

FOREIGN RIGHTS NEWS

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

we proudly present our latest Foreign Rights Guide and we are very much looking forward to meeting you again in Frankfurt to talk about all our new titles!

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UK, USA, Italy, France,
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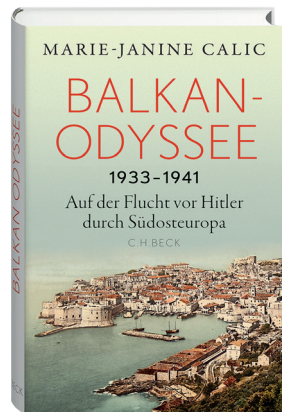
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2025
336 pages with
20 illustrations
and 1 map
Hardcover
€ 28.00

- The first Balkan route – the other way to escape Hitler
- Moving stories of courage and humanity – fleeing Hitler through Southeast Europe
- Tilla Durieux, Manès Sperber, Ernst Toller, Franz Theodor Csokor, and many others
- Often it is the poorest who are the most helpful
- For all fans of Uwe Wittstock

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

History of Yugoslavia in the 20th Century

Serbian: Clio Publishers

Croatian: Naklada Ljevak

English: Purdue University Libraries

Southeastern Europe

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

English: Harvard University Press

Slovenian: Cankarjeva Zaloba Zalonitvo, d.o.o.

Tito

Italian: Keller Editore

Ukrainian: Anetta Antonenko Publishers

History of Yugoslavia (2020)

Italian: Mondadori Electa

Marie-Janine Calic

Balkan Odyssey

1933-1941 Fleeing Hitler through Southeast Europe

Refuge in the Balkans – the forgotten exile

Theater star Tilla Durieux, writers Manès Sperber and Ernst Toller, playwright Franz Theodor Csokor, painter Richard Ziegler, and many others fled Hitler to southeastern Europe, where they found refuge. Today, however, this first Balkan route has been all but forgotten. Marie-Janine Calic recalls them and tells moving stories of courage and humanity, of misery and betrayal, of rescue and doom. When Hitler came to power, the Balkans were 'somewhere down there' for many persecuted and threatened people. Nevertheless, they fled not only to the democratic West and the communist Soviet Union, but also to the supposedly backward southeast of Europe, with at least 55,000 going to Yugoslavia alone. Among them were Jews and non-Jews, conservatives and communists, Zionists and internationalists, resistance fighters and apoliticals. The flight along the Balkan route began in early 1933 with the first waves of persecution by the National Socialists. In 1938, the annexation of Austria and the November pogroms caused the stream of refugees to swell abruptly, as there were hardly any other routes left open. When Italy invaded the Kingdom of Greece at the end of October 1940 and Hitler planned his attack on the Balkan countries, this last escape route was suddenly closed. Thousands were trapped. In Greek mythology, the heroic odyssey ended happily for the hero – but for many of the Balkan refugees, it didn't.

Marie-Janine Calic is a Professor of Southeast European history at the University of Munich.

Andreas Molitor

Hermann Göring

Power and Excess

A Biography

The man behind Hitler. The new biography about one of the most dazzling figures of the Nazi regime

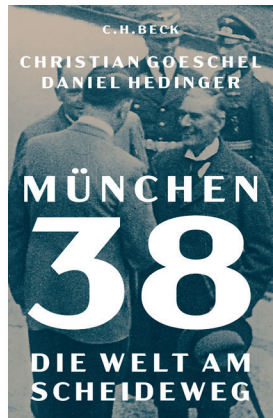
Hermann Göring (1893–1946), Reich Minister of Aviation and second in command behind Hitler, accumulated offices and powers like no other Nazi leader. In revealing scenes and analytically based on the latest research, this is the compelling biography of a ruthless man who seems to defy explanation. Göring's life is marked by a relentless pursuit of power and prestige, from his childhood to his conviction at the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal and his suicide in his prison cell. Göring's hunger for power is only limited by Adolf Hitler. He is devoted to him. After Göring fails as commander-in-chief of the air force in World War II and Hitler withdraws his favor, he retreats to his country estate Carinhall, where art theft, hunting, and decadent luxury are far more important than Allied bombing raids. His extravagant lifestyle has led to euphemistic interpretations of Göring's role in National Socialism. Andreas Molitor shows how the self-proclaimed 'man of action' sealed the economic and social decline of German Jews with the 'de-Jewification of the German economy' playing a leading role in the preparation of the Holocaust.

Andreas Molitor, graduate economist and journalist, contributes regularly historical reports and profiles for the newspaper *DIE ZEIT* Historical magazine and *Merian* as well as the business magazine *brand eins*, among others.



2025
416 pages with
35 illustrations
Hardcover
€ 30.00

- Insatiable, excessive, murderous: Hitler's 'man of action'
- The long-awaited biography based on the latest research



2025
320 pages with
20 illustrations
Hardcover
€ 28.00

- Historical narrative: the three days when the world stood between war and peace
- A kind of historical thriller
- Peace negotiations with a dictator: a story of depressing relevance
- When aggression is rewarded: the global consequences of the Munich Conference

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Daniel Hedinger

The Axis

Japanese: Jimbun Shoin

Simplified Chinese: Social Science

Academic Press

English translation rights are available:

Please contact Georgina Capel

Associates.

Christian Goeschel | Daniel Hedinger

Munich 38

The World at a Crossroads

When the world stopped breathing: three days between war and peace

Munich 38 stands for appeasement towards aggressors. At the Munich Conference, Chamberlain and Daladier gave in to Hitler's threats and abandoned Czechoslovakia. Less than a year later, World War II began. Daniel Hedinger and Christian Goeschel tell the story of the dramatic three days when the world stood at a crossroads asking what the Munich Conference still has to tell us today. The events of that time are shockingly relevant even today. In the last days of September 1938, war was in the air. The conference in Munich, the capital of the Nazi movement, was a last-ditch, desperate attempt by France and Great Britain to save peace in Europe and thus the world. Since then, Munich has been a global place of remembrance. However, it has been viewed too much from a purely European perspective, overlooking the global background and impact of the conference. The rise of fascism had already challenged the existing world order. Only in this context could Hitler push ahead with his expansion. The rest of the world followed the events in Munich very closely and learned their lesson. Thus, the retreat before Hitler weakened the democratic defenses within and encouraged the aggressive powers to expand further—in Europe as well as in the rest of the world. Munich 1938 is a warning for our time.

Christian Goeschel is a Professor of Modern European History at the University of Manchester.

Daniel Hedinger is a private lecturer and research assistant at the Research Center Global Dynamics at the University of Leipzig.

Henning Sußebach

Anna

or The Remains of a Life

The Story of my Great-Grandmother

Deep in the Sauerland region, 1887. A young woman makes her way up to the village of Cobbenrode where Anna Kalthoff is to become the new teacher, but she will not stay there for long. She soon rebels against the expectations of the village and the rules of her time. She decides for herself what she wants to do and how she wants to live, and whom she wants to love. And it will not be for her evil. Two centuries later, her traces have almost completely vanished. A few photos, poetry albums, postcards, a coffee set, an engagement ring: that was all Henning Sußebach had to start with when he set out to trace the footsteps of his great-grandmother Anna. After a year of searching, the picture became clear: a seemingly ordinary woman had led an extraordinary life, against all odds. Anna took from life what she wanted. Men, work, freedom! The author owes his life to her determination, and his groundbreaking book is an attempt to rescue a memory almost completely faded away. This book offers an enchanting approach to our ancestors, since without their initiative and their courage we would not be here today. And it encourages us to search for the Annas who exist in every family history.

Henning Sußebach, born in 1972, is editor of the weekly newspaper DIE ZEIT. He has been awarded some of the most important German journalism prizes for his reporting, including the German Reporter Prize, the Theodor Wolff Prize, the Henri Nannen Prize, and the Egon Erwin Kisch Prize.



2025
208 pages
Hardcover
€ 23.00

- A narrative masterpiece – Henning Sußebach revolutionizes the way we remember our ancestors
- The story of a strong woman living in a world where men assigned roles to women



2025
420 pages with
50 illustrations
Linen
€ 34.00

- The new book by Ulrich Raulff
- How is taste created? What makes us find this beautiful and that ugly?
- The West's hegemonic claim: taste still has to undergo decolonisation
- Bibliophile edition

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Last Century of Horses

Arabic: Alturjman For Translation

Czech: Nakladatelství Kazda, r.s.

Dutch: Athenaeum

English: Penguin Press

Spanish: Taurus/ Penguin Randomhouse

Ulrich Raulff

As You Like It

A History of Taste

Ulrich Raulff writes the History of Taste

Everyone knows it exists. Everyone thinks they possess it. Yet no one has ever seen it: taste, our sense of beauty, our antenna for happiness and the tactile sense of our desires. Ulrich Raulff explores this ability to appreciate beauty, and he takes us on a materialistic journey through a vanity fair, a parade of likes from Meissen to Mac and from Diderot's dressing gown to Victoria's Secret. The trail leads to Winckelmann's Rome and Jefferson's Washington, to Paris around 1800, to Victorian England, and right up to our own time of Airbnb and food as an 'experience.'

Great tastemakers from Madame Pompadour to Steve Jobs welcome us as portal figures at the beginning of new taste eras. But the history of taste and its transformations is not just a history of aesthetic codes. It is also the story of a European invention, of raids, of the suffering of others and of our own historical guilt. And it is even more than that: it reveals an immense cultural achievement, a human capacity and a wealth of sensations helping us to perceive difference and transform it into culture.

Ulrich Raulff was the director of the German Literature Archive in Marbach from 2004 to 2018 and is president of the Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations from 2018 to 2025. In 2010, he received the Leipzig Book Award in the non-fiction/essay category for his book *Circle Without Master*, about the posthumous fame of Stefan George. His most recent book, *The Last Century of Horses*, was published by C.H.Beck in 2016. It was also shortlisted for the Leipzig Book Prize and has been translated into numerous languages.

Helmuth Kiesel

Writing In Dark Times

History of German-language literature 1933-1945

The Third Reich and Literature – Helmuth Kiesel's masterful portrayal

The Nazi regime was an unprecedented challenge to German-language literature. Two and a half thousand authors, including the best, were forced to leave Germany. Those who remained and did not side with the Nazi regime were threatened with persecution. Helmuth Kiesel has written the first comprehensive account of this era covering a vast literary field he presents a moving, often harrowing picture of that time. In exile as in Germany, literary engagement with the present demanded existential strength, political clarity, and artistic talent. Helmuth Kiesel focuses on the literature of exile and inner emigration, on authors who were close to the regime, as well as on Austrian and Swiss German literature.

He presents the famous works of the era, from Anna Seghers' *The Seventh Cross* to Thomas Mann's *Doctor Faustus*, from Ernst Jünger's *The Marble Cliffs* to Hermann Hesse's *The Glass Bead Game* – alongside numerous remarkable forgotten works which are historically illuminating.

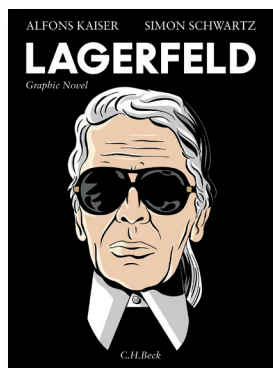
Many authors saw their main task in historically exploring the 'dark times' (Brecht) thus they were experiencing and bearing witness through literature. Helmuth Kiesel brings their voices to life with great diversity and an intensity never seen before.

Helmuth Kiesel is a Professor Emeritus of Modern German Literature at the University of Heidelberg.



2025
1,300 pages
Hardcover
€ 68.00

- Exile, internal emigration, conformity: literature during the Third Reich
- The first comprehensive portrayal of the era
- Written in a confident and vivid style
- A moving picture of the years 1933–1945



2025
104 pages
illustrated in
colour throughout
Hardcover
€ 19.95

- The life of Karl Lagerfeld – brilliantly captured
- Living logo and myth of the fashion world

English translation rights sold to Harry N. Abrams

French translation rights sold to Dargaud

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Karl Lagerfeld (2024)

English: Thames & Hudson (UK)

Abrams (USA)

Italian: Odoya srl

Romanian: Editura ART

Alfons Kaiser | Simon Schwartz

Karl Lagerfeld

Karl Lagerfeld's life as a Graphic Novel

Karl Lagerfeld stylishly presented himself as a living logo and a myth of the fashion world. But what was behind this larger-than-life, charismatic figure who, despite his love of communication, kept his own life story secret?

With his brilliant visual interpretation Simon Schwartz brings us closer to the man behind Lagerfeld: the precocious boy who preferred drawing in the attic to playing with his peers; the son who argued with his parents but never left their side; the sharp-tongued rival of Yves Saint Laurent, whom he ultimately outshone; the worldly genius in Paris who worked with Prussian discipline; and the partner of Jacques de Bascher, the great love of his life.

Alfons Kaiser is an editor at the newspaper F.A.Z. where he heads the 'Germany and the World' department. Karl Lagerfeld provided political caricatures for the monthly F.A.Z. magazine.

Simon Schwartz is one of Germany's best-known comic artists. He has made himself a name as the author of highly acclaimed and award-winning graphic novels and has been drawing the comic strip 'Vita Obscura' in F.A.Z. magazine since 2019, replacing Karl Lagerfeld's caricatures following his death.

Harald Haarmann

The Age of the Horses

The History of Domestication from its Beginnings to the Equestrian Peoples

Retracing the Partnership between Humans and Horses

The domestication of the horse and its role as a source of food, riding, draught and working animal have shaped a key epoch in human history. Based on new archaeological, genetic and linguistic research, Harald Haarmann reconstructs the gradual process of taming and exploiting horses and shows how this partnership, which went on for thousands of years, changed not only horses but also humans.

The domestication of horses began in the steppes north of the Black Sea.

But why here of all places? And what connected humans and wild horses from the very beginning? Harald Haarmann describes how humans first followed horses as hunters, then as nomadic herders in search of green pastures. Between 8,000 and 9,000 years ago, the steppe nomads gradually became accustomed to consuming horse milk through genetic changes. Over 6,000 years ago, horses were first used as riding animals. After the invention of the wheel and cart, they enabled long migrations as draft animals. Chariot and cavalry armies brought about large-scale conquests. Domesticated horses spread to all continents and became power symbols in religion and politics.

Until the 20th century, horses were omnipresent in towns and countryside. The horse age came to an end with the industrial revolution, but thanks to their millennia-old influence, horses will continue to be partners, friends and helpers to humans in the future.

Harald Haarmann is one of the world's most renowned linguists and cultural scientists. He has been awarded the Prix Logos by the Association européenne des linguistes in Paris and the Premio Jean Monnet, among other honors. His books have been translated into many languages.

On the Trail of the Indo-Europeans

Albanian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
Bulgarian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
English: Verlagshaus Römerweg GmbH
Greek: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
Romanian: Casa Editoriala Demiurg

Forgotten cultures of world history

Italian: Bollati Boringhieri Editore
Korean: Dolbegae Publishers
Serbian: Akademska Knjiga
Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti



2025
192 pages with
4 maps
Hardcover
€ 20.00

- The dawn of the Horse Age in the Eurasian steppe: the latest facts and findings
- What archaeology, genetics and linguistics reveal
- Concise and expertly presented by an internationally renowned cultural and linguistic scholar

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

World history of numbers

Korean: Alma Publishing
Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti

World history of languages

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti

On the Trail of the Indo-Europeans

Albanian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
Bulgarian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
English: Verlagshaus Römerweg GmbH
Greek: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
Romanian: Casa Editoriala Demiurg
Serbian: Evro Books

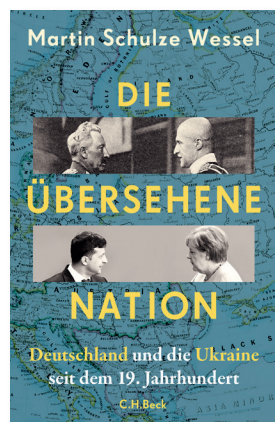
Ukrainian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD

The Mystery of the Danube Civilisation

Albanian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
Bulgarian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
English: Verlagshaus Römerweg GmbH
Greek: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD
Croatian: Akademska Knjiga
Serbian: Akademska Knjiga
Ukrainian: ProCredit Bank (Bulgaria) EAD

History of writing

Italian: Giulio Einaudi Editore
Serbian: Izdavacka ku'ca
Simplified Chinese: Beijing Phoenix-Power Cultural Development
Traditional Chinese: Morning Star Publishing Inc.



2025
288 pages with
2 maps
Hardcover
€ 28.00

- The Holocaust and the War of Extermination took place on Ukrainian territory
- The fatal consequences of 'neglecting' the Ukrainian nation
- German and Ukrainian history are closely intertwined
- Germany played an important role in the founding of the first Ukrainian state

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Curse of the Empire

English: Polity Press

Czech: Marathon Publishing House

Martin Schulze Wessel

The Overlooked Nation

Germany and Ukraine since the 19th Century

Guilt and Opportunity: The History of German-Ukrainian Relations

What does Ukraine have to do with us? Few would dispute that Germany bears historical responsibility towards Russia for the crimes of the Second World War. However, the fact that the same applies to Ukraine is much less firmly anchored in the public consciousness.

Martin Schulze Wessel recalls how closely German and Ukrainian history are intertwined in the 20th century, shows how historical experiences and perceptions continue to have an impact today, and asks what this means for our current relationship with Ukraine.

During the First World War, German colonial plans for Eastern Europe coincided with the aspirations of the Ukrainian national movement. The establishment of a Ukrainian nation state became viable in 1918 thanks to the German occupation of the country. This was one of the reasons why Stepan Bandera sought an alliance with Nazi Germany during the Second World War, but Hitler's colonial project differed fundamentally from that of imperial Germany. Ukraine became the center of Germany's war of extermination. After 1945, Ukraine disappeared again into the Soviet Union for a lot of people, and even after 1991 it remained a largely overlooked nation – with fatal consequences for the German response to Russia's war of aggression since 2014. Anyone who considers German-Ukrainian history, as Martin Schulze Wessel does, will find it difficult to remain indifferent to the fate of the country.

Martin Schulze Wessel is a Professor of Eastern and South-Eastern European History at the University of Munich and a member of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities. From 2012 to 2016, he was President of the Association of German Historians. His book *Der Fluch des Imperiums* (The Curse of the Empire) was published by C.H.Beck.

Bernd Greiner

White Heat

The Internal Wars of the United States. A History from 1900 to the Present

Make America Hate Again. Bernd Greiner on the historical roots of Trump's power

What on earth is going on in the USA? Where does the poison in politics come from? The lying, denunciation and demonization, the hatred of minorities and the relentless persecution of the weak? How did white-hot anger become the norm in politics? Donald Trump and his MAGA movement have roots going back a long way into the 'American century'. This book uncovers them.

Bernd Greiner tells a different story of the USA over the last hundred years, depicting it as illuminating and depressing as well. It is the story of a society torn apart by internal wars, fueled by a middle-ground extremism that has proven to be the country's political metronome. At the center of this story are neither presidents nor parties but self-appointed guardians of the common good, citizens who, in the name of democracy, deny others democratic participation – with minimal tolerance for political dissent, uncompromising insistence on their own goals, and a missionary sense of purpose. They have broken the backbone of the labor movement, banished leftists from political life, marginalized critics of armament and war, and cemented white dominance. Above all else reigns the maxim that true power is based on the fear of others. And that uncertainty and fear earn greater profits. In other words, if Donald Trump were the only problem, America would have only a minor problem.

Bernd Greiner is founding director and member of the Berlin Centre for Cold War Studies. He taught non-European history at the University of Hamburg and headed the Theory and History of Violence department at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research until 2014.



2025
432 pages with
30 illustrations
Hardcover
€ 32.00

- America's inner workings from 1900 to today
- How white heat became the political operating temperature of the United States
- A historical deep dive into the roots of the MAGA movement
- Why were progressive movements successful in Europe but not in the United States?
- A different history of the United States



2025
244 pages with
15 illustrations
and 2 maps
Hardcover
€ 26.00

- A new perspective on Austrian-Hungarian history
- From Bruno Kreisky to the present day
- Entertaining and user-friendly narrative

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Hungary in a Nutshell

Italian: Beit Cala Editrice

Gorbatschow

Hungarian: Napvilág Kiado

Farewell, Comrades!

Hungarian: Corvina

The Curtain Rises

Estonian: Olion

Italian: Donzelli Editore

1956. The Revolution in Hungary

Italian: Donzelli Editore

Estonian: Olion

Hungary 1956

Italian: Donzelli

Estonian: Olion

The History of the Russian Germans

Russian: Svinin und Söhne

György Dalos

Neutrality and Kaiserschmarrn

A History of Austria since 1945

A review of Austrian history in the 20th century

From the ruins of the Second World War to the present day, this entertaining book offers an illuminating overview of Austria's turbulent history since 1945. How did the Alpine republic position itself during the Cold War? How does this still shape its relationship with Russia today? György Dalos provides a well-founded and lovingly critical account of Austria's post-war history in the context of Central and Eastern Europe. An indispensable read for anyone who wants to better understand Austria's role in the region and in Europe, its past and its present. Thanks to its 'perpetual neutrality' enshrined in the 1955 State Treaty, Austria has served as an important link between East and West meanwhile writing its own history. This book shows how much the Second Republic succeeded in exploiting this favorable constellation in the decades to come.

We learn how internal developments unfolded and what conflicts have accompanied its identity as a modern nation to this day. From the social democratic heyday of the Kreisky era in the 1970s to the Waldheim affair, the origins of the environmental movement and the rise of the FPÖ under Jörg Haider to the Ibiza video, from Kurz to Kickl – in his history of Austria since 1945, György Dalos offers an essayistic account of the most important political, historical and social developments in the country, never losing sight of the regional contexts of Central and Eastern Europe.

György Dalos is a freelance author, historian and specialist on Central Europe. In 2010, he received the Leipzig Book Prize for European Understanding, in 2015 the Federal Cross of Merit 1st Class, and in 2023 the Heinrich Mann Prize of the Berlin Academy of Arts. His political, fictional and lyrical works have been translated into numerous languages.

Michael Sommer | Stefan von der Lahr

The Damn Bloody History of Antiquity

Without all the Boring Stuff

A completely different History of Antiquity

1200 years of antiquity – a golden age full of wisdom, beauty and virtue? Not at all! Instead, we find lively murder and turmoil of Greeks and Romans, from Mount Olympus to the Forum.

With this wildly irreverent book, Michael Sommer and Stefan von der Lahr lead us out of our historical comfort zone and into a story of people you'd rather not meet in the dark... Anyone standing amazed today in front of the Acropolis in Athens or the enchanting frescoes of Pompeii can easily overlook the broad trail of blood Greeks and Romans left throughout history.

Admittedly, illustrious names such as Achilles, Romulus, Pericles, Alexander, Caesar and Augustus greet us from the past. However, the business of these and many other rulers was not least murder on a grand and small scale: in war and against political opponents, even against friends if they behaved too stubbornly.

And wasn't democracy invented back then, and didn't they create even a republic? Anyone believing that democrats and republicans could not have been bloody conquerors is mistaken. They violently suppressed the desire for freedom of tens of thousands of people.

It's high time for a different history of antiquity!

From the conquest of Troy to the fall of Rome: Michael Sommer and Stefan von der Lahr tell us the whole damn truth, factually accurate, true to life and without taboos.

Michael Sommer is a Professor of Ancient History at the University of Oldenburg. Various publications.

Stefan von der Lahr was an editor for the classical studies list at C.H.Beck from 1992 to 2024 with various publications.



2025

320 pages with
27 illustrations by
Lukas Wossagk
Hardcover
€ 25.00

- Antiquity brought down from its pedestal – a delightfully irreverent history
- Achilles, Alexander, Augustus & Co.: violence and murder in all its guises
- Well-researched and factually accurate
- Narrated by two experts in dark suspense

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Michael Sommer

The Phoenicians

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık
Tic Ltd Sti

Italian: Il Mulino

Economic History of Antiquity

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık
Tic Ltd Sti

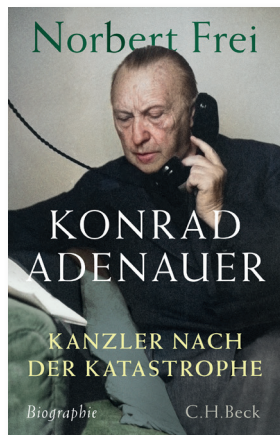
Simplified Chinese: Beijing Phoenix-Power
Cultural Development

Dark Rome. The Secret Life of the Romans

Italian: Mondadori Electa S.p.A.

Czech: Albatros Media a.s.

Spanish: Grupo editorial Akal



2025
288 pages
Hardcover
€ 28.00

- Adenauer as the first chancellor after Hitler and how he laid the foundations for German democracy in 1949
- Although he was an opponent of National Socialism, he enabled the 'former' members of the Nazi regime to return to their offices
- The price of Adenauer's policy of alignment with the West was the alienation of East Germans
- At the moment of the West's greatest crisis since 1945: also, a history of Germany's path to Europe

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Politics of the Past

Polish: Wydawnictwo Trio

The Führerstaat

Czech: Euromedia Group k.s.

Norbert Frei

Konrad Adenauer

Chancellor after the Catastrophe

The most recent Biography of Adenauer by Norbert Frei

Konrad Adenauer stands out among the chancellors of the Federal Republic of Germany. It was him to take over the reins of government of a defeated nation and to resolutely lead it into democracy and the West, after the Nazi dictatorship, World War II, and the Holocaust. He laid the foundations for a success story bringing prosperity and peace to West Germans for decades to come. But it was also Adenauer who accepted the division of Germany and enabled millions of perpetrators to remain silent about the crimes they had committed.

Norbert Frei takes the 150th birthday of the founding chancellor as an opportunity to paint an incorruptible portrait of the man who shaped German history after 1945 like no other.

In his slim, elegantly written biography, renowned contemporary historian Norbert Frei describes the life and achievements of the first German chancellor from a contemporary perspective. He describes Adenauer's political career from mayor of Cologne during the Weimar Republic through the Third Reich to his role as the energetic founding chancellor. Above all, however, Frei analyzes Adenauer's policies after the German catastrophe: his unconditional alignment with the West, which he enforced against numerous obstacles and resistance, but also his serious failures in developing a democratic political culture. Frei presents us with a conservative Catholic, an autocratic party leader, an unscrupulous tactician, a far-sighted European, and a German who viewed his own people with great skepticism, even mistrust: one of the great political leaders of the 20th century.

Norbert Frei is a Professor Emeritus of Modern and Contemporary History at the University of Jena and author of various highly acclaimed publications on the German Past.

Grit Straßenberger

The Thinker

Hannah Arendt and her Century

Hannah Arendt's Century-Long Life – The New Biography marking the 50th Anniversary of her Death

Hannah Arendt is the thinker of the 20th century. Her writings and her life reflect the profound upheavals of that era: the rise and fall of totalitarian regimes, experiences of flight and alienation, but also hopeful new beginnings shaped her entire thinking. Arendt however did not limit herself to report and bear witness; she wanted to understand. Like no other, she succeeded in grasping—and living through—the radical ruptures, existential losses, and unexpected opportunities of the dramatic 20th century.

In her wonderful biography of Arendt, Grit Straßenberger presents a new, vivid picture of this extraordinary thinker. Focusing on the memories and stories told about Arendt by friends, colleagues, and students, we get to know the person behind the unique philosopher. Although she was deeply suspicious of the role of intellectuals, she became an intellectual of world renown. Her thinking was provocative and idiosyncratic, she rubbed people the wrong way 'everywhere, but she was anything but a loner:

Arendt's circle of acquaintances reads like a 'Who's Who' of 20th-century Western intellectual history. Arendt led her century-long life as a 'virtuoso of friendship.' In fact, interpersonal connections were indispensable to her thinking—and she can still be our friend in spirit today.

Grit Straßenberger is a Professor of Political Theory and History of Ideas at the University of Bonn. Her research focuses on democratic theory and civil society studies. She is a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Bonn Academy for Research and Teaching of Practical Politics.



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576 pages with
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- The future standard biographical work
- A portrait of Arendt as a world-class traveling intellectual
- The thinker appears as a virtuoso of friendship, who could be both enormously controversial and loyal
- *Reading Hannah Arendt today, one is overcome by an almost uncanny feeling of contemporary relevance.*
- Richard J. Bernstein



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- Brilliantly and vividly written
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Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Dante's Divine Comedy

Turkish: Epsilon Yayınevi Ticaret ve Sanayi A.Ş.

Franziska Meier

Giovanni Boccaccio

Poet in Dark Times. A Biography

Poet of the Decameron, witness to a Time of Crisis: The Life of Giovanni Boccaccio

Giovanni Boccaccio is known as a pioneer of the Renaissance and world-famous for his Decameron, with its risqué erotic stories. However, his life is shrouded in mystery. Franziska Meier's brilliant biography depicts him as a restless contemporary of a crisis-ridden century. Pandemic, climate change, banking crisis, national debt, and the political shift to oligarchy: Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–1375) was a seismograph of all these upheavals in his time. Sensual and strict in his morals, conscious of tradition and forward-looking, he responded to the contradictions of a world in turmoil with his diverse work. Franziska Meier reconstructs his childhood and school days in Florence and the consequences of his illegitimate birth. We encounter him in Naples, the capital of King Robert of Anjou; in Florence, the proud, rich commune politically and economically in confusion; at the courts of ruthless autocrats in Romagna; and in the solitude of his retirement home in Certaldo. Above all, however, Franziska Meier portrays him as a brilliant storyteller and outstanding poet, as a friend of Petrarch and admirer of Dante, as a scholar and biographer whose work belongs to world literature.

Franziska Meier is a Professor of Romance literature and comparative literature at the University of Göttingen and a member of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences. She has published various books on classics.

Peter Stephan

Frederick I.

The Invention of Prussia: A Biography

Frederick I (1657–1713) was long regarded as an unworldly aesthete who, out of a desire for pomp and splendor, proclaimed himself King of Prussia in 1701. Peter Stephan, on the other hand, describes 'Crooked Fritz' as the systematic inventor of the Prussian state symbolizing his understanding of himself and of state in art and architecture. This elegantly written biography is also a fascinating rediscovery of a forgotten Prussia. Even his father, the Great Elector, did not have much faith in his physically disabled, highly sensitive son, and posterity associated the Berlin Palace he built, a masterpiece of European Baroque architecture, primarily with the name of the architect Andreas Schlüter. For generations of historians, Prussian history began with his successor, the Soldier King Frederick William I. Peter Stephan thoroughly revises this image, a result of years of research. He describes how Frederick, as Elector of Brandenburg, systematically planned his coronation in Prussia, thereby linking the 'grand design' of a Prussian state based on tolerance, culture, and the rule of law. Stephan masterfully brings works of art such as the equestrian statue of the Great Elector and the Berlin Palace to life—as eloquent testimonies to the life and political ideology of the first and most misunderstood Prussian king.

Peter Stephan is a Professor of Art History and architectural theory. He is considered one of the leading experts on the Berlin Baroque era.



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- The long-overdue, insightful biography of the first and most underrated Prussian king
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- *Brilliantly written book.*
- Theodor Kissel, Spektrum der
Wissenschaft

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Sciences Academic Press

Hans-Ulrich Wiemer

Theoderic the Great

King of Goths. Ruler of Romans

A Biography

The Migration Period in an Epic Biography

Ravenna, March 5, 493: 'There was not a bone left in that scoundrel.' This was how the Gothic king Theodoric commented on his murder of Odoacer, whom he had just sent to the other world with a single sword stroke. With the end of his adversary, a position had become vacant: a new ruler of the western part of the Roman Empire was needed. Anyone who had witnessed the bloody start of his reign could hardly expect Theodoric, of all people, to succeed in bringing Goths and Romans decades of peace and stability with his broken oaths and bloodstained hands.

This book tells the exciting story of how he managed to keep his two peoples apart through a clever division of labor—military tasks for the Goths, civil life and tax collection for the Romans. The secret of his success deciphered here, consisted in integration through separation! Even after 1,500 years, it is fascinating to see how Theodoric, despite the great potential for conflict – in matters of faith and church organization, between warriors and civilians, in relations with the emperor in Constantinople and the Germanic kings in the West, and in the face of pressing social problems – managed to maintain peace both internally and externally, but also to create peace without compromise when necessary.

Hans-Ulrich Wiemer teaches as Professor of Ancient History at the University of Erlangen. Various publications.

Till Kössler

Franco

The Eternal Fascist

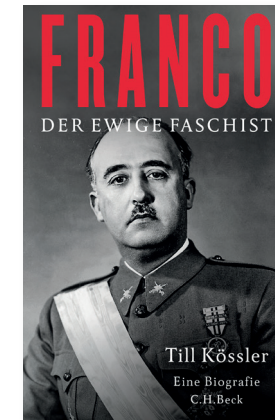
A Biography

The Caudillo and his Regime – the new Biography of the Spanish Dictator

Francisco Franco is one of the most influential dictators of recent history. Unlike his allies Hitler and Mussolini, he managed to remain in power beyond the Second World War until 1975. In European contemporary history the classification of his person and his nearly 40-year of reign is still controversial today. As an essential account of Franco's life, this book provides insights into Spain's eventful history in the 20th century and offers at the same time starting points for a better understanding of authoritarian rule in our times.

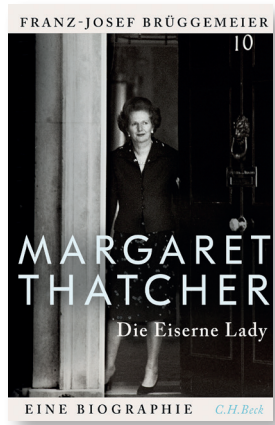
After 1945, Franco was considered by many to be an eternal fascist who no longer fits in with new democratic Europe. Yet he successfully served as a partner to the Western world and enjoyed considerable popularity among the Spanish population until his death in 1975. He cultivated his image as an efficient modernizer and sought advice from Western experts, but his rule was also based on the mass persecution of dissidents and was characterized by extreme social contrasts, widespread corruption and an economy of scarcity. Based on current research, this biography undertakes a historical reassessment of Franco. It vividly traces his career, drawing on primary sources: from his beginnings as a young colonial officer in Morocco to his rise as a cruel fascist autocrat in the Spanish Civil War and ally of the Axis powers in World War II, to the period of upheaval in the 1960s and 1970s.

Till Kössler is a Professor of Historical Education at the University of Halle-Wittenberg. His research focuses on the history of violence and overcoming violence, as well as the history of authoritarian regimes after 1945.



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- A new comprehensive account of Franco's life and rule
- A critical reassessment
- Insights into Spain's turbulent history in the 20th century



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- Questions the myth of the 'Iron Lady'
- Asks whether her policies led to Brexit

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Age of Coal

Simplified Chinese: The Commercial Press
English: Oxford University Press
Italian: Keller editore

Franz-Josef Brüggemeier

Margaret Thatcher

The Iron Lady

A Biography

The Woman who shaped an Era – Margaret Thatcher and her Time

Margaret Thatcher (1925–2013) was one of the first female politicians to assert herself in a male-dominated world. This biography paints a multifaceted picture of the daughter of a grocer who, rising to the highest office in the country and going down in history as a pioneer of neoliberal economic policy using her iron will with luck.

Thatcher was a politician of superlatives: the first woman to lead a party, the British Conservatives, in one of the major Western democracies. She was the longest-serving prime minister of the 20th century—and a politician who divided her country more than any other. She was extremely successful in a male-dominated world but showed little understanding for the women's movement. Her market economy reforms, her tough stance toward trade unions, and her determination in the Falklands War earned Margaret Thatcher the title of 'Iron Lady.' This strong-willed woman, who rejected compromise but also acted very pragmatically, analyzing clearly, but also marked by astonishing prejudices, how did she succeed to keep herself at the helm of her country for many years? Historian Franz-Josef Brüggemeier looks at Thatcher's life from her childhood days, describes her political career, and discusses the consequences for British and international politics.

Franz-Josef Brüggemeier is a Professor Emeritus of Social, Economic, and Environmental History at the University of Freiburg. His research focuses on German and British history in the 19th and 20th centuries. Various publications.

Markus Gabriel

Moral Facts

Why they exist and how we can recognize them

Markus Gabriel's Magnum Opus on Ethics

Can we still expect anything fundamentally new from an ancient discipline such as moral philosophy? One would assume that the field of ethics has long been settled and that today it is only a matter of practical application. In his new seminal work, star philosopher and bestselling author Markus Gabriel shows us that this impression is deceptive and that we need to fundamentally rethink our approach: the only ethics that is in tune with our times and proves to be both universal and concrete is moral realism.

Using numerous examples – from pacifism and climate change to moralism and geopolitics – Markus Gabriel introduces us to moral realism. The main idea is as simple as it is revolutionary: there are moral facts about what we must do and not do. Like ordinary facts, we find them in reality – provided we are human beings who live our lives in the light of an idea of who or what we are. Markus Gabriel links observations about the nature of morality with observations about the human beings in an accessible way and applies them to the specific global situation of humanity in the 21st century. An exciting and insightful essay aimed at beginners and experts alike.

Markus Gabriel, born in 1980, is one of the most prominent German philosophers of the present day. He is a Professor of Epistemology, Modern and Contemporary Philosophy at the University of Bonn and an internationally celebrated bestselling author.

From 2022 to 2024, he was Academic Director of the Hamburg think tank 'The New Institute'. Since 2024, he has been Senior Global Advisor at the Kyoto Institute of Philosophy.



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- The new book by bestselling author Markus Gabriel
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- Using highly topical examples from society and politics



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- A philosophical look at ChatGPT & Co.
- What happens when we transfer speech and thought to machines?
- First, we shape our language machines, then they shape us

Roberto Simanowski

Language Engines

A Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence

When Computers think – A Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence

For philosophy, language is one of the most noble and important characteristics of human beings: it enables us to access an entire world, to articulate even our most intimate thoughts, to communicate our values – and it is crucial to the form of freedom and sovereignty indispensable to humans to live their lives. But what happens when we allow a language machine to explain the world to us, to convey values and to even think for us?

Media philosopher and internet expert Roberto Simanowski wants to know more and sets out to explore the breathtaking consequences of the great transfer of autonomy currently happening.

Every technology has the power to impose its own logic on its unaware users. Are ChatGPT, Claude, Zwilling, Pi or Gemini weaning us off reading, writing and thinking? Are they persuading us to adopt views we don't even hold? Are they disempowering us by being so eager to serve us? And are they perhaps dangerous precisely because they seem to give us everything we want? Simanowski explores these and other questions with a philosophical sense of how new technology will change the human condition.

Roberto Simanowski, cultural scientist and media philosopher, lives in Rio de Janeiro and Berlin and is the author of 15 books on art, culture and politics in digital media. After holding professorships in the USA, Hong Kong and Switzerland, he is currently a visiting scholar at Harvard University and the University of Berlin. His book *Todesalgorithmus. Das Dilemma der künstlichen Intelligenz* (The Death Algorithm: The Dilemma of Artificial Intelligence) was awarded the Tractatus Prize for philosophical essay writing in 2020.

Heinrich Meier

Leo Strauss

On the Subject of Political Philosophy

Leo Strauss and Political Philosophy: Heinrich Meier's magnum opus

Leo Strauss has a unique position among the great philosophers of the 20th century. He introduced the concept of political philosophy into philosophy and undertook its re-foundation in an opus having a formative influence and worldwide impact. In the increasingly lively debate, Heinrich Meier now presents the most detailed and comprehensive examination of Strauss's thought. The political philosophy Leo Strauss discusses refers to the turning of philosophy towards political or human affairs as a whole and the turning of philosophy back upon itself, its premises and the conditions of its existence. The matter at stake is nothing less than the rational justification and political defense of the philosophical life.

In keeping with the fundamental character of the undertaking, the book is divided into the following chapters: The Philosophical Life, Philosophy and History, Philosophy and Revelation, Philosophy and Politics, Philosophy and Poetry, The Philosophical Teaching. Each chapter focuses on an outstanding work by Strauss, analyzed here as a whole.

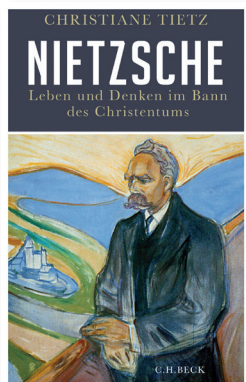
The rediscoverer of the 'art of careful writing' applied by political philosophers of the past thus reveals himself to be a master of that art.

Heinrich Meier is a Professor of Philosophy at the University in Munich and the University of Chicago. He is the editor of *Leo Strauss's Collected Writings*. Various publications.



2025
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- Nietzsche's Christian influence and what it means for his philosophy
- A biographical search unveiling Nietzsche

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

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Italian: Il Portico Spa
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Japanese: Protestant Publishing Co.
Simplified Chinese: Shanghai Joint Publishing Co.
English: Oxford University Press

Christiane Tietz

Nietzsche

Life and Thought Under the Grasp of Christianity

Nietzsche's hidden Christianity - a biographical search for traces

'God is dead! God remains dead! And we have killed him!' Nietzsche's most famous statement tempts us to see him as a radical atheist. Christiane Tietz, however, shows how deeply the pastor's son, who initially wanted to become a pastor himself, remained committed to theology. He valued Jesus as a 'free spirit.' His 'eternal recurrence of the same' is a reworking of the idea that the world is based on a divine plan. The language in *Zarathustra* is biblical. It is high time to rediscover the philosophical preacher in the context of theology. Nietzsche railed against Christian notions of sin and morality. On the other hand, he trumped Christian charity with 'love of strangers,' thought intensively about bearing the cross, and signed his last notes with 'The Crucified One.' Christiane Tietz vividly describes how Nietzsche was shaped in many ways by Protestantism in an evangelical parsonage, by a pietistic mother, at his boarding school and finally during his brief study of theology, before he took up the study of classical philology, admired Schopenhauer and Wagner, and philosophically transformed theology. She traces the theological currents of the time and shows how his thinking and language developed under the spell of Christianity. A fascinating search for traces of Nietzsche's unknown but highly vivid God.

Christiane Tietz has been President of the Protestant Church in Hesse and Nassau since 2025 and is an honorary Professor at the University of Mainz. She was previously a Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of Zurich and lived in Zurich and Sils Maria. Her guest lectureships and research stay in Cambridge, Chicago, Jerusalem, New York and Princeton, among other places, testify to her international reputation. Various publications.

Heinrich August Winkler

Why It Ended This Way

Memoirs of a Historian

From Königsberg to the Berlin Republic: Heinrich August Winkler's Memoirs

Heinrich August Winkler is one of Germany's most important contemporary historians. He is also one of the country's most influential intellectuals, still shaping political debate in Germany. In his new book he recalls his life journey from Königsberg to southern Germany and Berlin, his encounters and experiences, conversations and controversies, mistakes and insights. Winkler looks back on his childhood in Königsberg and the final weeks of the Third Reich he experienced in Württemberg. He recounts his formative experiences in the post-war period, his academic and political role models, his early encounters with Konrad Adenauer and Willy Brandt, and the struggle to westernize the Federal Republic. He recalls the partitioning of Germany and how it was overcome, the founding of the Berlin Republic and his interventions in political disputes of the time, right up to his criticism of the SPD's Ostpolitik and his early warnings about Putin. He describes his return to Königsberg and conversations with Gerhard Schröder, Wolfgang Schäuble, Jürgen Habermas, Ralf Dahrendorf and many others. But Winkler's book is not a memoir in the classic sense. It is a chronicle of a life dedicated to the historical and political self-enlightenment of the Germans. These memoirs offer something more essential today than ever before: a political and moral compass in the current altering times.

Heinrich August Winkler, born in Königsberg in 1938, is one of Germany's most prominent historians. He taught contemporary history at Berlin University from 1991 to 2007. In 2014, he received the Hans Ringier Foundation's Europa Prize for Political Culture and in 2016 the Leipzig Book Prize for European Understanding. In 2018, the Federal President awarded him the Grand Cross of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. Various publications.



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Further works published by C.H.Beck:

How we became who we are

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

Is the West Collapsing?

Simplified Chinese: CITIC Press Corporation

Serbian: Albatros plus d.o.o.

The Long Way West, 2 vols.

English: Oxford University Press

Italian: Donzelli Editore

French: Librairie Arthème Fayard

Polish: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego

Hungarian: Osiris Kiado

Japanese: Showado Publishing Co.

Simplified Chinese: Moveable Type Legacy

A History of the West: The Era of the World Wars 1914 – 1945

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Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press



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- A unique book by a politician about dealing with mental illness
- An insider's account of the political arena
- The author was chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the German Bundestag for many years
- The first critical analysis of German policy towards Russia and Ukraine from a first-hand perspective

Michael Roth

Zones Of Fear

On Life and Passion in Politics

A moving Memoir about Life in Politics and Living with Anxiety

Michael Roth writes about the 'zones of fear' in professional politics. About internal party power struggles, social media and the threat of a shitstorm. About being pilloried for questioning the rituals and language of one's own bubble, party or peer group. About the false political game of playing on societal fear. Michael Roth has suffered from this fear more and more. Nevertheless, he only recognized his own mental illness very late. With his book, he wants to encourage others to face their own fears sparing neither his political companions nor himself. Michael Roth was a professional politician for almost half his life, most recently he was a chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Bundestag.

As a passionate supporter of Ukraine, he re-evaluated his view of Russia. He therefore found himself under fire not only within his own party. Roth grew up in difficult circumstances in the 'border zone' of northern Hesse. At the age of 28, he entered the Bundestag. He experienced the first red-green coalition in the federal government, the years of the grand coalition and, finally, the abruptly failed experiment of the traffic light coalition. After almost 27 years as a directly elected member of parliament suffering from mental illness, he decided to end his political career. With this book he presents a very personal account of his life in politics and his fears: radically candid, analytically clear and harshly self-critical.

Michael Roth, born in 1970, was a directly elected SPD member of the German Bundestag for almost three decades. From 2009 to 2013, he was European policy spokesman for his parliamentary group and general secretary of the Hessian SPD, and from 2013 to 2021 he was Minister of State for Europe at the Federal Foreign Office. As chairman of the Bundestag's Foreign Affairs Committee, he has been one of the most resolute supporters of Ukraine since the beginning of Russia's war of annihilation. This has made him just as well known to the public as his advocacy for Israel and Jewish life. After the last federal election, Roth decided to leave politics, having made his mental illness public two years earlier.

Klaus Brinkbäumer

Time Of Farewells

Seven Years of Letting Go and Re-Finding

A moving book about Letting Go and Starting again, about Death and Life

There is a time in life when farewells become more frequent: farewells to dreams, certainties and friends – and above all to those people who have shaped us and accompanied us for the longest time, our parents. In this very personal book, Klaus Brinkbäumer describes his seven years of farewells. Many of us have gone through this phase of life, are currently experiencing it, or are about to experience it. The feeling of life's stability is fading. Our elderly parents are becoming ill or suffering from dementia, they move into care homes, become lonely, suffering, and dying. The generation of sons and daughters, now in their fifties and sixties, feel a sense of duty but are unsure how to fulfil it. Our own children leave home and go their own ways. Friendships end without explanation, the political world, our society are changing rapidly, and the profession in which we have been successful and at home for decades collapses.

Klaus Brinkbäumer explores this rupture in his life with great honesty, these seven years of grief and loss in which he must let go. He allows himself intense feelings previously unheard of. And he experiences the happiness of two children, who move to New York and back, and final conversations with his parents – a chance to let go and find himself again.

Klaus Brinkbäumer was editor-in-chief and contributor of SPIEGEL magazine. He won the Egon Erwin Kisch Prize and the Henri Nannen Prize, among others. Between 2021 and 2024, he was program director at MDR, and today he works as a presenter, author, filmmaker and columnist. Various publications and bestsellers.



2025
208 pages
Hardcover
€ 24.00

- The losses – and how to survive them
- When certainties fade and life starts to slip away
- Klaus Brinkbäumer's most personal book
- The well-known journalist on losing his job, the death of his parents and becoming a father twice over



2025
352 pages
Paperback
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- The new exposé by the authors of *The Moscow Connection*
- Why we have long been at war – and how we can better protect ourselves in the future

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Moscow Connection

Chinese (simplified): SpringHill Publishing
Estonian: Postimehe Kirjastus OÜ
Polish: Instytut Zadochni/Institute for Western Affairs
Swedish: Bokförlaget Stolpe

Reinhard Bingener | Markus Wehner

The Silent War

How Autocrats are attacking Germany

How the Axis of Autocrats is undermining Germany

In their recent book, The Moscow Connection, Reinhard Bingener and Markus Wehner present a forensic and damning account of how Putin's Russia spent decades courting both German political elites and public opinion, showing that the debate about Germany's long-held Russiacentric assumptions is essential. – Helene von Bismarck, The Guardian

Autocrats such as China and Russia, Iran and even Turkey – employ a big variety of strategies to systematically undermine Western democracies. Their new form of silent and covert but effective hybrid warfare has long since reached the Federal Republic of Germany. Following their SPIEGEL bestseller Die Moskau-Connection (The Moscow Connection), FAZ journalists Reinhard Bingener and Markus Wehner trace the threatening axis of autocratic states attacking Germany and the ways they menace our society and institutions. They conclude that politicians, authorities and most citizens in this country have been far too naive for far too long.

The autocrats always had and continue to have an easy time weakening us. They assign a new type of agent in our states, order murders and take advantage of the vulnerability of our critical infrastructure for acts of sabotage. They corrupt decision-makers, support extremist parties or groups and abuse refugee flows as a weapon. They spread questionable narratives via foreign media, influence portals and trolls, spreading doubt regarding our democracy. And they carry out cyber attacks on state institutions. In this 'turning point,' the West is increasingly threatened by a covert war. Thus it is essential to us to find resilience and enlightenment to fight the threats. The authors show how we in Germany and Europe are trying to resist showing us the alterations necessary to protect ourselves more effectively in the future. One thing is certain: we will need persistence in this decisive struggle.

Reinhard Bingener and **Markus Wehner** are editors in the political department of the FAZ. They published various titles, some of them became bestsellers.

Maurice Crul | Frans Lelie

Society Of Minorities

Life in Superdiversity

Integration in the Age of Super-Diverse Societies

Never before in human history have so many people from such diverse regions of the world lived together so closely in large cities as they do today. This 'superdiversity' is increasingly changing our neighborhoods: the old majority is ceasing to be the majority and is becoming a minority among other minorities. But how do immigrants deal with this situation?

In their groundbreaking study, Maurice Crul and Frans Lelie come to some surprising conclusions:

It does not really matter if people have a positive or negative view of diversity and migration, they all have long been participating in shared practices of living together in a super-diverse environment. The current debates on migration and diversity are not exactly optimistic.

There are frequent appeals to control or even stop immigration to protect society from overly negative changes. However, the reality of urban life in Hamburg or Vienna, in Offenbach or Sindelfingen shows that superdiversity is here to stay. Maurice Crul and Frans Lelie's research clarifies that this new reality is not necessarily a loss for people of German descent.

The separation line does not run between people with and without a migrant background. For all of us, it is much more a matter of how to participate actively in our super-diverse society.

Maurice Crul is a Professor of Sociology at the University of Amsterdam and holds the Chair in Education and Diversity. For 30 years, he has been working on issues of integration and diversity in Europe and North America. He heads the EU-funded project *Becoming a Minority*, which examines the experiences of people without a migration background who live in neighbourhoods where the majority of the population belongs to minorities.

Frans Lelie is a research fellow at the Institute for Sociology at the University of Amsterdam. She has worked extensively with women with a migrant background and their families. She developed the project *Becoming a Minority* together with Maurice Crul.



2025
192 pages with
3 maps
Paperback
€ 16.00

- Never before have such diverse people lived together in such close quarters in large cities
- This creates super-diverse neighborhoods where only minorities exist
- How do people without a migrant background perceive this development?
- The exciting results of the sociological study *Becoming a Minority* in Hamburg and Vienna



2025
208 pages
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€ 18.00

- A thought-provoking debate book: Rostalski questions common climate protection narratives
- A plea for a factual, solution-oriented climate debate
- We need a global concept for climate protection going beyond regional national measures

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Vulnerable Society

Simplified Chinese: Qi Yu Dao Culture Media Co, Ltd

Frauke Rostalski

Who Should Do What?

Why we are not obliged to protect the Climate and what our Responsibility is

Oat milk, electric cars, heat pumps and holidays on your doorstep have become symbols of an ecological and therefore better way of life. When it comes to climate change, many seem to agree: we all have a duty to significantly reduce our individual greenhouse gas consumption. In her thought-provoking essay, Frauke Rostalski challenges this narrative and says: There is currently no obligation to reduce CO₂ emissions.

National and individual heroic deeds come to nothing or, in the worst case, even prove counterproductive as long as there is no effective system at the international level to integrate them.

Legal and ethical obligations are always linked to the suitability of the measures required to achieve the desired goal. The harsh truth, however, is that climate change is a global problem which can only be effectively solved at the global level. It is primarily the responsibility of politicians to work towards an effective global concept for combating climate change.

In the meantime, we need to cool down our climate debate, in which pressure to take sides and emotional accusations are creating a wall of resentment hindering objective discussion.

Everyone should realize that climate protection is not a question of attitude or powerful symbols. Rather, it requires targeted action instead of exhibiting moral superiority over others.

Frauke Rostalski is a Professor of Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Legal Philosophy and Comparative Law at the University of Cologne. She has been a member of the German Ethics Council since 2020. Various publications.

Navid Kermani

When We Will Soon Open Our Hearts

About Politics and Love

Words that shake and heal are Kermani's métier. – Michael Wurmitzer, Der Standard

In big politics and in our immediate lives, sudden rifts are opening we could never have foreseen. Navid Kermani describes how social upheavals have a concrete impact, where hostility arises and why, despite everything, we can open our hearts to others without losing ourselves, drawing on key personal experiences such as washing his own father's body, enjoying music together, a family visit to Ayatollah Khomeini and his daughter's wedding. The unity of the West, which has given us security for so long, is crumbling. Wars and genocide force us to take sides leading to new conflicts. Democracy, with its compromises and power balances, is becoming too complicated for many, but simple solutions come at the expense of the weak.

In five topical, literarily compelling speeches, Navid Kermani combines his own experiences with historical events and the upheaval currently taking place in the world.

No other German writer is able to turn the personal into the political and, conversely, to illustrate political upheavals through personal observations as he does. And so his new book also echoes the unique, always existential, never melodramatic tone with which Kermani has captivated us time and again, at least since his famous speech in the Bundestag in 2014.

Navid Kermani is a qualified Orientalist and lives as a freelance writer in Cologne. He has been awarded the Kleist Prize, the Joseph Breitbach Prize, the Friedrich Hölderlin Prize, the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade and, most recently, the Thomas Mann Prize for his work. His non-fiction books and highly acclaimed reportages are published by C.H.Beck. Various publications.

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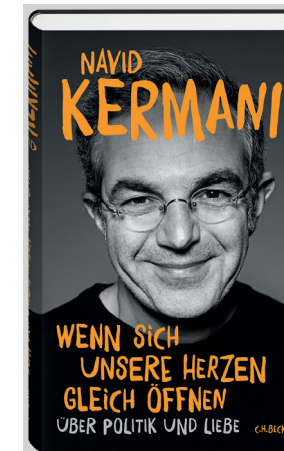
English: Polity Press

God is Beautiful

English: Polity Press
Arabic: Al-Kamel Verlag

The Terror of God

English: Polity Press
Turkish: Pinar Yayinlari



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- *Reminds us why we need intellectuals: so that speeches can be made in which something is said.* - Karen Krüger, Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung
- *No other writer in German literature succeeds in weaving together worlds of culture, experience and emotion so skillfully and grippingly.* - MDR Figaro

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- The punk among historians and the exceptional left-winger – a local rendezvous
- We must not allow ourselves to be discouraged – the mistakes of the past and what we can learn from them
- *We moved exclusively in the Western world, or more precisely, we played the Western world in the East.*
- Bodo Ramelow

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Stasi concrete

Czech: Institute for the Study of
Totalitarian Regimes

17th June 1953

Polish: Oficyna Wydawnicza

Final Game

English: Berghahn Books

Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk | Bodo Ramelow

The New Wall

A Conversation About the East

The East, the West and Democracy at Risk

Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk is one of the foremost experts on the history of the GDR and one of the most prominent observers of the reunification process. The FAZ newspaper called him the ‘punk among German historians.’ Bodo Ramelow has been politically active in eastern Germany since 1990 and was Minister-President of Thuringia from 2014 to 2024. The two have come together to examine the causes of the AfD’s sweeping election victory in the new federal states and to discuss the prospects for our democracy. The contemporary historian and the politician do not mince their words and arrive at a very nuanced picture of the present state of German-German relations.

Much of what went wrong in the East after 1990 can be explained by omissions and mistakes in the reunification process. Other factors stem from exaggerated expectations and a misunderstanding of freedom and personal responsibility. As a result, a toxic atmosphere is affecting ever larger sections of the population – not only in the East, but also in the West. In a very intense conversation, Kowalczyk and Ramelow discuss this process and its disastrous effects on our democracy. Anyone should read this book to understand how the ‘new wall’ emerged running not only along the former German-German border but also between the defenders of democracy and those deliberately or recklessly threatening it.

Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk is a historian and journalist as well as a scientific advisor to the management of the DDR Museum in Berlin. He is one of Germany’s most renowned experts on the history of the GDR and communism. Various bestselling publications.

Bodo Ramelow is one of Germany’s most prominent politicians. He was Prime Minister of Thuringia from 2014 to 2024 and is now Vice-President of the German Bundestag

Nicole Mayer-Ahuja

Class Society In Crisis

Why Wage Labor divides – and how Things could be different

The Turmoil of Class Society – and what can be done about it

Those up there, us down here – this catchy phrase expresses the fundamental sentiment of a new class society in which solidarity seems to be a foreign concept. Sociologist Nicole Mayer-Ahuja shows how work is changing in contemporary capitalism, how divisions between wage earners are deepening – and where there is potential to overcome differences and competition and stand up for common interests. Mayer-Ahuja describes the deepening divide between labor and capital, but also between different groups of employees. Their working and living conditions have become so polarized that some wage earners are secured at the expense of others: permanent staff are separated from marginalized workers within companies, precarious domestic workers compensate for the flexible working hours of 'highly qualified' workers, women and migrant workers are disproportionately employed in the low-wage sector, etc.

With a focus on precarious jobs and skilled permanent positions, on industry and services, the book analysis the experiences different groups of workers have in common.

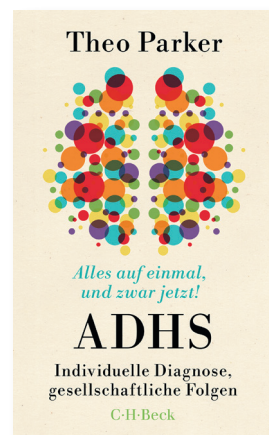
The fear of job loss, increasing pressure to perform, external control and lack of influence over one's own work situation, the impossibility of doing good work according to professional standards, but also the confrontation of even permanent employees with the precarious situation of their children or partners can fuel feelings of powerlessness. Or serve as starting points for solidarity. A book that inspires to move towards a more equal society..

Nicole Mayer-Ahuja, born in 1973, is Professor of Sociology at the University of Göttingen, specializing in labor, business and economics. She studies work from a historical and transnational perspective, focusing on precarious employment.



2025
288 pages
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€ 26.00

- The middle class is a myth: Why we live in a class society
- Why wage earners should stick together – and against whom
- For readers of Thomas Piketty's *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*



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200 pages
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- Understanding ADHD in a new light
- A serious look on hyperactivity as a personal and social phenomenon
- An expert provides background information and encourages reflection
- Psychologist and sufferer: the author knows both perspectives
- Social media hype or serious neurological disorder? A nuanced contribution to the current debate

Theo Parker

Everything At Once, And Right Now!

ADHD: Individual Diagnosis, Social Consequences

A psychologist and sufferer dispels Myths about ADHD

People with ADHD function differently. Their perception, stimulus processing and even the way their brains work obey their own rules – or so it is often said. But is that true? The disorder is sometimes interpreted as a deficit, sometimes as a superpower, and there is a wealth of content on the subject on social media. Theo Parker is a psychologist diagnosed with ADHD himself since over ten years. He takes a nuanced approach to the phenomenon, uncovering surprising insights and raising some uncomfortable questions. The number of ADHD diagnoses has doubled in the last 15 years. Appointments at specialist clinics often involve years of waiting, while self-diagnoses are shared and encouraged on social media. So, is ADHD a long-neglected neurological development disorder or just a hype diagnosis and symptom of our time? As a psychologist affected by ADHD, Theo Parker discusses the question against the backdrop of his knowledge and his own experiences. He provides clear and well-founded explanations on the topics of diagnosis and medication, while also taking the social context into account. How much does ADHD have to do with personal idiosyncrasies – and how much with the mechanisms of our performance-oriented society? This book brings clarity to the current debate and discusses what really helps when everything is happening all at once in your head.

Theo Parker is a qualified psychologist and most recently worked as a therapist in a secure psychiatric detention hospital in Brandenburg.

He also writes as a freelance journalist about psychology and brain research for various newspapers.

Eva Peters

Understanding Stress

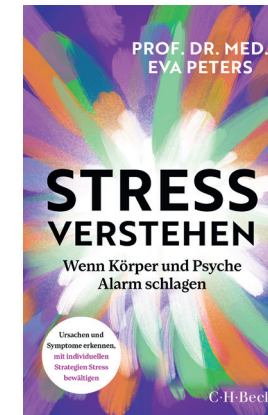
When your Body and Mind sound the Alarm

What happens to us when everything is too much

Everyone knows it, almost everyone has it – and most of us have too much of it: stress. Apart from the fact that we experience it very realistically in our own bodies and feel its effects deep in our souls, stress is a concept. But what exactly does it describe? How does it work? What reactions does stress trigger in our bodies? How much stress is good? And when does it make us ill? Although we all feel constantly stressed, we only have a vague idea of what is going on within us. We notice its symptoms, but we don't really understand what it does to us, and even less how we can help ourselves. Often, the true causes are not apparent at first glance.

Eva Peters has been studying the processes taking place in our bodies when we experience stress for many years. Not all of us are stressed by the same things, and men experience stress differently than women because of their different bodies. When stress becomes chronic it ends up being critical to our health having a negative impact on our mental and physical well-being throwing our nervous, hormonal and immune systems out of balance. Once we understand what stress really is, we can better address its causes and develop individual strategies for coping with it.

Prof. Dr. med. Eva Peters is a Professor of Psychoneuroimmunology and a specialist in psychosomatic medicine and dermatology and venereology. She also heads the Laboratory for Psychoneuroimmunology at the University Medical Centre in Giessen. In her stress consultation hours at the Charité hospital in Berlin, she has treated patients suffering from stress-related illnesses for many years.



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224 pages
Paperback
€ 18.00

- What exactly happens in the body when a person is stressed: physiological and non-physiological connections explained in an understandable way
- Stress is not fundamentally bad – but too much of it is harmful
- The causes of stress are as individual as its symptoms
- The book shows individual ways to deal with stress in a healthy way

C.H.Beck Wissen

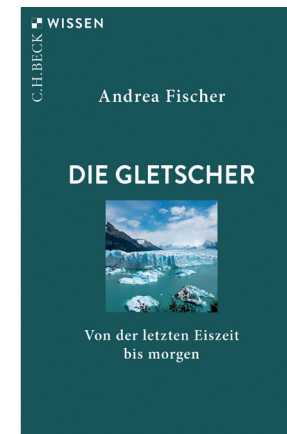
Andrea Fischer

The Glaciers

From the last Ice Age to Tomorrow

The retreat of mountain glaciers is currently the most visible effect of global climate change. The question of how long the Earth's glaciers will persist and what consequences their disappearance will have concerns us all. Renowned glacier researcher Andrea Fischer vividly explains how glaciers were formed and how they shaped the landscape. She also talks about the fascination of glaciers and the shared history of humans and glaciers. But what would their loss mean for the Earth's water balance, for sea levels, and for the planet as a whole? And can glaciers return?

Andrea Fischer is a glaciologist and deputy director of the Institute for Interdisciplinary Mountain Research at the Austrian Academy of Sciences. She has received several awards for her research and was Scientist of the Year 2023.



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30 illustrations
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Günther Hasinger

History of the Universe

The closer we can observe the universe with our increasingly powerful telescopes and the more scientific insights we gain from it, the greater the diversity seems to become. At the same time, this opens doors that allow us fascinating insights into the past of the universe. Günther Hasinger takes the reader on a journey through the history of the universe and its particle-like inhabitants – from quark soup to the formation of galaxies and planets to the end of the life cycle of stars.

Günther Hasinger, after research positions in Germany and Hawaii, as well as serving as science director of the European Space Agency (ESA), has been the designated founding director of the German Center for Astrophysics since 2023.

Andreas Kossert

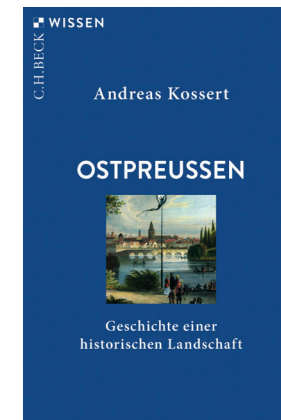
East Prussia

History of a Historical Landscape

East Prussia remains a place of longing for Germans to this day.

Although its rich cultural diversity was destroyed by nationalism and war, the history and mythology of this lost land still resonate today. Andreas Kossert, arguably the foremost expert on the region, provides a concise and vivid account of the history of what was once Germany's easternmost province, from the Middle Ages to the present day, in his wonderfully written overview.

Andreas Kossert lives and works as a historian and author in Berlin. His most recent book, *Flucht. Eine Menschheitsgeschichte* (Flight: A History of Humanity), won the NDR Kultur Nonfiction Prize 2020.



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2 illustrations
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2 maps
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Matthias B. Lehmann

Jewish History

From Antiquity to the Present Day

Jewish history reaches back around 2,500 years and has been a story of exile and diaspora from the beginning. Matthias B. Lehmann explains how the Jewish religion developed. He describes the flourishing of Jewish culture in the Islamic and Christian Middle Ages, expulsions in the late Middle Ages, new centers in Eastern Europe and the eastern Mediterranean, and the transition to a modern era that promised emancipation but brought new persecution. From this, new centers of Jewish life emerged in the USA and Israel.

The masterful overview allows us to rediscover a religion, culture, and nation that has shaped the Orient and Occident like no other minority.

Matthias B. Lehmann is a Professor of Modern Jewish Cultural and Social History and Director of the Martin Buber Institute at the University of Cologne. He is co-author of the standard work *The Jews. A History* (with John Efron and Steven Weitzman, ³2019).

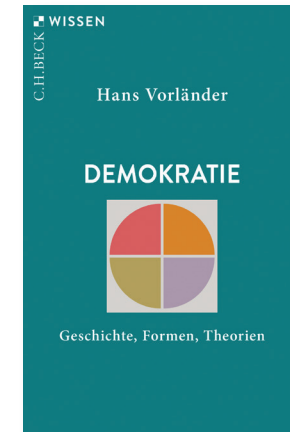
Hans Vorländer

Democracy

History, Forms, Theories

What defines a democracy? This book shows how democracy was invented in ancient times and how it has changed in the modern era. Immediate, direct democracy there, indirect, representative democracy here—these are the basic forms. Beyond that, theoretical models and actual democracies differ considerably from one another. The volume discusses all the central conditions, prerequisites, and current challenges of democracy.

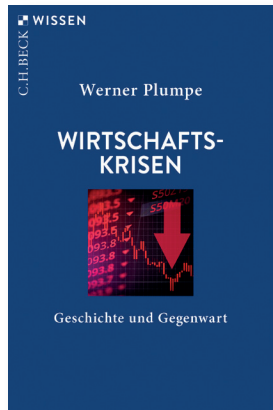
Hans Vorländer is a Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Constitutional and Democracy Research at the Technical University of Dresden.



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Werner Plumpe

Economic Crises

History and the Present Time

Economic crises are as much a part of capitalism as thunderstorms are part of a hot summer. They are the reverse side of its enormous growth momentum. This book provides a historical overview from the early modern crises of the 'type ancien' through the economic cycles of industrial capitalism and the upheavals of the interwar period to the crises of the present day.

Werner Plumpe is a Professor Emeritus of Economic and Social History at University in Frankfurt am Main.

Gert-Ludwig Ingold

Quantum Theory

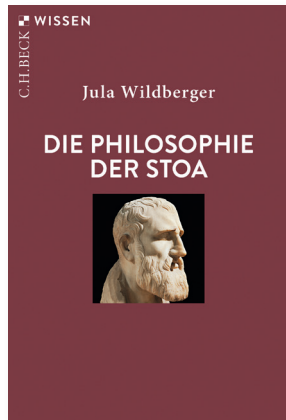
Fundamentals of Modern Physics

With his hypothesis that energy is not emitted continuously but in 'packets' – known as quanta – Max Planck heralded the era of quantum physics in 1900. His findings helped to explain familiar phenomena, but at the same time turned the familiar rules of classical mechanics upside down. Just as the world of quanta is never static and is constantly changing, research into it has fundamentally altered many physical concepts – and continues to do so, even 100 years later. Gert-Ludwig Ingold vividly describes the fundamentals of quantum theory and the historical background of its development, right up to the current development of quantum computers.

Gert-Ludwig Ingold is a Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Augsburg and conducts research primarily on quantum mechanical questions. He is co-author of the book *The 101 Most Important Questions – Modern Physics* (with Astrid Lambrecht, 2008).



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29 illustrations
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2025
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Julia Wildberger

The Philosophy of Stoicism

The central themes of Stoic philosophy are more relevant than ever: what is truly important in life and what is insignificant; freedom and self-determination in a deterministic world; God as the power of rationality and love, bringing people together in a global community; duty and virtue; psychotherapy and life coaching.

Julia Wildberger vividly and entertainingly recounts the success story of Stoicism, which began 2,400 years ago and continues to shape our thinking and actions today.

Julia Wildberger is a Professor Emerita of Classics at the American University of Paris and has been researching Stoicism as a philosophical theory and social practice for many years.

Bernhard Maier

History of Scotland

Although Scotland has been part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain for over 300 years, it remains very different from neighboring England in many ways. The landscape, language, and culture have their own character, and politics, religion, and society have often developed along different paths than in the southern neighbor. Bernhard Maier provides a concise and vivid overview of Scottish history from the Stone Age to the present day in this volume.

Bernhard Maier was a Professor of Celtic Studies in Aberdeen, Scotland, from 2004 to 2006 and has since taught as Professor of General Religious Studies and European Religious History at the University of Tübingen. His publications with C.H.Beck include: *Global History of Early Civilizations* (2024), *World History of Religions. From the Stone Age to the Present* (2018), *The Druids* (2009) and *Stonehenge* (2018)



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Heinz Halm

The Assassins

History of an Islamic Secret Society

The Assassins are notorious for their political assassinations – so much so that the word 'assassin' has become synonymous with 'murderer' in many languages. But who were the Assassins really? Heinz Halm describes how, in the 11th and 12th centuries, a Shiite secret society emerged. It was only the Mongols who succeeded in capturing the last fortress of the 'Old Man of the Mountain'. However, some communities survived. The followers of today's Aga Khan trace their origins back to them.

Heinz Halm was a Professor of Islamic studies at the University of Tübingen and is internationally regarded as one of the foremost experts on Shiite Islam. He has already published *Der Islam* (2018), *Die Araber* (2017) and *Die Schiiten* (2018) with C.H.Beck Wissen.

Friedemann Schrenk

The Early Days of Humankind

The Path to Homo sapiens

Africa was the cradle of prehistoric and primitive humans. That is why this continent is at the center of the science of fossil humans, paleoanthropology. Where and how paleoanthropologists work, what insights they have gained so far, and what new questions arise for modern humans from the results of their research are described in an understandable and exciting way in this volume.

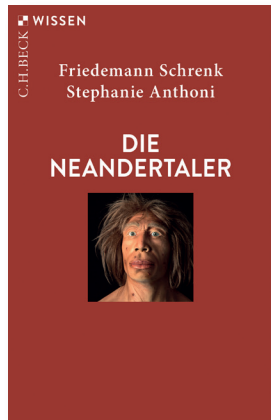
Friedemann Schrenk is a Professor of Vertebrate Paleobiology at the University of Frankfurt am Main and head of the Paleoanthropology Section at the Senckenberg Research Institute (Frankfurt/Main).



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Friedemann Schrenk | Stephanie Anthoni

The Neanderthals

Neanderthals are among the most mysterious relatives of Homo sapiens: were they dull, club-wielding brutes, or beings with This richly illustrated book provides competent and generally understandable information about the history, living conditions, and culture of Neanderthals.

Friedemann Schrenk is a Professor of vertebrate paleobiology at the University of Frankfurt am Main and head of the Paleoanthropology Section at the Senckenberg Research Institute (Frankfurt/Main).

Stephanie Anthoni worked in the paleoanthropology department of the Senckenberg Museum in the field of public understanding.

FICTION

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Martina Clavadetscher

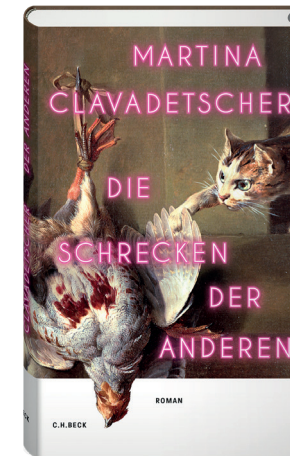
The Frights of Others

A Novel

How do you show something that everyone can see? Martina Clavadetscher, winner of the Swiss Book Prize and one of the most renowned German-language authors, makes the invisible elephant in the room visible and asks about the responsibility of literature. Skilfully told and full of impressive images, this novel's frightening topicality is already evident in its title: This could be anyone's story. In any country, at any time. As long as no one learns from the horrors of others.

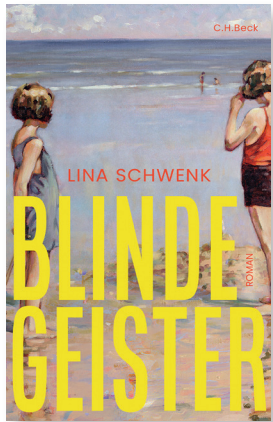
While ice-skating, a boy comes across a dead body in the ice, which marks the beginning of a series of events. Kern, a wealthy heir, can no longer ignore the fact that his eyesight is deteriorating. But does he even want to see clearly? Then there's Kern's centenarian mother, who spends most of the day in bed on the top floor of the villa yet still manages to pull the strings with brutal consistency. Then there's Schibig, a lonely archivist who gets swept away by Rosa, an old woman from a caravan who takes a spectacular interest in unspectacular events — because she understands that nothing ever comes to nothing, but that everything is connected: the dead man in the ice, the top-hat-wearing lords at the Adler inn, Kern's wife who refuses to eat chalk (to get pregnant), and a planned NS-memorial, money on Argentinian number accounts, menacing mountain dragons, and other persistent legends.

Martina Clavadetscher is a writer and playwright. After studying German literature, linguistics and philosophy, she worked for various German-language theatres. She was awarded the 2021 Swiss Book Prize for her previous novel.



2025
336 pages
Hardcover
€ 25.00

- Family secrets at the foot of the Frakmont - how a mysterious dead body in the ice leads to the dark side of Swiss history
- *Clavadetscher cleverly mixes various literary forms, plays with sound and rhythm and convinces with a precise and at the same time very poetic language.* — SRF, Luzia Stettler
- *A tribute to the primal human power of storytelling.* — From the laudation for the Swiss Book Prize



2025
208 pages
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€ 24.00

- A family novel set against the backdrop of contemporary German history
- *Poetically courageous and psychologically confident, Lina Schwenk tells of the fatal happiness drug of symbiotic closeness. A beguiling debut!* – Angelika Overath
- *Not a superfluous word, not a dispensable twist in Lina Schwenk's work.* – taz
- **Longlisted for the German Book Award (Deutscher Buchpreis)**

Lina Schwenk

Blind Ghosts

A Novel

In *Blind Ghosts*, Lina Schwenk tells a touching family story from the 1950s to the present day. In her haunting debut novel, she explores a period when urgent questions collide with profound silence.

Olivia, Rita and Karl's daughter, has always been aware of the adults' fear of another war after 1945, even though there has been peace in Germany for years. Karl persistently checks the pantry for supplies, and time and again the family seek refuge together in the cellar when their father fears the invasion of the Russians. For Olivia and her sister Martha, it's a game that they quietly submit to, partly because they have long known that their parents don't have the words to explain and that the more they ask, the louder the silence becomes. 'Soon I'll be dead,' thinks Olivia too, as her parents' anxiety gradually becomes her own. In her first flat of her own, Olivia misses the cellar - the small shelter of her childhood, which at least meant one thing: family time. She only realises the long cracks that extend from her parents to her generation, when she later tries to protect her own daughter from this feeling of threat. But then February 2022 arrives, and what previously seemed like a phantom suddenly becomes frighteningly real. *Blind Ghosts* is a multi-layered and moving novel that exposes deeply rooted fears against the backdrop of contemporary German history and explores the strange and enraptured in people with a keen instinct.

Lina Schwenk, born in Bochum in 1988, initially worked as a nurse and in medical refugee aid. She then studied medicine in Witten, St Etienne and Cardiff and has been working as a doctor ever since. Her texts have appeared in numerous anthologies. This text was nominated for the Alfred Döblin prize.

Jochen Schmidt

Hoplopoiia

A Novel

With *Hoplopoiia*, Jochen Schmidt paints a trenchant portrait of society that shows the excessive demands placed on people in our fast-paced present, while repeatedly looking at his hapless hero Sparka with merciless humour.

While everything changes far too quickly, Richard Sparka can only look on in amazement and resignation. His relationship with Klara is over, his children are growing up and his parents are getting old. Life in the town where he was born and which has always been his home also seems increasingly impossible. The newspaper stand in his favourite late-night shop has had to make way for a shelf of crisps - nothing less than a disaster for Richard. He is convinced that the hip new ice cream shop around the corner will change his neighbourhood until the rents are unaffordable. How do others manage to keep their heads above water in the face of these drastic developments? Another topic is his school 'career' in the GDR: Does this education in a strict regime have an impact on his helplessness today?

Hoplopoiia is a clever, profound and hilarious view of the world by a masterful doubter who has by no means given up the search for the right life.

Jochen Schmidt was born in Berlin in 1970 and lives there. Several novels have already been published by C.H.Beck. His novel *Phlox* (2022) was nominated for the German Book Prize.



2025

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2025
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- From the often unbearable distance to those who are closest to us and the desperate desire to catch up on love
- About a farewell to Turkey and a new beginning in Germany

Fikri Anil Altıntaş

Between Us Is August

A Novel

The literary exploration of a mother-son relationship, which is both farewell and rapprochement.
– Christian Dittloff

Altıntaş writes with such a big heart as you rarely encountered in this country. – Daniela Dröscher

Between us is August tells the story of a Turkish-German family. An adult son loses his mother. In the weeks leading up to her death, everyday life sets the rhythm: cooking, waiting in hospital corridors, hoping and mourning. Stories creep into everyday life. The ones that have always been told and the ones that shine through behind them. What does the son, at home in Germany, know about his mother's youth in Turkey?

While Anil and his family in the present try to understand the impact their mother's approaching death has had on them all, Mürüvvet, the woman his mother once was, searches for memories back to her life in Aydin in western Turkey in 1973. In the midst of political upheaval, she does everything she can to stop her father from taking her to Germany. She fears for her dreams, until the thought of Germany will not let her go.

Fikri Anil Altıntaş, born in Wetzlar in 1992, lives and works in Berlin. In his texts, including for ZEIT, taz, Deutschlandfunk Kultur, ZDF and Berliner Ensemble, he deals with masculinities, anti-feminism and the (de)construction of non-white, Muslim-read masculinities in Germany. He has a large following on social media under @_faanil. His debut novel *Im Morgen wächst ein Birnbaum* was published in 2023.

Markus Thielemann

A Thunder Rolling In From The North

Paperback Edition

An exceptional, clever and literary highly interesting book. – SWR Kultur, Christoph Schröder

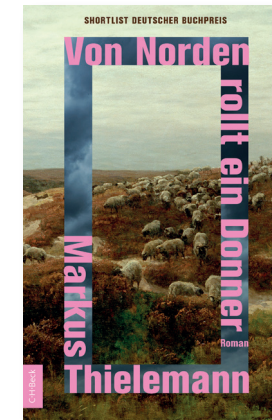
Thielemann portrays a world in upheaval. – FAZ, Tilman Spreckelsen

This is how we like German social novels: clever, multi-layered and slightly creepy...

– TikTok@BR_literally, Knut Cordsen

The wolf is back on the Lüneburg Heath. And while Jannes – like his father and grandfather – herds his sheep across the heathland every day, emotions run high in the village, the wolf is back. Sheep killings increase and with them conflicts in the village, which quickly become political. While ethnic settlers try to hijack the issue for their own purposes, the situation escalates and threatens to escalate into vigilante justice, Jannes takes refuge with his sheep on the heath. But there, a ghostly encounter suddenly opens up the dark history of the village, which casts its long shadow into the present. Can homeland security justify violence? Where it is primarily about wolf politics, he soon encounters hatred, nationalist ideology – and a profound silence. *A Thunder Rolling In From The North* is a search for clues in the West German provinces, the story of a fragile 'original German' idyll.

Markus Thielemann, born in 1992, lives in Hanover. He studied geography and philosophy in Osnabrück, then literary writing in Hildesheim. *Von Norden rollt ein Donner* is his second novel and was shortlisted for the German Book Prize in 2024.



2025
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Karl Schlögel for *The Soviet Century* – Peace Prize of the German Book Trade

'In his work, Karl Schlögel combines empirical historiography with personal experiences,' the Foundation Board explained its decision.

He impressively describes Ukraine as part of Europe and calls for the country to be defended for the sake of our common future. His warning to us: Without a free Ukraine, there can be no peace in Europe.

From the Foundation Board's statement

Fricke Prize for historian Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk

The Federal Foundation for the Reappraisal of the SED Dictatorship announced that the prize honors his long-standing commitment to critically examining the GDR's past and his active participation in social discourse. Ilko-Sascha Kowalczyk has written several books on German reunification and a biography of Walter Ulbricht, the long-time leader of the GDR.

The Fricke Prize is endowed with 20,000 euros

Ewald Frie for *A Barn and Eleven Children* - German Nonfiction Prize

'With his astonishingly simple yet poetic language, Frie provides access to a world in transition – always empathetic, but never nostalgic. Based on interviews with his siblings, Ewald Frie has written a profound yet accessible and entertaining historical non-fiction book. This everyday story starts with easily overlooked details and develops into big ideas. An inspiring example of innovative historiography.'

Ewald Frie for *A Barn and Eleven Children* - Friedrich Schiedel Literature Prize 2025

With just a few strokes, using meaningful scenes and examples, he shows how his parents' world collapsed, how his siblings pursued different lifestyles, and how general social change swept across the country. *'The description of this historical phenomenon fits the purpose of the award very well, especially in view of the personal career of the founder, Senator Friedrich Schiedel,'* the jury agreed when making its selection. *'Frie combines the scientific documentation and analysis of the historian with the sensitive literary description of his own rural homeland, thus offering the reader the opportunity to understand themselves in the present through their own past. The great success of the work in bookstores speaks for itself!'*

Lina Schwenk has been nominated for the 2025 Alfred Döblin Prize

Established in 1979 by Günter Grass and awarded every two years for an unfinished prose manuscript, the prize is organized by the Academy of Arts and the Literary Colloquium Berlin and, in the spirit of its founder, commemorates Döblin as one of the most versatile writers of modern times. The Alfred Döblin Prize will be awarded for the 25th time this year and is endowed with 15,000 euros.

Swiss Book Prize 2024 for Zora del Buono for her novel *Seinetwegen*

Seinetwegen by Zora del Buono has been awarded the Swiss Book Prize 2024. The jury's statement reads:

Zora del Buono has written a text that affects everyone, even though it deals with the death of her father. He died in a car accident when she was eight months old. Sixty years later, the author sets out to find his 'killer.' With surprising ease, she interweaves statistics, court documents, and scenes from her life in this densely composed research novel. In her own unique language, del Buono explores the questions of guilt, loss, and reconciliation. 'Seinetwegen' is a quiet, unpretentious text full of existential power.