

# Launch of Publication „United in Quality and Safety“

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## Speakers



Implemented by





**Day 1**  
**20 October 2021**

# Stefan Schnorr

Director-General for Digital and Innovation Policy  
at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy



Stefan Schnorr (58) has been working at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy since March 2010 and has been heading up the Director-General for Digital and Innovation Policy since April 2015. Prior to this, he worked in several other divisions of the Ministry.

Mr Schnorr is a legal expert. He started his career as a judge at the administrative court in Trier, before working at the Rhineland-Palatinate Ministry of Justice in Mainz where he headed up the public relations division and served as press officer.

In 2001, he joined the Representation of Rhineland-Palatinate to the Federal Government and the European Union in Berlin. There, he headed up the legal division, before assuming the role of Deputy Director-General for Federal Affairs, in which he was responsible for coordination with the Bundesrat. From 2009 to March 2010, he served as head of the Representation of Lower Saxony to the Federal Government in Berlin.



# Christoph Winterhalter

Chairman of the Executive Board of DIN,  
the German Institute for Standardization



Mr Christoph Winterhalter is the Chairman of the Executive Board of DIN, the German Institute for Standardization. Before joining DIN, he spent more than 20 years in industry working for the ABB group. He initially worked in various engineering, R&D and product management functions in Germany, Norway and the USA before he was appointed as responsible business unit manager for ABB's robot automation and robotics products business in Germany. In 2010, he changed to ABB Corporate Research as director of the German Research Center until he was promoted head of ABB's global Machinery Controls and Automation Business end of 2013.

In July 2016, he joined DIN as Chairman of the Executive Board driving customer orientation and digital transformation within the standardization system by encouraging all internal and external stakeholders to be open-minded and open for change in order to shape the future with standardization. Mr Winterhalter was elected as member of the CEN Administration Board and the ISO Council in 2017. Since 2018, he has also been CEN-Vice President Policy including strategy development. In September 2021, Mr Winterhalter was elected as new ISO-Vice President Policy. In this position he will be responsible for ISO's Policy and Strategy. He will take on this additional role from 1 January 2022, initially for two years.

# Florian Spiteller

Head of External Relations & Support and Member of the Executive Board of DKE, the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies



Mr Spiteller is Head of External Relations & Support and Member of the Executive Board of DKE, the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies. Before joining DKE, Mr Spiteller was working in the automotive industry for eight years as test manager, head of sales and director of sales and marketing.

Mr Spiteller's area of activity includes strategic issues relating to overall standardisation policy, support for the management bodies of IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) and CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation), and the monitoring and evaluation of standardisation-related developments in more than 70 nations worldwide.

Mr Spiteller serves as alternate member for the IEC Strategic Management Board (SMB) and is member of the German delegation for IEC council.



# Dr Stephan Finke

Chief Executive Officer,  
Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle GmbH (DAkkS)



Dr Finke has been Chief Executive Officer of Deutsche Akkreditierungsstelle GmbH (DAkkS), the German Accreditation Body, since 2016. He represents the German accreditation system in several international, European and national accreditation and standardisation organisations.

From 2012 to 2016, he worked at ABB Switzerland Ltd. – first as Head of High Power & High Voltage Laboratories and then as Business Development Manager Laboratories. Prior to this, he had been Head of High Power Laboratory at FGH Engineering & Test GmbH in Mannheim.

He holds an M.Sc. degree in Economic Engineering and graduated to a Doctoral Engineer at the Darmstadt University of Technology. Dr Finke is a member of the General Assemblies of ISO CASCO, EA, ILAC, IAF and of DIN KONRat, among others.

# Dr Frank Lienesch

Head of Division 9, Legal and International Metrology  
at Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)



Frank Lienesch, Dr - Ing studied electrical engineering in Braunschweig and Valencia (1988 -1993). He has been working at the PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt) since 1994.

After receiving his PhD in "Electrical Breakdown of Combustible Gases ..." in 1999, he took over the management of the working group "Explosion-Protected Drive Systems" from 2003-2016 and, from 2016-2020, headed PTB's "Explosion-Protection in Sensor Technology and Instrumentation" department and the conformity assessment sector for explosion protection.

Since 2021 he is responsible for the Division 9 "Legal and International Metrology". The activities include representing the interests of the PTB in various international organizations like OIML, COOMET, IEC/IECEX, European Commission and UNECE WP.6.



# Dr Claudia Koch

Research Associate at Department for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment at German Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing



After several years in industry and research institutes, since 2016 Claudia has been working with the Department for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment at Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing), dealing with diverse questions of Quality Infrastructure.

She coordinates the activities of BAM in the joint initiative QI-Digital which aims to research and develop solutions for a modern, agile and digital Quality Infrastructure.

Claudia received the Diploma in business administration and the master's degree in business and economic law (L.L.M. oec.) from Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg in 2008 and 2010, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in the field of innovation economics from Technische Universität Berlin in 2020.

# Khushwant Singh

Head of Secretariat of the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD)



Khushwant Singh holds an MA in Ethnology and Education from Heidelberg University, and an MRes in Social Anthropology from Goldsmiths College, University of London.

Since 2006, he has been working in the field of international cooperation in various positions for GIZ. He headed the India components of the Global Project Quality Infrastructure (GPQI) and the Digital Dialogues of BMWi until 2021. Currently, he is the Head of Secretariat of the International Partnership on Religion and Sustainable Development (PaRD).

# Philip Grinsted

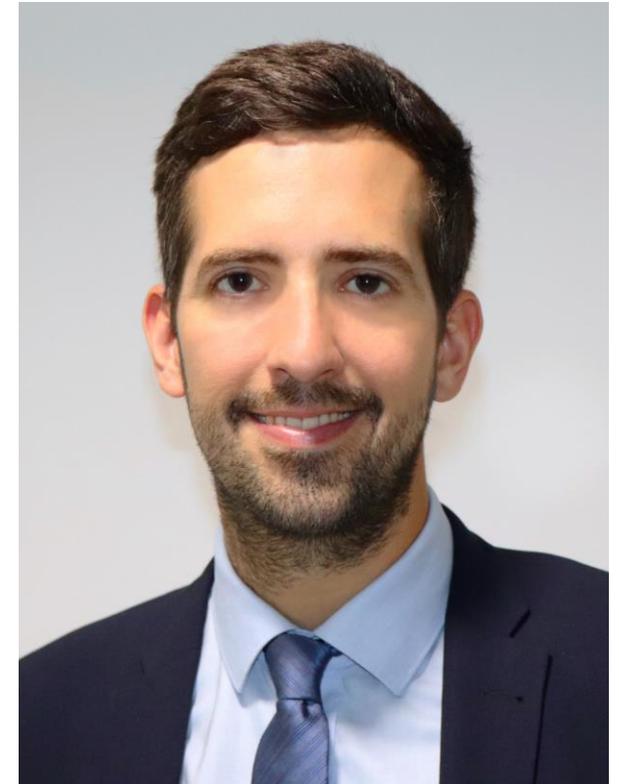
Consultant at the World Bank,  
on leave from GIZ



Philip Grinsted is a specialist in regulation of technology and private sector development. He was working at GIZ for 5 years between 2014 and 2021, mostly based in India and China.

He holds degrees in public administration and public policy from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and the Hertie School in Berlin.

Since February 2021, he has been working at the World Bank in Washington, D.C.



# Matthias Schmidt-Gerdt

Head of market surveillance,  
European Commission, DG GROW



Since March 2021, Matthias Schmidt-Gerdt has been in charge of market surveillance in the European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. Previously, he was involved in a range of policies covering goods and services, space and defense as well as company law and corporate governance, strategic planning and coordination in various functions in the Commission.

Before joining the Commission, he worked for German industry associations (2002-2009). Matthias is a fully qualified lawyer with degrees from King's College London and Paris I – Panthéon-Sorbonne. He is married and has an eight-year-old son.

# Prof Dr Knut Blind

Coordinator of Business Unit Innovation and Regulation at Fraunhofer ISI, Chair of Innovation Economics at Technische Universität Berlin



Prof Knut Blind was a senior researcher and head of departmental at Fraunhofer ISI between 1996 and 2010, before returning to Fraunhofer ISI in October 2019 as the coordinator of the Business Unit Regulation and Innovation.

Between 2010 and 2019, he worked in the Innovation Management Department of the Fraunhofer Institute for Open Communication Systems as a project manager. Since 2006, he is also Professor for Innovation Economics at the Technical University Berlin.

Between 2008 and 2016, he also held the Endowed Chair in Standardization at Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam.



**Day 2**  
**21 October 2021**

# Joachim Geiß

Deputy head of division for product safety and market surveillance at BMWi



Joachim Geiß (58) is since 2009 deputy head of the division in BMWi, inter alia responsible for product safety and market surveillance. Prior to this, Mr. Geiß worked since 1994 in various units for BMAS (Federal Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs) und BMWi.

Mr Geiß is a legal expert. He has about 20 years of experience in the area of the New Approach. Mr Geiß represents Germany in various working groups of the European Commission. He negotiated for Germany inter alia the revision of the New Approach (in 2008) and the New Market Surveillance regulation (in 2018).

Currently, he is inter alia responsible for the new German market surveillance Act.

# Stephan Winkelmann

Chair of the European Group on Market Surveillance Authorities (EMC AdCo), Head of German delegation at the EMC Committee and Working Party of the European Commission



Stephan Winkelmann has studied Electrical Engineering and Information Technology at the University of Applied Sciences in Darmstadt and works on electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) market surveillance at the Bundesnetzagentur since 1995. He chairs the European Group on Market Surveillance Authorities (EMC AdCo) and is the Head of German delegation at the EMC Committee and Working Party of the European Commission.

# Christian Marian

Project Manager International at DKE, The German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies



Mr Marian is Project Manager International at DKE, the German Commission for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies. He supports the technical and management bodies of the German National Committee and CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation).

Mr Marian also coordinates the international cooperation with other standards developing organizations to strengthen the standardisation system. In addition, Mr. Marian also assists the Secretariat of CLC/TC 31 "Electrical apparatus for potentially explosive atmospheres" which is held by DKE.

Mr Marian holds an engineering degree at the Technical University of Munich (TUM) and had been involved with his studies in several countries such as Brazil, Colombia, Romania, and Russia.



# Maria Albert

Project Manager, International Cooperation and International Consultation Services DIN, the German Institute for Standardization



Maria Albert is a Project Manager at DIN, the German Institute for Standardization. She has been involved in European and international standardization for many years and supports the DIN Executive Board and Management Board at CEN and ISO level. She coordinates bilateral cooperation with other national standards developing bodies, especially with China.

Since 2016, she has also taken over projects in Technical Assistance (TA). Maria Albert has participated in TA-projects in Ukraine, Albania and Moldova, and has worked with delegations from many countries, ranging from China, Japan, Singapore, Saudi Arabia and Peru to Eastern European countries. Maria Albert holds a degree from Cologne University of Applied Sciences in Translation (English and French).



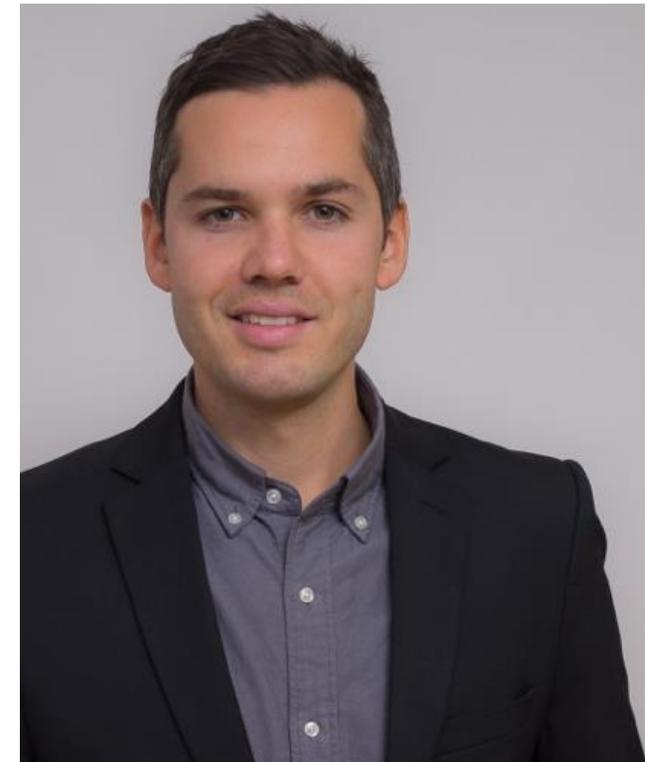
# Alexander Perdoni

Advisor for International Accreditation Policy at DAkkS,  
the German accreditation body



Alexander Perdoni graduated from the University of Kiel in Sustainability Science focusing on certification schemes in the agricultural sector.

He can rely on work experience in development cooperation related to quality infrastructure and agricultural policy, which led him to his current position within the German accreditation body (DAkkS) as Advisor for International Accreditation Policy.



# Dr Frank Lienesch

Head of Division 9, Legal and International Metrology  
at Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)



Frank Lienesch, Dr-Ing studied electrical engineering in Braunschweig and Valencia (1988 -1993). He has been working at the PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt) since 1994.

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Since 2021 he is responsible for the Division 9 "Legal and International Metrology". The activities include representing the interests of the PTB in various international organizations like OIML, COOMET, IEC/IECEX, European Commission and UNECE WP.6.



# Pia Kathöfer

Corporate Regulatory Affairs Coordinator, Global Office  
Accreditation and Certification at TÜV Rheinland AG



Pia Kathöfer has since 1 June 2019 served for TÜV Rheinland AG, Corporate Regulatory Affairs Coordinator in the Global Office Accreditation and Certification. From March 2013 to May 2019 Pia Kathöfer worked for TÜV Rheinland LGA Products GmbH, as Regulatory Affairs in the central department Accreditation and Certification.

From 2004 to 2012, Pia Kathöfer served VdTÜV – Association of TÜV, among other things heading the secretariat of the Association of Notified Bodies for Medical Devices in Germany (IG-NB).

From 1995-2004, she held various functions in the technical area and environmental technology companies, such as technical and commercial coordination of European wastewater disposal projects, market research and analysis; initiation of innovative, European development projects in the field of wastewater treatment; establishment of a competence center; conception of a start-up in the waste disposal sector, freelance consultant of SME etc.

# Sonia Prashar

Deputy Director-General at the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce



Sonia Prashar is the Deputy Director-General at the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce (the largest bi-national Chamber in the world), where she is responsible for defining the strategic direction, vision, growth and overall performance. She is also on the board of Nürnberg Messe India Pvt Ltd, Exponova India and INSILCO (Evonik India).

As an Experienced Industry Professional with a demonstrated history of working in international trade and development, Sonia has been effectively promoting collaborations and constructive dialogue between Indian and German companies, enhancing trade relations and developing successful networking channels. She is well versed in the domains of Corporate Communication, Market Research, Strategic Relationships, Global Alliances, Mergers and Acquisitions amongst other areas.

Sonia graduated in the fields of Science, Education & German Language from Delhi University and holds certification in "MBA Essentials Business Administration" and "Political Economy and International Relations" from London School of Economics and Political Science. She is extremely passionate about the topic of Skilling and Training and firmly believes that "Learning is a life-long process and Success is no accident". In her present role as the President of the Indian Exhibition Industry Association, she has been actively promoting India as the Global destination for exhibitions. As the Chairperson of Women's Leadership Forum (an initiative of IEIA) she regularly mentors and guides future talent.



# Léa Contier de Freitas

Head of Division for Technical Barriers to Trade of the Office of International Affairs at Inmetro, the Brazilian National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology



Léa Contier de Freitas heads the Division for Technical Barriers to Trade, of the Office of International Affairs, at Inmetro, the Brazilian National Institute of Metrology, Quality and Technology.

B.Sc. in Physics, her M.Sc. and Ph.D. work focused on ionising radiation metrology. A civil servant since 1983, she worked for the Institute of Radiation Protection and Dosimetry, of the National Nuclear Energy Commission, where she headed the National Laboratory of Ionising Radiation Metrology. Her close interaction with Inmetro since 1991 led to her officially joining the Institute in 1997. There, she had the opportunity to carry on different management and advisory activities on scientific and industrial metrology and on international affairs.

She was on leave of absence from Inmetro for 12 years, at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, where her main role was as chief advisor to the Deputy Minister, especially on matters related to the national quality infrastructure, having represented the Ministry in the National Commission of Bioelectromagnetism and in the OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy. Back at Inmetro since 2016, her responsibilities involve, among others, the National Enquiry Point for Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), the Subgroup no. 3 on Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment of Mercosur, and participation in the main TBT discussion fora.