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Queen Rania of Jordan to present Golden Victoria Award for Political Leadership to Chancellor Merkel

The Queen will deliver a laudatory speech at VDZ Publishers' Night in Berlin on November 5th

Berlin, 22. October 2018 – Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan will present the Golden Victoria Honorary Award for Political Leadership to Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at the VDZ Publishers' Night in Berlin on November 5, 2018.

Under the leadership of His Majesty King Abdullah II, Jordan acts as a stabilizing force in the region, pursuing a valuable peacemaking role in the Middle East and around the world. His wife Queen Rania's work focuses on education, human rights, the global plight of refugees and cross-cultural dialogue. She is also a board member of the United Nations Foundation and is UNICEF's First Eminent Advocate for Children.

"We are delighted to welcome Queen Rania of Jordan as laudatory speaker for the Chancellor. Both represent the importance of international cooperation and mutual appreciation in these challenging times," says VDZ president Dr. Rudolf Thiemann. "Her Majesty's acceptance of the publishers' invitation to speak about the Chancellor's merits is a sign of international recognition of Merkel's accomplishments for a pluralist society, characterized by freedom of speech and freedom of the press."

The long-standing political, economic, and cultural relationship between Germany and Jordan is reflected in the continued coordination between the Chancellor and King Abdullah. What brings both nations together is their joint dedication to alleviating the global refugee crisis, fighting extremism, and promoting educational and integration projects.

"We in Jordan are extremely grateful for Germany's long-standing support, as well as the close friendship and collaboration between our two countries and people. I look forward to presenting Chancellor Merkel with the Golden Victoria, a well-deserved recognition of her unrelenting efforts to foster international dialogue, build bridges, and lead her country to further prosperity," Queen Rania said.

In 2015, Queen Rania was awarded the Walther-Rathenau Award, presented to her by Angela Merkel, for "her work as an outstanding advocate for peace and understanding between East and West."

In turbulent times of digital disruption, the Publishers' Night serves as a testament to magazine publisher's essential role in building diverse and independent journalism, serving as a guarantor of press freedoms supported by businesses, a hallmark of a pluralist society.

For more information:

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About VDZ:

VDZ, the Association of German Magazine Publishers, represents the interests of Germany's magazine industry. As an umbrella organisation organised in three specialist associations (specialist press, denominational press, consumer magazines) and five federal state associations, its more than 500 member publishers with more than 3,000 magazines represent around 80 percent of Germany's magazine market. As a services association, VDZ offers publishers a broad range of advice and information services

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in all areas of the publishing business (advertising, distribution, digital media, legal matters, business, the environment and paper). As a trade association, it works on both a German and European level towards protecting and upholding the interests of publishers. And, as an employers' association, it conducts on behalf of the federal state associations collective agreements for publishers with the editors' unions. Furthermore, VDZ and the VDZ Academy are making an important contribution towards training and further education in the media industry. More information can be found online at: www.vdz.de www.publishers-summit.de www.pz-online.de www.deutsche-fachpresse.de www.vdz-akademie.de www.editorial.media www.presse-verkauft.de