

## Find Us Online

### Browse

Current news items relating to our activities, and magazine articles about our topics, can be found at [www.koerber-stiftung.de/en](http://www.koerber-stiftung.de/en)

### Turn Pages

Books published by Edition Körber, and our publications in the Körber Topics series, provide in-depth contributions to debates.

### Replay

Our videos and podcasts provide you with an opportunity to listen to people who are not content with merely maintaining the status quo.

### Subscribe

Our newsletters, RSS feeds, and social media channels help to keep you up-to-date.

### Share

We look forward to reading your opinions about our topics, whether on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or Instagram!

### Drop in

Visit our public events – we organise more than 100 in Hamburg and throughout Germany every year.

### Körber-Stiftung

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Germany  
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### Executive Board

Dr Lothar Dittmer (Chairman), Dr Thomas Paulsen

## Cultural Initiatives for Hamburg

Arts and culture are not luxuries – they are indispensable elements of our open societies: they challenge what seems to be self-evident, and open up new perspectives on our world. We take seriously the demand for ‘Culture for All’, and we believe in its power to integrate. That is why we campaign to ensure that people from all age groups, social classes, and ethnic backgrounds can participate in arts and culture. By committing to Hamburg’s cultural life, we seek to strengthen the various aspects of civil society. We discuss cultural policy issues in expert groups, award prizes to young talented artists, and cooperate with local cultural institutions. Moreover, we develop our own formats for cultural communication.

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## Our Locations

Our projects and events enable us to act locally, nationally and internationally. The **foundation’s headquarter** is situated in Hamburg’s HafenCity. Here we offer insights into the foundation’s work at our venue – the KörberForum. The **Haus im Park** in Hamburg-Bergedorf provides space for culture, meetings and for people to get involved – especially the generations aged 50+. Our **Berlin office**, located at Pariser Platz, organises dialogues for policy-makers.

## The Founder

As a successful industrialist, **Kurt A. Körber** applied his creative, entrepreneurial drive in his work within society. As an initiator, he became a role model for vibrant forms of social responsibility. With his keen sense for the pressing issues of the day and his hands-on approach, he was able to convince decision-makers both in Germany and abroad. Moreover, he remains an inspiration to everyone who gets involved locally and who stands up for change.

- 1909** Born in Berlin on 7 September
- 1924** Registered first of approx. 200 patents
- 1946** Established Hauni Maschinenfabrik Körber & Co KG in Hamburg-Bergedorf
- 1959** Established the Körber-Stiftung
- 1987** Established Körber AG
- 1991** Honorary Citizenship of the City of Hamburg
- 1992** Died in Hamburg on 10 August



## A Profile



## We Want to Improve Our Society!

We are confident: If we are to improve society, we need dialogue and understanding. That is why we work to promote understanding between peoples and between social groups in Germany, for greater insight and reflection through science, education and culture, and for scrutiny of our historical origins and identity.

Our work is intended at stimulating debates, trying out new approaches, and encouraging the people around us to get involved.

In this respect, we address the challenges facing society, a focus that was a fundamental concern of Kurt A. Körber, our founder.

We combine our activities and projects into three fields of action:

- **Innovation**
- **International Dialogue**
- **Living Civil Society**

We place great importance on remaining ideologically, religiously and party-politically independent. Only through openness and the willingness to achieve a level of understanding that transcends borders, it will be possible to fulfil our founder's intention of 'working together to shape our future'.

You can find our complete guiding principles at [www.koerber-stiftung.de/en/about-us/guiding-principles](http://www.koerber-stiftung.de/en/about-us/guiding-principles)



### Field of Action **Innovation**

Innovation drives the prosperity and future viability of our society. But innovation can only arise when bright and creative minds encounter an environment that encourages talent and provides the necessary space for experimentation. This is why we not only invest in young talent and cutting-edge research but also remain committed to a resourceful educational system and rigorous scientific study. We put new learning and teaching formats to the test with our partners, and, by concentrating on science and technology, especially digital technology, we focus on fields that particularly foster social change. Innovation needs a society that is open to novel ideas. Therefore, we discuss the opportunities and risks associated with processes of innovation and promote a climate of critical openness through our events and publications.

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### Field of Action **International Dialogue**

Conflicts arise in situations that are fraught with misunderstandings and lack debate. Moreover, such conflicts are often grounded in the past. This is why we champion international dialogue and foster more profound understandings of history. We address political decision-makers as well as civil society representatives and emerging leaders from the younger generations. Our geographic focus lies on Europe, its eastern neighbours, the Middle East, and Asia, especially China. We strengthen discussions about history at the local level in a manner that stretches beyond national borders and encourage people to share their experiences of cultures of remembrance. Our foreign- and security-policy formats provide safe spaces for confidential talks built on trust. However, we also employ formats that involve the public, such as publications, competitions and networks, to provide impulses to the debate about common European values and inspire the further development of international cooperation.

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### Field of Action **Living Civil Society**

Strengthening democracy, improving social cohesion and shaping demographic change requires a sense of community, participation and commitment: in short, a living civil society. We use our programs, networks and events to support people involved in discussions about living together in the future, integration and ageing well, and assist people who provide impetus to democracy. With this in mind, we promote entrepreneurship among the elderly and give a voice to people in exile. Moreover, we view local neighbourhoods as crucial areas where citizens can participate in society. This is why we run our own cultural and meeting centre for the elderly, and accompany local actors on the path to enabling cities to face up to the challenges posed by demographic change. We conduct discussions as part of expert networks, but we also undertake public debates because society depends on the participation of all of its citizens.

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