

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Limited seats, advance registration necessary on a first-come, first-served basis.

(simultaneous translation available)

Venue Conference

Haus der Commerzbank, Pariser Platz 1, 10117 Berlin

- As **no parking** is available at Pariser Platz, please use the garage at Hotel Adlon (via Behrenstr.) or public parking in the vicinity, or use public transport.

Venue Reception

British Embassy, Wilhelmstr. 70–71, 10117 Berlin

- **For security purposes, please bring your ID card or passport and present it at the entrance of the British Embassy.**

Sufficient time is necessary for safety inspections. Please avoid taking along large pieces of luggage as these need to be checked additionally.

Please register your attendance.

BCCG Foundation

- We kindly ask our members and guests for a contribution of 15 Euros (or more, if you can) to the BCCG Foundation, supporting British and German students, by bank transfer or in cash at the conference. Receipts (Spendenquittung) will be issued:

BCCG Foundation (Spendenkonto)

Commerzbank AG, Düsseldorf

Bank Code 300 400 00

Account No. 182 594 200

IBAN DE91300400000182594200

BIC/Swift COBADEFFxxx

Thank you for your generosity.

Hotel Recommendations

- **Please note our hotel list on our website www.bccg.de.**

You will find a limited number of hotel rooms at specially reduced rates at the following member hotels, using the keyword "British Chamber"/"BCCG". **Early reservations are recommended due to several events in Berlin:**

Ellington Hotel Berlin

Grand Hotel Esplanade Berlin

Hotel Grand Hyatt Berlin

Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin

Maritim Hotel Berlin

Maritim pro Arte Hotel Berlin

Novotel Berlin Am Tiergarten

Hôtel Concorde Berlin

We thank our sponsors for their generous support of the conference and reception:

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5TH BERLIN CONFERENCE AND NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION

10 Years of Euro

THURSDAY, 29TH JANUARY 2009

Part of the BCCG 90th Birthday Programme

Participating hotels:

 ELLINGTON
HOTEL

 ESPLANADE
HOTEL

 HOTEL CONCORDE BERLIN

 GRAND HYATT
HOTEL

 HOTEL ADLON
KEMPINSKI

 MARITIM
HOTEL

 NOVOTEL
HOTEL

 German
British
Forum

 British Chamber
of Commerce
in Germany

DEAR MEMBERS AND GUESTS,

You are cordially invited to our 5th Annual Berlin Conference and New Year's reception to discuss:

10 Years of the Euro: Past, present and future after the credit crisis

On its 10th birthday on 1st January 2009, the Euro ranks as one of the Old Continent's grandest success stories. The supranational money at the heart of EMU has become the second most important international currency after the dollar. During the international financial convulsions of 2007–2008 the single currency protected Europe from still worse fall out. The European Central Bank's authority is second only to that of the Federal Reserve.

Yet the rosy assessment is just part of the story. The consequences of some basic defects in the Euro's structure are only now becoming apparent, as the EMU area enters a deep recession, exposing national policy-makers and the interest rate-setting ECB to unprecedented challenges. The Euro has failed to bring about sufficient economic convergence among its disparate members – and the international downturn will now make matters worse. Both the advantages and the perils of running a single monetary policy for a group of countries at different stages of development are growing steadily more visible.

Question marks abound. Will US President-elect Barack Obama provide greater stimulus to transatlantic economic and monetary partnership? Are the positive results of EMU in some important areas outweighed by the negative consequences in others? Will Germany now come under irresistible pressure to show economic solidarity with weaker members of the currency bloc? Will President Nicolas Sarkozy wrest decision-making control from the ECB? Will financial and economic strains force Euro members demonstrate more unity – or will beggar-thy-neighbour policies push EMU inexorably towards fragmentation?

If the more rigorous climate intensifies pressures on the Euro's weaker members to adapt to the need for improved financial discipline, the new circumstances could be salutary. The Euro may face a crisis. But if it overcomes its trials it will become stronger, and more attractive for European countries that remain outside – including the UK.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Berlin!

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 29th January 2009, 14.30 pm
Haus der Commerzbank, Pariser Platz 1, 10117 Berlin

14.30 Registration

15.00 Welcome

- Norbert Strohschen, President BCCG

Keynote Speeches:

- Michael Reuther, Member of the Board, Commerzbank AG
- The Rt Hon Lord Owen CH FRCP, UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (1976–1979)
- Dr. Hans Tietmeyer, Bundesbankpräsident a. D.

16.15 Panel Discussion

- David Marsh CBE, Chairman, London & Oxford Capital Markets plc
- Bernd Zieseimer, Editor, Handelsblatt

Panel Participants:

- Iain Begg, London School of Economics
- Simon Tilford, Chief Economist, Centre for European Reform
- The Rt Hon Lord Owen CH FRCP, UK Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (1976–1979)
- Gerd W. Stürz, Member of the Board, Ernst & Young AG

NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION

Thursday, 29th January 2009, 18.00 to 20.30 pm,
British Embassy, Wilhelmstr. 70–71, 10117 Berlin

17.30 Registration

18.15 Opening Addresses

- Sir Michael A. Arthur KCMG, HM Ambassador to Germany
- Norbert Strohschen, President BCCG

REGISTRATION FORM

**Registration for BCCG members and invited guests only.
Advance registration necessary.
Please confirm your attendance and send us the following
details by fax +49 (0)30 206 70 829 or e-mail info@bccg.de.**

(Please register latest by 23rd January 2009)

Name

Position

Company name

Address

Postcode, city/town, country

E-mail

Phone/fax

Participation conference: yes no

Participation reception: yes no

BCCG member: yes no

Accompanied by

First name, surname

Participation conference: yes no

Participation reception: yes no

Please note our advice and recommendations on back page.