

Press Release

29 August 2023

22nd Academy Discussion: Culture-Free Zone? The Future of Public Service Broadcasting

Diemut Roether in discussion with Kai Gniffke, Kathrin Röggl, Tabea Rößner, Oliver Sturm, Andres Veiel and Olaf Zimmermann
Welcome address: Jeanine Meerapfel

Monday, 4 September 2023, 7 pm
Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin
Press tickets: presse@adk.de, Tel. 030 200 57-1514

The 22nd Academy Discussion is devoted to the cultural agenda of public radio and television. What role will culture play in the future? What solutions exist for the transformation of programming into digital form? How will the current structural processes change the understanding of culture in a democratic society?

The process of renewing Germany's system of public broadcasting is as a cultural policy issue of central concern to the Akademie der Künste. Akademie Vice-President Kathrin Röggl represents the Akademie on the RBB Public Broadcasting Council; her predecessor on that body is Akademie member Andres Veiel. Other Akademie members, including Oliver Sturm, are engaged in internal and public discussions. At the heart of the issue is the demand for transparency and participation in the restructuring of editorial teams and programming content. Together with other cultural institutions, the Akademie der Künste published an open letter on 9 May 2023, which was addressed to ARD chairman Kai Gniffke and all ARD Director-Generals and programming directors and included an appeal to save the public broadcasting radio play ([s. Meldung vom 9.5.](#)).

The Deutscher Kulturrat is also engaged in a critical analysis of developments in public broadcasting; together with the Akademie der Künste it is calling for the creation of a resilient structure that in particular will facilitate the fulfilment of the institution's cultural mandate.

The 22nd Academy Discussion offers a public platform for exchange on the various perspectives in this discourse. The event is being organised in cooperation with the Deutscher Kulturrat.

Welcome address:

Jeanine Meerapfel, Filmmaker and President of the Akademie der Künste

In discussion:

Kai Gniffke, Director-General of Südwestrundfunk (SWR) and Chairman of ARD

Kathrin Röggl, Author and Vice-President of the Akademie der Künste

Tabea Rößner, Member of the German Bundestag (MdB), Chairwoman of the Digital Affairs Committee and Media Expert, Alliance 90/The Greens

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Oliver Sturm, Theatre and Radio Play Director, Member of the Akademie der Künste

Andres Veiel, Author, Director and Member of the Akademie der Künste

Olaf Zimmermann, Managing Director of the Deutscher Kulturrat

Moderation: **Diemut Roether**, Responsible Editor epd medien

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Event information

22nd Academy Discussion

Culture-Free Zone?

The Future of Public Service Broadcasting

Monday, 4 September 2023, 7 pm

In German

Akademie der Künste, Pariser Platz 4, 10117 Berlin

Admission €6/4, free admission for under 18s

Press tickets can be reserved by calling 030 200 57-1514 or by sending an email to: presse@adk.de.

Additional event:

As part of its programme, the 14th edition of the Berliner Hörspielfestival is organising a panel discussion entitled: **Hörspiel – oder soll man es lassen? (Audio play – or should we let it go?)**

Participating in the discussion are Walter Filz (author, senior editor at SWR, head of the ARD Radio Play Days), Holger Schulze (musicologist / Sound Studies Lab, University of Copenhagen), Björn SC Deigner (radio play and theatre author, member of the Hans-Flesch-Gesellschaft - Forum für akustische Kunst).

Moderation: Jochen Meißner (radio drama critic and management team of the Berliner Hörspielfestival)

Saturday, 16 September 2023, 1:45 pm

Akademie der Künste, Hanseatenweg 10, 10557 Berlin