

# Invitation

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## The Welfare State – At the Mercy of the Financial Markets? MEDEL-KONFERENZ

European Judges for Democracy and Liberty (MEDEL)  
(« Magistrats Européens pour la Démocratie et les Libertés »)  
in cooperation with Hugo Sinzheimer Institut für Arbeitsrecht (HSI)  
(Hugo Sinzheimer Institute for Labour Law) and Vereinte  
Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft ver.di (United Services Union)

**DATE:** 21 June 2013

**PLACE:** ver.di-Bundesverwaltung,  
Paula-Thiede-Ufer 10, 10179 Berlin,  
Conference Rooms Aida-Othello,  
Ground Level (EG), left hand side

The logo for ver.di, consisting of the text "ver.di" in white lowercase letters on a red square background.

*Bund + Länder*

**Vereinte**

**Dienstleistungs-  
gewerkschaft**

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**HSI** 

**MEDEL**    
Magistrats européens pour la Démocratie et les Libertés

# Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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the crisis of the European financial markets exercises pressure on welfare state and national social policy. Ever more of the social and democratic achievements and minimum standards are put at stake in Europe.

For quite some time important political and economic decisions have been made by international bodies that have hardly any legitimation. National constitutions and international conventions are often ignored. Under the pressure of the financial markets many European states feel forced to sacrifice achievements of the welfare state and labour rights as well as social peace that are reflected in labour and social law. In full awareness of the consequences the maintenance of a good social balance is given up in favour of a policy that aims at implementing only the interests of business and finance.

Within the context of international social solidarity justice plays an important emancipatory role. The conference will discuss this role. Individual civic, economic, social and cultural rights must be preserved and protected. If need be, the judiciary system has to ensure that the citizens can enjoy these rights when globalisation and lowering standards endanger their implementation.

At this conference MEDEL and their cooperation partners intend to "locate" the "social conscience" in Europe and define the position of a democratic judiciary system.

Barbara Wederhake  
ver.di-Bundesverwaltung  
Bundesfachgruppenleiterin Justiz



## Program

### THE WELFARE STATE – AT THE MERCY OF THE FINANCIAL MARKETS? MEDEL-KONFERENZ

as from 08.45 a.m. Check-in, Coffee

#### 09.30 a.m. OPENING

- Georg Schäfer, Speaker of the judges and public prosecutors in ver.di

#### 09.40 a.m. WELCOME ADDRESSES

- António Cluny, Chief public prosecutor, Lisbon; President of MEDEL (European Judges for Democracy and Liberty)
- Prof. Manfred Weiss, Hugo Sinzheimer Institut für Arbeitsrecht, Frankfurt/Main

#### 10.00 a.m. CRISIS OF JUSTICE AND CRISIS OF INSTITUTIONS DUE TO THE CHANGES IN THE LABOUR MARKETS

- Prof. Antoine Lyon-Caen, University Paris Ouest

#### 10.30 a.m. WELFARE STATE AND GLOBALISATION OF THE ECONOMIC AREA

- Prof. José Joao Abrantes, Lisbon University

11.00 a.m. Coffee break

#### 11.30 a.m. LEGAL REGULATION OF RATING-AGENCIES

- Prof. Wolfgang Däubler, Bremen University

#### 12.00 a.m. "BASIC INCOME" – MINIMUM STANDARDS OF EUROPEAN WELFARE POLICY

- Guiseeppe Bronzini, Judge at the Supreme Court of Appeal, Division for Labour and Social Law, Rome

#### 12.30 p.m. DISCUSSION

- Moderator: Leandro Valgolio, Judges and Public Prosecutors in ver.di

01.00 p.m. Lunchbreak, meal at the ver.di canteen

## CONFERENCE LANGUAGES: GERMAN, ENGLISH, FRENCH

### 02.00 p.m. REPORT – DISMANTLING OF THE WELFARE STATE IN OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

- Greece: George Almpouras, President of the first instance tribunal, Karpenisi
- Spain: Rafael Antonio López Parada, Magistrato de la Sala de lo Social, Tribunal Superior de Justicia de Castilla y León
- Portugal: Viriato Reis, Produtor da República, Centro de Estudos Judiciários, Lisboa
- Italy: Gualtiero Michelini, Corte d'Appello, Roma

### 02.45 p.m. DISCUSSION

- Moderation: Eric Alt, Judge at the Supreme Court, Paris (Vize-Präsident of MEDEL)

### 03.00 p.m. Coffee break

### 03.30 p.m. FORUM – LEGAL STRATEGIES AGAINST DEREGULATION MEASURES IN THE LIGHT OF THE CRISIS

- European legal strategies against the neoliberal anti-crisis policy and for the implementation of social rights  
Lukas Oberndorfer, Arbeiterkammer Wien
- European Charter of Fundamental Rights as bulwark against cuts in social services? Prof. Dr. Jens M. Schubert, head of legal/legal policy department, ver.di
- Interference with social rights and legal strategies against the backdrop of ILO and the Council of Europe, Isabell Schömann, European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), Brussels

### 04.30 p.m. DISCUSSION

- Moderator: Dr. Johannes Heuschmid, Hugo Sinzheimer Institut für Arbeitsrecht

### 04.45 p.m. CLOSING SPEECH – SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF JUSTICE

- António Cluny, Chief public prosecutor, Lisbon, President of MEDEL

### ca. 05.00 p.m. End of the conference

# MEDEL-Conference, 21 June 2013, Berlin

## REGISTRATION

Title / Name / Surname

Company / Institution / Organisation

Position / Profession

Privat address

Company/Office address

Street

Post code / Place

Country

E-mail

Tel. / Fax

Date / signature

Member of MEDEL

Member of ver.di

I will participate in the MEDEL-Conference on 21 June 2013 in Berlin.

I want a room at IBIS HOTEL BERLIN OSTBAHNHOF and request ver.di to book a room for me at my expense.

20/21 Juni 2013

21/22 Juni 2013

### PLEASE SEND REGISTRATION

by mail (tear off registration card at perforated lines)

by fax to +49 (0)30 6956 3552

by e-mail [barbara.wederhake@verdi.de](mailto:barbara.wederhake@verdi.de) or [danny.prusseit@verdi.de](mailto:danny.prusseit@verdi.de)

# Registration Card

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## The Welfare State – At the Mercy of the Financial Markets? MEDEL-KONFERENZ

Please mail completed and signed card by 22 May 2013  
or fax to: +49 (0)30 6956 3552

Please pay  
postage  
or fax to:  
+49 (0)30  
6956 3552

Response

**ver.di-Bundesverwaltung**

Ressort 12

Fachbereich Bund+Länder

z. Hd. Barbara Wederhake

Paula-Thiede-Ufer 10

10179 Berlin

## **ORGANISER**

Vereinte Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft (ver.di)

## **CONFERENCE VENUE**

ver.di-Bundesverwaltung, Paula-Thiede-Ufer 10, 10179 Berlin

## **REGISTRATION DEADLINE**

22 Mai 2013. After registration you will receive a confirmation.

This will make your registration binding.

## **COSTS**

Conference fees will not be charged. Catering during the conference will be provided by the organiser. Travel and hotel expenses can not be covered by the organiser – HOTEL RECOMMENDATION.

## **CONTACT / GERMAN GUESTS**

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## **HOTEL RECOMMENDATION**

In the immediate vicinity of the conference venue (2 – 3 minutes walking) we have arranged for the nights of 20/21/06 and/or 21/22/06/2013 special rates for single rooms including breakfast at the IBIS HOTEL BERLIN OSTBAHNHOF (20/21/06: Single price € 86.00; 21/22/06: Single price € 78.00). Until 22 May 2013 you can book rooms by contacting the IBIS HOTEL directly stating the following reference: "ver.di, contract no. 282 of 15/02/13". The number of rooms under this arrangement is limited, so it is recommendable to book as soon as possible. Participants themselves have to pay the hotel. This is the address for booking:

IBIS HOTEL BERLIN OSTBAHNHOF

An der Schillingbrücke 2, 10243 Berlin

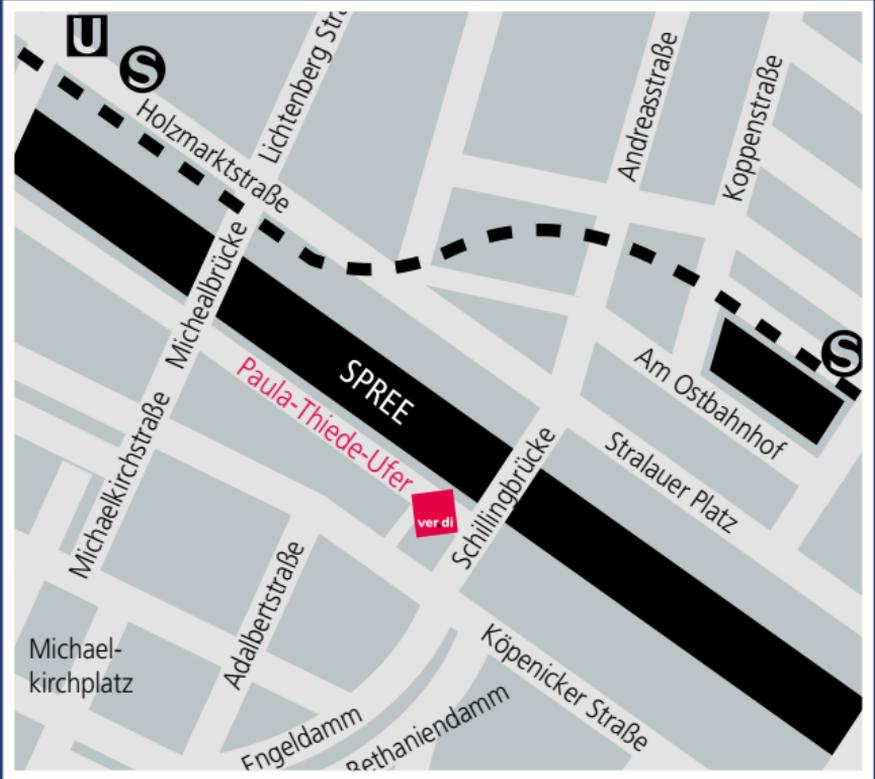
Tel: +49 (0)30 257600

Fax: +49 (0)30 25760333

Mail: www.ibis.com

Upon your request we will send you together with the registration confirmation a list with other hotels nearby.

# How to find the venue



## HOW TO FIND THE VENUE

You will receive detailed information how to find the conference venue together with the registration confirmation.

In Berlin you can use public transport (S-Bahn lines S 3, S 5, S 7 and S 9 [Station: Ostbahnhof]) or the bus-lines 140, 147 and 265 to come to ver.di-Bundesverwaltung. Parking space is very limited.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

All information regarding the MEDEL-Conference can also be found on the ver.di-website [www.justiz.verdi.de](http://www.justiz.verdi.de) and the websites of our partners [www.medelnet.org](http://www.medelnet.org) and [www.hugo-sinzheimer-institut.de](http://www.hugo-sinzheimer-institut.de)