



President Barack Obama and Chancellor Angela Merkel meet for bilateral talks in Baden-Baden, April 3, 2009.
AP Photo.

"As long as the United States and Germany are keeping our open trading relationship...the United States making the best products, making the best decisions, making the best investments and Germany doing the same...then all of us can do well together."

(President Barack Obama)

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THE GERMAN-AMERICAN PARTNERSHIP



U.S. Embassy Berlin

An Enduring Alliance

Germany and the United States stand together at the center of the transatlantic alliance. Our two nations are in fact more interdependent and integrated than ever before. We are partners in each other's security and economic future just as surely as we were partners in the Cold War and in Germany's reunification. As witnessed by the millions of our citizens who benefit from these ties every day, Germany and America enjoy all the elements of a mature and enduring relationship that is fully able to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

A Source of Mutual Prosperity

Despite the difficulties posed by the global economic crisis, the deep integration between Germany and the United States continues to generate remarkable prosperity for both countries and forms a stable platform for recovery. Since the fall of the wall, our bonds have rapidly tightened, with American investment in Germany increasing more than four times and German investment in the U.S. soaring to seven times its 1990 level. Together, German firms operating in the U.S. and American companies in Germany control over \$1 trillion in corporate assets.

Generations Past and Present

Dollars and euros are important, but people are the most vital factor in the equation. The connections that link Germany and the U.S. through trade and investment, military partnerships, and scientific, educational, and cultural exchange as well as personal and family ties are so seamless that they are often taken for granted. Yet taken as a whole, they represent a bilateral relationship unlike any other, one in which employees, researchers, students, and tourists are the new diplomats who bring our countries together.

New Challenges, New Responsibilities, Common Values

As President Obama said when he met with German and French students in Strasbourg in April 2009, "Part of the freedom that our nations stood for throughout the Cold War was the opportunity that comes from free enterprise and individual liberty." More than ever, the success of the German and American economies is tied to the global economy.



The Rotunda in the U.S. Embassy Chancery

The worldwide crisis cannot be met by half measures or the isolated efforts of any one nation. Thus, the United States and Germany and their partners in the G20 have launched a new era of global economic cooperation, including comprehensive financial reform. Sustainable growth can come only from stable but open markets that advance innovation, entrepreneurship, and opportunity.

Benchmarking Success

With the cooperation of institutions and individuals on both sides of the Atlantic, the U.S. Embassy began documenting the key benchmarks of our bilateral partnership in a study first released in 2008. This brochure highlights some of the most important aspects of the German-American relationship and reflects changes that have taken place in the last year.

The complete study is available at
<http://germany.usembassy.gov/benchmarks>

Economic Relations: A Transatlantic Success Story

■ Investment: A \$1 Trillion Dollar Relationship

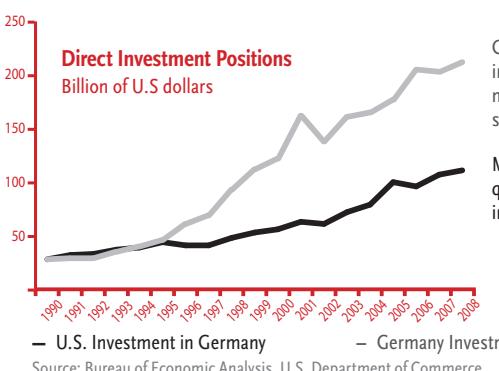
The size and growth in foreign investment underpins our deep integration. American companies operating in Germany hold assets worth over \$400 billion while German companies in the U.S. control even more assets at over \$600 billion. Keeping markets open for investment and trade is essential not only to resolve the immediate crisis, but also for sustainable long-term growth.

■ Capital Markets: Global Regulatory Standards

The acquisition of stock equities has also accelerated dramatically. U.S.-based investors' share of German equities grew rapidly from 2% in 2001 to 18% by the end of 2006. German investors held \$100 billion in U.S. equities and \$247 billion in overall U.S. securities as of June 2008. The rapid pace of development in the financial sector underlines the importance of implementing meaningful rules for financial regulation and oversight, consistent with 21st century requirements.

■ Trade: Increased Investment Stimulates Trade

The enormous foreign direct investment (FDI) flows between our two economies stimulate bilateral trade and speed up the integration of our economies. In 2008, two-thirds of U.S. imports from Germany and over a third of U.S. exports to Germany consisted of intra-firm trade. The U.S. imported \$97 billion in goods and services from Germany and exported nearly \$55 billion in 2008. Since the onset of the crisis, however, bilateral trade has fallen sharply. To get our economies back on track, we need to revive transatlantic and global commerce by sustaining a robust, open trading system.



People-to-People Relations Are Strong

■ Jobs: Increasingly Working for Each Other

More and more jobs in both countries depend on the transatlantic relationship. Germany is the second largest European employer of Americans. The most recent figures show that 670,000 Americans work for German companies (one in every 200 employed in the private sector). American firms in Germany employ nearly 800,000 Germans (one out of every 35 German private sector employees). As is clear from the German-American experience, trade creates not just jobs, but better paying jobs—in the U.S., 13 to 18 percent more than the national average.

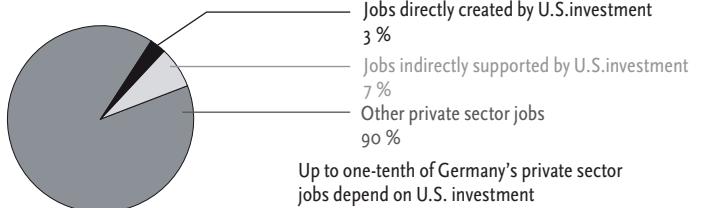
■ Tourism: Major Travel Destinations

Americans and Germans love to travel to each other's country. Germans are the largest group of visitors from continental Europe to the United States; that number is expected to increase by 20% by the year 2011. The U.S. ranks second in total overnight stays in Germany by foreign visitors and first for visitors from overseas. This means not only profits and jobs in the tourist industry, but enormous spin-off effects in terms of cultural understanding and language skills.

■ Government and Military Presence

The U.S. Embassy and the five U.S. Consulates in Germany employ more than 700 locally-engaged staff throughout Germany. Since October 2003, the U.S. Embassy has contributed nearly \$700 million to the German economy. The U.S. military presence is an important source of revenue in Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Rhineland-Palatinate and Hesse, providing jobs to over 16,000 local employees. The estimated direct U.S. military economic impact on the local economy in Germany was \$5 billion during FY 2007.

Estimated U.S. Contribution to Jobs in Germany's Private Sector (2006)



Close Transatlantic Cooperation

■ Partnerships/Foundations: More and More Connections

Numerous collaborative partnerships, both public and private, sustain and add momentum to bi-national exchange programs. Both the German Fulbright Commission and the German American Partnership Program are the largest government-supported exchange programs of their type worldwide. Over 170 cities in Germany have concluded partnerships with American cities. But while government-supported exchanges are important, the number, variety, and impact of private programs are far greater.

■ Educational Exchange: The "New Diplomats"

One of the most lasting cross-cultural connections comes from students visiting the United States and Germany respectively. Exchanges between the U.S. and Germany are the highest in Europe. Some 30,000 German and American high school and university students study in each other's countries annually for an entire academic year. Thousands more participate in short-term programs, internships and research projects.

■ R&D Collaboration: Vital Links Grow

Innovation and technological progress are key factors in economic growth, as demonstrated by the extensive crossover in private and public sector R&D between the U.S. and Germany. German affiliates in the United States account for almost 3% of all R&D spending in the United States, contributing up to \$6.3 billion in U.S. R&D expenditures annually in recent years. Germany is also a critical trading partner in advanced technologies such as biotechnology, life sciences, information and communication.

Bilateral Trade in Advanced Technologies

	U.S. Exports (\$) to Germany in 2008	German Exports (\$) to the U.S. in 2008
Biotechnology	3.37 billion	513 million
Life Sciences	2.48 billion	3.41 billion
Information & Communication Technologies	2.63 billion	1.58 billion
Electronics	1.51 billion	803 million
Manufacturing Technologies	633 million	1.08 billion
Opto-Electronics	733 million	590 million
Advanced Materials	79 million	172 million

Working Together Towards a Prosperous 21st Century

■ The United States, Germany, and the G20

The United States, Germany, and other leading economies in the G20 have taken unprecedented steps to restart global growth and prevent future financial crises. In the United States, President Obama signed the historic \$787 billion American Recovery Act. In turn, Germany launched stimulus initiatives totaling 81 billion euros. The G20 agreed to tighten financial regulations, strengthen the International Monetary Fund, and create a Financial Stability Board.

■ Green Industries: A Win-Win Solution

The importance the U.S. government attaches to global climate change and the corollary issue of clean energy will fuel transatlantic cooperation in these areas. President Obama has set ambitious goals for the reduction of CO₂ emissions and is planning to invest \$150 billion over 10 years in a clean energy future. The U.S. stimulus package legislation calls for additional billions in tax cuts for alternate energy, including a multi-year extension of the production tax credit for wind, geothermal, hydro power and bioenergy. German-American cooperation in the field of wind and solar energy has already resulted in an estimated \$1 billion in cross investment, the implementation of alternative environmental technologies, and the creation of good jobs in both countries.

■ Development Assistance: Pooling Our Strengths

Innovation can also help address major global challenges by boosting income and productivity growth in the developing world, which are key to fighting poverty and other social ills. The G20 committed to spending \$1.1 trillion to spur economic growth that will benefit developing countries in particular. Government and nonprofit entities and increasingly public-private partnerships are essential to fostering economic development. With total spending of \$21.8 billion in 2007, the United States was the world's largest provider of official development assistance (ODA). Germany spent \$12.2 billion, also making it a top donor. U.S. private financial flows are, however, more than four times higher than ODA. This accelerates dramatic, positive changes in the developing world, including poverty reduction, job creation and a skilled labor force, as well as the rise of a civil society that underpins democratization, human rights, and sustainable development.