



## **Der Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels e.V.**

### **German Publishers & Booksellers Association**

The German Publishers & Booksellers Association represents the interests of about 6500 publishing companies, bookshops and antiquarian booksellers, intermediate book traders and publishing representatives. The Association was founded in 1825 as the "Börsenverein der Deutschen Buchhändler zu Leipzig". Its work is guided by the following fundamental concept:

Books are vehicles for ideas. They are indispensable for the development of our society and its ideals. Through its commitment to the German book market and the free dissemination of the written word, the German Publishers & Booksellers Association supports this development.

The German Publishers & Booksellers Association sees itself as the industry's mouthpiece, whilst serving the public and politics in an advisory and consultative role. Its political and commercial mission on behalf of the book is inseparably linked to a cultural mandate: the Association acts to promote the cultural asset "book" and reading, it stands up for freedom of speech and the cultural diversity of society. It organises the Frankfurt Book Fair and annually presents the Peace Prize of the German Book trade, one of Germany's most prestigious cultural awards. Since 1959, the Association has also organised the Reading Aloud Competition of the German Book Trade, with Germany's president as its patron. This is the biggest and most successful of Germany's campaigns in support of reading.

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