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FOREIGN
RIGHTS
NEWS**

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Susanne Simor
Foreign Rights Director

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susanne.simor@beck.de
089 38189-228



Anna-Sophia Mäder
Foreign Rights Manager
Nonfiction

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Hungary), the Balkans, Baltic
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Turkey, South Korea, Japan

anna-sophia.maeder@beck.de
089 38189-346



Jenny Royston
Foreign Rights Manager
Fiction

jennifer.royston@beck.de
089 38189-335

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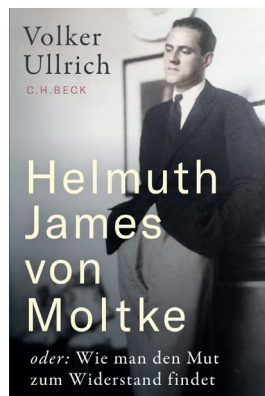
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Volker Ullrich

Helmuth James von Moltke

Or: How to Find the Courage to Resist

432 pages with 26 illustrations
Hardcover

- The new book by bestselling author Volker Ullrich
- Helmuth James von Moltke – an icon of resistance against Hitler
- An inspiring and moving life still highly relevant today
- How do you resist when autocrats seize power?
- New sources from the estate of Helmuth James von Moltke

Resistance to Hitler's dictatorship required total commitment. It was a matter of life and death requiring immense courage, deep inner independence, a sure sense of right and wrong, and a reliable moral compass.

Helmuth James von Moltke, born on 11 March 1907 on the family estate in Kreisau, Silesia, was one of the few who possessed these qualities. Unlike most members of the bourgeois-conservative and military opposition to Hitler, he was a radical opponent of National Socialism from the very beginning. He was the guiding spirit of the Kreisau Circle, the resistance group which, through years of painstaking discussion, managed to work out a detailed program for a new order. Where did he find the inner strength and courage to resist?

Volker Ullrich raises this question in his brilliantly written new biography, reminding us of a man whose example has more to tell us about our times than we might wish.

Volker Ullrich holds a doctorate in history and headed the 'Political Books' section of the newspaper *Die Zeit* from 1990 to 2009. He has published numerous influential historical works, translated into many languages. He received the Alfred Kerr Prize for Literary Criticism in 1992 and an honorary doctorate from the University of Jena in 2008.

Further works of Volker Ullrich published by C.H.Beck:

Eight Days in May

English: W.W.Norton (USA) and Penguin (UK)

Italian: Feltrinelli

Spanish: Penguin Random House Spain

French: Passés Composés

Dutch: De Arbeiderspers

Hungarian: Corvina Kiadó

Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

Swedish: Bokförlaget Lind

Japanese: Subaru Linkage Corporation

Czech: Albatros Media a.s.

Greek: G. Dardanos

Polish: Wydawnictwo Otwarte sp. Z.o.o.

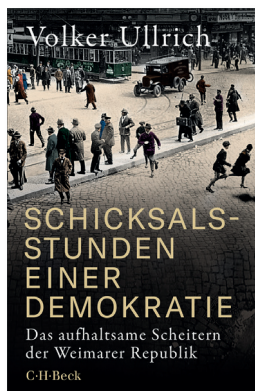
Ukrainian: Laboratory LLC

Germany 1923

English: W.W.Norton

Dutch: De Arbeiderspers

Simplified Chinese: Yilin Press



Volker Ullrich

A Democracy's Hour of Destiny

The Preventable Failure of the Weimar Republic

383 pages

Paperback

English translation rights sold to W.W. Norton for USA / Pushkin Press for UK

Spanish translation rights sold to Penguin Random House Spain

Italian translation rights sold to Feltrinelli

Dutch translation rights sold to De Arbeiderspers/Het Getij

The downfall of a democracy. Volker Ullrich recounts the story of Weimar for our times

Democracies are fragile. Freedoms seemingly established can easily be squandered. Few historical events illustrate this as vividly as the fall of the Weimar Republic. Volker Ullrich tells one of the most dramatic stories in world history, in this exciting book giving us a deep insight into its protagonists. A book that features unsettling parallels with the present day.

The Weimar Republic came into being at an inauspicious time after the German Empire had resoundingly lost the First World War. The Treaty of Versailles imposed harsh conditions on the defeated country. But despite all the hardships it faced, Germany's first experiment with democracy was not always destined to meet an inglorious end. In this compelling book, renowned historian and journalist Volker Ullrich shows that there were multiple opportunities to take a different course, from the founding of the Republic right up to January 1933. It all hinged on a few specific actions taken by individual figures – just as it does today. Ullrich's book is also an urgent warning to us not to forget how fragile democracies are, or how quickly freedoms can be lost when democratic institutions fail, and the powers of civil society are not strong enough to combat the authoritarian temptation.

Volker Ullrich is a historian and, from 1990 to 2009, head of the 'Politics Book' section at the weekly newspaper Die Zeit. He has written a numerous influential historical works. He was awarded the Alfred Kerr Prize for Literary Criticism in 1992 and an honorary doctorate from the University of Jena in 2008.

Dieter Burdorf

This Restless Self. Ingeborg Bachmann

A Biography

450 pages with 25 illustrations

Hardcover

**100th birthday on June 25, 2026:
The new biography of
Ingeborg Bachmann**



- The definitive biography of the most important German author after 1945
- A new picture of Ingeborg Bachmann's life and writing in the context of her important relationships and friendships
- Based on recently published correspondence

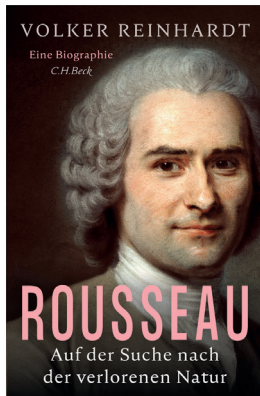
Ingeborg Bachmann shaped post-war German literature like few others — with her poetry, stories, radio plays and novels. Equally fascinating are her life and her eloquent correspondence, some letters have only recently been revealed.

Dieter Burdorf's impressive biography tells her story between light and darkness, fame and inner peril. 'This restless self' as Bachmann referred to herself experienced relationships of existential intensity, where life and writing were inseparably entwined.

Her tragic love with Paul Celan was the defining passion of her life. With Max Frisch, she attempted a quasi-marital existence for four years, ending with her breakdown. A summer affair with Hans Magnus Enzensberger became a friendship collapsing in the end.

Bachmann debated issues of female writing in a male-dominated society in her correspondence with Ilse Aichinger, Marie Luise Kaschnitz and Nelly Sachs. Burdorf reveals an author brilliantly networked in European culture, whose flickering complexity is still to be discovered.

Dieter Burdorf is a Professor of Modern German Literature and Literary Theory at Leipzig University and a member of the Academy of Useful Sciences in Erfurt.



Volker Reinhardt **Rousseau. In Search of Lost Nature**

A Biography

- The first comprehensive biography of Rousseau in decades
- A new image of Rousseau based on many previously neglected sources
- Elegantly and captivatingly written
- No other French Enlightenment philosopher is as widely read today

500 pages with 3 maps
Hardcover

Rousseau's quest for an unspoiled nature, free from the distortions of education, civilization, power and property still fascinates. Yet he knew: there is no 'return to nature.' Volker Reinhardt shows how Rousseau tried to resolve this tension, explaining the eccentric philosopher in his time, thus revealing a surprisingly modern Rousseau in all his contradictions.

A life like a novel: Jean-Jacques, the son of a Geneva watchmaker, is left to cope on his own at an early age, lives with the wealthy Madame de Warens, becomes her lover, and survives as a music teacher, domestic servant, secretary, and poet until he becomes famous in 1750 with a harsh critique of science and the arts and succeeds as a writer: His sentimental novel Julie becomes a bestseller, his social contract stirs up a heated debate, and his educational novel Emile is burned. With increasing fame and hatred, his paranoia grows: but was Rousseau really persecuted?

Volker Reinhardt explores the mysteries in Rousseau's life and shows how much the revolutionary Jacobins revered the pioneer of 'common will' and clung to the ideal of a patriarchal city-state. Rousseau's ideas still influence romantics, educators, and political thinkers. It is time for a fresh look at the great apostle of genuine nature and authentic sensitivity.

Volker Reinhardt is a professor emeritus of history at the University of Fribourg. He has been awarded the Golo Mann Prize for Historiography and the Kythera Cultural Foundation Prize.

Further works published by Volker Reinhardt with C.H.Beck:

Voltaire

Simplified Chinese: Beijing Creative Art Times

The Power of the Epidemic

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

Alexander VI. Borgia

Portuguese: Editora Europa

The Medici

Italian: Carocci Editore

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti

Machiavelli or The Art of Power

Korean: Book Campus

Simplified Chinese: Guangxi Normal University Press

Pontifex

Traditional Chinese: Owl Publishing House

Luther the Heretic

Hungarian: Noran Libro Kiadó

Italian: Marsilio Editori S.p.A.

Korean: Miraebok Publishing C.

Leonardo da Vinci

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

The Renaissance in Italy

Italian: il Mulino

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti

The Power of Beauty. Cultural History of Italy

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

History of Switzerland

Russian: Izdatelstvo VES

Ukrainian: Ecem Media GmbH

My Money! My Soul!

Korean: Words & Book Publishing



320 pages with
25 illustrations

Hardcover

Uwe Neumahr **The Bookshop of the Exiles**

Paris 1940: Refuge and Resistance

- Uwe Neumahr tells the story of this famous place during the German occupation for the first time
- Two courageous booksellers and a love that defied convention
- Where the paths of Joyce and Hemingway, André Gide and Simone de Beauvoir, Walter Benjamin, Gisèle Freund, and many others crossed
- Brilliantly and captivatingly written

Two booksellers in occupied Paris: A story of love and literature

They are literary legends. Adrienne Monnier and Sylvia Beach shaped literary Paris for decades with their neighboring bookshops. But in 1940, everything changed. Their literary oasis in the heart of the city became a refuge for German-Jewish exiles and a center of resistance.

Uwe Neumahr recounts the story of this remarkable couple and their circle. In the roaring twenties, *Shakespeare and Company* and *The House of Book Lovers* became meeting points for writers, intellectuals and artists like James Joyce, Ernest Hemingway, Pablo Picasso, Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir.

With the German invasion of France, literature itself came under threat. Among the occupiers was Ernst Jünger. While Gertrude Stein ingratiated herself with the new Vichy regime Adrienne Monnier and Sylvia Beach did everything they could to save their friends Walter Benjamin, Gisèle Freund, Siegfried Kracauer and many others.

Drawing on archival research, Uwe Neumahr tells this dramatic historical chapter for the first time. It is a story of great literature and its creation, of persecution, violence and humanity, and of the love between two utterly extraordinary women.

Uwe Neumahr holds a doctorate in Romance and German studies. He works as a literary agent and freelance author.

Uwe Neumahr

The Bookshop of the Exiles

Paris 1940: Refuge and Resistance

English translation rights sold to Polity Press

Italian translation rights sold to Marsilio Editori S.p.A.

Dutch translation rights sold to Querido Facto/Het Getij

Spanish translation rights sold to Taurus / Penguin Random House
Grupo Editorial

Chinese translation rights sold to Shanghai 99 Readers' Culture Co.,
Ltd.

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Writers' Castle

English: Pushkin Press

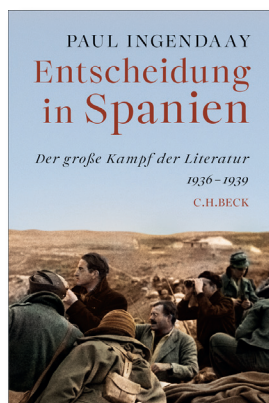
Italian: Marsilio Editori S.p.A.

Spanish: Taurus/Penguin Random House

Dutch: De Arbeiderspers/Het Getij

Hungarian: Corvina Kiado

Chinese: New Star Press Co., Ltd.



304 pages with 24 illustrations
Hardcover

Paul Ingendaay

Decision in Spain

The Great Battle of Literature 1936-1939

- From the weapons of the mind to the weapons of war: idealists and ideologues in the hail of bullets
- A gripping look at the events leading up to World War II
- Paul Ingendaay tells a vivid and atmospheric story: a great reading adventure

Orwell, Hemingway, Simone Weil: When literature entered the war

On July 19, 1936, General Francisco Franco boards a plane bound for Tetuán to join a rebellion against the Spanish Republic. The coup causes horror around the globe and a spontaneous and fierce resistance. Tens of thousands from all over the world volunteer to help the country defend itself against the invasion from within. They are artists, reporters, intellectuals, and persecuted individuals; they are helpers and nurses, idealists, and adventurers.

Spain expert and award-winning novelist Paul Ingendaay tells their story. Summer 1936: In Madrid, residents cool the hot pavement with water, while a few houses away, a gun is drawn in parliament. At the Wagner Festival in Bayreuth, Hitler receives a letter: a certain General Franco asks him for military support in a coup against the Spanish government. Amid all the turmoil, a haphazard group of volunteers sets out to defend Spain against the fascist coup. Ernest Hemingway, George Orwell, Martha Gellhorn, André Malraux, Arthur Koestler, Willy Brandt, Simone Weil, and others join them. It is a time of great decisions in Europe but also of coincidences, accidents, and tragic irony. Paul Ingendaay tells a gripping story of courage and blindness in the prologue to World War II.

Paul Ingendaay is a journalist, novelist, literary critic and scholar. For nearly two decades he reported for the FAZ from Madrid before becoming its Europe correspondent in Berlin in 2016. In 1997 he received the Alfred Kerr Prize for Literary Criticism.

Jörg Baberowski

Beyond the People

A Different History of Democracy

- A controversial contribution to the debate on the current crisis of democracy
- Populism is a constant companion of representative democracy
- The true strength of democracy lies in the integration of conflicting opinions

Orwell, Hemingway, Simone Weil: When literature entered the war

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Last Journey of the The Tsar

English: Polity Press

Scorched Earth. Stalin's Rule of Violence

Polish: Prószyński Media

Russian: Rosspen Publishers

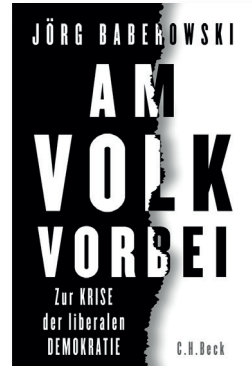
Hungarian: Europa Könyvkiado

The Meaning of History

English: Cambridge University Press

Stalin. The Career of a Violent Criminal

English: Princeton University Press

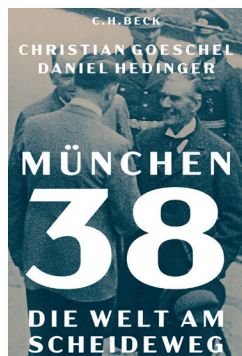


208 pages
Hardcover

Jörg Baberowski reminds us of the true strength of democracy

This is a different story of democracy. One that looks behind the scenes and reveals illusions showing us how all relationships between people are permeated by power, even in democracy. Those who claim to represent the people must withstand the critical gaze of those they are supposed to represent. In the model of representation, populism is therefore always included as a possibility. Instead of seeing dissent from below as an indecent impulse of the 'mob,' we should remember the greatest achievement of democracy which allows us to be in harmony even when we disagree with others. Opponents are not necessarily our enemies. This book proves that the very core of democracy is conflict.

Jörg Baberowski is a Professor of Eastern European History at Humboldt University in Berlin and author of numerous books and essays on Russian and Soviet history. He won the Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2012 for *Scorched Earth*.



320 pages with
20 illustrations
Hardcover

**When the world
stopped breathing: three
days between war and
peace**

Christian Goeschel | Daniel Hedinger

Munich 38

The World at a Crossroads

- Historical narrative: the three days when the world stood between war and peace
- A kind of historical thriller
- Peace negotiations with a dictator: a story of depressing relevance
- When aggression is rewarded: the global consequences of the Munich Conference

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Axis by Daniel Hedinger

Japanese: Jimbun Shoin

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences

Academic Press

English translation rights not available

Munich 38 stands for appeasement towards aggressors. At the Munich Conference, Chamberlain and Daladier gave in to Hitler's threats and abandoned Czechoslovakia. Less than a year later, World War II began. Daniel Hedinger and Christian Goeschel tell the story of the dramatic three days when the world stood at a crossroads asking what the Munich Conference still has to tell us today. The events of that time are shockingly relevant even today.

In the last days of September 1938, war was in the air. The conference in Munich, the capital of the Nazi movement, was a desperate attempt by France and Great Britain to save peace in Europe and the world. Since then, Munich has been a global place of remembrance. However, it has been viewed too much from a purely European perspective, overlooking the global background and impact of the conference. The rise of fascism had already challenged the existing world order. Only in this context could Hitler push ahead with his expansion. Munich 1938 is a warning for our time.

Christian Goeschel is Professor of Modern European History at the University of Manchester.

Daniel Hedinger is a private lecturer and research assistant at the Research Center Global Dynamics at the University of Leipzig.

Susanne Heim

The Sealing of the World

When Jews Faced Closed Borders

1933-1945

- The first overdue synthesis on Jewish emigration in the Nazi era
- Based on numerous previously unknown sources from international archives
- Vividly told with many examples of famous and unknown refugees



364 pages with
19 illustrations
and 2 maps
Clothbound

When Jews faced closed borders

Susanne Heim has, for the first time, systematically examined the perfidious barriers erected by the free nations of the world against Jewish refugees. Her vivid account shows why so few managed to escape until the Nazi state banned emigration and organized mass murder.

Despite desperate efforts, most Jews failed to emigrate. With the Germans approaching potential refuge states closed their borders, tightening restrictions. The League of Nations and the US government tried in vain to coordinate responses. At the Évian Conference in July 1938, states and aid organizations discussed refugee admission — without result. The Nazis sneered: nobody wanted the Jews, so why should Germany?

Denied legal entry, refugees boarded unseaworthy boats, paid smugglers and took illegal routes to safety. Heim's concise, gripping book is a landmark: never ever has international refugee policy and its catastrophic failure been described in such a comprehensive way. A necessary and disturbing read.

Susanne Heim is a historian and political scientist. She led the scholarly edition *The Persecution and Murder of European Jews by Nazi Germany 1933–1945*, was visiting professor in Vienna and has researched at leading institutions and archives in Jerusalem, Washington, Cincinnati and New York.



Luise Schorn-Schütte

The Division of Power

Europe's History in the Early Modern Era

448 pages with 9 illustrations and 10 maps
Hardcover

- From the Reformation to the French Revolution — a new overview of the Early Modern Era
- Personalized insights into major historical events
- By a leading authority on the subject

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Reformation

Simplified Chinese: Guangxi Normal Univ. Press

Italian: il Mulino

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcılık

Tic Ltd Sti

Religious Wars and European Expansion

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic Press

The Birth of Europe - the grand overview

It began with Luther's hammer blows and ended with the proclamation of liberty, equality and fraternity: the Early Modern Era (1517–1789) is a key epoch in European history.

In her new book, Luise Schorn-Schütte narrates this era of transformation concisely and vividly, bringing it to life through the eyes of its protagonists, from reformer Martin Luther to Queen Louise of Prussia and to Martha Washington, America's first First Lady. As one of the leading experts on the period, Schorn-Schütte opens a panoramic view of an age full of decisive events. From the Reformation, the Thirty Years' War, the Peace of Westphalia, the Seven Years' War as the first world war, and the colonization of North America, to Enlightenment, the French Revolution and the Declaration of Human Rights.

Focusing on European history, the book repeatedly widens its lens to global contexts. Accessibility is enhanced by the personalized perspective at the end of each chapter, bringing historical developments vividly to life through individual experience.

Luise Schorn-Schütte is Emeritus Professor of Modern History with a focus on the Early Modern Era at Goethe University Frankfurt. She served on the board of the Association for Reformation History and was Vice President of the German Research Foundation.

Ilko-Sascha Kowalczuk

The Shock of Freedom

Another History Of East Germany From
1989 To The Present

192 pages

Hardcover

7th edition; 50.000 copies sold

Italian translation rights sold to Donzelli Editore

- *'Hardly anyone can explain the GDR as well as historian Ilko-Sascha Kowalczuk.'*
- SPIEGEL, Frank Thadeusz
- *'He impressively describes how difficult it is to free oneself from the impositions and distortions of dictatorship.'* - Spiegel, Anne Rabe

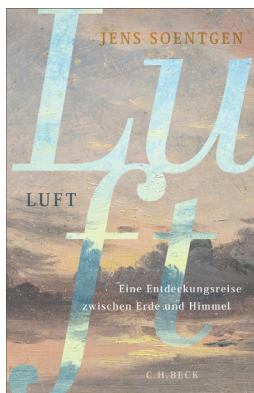


The AfD is a national phenomenon, but it does particularly well in East Germany. Why is this the case? Why is liberal democracy being challenged in the very same part of the country where the first successful German revolution succeeded? Ilko-Sascha Kowalczuk tells the story of East Germany since 1990, framing it as a struggle for freedom whose outcome may well shape the future of the entire country.

East Germany is currently the subject of intense discussion, and Kowalczuk is one of the most prominent voices in the debate. The struggle for freedom is his life's work. Having grown up under the SED dictatorship, he has written seminal works on the history of the GDR and of communism, but also on the revolution of 1989 and the consequences of West Germany's 'takeover' of the GDR. Kowalczuk wants to stop the East Germans being portrayed as victims.

West Germany may have 'invented' its own East Germany. But East Germany also invented – and still is inventing – its own West Germany. East German prejudices about the West have roots stretching all the way back to SED propaganda. These prejudices were reinforced by the frustrations of the reunification process. And now they are preventing many East Germans from embracing the liberal democracy of the Federal Republic. In 1989 a struggle for freedom began in East Germany, still going on to this day. This book tells its story.

Ilko-Sascha Kowalczuk is a historian and journalist and also works as a research associate at the Hamburg Foundation for the Promotion of Science and Culture. He is one of Germany's most renowned experts on the history of the GDR and of communism.



Jens Soentgen

Air

A Journey of Discovery Between Earth and Sky

- Everything about an underestimated element
- Eccentric researchers, bizarre experiments, groundbreaking discoveries
- The first history of air's discovery
- For readers of Andrea Wulf, Ed Yong, Merlin Sheldrake, Dava Sobel

320 pages and 25 illustrations
Hardcover

All about an underrated element

We are surrounded by air and cannot survive without it. We share it with all humans, plants and animals. All living creatures breathe air. This book tells, for the first time, the story of air's discovery. From antiquity to the present, from the whims of weather gods to global warming.

In antiquity, air movements were seen as moods of wind deities, and for centuries air was a philosophical concept. Only in the early modern era did experimental research begin. Alchemists invented new ideas, such as the concept of gas.

Romantic poets and philosophers later called for a re-poetization of the elements — including air. Thorough research in the 20th century enabled inventions from aircraft to fertilizer. Yet air research is far from being accomplished: not only substances but also information travel through the air. It creates a vast web connecting all living beings through inhalation and exhalation. Air is the key to modern understanding of nature.

Jens Soentgen studied chemistry, politics and philosophy at the University of Frankfurt and at TU Darmstadt. He is Scientific Director of the Environmental Science Centre at Augsburg University and Adjunct Professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland. His books include *Thinking for Yourself!* and *How to Philosophize with Fire*.

Rebecca Böhme

The Power of the Mind

What the Strength of Our Thinking Can Achieve

- How our brain creates reality – and how we can use these insights
- The neurobiological and psychological mechanisms underlying our feelings and actions
- For anyone who refuses to accept their own powerlessness
- The path to mental autonomy and self-efficacy
- For greater stability and resilience
- For readers of Leon Windscheid, Brianna Wiest, Mel Robbins, James Clear

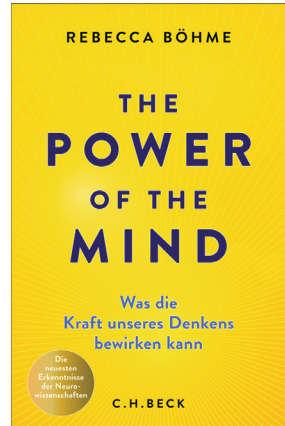
Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Resilience

Simpl. Chinese: Phoenix-Power
Cultural Development Co.

Human Touch

Korean: onbom



220 pages
Hardcover

A new path to self-efficacy

Stability, orientation, community and identity – we all yearn for these basic human needs. The fact that they are no longer being sufficiently met is a problem, both for individuals and for society threatening to fall apart. What can we do to effectively counter this profound crisis of orientation? Rebecca Böhme examines the processes shaping our expectations, attitudes and our self-image. Our brain creates our reality in a continuous interplay of preconceptions and perceptions. Only after reaching the bottom of these neurobiological and behavioral processes we can consciously intervene and free ourselves from external influences capturing us.

In the last third of her book, Rebecca Böhme provides us with a toolbox helping us to unleash our own powers. The power of the mind she teaches us improves both our own lives and those of our fellow human beings.

Rebecca Böhme studied at Heidelberg University and the Max Planck Research School in Tübingen. She won the **For Women in Science Award** for her doctoral thesis at the Clinic for Psychiatry and Psychotherapy of Charité Hospital in Berlin. Today she is Associate Professor at the Centre for Social and Affective Neuroscience in Sweden.



Werner Bätzing

The Alps

History and Future of a European Cultural Landscape

- The standard work on the Alps in its 5th completely revised edition
- The sum of a lifetime of research
- For all current and future lovers of the Alps
- The text targets a general audience curious about the Alps, while annotations serve

504 pages with 154 illustrations,
30 maps and 17 tables
Hardcover; 5th ed.

French translation rights sold to Éditions LEP Loisirs et Pédagogie

Italian translation rights sold to Bollati Boringhieri Editore

'If you want to understand the Alps, Werner Bätzing's book is a must-read.' - GEO Saison about an underrated element

Can the destruction of the Alps as a human living space and economic area still be stopped? Will they degenerate into an adventure park or into transit corridors or even into depopulated regions? Will climate change make them uninhabitable?

Internationally renowned Alpine researcher Werner Bätzing has thoroughly revised and updated his acclaimed book, drawing on nearly 50 years of study. He examines how the Alps developed as a cultural landscape, how tourism, industry, hydropower, urbanization and traffic transformed them after 1880, and what their future might look like in 2050. The central question here is how to grant the Alps a future worthwhile living.

Numerous photos and maps illustrate the arguments, making this book a very special reading experience.

Werner Bätzing, Professor Emeritus of Cultural Geography at Erlangen-Nuremberg University, is the leading Alpine researcher of our time. His publications have shaped scientific standards and public discussion for decades.

Gustav Seibt

A Summer with Goethe

- Enjoying the beautiful days with Goethe – a reading guide
- Written by one of Germany's foremost Goethe experts
- Goethe as an antidepressant strengthening soul, heart and mind

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Goethe and Napoleon

Arabic: Kalima

Italian: Donzelli

Simplified Chinese: Heilongjiang education Press



280 pages

Hardcover

Happiness, love, freedom – a refreshing journey through Goethe's cosmos

'It is no disgrace not to have read Goethe so far. It is only a pity, and you can always start.' This is the beginning of Gustav Seibt's little Goethe summer course for everyone who has always wanted to get familiar with the Weimar classic but never dared to.

In fifty lessons, with original quotations, this book shows us what he thought about love, friendship, freedom, order and nature and even about God. On every page of this enchanting little book, we encounter his incomparable beauty and wisdom.

A Summer with Goethe is not a short biography sprinkled with quotations. The goal is to present Goethe in his poetry, his reflections and his wording. The essay is arranged by themes and recurring motifs, following the chronology of Goethe's works, including all genres, always enticing with selected Goethe texts. None of these excursions into Goethe's world is longer than three pages, each one ending with some Goethe aphorism or poem.

Gustav Seibt offers in fewer than 250 pages, an 'Essential Goethe' designed to delight Goethe professionals and to offer an introduction to all those still not too familiar with Goethe.

Gustav Seibt is an essayist, historian and literary critic. He has worked for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* since 2001. Among his many honors are the Sigmund Freud Prize for scientific prose and the Hildegard von Bingen Prize for journalism.



380 pages with 90 illustrations
Hardcover

Golo Maurer

Olevano

How a few German Dropouts in Italy
invented German Art

- The astonishing story of the invention of German art in Italy
- Written with wit and irony, rich in exciting and curious stories
- The author is a well-known expert on German art

German places of longing and first artists' colony

Olevano — an iconic place of longing for a group of young German Romantics who fled civilization to reinvent art in the solitude and authenticity of a remote mountain village.

Around 1800, there were many German artists, but no German art existed yet. It still had to be invented, and it did not happen in Germany, but in Italy, in Olevano. Up there, in the solitude of the oak forests, far from the hustle and bustle of Rome, the first German artists' colony in history was established. Around 1820, a small band of romantic outsiders sought the future in the past. Many died young, but their paintings survived to witness the myth of Olevano.

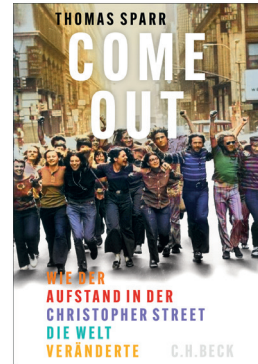
Golo Maurer is an art historian living in Rome. He heads the library of the Max Planck Institute for Art History (Bibliotheca Hertziana) and is an expert on German-Italian cultural history.

Thomas Sparr

Come Out!

How the Uprising in Christopher Street
Changed the World

- The first non-fiction book in German about the uprising on Christopher Street
- The political significance of Christopher Street Days is growing every year



240 pages with
20 illustrations
Hardcover

The Birth of a Movement

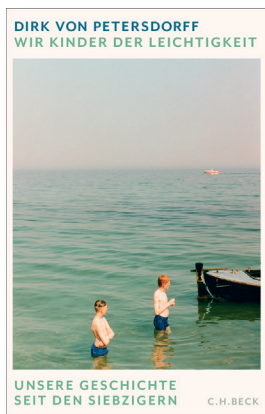
'For homosexuals, the Third Reich is not yet over', wrote historian Hans-Joachim Schoeps in 1963. Six years later it all ended in one night on Christopher Street in New York.

Thomas Sparr writes about a successful self-liberation still at stake. On the night of 28 June 1969, young men and women at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar, violently resisted a police raid. This 'uprising of the outrageous' became a global symbol of resistance and self-assertion for a marginalized minority.

That same year, the legal situation regarding homosexuality is liberalized in West Germany and many other countries. Sparr explores the myth and reality of the Christopher Street uprising and its lasting impact. How did it change the self-image of gay men and women and their perception?

Year after year, Christopher Street Days in Germany, America, Budapest—and the banned ones in Tehran, Moscow and Minsk — remind us: If you don't defend yourself, you love wrongly.

Thomas Sparr is Editor-at-Large at Suhrkamp Verlag and a freelance writer. He worked at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Leo Baeck Institute and the German Literature Archive in Marbach. Later he headed Jüdischer Verlag, was chief editor at Siedler Verlag and a member of Suhrkamp's management.



Dirk von Petersdorff

Children of Lightness Our Story Since the Seventies

- An enchanting book about Lifestyle in the late 1970s
- About the lightness of life and how things have turned out since then
- Written with great clarity

176 pages

Hardcover

The History of a Lifestyle

With the end of the seventies, grand narratives began to crumble. Marxism, faith in progress through technology and other ideologies fell apart. A feeling of lightness and freedom prevailed.

Dirk von Petersdorff tells this story with delightful ease. Back then, air-cushioned shoes were invented. People ate salads, and Michael Jackson danced the moonwalk.

In an era without certainties, rigidity dissolved, life escaped control, borders between people and countries fell apart. 9/11 has challenged this feeling, authoritarian tendencies and new wars have created pervasive insecurity. In this general instability, people long for reassuring connections. How can we preserve the old lightness?

A child of lightness himself, Petersdorff recalls a past he wishes to preserve.

Dirk von Petersdorff is a Professor of Modern German Literature at Jena University, as well as a writer and poet. He has won numerous awards, including the Kleist Prize. His works for C.H.Beck include poetry collections, novellas and editions of classics.

Christian Thielemann

in cooperation with Christine Lemke-Matwey

My Life with Wagner

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

My Life with Wagner

English: The Orion Publishing Group

Chinese: Beijing Imaginist Time Culture

Spanish: Ediciones Akal

Portuguese: Editora da Univ. de Sao Paolo

My journey to Beethoven

Simplif. Chinese: Beijing Standway Books Co. Ltd.



320 pages with
27 illustrations
Paperback, 2nd revised ed.

150 years of the Bayreuth Festival in 2026: the updated new edition of Christian Thielemann's unique Wagner book

Christian Thielemann knows Richard Wagner like no one else. He relates his experiences with Wagner, guides readers through the universe of his works and investigates the magic spell cast by Wagner's music making it so unique.

'I don't know which came first for me, thinking about Wagner or about conducting.' Since the beginning of Christian Thielemann's career Richard Wagner has inspired and challenged him. In this book he describes how he came to discover Wagner, what he has learned on his journey with the composer and which encounters have influenced him most. He offers a personal tour through the operas, introducing their main figures and peeking into Wagner's laboratory, where the most addictive sounds in the world were blended. Readers also have a rare opportunity to glimpse into a conductor's head as he prepares to conduct a Wagner opera. What must he bear in mind if the magic is to unfold in a performance? Finally, we understand better why a life with Wagner is so fulfilling.

Christian Thielemann, born 1959 in Berlin, became Germany's youngest music director in Nuremberg at 29. He later led the Deutsche Oper Berlin and the Munich Philharmonic and has conducted at major opera houses and with top orchestras such as the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonics. Since his acclaimed 2000 debut, he has been a frequent guest at the Bayreuth Festival.



Wolfgang Krieger

A History of Intelligence Services

From the Pharaohs to Cyberwarfare

408 pages

Paperback

4th updated and expanded edition

French rights sold to **CNRS Editions**

Italian rights sold to **Mimesis Edizioni**

Czech rights sold to **Vysehrad Publishers**

Serbian rights sold to **Laguna**

Arabic rights sold to **The National Council for Culture, Arts And Letters**

Korean rights sold to **eco-livres Publishing Co.**

'A compact, highly informative, and readable history of clandestine intelligence services.' - The Paper Damals

'Krieger, a Marburg historian, offers pointed commentary on intelligence services from the ancient pharaohs to the American National Security Agency of today.'

- Thomas Speckmann, Die Welt

From the pharaohs to cyberwarfare — the fascinating world of espionage

Not only since the rise of authoritarian rulers worldwide have intelligence services regained particular significance. Wolfgang Krieger as the leading experts on international intelligence services and their methods provides us a factual but gripping account of their history from the earliest advanced civilization to the present day. He does not simply depict the historical past of these services but investigates their fundamental significance in international politics. Without them no society could deal with acute or unprecedented threats and dangers.

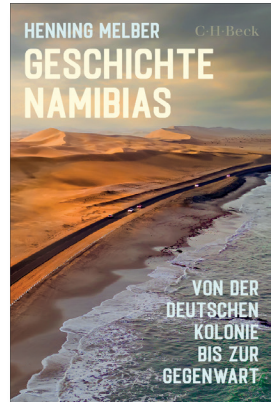
Wolfgang Krieger is professor of modern history at the University of Marburg and has held fellowships at Harvard and Oxford.

Henning Melber

History of Namibia

From the German Colony to the Present

- Background information about this fascinating holiday destination in southern Africa
- Namibia's struggle for freedom and the victory of democracy
- The genocide of the Germans /Apartheid in South Africa / The hopes of a young generation turned out since then



204 pages with
11 illustrations and
3 maps
Flap brochure

From 'German Southwest Africa' to independence: A dreamland and its traumas

German Southwest Africa was the only German colony with significant numbers of settlers. Traces of German culture and merciless German rule are therefore omnipresent there until now. Henning Melber tells the story of Namibia from its early societies through colonial oppression to its democratic present. An impressive, knowledgeable portrait of a great country with a history intricately interwoven with German history.

'The Germans not only brought the railway to Southwest Africa but also committed genocide on the Nama and Herero peoples. Since then, much has changed in this rich and diverse country. What exactly has happened in the meantime? How has Namibia developed since its independence? And what is the Germany's position as a former colonial power? Henning Melber provides illuminating and forward-looking answers.' - Uwe Timm

Henning Melber is a political scientist and sociologist, former research director at the Nordic Africa Institute in Uppsala and extraordinary professor in Pretoria and Bloemfontein. Having come to Namibia as a teenager, he joined the SWAPO liberation movement in 1974. He has worked for Namibia in academic and other roles and has published numerous works on the country's past and present.



304 pages with
47 illustrations and 1 map
Paperback

Linda Maria Koldau

Titanic

The ship, the disaster, the legends —
retold with cultural insight

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Tsunamis

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve
Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti

***'How the Titanic became the ghost ship of our collective memory.'* -
Nils Markwardt, Literaturen**

In her brilliantly written book, Linda Maria Koldau revisits the Titanic case explaining what we know about the luxury liner, its passengers, the circumstances of its sinking and the wreck. Thus, she makes it clear why the disaster has produced so many moving stories of love and death. Monday, 15 April 1912, 2:18 a.m.: Three hours after colliding with an iceberg, the Titanic breaks apart and sinks. Only around 700 of the 2,200 passengers survive. The circumstances of the disaster are obscured for liability reasons, and legends quickly cover up the true events. Linda Maria Koldau has reexamined the documents to show which real points of reference were used by the legends, films and novels about the disaster. She masterfully brings the last hours on the floating luxury hotel to life. The result is an impressive cultural history of the shipwreck reaching far beyond the factual report.

Linda Maria Koldau, cultural historian, worked at the universities of Frankfurt am Main, Aarhus (Denmark) and Utrecht (Netherlands), first in historical musicology, then as a professor of cultural history.

Peter Rohrsen

The Small Tea Companion

Histories and Cultures

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Tea

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve
Reklamcılık Tic Ltd Sti



158 pages with
10 illustrations,
some in colour, 10 maps

A delightful journey through the world of tea

In Peter Rohrsen's new book we learn all about the tea plant, including its varieties and distribution across the tropical 'Tea Belt'. He describes everything from picking, processing and transporting, giving insights on the mysteries of black, green and other teas. He presents the vast growing regions and leading varieties, from Assam and Darjeeling to Sencha and Uva. He explains how tea is quality checked to ensure it benefits our health and does no harm while also looking at aspects of the sometimes-controversial legacy of the British Empire and its commercial plantation business. We also learn how today's global players operate in the contemporary tea market and what alternative forms of production and trade have developed. Finally, Peter Rohrsen walks us through the vast tea-drinking cultures of Asia and Europe with tips on how to make the perfect cup of tea - both for ourselves and the enjoyment of others!

As the old saying goes, *'The Path to Heaven passes through a Teapot'*.

Peter Rohrsen, one of the first certificated tea sommeliers in Germany, taught English cultural history at the University of Göttingen for many years and also headed up the Asian section at the Carl-Duisberg-Gesellschaft in Cologne.



Martin Zimmermann

Lost Worlds

Ruined Cities in Antiquity from Troy to Pompeii

- How did people in ancient times deal with ruins?
- A new perspective on famous sites of antiquity
- Opens up new insights into ancient ways of life
- A broad panorama of well-known and unknown places is presented

672 pages with 30 illustrations

and 10 maps

Clothbound

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Strangest Places of Antiquity

Italian: Giulio Einaudi Editore

Simplified Chinese: Shanghai Mushen Culture Media Co., Ltd

A fascinating journey to the ruins of antiquity

Today, millions of visitors stroll through ancient ruins, admiring crumbling monuments and imagining daily life within those walls long ago. Nostalgia and romantic melancholy about the fall of old cultures, however, are modern phenomena. This book invites us to see famous sites like Troy, Mycenae, Nineveh and Pompeii through entirely new eyes, those of their ancient inhabitants.

Cities are like people, born to die while others bloom elsewhere. In antiquity, ruined cities were treated far more pragmatically than today: ruins were not positive; they were cleared or ignored. Only in rare cases they staged as memorials. Why?

Martin Zimmermann takes us on a fascinating journey through the shattered landscapes of antiquity. He illuminates the reasons for urban collapse (wars, natural disasters, resettlements) and shows how ancient people repeatedly found ways out of even the most dramatic situations through planning, mobility and improvisation.

Martin Zimmermann is Professor of Ancient History at the University of Munich.

Alexander Demandt

Beautified History

Forgery and Fiction Since Antiquity

- Ancient fake news exposed
- Historical falsifications from Homer to Cicero and from the Persian Empire to Roman Emperors

Further works published by C.H.Beck:
Power and Law

Italian: Giulio Einaudi Editore

Spanish: Editorial Critica

Hungarian: Könyvkiado Holnap

Little World History

Italian: Donzelli

Polish: Wydawnictwo Poznanskie

The Private Life of Roman Emperors

Polish: Wydawnictwo 'Uraeus'



544 pages
Clothbound

Fake News from Homer to Constantine the Great

Fake news a modern invention of autocrats and erratic US presidents? Not at all! Even in antiquity, history and stories were bent and twisted to support worldviews, defame opponents or legitimize power. From the Persian Empire to the Roman emperors, from Homer to late antiquity, Alexander Demandt, the grand master of ancient history, offers a witty and insightful account of countless cases of historical falsification.

Romans and Greeks invented manifold reasons to justify their brutal wars. Kings and rulers like Julius Caesar claimed divine descent. Constantine the Great was certain his victory at the Milvian Bridge came from the Christian God's aid. Even seemingly objective sources always painted a subjective picture.

Uncovering the truth behind these distortions is often difficult today. But anyone who joins Demandt's detective work will soon learn to look closer — and recognize how and why history has always been imaginatively doctored and forged.

Alexander Demandt taught Ancient History at the University of Berlin until his retirement.



Michael Sommer | Stefan von der Lahr

The Damned Bloody History of Antiquity

without all the boring stuff

- Antiquity brought down from its pedestal – a delightfully irreverent history
- Well-researched and factually accurate
- Narrated by two experts in dark suspense
- Top 10 SPIEGEL bestselling list

5th ed. in print
33.000 copies sold

320 pages with 27 illustrations
by Lukas Wossagk
Hardcover

A completely different history of Antiquity

1200 years of antiquity – a golden age full of wisdom, beauty and virtue? Not at all! Instead, we find murder and turmoil of Greeks and Romans.

Michael Sommer and Stefan von der Lahr lead us out of our historical comfort zone focusing on the broad trail of blood Greeks and Romans left throughout history.

Illustrious names such as Achilles, Romulus, Pericles, Alexander, Caesar and Augustus greet us from the past. However, their business was not least murder on a grand and small scale: in war and against opponents, even against stubborn friends.

Democrats and republicans were often bloody conquerors violently suppressing the desire for freedom of their own people.

Michael Sommer and Stefan von der Lahr tell us the whole damn truth, factually accurate, true to life and without taboos.

Michael Sommer is Professor of Ancient History at the University of Oldenburg with various publications.

Stefan von der Lahr was the editor of the classical studies list at C.H.Beck from 1992 to 2024 with various own publications.

Michael Sommer

The Murder of Caesar

The Last Days of a Dictator

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

The Phoenicians

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcilik
Tic Ltd. Sti

Italian: Il Mulino

Economic History of Antiquity

Turkish: Repar Tasarım Matbaa ve Reklamcilik
Tic Ltd. Sti

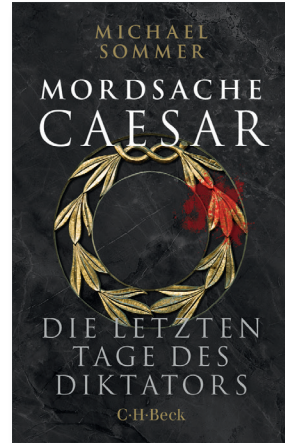
Simplified Chinese: Beijing Phoenix-Power
Cultural Development

Dark Rome. The secret Life of the Romans

Italian: Mondadori Electa S.p.A.

Spanish: Grupo editorial Akal

Czech: Albatros Media a.s.



316 pages with
11 illustrations and
2 maps
Paperback

Death of a Dictator: The last days of Gaius Julius Caesar

When Gaius Julius Caesar is stabbed by conspirators during the senate session on 15 March 44 B.C., Rome is left reeling. Caesar is mortally wounded, having been knifed at least 23 times. How could this happen? Who are the perpetrators? And most importantly: what drove them to commit murder? As historical detective, Michael Sommer breathes new life into this world-famous criminal case and paints a vivid picture of the people involved and of their motives, desires and ambitions. The attack on Caesar may have been unexpected, but it did not come completely out of the blue.

After Caesar was appointed dictator for life on 15 February 44 B.C., some individuals began to weave a web of conspiracy which would come to a head with his bloody murder on the Ides of March. Based on extensive ancient source material, Michael Sommer describes the events from the various perspectives of some of the figures involved. With the accuracy of a detective, he reveals the very different motives of Caesar's murderers. This compelling portrayal of the murder of a tyrant also holds up a mirror to an era of great upheaval.

Michael Sommer is Professor of Ancient History at the University of Oldenburg.



144 pages
Flap brochure

When Taiwan falls – Andreas Fulda's shocking scenario

A gripping analysis of the geopolitical consequences of a Chinese assault on Taiwan and strategies for conflict prevention.

A Chinese fighter jet crashes in Taiwanese airspace after a risky manoeuvre. Beijing's rulers then order an attack on the island nation. The US, divided internally, enters the war, but far too late: China has already annexed Taiwan, supported by Russia, Iran and North Korea. The global geopolitical and economic consequences are devastating: the US and China are fighting for world domination, a third world war is looming, and the European economy is collapsing. Germany is particularly vulnerable due to its entanglement with China. In his scenario, political scientist Andreas Fulda analyses the global consequences of a Chinese invasion of Taiwan and shows ways to avoid conflict. A wake-up call to defend the free world!

Andreas Fulda is a political scientist and expert on relations between China and the EU. He is an associate professor of politics at the University of Nottingham and writes regularly for media outlets such as FAZ, WirtschaftsWoche, NZZ and Foreign Policy.

Andreas Fulda

When China Attacks A Scenario

- Speculative geopolitical analysis and alternative world history – Andreas Fulda's gripping scenario
- Why the world's most dangerous conflict has the potential to destroy the global order
- How this dystopia can be prevented with German assistance
- For all readers of Carlo Masala's *Wenn Russland gewinnt* (If Russia Wins)

Carlo Masala
If Russia Wins
A Scenario

Danish, Swedish, Finnish, Norwegian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Czech, French, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, English, Estonian and Lithuanian rights sold



Philip Manow

Division Lines

Europe's Party Systems and the
Deconsolidation of the Nation State

- Right-wing workers against left-wing middle class? How (and why) party competition in Europe is being realigned
- An analytical proposal for orientation and its empirical assessment in politically



176 pages
Flap brochure

The new axis of conflict in Europe? Philip Manow's essay on the transformation of European party systems

Along which lines are the political conflicts of our time being sorted? Our traditional concepts of order no longer seem to offer any reliable guidance. Today, the left-wing middle class often stands against the right-wing working class.

In his new book political scientist Philip Manow interprets this new situation as the result of the transformation of European party systems. The central thesis of the essay is that this transformation itself is a reaction to the questioning of the nation state as the level at which social interests had previously been organized. If this diagnosis is correct, the current crisis cannot be explained by the emergence of a new cultural division line – for example, as an opposition between cosmopolitans and communitarians. Rather, it leads to the erosion of previous forms of political interest representation. Consequently, our usual focus on parties and their strength is no longer sufficient to inform us about political developments.

Philip Manow is a political scientist and professor of international political economy at the University of Siegen.



Ruprecht Polenz

How a People loses its mind

And what we can do about it

144 pages

Flap brochure

Post from the far right – About the battle for truth on social

Democracy depends on an electorate capable of making informed judgements. It also has to be able to distinguish facts from opinions. The ideal subject however is someone for whom it no longer matters whether the ruler lies or tells the truth, as Hannah Arendt analyzed. If this becomes the general attitude, criticism is no longer possible. SPIEGEL bestselling author Ruprecht Polenz is one of Germany's most influential political influencers. For many years, he has been dealing with fake news from right-wing trolls on social media, facing hostility and abuse – and fighting back courageously.

In his new book, he uses numerous examples from his life as an influencer to show how right-wing populists and extremists are working systematically to make us lose our minds.

Polenz is unwavering: his book analyses how attacks on the truth are supported by social media. He shows how we can strengthen our system of truth-finding and makes suggestions on how to protect ourselves from losing our minds.

Ruprecht Polenz is one of the most influential German politicians on social media (approx. 100,000 followers on X) and was awarded the Golden Blogger Award in 2020. He was a member of the German Bundestag and also chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. He is considered one of the most prominent defenders of our democracy against right-wing extremists. Polenz regularly appears on public television talk shows and is invited to give lectures.

Sighard Neckel

Age of Catastrophe

Society in Climate Change and the Pitfalls

- Climate change as a greenhouse for social conflicts
- Which social forces and constellations stand in the way of socio-ecological transformation
- Shows realistic paths to ecological and social economic progress
- Avoids an apocalyptic tone without relativising the urgency of the issue
- a left-wing contribution without dogmatism or arrogance



256 pages
Flap brochure

How climate change threatens society and democracy

In his new book, sociologist Sighard Neckel analyses the great dilemma of our time with sober clarity: while climate change is leading to an ecological catastrophe, measures to curb it pose an unprecedented challenge threatening to overwhelm modern societies. Climate conflicts intensify social inequalities and the crisis of democracy. Disputes over lifestyles turn social groups against each other. The rich continue to profit from climate damage. As a result, too little or nothing is being done, and disaster is looming ever closer. The pressing issues surrounding climate change are giving rise to countless new sources of conflict, in which different interests, values and social milieus are intertwined. The fronts in climate policy are hardening, while climate change is becoming less of a priority for governments, the economy and the population. The urgent socio-ecological transformation is therefore not taking place. Neckel therefore argues even more emphatically for a radical transformation of the economy, society and politics, and for an ecological 'infrastructure socialism' in favor of the common good, to avert the impending catastrophe.

Sighard Neckel is a sociologist and professor emeritus of social analysis and social change at the University of Hamburg. There, he most recently headed the DFG research group 'Futures of Sustainability'.



Armin Nassehi

Notes on Antisemitism

The Functioning of Antisemitism and Western self-image

- What is the function of Antisemitism in Western societies?
- Armin Nassehi examines antisemitism from left to right
- What Antisemitism has to do with Western self-hatred - Armin Nassehi explains

224 pages
Flap brochure

Further works published by C.H.Beck:

Patterns

English: Polity Press

Armin Nassehi on the function of Antisemitism in our time

Antisemitic ideas, codes, symbols and actions are currently enjoying considerable visibility – and this is not only due to Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel in 2023 and the military and political consequences of this event. In his new book, sociologist Armin Nassehi examines the common core of antisemitic forms of right-wing extremist, bourgeois, left-wing, postcolonial and Islamist nature.

The key question, which is not historical but explicitly sociological, is: What is the function of antisemitism in Western societies? Nassehi answers it with the thesis that antisemitic ways of thinking always have to do with unresolved self-relationships and that they help to answer questions of self-description. Nassehi's book is thus also a contribution to the question of how the self-referentiality of the 'West' directs its paradoxical self-relationships towards something foreign that is at the same time its most familiar self, namely the imagined Jewish.

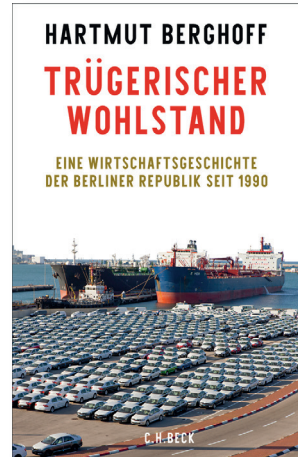
Armin Nassehi, Vice-President of Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, 1998 to 2025 Holder of the Chair of General Sociology and Social Theory.

Hartmut Berghoff

Deceptive Prosperity

An Economic History of the Berlin Republic from 1990 to the Present

- The first comprehensive account of the economic history of the Berlin Republic
- Highlights the successes and challenges since reunification
- Examines the significance of migration, social inequality, and political failure
- A balanced account that identifies problem areas but also gives cause for optimism



368 pages
Hardcover

From shining example to suffering patient? The German economy since reunification

Germany is in the middle of a 'turning point' and faces profound upheavals. Many misleading interpretations of recent economic and social history are circulating in politics and in the media, generating wrong recommendations for future action. Enemies of democracy paint bleak pictures and demand radical change.

Hartmut Berghoff's new book offers a sober, fact-based assessment of socio-economic developments since reunification. It identifies strengths but also serious missteps. Ironically, successes entrenched old structures and blocked necessary reforms. The Federal Republic became a land of contradictions.

Deceptive Prosperity is the first economic-historical analysis of the Berlin Republic from reunification to today.

Hartmut Berghoff is the Director of the Institute for Economic and Social History at Göttingen University. From 2008 to 2015 he headed the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. He has held fellowships and guest professorships at Harvard, Paris, Zurich and UC San Diego.

C.H.Beck
Wissen



Hannes Ziegler

History of England

From the Middle Ages to the Present Day

128 pages with 5 illustrations
and 4 maps

England and the British Empire from its beginnings to the present day

'This lady is not for turning,' Margaret Thatcher once said about herself – and somehow that also applies to England. Hannes Ziegler recounts English history from the Middle Ages to the post-Brexit present and shows how much this history differs from that of continental Europe due to the early development of constitutional law, the evolution towards modern statehood and an empire on which the sun never set. England stands for great parliamentary and monarchical traditions, for risk-taking inventiveness, rigid capitalism and a cash strapped NHS. An overview of a small country that has shaped the world politically and culturally.

Hannes Ziegler is the Professor of Early Modern History at Dresden University.

Volker Depkat

The American Revolution



128 pages with 2 maps

4th July 2026: 250 years of American independence

The American Revolution began as a tax dispute, but it did not end there. Soon it was also about the question of what constitutes legitimate rule. Its foundations were redefined with the American Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776. In their revolution, the Americans invented not only liberal democracy, but also modern constitutionalism and federalism. Volker Depkat describes the conflict between the mother country and the colonies which escalated after 1763. He provides an overview of the economy, society and culture of the colonies, and shows how the American Revolution continues to shape the United States until today.

Volker Depkat is a Professor of American Studies at the University of Regensburg.



Otfried Höffe
Ethics
An Introduction

3rd revised edition
128 pages with 2 maps

Why do we need morality?

What basic models of ethics does philosophy develop? Not least: how does ethics respond to the challenges of a globalized world in economics, science and environment? From fundamental ethics to anthropology and action theory to applied ethics, this book covers all relevant topics in a concise, succinct and generally understandable manner.

Otfried Höffe is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Tübingen, Director of the Political Philosophy Research Centre there, and Professor of Practical Philosophy at Tsinghua University in Beijing. His work focuses primarily on ethics and political philosophy, as well as on Kant and Aristotle.

**Further works published by Otfried Höffe
with C.H.Beck:**

Immanuel Kant

English: State University of New York
Italian: il Mulino
Japanese: Hosei University Press
Korean: Moonye Publishing Co.
Brazilian Portuguese: Editora WMF Martins

The Fine Art of Aging

Simplified Chinese: Social Sciences Academic P.
Korean: TheQUEST

Justice

Japanese: Faculty of Law of the University
of Tokyo
Portuguese: Universitätsverlag PUCR
Porto Alegre
Serbian: Akademska Knjiga

***Economic Citizen, National Citizen,
World Citizen***

Simplified Chinese: Shanghai Translation Publ.
Spanish: Katz Editores

A Little History of Philosophy

Spanish: Ediciones Peninsula
Polish: Polish Scientific Publishers

Aristotle

Portuguese: Artmed Editora S.A.

Art of Life and Morality

English: Northwestern University Evanston

Classics of Philosophy

Korean: Hangilsa Publishing Co.
Swedish: Bokförlaget Forum AB

Thomas Hobbes

English: State University of New York
Spanish: Ediciones Xorki

Critique of Freedom

English: University of Chicago
Press

***Democracy in the Age of
Globalization***

Simplified Chinese: Shanghai
Translation Publishers
Italian: il Mulino
Brazilian Portuguese: Editora
WMF Martins

Kant's Critique of Pure Reason

Portuguese: Edicoes Loyola

***Kant's Critique of Practical
Reason***

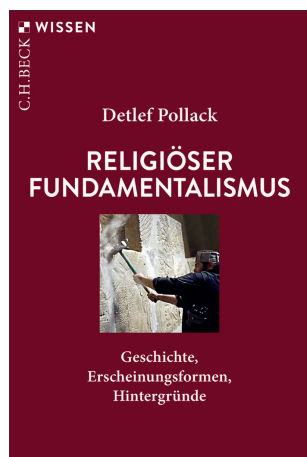
Japanese: Hosei University Press

Lexicon of Ethics

Korean: Ye-Kyong-Publication Co.
Spanish: Editorial Critica

Is Democracy fit for the Future?

Russian: Delo Publishers
Serbian: Akademska Knjiga



Detlef Pollack

Religious Fundamentalism

History, Manifestation, Background

128 pages

When religions become extremely dangerous

Muslim Brotherhood, evangelical Christians, ultra-Orthodox Jews or Hindu nationalists: fundamentalists exist in all religions. They all have in common that they divide the world into good and evil, conjure up an ideal past, believe to be in possession of the truth, propagate a patriarchal image of the family and they want to impose their values universally and politically. Detlef Pollack vividly describes how counter-movements against science and pluralism have developed within the major religions. His masterful overview is a wake-up call to defend open society against the destructive militancy of fundamentalists.

Detlef Pollack was Professor of Sociology of Religion at the University of Münster and spokesperson for the Cluster of Excellence 'Religion and Politics'.

Jörg Ernesti

The Popes

From Antiquity to the Present



128 pages with
6 illustrations and
2 maps

The papacy fascinates as a seemingly ancient institution with unchanging powers and rituals. Jörg Ernesti explains how the primacy of the bishops of Rome gradually emerged in ancient times. In the Middle Ages, the popes gained political power, compensated for their loss of power in the Renaissance and Baroque periods with a unique culture. They aligned the Catholic Church with themselves in modern times, and advanced to become a moral authority.

Jörg Ernesti is Professor of Medieval and Modern Church History at the University of Augsburg.



Martin Jehne

The Roman Republic From its Foundation to Caesar

4th updated edition
128 pages with 2 maps

This volume covers a wide range of topics, from the legendary early days of Rome and the rise of the Republic to supremacy in the Mediterranean region, through the Punic Wars against Hannibal and the Gracchi's attempts at reform, to the Ides of March 44 BC. It also makes it clear that in the last decades of the Republic, the Roman Senate was no longer able to meet the challenges of governing a global empire and that the new form of government, the monarchy, was already emerging.

Martin Jehne taught ancient history as a professor at TU Dresden. He has also published a volume on Caesar in C.H.Beck Wissen (6th ed., 2024).

Maria Osmers

The Roman Empire

From Augustus to Diocletian

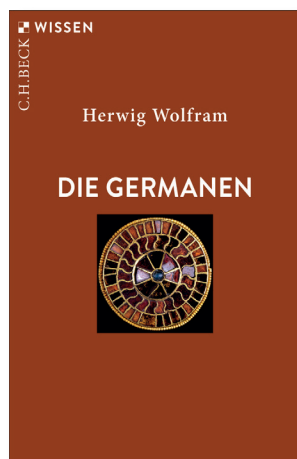


128 pages with 1 map

Roman history presented clearly: From Augustus to the beginning of Late Antiquity

The reign of the first emperor, Augustus, marked a turning point in Roman history. The republican constitution, which had lasted for more than 400 years, was destroyed from within and ultimately replaced by the rule of a single man. This volume provides a comprehensive overview of the history, political order, society, military and religion of the Roman Empire.

Maria Osmers teaches ancient history at the University of Würzburg and focuses his research on the history of the Roman Empire during the imperial period.



Herwig Wolfram **The Germanic Peoples**

12th updated edition
128 pages

The true history of the Germanic peoples

This book takes the reader on a short journey into the world of the Germanic tribes. Herwig Wolfram explains their origins and myths, their lives and deeds, describes their tribes and portrays the period of the 'migration of peoples'. What you need to know about the history of the Germanic tribes – it is summarized here in a memorable way.

Herwig Wolfram is Professor Emeritus of Medieval History at the University of Vienna.

Hermann Parzinger

The Stone Age

From the first Hand Axe
to Settling Down

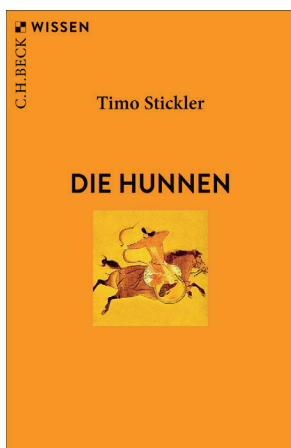


128 pages with
4 illustrations
and 3 maps

The early history of humanity at a glance

This volume offers an accessible overview of the multifaceted history of the Stone Age: from the origins of humankind in Africa, from Neanderthals and the first modern humans to the Neolithic Revolution and the beginnings of agriculture. The journey takes us to the most important stages in early human history, beyond Africa and Europe to Asia and America.

Hermann Parzinger is an internationally renowned archaeologist and prehistorian. From 1991 to 2008, he was director and later president of the German Archaeological Institute, and from 2008 to 2025, he was president of



Timo Stickler
The Huns

2nd revised and updated
edition
128 pages with
14 illustrations

The Song of the Nibelungs has secured the Huns a firm place in our cultural memory. But even beyond all the legends, the Huns proved themselves in the 4th and 5th centuries AD as a powerful historical force during the Migration Period: under their king Attila, their cavalry became a dangerous enemy even for the Roman Empire.

Timo Stickler is Professor of Ancient History at Friedrich Schiller University in Jena.

Volker Reinhardt

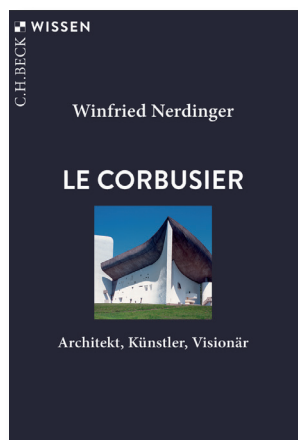
History of Switzerland



7th updated edition
128 pages with 2 maps

Direct democracy and neutrality, cohesion between different language groups, prosperity, openness to the world, cleanliness: these are just some of the virtues for which Switzerland is admired worldwide. These distinctive features can best be understood by looking back at history. Volker Reinhardt describes the history of the Swiss Confederation from the alliance of the 'original cantons' to its gradual integration into Europe in the present. He also examines Switzerland's self-image as a self-reliant, defensive nation.

Volker Reinhardt is Professor Emeritus of General and Swiss History at the University of Fribourg, of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation.



Winfried Nerdinger

Le Corbusier

Architect, Artist, Visionary

128 pages with
41 illustrations

Le Corbusier (1887–1965) is the architect of modernism. His works and writings have shaped architecture and urban planning in the 20th century. Among his most famous buildings are the Villa Savoye near Paris, the expressive chapel in Ronchamp and the buildings for the Capitol of the new city of Chandigarh in India. With the publication *The Architecture of the Future* (1923), he shaped the theory of modern architecture, and with his radical urban planning visions, he provided concepts for reconstruction after the Second World War. In this volume, Winfried Nerdinger explains Le Corbusier's life and work and provides insight into the historical context.

Winfried Nerdinger is Professor Emeritus of Architectural History and was Director of the Architecture Museum at the Technical University of Munich.

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Contact Fiction:

Jennifer Royston
Foreign Rights Manager
Verlag C.H.Beck | Literatur – Sachbuch – Wissenschaft
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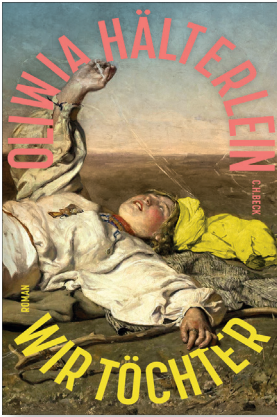
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Turkey:

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Fon: +90 / 532 / 175 37 05
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368 pages
Hardcover

Oliwia Hälterlein **Daughterhood**

- What remains of a family when the last daughter does not want to have children?
- Current discourses: reproductive self-determination, multilingualism, classism
- For readers of Iris Wolff, Emilia Smechoswki, and Sasha Maria Salzmann

**The stories of women are not forgotten
— more often, they are never told at all**

When Waleria learns she cannot have children, the news awakens something unexpected in her — even though she never longed for children of her own. What does it mean to be the last in her family's line? What legacy does she owe to the women who came before her? With delicacy and vitality, Oliwia Hälterlein spins the interwoven story of three generations of women. Marianna, the grandmother, born at the end of the Second World War, lived the life of a peasant in the Polish countryside. Her daughter Róża, shaped by the socialist People's Republic of Poland, grew up in the same village but, by chance, discovered Gdańsk and the fervor of the Solidarność revolution. At the end of the 1980s, Róża she leaves Poland for West Germany with her daughter Waleria. Growing up in reunified Germany, Waleria lost her mother tongue — and with it, the language of her babcia (grandmother).

With poetic clarity and narrative finesse, Hälterlein entwines everyday life and memory, body and language, origin and future — illuminating the invisible thread that binds the women of a family across time.

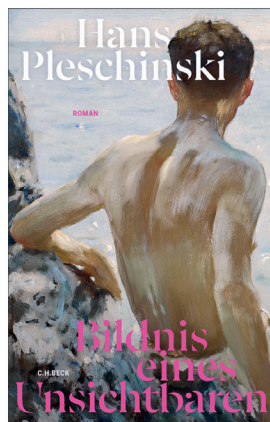
Oliwia Hälterlein born in Bydgoszcz in 1986, studied Slavic studies, comparative literature, cultural studies, and theatre studies in Salzburg, Krakow, and Berlin, and is a graduate of the renowned German Literature Institute in Leipzig (DLL), where she studied creative writing. *DAUGHTERHOOD* (*Wir Töchter*) is her debut novel. Her essay *The Hymen Does Not Exist* (*Das Jungfernhäutchen gibt es nicht*) was published in the MaroHefte series. More on her website: www.oliwiah.de.

Hans Pleschinski

Portrait of an Invisible Man

- The rediscovery of an epoch-making novel
- About the reality of life for a generation that set out to break bourgeois taboos
- *Pleschinski has written a tragic book about AIDS, but it is far more accurate to say that he has written a wonderful book about love.*
- Wiener Zeitung

336 pages
Hardcover



A novel about a great love in times of sexual liberation

New Year's Eve 1999 in Paris. The seventies and eighties in Munich. The postwar period in West and East Germany. The art scene and literary world, unwavering love and wild adventures. Against this colorful backdrop, Hans Pleschinski sketches the portrait of his lifelong companion, one of the last bohemians at the close of the 20th century. A Munich gallery owner is found dead in his apartment — by his boyfriend. Their relationship had lasted twenty-three years: of passionate love and artistic exchange, of luxury and poverty, of mourning for those dying all around them, of fear of their own death and of irrepressible joy in life. First published in 2003, it tells of the reality of a generation that set out to break bourgeois taboos, and whose new self-confidence was dealt a murderous blow by AIDS. The elegance and breathlessness of his storytelling won't let go until, at the end of the novel, the spell of the greatest threat is broken. One lays down a book about moments of happiness, catastrophes, and exuberance for life — the confessions of a survivor from an almost vanished world.

Hans Pleschinski, born in 1956, lives as a freelance author in Munich. Among others, he was awarded the Hannelore Greve Literature Prize (2006), the Nicolas Born Prize (2008), Chevalier dans l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres of the Republic of France (2012), 2014 the Literature Prize of the City of Munich and the Lower Rhine Literature Prize and the Literature Prize of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (2020). He is a member of the Bavarian Academy of Fine Arts.

Ulrich Woelk

Brighter Days

- 'Woelk narrates in a cautious and reserved way, thereby creating an inimitable emotional tension'.
- Jörg Magenau, Süddeutsche Zeitung
- A social novel that reflects the heated reality of its time
- 'We all observe the present incessantly. But it is perhaps only literature that can capture it in words for half an eternity.'
- Judith von Sternburg, FR, on *Mittsommertage*



317 pages
Hardcover

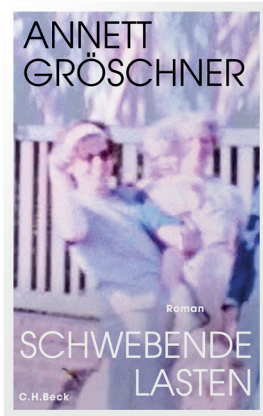
What remains when everything changes?

When the world changes, we need stories that offer us stability — *Brighter Days* is one of them. Woelk guides his protagonist Ruth through a phase of existential upheaval, narrating with literary elegance about shifting values and the search for closeness. His novel is a compelling portrait of a generation that feels its distance from the present growing ever wider.

Ruth, a professor of philosophy at Humboldt University, lives alone in Berlin-Moabit. Her marriage to Ben belongs to the past, while her fragile yet intimate bond with his daughter endures. Her students seem younger with each passing year, and the widening gap between them unsettles Ruth as much as the divisions in society itself. Then cracks appear in her private life, in what she thought was a secure past: the death of her father confronts Ruth with a family secret that shakes her very identity.

With subtle irony and deep empathy, Woelk sketches the portrait of a woman facing the questions of her time. *Brighter Days* is a wise, moving social novel about generations, identity, and the longing to belong — a literary mirror of our present.

Ulrich Woelk lives as a freelance writer in Berlin. He studied physics and philosophy. His first novel, *Freigang*, was published in 1990. In 2019, he achieved great success with *The Summer of My Mother*, which was longlisted for the German Book Prize and sold to Spain/Maeve. His novel project *For a Life* was awarded the Alfred Döblin Prize.



282 pages
Paperback
first publ. in HC 2025
40.000+ sold

Annett Gröschner **Suspended Loads**

Full of experience and hungry for dreams. There's no better way to describe a person's life.
- Julia Schoch

Even though Hanna may not seem like a heroine at first glance, on closer inspection she certainly is. The story is serious, humorous and down-to-earth.
- rbb

A book of enormous existential power with a heroine you won't soon forget. - WDR TV lesen
With Hanna Krause, Gröschner has created a female character who you feel you have known from the very beginning. Accompanying her on her journey through a difficult life is a rewarding experience. - mdr TV artour

Sold to France/Liana Levi, the Netherlands/Cossee and Turkey/IS Kültür

A novel about the end of the industrial age and its heroines in eastern Germany — and about an ordinary woman in this unfathomable 20th century

Hanna Krause was a florist before life made her a crane operator. She lived through two revolutions, two dictatorships, an uprising, two world wars ending in two defeats, two democracies, and the leadership of the Kaiser and many others; she experienced good times and bad times; she gave birth to six children and was unable to bury two of them. Later, she worked as a crane operator in the hall of a state-owned heavy machinery plant in Magdeburg where she had an excellent view of the relationships of the people ten metres below her. She died before she got to the point where she no longer understood the world.

Annett Gröschner, born in Magdeburg in 1964, has lived in Berlin as a writer since 1983. She has received numerous awards, most recently the Berlin Grand Art Prize (Fontanepreis), the Klopstock Prize, and the Mainz City Writer Literature Prize from ZDF, 3sat, and the state capital of Mainz.

Jonas Lüscher

Kraft

'In Lüscher's Power (Kraft) lies wit, madness and influence. It is a novel about the present written in the language of another era.'

- Andreas Platthaus, FAZ

'A clever, science-skeptical, contemporary novel (...), which is currently unparalleled in recent German-language contemporary literature.'

- Gerrit Bartels, Deutschlandradio Kultur

'A story about a man and a million dollars that grabs you with both hands and literally sucks you into our hero's existential predicament.'

- Denis Scheck, ARD

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Spain/Vegueta Ediciones, **USA**/Farrar Straus
 Giroux/Picador paperback



Paperback (first publ. in
 HC 2017)

65.000 copies sold
 237 pages

**Awarded the
 Swiss Book Prize**

Richard Kraft, professor of rhetoric in Tübingen, unhappily married and financially strained, is invited by his professor to Stanford University. In reference to Leibniz's answer to the question of theodicy, Kraft is to justify in an 18 minute lecture why everything that exists is good and why we are nevertheless capable of it. The best answer will be rewarded with one million dollars. Kraft thinks this will be easy, but to his one surprise, this journey turns into a nightmare and we find him standing before the ruins of his life. Comic, furious, and wicked, Jonas Lüscher tells in this novel the story of a power elite ready to break any taboo, unstoppable by anything or anyone.

Jonas Lüscher, born in Switzerland in 1976, lives in Munich. His novella *Barbarian Spring* (*Frühling der Barbaren*, 2013) was longlisted for the German Book Prize, nominated for the Swiss Book Prize in 2017, adapted at various theatres and sold to 19 territories. Lüscher has won the Hans Fallada Prize and the Prix Franz Hessel, among others. In fall 2026, the paperback edition of his novel *Verzauberte Vorbestimmung* (Enchanted Destiny) will be published by C.H.Beck.



Markus Gasser

Lil

A Novel

'A novelistic triumph, a beautifully crafted story. It is a fantastic book.' - Daniel Kehlmann on his previous book, *'The Conspiracy of the Crows'*

'A biting satire on upper-class patriarchy. Wonderful.' - Peer Teuwsen, NZZ am Sonntag

Paperback (first published in HC 2024)
238 pages

A fearless woman fights back against a society that wants to break her

She is an anomaly in the New York of 1880, and not only among the city's most prominent and wealthy families, the Belmorals and the Vandermeers. For a long time, railway magnate Lillian Cutting (with her loyal husband Chev at her side) has managed to outwit even the most cunning speculators. But she has also made some powerful enemies. Because of this, her son Robert thinks it will be easy, after Chev's death, to get an overzealous psychiatrist to declare Lillian insane and have her locked away in an institution. But Lil fights back against a society that denounces idiosyncrasy as illness.

Fast-paced, funny and bold, Markus Gasser's book shows how a fearless woman takes creative revenge on her supercilious tormenters. 'Lil' is a universal story full of anger and consolation, a story about the pursuit of big bucks, about sly sons and hostile daughters, about the right to determine the course of our own lives, and about the kind of power struggles we still engage in today. It is narrated by Lil's descendant Sarah, who has her own scores to settle with psychiatry's insidious methods.

Markus Gasser is an author, university lecturer and the creator of the popular YouTube channel 'Literatur ist alles'. His novel *Die Verschwörung der Krähen* was published by C.H.Beck in 2022.

Kurt Drawert

Dresden

Paperback (first published in HC in 2020)
294 pages

Fifty years after moving away as a child, Kurt Drawert returns to Dresden as city writer — to his mother's city, which is both familiar and foreign to him. In his autobiographical novel, he takes a sharp look at family tensions, personal ruptures, and the wounds of the city. It deals with his difficult relationship with his father and brothers, political tensions in Dresden, and the search for a language for personal and collective history. With sensitivity, wit, and great linguistic power, Drawert tells of longing, conflicts, and memories.

Kurt Drawert, born in 1956 in Hennigsdorf near Berlin, lives as an author of poetry, prose, drama, and essays in Darmstadt, where he also heads the Centre for New Literature. His literary work has received numerous awards, including the Jürgen Ponto Foundation Prize, the Uwe Johnson Prize, the Ingeborg Bachmann Prize, the Lessing Prize of the Free State of Saxony, the Walter Kempowski Prize, and the Italo Svevo Prize.

Recent sales fiction

Zora del Buono, *Seinetwegen*

sold to Editions Zoé/France Gelves/Lithuania, Maredulce/Spain,
Koridor/Turkey, BooksXXI/Ukraine

Heimito von Doderer, *Die Strudlhofstiege*

sold to Plon/France

Annett Gröschner, *Schwebende Lasten*

sold to Liliana Levi/France, Cossee/Netherlands,
IS Kultur/Turkey

Hans Pleschinski, *Der Flakon*

sold to Atut/Poland

Norbert Scheuer, *Winterbienen*

sold to Mashtots, Armenia and Goga/Slowenia

Markus Thielemann, *Von Norden rollt ein Donner*

sold to JC Lattes/France

Henning Sußebach

Anna

No. 1 SPIEGEL bestselling title

5th edition, 55.000 copies sold

'A moving family history and contemporary portrait in one.'

- Die ZEIT, nonfiction bestseller list for September 2025

'It's a great book, perhaps the nonfiction book of the season, about an extraordinary woman. A woman from real life.'

- Frankfurter Rundschau, Michael Hesse

Norbert Frei

Konrad Adenauer

No. 1 Non-Fiction Book of the Month (January) - ZDF, Deutschlandfunk Kultur, DIE ZEIT

Konrad Adenauer's legacy is ambivalent: on the one hand, he led Germany into democracy and promoted ties with the West, but on the other hand, he acted in an autocratic and unscrupulous manner at times. To mark the 150th anniversary of his birth, historian Norbert Frei has published a biography of the founding chancellor—refreshingly pointed and courageously ambivalent.

Karl Schlögel

The Soviet Century

2025 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade

Historian and essayist Karl Schlögel will receive the 2025 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade. Schlögel is one of the most distinguished experts on Russian and Eastern European history, according to the Börsenverein.

Marie-Jeanine Calic

Balkan-Odyssey

2nd edition, 6.500 copies sold

'The enormous amount of research carried out by researcher Marie-Janine Calic on the fates of refugees during the Nazi years sheds a completely different light on this notorious region of the world ... The book's strength lies in its focus on vividly described, moving individual cases.'

- Der Freitag, Norbert Mappes-Niediek

'Balkan Odyssey is not only a readable book, but also an important one. It broadens our perspective on the history of exile during National Socialism and shows that individual fates and historical forces were even more closely intertwined in Southeast Europe than elsewhere.'

- Neue Zürcher Zeitung, Florian Keisinger

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