



Annual Report 2024

of the Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice (CAPP) Foundation - German Section

The annual program of the German Section was dominated by the focus on AI and was developed by the Board in close consultation with the National Ecclesiastical Counselor H.E. Bishop Dr. Franz-Josef Overbeck and Domvikar Prof. Dr. Dr. Elmar Nass, Prorektor of Cologne University for Catholic Theology (khkt), his Deputy and Assistant Ecclesiastical Counselor for Rhineland and Westphalia.

The planned CAPP on TOUR visit on January 13th on the topic of **“Solidarity, cooperation and responsibility”** to the emergency shelter for drug-addicted men of the Sozialdienst Katholischer Männer e.V. in Cologne was unfortunately canceled for organizational reasons, but the association was supported with private donations from our members.

The Frankfurt Study Day took place on February 17th with presentations by Dr. Katharina Schüller **“The technical perspective of artificial intelligence - data analysis and data literacy”** and by André Schröder **“The ethical perspective on artificial intelligence - data ethics”**; the lively discussion among the numerous participants led to a final paper **“Building digital trust - how can AI serve the human community”**, which was presented at the International Convention.

There, at the International Convention of CAPP on June 21st /22nd in Rome, a large delegation of the German Section contributed to the discussions on **“Generative Artificial Intelligence and Technocratic paradigm: how to promote the wellbeing of humanity, care for nature and a world of peace”** and received recognition and encouragement from the private audience of Pope Francis.

A special highlight was the national meeting with H.E. Bishop Dr. Franz-Josef Overbeck on September 6th /7th in Essen. With his lecture and contributions from Prof. Tim Bruysten, Msgr. Prof. Dr. Peter Schallenberg and Elwira Wall, the topic **“AI and Catholic Social Teaching: Ethical Responsibility and Practical Application”** was impressively illuminated in different ways.

Continuing the format CAPP-GIN #9, Markus Pflitsch gave a keynote speech on **“Quantum technology in use for the human community”** on October 2nd in the Münchener Herrenclub, a foretaste of the Frankfurt Study Day 2025.



The crowning year end event was the binational meeting with CAPP NL on November 22nd /23rd in Kevelaer and Venlo (Tegelen). In various lectures by Dr. Hubertine Underberg-Ruder, Prof. Dr. Jeroen van den Hoven and Prof. Dr. Jan Peter Balkenende, former Prime Minister of the Netherlands, **“How to deal responsibly with business, AI and capitalism”** was presented and intensively discussed with Auxiliary Bishop Msgr. Dr. Everard de Jong.

In terms of organization, other positive highlights for 2024 include the admission of numerous new members, the appointment of Prof. Dr. Thomas Schwartz, General Director Renovabis, and Father Johannes Zabel OP, Prior Dominican Monastery, as further Assistant Ecclesiastical Counselor for Bavaria and Rhine-Main respectively, the successful relocation of the office from Mönchengladbach (following the closure of the Catholic Social Science Center) to Kleinheubach and the new notice of exemption from the Aschaffenburg Tax Office dated October 8th, which secures our tax exemption and issuance of donation receipts for the next five years. We were also given the great honor by H. Em. Peter Cardinal Turkson, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, to provide the official translation of the document Mensuram Bonam into German.

Finally, I would like to refer you to the detailed reports and information at www.centesimusannus.org/en/activities/local-activities/germany and thank all contributors, moderators and organizers, without whom this ambitious program would not have been possible, for their energetic and outstanding commitment over the past year.

Kleinheubach, January 12th, 2025

Dr. Ulrich Schürenkrämer

Encl.: Program 2024



Program 2024

- 13. January 2024, 10:00 am**
cancelled
- CAPP on TOUR**
‘Solidarity, Cooperation and Responsibility’ visit of the emergency shelter for drug-addicted men, Jane van Well reports about low-threshold help of Sozialdienst Katholischer Männer e.V. in Cologne
- 17. February 2024, 10.00 am**
- Frankfurt Study Day ‘Building Digital Trust – How can AI serve human community?’** and **General Assembly of the German Section** at the Philosophical-Theological University St. Georgen in Frankfurt/Main
- 27. February 2024, 04:00 pm**
- Economy and Society International Award Ceremony** at Istituto Maria Bambina, Rome
- 20. June 2024, 02:30 pm**
21.-22. June 2024
- CAPPF General Assembly** in Vatican City
CAPPF International Convention „Generative Artificial Intelligence and Technocratic paradigm: how to promote the wellbeing of humanity, care for nature and a world of peace” in Vatican City
- 6./7. September 2024**
- National SCAPP-DS Meeting** with H.E. Bishop Dr. Franz-Josef Overbeck in Essen
- 02. Oktober 2024, 06:30 pm**
- CAPP-GIN #9**
„Quantum technology in use for the human community“
After-Dinner Speech from Markus Pflitsch, Chairman and CEO, Terra Quantum AG, and shared exchange in Munich
- 22./23. November 2024**
- Binational Meeting with CAPP NL** in Kevelaer and Venlo