

British Berlin Seminar

The British Berlin Seminar is a two-day seminar jointly organised by the British Forces Liaison Organisation (Germany) and the Centre for British Studies at the Humboldt Universität, Berlin.

The aim of the seminar is to strengthen links and enhance mutual understanding between the British Forces in Germany and representatives of the host nation, Germany. Representation is from British military and German political, military, commercial and academic fields.

History of the Berlin British Seminar

This type of seminar was introduced in 1986. It was originally held twice a year and organized by Dr Günther Büchner (Freie Universität Berlin) and representatives of the Royal Army Educational Corps (RAEC) at 46 Army Education Centre within the Smuts-Kaserne in Spandau. There were good contacts on Senate level, but the stationed officers had few opportunities to get in contact with Berliners and to talk about questions of common interest or to build personal friendships and relationships. The seminars were designed to provide such opportunities by bringing together a rather small group (15 British and 15 German participants) for providing and exchanging information about topical political events and German-British topics, but also leaving room for syndicate discussions and for establishing post-seminar contacts and interest groups.

After the departure of the British military from Berlin in 1997, the seminars were re-introduced, with the help of the Berlin Senate and the British Embassy, under the co-ordination of the Headquarters United Kingdom Support Command (Germany) (HQ UKSC (G)) and since then have been held annually at the Centre for British Studies. The RAEC became part of the then newly founded Adjutant General's Corps in 1992, but education officers in the AGC Educational Training Service Branch (ETS) continue to be involved in the organization of the seminar.

Contact

Amanda Coxhead, Verbindungsoffizier der britischen Streitkräfte in Deutschland
Britischer Verbindungsstab / British Forces Liaison Organisation
Kranzallee 19
14055 Berlin
Tel: 030 308 19094
Fax: 030 308 19095
E-mail: bflog.berlin@t-online.de

Catherine Smith
Großbritannien-Zentrum / Centre for British Studies
Humboldt-Universität
Mohrenstr. 60
10117 Berlin
Tel. 030/2093-99040
Fax 030/2093-99042
E-mail: gbz@gbz.hu-berlin.de