (3)	no
Papua New Guinea	yes	Syria	yes
Paraguay	no	Taiwan (9)	no
Peru	no	Tajikistan	yes
Philippines	yes	Tanzania	yes
Poland (2)	no		

Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)	Country/ territorial community	Entry visa required no/yes (1)
Thailand	yes	United States of America (including Virgin Islands of the United States, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico) (3)	no
Timor-Leste (East Timor)	no	Uruguay	no
Togo	yes	Uzbekistan	yes
Tonga	no	Vanuatu	no
Trinidad and Tobago	no	Vatican City	no
Tunisia	yes	Venezuela	no
Turkey	yes	Viet Nam	yes
Turkmenistan	yes	White Russia (see also Belarus)	yes
Tuvalu	no	Yemen	yes
Uganda	yes	Zambia	yes
Ukraine (5)	no	Zimbabwe	yes
United Arab Emirates	no		
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (2, 7)	no		

Notes:

- (1) Persons who do not require a visa to enter Germany (holders of passports from the countries marked “no” on the list) may not remain on German territory for more than 90 days in any six month period. Nor may they take up gainful employment whilst here.
- (2) Nationals of these states are not subject to the restrictions specified in footnote 1.
- (3) Residence permits (also for stays of more than 3 months) may be applied for after entering Germany without a visa.
- (4) Footnote 3 also applies provided gainful employment is not taken up.
- (5) The visa waiver applies only to holders of biometric passports.
- (6) The visa waiver applies to holders of SAR passports (Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Region passports).
- (7) The visa waiver also applies to British Nationals (Overseas).
- (8) The visa waiver applies only to holders of biometric passports (excluding holders of Serbian passports issued by the Serbian Coordination Directorate (in Serbian: Koordinaciona uprava).
- (9) The exemption from the visa requirement applies only to holders of passports issued by Taiwan which include an identity card number.