

"Everyone has the right...to seek, receive and impart information and ideas...regardless of frontiers."

Declaration of Human Right

institute for cultural diplomacy Greifswalder Str. 33a 10405 Berlin ATTN: Mark Donfried

19 June 2007

Dear Mr. Donfried,

I write you this letter to signal my support for the Amerika Haus project the institute for cultural diplomacy has been working on. The importance of this civil society initiative cannot be understated; many of us have spent a good portion of our lives in the service of a greater Transatlantic network and I believe this work will allow us to move forward more positively than ever.

When the Amerika Haus shut down operations on September 30, 2006 it also closed the doors on an institution that has for 50 years acted as a significant symbol of German-American friendship in the post-war era. Since 2001 great changes have taken place in Germany's capital. There has never been more crucial time for development of new transatlantic relations in Berlin and I believe the restoration and cultural regeneration within this piece of *Denkmalschutz* in the old American sector would make an important contribution to American civil society presence in this city.

I find it quite admirable that American non-governmental organization is taking these important steps toward making this kind of dialogue more audible and its positive presence more visible and tangible.

Once again I pledge my support to icd and the CAB and would be happy to provide any further words of affirmation.

Sincerely

Jeffrey Gedmin, President

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty