

**16TH
ASIA-PACIFIC CONFERENCE
OF GERMAN BUSINESS**



CONFERENCE REPORT



1–3 November 2018

Jakarta, Indonesia



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Energy



WORD OF THANKS

The exchange with our partners in the Asia-Pacific region is core to German business for dealing with today's global challenges. I will remember the 16th APK as an event that allowed participants to do just that: At the conference we put issues on the table and discussed in an open way what needs to be done. Of course, that has been the objective of the APK since its inception, but arguably this objective has never been as important as this year. We touched on a broad range of issues, including looming trade wars, Asian and European infrastructure initiatives and how to approach them – either as business opportunities or as hegemonic political projects – and the unpredictable trajectory of digitalization.

Leaders from business and politics in Asia-Pacific and Germany met in Jakarta from 1 to 3 November 2018 at the invitation of the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) and the German Chambers of Industry and Commerce in Asia-Pacific (AHK). As the local organizer, the German-Indonesian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (EKONID) prepared the ground for more than two days of panel discussions, high-level meetings, networking opportunities and colourful Indonesian entertainment. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the organizing committee for this remarkable achievement. I am also grateful to Bertelsmann Stiftung for organizing again the Asia-Europe Young Leaders Forum and allowing up-and-coming decision makers to meet and discuss among each other and with leading politicians and CEOs. I greatly appreciate the contribution of all speakers, session chairs, moderators and participants who came to Jakarta and joined us for the APK.

For me personally, the most important learning from the APK in Jakarta is that Germany's cooperation with like-minded countries needs to be deepened and extended. A global coalition of liberal and free-trading countries needs to be built to join voices and convince those who have turned away from cooperation and openness. The Oxford-style debate on free trade provided an excellent setting to bring the related controversies to the APK. Even though the free trade-team won the argument, the points raised by the critics of the current trade system highlighted urgently the timeless relevance of the social and human-centred dimension in the world economy.

Another controversy at the APK had the business potential of China's Belt-and-Road Initiative at its heart. It became clear that, for now, the initiative seems to have too many elements of a one-way street. However, the panellists disagreed on whether engagement is sufficient to ensure that BRI benefits more than one country. The debate on the opportunities and limits of engagement with China will certainly continue until the next APK to be held in Tokyo.

The closing speech in Jakarta was my last appearance at the APK as Chairman of the APA. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Committee in a rapidly changing international environment. The three APKs I co-chaired – Ho Chi Minh City, Hong Kong and Jakarta – not only reflected the discourse about the international developments at the time, they also ensured that our responses were built on personal contacts and friendships between Germany and the Asia-Pacific. The APK will continue to be one of our most relevant platforms for these vital personal ties.

Hubert Lienhard

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business



MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRMAN

” This is the 16th APK already, proving its success as a platform for dialogue between policy-makers and business representatives from all over the Asia-Pacific and from Germany.

Peter Altmaier

German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy



” When it comes to the topics of the future that connect Asia and Europe, I cannot think of a better place to discuss trends and to promote international cooperation and rule-based trade than at the Asia-Pacific Conference 2018.

Eric Schweitzer

President, Association of German Chambers of
Commerce and Industry (DIHK)





MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRMAN

„ German business will continue to advocate open markets and transparency in investment and government procurement. To safeguard this, we need a new consensus on open trade that benefits business and people alike. To get there we will get into a close dialogue with business, politics, civil society and academia. We will seek an alliance of like-minded countries and partners. This APK is such a dialogue platform.

Hubert Lienhard

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business



„ We are meeting here for the Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business at the most interesting moment in human history: We have never before witnessed such tremendous growth of wealth and of the middle class in Asia.

Thomas Lembong

Chairman of Indonesia's Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM)



Filtr: Peter Altmaier, Thomas Lembong, Jürgen Fitschen, Mathias Cormann

MINISTERS' DIALOGUE

Why is there such a big disparity between stable global economic growth on the one hand and rising political uncertainty on the other? The system of globalization needs to be improved in order to curb populism and protectionism.

„ We need to reach everyone, especially those who feel to have lost touch with the middle class as a result of globalization.

Peter Altmaier

German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy

„ The concept of “soziale Marktwirtschaft” is more important than ever.

Thomas Lembong

Chairman of Indonesia's Investment Coordinating Board

COMMON ANSWERS TO COMMON PROBLEMS

Phenomena like populism, nationalism and protectionism are on the rise globally – in developed and developing countries alike. We all sit in one boat, no country can deal with the problems of globalization alone. Developed and developing countries have to work together to get globalization right. In times of heated great power competition between China and the US, reforming and expanding the rules-based international trade system is all the more important.

REACHING THE LEFT-BEHIND

While elites are globally connected as never before, more needs to be done to connect people on a broader scale. We need to get better at helping people who are at the losing end of global competition. But protecting dying industries is not a solution. Protectionism makes industries less, not more, competitive. Structural change and people's transitions from one sector to another need to be managed better. The panel agreed that this challenge is not only about investing in areas such as education or infrastructure, but also about creating a sense of community.



Fitr: Klaus Rosenfeld, Prof. Jinhua Zhao, Grace Chng, Dieter Zetsche, Ayesha Khanna

MOBILITY OF THE FUTURE

For several generations the concept of individual car ownership has deeply shaped consumers, companies and cities. The emergence of automated and smart mobility solutions will bring profound changes to all of them.

” *We need more democratic access to mobility.*

Ayesha Khanna
ADDO AI

” *You cannot solve the current problems of mobility in two dimensions – you need a third one. The era of drones starts now, not in ten years.*

Dieter Zetsche
Daimler

WILL ALL CARS SOON BE SELF-DRIVING AND ELECTRIFIED?

We still have to wait a decade or so before fully autonomous self-driving cars will be in wide use. However, partially automated cars, intelligent assistant systems and concepts like car sharing will already have a huge impact in coming years. Traffic will become much safer, cars will turn into third spaces between office and home and parking will turn into stopping, opening up new opportunities for city planners. The panel agreed that the combustion engine will still be around for some time. As long as electricity production is not emission free, e-cars won't solve the emission problem.

WHAT ROLE WILL CARS PLAY ANYWAY?

Especially over longer distances trains are much more efficient than cars to transport people. But even the most advanced high speed rail systems don't solve the problem of congested Megacities. Only a mix of different platforms such as cars, busses, trains, subways, airplanes and drones as well as the use of artificial intelligence and big data will be able to improve the current situation.

CONNECTING EUROPE AND ASIA: BELT AND ROAD & BEYOND



CONNECTING ASIA AND EUROPE: BELT AND ROAD & BEYOND

Debates on the various strategies to further connect Europe and Asia should include more than just China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), but of course BRI tends to be the elephant in the room.

” The Belt and Road Initiative addresses 90 countries. Siemens has been in each of these countries for at least 50 years. We have the trust of those nations. BRI is a 100% opportunity for our company!

Joe Kaeser
Siemens

” Belt and Road is a one way street – and that is no coincidence. It is win-win, but China wins twice.

Reinhard Bütikofer
Member of the European Parliament

WIN-WIN OR WINNING TWICE

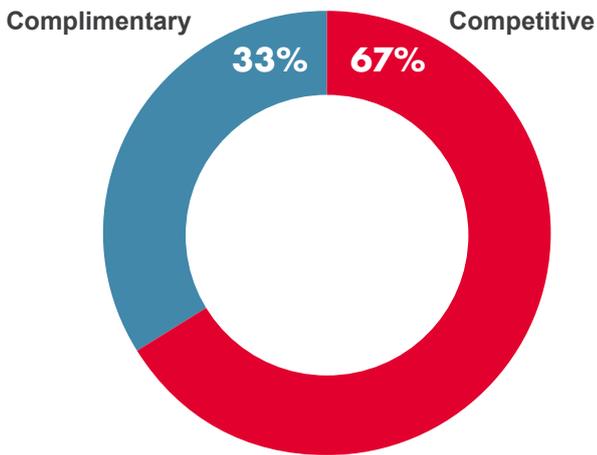
There is enough reason for optimism that international companies will contribute significantly to all kinds of infrastructure developments, but only if a common set of standards is enforced. Partner countries like Indonesia are well aware of the chances and risks, but they will not simply snap at the bait of quick financing. Instead they are now starting to define and consider their own interests. Otherwise the Chinese “win-win”-concept could lead to “China winning twice”.

LACK OF UNDERSTANDING

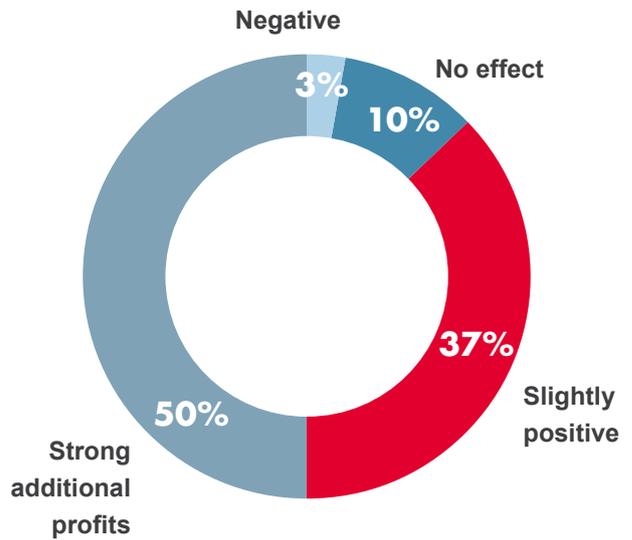
Alternatives do exist: The Japan-India approach with the Free and Open Indo-Pacific Corridor. Or the EU's strategy of “Connectivity” with a focus on three key elements for infrastructure projects: sustainability, transparency and rule-based procurement. The intention is to add a “human dimension” to the fields of energy, transport and digital infrastructure. Even though discussions on those questions have been going on for quite some time, one has to admit that there is still a sizable lack of comprehensive understanding regarding the different approaches.

APK LIVE POLLING RESULTS

WHAT WILL BE THE RELATION BETWEEN THE VARIOUS INITIATIVES TO CONNECT EUROPE AND ASIA AND OTHER REGIONS?



CONNECTING EUROPE AND ASIA – WHAT WILL BE THE EFFECT ON YOUR COMPANY’S BUSINESS?





Fitr: Jeff Schumacher, Cathrina Claas-Mühlhäuser, Michael Kleinemeier, Anne Patricia Sutanto, Clas Neumann

INDUSTRIE 4.0

The APK has been closely following Industrie 4.0 and the Internet of Things as two major trends in industrial production over the past years. While these trends shape industry, they are themselves shaped by new technologies and a growing efficiency through new developments, such as blockchain, as well as the industries they are applied to.

” Infrastructure is a problem, we don’t have 5G coverage in the countryside.

Cathrina Claas-Mühlhäuser
CLAAS

STEP AHEAD

Digitization in the automation of processes with the predictable environment that machines provide differs from the same processes in industries where many factors are not calculable, for instance the weather or plant growth in agriculture. The garment industry with its very own and distinctive processes is no less complex. Companies here – as in all industries – face the challenge of always being one step ahead of the market.

TO DFINITY AND BEYOND

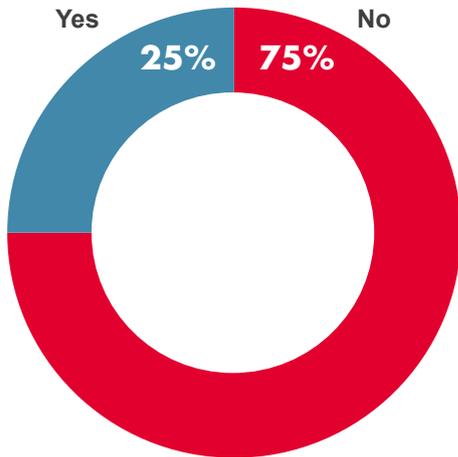
The near future will keep bringing new developments and fundamental shifts on the digital side. The most important being Dfinity, a blockchain-based cloud computing project that could revolutionize industry in a way comparable to the discovery of electricity. To profit from these developments, companies need to be aware of their own processes. Knowing your own value chain well is essential. A passionate and educated workforce is one more key element to success. Industrie 4.0 does not necessarily entail a loss of jobs but it requires the initiation of upscaling the workforce.

” Blockchain will quadruple over the next 18 months.

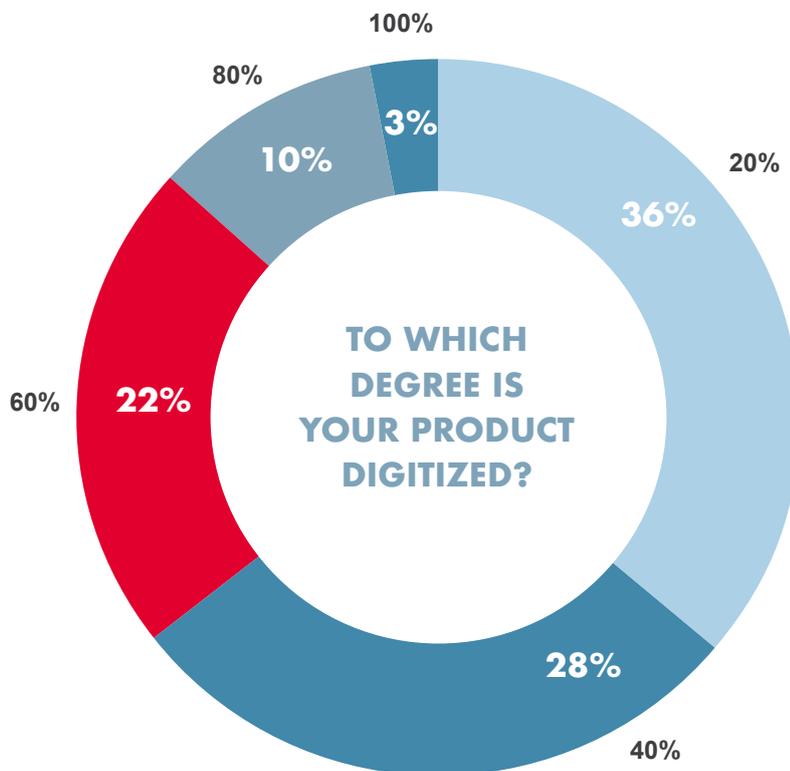
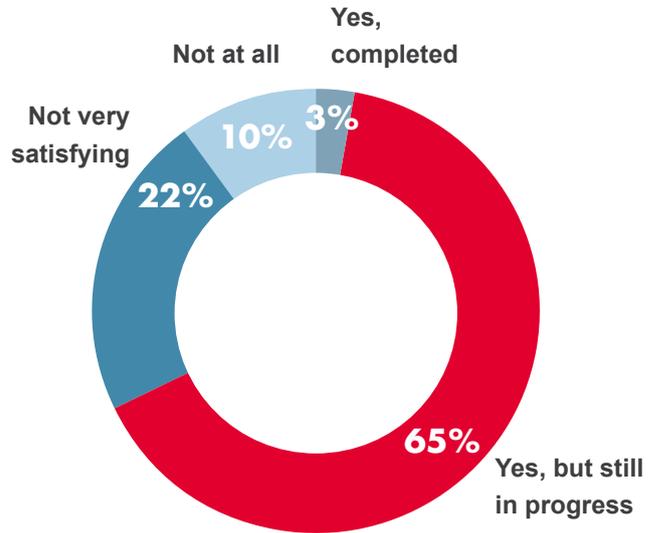
Jeff Schumacher
BCG Digital Ventures

APK LIVE POLLING RESULTS

DOES YOUR COMPANY MAKE FULL USE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES OF DIGITALIZATION?



DID THE DIGITALIZATION EFFORTS IN YOUR COMPANY IN THE LAST 2 YEARS FULFILL THE PROMISE?





Fotr: Arundhati Bhattacharya, Werner Steinmüller, Tor Pramoj, Edna Schöne, Joachim von Amsberg

INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING IN ASIA

In the Asia-Pacific region there is a need for infrastructure investment in streets, tracks, harbours, airports and energy supply. On the one hand, and sufficient funds for investment, on the other. The basic question is how to bridge this gap. What is keeping companies and banks from investing?

” We need financial engineering: start early, engage with all involved parties and plan ahead!

Werner Steinmüller
Deutsche Bank

RISK COCKTAILS

Two main barriers can be identified. First, the long-term nature of projects (five, ten, 15 years or more), with the risk of changing circumstances, for instance a new government changing the (legal) framework or withdrawing support. Second, return on investment in local currency (risks of inflation, lack of convertibility and/or depth of local banking system) while payments have to be made in Euro or US dollars, adding up to an uncertain or simply too low return on investment to match those risks. Infrastructure projects thus represent a risk cocktail for which investors have little appetite. There is also an unlevel playing field since some countries assume greater risks and enable investors to offer better conditions.

INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS

The solution is not to overcome one obstacle only. Instead, an ecosystem needs to be built for successful infrastructure project financing, reducing risks. This can only be achieved with the involvement of businesses, governments, lawyers and, last but not least, banks. The support of the government in the buyer country is key. Sustainability and a positive return on investment are further major factors.

PROF CARLO RATTI

DIRECTOR, SENSEABLE CITY LAB, MIT

PROF HIROO ICHIKAWA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE MORI MEMORIAL
FOUNDATION

SMART AND SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION

FRANK AP

CEO, DEUTSCHE

CEDRIK NEIKE

MEMBER OF THE MANAGING BOARD,
SIEMENS

PROF CHAN HENG CHEE

AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE,
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Filtr: Cedrik Neike, Prof. Hiroo Ichikawa, Prof. Carlo Ratti, Frank Appel, Prof. Chan Heng Chee

SMART AND SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION: MAKING CITIES WORK

The United Nations predicts that 66 per cent of the world's population will live in cities by 2050. Smart city initiatives can help offset this migration challenge by providing more efficient services and enhance quality of life for people in these metropolises.

” Delivery via drones is no longer a fairy tale and yes, machines are becoming more and more intelligent. But, the biggest problem remains the reliability of internet quality. Therefore, the question is: Is everything that is technical feasible really going to happen?

Frank Appel

Deutsche Post DHL

PEOPLE AT THE CITY'S CENTRE

People must move into the centre of the debate, meaning that individual communities within the city matter. The key to success is not simply having people live in the same locality but fostering common interests and identities. This relates to living, working, producing, and researching – a city administration must create a community spirit to ensure the security and well-being of its people, ultimately also to compete for talent. To become a smart city, collecting data is key. Data must be privately owned but at the same time should be traded to optimize a city's infrastructure. The security of data – both, personal and public – is crucial for reliable processes and safety. The question is no longer if hacking occurs, but how an administration deals with it in a timely and effective way.

FOUR KEYS TO SUCCESS

The most pressing issues for cities to become smart and sustainable are 1) energy generation, as buildings offer the biggest potential to save energy, 2) distribution of goods, 3) optimizing consumption and 4) an efficient interaction within the Internet of Things. A city's operating system may have 1000 components that need to interact flawlessly with each other. The most important components are again the people and their basic needs, such as clean drinking water and safe food supplies. To make a smart city work, its people must ultimately understand and share the idea and the benefits.



Fltr: Monika Stärk, Ralf Wintergerst, Sanjeev Gandhi

INNOVATING IN ASIA

Innovation, made in Asia-Pacific, continues to drive new business models and shake up the competition. Asia sets the standards for innovation.

German companies will have to adjust to the new normal of Asian innovation and develop concurrent strategies.

” *When it comes to innovating in Asia, speed is the most important factor.*

Sanjeev Gandhi
BASF

” *Looking ahead, I wish Germany more courage to take risks and drive innovation – not just to respond to innovation.*

Ralf Wintergerst
Giesecke+Devrient

A BALANCING ACT

Asia has been dominating the innovation sphere for the past five years. As experts delve into the particulars of the innovation landscape and culture in the Asia-Pacific, one key take-away materializes. Innovation is not just about digitalization at all costs – cutting-edge businesses will have to perform a difficult balancing act: learn to expertly maneuver our new digital age by digitizing while maintaining established tangible brick and mortar solutions to real world problems.

THE DRAGON IN THE ROOM

When it comes to the role of regulation as an innovation driver, opinions are much more varied: The dragon in the room is China, as registered patents reach new soaring heights and innovation made in China is already a foregone conclusion – all under the auspices of centralized government. Are top-down approaches to innovation the way forward? It depends, but whether regulation is a catalyst or hindrance: companies need to start to learn from each other and cooperate more efficiently and adjust to Asia’s local needs to remain competitive. And German companies? They urgently need to adjust to Asia’s innovation speed – or risk getting left behind.



Ftr: Kelvin Gin, Peter Tyroller, Nobuko Kobayashi

ASIA'S CONSUMER OF THE FUTURE

While the middle classes in the Western world seem to be an increasingly “endangered species”, in Asia-Pacific they are the substrate for profound changes in consumer behavior.

” Youth is the fuel of growth and the driver of change.

Peter Tyroller
Bosch

” The old retail model no longer works – you need a platform.

Fabian von Heimburg
Hotnest Technology

APPS ARE MOST APT FOR ASIA

The numbers are impressive: By 2030, two-thirds of the global middle classes will be in Asia, only one-fifth in Europe and the US. There are, of course, huge differences between the various Asia-Pacific markets in terms of age structure, income levels and disparities as well as data protection rules. What Asian consumers have in common is a strong preference for human-to-human-interaction (H2H). Clearly, it is digital and mobile applications that meet this disposition best as a mediator between service providers and people. They lay the foundation for new business practices suitable for highly tribalized customers.

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

What matters most is the use of “micro-moments” to signal the consumers the centrality of his or her needs and desires. Modern technologies can help to empower Asians to consume – particularly in rural and remote areas, e.g. in Indonesia. Small businesses in Asia also benefit from “mobile-first”-platforms, because they significantly lower market entry barriers. The lesson for global players and other companies alike: to catch up with the rapid pace of transformation, firms must build smaller and more independent operational units with the freedom to experiment and the ability to integrate partners with specific expertise.



NEW BUSINESS PRACTICES IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Adapting to a digitalized world requires changes at various levels. These changes will have far-reaching effects on a company's existing patterns, habits, structures and processes. But this change must start with people.

” We need to re-start listening. The alpha boss model is not working anymore – join the new.

Holger Bingmann
Melo Group and BGA-President

” A combination of traditional leadership and new approaches, like incubator models, can be effective ways for businesses to transform.

Jan Rinnert
Heraeus

NOW HIRING DIGITAL NATIVES

Digital natives play a crucial role for adapting to a digital world. For it is they who will make full use of the digital opportunities and create disruptive business models. Companies are well advised to rely on them in order to acquire new capabilities to be fit for the future.

A CLOSING WINDOW

Digital solutions intensify competition by simplifying market access. Those solutions lead to cross-industry convergence and to the blurring of boundaries between the sectors. Trading companies that start manufacturing and offer related services are becoming more and more important for industry. The knowledge about suppliers and customers is becoming ubiquitous and transparent. The digital age offers great opportunities if tackled appropriately. But the window of opportunity to master the digital revolution and reap the digital dividends is closing. That is why it is imperative to think and act across boundaries when entering the digital world.



Ftr: Prof. Axel Stepken, Katsumi Nakata, Clas Neumann

TEC TALK: CYBER (VS.) SECURITY

Production processes, value chains and customer relations are digitizing at an ever faster pace. More and more devices are being connected, by 2020 it will be 50 billion. While companies focus on the upsides and reap the benefits of this trend, the challenges tend to be forgotten.

CYBER SECURITY ATTACKS HAVE FATAL IMPACTS

This amnesia occurs despite the fact that cyber-attacks can have dramatic impacts on a company. It is still comparatively easy to hack corporate, critical or public infrastructure in many places. In May 2017, the WannaCry ransomware attacked computers globally. Organizations and companies such as the NHS, Hitachi, Deutsche Bank and Maersk fell victim to the attack. As a consequence, some of the companies had to re-install their whole IT-system.

PRECAUTIONS NEED TO BE TAKEN

Some of these attacks could have been prevented with basic IT-precautions, some will require more expensive measures. Skilling employees is one crucial step, as humans are the major leakage for cyber-attacks. Only when these attacks are reduced or best prevented, will customers have trust in digital processes. And only then will they judge digitization positively.

” Cybersecurity must become an integral part of our society and economy.

Prof. Axel Stepken
TÜV Süd



Fitr: Thomas Wolf, Junji Tsuda, Ali Aslan, Phenix Qin, Jörg Bienert

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: TRENDS IN ASIA AND EUROPE

Success in the application of AI needs a large pool of accurate data. For Europe, an option is to establish designated data labs where companies and organizations can use the data in a secure environment while respecting the European Data Protection Law (GDPR).

” Europe should join forces, strengthen investments and make a commitment to developing and using regional platforms.

Jörg Bienert
President of the German AI Association

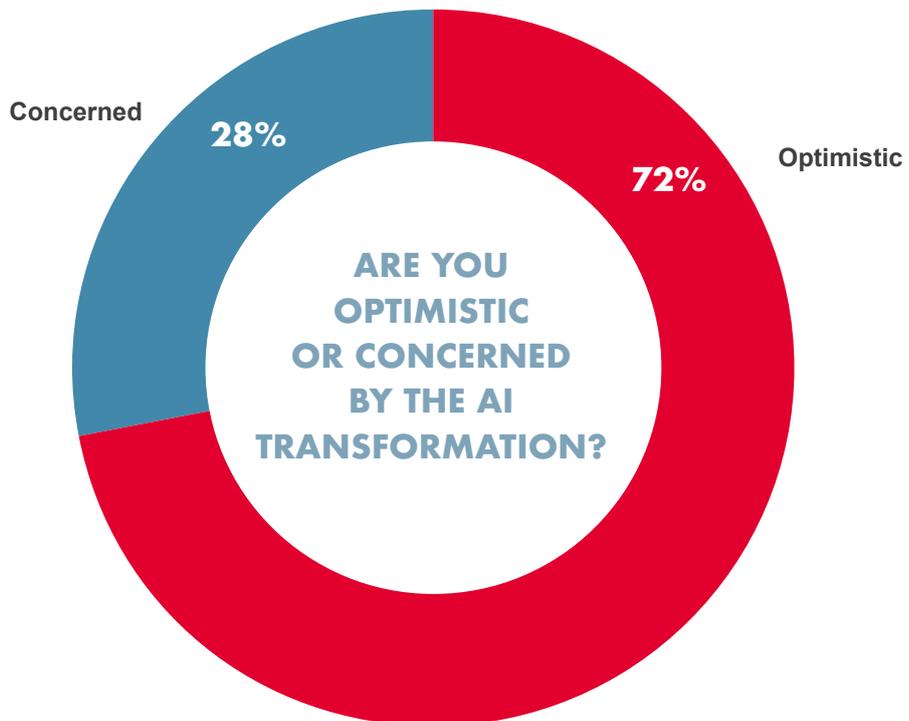
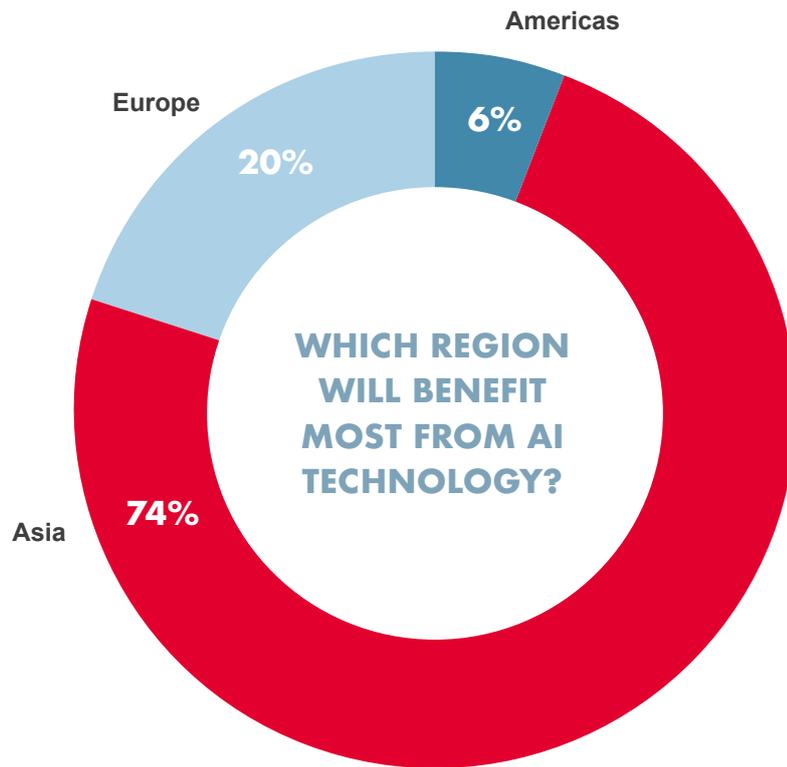
DRAWING FROM THE DATA POOL

Other countries put fewer or almost no restrictions on the gathering and the availability of data. China is likely to further develop the idea of connected industries with open platforms and open digitalization to benefit from the immense pool of data already being collected. Across the East China Sea, Japan emphasizes the use of AI in diverse consumer and supply chain applications.

FUELING THE JOB MACHINE

For all countries, the availability of talent is a major challenge. The currently limited number of AI specialists leads to exploding wages. It is pivotal to change and adapt education and qualification to the requirements of AI-driven industries in all countries. AI can be a job machine, and with the right culture behind it, will be beneficial to society. An active approach in developing the labor market, improving production efficiency and re-designing industry processes in an AI-friendly way are necessary steps towards a successful implementation of AI.

APK LIVE POLLING RESULTS



THE GLOBAL TRADE SYSTEM IS BROKEN

CHRISTIAN FELBER

INITIATOR OF THE "ECONOMY FOR THE COMMON GOOD"-MOVEMENT



Fltr: Prof. Dieter Kempf, Mathias Cormann, Nicholas Farrelly, Pankaj Mishra, Christian Felber

AN OXFORD-STYLE DEBATE ON TRADE POLICY

Populism and nationalism are on the rise. Many share the distinct feeling that trade has something to do with that upsurge. They argue that free trade has led to inequalities, failing to meet fundamental human needs. Liberals respond by arguing that free trade delivers growth and wealth and that other factors underlie the global political upheaval.

” *The only way to grow is to cheat – every economic power cheated to grow!*

Pankaj Mishra
Author of “Age of Anger”

” *China did not grow because of protectionism, but in spite of it. It was sufficiently open to reap benefits from global trade.*

Prof. Dieter Kempf
President, BDI

SUCCESS STORIES

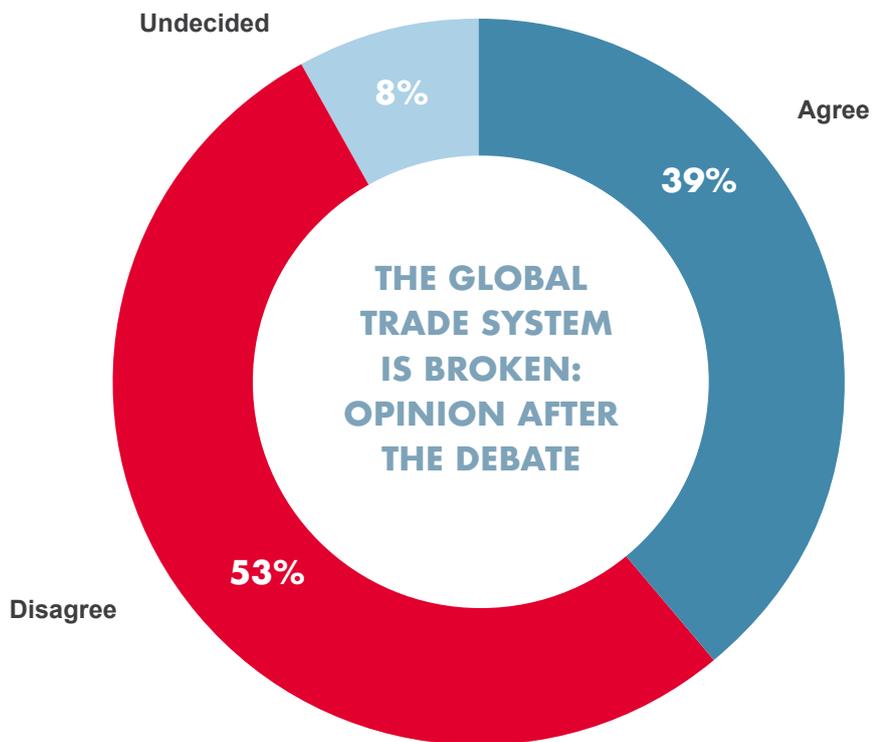
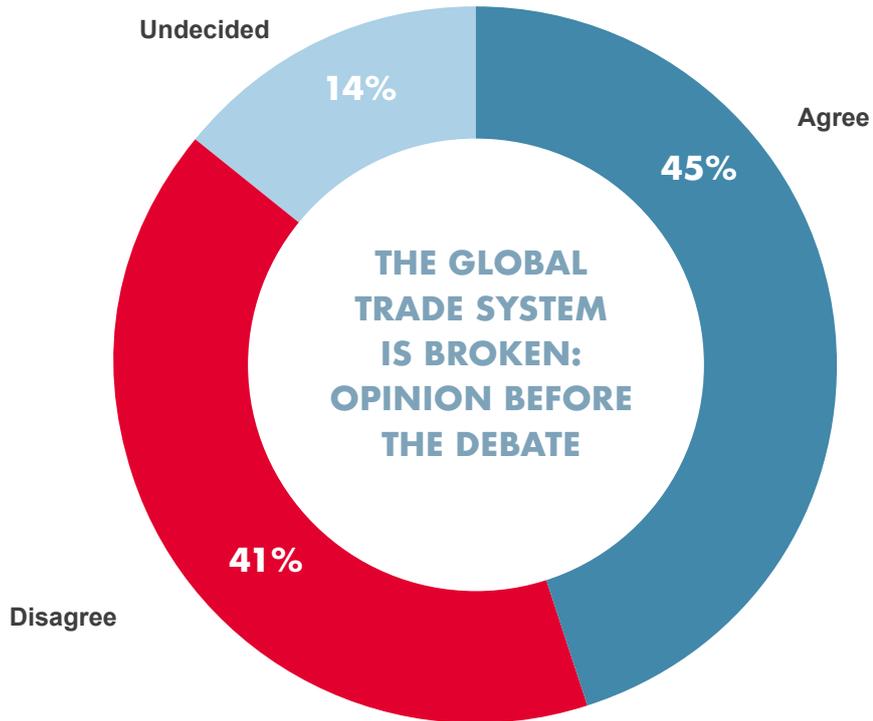
For the better part of the 20th century, Australia embraced protectionism, using means such as export controls to protect its industries. It was only after Australia embraced free trade in the early 1990s that the country began to write its success story of a 27-year run of recession-free growth. Vietnam is another positive example for free trade: Since the country eased restrictions on trade and investment, Vietnam was lifted from the ranks of the poorest countries to middle-income status.

STATE OF DENIAL

However, in other parts of the world people are voicing their anger about globalization. The U.S. is a case in point. On the other side of the Pacific, China lifted millions of people out of poverty while not practicing free trade. The defenders of free trade are accused of being in a state of denial for not acknowledging these facts.

What seems to emerge from this debate is that trade alone is not sufficient to explain economic and political stability. It needs to be complemented by a proper social security net that takes care of those who find it difficult to participate in the global economy: The solution may be a social market economy.

APK LIVE POLLING RESULTS





Fltr: Hubert Lienhard, Ali Aslan, Darell Leiking

TRADE POLICY TALK: THE WAY FORWARD

Among the cacophony of voices in the debate on free trade, it seems as if the simple arguments are the ones that are currently most successful. The world is complicated, but some political leaders and social media give short answers to complex questions.

” The question is if we have a problem with free trade or with education. Many people are just not fit for employment, they lose their old jobs and cannot enter new jobs.

Hubert Lienhard

Chairman, Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business

” What is fair depends on if you are a developed or a developing country.

Darell Leiking

Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia

NO SINGLE SOLUTION

The attempt to make the world a better place drives all of us, but the answers differ. In this context, the limited attention span of today's media consumers and the intricacies of globalization are a mismatch. How to convince people of the need for more global cooperation and open markets in a time of WeChat, Twitter and Facebook is a key question that begs for an answer. Neither nationalism nor a central organization can fix every aspect of globalization that needs fixing.

EDUCATION IS KEY

It is easy to blame free trade and the relocation of factories and jobs to less costly production sites for the feeling of marginalization among U.S. voters in the mid-West, for instance. It is more difficult to correlate that feeling with national educational policies that do not prepare workers for jobs in new economic sectors. Making people fit for employment, allowing every nation to use its workforce to the fullest and within the individual national context of technological development is key.



Fltr: John Garnaut, Prof. Takashi Terada, Walter J. Lindner, Prof. John Blaxland, Siswo Pramono

POLITICAL STABILITY AND SECURITY IN ASIA-PACIFIC

Security in the Asia-Pacific region continues to be heavily influenced by how the U.S. and China position themselves vis-à-vis one another. Other nations within this sphere of competing interests feel increasingly uneasy and forced to take a position. Liberal countries in particular are looking for value partners to put forth their own agenda for freedom and prosperity.

” We Australians are nervous as hell. Our principal trading partner – China – is not our ally. This is the schizophrenia of Australia.

Prof. John Blaxland
Head of Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University

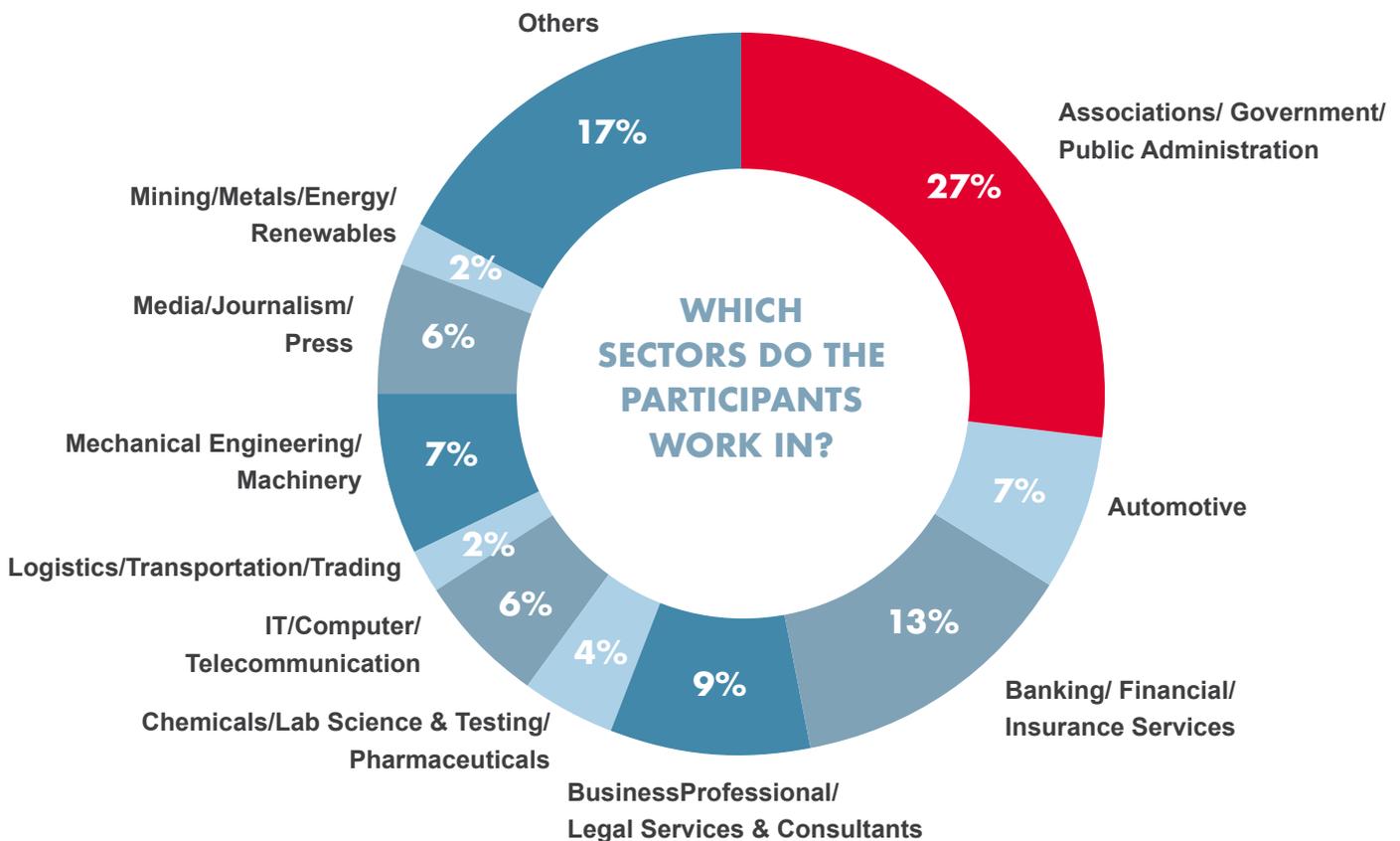
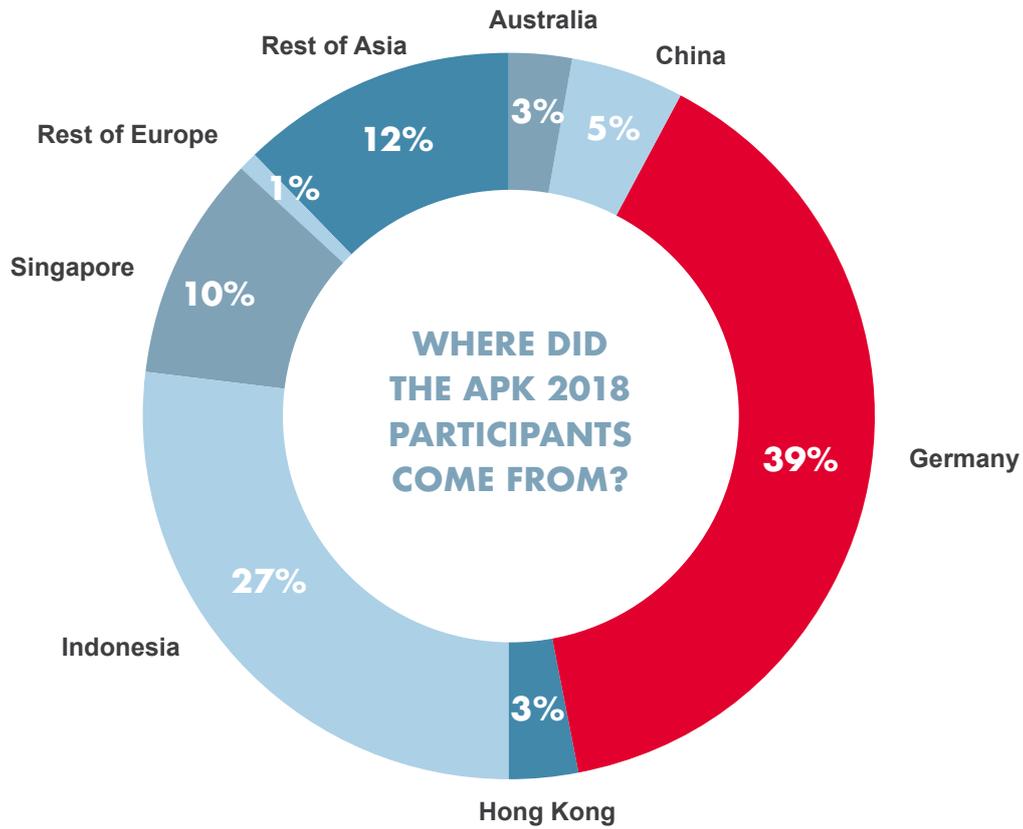
MORE GERMAN INVOLVEMENT

A consensus among liberal-democratic countries in the region seems to be that a common response is needed in the face of a great power game. In this common approach, Japan is the partner of choice in East Asia, Australia and New Zealand in the Pacific region, and Indonesia in Southeast Asia. On their end, all these countries agree that Germany should be more involved in the region.

FRIENDS IN NEED

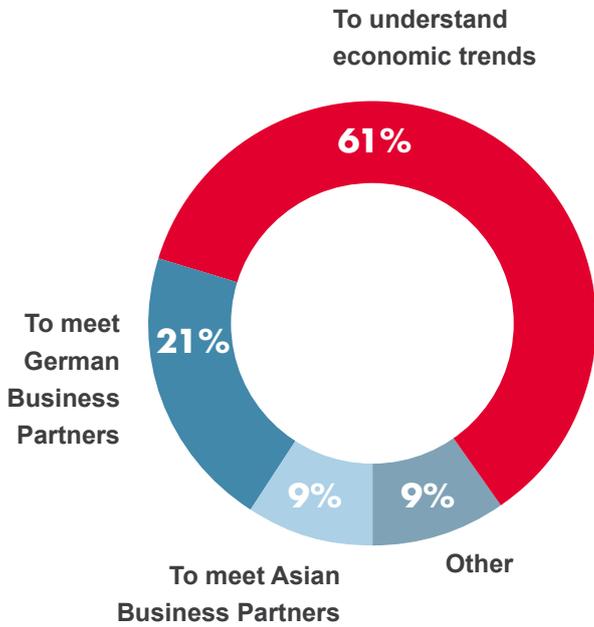
Nations – just like people – cannot choose their neighbours, but they can choose how to treat them. That choice should be guided by the aim of surrounding oneself with friends. In a context where one country, namely China, has constantly increased its military capacities while the others did not, these networks of friendship may one day become of vital importance. To that end, cooperation and a common strategy in the face of a contest between two major powers needs to be built.

ABOUT THE APK 2018 PARTICIPANTS

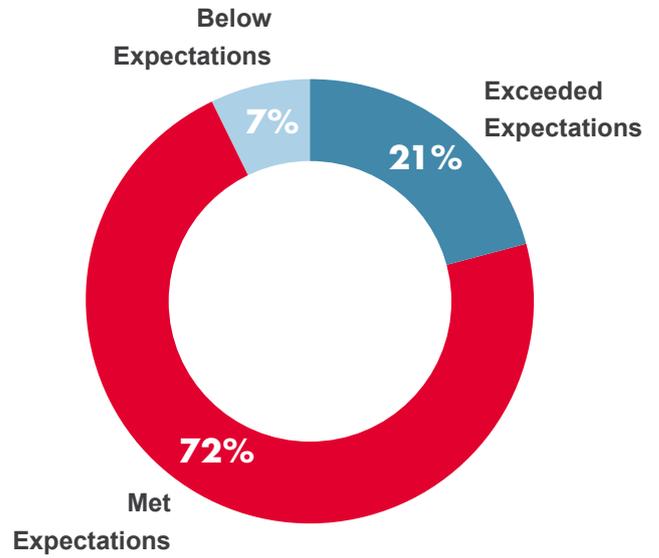


APK 2018 SURVEY

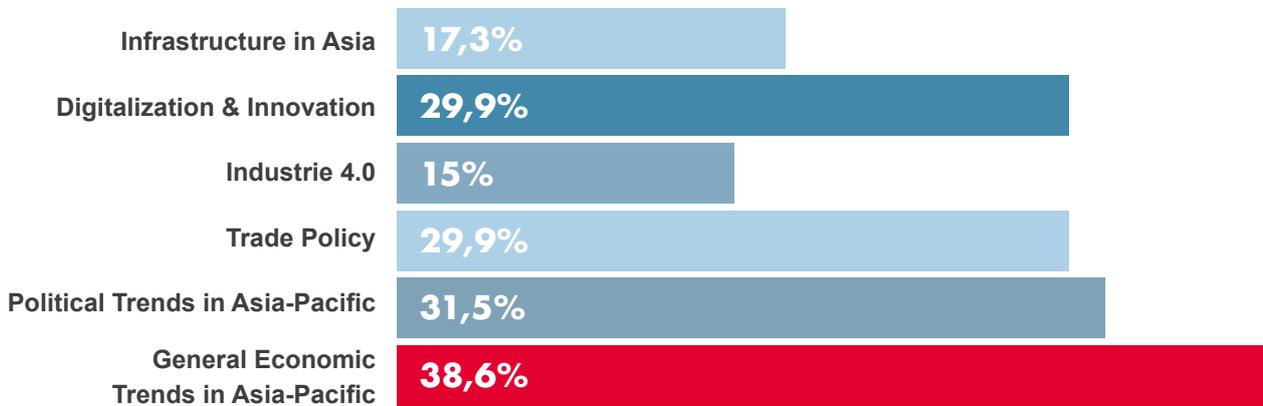
WHY DID YOU ATTEND THE 16TH APK?



WERE YOUR EXPECTATIONS MET AT THE 16TH APK?



WHICH TOPIC WAS MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?



*Multiple answers were possible

AHK BREAKFAST SESSIONS



The AHK Breakfast Sessions on selected countries and current issues in the region are an integral part of the APK. The participants of the sessions were briefed on political and economic trends, seasoned with insights and hands-on advice by the Executive Directors of the German Chambers Abroad (Deutsche Auslandshandelskammern). Apart from sessions on ASEAN, Japan & Korea and South Asia, equally popular briefings on German Vocational Education Training, Greater China and Indonesia were offered.





01 - 03 November 2018
Jakarta, Indonesia



ASIA-EUROPE YOUNG LEADERS FORUM 2018

SHAPING TOMORROW'S WORLD IN JAKARTA

On the occasion of the APK, Bertelsmann Stiftung and the APA hosted the Asia-Europe Young Leaders Forum (YLF) in Jakarta. Every two years the YLF brings together high-potentials from Asia and Europe to discuss current affairs, global developments and future challenges.

During the one-week program, the young representatives from politics, business, media and international organizations dealt again with crucial issues that are of concern for both, European and Asian societies, to establish a network that lasts well beyond the YLF.

” A genuine Thank you to the Europe-Asia Young Leaders for an open, engaging and very emotional discussion. It was definitely one of my highlights today and a pleasure meeting you all!

Joe Kaeser
Siemens

The theme of this year's gathering in Jakarta was “It's Now or Never”. It drew the young leaders' awareness to the responsibility they have to create change.

Following an intensive workshop on the topic of leadership, the participants engaged in a demanding program of field visits and in-depth discussions. They learned about the political, economic and social developments taking place in Southeast Asia and in particular in Indonesia. During their exchange with Ilham Akbar Habibie, son of former Indonesian President Bacharuddin Jusuf Habibie, they gained deep insights into ASEAN as a regional association of states.

Beyond that, the young leaders got to know the specific factors underlying the Indonesian innovation ecosystem's success, which included a visit to the Indonesian startup-unicorn Tokopedia, an e-commerce platform, but also came to understand its challenges. Of particularly great interest due to the transferability to the YLF's theme were meetings with social entrepreneurs at the Impact Hub Jakarta, who combine business success with the intention to help others.

Parallel to their APK-participation, the young leaders had the opportunity to learn from experienced executives in roundtable discussions with the German Minister for Economic Affairs, Peter Altmaier, Cathrina Claas-Mühlhäuser of Claas, Dieter Zetsche of Daimler and Joe Kaeser of Siemens, among others. The YLF fostered the dialogue between the young Asian and European participants. It helped develop their leadership skills and strengthen their sense of economic, political and social responsibility.

YOUNG LEADERS FORUM

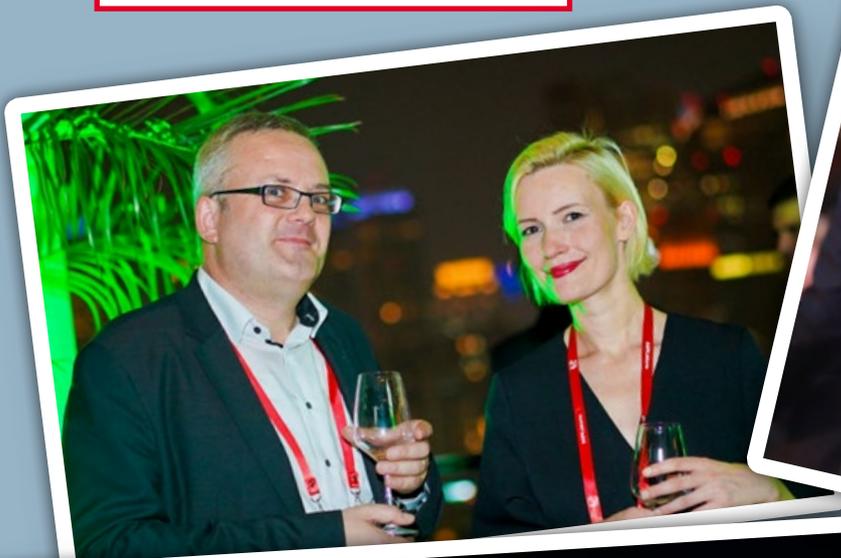


NETWORKING





NETWORKING





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Member of Shareholder's Committee and Supervisory Board, Voith Group

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Jörg Bienert

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Holger Bingmann

Chairman, Melo Group
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Head of Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University

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PARTICIPANTS' VOICES

” I was truly impressed by the quality of the panel discussions as well as the workshops and of course a great networking event overall.

Carmen Müller
Standard Chartered Bank

” It was a triumph – I was inspired to see the different elements of German muscle all pulling together so effectively. From an Australian perspective I could not help but be impressed by the work that you all put in.

Nicholas Farrelly
Australian National University

” For me it was very interesting to interchange ideas and experience from different people. Great time spent.

Ranjith Pandithage
Diesel & Motor Engineering PLC

” Exceeded my expectations. Very well organised event! Well Done! Congratulations.

Andreas Ufer
KfW-IPEX Bank

” Great event for networking.

Carsten Hasbach
Siemens AG

” Very professional, informative and pleasant – thank you and congratulations!

Philipp Johannsen
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

” The topics were on point and the speakers were open and participatory. The event was also well-organised, kudos to the organisers and volunteers.

Grace Chng
Techgoondu

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