About Hoffmann und Campe Verlag

Hoffmann und Campe, founded in 1781, is a publishing house with a long tradition and today one of Germany’s largest and most successful general publishers with a portfolio that embraces the works of famous authors and young writing talents. Since 1951, all works by the eminent narrative writer Siegfried Lenz have been published by Hoffmann und Campe.

About Atlantik Verlag

In spring 2014 Hoffmann und Campe has launched the new imprint called Atlantik. Atlantik focuses on contemporary fiction, timeless crime novels and narrative nonfiction for the modern reader. The Atlantik list features such acclaimed authors as Agatha Christie, Nora Ephron, Dolly Alderton, Raven Leilani, Maddie Mortimer and Otegha Uwagba.

We control translation rights for all the titles listed in this catalogue. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to receive reading copies. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes from Hamburg,

Dana Nitz

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»There’s no shame in remembering something that didn’t happen. Who is to judge us?«

- A brilliant debut – warm-hearted, beautiful and true
- A novel that breaks with tradition – and continues it
- Sample Translation available!

A childhood and youth in the provinces in West Germany in the 1980s: a deeply truthful, unforgettable novel about life in the country, about a lost era, about first love and first death and about what remains.

A new housing estate in a small village in the 1980s. His father is a vicar, his mother works at the post office, and the son tells his story set between school and community service – about Johanna, his first love, about his grandfather, about his RE teacher Mr Zitelmann and about the events at Café Chaos; he describes the joy of at winning the ‘Olympic’ games on a Commodore 64, and his fear of dying after falling from an apple tree.

Matthias Matschke writes about a period in life when everything seems possible - happiness as well as death - with beautiful lightness. In Funny Money, the author has succeeded in creating a special piece of literature that does without big words, dealing with existential questions in an even more intense way. A novel that stays with the reader and that lovingly tells of how in life the supposedly small things are sometimes the all-important ones.

MATTHIAS MATSCHKE was born in 1968 and grew up in a village on the edge of the Odenwald region. He dropped out of his university studies of German and theology to study at the University of Arts in Berlin. Today he is one of the most sought-after actors in Germany. He lives in Berlin. Funny Money is his debut novel.
All the madness of the financial world in a thriller that knows no bounds

Absurd and unique – Gerhard Henschel in top form!

Two investigators with triplets, scores of dead bankers, dirty business dealings and a merciless campaign against organized crime from Uelzen via Naples and Bogotá to Popocatépetl.

Commissioner Fischer and Commissioner Gerold from Uelzen are parents of triplets. And it gets worse: near Bad Bevensen, the body of a bank employee is found floating in the Elbe canal. Suddenly bank employees are murdered in other countries too. As a result, the Stock Market Fever Task Force comes together in Bern. Commissioner Gerold joins them and follows a trail that leads him into the heart of organized crime on two continents. He almost brings his family to ruin – if it weren’t for Commissioner Fischer, who becomes the holy terror of the underworld. Also involved are the writers Frank Schulz and Thomas Gsella, who face a terrifying odyssey through South and Central America, as well as the private detectives Michael Ringel and Rayk Wiedland, who try to enjoy the sweeter side of life despite everything that is going on.

GERHARD HENSCHEL, born in 1962, works as a freelance writer near Hamburg. His epistolary novel Die Liebenden (2002) delighted the critics as did the adventures of his narrator Martin Schlosser, which first appeared in 2004. Henschel is also the author of numerous works of non-fiction. He was awarded the Hannelore Greve Prize for Literature, the Nicolas Born Prize and the Georg K. Glaser Prize.
Gerhard Henschel – Selected Backlist

Shortly after crime author Armin Breddeloh has staged a reading from his new novel *Deadly Heather*, he is found dead in a pond near Bad Bevensen. Dead and with two glass eyes – just like one of the victims in his novel! Chief Superintendent Gerold and Chief Inspector Schubert from Uelzen take up the investigation. Was some other crime writer jealous of Breddeloh’s success...? Soon the authors of *Once Upon a Time in the Westerwald* and *Showdown on Juist* are found dead, and there are further victims at Lake Tegernsee, in Fläming and in the Steiermark. But the Special Task Force Deadly Heather can’t shed light on these deeds, and the private eye hired by the association of German-speaking crime writers turns out to be a damp squib. Then the killer leaves a letter claiming responsibility, and suddenly things start moving...

Spring 1992: Martin Schlosser, 30, writer, lives in a flat share in Berlin-Kreuzberg. It’s a rowdy environment, but his first books are progressing, Lady Luck is on his side. He paints the town, frolics around on Helgoland with Max Goldt and Rattelschneck, makes friend with Eckhard Henscheid, finds himself (much to his own surprise) singing a canon with the street worker Domenica Niehoff under the full moon, and on his reading tour encounters the darkest sides of the new German ‘Länder’ in the former East. As all this happens, he also keeps falling in love and yet remains steadfastly single, regarding the formation of couples as an evolutionary folly.

Autumn 1993: Martin Schlosser joins the editing team of the satirical magazine *Titanic* in Frankfurt. For him, this is the beginning of a new life; at the same time, in the small town of Meppen in Lower Saxony, his widowed father slowly deteriorates, and a horrific end looms.
She pulled a copy of *Capital* from the bookshelf. »I tried to read it once. All good and well, but somehow I thought there would be more Indians in it … «

The young woman interested in Marx is Kathrin Passig, a student from Regensburg studying English. Martin Schlosser meets her in the early nineties as the winner of a competition for the satirical magazine *Kowalski* that he organised himself. He currently works there as a freelancer. Because the *Merkur*, the *Frankfurter Rundschau* and konkret are printing his texts, he can finally live off his writing. From now on, he no longer works behind the bar of a Friesian disco, instead travelling as a reporter: to a juggling festival in Oldenburg, for example, to a reunification celebration outside the Reichstag in Berlin or to an Atheist conference in Fulda. He also takes care of his grandmother in Jever, occasionally visits his father in Meppen or hangs out at tantra workshops. Then he's drawn to Berlin. Everything changes, as it seems, always for the better: Publishers offer him book contracts, there are invitations to readings, the nights grow longer, and life is good.

»There is no author in these parts who writes so consequentially for his generation what Walter Kempowski produced for his generation in the German Chronicles.« *Deutschlandradio Kultur*

»This is top quality stuff – full of life, funny, direct.« Wiglaf Droste

Martin quit university and starts working at a carrier. He imagined his career as an author differently. Only as tragedy befalls his parents house, his girlfriend leaves him and the Berlin Wall is torn down, his luck seems to change.

It’s the mid-eighties and the German Studies student Martin Schlosser does not really have an aim in life. When he is not pondering about Chernobyl, the historian discussion or the Barschel affair, he participates in spiritual sessions and practices the art of life.

Because his new girlfriend Andrea is studying in Aachen, Martin Schlosser decides to shift his studies from Berlin to Cologne. He moves into a chaotic flat share and is presented with constant new challenges by Andrea: She drags him to bioenergetics seminars and Tantra courses and makes him realise that a classical relationship with her is impossible. In the following years he travels to Madrid, Paris and Narum, has to move several times and is the cause of irritation in his hometown of Meppen. In between odd jobs for Tetra Pak, Uniroyal and Edeka and philosophising about houseflies, Turkish folklore and monogamy, he one day suddenly realizes what he wants to be: a writer.
Germany 1983. Helmut Kohl is in power, The Green Party have entered the Bundestag, the Stern has published Hitler’s Diaries. Martin Schlosser meanwhile goes to study in Bielefeld and meets the love of his life. After his civilian service, Martin Schlosser decides to study the classic taxi-driver subjects, German studies, Sociology and Philosophy. But student life is not as fun as he’d imagined. He spends more time in the university cafeteria than in lectures, begins to drift and falls in love unhappily. Besides the letters from his countless female pen-friends, who are all too keen to share their inner feelings with him, he reads Arno Schmidt. But Martin knows that Bielefeld is not the town for him and he moves to Berlin. Here, in this city which is surging with life, he hooks up with a music therapy student and through her, gets to know the new love of his life, a social pedagogy student called Andrea. But she does not necessarily make his life any easier.

At last Martin Schlosser has found a girlfriend, and already the tedious relationship discussions have begun. It’s the early eighties, and there’s nothing Martin wants more desperately than to escape from the small town in the Emsland. But first of all he has to pass his Abitur. Will he manage? Will he become a soldier, or end up doing community service? How will he get on with his drug experiments? How will he like life in a flat-share? And will his relationship survive? Martin’s journey through life takes him to Hamburg, Amsterdam, Osnabrück, Bielefeld, Munich, Venice, Vienna and Göttingen – and more often than not, back to his home town.

Novel of Love is the third book about the experiences of young Martin Schlosser: It begins in 1978 on the first day of school after the Christmas holidays with a bold plan to win the heart of a fellow pupil he deeply loves and then takes the reader through two years full of harrassment, emotional anguish and growing doubts – about the meaning of life in the little Emsland town of Meppen and about the justice of not being allowed to give up maths in the sixth form. Martin Schlosser lets the readers in on all his doings, from cleaning the hamster’s cage, through his grandparents’ awful Golden Wedding party and his parents’ Silver Wedding party – which ends even worse – to his understandably looking forward to a future in which everything, everything, will change.
Federal Republic of Germany, 1964 to 1975: A child tells from his life, from the sandbox to puberty, from the first love beads in the backyard to the dream of becoming the new Eddy Merckx, the new Mark Spitz, the new Gerd Müller or, best of all at once.

To celebrate his seventh birthday in April 1969, Martin Schlosser would like to invite Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, whom he knows well from the famous ZDF Christmas TV series. But nothing will come of it, and things will turn out differently than planned.

As a thirteen-year old in the small town of Meppen in North-West Germany in the radiant summer of 1975 Martin Schlosser, the hero of these novels of childhood and youth, sets out on new adventures which lead him deep into the terrors of puberty and the struggle with a world which simply does not want to grasp that he is well disposed towards it: he would like to score goals for Germany and find a great love to make all his dreams come true. Is that too much to ask? At the beginning it certainly looks like it and at the end even more so …

»Very moving.« Süddeutsche Zeitung
The touching correspondence between four great German personalities

- A very special friendship: four impressive personalities, two couples, a deep connection
- Authentic, personal and closer than ever before: previously unreleased material

These letters tell of important political events, nature conservation and adventurous research trips, exchanges about holidays, reading experiences and health problems. But they are above all one thing: the vivid portrait of a great friendship.

Letters, cards and telegrams were exchanged between Lilo and Siegfried Lenz on the one hand and Loki and Helmut Schmidt on the other between 1965 and 2014. What makes it so fascinating is that not just two, but four people were involved in the correspondence. We know how significant the friendship was for the two men, but only now does it become apparent that it was about an intense friendship between two married couples, in which all four participants contributed their interests and in which they met, enriched and complemented each other.

This correspondence over five decades is not just between a politician and a writer; a conservationist and a passionate gardener play an equal role in it. This volume tells the story of a friendship between two married couples and at the same time shows the portrait of an era from politics, art, music and – above all – literature to nature and environmental protection.

Non Fiction
Lilo and Siegfried Lenz
Loki and Helmut Schmidt
You Two Dearest
Letters 1965–2014
November 2022
384 pages
Hardcover
€ 24,–
ISBN 978-3-455-01488-4

German Title:
Ihr ganz lieben Zwei
Briefwechsel 1965–2014

The publisher, MAREN ERMISCH, was born in 1976 and studied German and English at the University of Kiel. She was a member of staff at the Buddenbrookhaus in Lübeck from 2003 to 2009 and has been a research assistant at the Seminar for German Philology at Göttingen University since 2009. She completed her doctorate in 2015 with a thesis on Theodor Fontane’s Scottish travel book *Jenseits des Tweed*. As part of the Hamburg edition of the works of Siegfried Lenz, she edited the volumes *Der Mann im Strom* and *Heimatmuseum* (alongside Heinrich Detering).
A country is retiring – with disastrous consequences for the young population

How the rule of the old will change our country – and what we can do about it

Does the young generation in Germany still have a future?

Are our pensions secure? Hardly anyone believes that anymore. But from 2023 onwards, the boomers will retire and other things aside from money will matter. A new game will begin – democracy vs. demography.

Germany wide, we will soon be counting half a million more new pensioners each year than people reaching the legal age. And that will be the case for the next twenty years! In some federal states, there will be more people in long-term care than voters under the age of thirty. The consequences are devastating – for the younger population’s wallets as well as for the economy. The shift in the age pyramid is threatening our ability to innovate, our prosperity and our joie de vivre.

While pensioners are financially better off than ever before and gaining political influence, the young will have to fight against the effects of climate change and poverty and learn to manage in a completely new way: they will have to shrink Germany back to health. A major generational conflict is looming. Stefan Schulz analyses what impact the retirement of the boomers will have on our society and what needs to happen. It’s about time!

STEFAN SCHULZ was born in 1983 and worked as a journalist for the FAZ, among others, but is now mainly active in the podcast sector. In his weekly TV podcast format, he watches and discusses German, British and American evening news with changing guests. Since 2020, he has also been hosting the podcast Die Neuen Zwanziger together with Wolfgang M. Schmitt, which has around 50,000 regular listeners.
Why is integration so difficult?

Why does immigration not go faster?
Musa Deli gives the answer!

Authentic, approachable author with competence in his role as a social psychologist

The first guest workers arrived from Turkey more than 60 years ago. Where do we stand today after so many years together? Musa Deli shows how much the following generations are still shaped by migration, and how things could be better.

“We are a country with a migration background”, Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier recently stated. Our society has long been an international one. And yet, in the face of cheering Erdogan fans in this country or ostentatious youths in fast cars, many wonder whether integration has really succeeded.

Musa Deli knows the worries, problems and hopes of people with a migration background from his work as a social psychologist in Cologne like no one else. His story of three generations of Turks in Germany, told from both a personal and a general perspective, is an analysis of the reality of life for refugees and migrants in all its facets that is as clear-sighted as it is stirring. Especially in view of current immigration, it is important to realise what it means to arrive and grow up in a foreign country.

MUSA DELI is a social psychologist and heads up the Health Centre for Migrants in Cologne and the Social Psychiatric Competence Centre for Migration. Turkish- and Russian-speaking people come to him. He himself is part of the second generation of immigrants and knows about the hurdles of integration from his own experience: his academic career began in secondary school.
The first woman in German News Television tells her story – inspiring and full of joie de vivre!

- On the occasion of Dagmar Berghoff’s 80th birthday on 25th January 2023
- With lots of photographs from Dagmar Berghoff’s private archive

With Dagmar Berghoff and Constantin Schreiber, two generations meet to tell the story of the first woman on THE German News Programme called Tagesschau together – and to talk about love, life, happiness and the news.

Today’s Tagesschau anchor Constantin Schreiber introduces the unique story of an eventful and moving life in conversation with his predecessor Dagmar Berghoff. At the beginning of her career, there was little to suggest that she would one day make television history. To earn money to pay her drama school fees, she worked in a bar at night, took on a cleaning job and kept her optimism despite several strokes of fate.

When Dagmar Berghoff became the first woman to read the news on the Tagesschau in 1976, she became a role model and pioneer for an entire generation of women. She rose to the position of chief anchorwoman and left the Tagesschau at the end of 1999 to start a new life with her husband - which did not happen for tragic reasons. Dagmar Berghoff candidly tells of how she found the strength to carry on, and of why it is worthwhile going through life undaunted.

**DAGMAR BERGHOFF** was born in Berlin in 1943 and grew up in Hamburg, where she still lives today. On June 16th 1976, she read the news for the first time on the Tagesschau, which she left of her own free will in 1999. To this day, she does not regret her departure from the news: «I find it relaxing that I don’t have to put on make-up anymore.»

**CONSTANTIN SCHREIBER** was born in 1979 and has anchored the evening news - the Tagesschau - since January 2021. In 2016, he was awarded the Grimme Prize. With his German Tolerance Foundation, founded in 2019, he is committed to intercultural exchange at home and abroad. He is the author of several books. His most recent title – Die Kandidatin (The Candidate) – was published by Hoffmann und Campe. It became a Spiegel bestseller. He lives with his family in Hamburg.
Constantin Schreiber –
Selected Backlist

This thrilling and politically explosive novel by Constantin Schreiber – a bestselling author, Grimme Prize winner and presenter on the Tagesschau news programme – tells the story of the first Muslim woman to run for the office of German chancellor.

Germany in the near future. In politics, there is a quota for women who wear the headscarf. In the churches, statues of Jesus are being replaced with gender-neutral figures in flower crowns. At the Erdogan School in Berlin, all of the students are from a migrant background. Meanwhile, right-wing extremists who want to create a state within the state are carrying out deadly attacks. Due to the unresolved housing crisis, container settlements are being built to house the lower classes. And on the international stage, China and Russia are striving for world domination. German society is completely polarised.

Against this backdrop, Sabah Hussein is running for chancellor – the first Muslim woman ever to do so. And thus a fierce battle for the future of a deeply divided country begins.

Until the end of 2015 more than one million refugees came to Germany – thousands of people from Syria, Irak, Afghanistan. For most of them we’re a foreign nation. There is only one thing they know about our country: It is safe. It is rich. Unlike their homecountry. But how different our everyday life and our culture are – most of them don’t know. TV-host Constantin Schreiber explains what Germany is like, how refugees but also the Arabic world in general perceive our values and our lifestyle and how their picture of Germany and our self-image differs. This bilingual handbook is the first step for a mutual understanding.
»When I am not feeling well, I don’t go to the pharmacy but to my local book store.«
Philippe Dijan

- A unique invitation into the world of literature
- A special gift
- A must for literature lovers and all those who want to become one

This book takes us on an unforgettable journey through the world of literature - a unique reading guide and a special gift for anyone who wants to know more about the best and most beautiful books and their authors.

Hermann Schmidt has spent his life reading out of curiosity, passion and a thirst for adventure. In this book he samples authors with their life stories and their most beautiful and exciting books: from Heinrich Heine and Wilhelm Busch to Franz Kafka, Erich Kästner, Georges Simenon, Patricia Highsmith, Walter Kempowski, Isabell Allende and Gerhard Henschel.

Literatour is a unique journey through a world full of outrageous incidents and unforgettable characters, thoughts and stories. An indispensable work for all those who love to read themselves or want to invite others to do so.

HERMANN SCHMIDT was born in Eckelshausen in 1949 and has been an avid reader since childhood. For many years he was managing director of Jahreszeiten Verlag and a member of the board of the Association of German magazine publishers. He is the author of various books, many of them about FC St. Pauli. Hermann Schmidt lives in Hamburg.
Let’s stop conforming!

Would we rather be conformist and unhappy or non-conformist but happy?

Vera Strauch encourages us to leave the pigeonholes we have been put in

The author’s ‘Female Leadership’ podcast reaches over 10,000 listeners a week, and she has more than 14,000 followers on Instagram

Vera Strauch is convinced that we can all lead authentic lives that will make us happier in the long run, both as individuals and as a society. However, the path to achieving this is not always easy, often even rocky, winding and uncomfortable. But it is the only true one, and it is worth taking. Self-proclaimed „non-stereotypical“, Vera Strauch took this path: leaving a well-paid, secure job, where she always wanted to please everyone, and going into self-employment. She founded her own company, for which she set the rules, and realised that if we manage to overcome our inherent desire to conform, to allow for unpleasant emotions and to talk openly about things we are not satisfied with, we end up living more mindfully, more in line with our needs and become more satisfied.

VERA STRAUCH was born in 1986 and is a digital entrepreneur, podcaster and founder of the Female Leadership Academy. She deals with topics such as future work, female empowerment and women in the workplace. Vera Strauch studied business administration in Germany and New Zealand and completed her master’s degree in international business as a Fulbright scholar in the US.
Backlist Highlights
LITERARY FICTION
Wolf Haas

Waste disposal is all about sorting. That’s why I say rubbish is the best way to learn thinking. Because you have the categories, or rather vats. Without proper sorting you can forget recycling. And I haven’t even spoken about the problematic substances yet.

At one of Vienna’s refuse collection centres, strict order prevails – until one day a human knee is found in the bulky waste vat. Other body parts soon turn up in other vats; body parts which – in contravention of refuse collection centre policy, and to the great disappointment of all the bin men – have not been disposed of correctly. The only part of the dismembered dead body that is missing is the heart. The policemen are baffled.

Luckily, one of the bin men is an ex-policeman, who not only discovers the missing heart along with a letter, but has never forgotten how to go about investigating a murder. And so Simon Brenner finds himself plunged not only into a new case, but up to his neck in difficulties.

Monika Maron

Monika Maron’s Jewish-Polish-Socialist-middle-class-East-and-West-German life makes a powerful impression. In her essays and novels she shows how history not only happens to families and couples but also changes them, by spurring people on to take action.

Jürgen Kaube, editor of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Monika Maron’s novels and essays published by Hoffmann und Campe: The oeuvre of a pre-eminent writer who has always taken a stand in matters of society and politics and refused to be co-opted to any cause. Fearless and full of poetry, elegance and humour.
I sat lost in my flat and wondered what I was doing here. My dog had died and left me in solitude. I needed a new dog.

The unforgettable story of Bonnie Propeller, the dog with two names, is about unfulfillable expectations and unexpected happiness; about joy, love – and the self-imposed necessity of leaving the house three times a day.

Sophie and Silke Backsen

The true story of a mother and daughter from Pellworm who left their island and brought about a decisive change to German climate policy with a historic court ruling.

The island of Pellworm in the North Sea is home to Sophie and Silke Backsen. The impact of climate change is particularly noticeable here: the island already lies about a metre below sea level, and any further rise would cause a catastrophe. Silke Backsen went to court in 2019 to fight for better climate policy, but it was her daughter Sophie who finally succeeded when, in 2021, she helped bring about a historic court ruling. The ruling was called a ‘sensational’ success and a ‘thunderbolt’ in the German press. A young student from Pellworm had managed to get the politicians to rethink their approach and take real action.

In this book, Silke and Sophie Backsen reveal what life on Pellworm is like, how their lives have changed since the historic court ruling, and how different generations can work together to create a sustainable future for everyone.
Yasmine M’Barek

Increasingly, a radical refusal to compromise is shaping our discourses in politics and society. But is this really getting us anywhere? Or would we achieve a lot more if we were radically committed to compromise?

A phenomenon is taking hold, particularly in the younger generation. We would rather boycott something than discuss it, and anyone who does not hold the same opinions as us is cancelled. On the other side, this leads to anger and a lack of understanding: A good idea immediately turns into an accusation that “you’re not allowed to say anything anymo-re”. There are no winners in debates like this, and no solutions either. How can we give broad swathes of society a voice when it comes to the social upheaval that inevitably lies before us? How can we use compromise to negotiate good solutions, instead of deciding rashly and too hastily on a particular course of action?

Yasmine M’Barek illustrates in a clever and impressive way why so many good ideas achieve precisely the opposite of what was intended. A clear-sighted and important book about why a society is lost without compromise.

Tin Fischer

In an increasingly complex and confusing world, they are becoming ever more important: statistics are the medium of choice for reflecting reality in an apparently factual way. But this astonishing book explains why, when we look at statistics, we usually only see what we want to see – and why people with different political views see something completely different.

Is there less and less war in the world, or are we sitting on top of a powder keg? Is the world improving thanks to or in spite of free markets? Does flying increase the global climate footprint or just our own personal one? Are a disproportionate number of criminals foreigners, or men?

In this illuminating and entertaining book, data journalist Tin Fischer shows that we no longer need to falsify statistics in order to influence public opinion in line with our own beliefs. Using many surprising examples, he illustrates how the same data can be interpreted in completely different ways depending on whether the person doing the interpreting is on the left or the right of the political spectrum. Whether on migration, social justice or environmental issues: What does it mean for the individual, for society, for the media and politics when the truth is in the eye of the beholder?
How probable is it that you have a tattoo of an avocado? Or that you will reach the ripe old age of 100? This book is a highly entertaining look at what — statistically speaking — is likely to have happened, or will still happen, over the course of your life. Have you ever wondered what your chances are of reaching a specific life goal? Of climbing Mount Everest? Of earning a million? This book not only offers answers but also shows how the corona crisis has changed the odds. The renowned data journalist Tin Fischer has researched surprising facts relating to any and all phases of life and presents them together with the entertaining, full-page graphics created by Mario Mensch.

"Thinking of Germany at night puts all thoughts of sleep to flight" — Heine's *Night Thoughts* are probably shared by many these days who think of the new climate package, the decline of the catch-all parties, a possible combat mission in Syria or the attack on the synagogue in Halle. Tin Fischer, Swiss by birth and data expert for *Die Zeit* newspaper, has given his very own thoughts to the ever-present topic of 'Germany'. By showing unusual statistics and exciting maps, he manages to paint an entirely new picture of how Germans see themselves. We learn not only where Germany really is most beautiful, but also about who has the farthest way to get to a pharmacy, where people have drilled for oil, which influencers reach more readers than Bild tabloid and which chancellor's first name parents most frequently choose for their newborns. This is definitely Germany as you have never seen it before!

Alexander Görlach

**Red Alert**
How China’s aggressive foreign policy in the Pacific is leading to a global war
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Alarmstufe Rot  
Wie Chinas aggressive Außenpolitik in einen globalen Krieg führt

Fighter jets over Taiwan, warships in Japanese waters, military bases on the Spratly Islands. China is trying to expand its territory in the East and South China Seas. Most controversial is its attempt to lay claim to Taiwan, which China does not recognise as a sovereign state. Xi Jinping has vowed to conquer Taiwan: Independent, democratic and free, it is a thorn in his side. For Taiwan is showing the world that there is a democratic alternative to the dictatorship in the People’s Republic of China. A war with Taiwan, however, would also mean war with the USA, which is committed to protecting democracies in the region.

Alexander Görlach knows Taiwan and the region like few others. He vividly describes the context and makes clear how real the danger of war in the Western Pacific really is.
Should it give us hope that the people of Hong Kong are putting their lives on the line for democracy? Or will the global victory of autocracy be sealed there?

Whether in America, Europe or Asia, we are witnessing the rise of right-wing populism and autocratic systems all over the world. The future of democracy is at stake. Nowhere is this more evident than in Hong Kong. How does the West relate to this? Do we stand by the people? Or do we cave in to China’s economic power? In Hong Kong, it becomes clear what flirting with autocratic states can mean for us in the future.

Kathrin Werner

Carmen and Thomas have just moved to New York. They have big plans for their new life together. But then, separately, they both meet Niu. As if by coincidence she keeps turning up: on the subway, in the coffee shop, on Brooklyn Bridge. Each of them, without realising that the other knows her, falls under Niu’s spell. And they begin to question the lives they have led up to now. Carmen is haunted by the memory of the abortion she had in Germany, which Thomas knows nothing about, and which Carmen now incre-asingly thinks might have been a mistake. Will Carmen and Thomas’s relationship survive? And what is Niu’s role in all this? A sensitively told story about the desires and fears of a young couple in our fast-paced modern world, in which relationships, roles, individual freedom, the perfect idea of family and infinite opportunities are constantly being redefined – and coexist with a deep longing for constancy and reliability.
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